

St. Thomas' Keresley and Coundon Parish Magazine

Vol. 11. No. 11.

NOVEMBER, 1915.

Price One Penny.

Vicar—REV. WALSINGHAM C. KERR, B.A.

Churchwardens—Mr. Sidney Cash, Mr. W. H. Tabberer.

Sidesmen—Mr. A. Enser, Mr. G. Martin, Mr. R. Green,
Mr. J. H. Clarke, Mr. R. Cooper.

Hon. Sec., Parish Magazine—Mr. H. P. Loasby

Verger—Mr. J. Crane

Notices for the Month.

MONDAY.—Clothing Club. Men's Club.

WEDNESDAY.—Holy Communion 8 a.m. Parochial Working Party at the Parish Room, 2.30 to 4.30.

THURSDAY.—Service of Intercession, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY.—Choir Practice, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY.—The Library, 3.45 p.m., Mr. Suffolk.
(First and third Sundays.)

ALTAR FLOWERS.—Mrs. Jagger.

Nov. 4.—Mothers' Union Meeting at 3 p.m., at the Parish Room. Speaker Mrs. Rudd, from Leicester.

The Church is open daily for private prayer.

All cases of sickness should be reported at once to Rev. G. W. Barnard, The Vicarage.

Services.

Holy Communion.—Sundays, 8 a.m. Also, 1st Sunday, 12 noon; 3rd Sunday, 10 a.m. Choral.
Wednesdays, 8 a.m.

Matins.—Sundays, 11 a.m.

Evensong.—Sundays, 6.30 p.m.

Holy Baptism.—2nd Sunday, 5.30 p.m.

Saints' Day.—8.30 a.m.; 6.30 p.m.

Senior Catechism.—2nd Sunday, 3 p.m.

Sunday School.—10 a.m.; 3 p.m.

Kindergarten.—3 p.m.

Churchings.—Before or after any Services.

Mid-day Prayer.

The Church bell rings every day at noon, when we invite all our people to pause from their duties for a moment and offer up this prayer:—O God, guard and bless our Sailors and Soldiers, and give us victory and peace—Amen.

Services of Intercession for our Sailors and Soldiers.

Sunday,
Thursday, 8 p.m.

Prayers to be Said Daily.

A PRAYER OF PENITENCE.—Forgive me, O God, all the sins and selfishness of the past, and give me the grace to repent and lead a more useful life: I ask this for Jesus Christ's sake.

A PRAYER FOR HELP.—Stretch forth Thy hand, Thou God of Hosts, and decide between us and our enemies: give us fortitude and courage to endure hardness as good soldiers, and crown our labours with victory: for Jesus Christ's sake.

A PRAYER FOR THE SAILORS, SOLDIERS, AND AIRMEN.—Guard with Thy loving care those who are in peril, whether on sea or land or in the air. Help them to remember that "underneath are the Everlasting Arms," and keep them safe in life or death; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A PRAYER FOR THE WOUNDED AND THE MOURNERS.—Send Thy healing grace upon the wounded and pour Thy comfort into the souls of the mourners; give them both a "warrior's mind" until the day dawn and the shadows flee away; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A PRAYER FOR THE NATION.—Stir up, O Lord, a spirit of service throughout the country; may the soul of the nation respond to the call to sacrifice and help me to play a worthy part in this Great Day: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And we sum up our petitions in the words our Lord taught us—"Our Father, which art in heaven."

Our prayers are also asked for:—

Leonard Morris, G. P. Williamson, George Cowley,
William Brown, Albert Bull, and Stanley Cooke.

Letter from the Archdeacon.

My Dear Friends,

My time for conducting the services in your church comes to an end this month. The Rev. G. W. Barnard will take up his residence at the Vicarage, and you will once more have the benefit of a priest always in the parish. No doubt he will restore to you the early celebration every Sunday, which I have been unable to carry on owing to the difficulty of travel. I have not been able to undertake any week-day work in the parish in consequence of other engagements, and consequently have made few acquaintances. But I should not like to part from you without saying how indebted I feel for the kind consideration you have shown me, and thanking those who by their kind hospitality have made my visits to your parish so pleasant. I shall always remember also the courtesy of your Warden, Organist, Sidesmen, and Verger, and the excellent rendering by the choir of the music in church. Your church is nicely kept and reverently cared for, and there is only one improvement which I hope you may some day be able to make, and that is the removal of the pew doors. I suppose at present pew rents are necessary in order to raise your Vicar's stipend, but the ideal at which you should aim is a subscription list, which will enable the Wardens to declare all seats free and unappropriated, this giving evidence to the truth of George Herbert's line, "All equal are within the Church's gate." Asking your prayers for myself and my work in the Archdeaconry,

I remain,

Your faithful and attached friend,

GEORGE ARBUTHNOT.

B. C. F.

My Dear Friends,

The Rev. G. W. Barnard has by now come into residence, and will take over the entire care of the parish from the first of this month. Mr. Barnard is not unknown to some of the older residents in the district, and I am sure that you will all extend to him a very hearty welcome. Please notice that all the services are now held at the customary hours. I am glad to know that so many of you overcome the difficulties of attending at hours that were probably not convenient.

You will join with me in thanking the Arch-deacon, Canon Fortescue, and Mr. Upton for their great kindness in undertaking the duty during the last three months. When you know more of the extent of our work here, and the wonderful opportunities it offers, you will better understand my debt of gratitude to these clergy, who have enabled me to share it.

The censor has recently discovered the existence of Parish Magazines, and uttered a growl of warning. So you will understand I write under the restraining fears of awful penalties. My special charge consists of three camps and a hospital. About the camp life I will write another time—the hospital claims most of my day. Here we have a big building, admirably adapted for the purpose, with temporary huts close by. There are 650 beds, but in a time of pressure over 800 patients have been taken in. Many of these may be men who have only slight injuries, and they will move on quickly, two or three hundred thus pass through in twenty-four hours. Going through the wards one can pick out these men who have "notice to quit." You catch a smile that tells of supreme content; or, if the bandages disguise that, an eye that sparkles. "Got my leave at last, I'm booked for blighty." We want to spend nine months in the trenches to know what *home* means. But there are others; they won't see home for a long time, and then it will be the old kind of life. There are many ways in which we can help these poor fellows. The first thought is for the anxious ones at home, so we take down a few messages, usually sending a brief daily report till the patient can manage to scribble a line. Censoring and writing letters indeed occupy a good deal of time; the mail is often heavy. Some letters are difficult to write when they supplement the sad news already received by a War Office telegram. I wrote last week to a poor mother in Birmingham about the death of her husband. She had lost one son, and another severely wounded. There was a delightful boy here for several weeks. He came through a severe illness, but was greatly disfigured. I had sent full particulars to the girl he was engaged to marry and his distress and anxiety while waiting for her answer was pitiable. What would she do? When that answer did come it was simply charming. I cannot tell you the pleasure it

gave me to rush across and read it to him; every sentence told of a love that nothing could alter. I should like to meet that girl some day.

I only wish time and space would allow me to tell of some of the interesting cases we meet every day. I marvel more at the courage and cheerfulness of these men—how patiently they bear their pain, and always the same story. How kind the sisters are, how good it is to be in a clean bed, getting every care and attention.

Here side by side you find one of the regulars, who tells you—as he tackles a good dinner—that he knows when he's well off; and next to him a university undergraduate; then a Canadian landowner, and a boy of seventeen, telling impossible yarns to a Sergeant Major. And almost at once they talk about religion, in one way or another, through their experiences, they have *felt* the presence of God. Nine men in one ward at the same time were prepared for Confirmation. On Sunday morning at 7 a.m. there is a celebration of the Holy Communion in the Matron's Office. The nurses here arrange an altar, with the Cross, flowers and candles, and from there I go round the wards giving Communion to the men.

Later we have services in the big wards, consisting of our well known hymns and some simple prayers—especially for loved ones at home—and then a few words that one speaks straight from the heart to these dear fellows lying around. Quickly the hours rush by and daylight fades. Nurses with lights are going on their evening rounds. We must hurry on, there are many still to see. The ambulances are coming to-night, and to-morrow brings its own tasks.

And the last thing at night we go once more through the wards; just a short evening prayer, kneeling by the bedsides in the semi-darkness. We get back to billet and bed very weary perhaps, but so thankful to be allowed to help in some small way.

And it strengthens us to know that your prayers go up daily for the sick and wounded.

My thoughts are much with you to-day, for this is the tenth anniversary of my induction.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

WALSINGHAM KERR.

In Memoriam.

It is with great regret that we have to record the death of Bomb. Charles J. Hopkins, who in the recent fighting in Northern France gave his life for his country. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the bereaved parents, as well as to his widow, who, however, have the satisfaction of knowing that he responded nobly to his country's call.

Harvest Festival.

Our church was again beautifully decorated, and our thanks are due to those ladies who so kindly helped—Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Plevins, Miss Ratliff, Mrs. Waters, Mrs. Hershell, and Miss Rotherham. The fruit was especially fine, the gifts of corn being conspicuous by their absence. The offertories show a sad falling off, £8 9s. 2d. as compared with over £15 last year. This sum goes to the Church Army. One missed the usual crowded church at night, and possibly the early hour had something to do with this.

The Archdeacon preached at both morning and evening services.

K.E.P.C.C.

Keresley Ladies' Physical Culture Club classes reopened for the winter on Saturday, October 23rd, at 8 p.m., in the Council Schools. New members will be cordially welcomed. Entrance fee 1/-

Mrs. J. H. Clarke, assisted by Mr. J. H. Clarke, has kindly offered to take charge of the classes. The work will be somewhat different to previous years, and will consist of Swedish drill, marching, running, etc.

We shall not be in competition for the Coventry Shield or Medals this session, but trust that all members will do their best to strengthen the class by regular attendance and good work, so that it may be a thorough success.

Our thanks are tendered to Mrs. and Mr. Clarke. We much appreciate their interest in the classes.

Men's Club.

The annual meeting was held on October 13, Mr. W. T. Browett presiding. The funds and membership showed a falling off, owing to so many members joining the colours. The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. H. D. Waters; secretary, Mr. C. Suffolk. Committee, auditor, Mr. T. Plevins; treasurer, Mr. H. D. Waters; secretary, Mr. C. Suffolk; committee, Chairman, the Vicar, and Messrs. Goode, Smith, Clarke, Wilson, Wainwright and Sanders.

Summary of accounts:—

Receipts.		£	s.	d.
Balance from 1914	41	14	9
Billiards and subscriptions	15	3	2
		<hr/>		
		56	17	11
		<hr/>		
Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
Caretaker	4	8	0
Lighting, etc.	6	6	0
Snooker set	6	0	0
General expenses	3	2	7
Balance	37	1	4
		<hr/>		
		56	17	11
		<hr/>		

Young Men's Guild.

Guild Meetings will be held in the Parish Room on Tuesday evenings till further notice. Mr. Clarke will be in charge.

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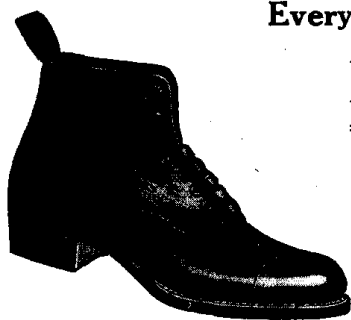
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Church Collections.

	£	s.	d.
Sept. 5th	2	8	5
.. 12th	2	0	5
.. 19th	1	4	2
.. 26th	15	2	
	<u>£6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>

British Red Cross.

KERESLEY & COUNDON V.A.D. HOSPITAL

Subscriptions to Parochial Bed—September.

No.	s.	d.	No.	s.	d.	No.	s.	d.
1	1	4	22	1	0	45		8
2		8	23		8	46	2	0
3		8	24	1	4	47		—
4		8	25	1	0	48		8
5		8	27		—	49	1	0
6		8	28		8	50		8
7	2	8	29	1	4	51		—
8	2	0	30		—	52		7
9		8	33	1	4	53		8
10		8	34		—	54		8
11		8	35		8	55	1	0
12		—	36	6	0	56		9
13		8	37	2	0	57		8
14		8	38		8	58		—
15		8	39		—	59		8
16	1	0	40		8	60	1	0
17	1	0	41		8	61		—
18		—	42		—	M.G.	2	0
19		—	43		8	63		8
21		8	44	1	0	64	1	6
						<u>£2</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

Holy Baptism.

"One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism."

Sept. 12. Rosabella Stowe.
Oct. 10. Charles Henry Lenton.

Holy Matrimony.

"Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

Sept. 18. Walter Talbot—Florence Rogers.
Oct. 2. John Henry Gurden—Florence Mary Hooper.
.. 9. Edgar Vincent Brittle—Harriett Spraggitt
.. 16. Thomas Henry Green—Edith Ann Cooper