

August 1963

Death

It is with great regret that we have to record the death of Ian Davison who recently passed away in Malaya. He was a son of the Rev G M Davison former Rector of the parish. We extend our sympathy to the relatives.

Church Heating

The perennial problem of the heating of the Church was discussed at a recent meeting of the PCC. It appears that oil firing is the most effective and convenient method but it is expensive to install. The proposal submitted is to remove the existing boiler – which only has about five more years of efficient operation – fill in the present pit (which, in very wet weather is usually flooded) build a small six foot high edifice on the top and install a modern oil fired boiler. The tank to hold the oil would be fitted on stays in the existing coke bunker and the feed pipe would run along the boundary wall to the boiler. We await quotations.

The Schools

The last few weeks of term have been very busy. We entered a team for the District Sports at Thrapston and gained nine certificates. 38 children spent an enjoyable and rain free day at Whipsnade Zoo while the choir took part in the Schools Music Festival. It was unfortunate that after all the efforts made to promote the second village sports by the PTA the weather intervened on the two evenings. Entries totalled 90 and given a fine night we should have seen some keen competition. All competitors who had filled in entry forms however, were given a bar of chocolate as a consolation. Six children took the National Road Safety Cycling proficiency Course that has been running on Wednesday evening for the past six weeks. All passed and will now gain their certificates and badges. I cannot understand the attitude of parents whose children have bikes and do not encourage them to take this course for their own safety. In a village the size of Woodford, six children is a very small number.

The Scouts

We have had some enjoyable Tuesday Evenings with shooting, cricket and quizzes as entertainment after the Training Sessions. Although our numbers are small the boys are very regular in attendance and have reached a high standard in training. A short week-end camp is being held in conjunction with the 1st Ringstead Troop to prepare for the main camp on the shores of Lake Windermere during the third week of August. How lucky we were with the weather for our Fete and how well the folk turned out to support us. We cleared £80 and are naturally delighted with the result. The Scout Fete seems one of the few social occasions in the village nowadays and over 300 adults enjoyed the sun and entertainment in the beautiful gardens of Manor Farm. After main camp we hope to have a recruiting drive in the village. There must be some lads who like the outdoor life combined with useful training in first aid, rope work etc. We were overwhelmed with help by boys who are neither cubs or Scouts when we were getting ready for the Fete. I must congratulate Peter Brown and his cubs for the magnificent way they worked their stall. They made over £10 – a record

EPD