

June 1964

Band Concert by the Thrapston Silver Prize Band at the Rectory on 18th June commencing at 7.30pm. Tickets 2/6 inclusive of a bacon and egg supper.

We are grateful to Mrs Jakins for the gift of a linen cloth bound with lace for the Credence Table at the High Altar.

Work has begun on the new installation of the central heating in the Church. The old boiler and pipes have now been removed and the reconstruction of the boiler house is in progress. The latter is proving rather more of a problem than was anticipated. It seems likely that the rain water tank in the north east corner will have to be removed.

The antics of the steeplejacks, swarming up and down the steeple of the church, have caused interest. The object of the exercise was to mend the lightning conductor which was broken near the summit. The ladders were left in position so that the architect could examine the condition of the steeple, which he did in due course swinging out from side to side as he ascended to the top. The chief steeplejack excelled all by swarming up the gap left between the ladders and the top sitting on the summit, climbing the iron support for the weather cock removing it and then descending. The cock has been regilded and now handsomely adorns our lovely church glinting in the sun. When the cock was brought down it was noticed that several dents were apparent caused by rifle bullets – and the names of the Rector and Churchwardens of the time were inscribed. The Rector was Mr Watson, and the Churchwardens were Mr Chew, Mr Southam's predecessor at Manor Farm and Mr Bonser. Mr Watson was responsible for the repair of the steeple and for the removal of the steeple's summit which now adorns the wall by the gate to the orchard. It is surprising that so massive a piece of stone was brought down in one piece and one cannot but wonder why it was necessary. Surely not just to put up the weather cock. Weather cocks are always supported on iron and iron inserted into stone is liable to cause trouble in years to come unless well embedded in lead. There has been no report of any trouble at the top so, perhaps all is well. The steeple however, is in need of attention and this will be our next headache. How much care and attention these lovely old buildings need- our English inheritance and how true the old proverb "a stitch in time saves nine"

The schools

Mayday went off well and Lorna was fortunate in having a fine warm day. The collection amounted to £7 which will go towards the Christmas Party. The Infants gave a repeat performance of their Maypole dancing to the Darby and Joan later in the week.

Both aquariums are now going and anyone interested in wither the tropical or coldwater fishes is very welcome to come and see them. We have a pair of neons, a pair of guppies and one angel fish at the Infant School and sticklebacks, minnows and gudgeon at the junior school.

The School outing takes place on 26th June and 35 children will be visiting the Tower of London, the British Museum and enjoying a trip on the river Thames.

The village sports organised by the PTA take place in the Leys on Friday 19th June at 7.00pm Admission is 6d to defray the cost of prizes. Entry forms can be obtained from either school.

The Scouts

We have had one or two trips out into the countryside during the fine spell and practised our cooking. There were one or two burnt offerings but as we only used frying pans that was to be expected. The Troop Room is to be redecorated this month from the proceeds of the gang show.

The group committee is holding a special Jumble Sale during June as a warm up for our Fete which is July 18th. Keep this date clear for we should have a grand time with our generous hosts, Mr and Mrs Southam.

P
T
B