

Price 3d.

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Editor, Rev. J. Hodgkinson, St. John's House, Sudbrooke Drive, Lincoln

## ERMINE PARISH CHURCH OCT. 6th

On Sunday morning, October 6th at 9 a.m., the Bishop of Lincoln will consecrate St. John's Parish Church. Some people say that Lincoln is dying, but very few cities will be able to share with Lincoln such a fine modern church. As one journalist wrote, "This Church of Tomorrow is a testimony, by God's will, that progress need not mean ugliness, that the vigour of today's—and tomorrow's—generation can still be translated in forms of grace."

However there is much work still to be done and £4000 to be raised for essential work.

We urgently need donations towards the following items:

To cover present structure and site works	£	
<i>still needed</i>		1900
Coloured window by Keith New	..	1800
Pews: 250 (9 pews given)	.. each	5
Electric heaters: 8	.. each	50
Pulpit	..	50
Standard candlesticks	..	25
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Painting and decorating	..	150
Floor finishes (cork tiles)	..	500
Processional cross	..	45
Altar steps, white marble finish over present concrete	..	250
Entrance hall mats: 3	.. each	5
300 prayer books	.. each	6/-
300 hymn books	.. each	6/-
Notice board	..	25
Credence table	..	10
Offertory table	..	10
Bishop's chair	..	25
Sanctuary stools: 4	.. each	7
Priest's stalls: 2	.. each	25
Curtains for vestries: 6	.. each	5
Light fittings: 40	.. each	3
Sanctuary carpet	..	100
Bell tower	..	1000
Grass seed for site works	..	20
Altar candlesticks (donated)	..	25

## APRIL BAPTISMS



It must be something to do with the spring, but certainly every April sees a record number of baptisms. This photograph shows babes and children who were baptised on April 21st together with an informal group of parents and god-parents.

Baptisms are now held twice a month at St. John's: on the first and third Sundays in every month. Baptism forms can be obtained from the

vicarage and at least two weeks notice should be given.

Not everyone realises that it is possible to have god-parents by proxy. It is in fact often better to have some good christian friend who lives several hundred miles away to be god-parent by proxy than for some casual acquaintance to stand in just to make the number up.

## MP ENTERTAINS YOUNG WIVES

Does the House of Lords serve any useful purpose? What are Private Member's Bills? Should the existing Houses of Parliament be pulled down and replaced by modern, more efficient buildings?

These were only a few of the questions put to Mr. Dick Taverne, M.P. for Lincoln, by members of St. John's Young Wives' Group when he came to their meeting on May 7th.

He arrived straight from Parliament and was returning to London at 6 a.m. the following day; but this did not prevent him from speaking amusingly and eloquently of his impressions of Parliament from the inside.

Mr. Taverne deplored some of the ancient and apparently useless traditions of Parliament; the inadequate facilities for members and the insufficient salaries which have to cover travelling, postage, hotel and secretarial expenses.

He gave a vivid insight into a typical day in the House. Phrases such as Whips, First and Second Readings, Back benches, Forcing a closure, make much more sense to us than they did before.

## Mablethorpe Invasion

For the third year in succession members of St. John's Evergreen Club (East) have spent a week's holiday at Mablethorpe. The expenses were once again borne by the club except for individual travelling expenses.

*Continued on page 3*

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## 63 Changes

The year '63 is steadily progressing, and with it the 63 Club. Paul Brewer, who is in charge of booking the groups, has some top-line groups on his list, including The Casuals, The Renegades, The Plainsmen and The Unknowns, etc.

Unfortunately it has been found necessary to increase the subscription to two shillings, new members half a crown. This extra sixpence is compensated by the fact that there will be a good group every week, and that the club time has been extended to 10-30 p.m.

New members are welcome to join any time. All they have to do is come along one Friday night and tell me at the door that they wish to join and within two minutes they will be a member of Lincoln's 'Most With-It' Youth Club.

D.R.W.

## Bourne Visitors

On Thursday, May 16th St. John's Mothers' Union acted as hostess to 26 members of the Mothers' Union from Bourne. After attending the Diocesan Festival at the Cathedral the ladies were entertained to tea at St. John's Hall, and then shown round the parish church.

The Annual General Meeting of St. John's Mothers' Union is to be held on Tuesday, June 25th at 7-45 p.m.

## Sunday School Outing—July 20th

An outing is being arranged for all the Sunday Schools, and parents will be welcome to come as well as children.

The destination is fixed for Mablethorpe, buses to leave Saturday morning at 10-30 a.m. and to leave Mablethorpe at 6-30 p.m.

Details of the cost will be worked out as soon as possible and a letter sent to the parents.

## Family Festival, June 23rd

St. John the Baptist's Day is June 24th, so we are holding our annual Family Festival on the nearest Sunday, which will be the eve of our Saint's Day.

**9-0 a.m. Family Communion**

**6-30 p.m. Evensong**

Come as a family. Meet the Family.

## A Field Day for Ermine

The day that the playing field on Woodhall Drive was opened was indeed a Field Day for Ermine. It has only been open for a year, but the children of Ermine, and indeed, the mothers, cannot imagine what life was like without it. Children of all ages make use of the field, and the keeper assures me that there is very little hooliganism and that, if there ever should be, all he has to do is walk over to the police phone and phone for assistance.

During the winter the football pitch was used regularly by the Old Lincolnians, and our own Ermine team, who had a very good season.

It is a pity that there are no goalposts for the boys to kick around in, as many up and coming young footballers have to be content with using the tennis court fence as a goal. I am sure that many boys will join me in asking the grown-ups to realise our plight and get the council to erect some goalposts by September.

D.R.W.

## TENNYSON IN LINCOLN

The Tennyson statue by Watts, erected in 1905 on the Cathedral Green is well known. The statue is of bronze on a stone base, and represents the poet brooding over a little plant, which he holds in the palm of his hand. A plate in front has a verse from one of his best known poems, one that most Lincolnshire children have learned at school.

"Flower in the crannied wall

I pluck you out of the crannies.

I hold you here root and all, in my hand.

Little flower—but if I could understand

What you are, root and all, and all, in all,

I should know what God and man is."

The little wild flower, often called Somersby Rambler (Somersby is the birthplace of our poet), is the 'toadflax' and can be seen today still growing in the many crannies of grey stone walls around the Cathedral.

## BALLOON RACE

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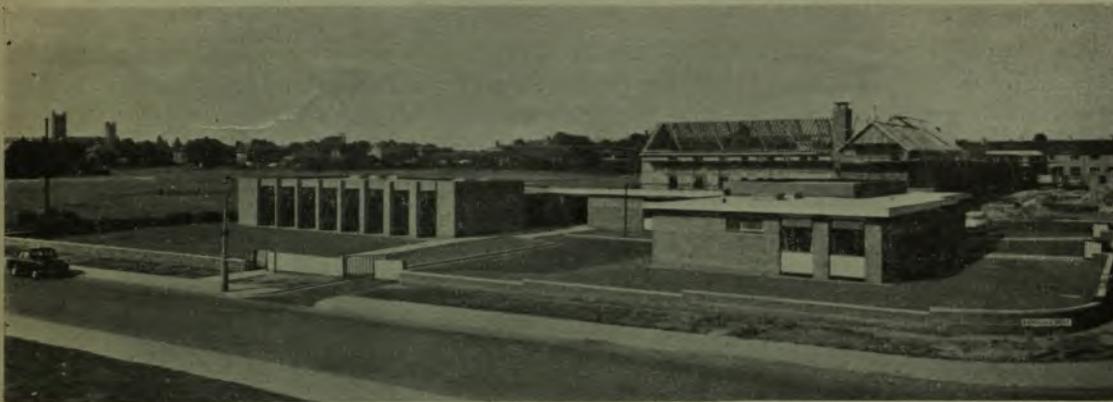
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# ERMINE BRANCH LIBRARY



Since its opening at 5 p.m. on July 27th, 1962, with a police-controlled queue of children, and an issue of over 1800 books in three hours, there has been no doubt that the Ermine Branch Library has found a place in the life of the estates and the area round about. The new Branch received good publicity both before and after its opening and that, with its growing reputation, have produced a steady flow of new readers even after the early rush. About 3,500 adult readers have registered and over 2,000 children from about four to fourteen years.

Library statistics do not normally mean much to the laity, but it may interest users to know that the total stock of books has been increased from about 14,000 to more than 20,000 and of course books are continually being added as new ones are published, or as gaps in subjects come to light. The average daily issue over the months has varied between 713 and over 1000; as the Branch is not in a shopping centre, and a visit to the library mostly involves a special journey, we find that the weather has a great influence on the number of readers. The staff have been pleased to see that some older residents have made the library their place to walk to, many of them keeping up this exercise even in the coldest weather.

The large number of children living near needed little encouragement to join the library, but to keep their interest and to guide their reading a Bookworms' Club was started early in December, and meets weekly on Saturday mornings for story sessions and talks. The response to this has been enthusiastic—more than 200 members! But mercifully the usual attendance is about 60.

In an effort to show the young people of 13 and over that the library has something rewarding to offer them, an informal Open Evening for this age group was held in December. 29 boys and girls attended, and the staff felt that this meeting helped to improve relations between them and the many young people who look on the library perhaps chiefly as somewhere warm and free to go in the evenings. There are a few, unhappily, who refuse to use the library in a civilised manner,

and these cannot be allowed to spoil other people's pleasure and use of the place—we hope they miss us more than we do them, and may grow into a more adult approach.

There has been a great deal of general interest in the library, and users' remarks often show a possessive pride in the new building and its contents; one can usually recognise when a Lincoln native is showing off the library to a visitor. It has been encouraging, too, that a number of local groups have wanted talks on the library, and books and reading of one sort and another, although when I have finished exhorting busy housewives to find time to read, I think sadly and rather guiltily of the fact that most people who use the library will have read more than I during the year. This is *not* a job for a nice quiet person who is fond of reading!

All the same, I have enjoyed the year, so have the staff, and so, I hope, have the readers. We seem to have made a good initial impression with a pleasant informal building and a collection of nearly all new books, and in the next few years we hope to become known more widely and used more fully.

FREDA GOODHEAD.

## Church Lads Brigade

Many people woke up on Sunday morning, May 19th, to the sound of the C.L.B. band leading the combined C.L.B., J.T.C. and Y.B.C. units to the Family Communion at St. John the Evangelist, Ermine West.

A weekend camp is being held at Whitsun, when 24 lads are going with the officers to Ingoldmells.

The Annual Camp is being held for a week during August, when 52 are going to the Y.M.C.A. at Winthorpe.

### MABLETHORPE INVASION—*continued*

During this same week (May 18th-25th), members of the club not at Mablethorpe joined with Ermine Townswomen's Guild on a day's outing to the Lake District.

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# WHAT'S ON?

- June
- 2 Sun. **Whit Sunday.**
  - 3 Mon. Youth Pilgrimage to Cathedral.
  - 4 Tues. Young Wives' Group.
  - 7 Fri. 63 Club, "The Casuals", 7-30 p.m.
  - 9 Sun. **Trinity Sunday.**
  - 13 Thur. **Corpus Christi.** Holy Communion, 7-30 a.m.
  - 14 Fri. 63 Club.
  - 16 Sun. **Trinity 1.**
  - 21 Fri. 63 Club, "The Casuals".
  - 22 Sat. Balloon Race.
  - 23 Sun. **Trinity 2.**
  - 25 Tues. Mothers' Union Enrolment Service and A.G.M., 7-45 p.m.
  - 26 Wed. Care of the Elderly Quarterly Report, 7-30 p.m.
  - 24 Mon. **St. John the Baptist.** Holy Communion, 7-30 a.m.
  - 28 Fri. 63 Club.
  - 29 Sat. **St. Peter and St. Paul.** Holy Communion, 7-30 a.m.
  - 30 Sun. **Trinity 3.**

# St. John's Register

## Baptisms

- May 5 Sandra Jane, daughter of Jack and Brenda Lilley.
- Gina Margherita, daughter of Bernard and Ludmilla Smith.
- Lisa Danielle, daughter of George and Patricia Brackenbury.
- Lee Andrew, son of Robert and Marjorie Mason Watson.
- „ 19 Martin Paul, son of Harry and Audrey Milner.

## Burial

- May 14 Gary Nicholas Moule (3 months).

## Whit Sunday — East Goes West

At 6-30 p.m. on Sunday, June 2nd, there will be a service at St. John the Evangelist, Ermine West. The usual Evening service at St. John the Baptist will not take place and the choir and congregation will come over to the West for the evening.

# St. John's Church Ermine

Vicar: THE REV. JOHN HODGKINSON, St. John's Vicarage, Tel. 25621.

Asst. Curate: THE REV. W. J. T. BROCKIE, St. John's House.

Reader: MR. I. E. DAINES, 10 Swaby Close.

Wardens: MR. L. D. MOORE, 97 Browning Drive and MR. K. DENT, 10 Woodhall Drive.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

### St. John the Baptist

Family Communion, 9-00 a.m.

Evensong, 6-30 p.m.

Holy Baptism, 1st and 3rd Sundays at 3-45 p.m.—Two weeks notice please to clergy.

### St. John the Evangelist

Family Communion, 10-30 a.m.

Evensong, 1st Sunday in the month at 6-30 p.m.



## SITE CLEARANCE — 1957

Now that the fabric of the church is complete we are tidying the site up once more, and this time for keeps. Anyone who can give a hand will be most welcome. Watch out for further details of

the work that needs to be done by ourselves before the church is consecrated in October. We shall be able to start decorating in a few weeks time.

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THURSDAY	11-30—1 p.m.	4—6 p.m.
FRIDAY	11-30—1-30	7-30—11 p.m.
SATURDAY	11-30—1-30	7-30—11 p.m.

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