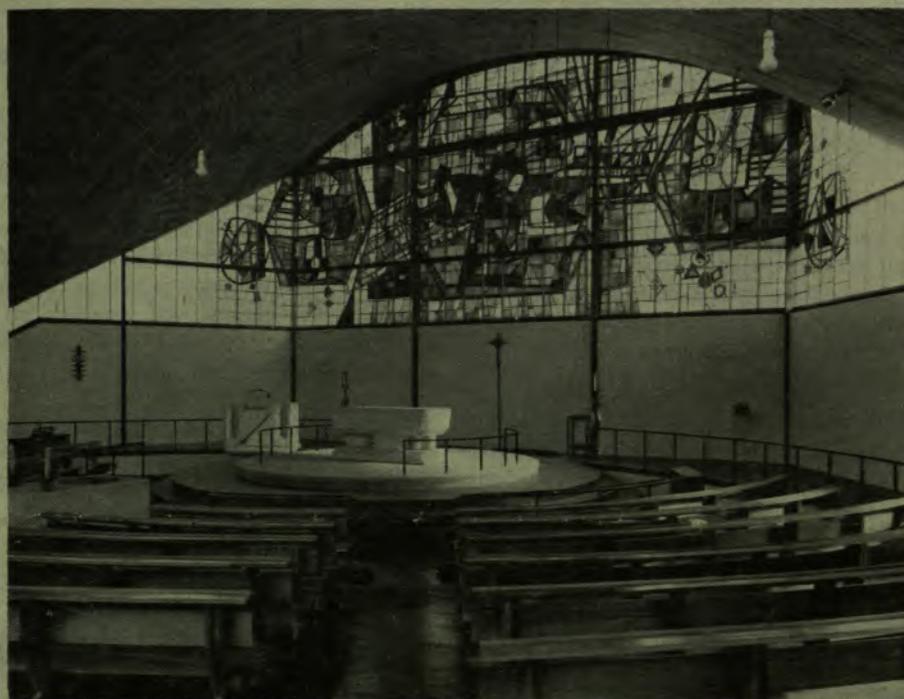


POPULAR OPINION VOTES NEW CHURCH A GREAT SUCCESS



There are at least two very good things about the people of this parish. They say what they think, and if they find out that their first thoughts were wrong they are big enough to admit it. Hundreds of men and women have written or said something like, "I must confess that I didn't think much to it when it was going up, but the result is terrific".

Among the most enthusiastic are the elderly people who were aghast at the idea of having a church in concrete and aluminium. 'Churches are built in stone'. They had always felt that there couldn't be any 'atmosphere' in a modern church but to their joy they found it there right at the start. 'This church helps you to pray'.

A local police sergeant came to have a look inside and stopped in amazement. "I've watched it being built", he said, "and I wondered what all the fuss was about, but I can see now. It's beautiful.

A group of teenagers were passing by. One stopped to look inside and came and called excitedly to the others, "It's a smashing church, come and have a look". Real praise came from a builder's labourer, who popped in out of professional curiosity. "I don't go to church, but if I did, I'd come to this one".

When building started many people were against the idea, almost entirely, because the exterior didn't bear any resemblance to established

traditions of ecclesiastical architecture. With 3½ miles of scaffolding in place to support the shuttering for the hyperbolic paraboloid roof, the common cry was that it looked like the Big Dipper at Butlins. As work progressed others noticed the apron stage effect of the chancel and said that they liked the new theatre that we were building.

Continued on page 3

Drama Group

The next production of the St. John's Drama Group is hoped to be staged early in the New Year. We hope you will bring all your friends along to see it. The Play is called "Queen Elizabeth Slept Here", a comedy in three acts. The Group meet once a week, on a Wednesday night in the Church Hall and new faces to the Group will be more than welcome. Even if you don't wish to take an acting part, helpers for back-stage work and other very important jobs are very necessary to make our production go with a swing. So swing along with your friends to the Hall on Wednesday night at 7-30 p.m.

If you wish to know more about our activities, which include social evenings, visiting other Drama Groups and having a night out at the Theatre Royal, please contact the secretary, Miss M. Bailey, 32 Bassingham Crescent or Father John, The Vicarage.

SOCIAL and DANCE

St. John's Community Centre
ERMINE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd
8—11 p.m.

ADMISSION 2/-
(including Refreshments)

Reporters Wanted

Do you belong to a club or a team in any way connected with Ermine? If so we would like to have some details of your activities in the Ermine News. Have you an interesting hobby? Then write a few lines about it and send it to the Editor. Is there a Golden Wedding in your family or street, a 21st Birthday party or an engagement? Do you have strong views about anything or have you any suggestions to make for improving the social amenities of this estate or city? Or are you prepared to be a roving reporter? If so, get out your pen and paper, or typewriter and write to the Editor, Ermine News, St. John's Vicarage, Ermine, Lincoln.

Imp Darts Teams

The season for Men's and Ladies' teams has just started. In addition a competition for customers of the Imp is being run. It is hoped to raise £100 to give to the Children's Family trust at Market Rasen.

ST. JOHN'S PARISH CHURCH

Sunday, November 24th

The Very Reverend NORMAN ROBINSON
Provost of Blackburn Cathedral

Family Communion 9-15 a.m.

Evensong 6-30 p.m.

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. . . the strangers were the people actually living here . . . (Writes Jeremy Hirst, a student from the Bishop's Hostel)

STRANGERS & VISITORS

We students came to the Ermine Estate as strangers. Some of us live in Lincoln and all of us had been to the Estate at some time — to look at the new church, to use the Library or to play dominoes at the Old Folks Home. But still, we were strangers when we arrived for our week's visit.

We weren't strangers for long. We were all lodged in different people's houses and we were given magnificent meals by dozens of people. Everywhere we met from our hosts and hostesses a warm welcome, generous hospitality and a friendly interest. I would like to take this opportunity of saying how grateful we are for all this kindness.

As well as this, we went visiting all afternoon and we were at House Meetings every evening. We went into dozens of houses and talked to literally hundreds of people. Our black cassocks were quite a familiar sight in the streets. Soon we weren't strangers at all. We were visitors.

But we quickly noticed an odd thing. The strangers in the Ermine Estate were not us — the students, the visitors. The strangers were people actually living here. Many, many times we came across people who did not know their neighbours, who found other people unfriendly and unhelpful,

who had nothing to do in the evenings, who felt excluded from the life of the Estate. They felt like strangers.

Now, isn't it all wrong that we, who were only visitors, should have been so quickly welcomed and made to feel at home, while people who have been living here for five years or more still don't feel at home?

What is the answer to this? It is easy to say, though perhaps it's not so easy to do. For after all, someone has got to make the first move. If you complain that your neighbours never speak to you, have you ever tried speaking to them? If people seem unfriendly and unhelpful to you, how friendly and helpful are you to them? If you never seem to be asked into anybody else's house, how often do you ask other people into your own house? If nobody seems to talk to each other in shops and bus queues, well, someone has got to say the first word, even if it is only good morning and that someone could be you.

Having said all this, which is really only common sense, I should say that the Church is a community of people who are always open and friendly and helpful — where no one is a stranger, but at first a visitor and soon a friend.

Evergreen Club (East)

The last outing of the season was an enjoyable day at Blackpool.

The Committee now have plans in hand for the Christmas Party which this year is to take place in the evening.

Would kind friends please send along their bits of wool and any pieces of new material, no matter how small, for making Toys for our stall at the Christmas Fair. Our rag bag is almost empty.

A warm welcome awaits you all.

G. DIXON.

Evergreen Club (West)

This year's Harvest Festival was held on Tuesday, October 1st and was taken by the Vicar. After the service the produce was auctioned by Mr. Bob Cook.

Plans are well in hand for the 'Birthday Party' on Wednesday, December 18th. A gift of £10 was made by the Club to buy one of the furnishings needed for the Parish Church. It has not yet been decided which will be the most suitable thing to buy.

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Friday Night Club

The 1963/4 Session has got off to a good start. The club is full up and we have four on the waiting list.

We have had visits from two groups, the Falcons and the Avengers; one was judged more musical, but less handsome than the other; guess which and who judged? The Avengers have been booked for a return visit.

The Club has started a Monthly Juke Box Jury. Three members are chosen and given money to buy a record not in the current top ten and give their reasons for buying it. If at the end of the month the record has joined the top ten the member may keep the record; otherwise it becomes the club's. Our contestants this month are Ann Wilmer, Catherine Lowin and Keith Robinson with records by Adam Faith, Billy Fury and Buddy Holly; with one week to go in this Jury, Catherine so far has won her record.

The Judo Club from the Y.M.C.A. gave a demonstration one evening; slides of the U.S.S.R. were shown on another and during the Mission some Bishop's Hostel Students entertained the Club.

Ermine Evening Townswomen's Guild

We had a lovely sunny day for our annual outing; Wednesday, October 15th, when 41 paid a visit to Cadbury's at Bourneville.

On the return journey we visited Coventry Cathedral, making our journey 180 miles.

November 14th is the date of the A.G.M. Please be present to vote for Chairman and Committee.

Plans are in hand for a Christmas Party in December.

G. DIXON, *Chairman.*

CONFIRMATION—MAR. 14th

The first Confirmation Service will be held in the Parish Church on Saturday, March 14th at 7 p.m.

Boys and girls of 13 years or more are invited to join the Confirmation Class held in the Church on Tuesday evening at 6-30 p.m.

Classes for adults will be held in the new year, but names should be given to the Vicar as soon as possible.

Christmas Fair

DEC. 7th

IN AID OF HOME AND
FOREIGN MISSIONS

ST. JOHN'S HALL

2-30 p.m.

Continued from page 1

One critic observed the sloping floor and asked when the new swimming pool was to be opened.

The tide began to turn when Keith New's magnificent coloured glass was put into position, its rich colours and abstract shapes enriching the whole building. Of course, we were often asked what the window meant and we dutifully tried to interpret it, but all agreed that the design and colour were the most important thing. "Isn't it lovely? Does it have any special meaning"?

Three massive lumps of concrete became the altar, font and pulpit and the building began to show that it might turn into a church. Simple benches of pine curved gracefully round the chancel steps, the many colours in the wood brought to light by the varnish adding a warmth and homeliness to the building. The workers began to get excited and the visitors became more frequent and they stayed longer. Some took off their coats and began to help.

The candlesticks and processional cross in steel sculpture by Charles Sansbury were brought in. Again, a moment's doubt as when the large concrete font was first cast. But, again a moment of triumph when each separate part was fitted into a whole.

More paint, a bit of carpet, a vase of flowers and a good polish, the clutter wheeled round to the vicarage garage. Twelve hours to the consecration and we were ready. It looked marvellous, but what would the acoustics be like. Would the sense of gathering round the altar really be achieved?

Sunday morning came, the Bishop was admitted and the procession wound its way round the church and music filled the air. Many eyes were shining with joy, the final doubts had been removed. The church not only looked lovely. It worked.

"I've always been against this Vicar, but I take everything back. It's a wonderful church".

Ermine Mothers' Club

This has been well attended up to date. At our first meeting which was reported in the 'Echo' we had over 50 members. We formed a committee on that night; Mrs. Scoffin, Chairman, Mrs. Wells her deputy, Mrs. Hansford Secretary, Mrs. Hawkins Treasurer and Mrs. Currie, Mrs. Colville and I are members. Our first two meetings were 'open' ones for discussion and suggestions and they were a great success. Last night, 16th October, we had our first speaker when Dr. Haigh, Medical Officer of Health, spoke about aspects of the work of the Health Department, especially those concerning mother and child. On November 6th Mr. Box is to speak on 'Dogs for the Blind'. We have an interesting programme planned which includes speakers such as Sister Barchard on 'Children in Hospital', a Boots Beauty Demonstrator on 'Care of the Skin' and Miss Sooles talking about her work at the Quarry.

It will be, indeed already is, a club with a friendly atmosphere. So any more mothers interested?

Future dates: November 6th, 20th. December 4th, 18th. January 15th.

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ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH CHURCH

The Family Communion, 9-15 a.m.
 Senior and Junior Confirmation School, 11-0 a.m.
 (Infants in Church Hall, 11-0 a.m.)
 Holy Baptism (First Sunday in the month), 3-45 p.m.
 Evensong, 6-30 p.m.
 (Confirmation Classes for boys and girls 13 and over in Church, Tuesday evenings, 6-30 p.m.)

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST COMMUNITY CENTRE (ERMINE WEST)

Holy Communion, 8-0 a.m.
 Infants Confirmation School, 11-30 a.m.
 Junior Confirmation School, 2-30 p.m.
 Holy Baptism (Third Sunday in the month), 3-45 p.m.
 Evensong (First Sunday in the month), 6-30 p.m.

BANNS, WEDDINGS, CHURCHINGS AND CONFESSIONS by arrangement.

(Please give two weeks notice for Baptism. Forms can be obtained from the Clergy.)

St. John's Register

Baptism

- Oct. 13 Steven, son of Brian and Pauline Robson.
 Deana Gail, daughter of Ronald and Toya Bartlett.
 Nigel John, son of Peter and Evelyn Dickinson.
 Jayne, daughter of Joseph and Christine Coulbeck.
 Cardine Elizabeth, daughter of Donald and Elizabeth Fowler.
- 20 Wendy Anne, daughter of Charles and Betty Houtby.
 Jeremy Paul, son of William and Edna Wright.
 Leslie Stuart, son of William Stuart and Janet Mary Gordon.
 Vanda Justine, daughter of Richard and Patricia Jean Adams.
 Martin William, son of William Valentine and Freda Mary Foster.

Marriage

Oct. 12 Janet Rawlinson and David Reeves.

BUS TO GREAT STAUGHTON

A bus will be going from the parish so that as many as possible can be present at the Induction of Fr. Bill as Vicar of Great Staughton. The bus will leave at 4 p.m. on Friday, November 22nd and should return to Lincoln a little before midnight.

Further details will be found on the notice board in church and also a list for names.

Farewell Service

Fr. Bill will preach his last sermon here as Asst. Curate on Sunday, November 17th at 6-30 p.m. There will be a social gathering at the hall after the service to say goodbye.

WHAT'S ON?

November

- 1 Fri. **All Saints' Day.** Holy Communion, 7-30 p.m.
 3 Sun. **Trinity 21.**
 4 Mon. Care of the Elderly (West) Quarterly Report, Methodist Church, 7-30 p.m.
 C.L.B. Open Night, St. John's Hall, 7-30 p.m.
 5 Tues. Mothers' Union, 7-45 p.m. 'Tupperware'.
 10 Sun. **Trinity 22.**
 17 Sun. **Trinity 23.**
 19 Tues. Mothers' Union Enrolment Service, 7-45 p.m.
 22 Fri. Fr. Bill's Institution as Vicar of Great Staughton, Hunts., 7 p.m.
 23 Sat. Social and Dance, 7-30 p.m. 2/-, St. John's Community Centre, Ermine West.
 24 Sun. **Trinity next before advent.**
 The Very Rev. the Provost of Blackburn.

December

- 1 Sun. **Advent 1.**
 7 Sat. Christmas Fair.
 8 Sun. **Advent 2.**
 6-30 p.m., Archdeacon of Lindsey.

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FRIDAY	11-30—1-30 7-30—11 p.m.
SATURDAY	11-30—1-30

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