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

Week-end School of Unity

After years of talking about getting together the churches are really getting down to action.

The Lincoln Council of Churches has arranged a special weekend 'School of Unity' when members of all churches will be able to come to grips with the problem.

The School will be held at the Girls' High School on Saturday and Sunday, January 18th and 19th. The session on Saturday will be from 2-30 to 8-30 p.m. and on Sunday from 2-30 to 5-30 p.m. Tea will be provided on both days and the all in cost of the conference will be 7/6d.

NO EVENING SERVICE ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

Instead of holding their separate Evening Services over forty churches and chapels have agreed to meet together at the Cathedral for:

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 19th
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NEW LOOK FOR FRIDAY NIGHT CLUB



The Friday Night Club meets at St. John's Community Centre every Friday night from 7—9 p.m. It is open to any boy or girl in the parish who is at a Senior School and under 15 years of age.

Father John is the Club Leader and he is assisted by Mr. and Mrs. C. Robinson, Mr. D. Jesson and Mr. and Mrs. S. Black.

The new look is to provide a programme of free activity, so that within the basic rules of the club

the members are free to do what they like.

The club is divided into two areas. In one there is pop music and dancing all the evening and in the other tables and chairs are arranged for table games and refreshments and general conversation.

Club outings will be arranged as in the past and the weekly subscription remains at 6d. New members may join on Friday Nights between 7 and 7-15 p.m., but they may have to remain on the waiting list for a while until their is a vacancy.

Drama Club **Open Night**

ST. JOHN'S HALL

Wednesday, 15th January, 1964

at 7-45 p.m.

At the Annual General Meeting of 'The St. John's Players', the following officers were elected. Chairman: Ray Haresign, Vice-Chairman: Tom Moore, Secretary: Andrew Mason, Treasurer: Sheila Stokes.

It was decided to hold an open night to bring the group into contact with any others who are interested in acting or producing or who just generally like helping with the many jobs entailed in putting on a play.

If you have never acted in your life and whether you are sixteen or sixty, you will be most welcome.

There will be the chance to join in a play reading and to talk with the other members of the group. Besides putting on plays the Drama Group arranges many social activities.

It only costs half a crown a year to join and sixpence subscription on club night.

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THE BALL PEN STORY. . .

. . . by **KEN PRIESTLEY**

Early in 1962, when the Appeals Committee were seeking ways and means of raising money for the parish church appeal fund, it was decided to venture into the ball pen business and when the suppliers were approached for details of a suitable pen, they emphasized the fact that one particular organisation had sold a quantity of nearly two thousand.

However, being extremely cautious characters the committee decided on a trial batch of four gross and no-one imagined for a moment that the figure of two thousand would be surpassed. A recent delivery has however brought our total to over four thousand three hundred, the majority of which have already been sold, adding something like seventy pounds to the appeal fund.

These pens which are available in many attrac-

tive colours and are engraved with the name of our church have found homes in many parts of this country and one at least penetrated the iron curtain.

It is true of course that our pens face a great deal of competition from other members of their family which are given away with particular brands of tooth paste and the like, but they are still in constant demand and represent good value at the reasonable price of one shilling, a third of which goes into the appeal fund.

The figure of seventy pounds could easily be doubled if for instance every reader of this story used only St. John's ball pens. Enquiries from anyone wishing to buy or better still to sell pens, which incidentally are now available in red or blue ink, would be most welcome.



Ermine
Infant
School

School Notes

The Annual Carol Service at the Junior School was held on Wednesday, December 18th. One hundred and forty-four children took part and three hundred parents came to join with them in the Service. Carols old and new, solos and readings by the children and a special setting for voices and instruments were combined with two wonderful violin solos by guest artist Mrs. Wright.

At the end of the Service the children sang the traditional Boar's Head Carol and the parents were invited to a hot drink and a sausage roll.

Miss Garvey is getting married and will return to school as Mrs. Wilson. Next Term starts on January 7th and the new time for morning school will be 9-10 a.m.

The Infant School has been redecorated and many new colour schemes have brought rich touches of colour to all parts of the school. In spite of pots of paint all over the place the Christmas Party was held and the surplus gifts from parents towards this were sent to OXFAM. Miss Thompson is getting married and she will change her name to Mrs. Mayell.



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CHRISTIANS AND COMMUNISTS

Recently I was able to spend a fortnight in Czechoslovakia — a Communist country since 1948. We may have heard all sorts of things about the way Communists treat Christians — churches being closed and Christians being persecuted. But I found nothing at all like this in Czechoslovakia. The Church certainly exists there — nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of the population are Roman Catholics. I saw very few churches which had been closed and very many which were open and which had congregations just as big as in this country. People are free to belong to any Church they wish and there seemed to be enough priests and ministers. The way in which the State does exercise control is by paying the wages of the priests — the young priest starts at £15 per month and so this is a very real disadvantage. But priests are not allowed to go visiting in their parishes unless they are

specifically invited by individuals. Thus while there is a check on preaching the Gospel openly, people are free to live by it — surely the right way so far as Christians are concerned.

Communism brings many good things — not least in the way of social welfare. So some of the things for which Communism stands are supported by the Church. Christians have accepted the situation in which they find themselves and are trying their best.

We sometimes forget that Christianity was first preached in a country which was ruled by an unchristian power and sometimes an anti-Christian one. But this did not hinder anyone then and it doesn't hinder Christians in Czechoslovakia today. In fact since they find it harder it may be that their Christianity is stronger than ours.

BARRY ETHERINGTON.

Confirmation, 14th March

The Rt. Rev. Colin Dunlop, Dean of Lincoln will be holding a Confirmation Service at St. John's on Saturday, March 14th at 7 p.m.

Classes for boys and girls are already being held on Tuesday evenings at 6-30 p.m. at church.

Classes for adults are to be held on Tuesday evenings in the church vestry at 7 p.m. beginning January 21st.

Flowers in Church

Flowers placed in church are often in thanksgiving or in memory of someone. If you would like to give flowers at anytime then please put your name down against one of the dates on the flower list in the church porch.

Flowers brought to church on Saturday will be arranged for you, or if you particularly want to, you may arrange them yourself.

Men Wanted

St. John's 63 Club meets every Friday night and is non-stop jiving from 7-30 — 10-30 p.m. It would be a great help if two or three men would come and help with this dance, even if they can't come every week.

Anyone who is interested or who would like more details is asked to contact Mr. Ken Dent, 10 Woodhall Drive or to just turn up one Friday night.



Barry Etherington and his fiancée Ann Johnston who will move into St. John's House after their wedding at Easter.

Christmas Fair

Many thanks for all who helped to raise £40 for Home and Overseas Missions.

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St John's Church, Ermine

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

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

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

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 Vicarage.)

WHAT'S ON?

January

- 1 Wed. New Year's Day. Holy Communion, 7-30 p.m.
- 4 Sat. Junior Conference School Party, 3-30 p.m.
Senior Conference School Social, 7 p.m.
- 5 Sun. **Christmas 2.**
The Bishop of Lincoln, 9-15 a.m.
- 6 Mon. **Epiphany.** Holy Communion, 7-30 p.m.
- 7 Tues. Confirmation Class (final year), 6-30 p.m.
- 12 Sun. **Epiphany 1.**
- 14 Tues. Mothers' Union, 7-45 p.m.
- 15 Wed. Drama Group Open Night, 7-45 p.m.
- 18 Sat. } School of Unity. Girls' High School
19 Sun. } (see page 1).
- 22 Wed. P.C.C., 7-30 p.m.
- 25 Sat. Leaders' Party. Community Centre, 7-30 p.m.
- 26 Sun. **Septuagesima**
- 28 Tues. Mothers' Union, 7-45 p.m.

St. John's Register

Baptisms

- Nov. 3 Richard, son of Derrick and Jean Thomas.
Dean, son of Thomas and Sheila Graham.
Karen Leslie, daughter of George and Lucy Hobson.
- " 10 Nicholas John William, son of William and Jennifer Brockie.
- " 24 Alexander George, son of Alexander and Mavis Christie.
- Dec. 1 Wendy Elizabeth, daughter of Lawrence and Jean Ringwood.
Paula Maria, daughter of Bryan and Joy Booth.
Julie Ann, daughter of Philip and Sheila Johnson.
Clive, son of Walter and Vera Musson.
Pauline, daughter of Henry and Helena Lamb.

Funerals

- Oct. 30 John William Crawford, aged 77.
- " 31 Dorothy Smith, aged 68.
- Nov. 6 Hazel Hooseman, aged 33.
- " 28 Hazel Boccock, aged 32.
Hubert Stimpson, aged 76.
- Dec. 18 Stephen Frederick Daniel Price, aged 55.
- " 21

Marriage

- Dec. 21 Leslie South and Maureen Ann Meggitt.

Family Communion

SUNDAY, 5TH JANUARY

The Rev. Kenneth Riches, Bishop of Lincoln
at 9-15 a.m.

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WEDNESDAY	11-30—1 p.m. 7-30—10-30 p.m.
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

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