

1965.

The Link

January

THE DESERT SHALL BLOSSOM AS A ROSE

The Church Grounds

WE are all disappointed that lack of funds has prevented us from laying out the grounds as we originally wished to do. If we had gone ahead with our first plans, the Appeal would have risen to £20,000, and so we had to make reductions, and limit expenditure on the grounds to £2,000.

For this money we have carried out the essential tasks—tarmac and pavements up to the parish halls, paving around the new hall, paving all around the Church, and a flagstone path between Church and halls. At least our buildings and their immediate surroundings look tidy.

But the rest of the grounds look a mess, and we must surely try and do something with them, even if it means spending more money.

One urgent task is the provision of car parking space, especially near to the Church. Cars used to park right up to the Church building, but this area is now paved, and if cars drive on to the paving stones they will quickly crack and crumble. Maybe we can create a new car park towards the rear of the Church by laying cinders ourselves. Again, it is to be hoped that everyone will exercise patience, until we have sorted ourselves out a bit. Don't be like the abusive woman who phoned the Rectory when her garden was flooded recently, and told us that we had no right to lay out our grounds if it inconvenienced her! Cars could still be parked on the concrete drive down the side of the Church, or on the rough grass.

Motorists who wished could park by the parish halls, entering from Fog Lane, and then walking up to the Church via the new flagstone path. It is quite dry that way, and not a long walk. **BUT MOTORISTS — PLEASE DON'T PARK ON THE FLAGSTONES.**

June

THE LINK

3

S. Nicholas Rectory,
Manchester 19.
11th May, 1965.

THE SEVEN YEAR ITCH

MY Dear Friends,

When a husband has been married for seven years, so it is alleged, he may enter into the dangerous period during which he is liable to become dissatisfied with his wife and cast longing glances at other women. This condition is known as "*The Seven Year Itch*". S. Nicholas parishioners and church folk might well be forgiven for thinking that their Rectors easily become bitten by the same bug! Only Prebendary Barnett amongst previous incumbents has stayed at S. Nicholas for more than seven years. And now, as I approach in July the 7th anniversary of my Induction as Rector, I have to announce to readers of *The Link* the sad news which has already been conveyed to church folk, the news that I too will be leaving S. Nicholas this summer to become Vicar of Yardley, Birmingham.

A CHALLENGE

Let me assure all of you that I have not, emphatically not, become dissatisfied with my "*first wife*"; Yardley is not to be regarded as "*the other woman*"! My family and I have been very happy at S. Nicholas, and we have enjoyed our time here among you. Together, and with God's blessing, we have achieved much during these seven years. I had hoped that we might do even more together during the next two or three years, and to this end we had planned to stay longer. The Lent Course was designed to look to the future, the P.C.C. had made provisional plans for a Stewardship Campaign, and the Rectory was decorated only last year in order to facilitate our further stay. But perhaps it is not possible to plan so carefully in a clergyman's life!

Right out of the blue, completely unsought and with no warning, the invitation to become Vicar of Yardley reached me near the end of March. It took me a month to make up my mind, as I did not want to leave S. Nicholas, and my other work and friends at Parrs Wood, and throughout the Manchester area. But gradually the conviction grew that the challenge and opportunities of Yardley were such as I could well tackle at this stage in my Ministry, and on April 21, I accepted the invitation which had been sent to me by the Master of S. Peter's College, Oxford. And each day that goes by now convinces me that I have made the right decision.

BELOVED PARISH

The exact date of our departure, and the Induction at Yardley, have not been fixed, but we shall probably leave S. Nicholas at the end of July. So there is plenty of time for us all to get adjusted to the move, and to say our good-byes, and time too I hope for the Patrons of the Living to carry forward their search for a new Rector. Please pray hard that a man may be appointed who may lead a spiritual revival in our beloved parish of a kind that I would never have been able to conduct had I stayed. So the Parish of S. Nicholas will continue to move forward, and you will do greater things for God in the future than have ever been done in the past.

May God bless and enrich and enlighten you all,
Your sincere friend and Rector,

David Edwards

THE RECTOR'S COLUMN

THE Parish of Yardley in Birmingham, to which I have been appointed, is very similar in many ways to S. Nicholas, in that it consists largely of houses built in the suburbs of a big city between the two Great Wars, partly Corporation housing and partly private housing. But there the resemblance ends. Yardley is a Parish of nearly 36,000 people; here we have 6,000! Yardley Church was built in the 12th century, S. Nicholas in the 20th century. Yardley has two Curates, whereas I have been on my own here. There I shall be a Vicar, and we shall have to get used to referring to the Vicarage instead of the Rectory! But in spite of all the differences, it is the same Church of England that we serve wherever we go, the same pattern of worship goes on week by week, and people come with the same requests, the same troubles and the same joys. In Yardley Parish there is not a single other church building of any kind, so goodness knows how my interest in Church Unity is to be expressed! There are no other churches to link up with! But it is a situation which presents a unique and exciting challenge to the Anglican Parish Church, and I hope that you will pray for us, that we may make the most of that situation in a spirit of charity and friendliness, and not with any desire to dominate.

It is inevitable that a clergyman's first living will help to shape him. I have learnt much at S. Nicholas, and will hope that the benefits of all my experiences with you will help to make my Ministry at Yardley constructive and progressive. But in essentials I shall remain the same as I have tried to be during these seven years at S. Nicholas — a firm leader without being dogmatic; proud of the Church of England and its insistence upon the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion but friendly and co-operative with other Churches; emphasising the unity of parish life and the need for a strong Fellowship whilst insisting that we care for all men, outside the Church as well as in; anxious to teach the Faith and enjoy it; critical always of disloyalty and humbug but open to self-criticism; fond of young and old!

VANDALISM — AND YOUNG PEOPLE

AFTER only a short life our Sunday Night Teenage Club has had to close, because a minority of hooligans ran wild, broke a number of windows and showed their contempt for kindly authority. Thus the depressing record of so many Church Youth Clubs continues. But we would wish to thank Mr. Arthur Wardle especially, and all those who helped him, for the patience and perseverance which they showed as they worked to keep the Club going week by week.

In the past week or two we have experienced vandalism at Church, and the Police have been informed. Flowers have been stolen from the War Memorial, Scout Flags denuded of their cords and thrown on the floor, part of a wall above the cellar entrance pushed over. The Rector and Mr. Wilson surprised three boys loafing into Church, and they have been reported to their parents as well as to the Police. But we would urge those householders particularly whose gardens adjoin the Church grounds to be as alert as possible, and to report immediately to the Rectory if they see anyone hanging around Church property. Unless this vandalism ceases we shall have to take two steps that have been strongly resisted in the past — lock the Church doors and close the Church grounds to everyone who is not properly coming to a meeting or service.

Of course we are not unique; there seems to be an upsurge of vandalism in our cities at the moment, of which the blocking of railway lines is the most terrible example. How to deal with it seems to baffle everybody. But one thing is surely true — that if parents don't instil into their children some sense of personal responsibility and respect for other people and their property, nobody else will.

B Taylor

THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST. NICHOLAS, BURNAGE



INDUCTION

OF THE

Reverend Dennis Baggaley, B.A.

AS RECTOR OF THIS CHURCH AND PARISH

BY THE

Venerable Arthur Selwyn Bean, M.B.E., M.A., B.D.

ARCHDEACON OF MANCHESTER

ON

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27th, 1965

at 8 p.m.

1966

June

THE LINK

3

S. Nicholas Rectory,
Fog Lane,
Manchester 19.

Vandalism and Youths

DEAR Friends,

Twelve months ago Mr. Edwards wrote in *The Link* on the subject of VANDALISM AND YOUNG PEOPLE. To quote his words — "After only a short life our Sunday Night Teenage Club has had to close, because a minority of hooligans ran wild, broke a number of windows and showed their contempt for kindly authority. Thus the depressing record of so many Church Youth Clubs continues." It would be good if we were able to say that 12 months later the situation was any better. Here at S. Nicholas we have a group of 50 young people meeting on Sunday evenings. This is a closed group and we are in the unhappy position of having to insist that membership is strictly limited to confirmed members of the Church who attend regularly. It seems that if our Guild is to survive then we must enforce the most rigid rules of membership and become a closed shop. May I repeat this is a most unhappy state of affairs. On a recent Sunday evening a group of outsiders sought admittance. On being informed of the rules we were treated to a display of abuse and threats of force. We all know that if these young people were admitted the pattern of previous years would follow and our group would be destroyed with pounds worth of damage to be paid for afterwards.

PARENTS

May I say that we have reluctantly decided that at the present time this is the only form of Youth Work that we can have in our Church. The experience of the past compels us to take this rigid line. It is tragic because the Church does not exist only for her own members, and it is a sad indictment of our times if the Church is driven to take an exclusive attitude towards those who are outside. But at the present time let it be understood that we have neither the leadership nor the facilities to run an open Youth Club. The sad truth is that there are very few adults who will take on this kind of work, and after the experience I have had in other places of open Youth Clubs run by the Education Committee, with paid leaders, I am not surprised.

To conclude, may I say that I have been greatly encouraged here by the way our own young people have responded, and I have tremendous faith and trust in many of the young people of today, who are courageous, adventurous and willing to serve others. But there is this element of irresponsible teenagers whose sole aim is to make nuisances of themselves, trespass, damage and destroy other people's property and generally to be a menace and terror to responsible citizens. Until the state takes a firmer line with hooligans and makes it possible for the police to control them the position will not improve.

May I quote some more words of David Edwards — "If parents don't instil into their children some sense of personal responsibility and respect for other people and their property, nobody else will."

With God's Blessing.

Your sincere friend and Rector,
DENNIS BAGGALEY

The Link

October

A Word of Welcome

A VERY warm welcome is extended to the two teachers and 80 children of St. Catherine's Roman Catholic Day School who are using our two halls for their classes. Their own school is undergoing considerable alteration and in August Father Neary asked if we could accommodate them. This we gladly agreed to and are pleased they are making themselves at home. Daisy is greatly thrilled by so many young admirers!

*

* Daisy HAS the well loved donkey belonging
to the Rector!

1967

The Link

April

RECTOR'S NOTES

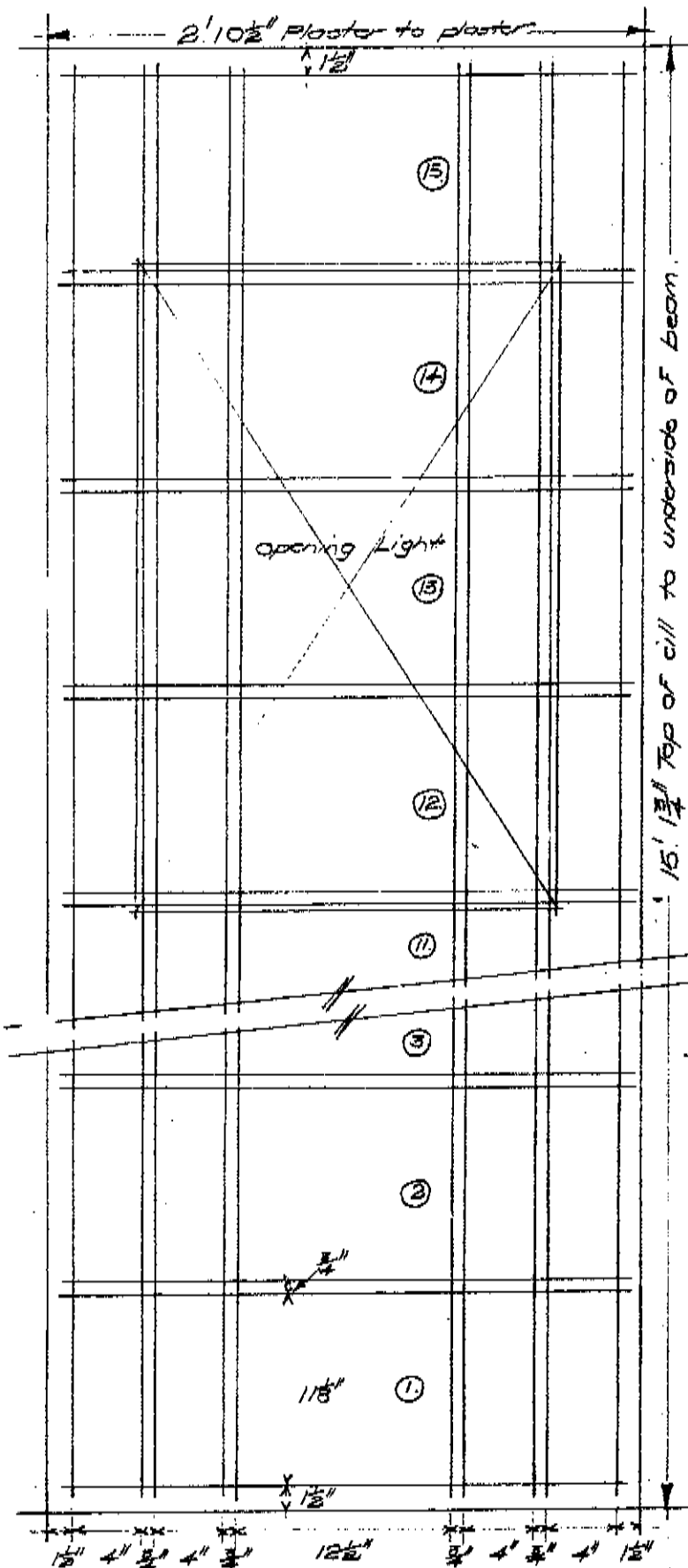
On Saturday, April 22nd at 3 p.m. Prebendary Barnett will dedicate a new stained glass window in memory of his late wife. Their many friends at St. Nicholas will want to be present on this happy occasion.

THE CHURCH OF ST NICHOLAS
BURNAGE, MANCHESTER

Evensong and Dedication
of a
Memorial Window

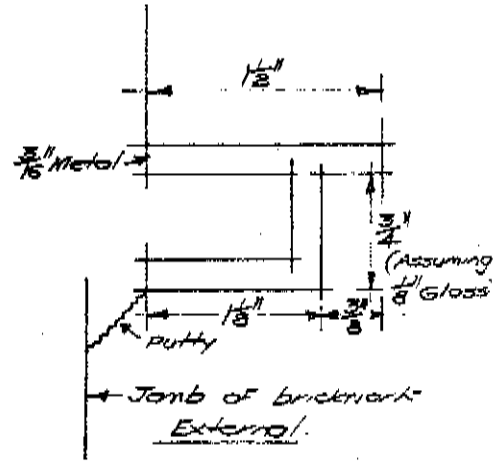
on Saturday, 22nd April, 1967
at 3 p.m.

Praise God for the life and work of
Ethel Ursula Owden Barnett, 1880-1963
Wife of the first Rector of this Parish, 1928-1938

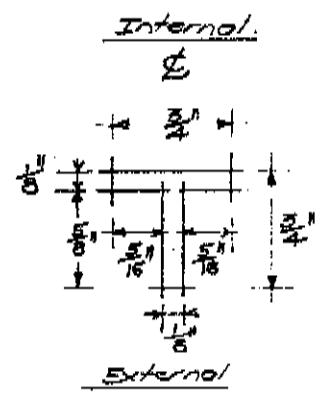


DETAIL OF THREE
LARGE WINDOWS IN
THE CHANCEL -
(ADJOINING HYMN BOARD
ON THE NORTH SIDE)

- NOTES:
- (A) No saddle bars.
 - (B) Glass (existing) presumed to be "Double Cathedral" Glass (Extension) "Plain Cathedral" Internal.



SECTION THROUGH FRAME
Scale: Full size



SECTION THROUGH
GLAZING BARS (METAL)
(VERTICAL & HORIZONTAL)

Scale: 1/2" = 1'0" ELEVATION (INTERNAL) Scale: Full size

CHURCH OF SAINT NICHOLAS,
BURNAGE, MANCHESTER, 19

B. TAYLOR. 14.11.66.

RECTOR'S NOTES

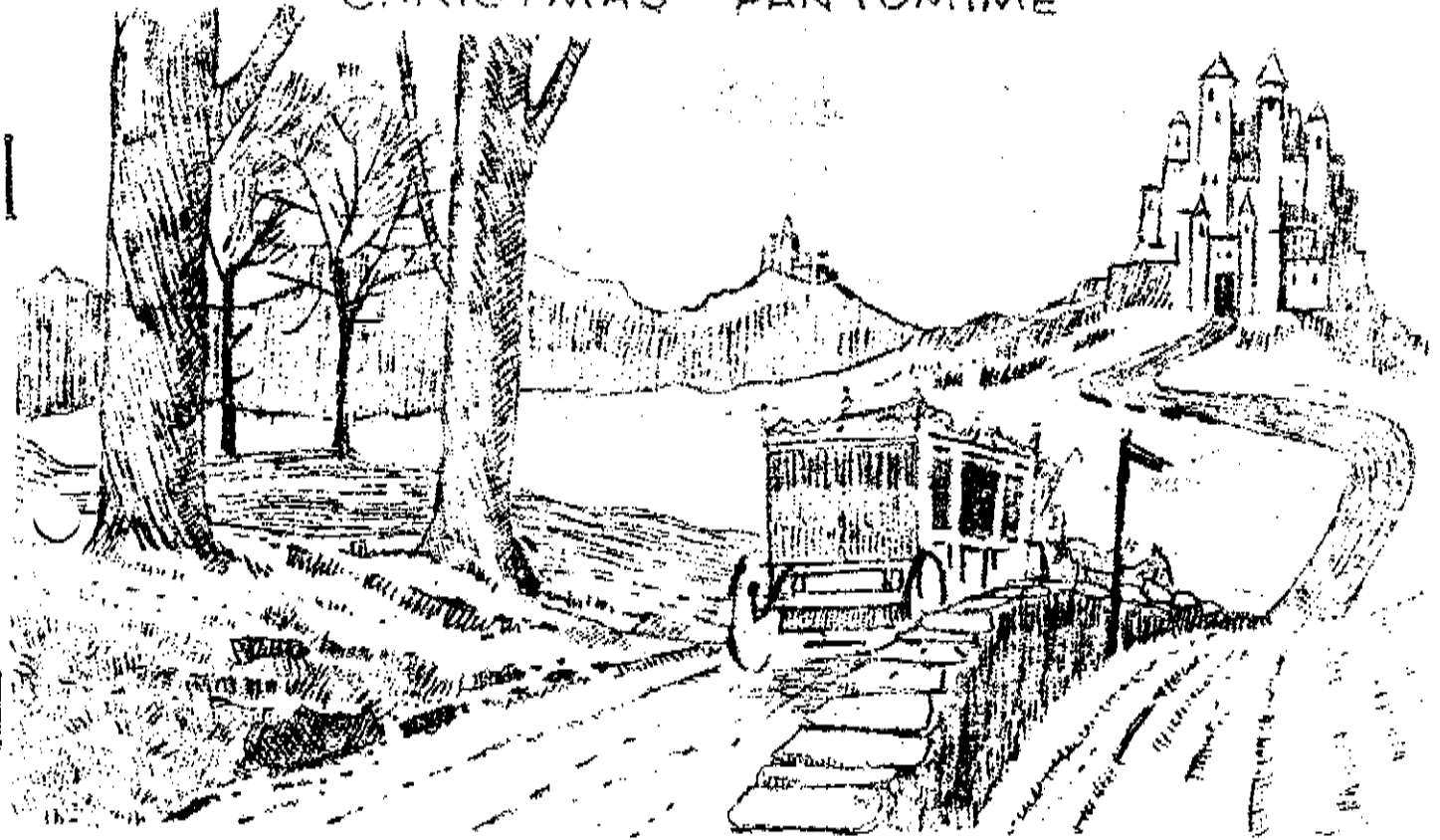
IN MEMORIAM

As we go to print we have heard of the death of Sir Charled Renold, one of the Trustees of this benefice. I visited Sir Charles in hospital shortly before he died and we spoke of St. Nicholas, a Church which was close to his heart. He and the late Lady Renold came to my induction two years ago. He was a great Mancunian and his interests ranged widely from his business to the world of Education. He was a great supporter of the University and did much to further its status and role in the sphere of education. Sir Charles will be long remembered not only by those who worked in his factory in Burnage Lane and elsewhere but by a larger body of people who were influenced by his wide interests and good deeds. At St. Nicholas we feel that we have lost a good friend and benefactor. We thank God for him and extend our sympathy to his family.

DB

ST. NICHOLAS SUNDAY SCHOOL.

CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME



FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 1ST AND 2ND DECEMBER 1967.

1968.

The Link

November.

THE SAINT NICHOLAS CANTATA: A combined choir and orchestra from Burnage High School and Withington High School will be performing the St. Nicholas Cantata, by Benjamin Britten on Thursday and Friday November 21st and 22nd. This is being done as part of our celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the formation of the Parish of St. Nicholas Burnage. Admission will be by programme and these will be on sale shortly. We hope many of our friends will be able to be present on one of these nights.

B. Taylor.

**ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, BURNAGE
1928 - 1968**

40th ANNIVERSARY

**A CONCERT OF MUSIC
INCLUDING THE CANTATA, ST. NICOLAS
BY BENJAMIN BRITTEN**

**Thursday and Friday, 21st and 22nd November, 1968
at 7.30 p.m.**

**BY THE CHOIRS AND ORCHESTRAS OF
WITHINGTON GIRLS' SCHOOL AND BURNAGE HIGH SCHOOL**

Programme 3s. 0d.

Children 1s. 6d.

**Since St. Nicolas was the Patron Saint of Children
any profits will be sent to The Save the Children Fund.**

St. Nicholas
40th ANNIVERSARY
BAZAAR



FRIDAY, 8th NOVEMBER

3-0 p.m. — 9-0 p.m.

and

SATURDAY, 9th NOVEMBER

11-0 a.m. — 6-0 p.m.

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH HALL
FOG LANE . BURNAGE

FREE PARKING

Admission by Programme - - 6d.