

An
Almanack
and
Parish Register
for
CHESHAM BOIS.

Presented by the Rev. J. Matthews,
with kind wishes
for 1883.

To the Parishioners of Chesham Bois.

DEAR FRIENDS,

In giving you my best wishes for a "Happy New Year," I must remove a misunderstanding which I find exists in some minds about this Almanack. Several have expressed their wonder that I could put so many nice pieces together; and I have told them that I only write the local matter, relating to our own Parish, and not the bulk of the Almanack. I intimated this in the first that I issued (the one for 1880). The Almanack is called "The One Thing Needful Almanack." I purchase as many copies as I require, and then the local matter, which I write myself, is printed and bound up with it. I trust it will not be less acceptable to you because of this explanation. And if you find anything in the pieces that you do not like, please to remember that I did not write them for you, and that I have no idea who wrote them.

Many solemn thoughts have come to me while getting this little present ready for you.

I think I may truly say I have prayed more for the people of Chesham Bois during the past year than I ever did before; and I am longing and expecting to see the answers to my prayers.

Chiefly I have prayed for more UNITY amongst the people of God in this Parish. In a book by Mr. Moody, called "Power from on High," I found these words some months ago:—"There is one thing I have noticed as I have travelled in different countries: *I have never yet known the Spirit of God work where the Lord's people were divided.*" As soon as I read that, I determined to try to cultivate union among the Christians of Chesham Bois; and during moonlight weeks I have, as you know, for several months, invited all the people of God to devotional meetings in the three districts of the Parish. The result has been encouraging in two of the districts, and I hope it will be so in all three during the New Year.

But alas! how many of us seem to have "lost our first love" to Jesus, and to be only half alive to God! May the Holy Spirit's sacred influences be more diligently sought by all of us who are truly born again, and may our "loins be girded about and our lights burning," for "the coming of the Lord draweth nigh."

Yours affectionately,

JOSEPH MATTHEWS.

CHESHAM BOIS ALMANACK FOR 1883.

Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials at Bois Church, from December 1st, 1881, to November 30th, 1882.

Baptisms.

Mary Ann Cox.
Arthur George Cox.
Agnes Gomm.
Ernest William Olney.

Marriages.

Charles Holt to Annie Saunders.

Burials.

Benjamin Fuller, aged 90.
Mary Ann Adams, aged 28.
Sarah Cox, aged 65.

The Services of the Church

Are at half-past ten throughout the year on Sunday mornings; at half-past six in the evening during Summer, and at three in the afternoon during Winter.

There will be Morning and Afternoon Services on Good Friday, March 23rd. On Christmas Day, December 25th, and on Ascension Day, Thursday, May 3rd, there will be Morning Service in the Church, and in the Mission Room in the evening at seven.

It is a sign of spiritual decay when these important days are disregarded; for though not of divine appointment, they are set apart by the Church of England and many other churches as solemn seasons for thankful remembrance of some of the most blessed mysteries of our holy religion. On **Christmas Day** we should meet in the house of God with joyful and thankful hearts to celebrate the wonderful love of God in sending His only-begotten Son, as on this day, to take upon Himself our human nature, and to be born into this world, that He might become our Immanuel,—God with us,—our merciful Saviour and Redeemer. Why should we not testify our love and thankfulness for such a wonderful favour, by assembling ourselves together for holy worship, and partaking of the memorials of His dying love? Let us not be behind the shepherds of Bethlehem and the wise men from the East in presenting ourselves and our offerings before Him, who is our Lord and King. **Good Friday** is well called "Good," for it is the day on which we are invited to meet together and meditate upon that most touching of all the proofs of our precious Saviour's love to us,—*His laying down His life in*

CHESHAM BOIS ALMANACK FOR 1883.

our stead, that we might not perish, but be saved everlastingly, if we believe on Him in our hearts. Oh, how is it that so few of us meet together on that day of grace and mercy to consider what great things he has done for us! If it grieves His ministers, how much more must it grieve that tenderly-loving Saviour Himself, that so few will make the sacrifice of even half a day from their ordinary labours, to testify their thankfulness for such infinite love? Would He, who gave Himself for us, and Whose is all the silver and gold,—would He let any one be a loser by setting apart such a day for adoring worship and thankful praise?

On **Ascension Day**, or, as it is also called, Holy Thursday, we celebrate our Saviour's going up to heaven forty days after He rose from the dead, and ten days before the outpouring of the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost, which we call Whit-sunday. At our Lord's Ascension two angels appeared and told the regretful disciples that Jesus would come again in like manner as He had gone up into heaven. This glorious Second Coming the Church of Christ has long been looking and waiting for, and it is now very near at hand. Let all of us, who look thus for Him, take pleasure in meeting together on Ascension Day to pray for His speedy return, for "to such as look for Him He will appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Hebrews, ix. 27, 28.

The Lord's Supper

Will be administered usually on the First Sunday of each month, in the morning, and also on the morning of Easter Day, March 25th, of Whit-sunday, May 13th, and of Christmas Day, December 25th. There will be Evening Communion on the following Sundays:—April 1st and May 6th.

The offertory at the Lord's Supper, from the end of November, 1881, to the end of November, 1882, amounted to

£7 2s. 7½d.

Two-thirds of the offertory are used in relieving the poor, and the rest is added to the Churchwardens' Fund for expenses connected with the Church.

The Offertory of Sunday, November 5th, was given to the Incorporated Church Building Society, as stipulated on receipt of a grant of £40 from that Society towards the restoration of the Church.

There are 32 regular Communicants, and the average attendance at the Lord's Table during the last year, including Christmas and Easter Days, and Whit-sunday, was 23.

Confirmation.

Notice has been received from the Bishop of the Diocese that he will hold a Confirmation at Chesham Parish Church on Wednesday, February 21st, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, at which candidates from this parish will be confirmed, together with those from Chesham, Ashley Green, Chenies, Latimer and Flaunden.

The Church.

A sale of work was held in the School last October towards cancelling the debt which remained upon the Church, and the sum then realised, together with substantial donations from several friends, was sufficient, through the goodness of God, to clear off the debt entirely by the first week in November. The Rector takes this opportunity of gratefully acknowledging the contributions of work sent by many of the Parishioners and other friends, and the kind help of both sellers and purchasers.

A Thanksgiving Service was held in the Church on the anniversary of the re-opening (November 2nd). The Rural Dean, the Rev. Bryant Burgess, Rector of Latimer, kindly preached the sermon, and many a heart fervently thanked our heavenly Father for so far granting his blessing on our undertaking.

The work is not complete without the Tower. It must rest in great measure with the Parishioners themselves to raise the money for this work, towards which about £60 has been already given or promised by friends not connected with the Parish.

The Churchwardens are Mr. William Ford and Mr. James Bennett, to whom applications for Sittings should be made.

The Clerk is Mr. John Birch.

Baptisms.

Children are baptized after the Second Lesson on any Sunday Evening in Summer, or Afternoon in Winter, *except* on Sundays when there is Holy Communion. It is requested that notice of Baptisms may be given the day before.

The Service for the Churching of Women

Can be arranged for any Sunday after Morning or Evening Service.

There is no fixed Fee for this Service; but a Thank-offering should be made according to the means of the giver; and this offering may be dropped into the Box at the Church door, for the support of the Mission Room and the Sunday School.

The Choir.

The Rector and his family again have the pleasure of acknowledging with many thanks, on behalf of themselves and their fellow-worshippers, the efficient help which the members of the choir have given in the service of song in the Church Services.

The Mission Room.

There is a weekly service at the Mission Room on the Moor at seven o'clock on Thursday Evenings from the end of harvest till the end of June. The services were very thinly attended during the past year.

Home and Foreign Missions.

"Jesus said, 'Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.' Mark xvi. 15, 16.

"By this commandment our Saviour made the Church a Missionary Church, and, therefore, no person can pretend to be trying to do his duty as a Christian unless he helps in some way or other to send forth men to make known the Gospel of Christ—at home and abroad."

The Subscriptions last year amounted to £10 2s. 9½d.

Names of Subscribers—1882:

Mrs. J. Matthews	Mrs. Aris	Mrs. Mortimer
Miss Matthews	Job Nash	Mrs. E. Gilbert
Miss Carver	Mrs. A. Wilkinson	Sophy Bright
Miss C. T. Carver	Mrs. Mead	Mrs. Hobbes
Miss A. H. Carver	William Gomm	Mrs. Palmer
Mr. E. Weller	Mrs. W. Glenister	Mrs. D. Smith
Mr. Clements	Susan Pearce	Mrs. Hill
Mrs. Johnston	Mrs. Grimsdell	Thomas Hill
Mr. W. Cox	Mrs. H. Grimsdell	Mrs. Arnott
Miss Cox	Mrs. Jesse Gomm	Mrs. Ringsell
Miss Joiner	Mr. Woodbridge	Mrs. M. Wilkinson
Mrs. Puddephatt	Mrs. Hailey	Mrs. R. Wilkinson
Henry Puddephatt	Mrs. Joiner	Mr. Pontin
Mr. Birch	Mrs. C. Cox	Mrs. H. Darvell
Alice Birch	Mr. Hearn	Mr. T. Keen
Mary Birch	Mrs. Wood	Mrs. T. Keen
Mrs. G. Saunders	Mr. Nightingale	The Rector

The Band of Hope

Dwindled down to so few members that it was deemed expedient to discontinue the Meetings: but it is hoped that the members will attach themselves to a more numerous Band in one or other of the neighbouring Towns.

A Juvenile Missionary Working Society,

Which was established by Miss Matthews on the Moor the Year before last, has gradually increased in numbers, and is likely to become very helpful in fostering a Missionary spirit among our young people. The sale of work made by this Society last year realized £1 10s. 0d., which was sent to Mrs. Malaher, the Secretary of the Missionary Leaves Association.

The Coal Club

Will be re-opened the first week in March, and close the last week in October as it did last year.

The Mission Room and the Sunday School Accounts.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	PAYMENTS.	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions and Donations	1	8	0	Balance due to Treasurer, Nov. 30th, 1881	13	19	10
Contents of Church Box, from Nov. 27th, 1881, to Nov. 26th, 1882	4	7	10½	Fuel for Mission Room ..	0	2	4
Balance due to Treasurer, Nov. 30th, 1882	12	13	9½	Rent of Mission Room—Nov. 14th, 1881, to July 15th, 1882	4	7	6
	£18	9	8		£18	9	8

Day School Accounts.

Summary of Receipts and Expenditure from February 1st, 1881, to January 31st, 1882.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	PAYMENTS.	£	s.	d.
Government Grant	26	17	0	Balance due to Treasurer, February 1st, 1881	10	1	11
Part Rent of Watercress Beds	20	0	0	Teachers	57	6	2
Voluntary Contributions .	30	16	0	Books, Apparatus, and Stationery	6	15	3
Ditto from 13 Old Scholars educated at the School.	2	4	0	Fuel	5	7	5½
Allotments	1	7	6	Furniture, Repairs, Cleaning and Insurance	10	8	2½
School Pence	18	13	4½	Money Prizes to Children	21	9	2½
Sale of School Materials, &c.	0	6	1	Sundries	1	18	10
Balance due to Treasurer, January 31, 1882	13	3	1				
	£113	7	0½		£113	7	0½

The balance of the account (£13 3s. 1d.), which was owing at the end of the School year, has been expunged by the munificence of THOMAS CLUTTERBUCK, Esq., for which the Treasurer is most grateful.

The School.**LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.**

The Rev. Lord Wriothlesley Russell	Miss Gay
Lady Wriothlesley Russell	Mr. H. Glenister
Lady Chesham (The Dowager)	Mrs. Haden
Mr. G. Bates	Rev. G. Holloway
Mrs. Beckley	Mrs. J. Matthews
Mr. Bennett	Mrs. Pegg
Rev. J. H. Blackman	J. W. G. Pegg, Esq.
Miss Blackman	Mrs. Picard
Miss Carver	C. H. Statham, Esq.
Miss C. T. Carver	Mrs. Weller
Miss A. H. Carver	G. Weller, Esq.
Mrs. Folkard	E. Weller, Esq.
Mr. W. Ford	The Rector
Captain J. Fuller	

The Ratepayers contribute £20 of the rent of the Parish Watercress Beds.

The number of children presented for examination by the Inspector last year was 43, and the average attendance was 47.

The School Managers are THE RECTOR, E. WELLER, ESQ., AND MR. H. GLENISTER.

The Schoolmistress is MRS. JOHNSON. The Assistant is MISS ADA CLARKE, and the Monitress is ALICE BATSON.

Old Scholars' Fund.

It would be a great help to the School if the Old Scholars, who so kindly subscribe to the School Funds, could persuade those who were their fellow-scholars, and who are now earning their livelihood, to do the same. The Subscribers are:

George Batson	Emma Gomm
Mary Batson	Sarah Holt
Alice Birch	Kate Saunders
Jane Birch	Georgina Saunders
Mrs. Walter Brown	Mary Wilkinson
Lydia Evans	Rose Willoughby
Alice Gomm	

Report of Her Majesty's Inspector, 1882.

"The children are much better behaved than they were last year, and the style of the work has improved. I am very glad to see that it is fast regaining its old position."

Rules of the School.

- I.—At least sixty-five attendances a quarter will be required of every child in the School above five years of age.
- II.—Each child to pay Two-pence a week.
- III.—One Penny will be returned for every week the child makes *not less* than *six* attendances.
- IV.—One Penny will be *given*, besides the above, for every week the child is *not absent once*.
- V.—These moneys will be paid in April and October or whenever the child leaves the School.
- VI.—No other prize-money will be given.
- VII.—Children, except infants, must buy their lead and slate pencils.

NOTE.—Monthly Tickets are supplied to the children, showing the attendances they have made during the month, and from the commencement of the School Year, and what prize-money they are entitled to for good attendance.

Golden Number 3
 Epact 22
 Solar Cycle..... 16
 Dominical Letter G
 Roman Indiction 11
 Julian Period 6596

1883
 DATE TABLE.

Good Friday, Mar. 23
 Easter Monday, ,, 26
 Whit Monday, May 14
 Bank Holiday, Aug. 6
 Christmas Day, Dec. 25
 Bank Holiday, ,, 26

JANUARY.							FEBRUARY.							MARCH.						
Sunday	...	7	14	21	28		Sunday	...	4	11	18	25		Sunday	...	4	11	18	25	...
Monday	1	8	15	22	29		Monday	...	5	12	19	26		Monday	...	5	12	19	26	...
Tuesday	2	9	16	23	30		Tuesday	...	6	13	20	27		Tuesday	...	6	13	20	27	...
Wed.	3	10	17	24	31		Wed.	...	7	14	21	28		Wed.	...	7	14	21	28	...
Thurs.	4	11	18	25	...		Thurs.	...	1	8	15	22	...	Thurs.	...	1	8	15	22	...
Friday	5	12	19	26	...		Friday	...	2	9	16	23	...	Friday	...	2	9	16	23	...
Sat'day	6	13	20	27	...		Sat'day	...	3	10	17	24	...	Sat'day	...	3	10	17	24	...
APRIL.							MAY.							JUNE.						
Sunday	1	8	15	22	29		Sunday	...	6	13	20	27		Sunday	...	3	10	17	24	...
Monday	2	9	16	23	30		Monday	...	7	14	21	28		Monday	...	4	11	18	25	...
Tuesday	3	10	17	24	...		Tuesday	...	1	8	15	22	...	Tuesday	...	5	12	19	26	...
Wed.	4	11	18	25	...		Wed.	...	2	9	16	23	...	Wed.	...	6	13	20	27	...
Thurs.	5	12	19	26	...		Thurs.	...	3	10	17	24	...	Thurs.	...	7	14	21	28	...
Friday	6	13	20	27	...		Friday	...	4	11	18	25	...	Friday	...	1	8	15	22	...
Sat'day	7	14	21	28	...		Sat'day	...	5	12	19	26	...	Sat'day	...	2	9	16	23	...
JULY.							AUGUST.							SEPTEMBER.						
Sunday	1	8	15	22	29		Sunday	...	5	12	19	26		Sunday	...	2	9	16	23	30
Monday	2	9	16	23	30		Monday	...	6	13	20	27		Monday	...	3	10	17	24	...
Tuesday	3	10	17	24	31		Tuesday	...	7	14	21	28		Tuesday	...	4	11	18	25	...
Wed.	4	11	18	25	...		Wed.	...	1	8	15	22	...	Wed.	...	5	12	19	26	...
Thurs.	5	12	19	26	...		Thurs.	...	2	9	16	23	...	Thurs.	...	6	13	20	27	...
Friday	6	13	20	27	...		Friday	...	3	10	17	24	...	Friday	...	7	14	21	28	...
Sat'day	7	14	21	28	...		Sat'day	...	4	11	18	25	...	Sat'day	...	1	8	15	22	...
OCTOBER.							NOVEMBER.							DECEMBER.						
Sunday	...	7	14	21	28		Sunday	...	4	11	18	25		Sunday	...	2	9	16	23	30
Monday	1	8	15	22	29		Monday	...	5	12	19	26		Monday	...	3	10	17	24	31
Tuesday	2	9	16	23	30		Tuesday	...	6	13	20	27		Tuesday	...	4	11	18	25	...
Wed.	3	10	17	24	31		Wed.	...	7	14	21	28		Wed.	...	5	12	19	26	...
Thurs.	4	11	18	25	...		Thurs.	...	1	8	15	22	...	Thurs.	...	6	13	20	27	...
Friday	5	12	19	26	...		Friday	...	2	9	16	23	...	Friday	...	7	14	21	28	...
Sat'day	6	13	20	27	...		Sat'day	...	3	10	17	24	...	Sat'day	...	1	8	15	22	...