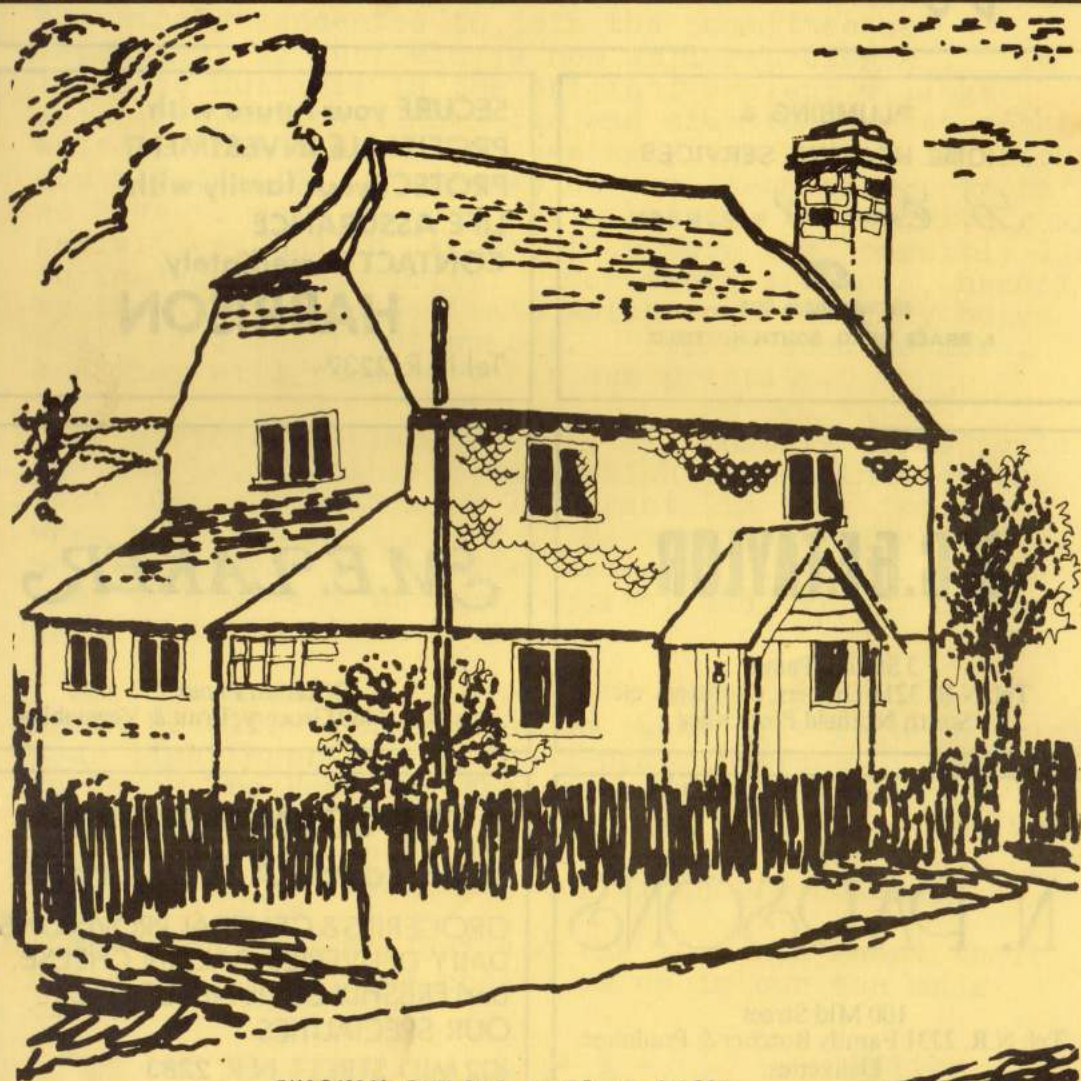


# NUTFIELD LINK

FEBRUARY 1974

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## Editorial

Our February number is fortified by the welcome accorded to its predecessor, practically shown by the number of people who have invested in a year's subscription, which implies confidence in our survival!

We are grateful for valuable criticisms, one of which deplored the poor showing Nutfield made, in comparison with South Nutfield. In the meantime Mr Crabh has kindly consented to join the committee as Secretary, so Nutfield is now well represented. In any case Nutfield is the original ancient village with institutions known far and wide (a correspondent writes about one) while seemingly few have heard about South Nutfield. Since we have no team of reporters we have to rely on your contributions to describe your activities, and in January they were few, possibly due to inadequate publicity. Now there are more, headed by the article on Nutfield which we originally hoped would lead the first number. Please send us more, and they will receive their due priority.

An obvious problem faced by all monthly periodicals is time lag, so that events which seemed interesting when they occurred seem long past (in this jet age when we watch history as it happens every day on T.V.) as they appear in the next number. Will you let us know if you want to read reports, and, if so, which ones? It is your newspaper.

Someone murmured "There isn't much humour", and again we will be delighted in these grim days to print your light hearted and funny contributions. We have to thank Mrs Hunt for the attractive line drawing which was our first cover picture. We hope that we shall be able to publish a new drawing each month showing our beautiful old buildings and countryside.

The snowdrops are out and the thrushes shout their heads off, so nature cheers us up in our man made crises!

## Nutfield Village Hall

The Management Committee considers that its primary function is to provide attractive premises which residents can use at a reasonable price. We only sponsor, in our own right, those functions which embrace the widest possible aspects of Community life, hence the Village Art and Crafts Exhibition of last summer and the Wine and Cheese party of last autumn.

Two more such community activities are planned for the near future. The first, a 'Beer and Skittles' Evening, is being held on 2nd February. This year we have two alleys so that a team championship can be decided in one alley whilst an individual championship takes place in the other.

On 22nd and 23rd March we are organising the Nutfield Musical Evening, but in a slightly different form. We are updating it from the leisurely nineties to the streamlined thirties, to produce a non-stop revue type of show, halting only at Nature's demands for refreshments and the other necessities of life. The show is in its formative stages and can still fit in more individual or collective acts. If you are not performing, please keep one of those evenings free to enjoy a lively entertainment, sitting comfortably on one of the padded chairs with which we have just re-equipped the Hall.

On 7th September we are staging the 1974 Art and Crafts Exhibition. Exhibits will be confined to residents of the parish, and, if you wish, they can be sold on your behalf. We give this early warning to allow you time to turn your hobby into profit.

For further details of all these events, please contact Bob Wright, 25 Morris Road, (NR 3334) Chairman of the Entertainments Committee.

## The Origin of Nutfield

The village and church of Nutfield lie upon the Greensand hill on the road between Blechingley and Redhill which follows the top of the ridge and is probably an ancient way.

The earliest reference to Nutfield is in the Domesday survey of 1086 where it is spelt Notfelle. The place-name dictionary gives the origin of the name as the "field where nuts grew" and defines "feld" as "open country, land free from wood, plain". The Domesday survey records the existence of a church at Nutfield. Also, that the manor was held by Ida of Lorraine, wife of Count Eustace II of Boulogne. The previous lord of the manor had been Ulwi, one of King Edward the Confessor's nobles.

The origin of the parish (an ecclesiastical unit) is obscure, but seems to have occurred sometime during the tenth century. It was part of the process of breaking down the large diocese into smaller, more manageable units. Throughout the Anglo-Saxon period churches had been built in villages and on private estates, largely by the landowners for their own use, and steps had to be taken to safeguard the income of the earlier founded churches (minsters). A law of King Edgar (958-975) orders that all tithes and churchscot are to be paid to the old minster to which obedience is due, though it allows a thane to pay one third of his own tithes to a church on his land, provided it has a burial place; if it has not, he must pay his tithe in full to the old church and endow his private church out of the rest of his income.

The family of Hadresham settled in Nutfield at the end of the 12th century and, by leasing land from Nutfield manor, built up a holding of about 60 acres which became known as the manor, or reputed manor, of Hathersham.

Thomas de Wolbergh died in 1350 leaving a house and garden to his son. The estate was built up over the

years, by leasing from Nutfield manor, to about 160 acres, called the "manor or farm of Woolborough". It eventually came down to the Shelley family, whose most notable member was Percy Bysshe Shelley, the poet.

The railway line from Redhill to Tonbridge was opened in 1842 and lies about one mile south of the ridge. The station itself was opened in 1884, surrounded by the Kingsmill estate which had been laid out for building. A small number of houses had been built at this date.

South Nutfield was made a separate ecclesiastical district in 1888. The church, which stands near the hamlet of Ridge Green, was consecrated in 1888. The second edition of the 2½ inch Ordnance Survey map of 1897 shows about three dozen houses in South Nutfield, with just a few houses in Trindles Road. By 1914 the whole of the Trindles Road area had been built upon.

J.H. Strivens

### Parish Council Report

At a meeting organised by the Nutfield Action Group last October, 9 motions were put forward for the Rural Highway Committee of the Parish Council to consider with regard to the traffic conditions in Nutfield.

As the Rural Highway Committee have now discussed these motions at their meeting held on the 9th January, both proposals and decisions are listed hereunder.

Motion 1 The restriction of overtaking on the A25 from 50 yards west of Parkwood Road to 50 yards east of Coopers Hill Road, by suitable road markings.

Decision That existing carriageway markings and signs on the A25 at Nutfield, be retained.

Motion 2 That a controlled pedestrian crossing be installed in the High Street.

Decision That no action be taken at present on the renewed request for a pedestrian crossing.

Motion 3 That the 30 m.p.h. speed limit be extended by at least 50 yards west of Parkwood Road.

Decision That no action be taken to secure an extension of the 30 m.p.h. speed limit, but that the County Highways and Bridges Committee be recommended to approve the provision of a "No Overtaking" sign on the A25 at the approach on either side of the village.

Motion 4 That parking in the High Street should be restricted. The meeting decided (1) that the Surrey County Council be urged to consider the introduction of parking restrictions in the High Street, with provision for deliveries to shops and short stops and (2) that the Parish Council be requested to consider the provision of land at the Pound, if legally possible, and Memorial Playing Field, for the construction of a car park, and that an approach be made to the Godstone R.D.C. for assistance in the provision of a car park.

Decision That the County Divisional Surveyor prepare a scheme to restrict parking in part of the High Street.

Motion 5 The footpaths along the A 25 should be resurfaced and steps taken to ensure better drainage, and verges trimmed and the construction of higher kerbs to prevent vehicles driving onto the footpath.

Decision That the County Divisional Surveyor be requested to provide high kerbs in the High Street to prevent vehicles being driven onto footpaths.

Motion 6 The lighting in the village generally to be increased and improved.

Decision That a carriageway lighting scheme for Nutfield be added to the Divisional Works Programme.

Motion 7 That traffic lights be installed at the cross-roads Church Hill - A25 - Coopers Hill Road.

Decision That no action be taken on the request for the provision of traffic signals at Church Hill - A25 - Coopers Hill Road

Motion 8 That the Village should be by-passed as proposed some time ago.

Decision That the question of the proposed by-pass for Nutfield be considered further after the M 25 motorway has been opened and its effect on traffic through the village can be ascertained.

Motion 9 That part of the High Street be widened by taking the footpath fronting Shortacres into the highway. This would necessitate pedestrians using the footpath behind the wall which it was felt should be reduced to a height of 4 feet.

Decision That the County Divisional Surveyor endeavour to arrange for the lowering of the wall along the frontage "Shortacres" and also arrange for the short length of existing path at this point to be extended to the new bus bay.

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The following make up the Nutfield Parish Council:-

Chairman: F.D. Hall, 2 Kings Acre, Kings Cross Lane,  
South Nutfield

Mrs C.M. Sabey, Stewards House, Coopers Hill Road,  
Nutfield.

Mrs M. Watts, 144 Mid Street, South Nutfield.

Mrs D. Nielsen, 19 Trindles Road, South Nutfield.

R.C. Akehurst, 15 Kings Acre, South Nutfield.

T. Jarvis, 3 Oakwood Close, South Nutfield.

J.E. Parks, 27 Blacklands Meadow, Nutfield.

D.L. Stock, 128 Mid Street, South Nutfield.

R.D. Wilderspin, 91 Mid Street, South Nutfield.

Clerk: R.M. Hill, 92 Silkham Road, Oxted.

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*****
**If you know where we can find a typewriter**
**with a LONG CARRIAGE (minimum 18 inches)**
**for typing this magazine, please ring**
**Margaret Finch (NR 3407)**
*****
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## Nutfield Church School Parent-Teacher Association

When the P.T.A. was formed over ten years ago the constitution set out three aims:-

1. to encourage closer relations between school and home
  2. to foster a deeper understanding of education
  3. to raise funds for extra amenities for the school.
- Over the years the membership has changed as children have grown up and gone but the aims have remained constant. In the early days the P.T.A. spent much money on making life more tolerable in the Victorian building in Nutfield - for instance providing hot water. Today we have a beautiful new building, and the "extras" can be expensive musical instruments, games equipment and work on the school surroundings. We were proud to be the first village group to plant our trees and shrubs during the 1973 tree planting campaign.

Our meetings, both of the executive committee and of the wider membership (all parents) help us to come closer to the staff. We spend much time discussing each other's problems and so gain a deeper understanding of both sides of our children's lives.

To foster our understanding of education we run occasional courses on various aspects of the school curriculum and are sometimes privileged to visit the school during 'open weeks'.

A newer facet of our activities is the provision of a stimulating programme for the summer holidays when children can enjoy sports such as Judo, archery and swimming, or take part in artistic pursuits, such as puppet making and collage.

Inevitably most of the work of the P.T.A. is done by the small executive committee, but we always need help from members. If any parent with a little time to spare will contact the Secretary, Mrs Main (NR 3415) she will give them further details of our present plans which include the construction of a creative play area. If this is to be built we shall need many "willing hands".

## Collection of Newsprint for Recycling

Your newspapers and magazines, tied in bundles, would be very welcome, either delivered to the school, preferably on a Friday morning, or collected by arrangement with Mrs Main, NR 3415. Each ton of newsprint earns the School £6.50 and saves 17 trees from the axe.

## Cello Fund

At the Christmas Music Concert an appeal was made for small items for a sale to raise money for another cello for the School. Parents were most generous with both gifts and money and as a result £9.10p was raised. The Christmas draw raised £20 and the P.T.A. donated £45. Together these funds enabled us to buy the cello at a cost of over £70. We would like to express our thanks to all who supported this effort.

## Hand Bells

During the Carol Service held at St Peter and St Pauls on 23rd December, children from Nutfield School rang three carols on hand bells. This was a great success and was enjoyed by the whole congregation. The ringers were:

Andrew Sheader (Captain), Stephen Pratley (Vice Captain), Mark Fraser, Mark Jones, Wendy Sheader, Debbie Wright, Sarah Finch, Sarah Morris, Sylvia Charman, Helen Wainwright.

The same band of ringers also performed at the School end of term Concert.

## Nutfield Priory School

On Saturday February 23rd the internationally famous pianist, John Lill, (1970 Winner of the Moscow Tchaikovski Competition) is to give a recital at the Priory at 8 p.m. He will play Haydn, Sonata No 52 in E<sup>b</sup>; Beethoven, Sonata in F minor Opus 57 (The Appassionata); Schumann, Carnival; Shostakovich, Two preludes and fugues. Tickets (£2 minimum include refreshments). The proceeds will go to the Deaf Closed Circuit TV Research Fund. Apply Miss J. Blount, at the Priory (NR2257) or Mrs Main, 11 Braes Mead, (NR3415).

## Akehurst Cup

The "wrong" side won this Boxing Day contest between the Football and Cricket Clubs. Relying on their fitness and superior ball-skills, the footballers took an early lead through Mick Reed, but soon got stuck in the glue-pot pitch, while the cricketers played a "keep-it-simple", long-passing game.

It was a great day for Robert Howick, on leave from the Army. He scored two and hit a perfect cross from the left for David Wilderspin to head home a third. An own-goal made it four for the Cricket Club. Mick Reed pulled one back from a penalty. Alan Barnett parried his first attempt, but the rebound went straight back to Reed who made no mistake with the second chance.

Result: Football Club 2, Cricket Club 4.

In the cricket pavilion after the match, Charlie Akehurst presented the Cup to Roger Copeland, captain of the S.N.C.C. XI, and thanked referee Les Harrington and linesmen Tom and Fred Castle.

Football Club: D. Mariner; A. Mariner, R. Love, C. O'Flynn, D. Akehurst; N. Barnett, T. Berry; P. Akehurst, M. Reed, F. Gregg, B. Arnold.  
Subs: J. Love, C. Howick, S. Morris.

Cricket Club: A. Barnett; R. Copeland, D. Akehurst; J. Luck, J. D'Arcy, K. Giles; R. Geary, R. Sherwin, D. Wilderspin, R. Howick, C. Robinson.  
Subs: A. Fielder, D. Morrison.

## Cross-Country Running

Ken Sheppard of Trindles Road ran for East Surrey Harriers in the Surrey Cross-Country Championships at Guildford on January 5th. He finished 59th out of 150 starters. He was third man home for his club.

## Nutfield Village Hall

### Regular Daily Events

Monday to Friday Play Group  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday (see p.18) Doctor's Surgery

### Regular Weekly Events

Tuesday Guides 6.30 - 8 pm Keep Fit 8 - 10 pm  
Wednesday Ballet 4 - 7.30 pm Brownies 6 - 7 pm  
Thursday Whist Drive 7.30 pm  
Friday Youth Club 8.00 pm

### Future Main Hall Saturday Bookings

March 2nd	Stage Show	East Surrey Spastics
9th	Dance	Parent Teacher Association
16th	Dance	East Surrey Spastics
23rd	Musical Evening	Village Hall Committee
30th	Dance	Private
April 6th	Dance	Sports Centre
May 4th	Jumble Sale	Christ Church
11th	May Function	Royal British Legion
June 29th	Rose Show	S. Nutfield Horticultural Soc.
July 20th	Wedding Reception	
AUGUST	MAIN HALL CLOSED TO INSTALL NEW HEATING SYSTEM	
Sept 7th	Art & Crafts Exhibition	Village Hall Committee
14th	Autumn Show	S. Nutfield Horticultural Soc.
21st	Wedding Reception	
28th	Dance	East Surrey Spastics
Oct 5th	Jumble Sale	Guides
12th	Harvest Supper	Christ Church
19th	Cheese & Wine Party	Village Hall Committee
Nov 2nd	Dramatic performance	Campaigners
16th	Dance	Sports Centre
Dec 14th	Dance	Royal British Legion
21st	Dance	Private
31st	Dance	S. Nutfield Cricket Club

FOR ALL BOOKING INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:-

Mrs J. Mansbridge, Rosemullion, Holmesdale Road, NR 2351

Diary for February 1974

1st Fri	2.30 pm	Over-60s Club, Village Hall
2nd Sat	2.15 pm	Old Coulsdon V Nutfield FC
	2.15 pm	Nutfield FC Res V South Park "A"
	7.30 pm	Village Hall Management Committee Beer & Skittles Evening
3rd	<u>FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</u>	
5th Tues	2 pm	Baby Clinic, Village Hall
	2.30 pm	Nutfield Unity Club, Memorial Hall
6th Wed	2.30 pm	S. Nutfield Afternoon W.I., Village Hall
7th Thurs	7.30 pm	Nutfield W.I., Memorial Hall
	8.15 pm	Young Wives, Village Hall
9th Sat	2.15 pm	Woodlands Albion V Nutfield FC
	2.15 pm	Nutfield FC Res V Westcott U. Res
	2.30 pm	Jumble Sale, Afternoon W.I., V.Hall
	7.15 pm	Scouts Social Evening, Village Hall
10th	<u>SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY</u>	
	10 am	Junior Church, Christ Church
11th Mon	7.45 pm	Parish Council Meeting, V.Hall
12th Tues	8 pm	SS Peter & Paul PCC at Gatehouse
15th Fri	2.30 pm	Over-60s Club, Village Hall
16th Sat	2.15 pm	Foxborough Yoxall V Nutfield FC
	2.15 pm	Nutfield FC Res V Beecham Res Christadelphians, Village Hall
17th	<u>SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY</u>	
19th Tues	2 pm	Baby Clinic, Village Hall
	2.30 pm	Nutfield Unity Club, Memorial Hall
21st Thurs	8.15 pm	Young Wives Village Hall
23rd Sat	2.00 pm	Jumble Sale, Nutfield W.I., M.Hall
	8.00 pm	Cricket Club Dinner Dance, V.Hall
24th	<u>QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY</u>	
	9.30 am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
25th Mon	8pm	S. Nutfield Evening W.I., V.Hall
26th Tues		SS Peter & Paul, Shrove Tuesday Social
27th	<u>ASH WEDNESDAY</u>	
	8 pm	Royal Women's British Legion, Village Hall
March 1st	Friday	Women's World Day of Prayer

## National Tree Planting Year

Did you know that England is the least wooded country in Europe, with only 7½% of its land covered by trees? And yet thousands of trees are destroyed each year? There are of course many reasons - urbanisation, modern farming methods, disease (we saw last summer how Dutch Elm Disease is spreading) and old age. Trees live longer than us but not for ever. So the main aim of National Tree Planting Year was to replace this country's rapidly diminishing stock of slow growing hardwoods - oaks, beeches, elms etc.

In this village we are quite well "treed" but there are many positions where a tree, or group of trees, could improve the amenity. In March '73 an open meeting was held at the Village Hall, addressed by Col. Fegan who is coordinating tree planting in the Godstone R.D.C. area. He explained that the R.D.C. would give assistance and had already procured several hundred trees, to be given free to those who would collect them. Many suggestions came from this meeting as to what and where to plant. A committee of eight was formed which contacted each parish organisation, asking for possible sites and varieties of trees. A map of the proposed tree planting sites was drawn up and displayed in the Village Hall.

The school was first off the mark with its planting in the spring and now has some healthy looking trees and shrubs. However, the bulk of the planting could not be done until the autumn. On October 20th, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Rev. S.G. Wakeling, Col Fegan and others helped plant six trees. These were placed at Nutfield Memorial Hall, in Broadfields Nature Reserve and Amenity Area (have you walked up the footpath recently and seen how one man can transform a derelict allotment area?) and South Nutfield Recreation Ground, where Guides, Brownies and Youth Club assisted. The last tree planted that afternoon was one donated by Fullers Earth to Kentwyns Rise, where several of their retired employees live.

Our grateful thanks must go to Fullers Earth and in particular to Mr Mountford, who, having already given much of his time and knowledge, is collecting the 100 trees which we have ordered from Godstone R.D.C.'s supply, and is storing them until we are ready to plant in the spring. Donations of £50, including £25 from the Parish Council, will buy several more trees.

After we have planted these 100 or so trees (if anyone would like to help in this please contact us - we'd be delighted to accept your assistance) we hope to move on to a tree survey with a view to Tree Preservation Orders so we can protect trees which are already mature. Remember, large groups of trees and hedges can be covered by a T.P.O., not just individual trees. The Weald was once the most heavily forested part of Britain; by the efforts of this community perhaps a small part of it will be replaced.

#### Nutfield Unity Club

Our Club, mainly for over sixties, was formed in June 1965. Membership has always been good and stands at the moment at over forty. Meetings are held fortnightly on Tuesdays at the Nutfield Memorial Hall and we have a variety of outings during the year. Our annual New Year party has just taken place when the South Park, Meadvale and Salfords W.I. Choir entertained us, after which we had a delicious tea and iced cake. Welfare Foods are always on sale at our meetings, and non-members are welcome to the hall to buy whatever they may need.

The next meeting will be on 5th February at 2.30 pm

E.A. Richardson.

## Nutfield Evening W.I.

Despite the wintry weather and the fuel crisis Nutfield W.I. met On Thursday 10th January in the Memorial Hall for their first meeting of 1974. All members were met on arrival by Mrs Rolland who, smiling, invited them to start their payments to the Christmas party at the end of the year and their subscriptions for 1975. What a very good idea, and many thanks to the Committee for making this "pay now and enjoy later" scheme possible.

Mrs Martin, vice-President, chaired the meeting in the absence of Mrs Richardson, President. Mrs Martin welcomed one new member and one guest. All members were thankful to hear that the Christmas party had not been a drain on their monetary resources, rather the reverse. Notices of Officers Schools were recorded and the appropriate Officer selected.

Mrs Martin asked for members to volunteer to help with the Jumble Sale on February 23rd; help was needed both in the morning and in the afternoon with the actual sale. Mrs Jerman asked for home made cakes etc and raffle prizes would be a great help.

The speakers were Mr and Mrs Fisher, and their subject was Garden History. Both Mr and Mrs Fisher had attended Denman College for weekend study. Mr Fisher, an accomplished speaker, told how the Roman, Italian, French, Jewish and English had all influences on our own gardens, and the usefulness of the monastery gardens, and naturally enough the amount that could be learnt from the gardens of the "stately Homes" whose owners so kindly opened them to the general public. Slides were shown from Nymans, Leonardslee, Wakehurst Place, Sheffield Park, to mention but a few of the English gardens, and Versailles, and Gardens near the Hague. Mrs Heaps thanked the speakers.

The Flower of the Month competition was won by:-

1. Miss James
2. Mrs De Brett
3. Mrs Sabey



## W.I. Information

### Nutfield W.I.

Feb 14th, 7.30 pm Memorial Hall

Speaker: Mrs Brooks Taylor - "Calories & Health"

Feb 23rd, 2 pm Memorial Hall, Annual Jumble Sale.

### S. Nutfield Afternoon W.I.

Feb 6th, Village Hall, Debate with Godstone W.I.

Feb 9th, Village Hall, Jumble Sale - "Just plain  
junk and better things"

Feb 21st, Fairfield Halls Croydon, Fashions by Marks &  
Spencer for Save the Children Fund

### S. Nutfield Evening W.I.

Feb 25th, 8.pm Village Hall

Speaker: Mrs I. Vaines.- "A visit to Rhodesia"

## Brownies

The 1st South Nutfield Brownie Pack meet during Term time at the Village Hall from 6 to 7 pm every Wednesday. Brown Owl is Mrs Frances Mitchell.

Many Brownies went to the 'Monotype' pantomime on 19th January, and saw a fellow Brownie, Sylvia Charman, playing several parts.

Another event of great interest to the Brownies will be the "Thinking Day" ceremony in February, to commemorate the birthday of Lady Baden Powell, the Chief Guide.

### South Nutfield Young Wives Club

We meet in the Small Hall at the back of the Village Hall at 8.00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. New members are very welcome, so do come and join us. For more information, please ring Grace Bourne at Nutfield Ridge 2391.

## South Nutfield Horticultural Society

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday 7th March at 8.00 p.m.

The formal business, election of officers and committee, will be dealt with as expeditiously as possible and will be followed by a display of slides by Mrs Roulston and H.R. Jeffs, Esq., who will also be pleased to answer any horticultural queries.

Please come and bring your ideas for our future activities and also your problems for our local experts to solve.

ALL ARE WELCOME !

Hon. Sec. E.W. Coupland  
95 Mid Street

### Meals on Wheels

Can you help? If you have a car and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours a fortnight to spare, MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE FOR NUTFIELD need four drivers, and mates, to fetch meals from Caterham and deliver them in Nutfield and South Nutfield.

Days Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 11.30 - 1 (ie  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 hrs)

Petrol allowance paid.

Mrs Keen (NR 3431)

Doctors Surgeries for February - Tel: Godstone 2562

#### South Nutfield Village Hall

Monday 8.45 a.m.  
Wednesday 6.00 p.m.  
Friday 8.45 a.m.

#### Blechingley, The Grange

Monday 10 a.m.  
Tuesday 6 p.m.  
Wednesday 9 a.m.  
Friday 10 a.m.

#### Pondtail, Godstone Green

Tuesday 9.00 a.m.  
Thursday 9.00 a.m.  
Monday 6.00 p.m.  
Saturday 9.30 a.m.  
duty doctor

N.B. For the elderly, the Old People's Welfare Committee Nutfield Ridge 3265 will provide transport at any time

From Rev. Stanley G. Wakeling, Vicar of Christ Church

May I express our congratulations and thanks to the Editor and all who helped to produce and distribute the first issue of Nutfield Link. I eagerly look forward to the February issue.

Living in a Village you are inclined to let the world go by, unless National or World events disturb your peaceful existence. Even the events so rapidly flashed across our T.V. screens are soon forgotten and we are inclined to say "Thank goodness we live in South Nutfield!" I was brought up short, when I attended a meeting in London and heard some facts about the Church in Africa and South America. I came back asking myself "How many people have been added to the Church in this Parish?" Here are the facts. In Africa the number of Christians has risen from 20 million in 1950 to 90 million in 1970. At the present rate of Church growth there will be more Christians in Africa in 1990 than in any other continent. And by 2000 more than half the population will be Christian. In Latin America the fiercely repressed Protestant Church numbered 100,000 in 1900. Today it numbers 15 million, and the Church growth rate outstrips the birth growth rate by nearly 7%. What ever you think of these figures you cannot help but ask what is the Church in Africa and South America doing to increase its membership which we are failing to do in this country? I spent twenty years in South Africa, where the Church is active and growing. I am at once struck with the static and defeatist state of the Church in England. But no one need be depressed or disheartened, for there are many signs of new life, and there is a great deal of thought and concern for people in this country.

Learning in Lent

Let us look forward to Lent (Feb 27 - April 12) and try to make it a time of growing and learning. It is often a bad time for expecting people to come to Church, because of illness and bad weather, but I have found that people enjoy joining a House Group for discussion

and getting to know each other better. There will be a number of house groups arranged, on a variety of subjects, in homes in different parts of the village. Why not join one and learn something more about the Christian faith? Most of these groups will be in the evening, but for those who are free during the afternoon I hope to have a group meeting each Wednesday, starting on Feb 27 at 2.45 at the Vicarage. It will last for one hour and there will be a cup of tea for those who wish to stay.

### Correspondence

Dear Editor,

May I add a little information to that given by the Vicar of South Nutfield who recommends two organisations which provide Bible reading notes?

People from all over the world obtain their Bible reading aids (for all age groups) from an organisation which has its headquarters right here in Nutfield! This is the International Bible Reading Association (I.B.R.A.) which, along with the National Christian Education Council and the Denholm House Press, operates from Robert Denholm House, Nutfield. Many Nutfield residents know the house as "Capenor" and for a time it was "Adastral House".

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs) Betty Hansford

### William Bashford

"Bill" Bashford who died recently had probably lived in the Parish as long as anyone, as he came here at the age of one, and was 86 when he died. He was a true countryman, with a ready smile and a twinkling eye. He served in the Army in the 1914-18 war and in the St John's Ambulance throughout the 1939-45 war. He was Verger in the South Nutfield Church in the 1920s.

He will be greatly missed by us all.

RW

## Free Church

Last month we mentioned the changes that had taken place in the church over the last 10 years. If we could look forward 10 years to 1984, will things still be the same? Will Christians still be meeting in half empty purpose-built chapels and churches, or is the Christian faith so outdated and irrelevant that there will be no Christians left to meet at all? Will the chapels and churches have been demolished to make way for houses?

In the 1st century, when the Christian church was young, there was no church building and no great organisation. In fact some Christians were driven underground - literally - and forced to meet secretly and in fear of their lives. Others met in homes - perhaps just a few at a time - sharing what they had with each other, enjoying the worship, prayer and the simple Communion service that marked their time together. The impact that these groups made changed the whole system of their world, and we still feel the effects of their witness today.

Now, the same thing is happening once again. All over the country people are beginning once again to meet - not in old, draughty church buildings - but in each other's homes. They are meeting to study the Bible, to pray and worship and to share informally together. In house groups like these many personal and deep-rooted problems are sorted out in the natural atmosphere of a home, and the joy and peace through Jesus Christ that the early Christians knew is becoming the experience of many who would never have set foot in a church building in the normal way. Maybe the Church buildings will not still be standing in 1984 - not because there are no Christians - but because the Christians are meeting together in the home. It could happen in South Nutfield. There are already two "home-based" groups of people meeting to study the Bible and sharing together. By 1984 perhaps - as Jesus Christ becomes a reality to people - there will be many more.

SAINTE PETER AND SAINTE PAUL . NUTFIELD

Sundays 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
11.00 a.m. Mattins (except last Sunday : Choral  
6.30 p.m. Evensong Communion)  
(3.30 p.m. October - March)

Weekdays 7.15 a.m. Holy Communion, Wednesdays & Saints Days

CHRIST CHURCH SOUTH NUTFIELD

Every Sunday Services at 8.00 a.m., 11.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., except on the last Sunday, Feb 24, when we have a Parish Communion at 9.30 a.m. and no 11 a.m. service.

At the Junior Church service at 10.00 a.m. on Feb 10th, Miss Averil Sharman C.M.J. will be the speaker.

3rd Feb, 6.30 p.m., Mr Max Adlam will preach on "Power" - a programme of Evangelism from Easter '74 to Easter '75.

FREE CHURCH SOUTH NUTFIELD

Evenings 3rd Feb Roger Bishop, Whyteleafe  
10th Feb Oak Hall Youth Group, Caterham  
17th Feb Purley Baptist Group  
24th Feb Geoff Gillord, Biggin Hill

Parish Registers

Saint Peter and Saint Paul

Holy Baptism Dec 2nd Victoria Jean Hamilton  
Dec 30th Stephen Jonathan Willis  
Marriage Dec 22nd Edward Salt and  
Barbara Rosemary Grace Gilbert  
Death Dec 5th Miss Fisher

Christ Church

Marriage Dec 15th Neil Duke Green and  
Diane Rosemary Hall  
Burial Dec 27th Phyllis Sinclair

AN APOLOGY - Although we have increased by four pages we are sorry that we have to postpone some contributions till the March issue.

Editor

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