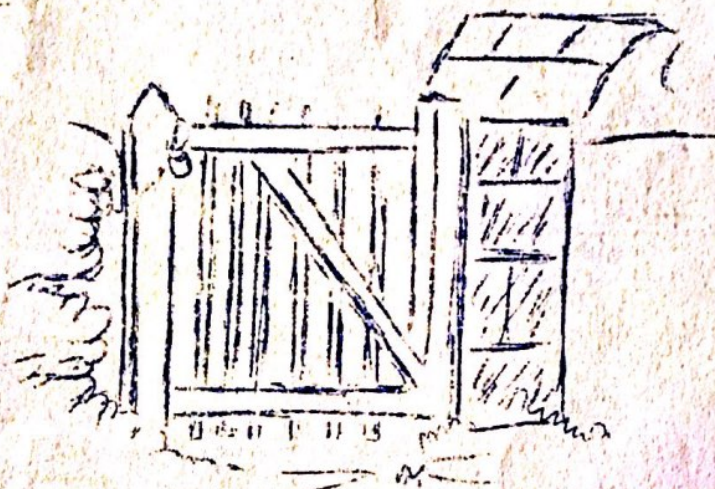


97

The Yett.



Easter
1970.



This second edition of the News Sheet has been expanded into magazine form with the title "The Yett". We thought that this was a local name which would appeal to our readers. The magazine might be a gateway through which we could all go into new Christian Endeavour. The days have simply sped past since Christmas and already it is almost Holy Week. You will see all the arrangements on page 5 and we hope, that even more than last year, this will be well observed throughout the participating parishes. It all leads up, of course, to EASTER DAY, proclaiming the Resurrection the final victory of Our Lord our evil and death. Throughout the world Christians of every branch of the Church will gather to rejoice and humbly receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We are privileged to join with them.



THE MINISTER THE REV. J. BROWN!

It was estimated that only 19,99,700 viewers watched the Forsyte Saga on T.V. on the evening of Friday, 30th January - the other three hundred or so crowded into St. Aidan's Hall, Morebattle for the Church Social. The adventures of "The Virginian", the topics of "Current Account", not to mention the gripping story of "The Forsytes" were all forgotten in the midst of song, dancing and laughter provided by the local artistes. And talking of feasts, the Women's Guild are to be congratulated on the wonderful 'spread' which they laid on. What a good idea it was to group us all round tables. It made it seem more like a big family gathering and, before the Show started, we all had the chance to talk to, and meet people, we perhaps hadn't seen for quite a while.

The meal over, we soon found our feet tapping to the skirl of the pipes and the light-footed dancing lassies. What a surprise it was to most of us when the Minister treated us to a blaw on the pipes! We rocked with laughter in our seats at Robert Nicol's stories, joined in the choruses of Mrs. Jock Tait's Geordie songs and sat entranced at the songs of the other artistes. Yes, let's have another Social next year, and perhaps Eileen Woodward will get round to telling us what happened to Wee Jockie Patterson - I for one am intrigued.

In the last Church Magazine produced just before Christmas, some changes in local Church life were outlined - four communions each year and in Yetholm a new form of communion card. The general reaction to these changes has so far been most encouraging. The Christmas communion was celebrated by over 50% of Church members despite the weather. In Yetholm there was a 100% compliance with the request that only cards of those attending communion should be handed in at the Church.

Also in the Christmas Magazine ideas were asked for which would enhance Christian life in the community, and some were received. Can we on this occasion set our sights a little higher and offer not only our ideas but our time to the Church. Many of you, I am sure could and would like to help with organisations within the Church like, Sunday School, Bible Class, Choir etc. Or perhaps you would rather transport old people to Church on Sunday mornings or just simply join a group which visited old people in their homes. Please let us know if you have TIME, which could be used in any way for the well being of the community.


John S. Black

Copies of Life & Work, the colourful official record of the Church of Scotland may be obtained from :-

Mr. George Patterson	-	Morebattle
Mr. Jack Robb	-	Yetholm
Mrs. Scott	-	Hownam


Price 8d.

CHURCH AND CHAPEL



When I was asked to write an article for this magazine I immediately thought of something like World Peace or some such up to the minute topic, but discarded this idea as it is written about daily in the national newspapers. Instead, I decided to write a brief comparison between a typical Welsh Chapel and what I have observed of the Church of Scotland in Yetholm.

Let me point out before I begin that I have no intentions of entering into a discussion on the theological differences which exist between our Churches because apart from the basic differences which have emerged due to our different social backgrounds there is also the deeply personal aspect that conveys different things to different people.



One of the first things that strikes me concerning the Church in Yetholm is that not enough seems to be done for the younger people e.g. Youth Clubs, Social Evenings, Discussion Groups and so on. Most people would agree that the future of any Church lies with the young generation, and although some may suggest that attractions such as Social Evenings and so on may seem as "bribes", they are essential to draw young members into the Church. I can't fail to recall the last, well attended, social evening held in Morebottle which everybody enjoyed. Why can't more of this be done by the young people of the community. At home there seems to be much more participation by younger people, starting at the age of 5 or 4, when they first start Sunday School, where they are first introduced to the arts of singing, acting and reciting. Thus in later life there is no reluctance to participate in Chapel concerts or Sisteddfods or any other such social events. Also young people are encouraged to actively participate in the morning and evening services in a Welsh Chapel. Surely such activities benefit not only the individual spiritually but Church funds also.

Another thing I've noticed is the lack of communication in certain sectors of the church itself and the actual churchgoers. At home, Xmas parties, Easter gatherings and Sunday School outings are all organised by sectors such as the Chapel Women's Guild, Sunday School Committee and so on. Money to finance such things are drawn from the Chapel funds raised by concerts. In this way no one sector has to give more than another. It seems from what I have observed here that most of the finances are drawn from the various organising committees concerned, whereas at home the load is spread and shared by the community itself. The sole work of the Committee is the organisation of the event itself, thereafter each member of the congregation contribute something, not directly financial, so that the whole congregation participates.

I could no doubt go into these things in greater detail, but space is limited. In the past, Church organisations such as Youth Clubs, Bible Classes etc. may have failed in Yetholm, but past failures doesn't necessarily mean future failure. The creation of a community spirit where everybody, whether they be young or old, is necessary, for the Church is for the people and not the people for the Church. I feel that, as Yetholm, Hownam and Morebottle themselves are such small communities, the organisation of the social life of the community is essential, and this lies to a great extent in the hands of the Church.

FROM A KIRK TREASURER'S DESK

THIS IS NOT JUST AN APPEAL - IT IS COMMON SENSE

As we forge into the Seventies with all its unknown excitement and expectations, lunar expeditions and great sporting events, it is often too easy to feel smug in our own little worlds and adopt the "I'm all right Jack" attitude. It is easy for us to close our eyes and our ears to the appeals of the needy and go on our own sweet way. But what if the Church did that too? What would happen to the millions of people who have come to depend on the work of the Church all over the world, and at home too? Your guess is as good as mine. The Church desperately needs more money if it is to continue to finance the vast projects that are being carried on all over the world, and to do this it is always in the red. I have heard it said that the overdraft interest paid by the Church of Scotland in one year would be enough to pay for the building of a new Church. What can we do to help? The obvious answer, you may say, is to dig deeper into our pockets, but I think that is only half the answer. The most important thing to my mind is for more people to become more involved in the Church, and through that get a greater insight into what the Church is trying to do. Once that happens the financial side will undoubtedly look after itself. Let's face it, most of us do precious little for the Church but we expect great things from it. A deeper commitment and a little more elbow grease is what is needed. Jack Webster of the Scottish Daily Express sums it up in the booklet he recently wrote about Church finance :-



"In an age when money has become a god in itself, it is hard for many of us not to be cynical about the Church's demands. Let us not over-reach ourselves for excuses. However we may react to the appeals for money, let us remember that this is no ruse to trap us for some commercial interest. It is a simple appeal to assist in the gigantic task of easing some of the agonies and misfortunes of the human condition and helping to enrich the society we live in.

Let us not quibble about the need. It exists all right. And it can be met only by the generosity of people like you and me."

"One question remains to be answered :-

DARE WE IGNORE IT ? "

Blunty's Mill,
Kirk Yetholm.

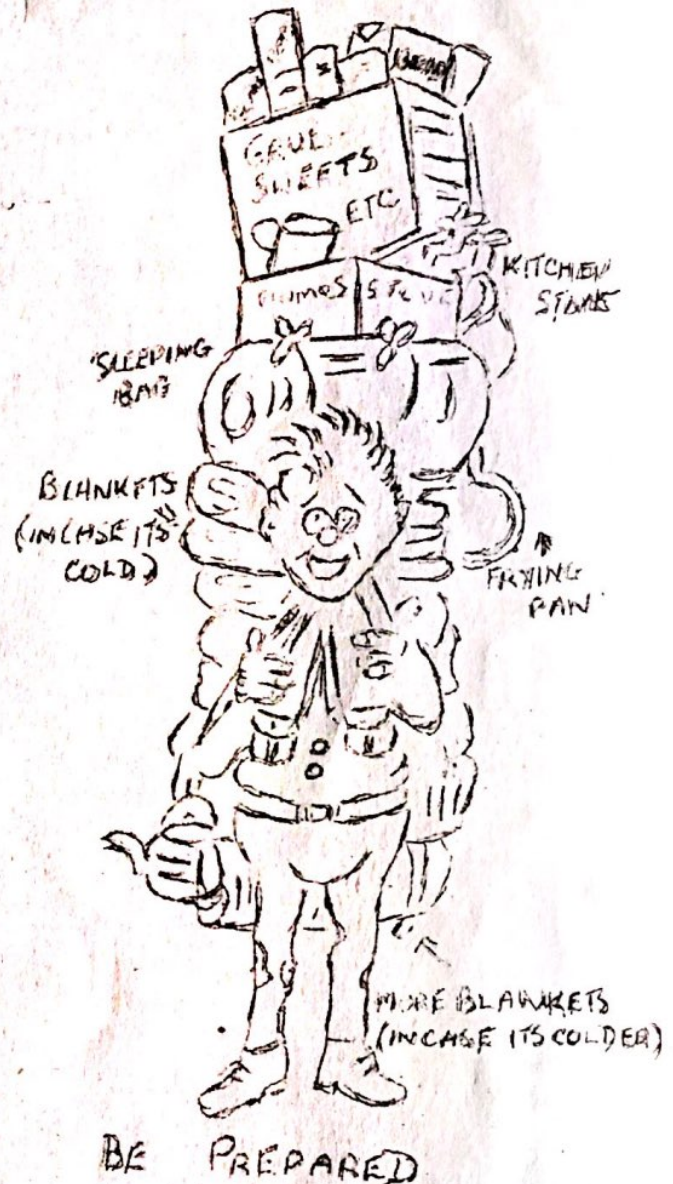
It is now some years since one of the best Scout Troops in the whole of Roxburghshire ceased to function and I think it is about time something was done to try and revive it. I am of course referring to the joint Yetholm and Morebattle Troop which was so ably led by Group Scout Leader Ernie Turner, Scout Leader Jeff Cashford and latterly by Scout Leader Andy Currie. Unfortunately, under the Advance Party Report 1966, Mr. Turner had to retire and the last-named Scout Leaders have now left the district. Under the same Report, the Yetholm Rover Scout Crew was axed, but not before it left it's mark on the community. One of the most important services the Crew made in the district was the founding of the Border Search & Resc Unit, which incidentally has now spread all over the Borders - Units being established in Selkirk and Duns.

Scouting can be full of fun and adventure as well as being instructive, and an effort should be made to start a Troop again in the near future. Funds are still available as well as a considerable amount of gear, and I would be delighted to hear of any ex-Scouts who would be willing to help and boys who would be keen to join the new Troop.

What has all this got to do with a Kirk Magazine? May I remind you of the Promise which is made by all who join the Scout Association, from the youngest recruit to the Chief Scout himself :-

"On my honour, I promise that I will do my best to do my duty to GOD and THE QUEEN, to help others at all times, and to obey the Scout Law."

Surely a very Christian-like Promise.



Jack Robb

TO A CANARY

Wee lovely and endearing "thing"
How sweetly, forth, thy lays doth ring.
Thy little heart superbly free
Restricted though thy confines be.
Ye hold me as I watch you bill
So quickly close and ope at will
As something swells thy vocal glands,
Released in waves at thy commands.
And all thy chords that in thee throng,
Doth warble such melodious song;
Pouring profusely on the air
Enchanting strains of music there
Which add in measure, note and tone
Thy quota in Creation's Song.

R.B.M.



BOOK REVIEW

GOD'S YOUNG CHURCH by William Barclay

This study of the early Church is alive with illustrations, and gives guidance for daily living. Three sections describe the early community; aspects of the Christian life; and outstanding New Testament personalities. At the heart of early Christianity were values and beliefs which will never age.

paper 6s (30p).

"BURY ME IN MY BOOTS" by Sally Trench
(H. & S. 6s.)

The author was twenty-one when she completed this remarkable book. She is a Christian who believes in love in action; sitting with a junkie through agonising days of withdrawal; holding the hand of a meths drinker as he dies destitute and neglected on a bomb-site; physically restraining a girl bent on suicide; risking her own life to save a tramp from a burning building.
