

The Church of
ALL SAINTS
1877~1977



100 years of family worship

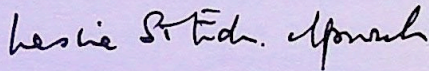
February 8th. 1977

Dear Friends of All Saints,

I am delighted to send you a message of Greeting on the Centenary of your Church. I know that you care very much for the Life and Witness of All Saints, Newmarket and I am grateful for all the devoted people who have served the congregation in times past and continue to serve it now. I hope that God will give you an increasing fellowship which will be outgoing and welcoming and always eager to help and to share the blessing of God's love with the people of Newmarket.

May God bless you greatly in the years to come.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leslie St. Edm. Ipswich". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned centrally below the typed name.

Bishop of St. Edmundsbury & Ipswich.

My dear Friends,

The first Centenary of our Church of All Saints is a very special occasion in her history and I want you to know how much I feel it is a privilege to be here as your Vicar at this time.

One hundred years ago our Church was dedicated and the first Vicar began his ministry in the parish. How grateful I am to my colleagues who have written in this Year Book and have recalled for us so many memories of past years. Through them we can imagine the many changes which have taken place.

One hundred years ago, life as now, was full of hopes and fears. There were some improvements in daily living, but many setbacks also. Then as now, we see many reforms achieved, but other plans and aims come to nothing. Always there is cloud and sunshine, calm and storm. In a way it is true the external aspect of life has completely changed, but surely our inner lives remain the same. Pleasure and pain, joy and sorrow, success and failure, life and death, are with us always, and affect our lives as much as they ever did.

So what are we to say as we look forward to the next hundred years. We all need something in which to believe. We all need a firm basis for living. We all need a new belief in the worth of each other and our dependence upon each other. Here then our Church stands to minister to the needs of each one of us. She proclaims there is Jesus Christ still to believe in, there is the living faith on which we can safely plant our feet, offering us forgiveness, new life, joy and hope beyond the grave, and not only that but the love of God caring for "You" and "Me", because each one of us is equally important to Him.

What should be the keynote of our Centenary? I believe it should be "Thanksgiving" — "Lift up your Hearts" - "We lift them up unto the Lord". Thanksgiving for those benefactors who gave the building. For the Clergy who have ministered in and from these four walls. Thanksgiving for Bishops for their pastoral care of each of us, but above all for Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever, by means of His life, death and resurrection we are here. Everything we have comes from him. Everything is owed to Him. To be a Christian and a member of God's Family the Church, is first and last to look to Him. Let that be our focal point at this hundredth anniversary, for when this is so our Church is strong and the gates of hell cannot prevail against it.

God Bless you all,

JOHN HATHAWAY

ALL SAINTS' AS I KNEW IT

The Venerable T. R. Browne — Vicar 1935-1945

When Bishop Whittingham asked me to exchange benefices with Mr. Barnes I was greatly attracted to the idea as I knew several of the trainers and tradesmen as Old Framlinghamians whom I had met at school functions when my son was at school.

My first Sunday at All Saints' was Low Sunday 1935 and it was a great joy to see the large congregation at my Institution by the Bishop, from whom my wife and I were to receive a very warm welcome in the Church Hall afterwards. Within a short time I was asked to stand for election as the representative of All Saints' Ward, to the Newmarket Urban District Council. This gave me my first experience of local government work and I was pleased to know I was the first priest to become a member of the U.D.C. Later that year I was elected to the West Suffolk County Council and appointed a member of the County Education Committee.

One feature in the parish of great importance was the work of the Sunday Schools. There were four departments, the Infants' Sunday School held in the Church hall and superintended by Miss Mabel Pretty, the Junior School under Miss Magdalen Pretty, and the Middle School under Miss Maud Pretty, and the Senior Sunday School under Mr. Ted O'Brien; and beside these Miss Forwood had a teen-age girls' Bible Class in her home, and Mr. Frank O'Brien had the lads' Bible Class in a wooden hut off Old Station Road, which was used on weeknight evenings as a club. All these combined one Sunday afternoon each month to hold a corporate service in Church with parents and friends. On the first Sunday of each month the two Bible Classes came to the Holy Communion service at 8.00 a.m.

There were strong branches of the Mothers' Union and the Girls' Friendly Society of which my wife became Enrolling Member and President. One amusing event still remembered by us is our first Mothers' Union service in church when two women left church during the service. Thinking they were not well, my wife went out to render help, only to find that the reason for their departure was to ascertain the result of an important 3.30 race!

In 1937 I was made an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral and installed in the stall of St. Edmund, King and Martyr.

The great asset to the Church was the Church Day Schools which at that time had the children from 5 years of age until they were 14, and the majority of the teachers were regular worshipping members of the Church, and the two Heads, Mr. Fuller and Miss Clarke, and

two other teachers were members of the P.C.C. In this way we always had a regular supply of boys for the Church choir, and our Men and Boys' Choir was well trained by the organist, Mr. Edmondson, assisted by his father as choir master; they were a great help in leading the singing at all services' on Sundays and at other times. Miss C. Winter the assistant organist trained a choir of teenage girls to sing from 6.00 p.m. to 6.25 p.m. on Sunday evenings while the people were coming to church; their work was always greatly appreciated; when the male choir entered the church the girls went out to join the congregation in the nave. Alas, in September 1939 all our eleven plus children, Mr. Fuller and some of our teachers had to leave us when the new Senior School opened on the Exning Road.

The Vicarage in my time was in Vicarage Road, conveniently situated between the Police Station and the Day Schools; it was a great pity that this house was sold. Being next door to All Saints' School it was convenient to go into the opening assembly and to give the religious instruction to the children on two or three mornings each week. Beyond the Police Station was the stable lads' Institute which added to my interest as I was a member of the committee and could spend some evenings with the lads in the club, and furthermore I was now privileged to visit stables in the early evening and to get in touch with the lads. Next door to the Institute was then the Rous Hospital run by the Jockey Club for the stable lads and their families. Here I took services from time to time and was able frequently to visit the lads in hospital. Opposite was the Calcutta Club, which is now a nurses' home, and in this way I met some very interesting members of the Club overseas.

In 1937 we celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of the Church, and at the Festival Evensong on All Saint's Day - the Bishop being the preacher - one or two of the old Vicars and two past curates were at the service. It was then that the portrait gallery in the vestry started.

My first Christmas was exciting. At the Festivals I always engaged help at the services till we had a curate but at the first midnight service which many people told me would not be well attended, I found a congregation of some 200 people. This made a long service and also gave me a severe back ache and little sleep for a Christmas morning when there were services at 6, 7, 8, 11 & 12, and a communion service at the Rous Hospital at 10.00 a.m.

But of course many things changed at the outbreak of war in 1939. Many of our young men and girls began to leave for war service; and we had an influx of evacuees from London, and as I was chairman of the Evacuation Committee, this meant extra work for my

wife and myself. Further as I was officiating chaplain to the Army and the R.A.F. I got the consent of the P.C.C. to open the Church Hall every evening, including Sundays, as a recreation centre and canteen for the men and women in the services; and this continued every evening including Christmas Day till the end of the war. The Mothers' Union under my wife's direction arranged a rota of members each evening, assisted by the senior G.F.S. members, to provide and serve refreshments while members of the Church of England Men's Society arranged for a team of it's members to be present.

As I had been an officer in the Dorset Regiment in the first world war before ordination, I had joined the British Legion almost at the outset so when I left Earl Soham where I had been chairman I was transferred to the Newmarket Branch and later became chairman.

As I was for a great part of the war chairman of the U.D.C. I had my first experience of sitting on the bench with others as a J.P., a job which I did not completely love. As officiating chaplain it meant arranging Church Parades, and my curate and I took a service in church at 10.00 a.m. and on the Heath for the R.A.F. at the same time which meant that on Sundays we had eight or nine services.

We remember well the tragic bombing raid in Newmarket on the afternoon of the 18th of February 1941, when twenty people were killed and many injured. Several of our Church members were among the killed. That afternoon the Newmarket Clerical Society was holding it's monthly meeting over Lakeman's Cafe, when the proceedings were suddenly disturbed by machine gun bullets flying around and explosives as a lone German raider dropped a stick of bombs on the north side of the High Street. We were smothered with broken glass and falling plaster but no casualties. At our next meeting we had to smile for we thought that 18 or more livings in Newmarket and on the borders of Suffolk and Cambridge might have been vacant if the bombs had fallen on the south side of the High Street where we were meeting.

One thing I have not mentioned is the wonderful troop of scouts and cubs and the company of girl guides and brownies under scoutmaster Ted O'Brien and Captain Bertie King (the District Scout master) and Miss Marriot the guide captain and District Commissioner; on the Sunday nearest St. George's Day they all paraded in the church to renew their promises, led by Captain King and Miss Marriot.

I cannot conclude without mentioning the wonderful help my wife and I had from all the heads of the various church organisations, and the wonderful support given by members of the P.C.C. and especially

driving force. It produced nativity plays in church and drama in the hall. During Festival of Britain year my wife and I led a party of assorted parishioners on a round trip to the exhibition. We had a special train to London, and a boat trip to Hampton Court, and the choir sang Evensong in the Festival church. At Rogationtide we "Beat the Bounds" of the parish, walking in solemn procession down the High Street and rather less solemnly up Sidehill and beyond, where nightingales joined in our hymn singing. The annual Sunday School outings to the coast were fun too, with five coach loads of children and teachers, exciting but exhausting events.

As I come towards the end of my active ministry my mind is clear that the parochial ministry is the front line of God's great enterprise, the spearhead of evangelism, and the best means of curing souls on the way to heaven.

My wish during the centenary year is this - 'floreat All Saints.' My wife and I spent seven happy years with you; we look back in gratitude and pray for many blessings on All Saints' parish for the years to come.

ALL SAINTS' AS I KNEW IT

3. Canon Richard Tydeman — Vicar 1953-1962

A stranger exploring Newmarket today might well be tempted to ask, "Why is Vicarage Road so called, when the Vicarage itself is in Cardigan Street?" The answer is, of course, that there used to be a Vicarage in Vicarage Road, a large rambling house, standing between the School and the Police Station; and exactly twenty years ago, in 1957, a Vicar named Tydeman persuaded the Church Comissioners to sell it and buy the house in Cardigan Street instead.

We arrived in the parish in 1953, my wife and I, and our two daughters then aged nine and six. (Incidentally the six year old is now married with a daughter of her own). We lived for four years in the old Vicarage, - and I sometimes wonder how we managed to get through the winters: the rooms were large and lofty, and there was no central heating. The bathroom was built out from the first floor as an after-thought, and stood on pillars; this meant that it had not only three outside walls, but an outside ceiling and floor as well. We frequently had trouble with frozen water pipes, - and my 1954 diary tells of several occasions when even the HOT water pipes were frozen!

So we moved to Cardigan Street, and shortly afterwards I met an elderly lady whose father had been Vicar of All Saints' in the

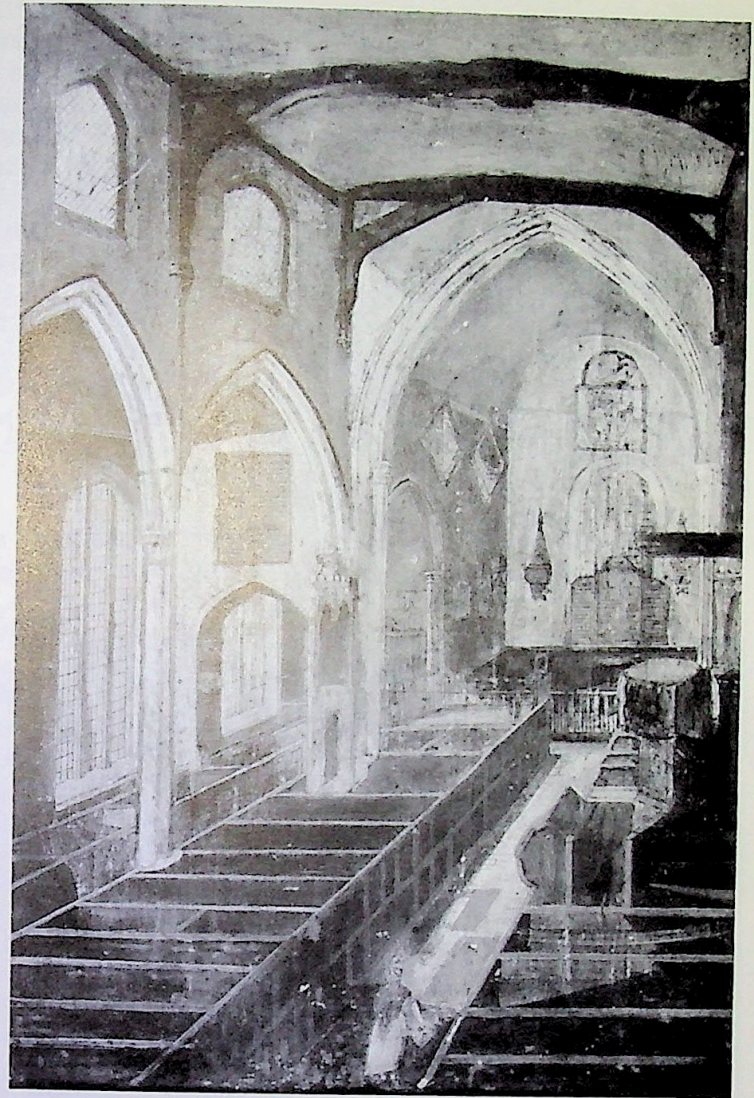


All Saints at the time of Consecration
September 1877

All Saints as it was in the 18th Century

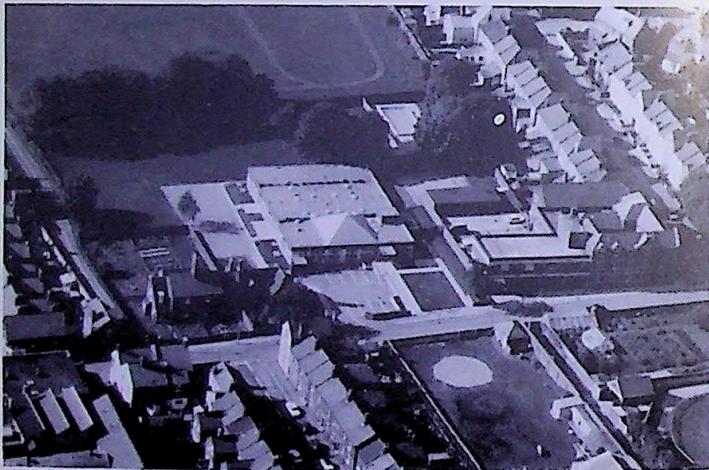
These two prints are from paintings which now hang in the Vestry of our present church. The first was painted on wood showing the inside of the church with its many memorial tablets associated with the Palace, the boxed pews with their individual doors, the high pulpit and the Palace Pew with curtains giving privacy to members of the royal household. A note on the back of the painting tells us it was given by the executors of Miss Maud Hilton whose mother is reputed to be the figure in the foreground.

The second is a water colour of the outside of the building, believed to have been painted in the middle of the Eighteenth Century. The picture has unfortunately been damaged by damp. Cole the Cambridge Typographer described the church in 1746 as being "small but neat. Only a Chapel of Ease to the Vicarage of Woodditton which is the Mother Church".





All Saints School past and present



nineteenth century. "I hear you have sold the Vicarage", she said, "what a pity. My father had a wing built on you know, and we were all very happy there, Father and Mother and the ten of us, and the governess and the cook and the two maids and the coachman and the gardener and the boy!"

But that's enough about the Vicarage. When the Bishop first asked me to go to Newmarket, I knew very little about horses, and had no idea what an important part of the parish they would be. Picking up a copy of the Parish Magazine, I found the mysterious entry: "22-25, First Spring Meeting", and I naturally assumed this must be some obscure ecclesiastical rally that I had never heard of.

We "inherited" the Rev. Andrew Babington" as our first curate, and he was an enormous help in showing us the ropes, explaining horsey terms and customs, and the life-styles of the stable-lad. I remember asking him one day if it would be safe to leave a bicycle unattended in Newmarket. "Oh yes," said Andrew, "so long as you leave the saddle high enough."

Andrew Babington was followed by Charles Coweley and Tim Lawrence, and all have moved on to great success in other spheres. But now I must be careful: the difficulty about mentioning names is that one never knows when to stop, - and there are so many names I should like to mention. But let me include just two more, whose names appear on the front page of every Parish Magazine during my entire time at All Saints': R. J. Bartholomew and S. B. Leader, - two towers of strength indeed.

The nineteen fifties and early sixties were not notable for any vast changes in Church affairs. Pope John had not yet revolutionised Rome; Presbyterians and Congregationalists were still disunited; synodical government had not descended on the Church of England, and series 1 2 and 3 were but distant clouds on the horizon. We just continued in the ways of our predecessors, with congregations showing a slight increase from year to year. Money, as ever, was hard to come by, but Parish finances looked pretty healthy. In 1954, we congratulated ourselves on a Fete which made the magnificent sum of £200. (We hadn't heard of "inflation" either!)

What I did not realise then, but have come to recognise now, is that my time at All Saints' was the best possible preparation for the job which I have been doing ever since. The City of London is such an unusual place that it would be almost impossible to come to it from an "ordinary" Parish, and Newmarket could certainly not be called "ordinary"; it has a cosmopolitan air about it, with prince and commoner, poor and rich, mingling in the same sort of way that one finds in the city. I shall always be thankful that I had the privilege of

being Vicar of All Saints' for more than nine years, and I send every good wish to the Church for its Centenary.

ALL SAINTS' MIXED SCHOOL

All Saints' Mixed School first opened its doors to children late in 1869. When the "new Church" was dedicated in 1877 it was quite well established. This event drew the following remarks: Sept. 18th 1877 "There has been much excitement about the opening of the Church tomorrow so that the work done during the past two days has been little. It has taken all our energy to keep order." Fortunately the event was marked by a days holiday.

Three weeks later this "Master" gave notice, leaving Newmarket in the December. He had spent two terms in the school, but his stay had only been slightly more brief than some of his predecessors. In that first eleven years nine men and one woman had filled the post, and eight had been permanent appointments.

Until 1910 the headteachers were the only fully qualified personnel in the school. The classes were managed by pupil teachers, (aged 14 plus). Sometimes these were assisted by monitors. Pupil teachers had passed an entrance exam. For three or more years they taught the younger children, were taught by the master and were examined yearly, passing out finally as uncertificated teachers. Certification required two further years at a training college.

Many many complaints against them are recorded, for failing to prepare lessons, inability to maintain discipline, excessively punishing younger children and unnecessary absence. Despite youth "flirtatious behaviour" occurred only once. Pupil teachers persisted until the late 1920s.

The original all aged mixed school had opened with about 110 pupils - and no desks - accommodated in a single large room. A week later there were 129 and the first fight is mentioned. One boy bit another's hand and "a deep wound was caused". Within two weeks numbers had increased to 137, some "voices" were picked out for the Church choir and the children had to be spoken to about "scribbling on the walls." Homework began at the end of the sixth week.

All scholars paid fees, most 4d a week. In 1870 the government grant was £8/1/1. Pupils could be expelled. The 1871 Scripture scheme includes the Biblical books of Judges and John's Gospel, and the Litany and Catechism. The annual Scripture examination

continued at least until 1940. Other subjects mentioned in 1871 are drawing, writing and copying of numbers from dictation.

Discipline did improve, methods used to achieve progress were quite harsh. One head only avoided facing a summons by paying damages and apologising for flogging a boy. But poor attendance was the biggest hinderance, 38 pupils were present on Cambridgeshire Day in 1871 - the week before the head left.

His successor served five years. He formed a Drum and Fife Band which later entertained nobility, including the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII). By 1874 numbers had increased to 195 and a separate infant department was set up which continued until 1973. In 1886 increasing numbers made another building necessary and the segregation of boys from girls occurred.

Attendance had improved slightly but little real difference was made in this area until 1891 when Education was declared free and compulsory.

Four years later (1895/6) the infant department had grown to 200 pupils with four teachers; the mixed department had over 350 children with a staff of seven, there were 74 in one room. Fortunately for the teachers, even when the racing was not available to reduce numbers, illness did it for them. This overcrowding inevitably produced a decline in standards, so a purpose built infant building was erected and occupied in 1900.

Ten years later (1910) the schools were again bursting at the seams. The Mixed department had 440 on roll (135 children in a room 50' x 20') and the infants numbered 240 children, and six teachers (only two of whom were certificated). In 1911 the Board of Education decreed that infant school numbers be reduced to allow 9sq. ft. per child (ie. 234 max in the Infant Dept.) and 10sq. ft. per older child (393 max. in Mixed Dept.). Only Church children were now admitted.

The inspector's remarks in 1907 will interest those who think modern methods are new. "The children are well taught but modern methods are not sufficiently well studied". In 1914 he wrote, "There are no hand basins for children and no offices (toilets) for teachers."

The 1914-18 war is barely mentioned. But after it numbers became more reasonable. Sickness now caused most absence. Perhaps classroom temperatures below 50°F did not help either.

In 1930 the schools longest serving head retired after 34 years service, although he served as a manager for nine more years.

In 1934 milk was introduced at ½d for 1/3 of a pint. In 1935, Jubilee year each child received a mug and a flag.

From 1939 all children over 11 transferred in the September to

the Secondary Schools. This year also saw the arrival of the stirrup pump, sand buckets, scoops, wired up windows and evacuees. A fire watching post was set up in the school. Malt was sold at 1s.4d. a jar.

In 1943 the last infant headteacher was appointed. Miss Forwood was one of only the five infant heads when she retired in 1973. There were 19 in the Mixed department.

In 1947 school meals were introduced. The wartime children had obtained a cooked midday meal at the British Restaurant for 5d.

The next ten years saw the hey day of the old schools. Between 1948 and 1958, 150 children obtained Grammar School places. The school never numbered more than 200. In 1950 a P.T.A. was begun, providing opportunity for parents to meet and learn about the changes in education.

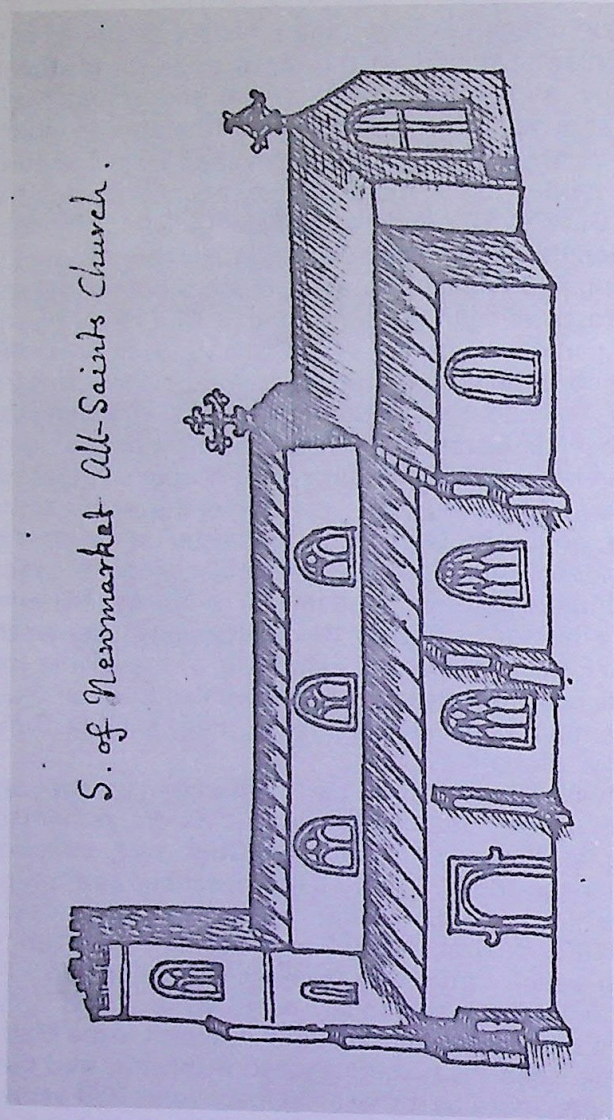
But the smoking chimneys of the sixties and the inconvenience of many of the rooms spelt the end of the old buildings, and early in the seventies they were knocked down and in their place a modern First School arose. A First School because reorganisation took place in 1973 when the children who had attained their 9th. birthday transferred to the new St. Felix Middle school.

The new buildings are warm, light and well equipped. The school has a new swimming pool and a P.T.A. But a school is like a Church pre-eminently the people in it, and during the Church's Centenary year we may be closer to 1877 than we otherwise seem to be.

A BRIEF SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH UP TO 1877

One of the main difficulties in writing a history of either of the churches in Newmarket arises from the fact of its origin as a town. It began, apparently, as a market town at the end of the twelfth century when a shrewd Lord of the Manor saw the area on which it now lies to be ideally placed on the main road from London to Norwich for a market town, more or less equally distant from Cambridge, Ely, Bury St. Edmunds, and Mildenhall. A glance at the map will show you that Newmarket was originally carved out of the parishes of Exning and Woodditton, the acreage of both parishes in Newmarket, corresponding to All Saints' and St. Mary's civil wards, is only 570, compared with Exning's 5710 and Woodditton's 4899. This means that our Newmarket churches were for some centuries only chapels of ease to their mother churches in Exning and Woodditton, and their history is therefore somewhat obscure. It seems that around about 1280 the Lords of the Manor on the Exning side, the Argenteins, built their chapel of ease, for the repose of their ancestors' souls, on the St. Mary's site, while somewhat later the Lords of the Manor of Ditton Valens built a similar chapel of ease on the other side of the road through the town. The monks of Thetford were the parish priests of St. Mary's, Woodditton, and it seems that Maria de Sancto Paulo, Countess of Pembroke, a very devout lady, obtained a papal license early in the fourteenth century for one of the monks to say mass at her chapel of ease, then called St. Simon and St. Jude, now All Saints'.

St. Mary's, Newmarket, became a parish church in its own right by the beginning of the 16th. century, but All Saints' remained a chapel of ease to Woodditton until G. Otter was appointed perpetual curate in the 1830s. In 1612 it was described as a "hamlet of Woodditton"; in 1650 a Parliamentary Commission recommended its fusion with St. Mary's in Suffolk, a recommendation which fortunately was not carried out. In 1746 Cole, a great Cambridge topographer, could write: "It is only a Chapel of Ease to the Vicarage of Woodditton, which is the Mother Church". We have seen the historical reasons for this, and these must have been enhanced by its small acreage (only 320 acres in 1844) and its small population (under 500 in 1801, compared with St. Mary's 1300).



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH IN 1746

Reproduced by permission of the British Library Board (Additional MS.5807, f.134v)

It is therefore quite understandable why All Saints' did not have its own "vicar" until the 1830s, the Reverend John Taylor is described in Pigot's 1839 Directory (under Cambridgeshire) as Perpetual Curate of All Saints'. In fact from 1717 when Dr. John Dighton became Rector of St. Mary's, Newmarket as well as Vicar of St. Mary's, Woodditton (he had been curate of All Saints' since 1704) until 1847 the Rector of St. Mary's, Newmarket and the Vicar of St. Mary's, Woodditton were one and the same person; in which parish (if either) he resided I do not know, but the parishes were served by a succession of curates who apparently did all the work, the registers of baptism, marriages and burials in all three churches were all signed by these curates. According to a commercial directory of 1830 so far as the two Newmarket churches were concerned, "Service is performed at one church in the morning, and at the other in the afternoon". It may be said then that All Saints' began to exist as a parish in its own right from the appointment of the Reverend G. Otter as perpetual curate in 1834. It did not legally become a parish until 1868 when the Reverend Romaine Govette became the first vicar.

This does not mean that it was unimportant or insignificant, quite the contrary. The building of the palace and its complex on the All Saints' side of the town, together with the descent of the King and his court on Newmarket for days at a time, meant that it became the court church, the church to which the court came when it was in Newmarket. Cole's very full description of All Saints' Church when he visited it in 1746 shows that quite a few of the memorial tablets in the old church were of people associated with the palace. For example one the great characters of Newmarket, Tregonwell Frampton, who died in 1727, was "keeper of the Running Horses for their Sacred Majesties King William III, Queen Anne, King George I, King George II; Thomas Walker, who died in 1725, was "Housekeeper of the Palace in this Parish, belonging to the King"; and James Ellyott Esq., who died in 1677, was "Groom of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Chamber"; several of these old memorial tablets can be seen, though not, I fear, with the naked eye, in the porch of the present All Saints' church. Even as late as 1846, when the connection with royalty had long ceased, there was still a palace pew in the old church, as the following note in the parish register shows: "Mrs. Weatherby is sitting in the Palace Pew by suffrage only, from Mr. William Edwards of the palace." (signed John Taylor, Perpetual Curate). Incidentally Palace Street was then known as Back Lane. It is this royal connection which gives All Saints' its distinctive character from the 17th century onwards.

THE BUILDING OF THE NEW CHURCH

Closely allied with this royal patronage was the connection with the Dukes of Rutland who were lords of the manor until the 1890s. In fact the new church was a memorial to Lord George Manners (Manners was the family name of the Dukes of Rutland) and is described in the local weeklies of the period as the Manners Memorial Church, though few would remember that today. Lord George lived at Cheveley Park and had been member of Parliament for Cambridgeshire for twenty years. He died in September 1874, and there was a great desire to erect a memorial to "so good a man". To judge from the correspondence in the Bury and Norwich Post there was considerable opposition in and outside the town to a church built as his memorial, but eventually in December 1874 a meeting was convened to discuss the erection of a memorial church to him, under the patronage of the Prince of Wales (the future King Edward VII), with the Earl of Hardwicke, the Bishops of Winchester and of Ely, the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Lord Lieutenant of the County and three Members of Parliament among the twenty one Vice-patrons.

Why had it to be rebuilt? When Cole visited it in 1746, he described it in these words: "The Church is small, but neat, consisting of a square tower at the west end, in which hangs 5 bells, a Nave, 2 side aisles and 2 small chapels at the end of them, all leaded and a Chancel tiled"; his sketch of the old church is reproduced on page 20. A correspondent in the Bury and Norwich Post for December 1st. 1874, spells out the reasons why a 130 years later a new All Saints' was necessary: "When we look at All Saints' Church as it now exists, it is a blot and disgrace to our parish and our town . . . No village church around is in such a state. The windows are nailed in to prevent their blowing out, and yet there is a great danger of this in any gale of wind during the services. The scheme of galleries is futile." (It had evidently been suggested that the church could be enlarged by the erection of a gallery) "The pillars NOW can hardly bear the weight they have to bear. They are bowed not only in ONE direction, but many of them in TWO. Who would dare to sit in such a gallery, or who would venture his life beneath it." . . . "If we look at the site of the present church" . . . it "is in a ditch three feet deep. The consequence is what anyone might expect, a cold, damp church, enough to give rheumatism to any one who comes. Many, many so complain . . . The population is not one less than 2000 (as a matter of fact it was less than 1400 when he wrote) and continually increasing . . . Our church accommodation is 300, and for the poor, of the very worst character, only a seat against a cold damp wall As to the approaches of the church, nothing can be

worse. It is buried in poor cottages, blacksmiths' shops, rag and bone stores etc. The site is no longer the centre of the parish. The town is fast growing in the direction of the railway station. "None the less it is probably true to say that the building of the old railway station in 1848 and the development of "Newtown" (as it was called) towards the station made All Saints' a much more viable parish unit, there were for example no less than four public houses built in "Newtown" between 1844 and 1855, the Carpenter's Arms, the Greenwich Pensioner, the Marquis of Granby and the Railway Tavern.

At the meeting to discuss the memorial to Lord George Manners, the Bishop of Ely (in whose diocese All Saints' then was) suggested that a site should be found for the new church in the High Street. "It seemed to him that the town laboured under a disadvantage in having each of its churches buried as it were behind a screen of houses and not in a great thoroughfare." But this was not possible and it was decided to build the new church on the old site. A committee was formed and plans and specifications were made; the Chancellor of the Diocese, Sir Isambard Brunel, took his time to grant the necessary faculty (the letters of the impatient vicar of All Saints', the Reverend Romaine Govette, show that even in the 1870s the wheels of ecclesiastical machinery turned very slowly!). Eventually the new church was built on the site of the old, but designed (in order to gain more space) to stretch north and south rather than the conventional east and west; the cost was between five and six thousand pounds.

At the Consecration service on Wednesday September the 19th, 1877, the Bishop of Ely was the preacher, to a distinguished audience which included Lord George's widow, Lady Adeliza Manners (who incidentally gave the organ), his son, Lord George Manners (at that time Postmaster General) and the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire; the Duke of Rutland was not present, but sent "a handsome present of partridges to the luncheon," held after the service, as well as a cheque for £50 to the "Offertory". The Bishop ended his sermon with the words: "Let this new Church . . . be a voice exhorting us to increased earnestness, and worship, and usefulness in the world". At the end of the service, the procession of the choir and school children reformed, and left the Church singing "On our way rejoicing," and so the last hundred years of All Saints' began.