

A LITTLE HISTORY OF SOUTHCHURCH

By Mike Penry

Episode 29: CELEBRATING THE GLORY YEARS

We began this history when we were celebrating our 1200th anniversary in 2024, so it's interesting to look back and see how the 1100th anniversary was celebrated, back in 1924. There's no better way to give you a feel for the festivities than to reprint pages from the programme:

OPENING CEREMONIES

AT 3.0 p.m. EACH DAY

On Wednesday, 18th June by Lady Elveden
On Thursday, 19th June by Mrs. Philpott
On Friday, 20th June by Lady Clarke
On Saturday, 21st June by R. A. Jones, Esq.

STALLS & STALLHOLDERS

Garden Produce.
Mesdames. STALLBRASS, SMITH, OLIVER, ASHWEEK,
WELCH and Miss LEE.

Cakes, Preserves, etc.
Mesdames. ROSE, ASHDOWN, THOMPSON, CHURCHLAND,
RICHES and RICHARDSON.

Needlework and Fancy Articles.
MEMBERS OF THE WORKING PARTY.

White Elephant Stall.
Mrs. APFLEBY and Mrs. SMERDON.

Handkerchief, Hosiery and Fancy Articles.
Misses SMITH and KELSEY.

Sixpenny Twisters.
MEMBERS OF THE HOLY TRINITY GUILD.

Ices, Minerals and Sweets.
THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY and HELPERS.

Bran Tub.
G.F.S. CANDIDATES.

Book Stall.
MISS CRUSHA.

SIDE SHOWS

HOOP-LA Messrs. BRYETT & PALMER
RIFLE RANGE Messrs. RUST & NIELL
COCOA NUT SHIES Coun. TAYLOR & Mr. C. CHAPMAN, Jr.

COMMEMORATION SERVICES

1100TH ANNIVERSARY.

TRINITY SUNDAY, 15th JUNE, to 22nd JUNE
(INCLUSIVE)

SERVICES IN CHURCH :

15TH JUNE. Preacher :
The BISHOP OF DOVER. Matins, 11.0 a.m.
The BISHOP OF CHELMSFORD. Evensong, 6.30 p.m.

16TH JUNE. Preacher :
The BISHOP OF COLCHESTER. Evensong, 8.0 p.m.

18TH JUNE. Preacher :
The BISHOP OF LONDON. Evensong, 8.0 p.m.

20TH JUNE. Preacher :
The BISHOP OF ROCHESTER. Evensong, 8.0 p.m.

22ND JUNE. Preacher :
The ARCHDEACON OF SOUTHEND. Matins, 11.0 a.m.
The BISHOP OF BARKING. Evensong, 6.30 p.m.

*The Offerings will be devoted to the erection of a
Church Hall and the Church Completion Fund.*

The South-on-Sea and District Antiquarian and Historical
Society
will hold a
SPECIAL MEETING IN CHURCH
ON SATURDAY, 14th JUNE, AT 3.30 P.M.
when Mr. A. J. Connahee, A.M.G. and Mr. J. F. Nichols, M.A.,
F.R.HIST.S. will read papers on Southchurch History.

ENTERTAINMENTS

IN THE MARQUEE.

Concerts

Wednesday, June 18th, at 8.0 p.m.

Artists :
Misses NORDEN, DODD, PASHLEY, LAMBERT
Messrs. H. SANDERS and H. JUDD
E. OMER and H. L. NICHOLLS

Thursday, 19th June, at 8.0 p.m.

BY THE "LIVE WIRES" CONCERT PARTY

Artists :
Misses M. SANDERS, M. JENKINS, E. PHIPPEN
Messrs. H. & W. SANDERS, G. PRIDDLE, G. ISAAC,
S. MEMBREY

Friday, June 20th, at 8.0 p.m.

Artists :
Misses WALKER, NIELL, LAMBERT, Mrs. T. HUSON,
BARTER, PEACOCK, NIELL

Saturday, 21st June, at 5.30 p.m. sharp.

Arranged by Mr. FRED. WHISSTOCK.

Artists :—
Miss GWEN STEVENSON Miss MAISE BRUNSHEN
Miss CHRISTINE BRUGHAM Mr. TEDDIE DOWNES
Mr. FRANK HUGHES Mr. FRANK ONLY
Mr. FRED. WHISSTOCK

PAGEANT

(See Daily Programme.)

Twice on first three days, and three times on Saturday

THREE HISTORICAL SCENES :

1.—Grant of the Southchurch Lands to the Monks of Christ Church, Canterbury, by Lufstan, 824. At Canterbury.

2.—Village Revel, Dances, etc. To celebrate Coronation of GEORGE I. At Southchurch Hall.

3.—Symbolical Scene representing the incorporation of Frittlewell, Southchurch, Leigh, and Eastwood into the Borough of Southend.

Between 2 and 3 the "Oyster Song" celebrating the now defunct Oyster Fisheries of Southchurch.

AMUSEMENTS & COMPETITIONS

Weight of Cake. Number of Sweets.
Misses ARMSTRONG, L. BROWN, Z. FRASER
Four Cakes given by Miss E. SMITH, Mesdames BILLING,
CONDER and MEMBERY

Football and Skittle.
Mr. C. CHAPPLE, JUNR. and Mr. PRINCE

Donkeys. Messrs. ARMSTRONG and MARSHALL

Pony. Miss J. SIMPSON

Microscope. Mr. R. T. DAVIS

Watch Competition.
Mrs. C. CHAPPLE, JUNR. and Mr. GRAYLEN

Football and Balloons.
Aft.—Mr. FRANK GIBBS. Even.—Mr. C. CHAPPLE, SENR.

Spring Bazatelle.
Aft.—Messrs. BROWNING and PRINCE
Even.—Mrs. BERNARD and Miss ASPITTLE

DARTS. Aft.—Mrs. BERNARD and Miss ASPITTLE
Even.—Messrs. STOCKDALE and GURNEY

Top Hat Target. Southend Hockey Club.
Messrs. J. J. HAWKINS and WILLIAMS

Candle Lighting.
Mr. ELSBURY and the Misses MEMBERY, EDGELL, FARRER,
and L. MAYES

Billiard Table Game.
Mr. & Mrs. LAMBERT, Miss G. FRASER & Miss F. RICHARDSON

Pennies on a Plate.
Aft.—Miss ENA RICHES and Miss BLEWETT
Even.—Mr. DICK SHARMAN

Telescope. Mr. E. WINGRAVE

Spoof Wireless.
Messrs. BRADBURY, B. PALMER and MERRIFIELD

Boys' Comic Band. Mr. BRADBURY and Helpers

Commemoration Pencils.
On Book Stall

Washers & Threepenny Bits. Messrs. GALPIN & NEWBURY

Swings. Misses J. JARVIS, ORCHARD and Mr. F. JARVIS

Quoits. Aft.—Mr. H. HILLMAN, Even.—Messrs. T. & E. CURTIS

General Helpers : Messrs. CABEL & CLARKE & Miss CUSDIN

PRIZES GIVEN by Dr. Bridger, Mrs. Greenwood,
Mr. Chapman, Mr. R. A. Jones and Mr. Armstrong.

Dancing

Time will be announced by notice
at Entertainment Marquee.

Band

3.30 to 6.0 p.m. Mr. Daddo's Orchestra.
7.30 to 10.0 p.m. Gospel Temperance Mission Band

REFRESHMENTS

Mesdames HUSON, MEADOWS, LEEDS, NEVARD, GARRETT,
NIHELL and Helpers

Teas, Light Refreshments, à la Carte will be served
at all times during the day.
Speciality—Try the 9d. Tea.

SPORTS

Judges : Messrs. CHAPMAN and RICHES
Starter : Mr. JONES
Marksmen : Messrs. CHALK and GARRETT

1. 75 yards Girls—7 to 10.
2. 100 yards Girls—11 to 14.
3. Tripod. Girls.
4. 75 yards Boys—7 to 10.
5. 100 yards Boys—11 to 14.
6. Tripod.
7. Slow Bicycle—Ladies.
8. Slow Bicycle—Gents.
9. Veterans—over 50.
10. Ladies' Race.
11. Relay—Secondary Schools.
12. Relay—Elementary Schools.
13. Egg & Spoon Race—Ladies over 16.
14. Comic Costume.

Tug of War and Display by Gymnastic
Team from the High School for Boys.

RULES.

- 1.—Entries close on Friday, names to be given to Mr. Garrett at the Sports Tent on the Ground.
- 2.—All Competitors in Children's Races handicapped according to age and physique.
- 3.—The Stewards reserve the right to stop racing under unfair conditions.
- 4.—Visitors are respectfully asked to keep *outside* Sports Barrier during the Racing.

Distribution of Prizes 9 p.m.

They certainly knew how to enjoy themselves in 1924! There was an opening ceremony every day, presided over, in turn, by Lady Elvedon (believed to be the wife of Rupert Guinness, Viscount Elvedon, and later to succeed him as MP for Southend-on-Sea), Mrs Philpott (was she the wife of Nigel Philpott, Rector at Holy Trinity from 1893 to 1918?), Lady Clarke and R A Jones of the eponymous jewellers. And see how many Bishops we attracted for the Commemoration Services!

Looking at the stalls, many are familiar today, but what were the Sixpenny Twisters? We can only guess at the nature of amusements such as "Pony", "Microscope", "Candle Lighting" and "Spoof Wireless".

Oh, happy days!

Come back in a couple of weeks' time for Episode 30: "THE PARISH HOUSE".

- When were plans for the Parish House approved?
- The original plans were more ambitious. What was left out?
 - Who were the builders?

See all Episodes of 'A Little History of Southchurch' [here](#)