



### LIONEL BRUCE BLAXLAND – Priest

*We record with regret the passing of the Reverend Lionel Blaxland on April 29th at Temple Ewell. The Funeral was held on May 5th, and a special Service of Memorial took place at St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Sunday May 23rd – attended by many who wished to acknowledge a man of great talent, compassion and love.*

LIONEL BLAXLAND was born on March 24th 1898, the son of the Vicar of Abbey Church, Shrewsbury. He was educated at Shrewsbury School from 1911–1916, and then entered the Royal Flying Corps serving as a Fighter Pilot in the first World War with the rank of Captain.

Following the Great War he studied at Oriel College, Oxford, from 1919–1921. Here he was a Soccer Blue – showing an interest in sport that was to stay with him for many years.

On graduating he took up the appointment as a Master at Repton, where the Head Master of the day was Geoffrey Fisher, later Archbishop of Canterbury. He remained on the staff of Repton from 1922 until 1960, becoming Housemaster of The Hall from 1935 for a decade, and then Housemaster of The Cross House for the remaining fifteen years. During this time he was in charge of Cricket, Soccer and the Air Training Corps at the school.

A keen sportsman he had not only been a Soccer Blue at Oxford, but also played for the Corinthians and the Old Salopians under the captaincy of Arthur Dunn, achieving International Trial status. In the 1930's and 40's he played cricket in the summer months for Derbyshire Cricket Club.

Leaving Repton in 1960 Lionel Blaxland was ordained priest, and his first curacy was at Tansley in Derbyshire from 1961–3. Later the Vicar of Doveridge in the same county for eight years; he retired to Bridge where he lived happily for the remaining five years of his life.

Lionel Blaxland was a man who could be loved, because he ever looked for good in people, which he invariably found. His simple preaching and obvious sincerity won him friends in every congregation. Although moving about cost him much pain he never commented on his handicap and attended services with a regularity that few match.

The funeral service held at St. Peter's, Temple Ewell, was notable for the sturdy Christian optimism of the hymns and prayers; and the sunshine, the sounds of the primary school children nearby in their playground, and the bird song that surrounded

St. Peter's were suitable accompaniment to a farewell that the Reverend Lionel Blaxland would have much appreciated. Resquiescat in pace.

### BRIDGE VILLAGE HISTORY XIII – The Bridge School Registers 1872–1910

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The Registers afford a good description of the life and educational methods during the nineteenth century in Bridge School. As the School is of Church of England foundation there were daily bible classes and in the 1880's the Catechism, the Ten Commandments and several psalms had to be learned by heart. Miss Fanny Wye, who took charge of the School in 1876 was obviously worried when she started, as she states: 'there is not one child that can make a straight line correctly; there is no order whatever and the children think they come to school to run about the room'.

There was daily drill before the lessons, and the subjects were taught on what was then a systematic method – each lesson being devoted to an object such as the Sea, Rivers and Flowers. There are frequent comments on the ability of the class to assimilate the particular object lesson of the day. However, there was obviously plenty of fun and amusement, being a fairly self-contained community. Here are recorded holidays for Medal Day on the Golf Course (near Highland Court) when medals were presented to the local regiments – the Relief of Mafeking and Ladysmith on May 21st 1900, Edward VII's Coronation 1902. Also listed were Mr. and Mrs. Bell's Golden Wedding Anniversary at Bourne Park, and Lady Blanche Conyngham's annual birthday party at Bifrons; several annual treats were held by the Gay family at Higham (now Highland Court), the Chapel (that was a Wesleyan Chapel in Dering Road) and the Band of Hope meetings in Canterbury.

Absenteeism was always a problem; scarlet fever, chicken pox and ringworm took their annual toll, and sometimes a child would have to stay at home minding the babies while its mother was in the hop fields. On the sad occasion of the funeral of a young child, the wreath would be made up of wild flowers collected by the children and made up by the teachers.

Occasionally there would be an admittance from the workhouse, now known as The Close, in Union Road.

Songs must have formed quite an integral part of the teaching and these also had to be learned by heart; some were patriotic like 'The Flag of England' and 'Hurrah! for England's Glory'; some sentimental, as 'What Do The Beautiful Roses Say?' – and old favourites like 'Three Blind Mice' and 'Little Cock Sparrow'.

The senior classes were obviously quite advanced, and there were lectures on the leading figures of the century like Lord Palmerston and Lord Beaconsfield; and history lessons on the Chartists and the Indian Mutiny, and on the days of intercession for Foreign Missions talks on countries such as China and Turkey.

The fees for attendance were classified according to your occupational status, Tradesmen and Farmers 6d for the first child, 3d for the rest; Labourers and Artisans 2d for each child to the number of 4. The age for leaving the School was 14, and an entry for July 1877 states: 'several of the older children have left for work having qualified by age or the dunces' certificate'.

J. J. Williamson

# Bridge & Patricxbourne CHURCH FETE

## Bridge C of E Primary School Sat 12th June

### 2.15pm.

**CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS COMPETITION**  
(Theme: Nursery Rhymes)

Commencing at 2.30. Two classes – up to six years, six to eleven years.

**SHEEP DOG WORKING DEMONSTRATION \*  
GRAND DRAW \* TEAS \* CAKES \* STALLS  
AND SIDE SHOWS \* GRAND ATTRACTIONS**

**City of Canterbury  
Band will play  
during the afternoon**



# BONANZA DAY - July 3rd

- 1.45 - 2.30pm **MORRIS DANCING** by the Wantsum Morris Men  
**FOLK DANCING** by the Ramsgate Folk Dance Club
- 2.15 **CHURCH BELLS PEAL**
- 2.20 **BAND and PARADE PROCESS DOWN HIGH STREET**
- 2.30 approx. **OPENING of BONANZA** by DAVID CROUCH, MP.  
 Master of Ceremonies: MALCOLM MITCHELL
- 3.00 **TEA PARTY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS** in Vicarage Grounds  
**TEA PARTY FOR CHILDREN** in Green Court
- 3.15 **DECORATED PRAM RACE**
- 3.30 **MARCHING DISPLAY** by the Band 5th Battalion, Queen's Regiment
- 4.00 **MAYPOLE DANCING** in Green Court
- 4.30 **MAJORETTE DISPLAY** by the Caroussels

This is only part of the programme - look out for further details nearer the day!

BY-PASS BONANZA  
**BRIDGE**

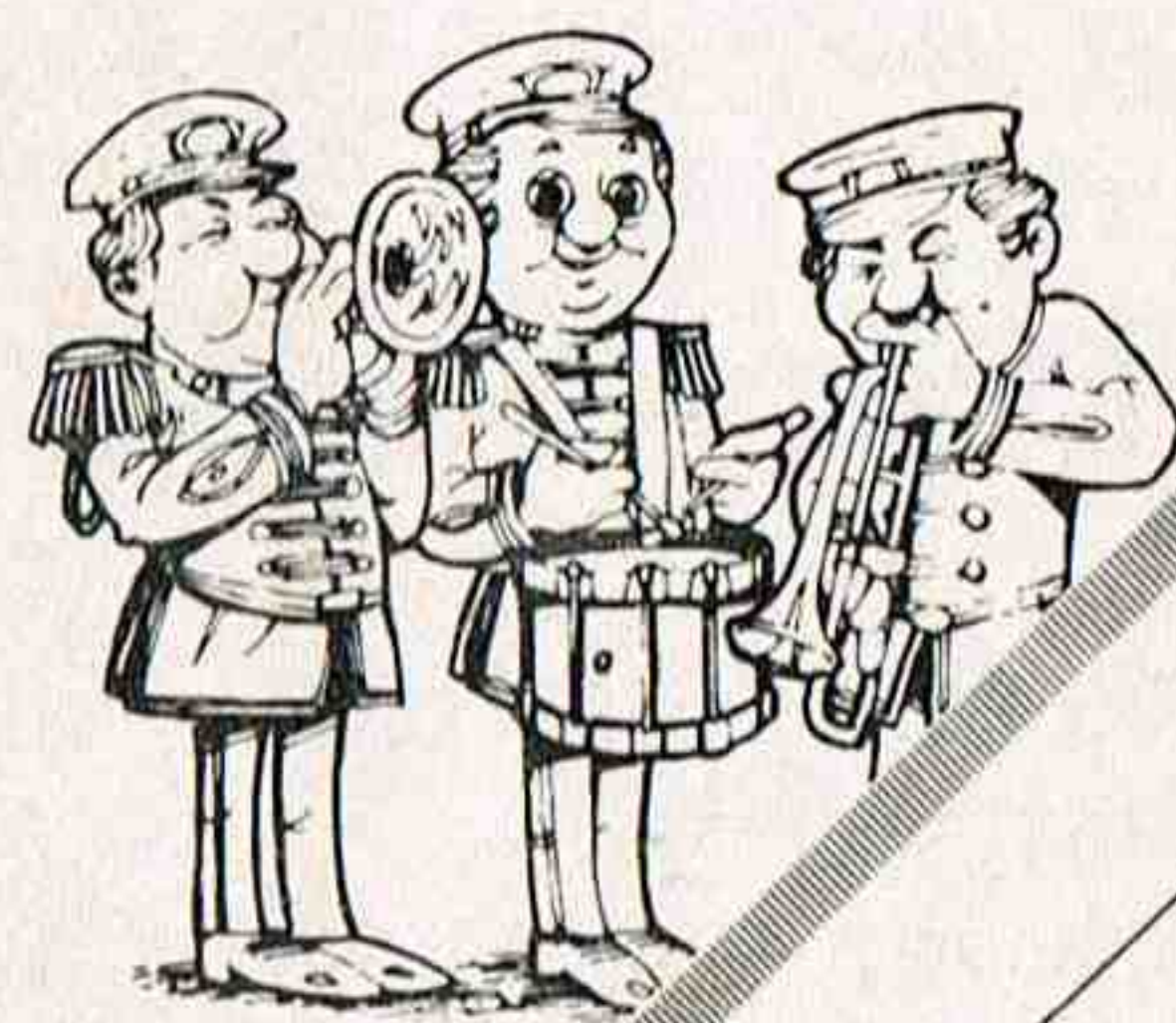
## COMPETITIONS July 3rd. Your entries are invited

Prizes will be awarded in the following sections:-

- \* **The Best Decorated House**
- \* **Fancy Dress Parade - and Decorated Pram**  
 Children and Adults  
 Theme 'Bridge through the Ages'  
 Procession assembles: 2p.m. Judging: 2.15p.m.
- \* **The "Bridge in History" Exhibition Competition**  
 All entries will be exhibited in the Village Hall throughout the event.

**Section 1. ART Competition**  
 Subject: 'The Bridge Scene'  
 Class A up to 11yrs.  
 Class B 12yrs. to 18yrs.  
 Class C Adults

**Section 2. PHOTOGRAPHIC Competition**  
 Subject: 'The Bridge Scene'  
 Class D up to 18yrs.  
 Class E Adults



Judging: 8.30p.m. July 2nd.

Closing date: July 1st.

Please deliver entries to The Headmistress  
 Bridge Primary School.  
 with clear label attached

ENTRY for \_\_\_\_\_ Competition

Section \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

- 11th Friday. St. Barnabas the Apostle. Holy Communion at 7.30am at Bridge Church.
- 12th Saturday. Bridge and Patricxbourne Church Summer Fete at Bridge School grounds, from 2.15pm.
- 13th Trinity Sunday.
- 14th Monday. M.U. Branch meeting at 2.45pm at 37 Union Road, Bridge.
- 15th Tuesday. W.I. meeting. 7pm at Bridge Village Hall.
- 20th 1st Sunday after Trinity. Preacher at llam Matins at Bekesbourne Church, Dr. Anne Plumtre.
- 24th Thursday. St. John the Baptist's Day. Holy Communion at 9.30am at Bridge Church.
- 26th Saturday. The Close Annual Summer Fete, 2.30pm at The Close.
- 27th 2nd Sunday after Trinity.
- 29th St. Peter's Day. Holy Communion at 7.30am and 9.30am at Bridge Church. Opening of the by-pass.
- July 4th Service of Thanksgiving, 6.30pm at Bridge Church. Preacher: the Right Reverend Anthony Tremlett, Bishop of Dover. With City Dignitaries and special music.

### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

#### Holy Baptism

St. Peter's Church, Bridge  
 2nd May 1976 Edward John Weatherall  
 16th May 1976 William Anthony Fuggle

#### Holy Matrimony

St. Mary's Church, Patricxbourne  
 22nd May 1976 Hamdy Taha and  
 Fiona Anne Lapage

St. Peter's Church, Bridge  
 22nd May 1976 David Anthony Phillips and  
 Nicola Mary Berry

#### May They Rest in Peace

St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne  
 5th May 1976 Emily Hammond

Barham Crematorium  
 11th May 1976 John Henry Fussell

St. Peter's Church, Bridge,  
 28th May 1976 Ethel Edith Pott