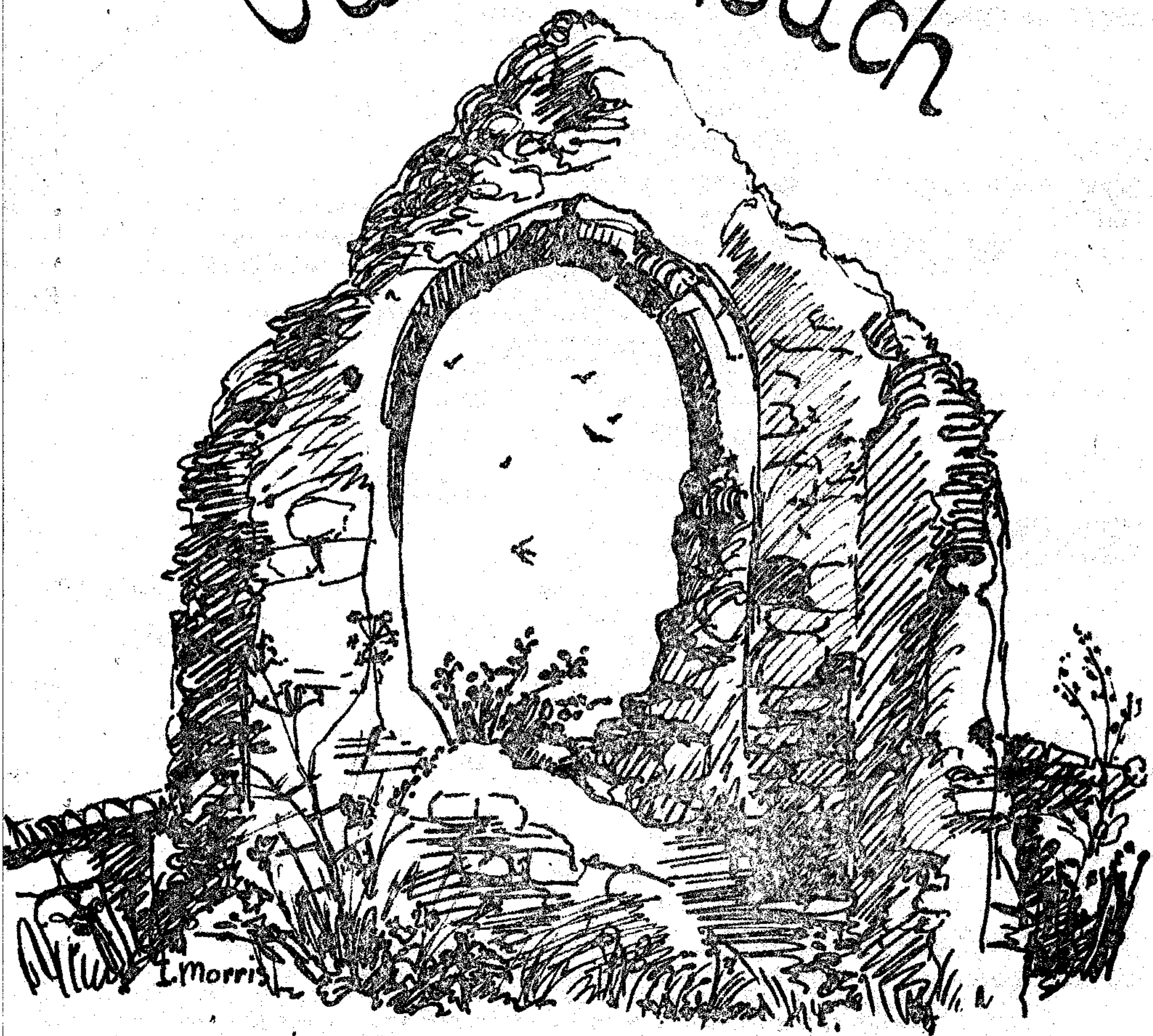


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OUT OF REACH COPY DATE 20th of PRECEDING MONTH

OUT OF REACH  
COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

ISSUE No: 82

EDITORIAL

SEPTEMBER, 1983

Another slim-line skeleton issue for this month. Several people have voiced complaints recently, which they would like me to make known through the magazine. People living in close proximity to the Green are very worried about the recent spate of motor-bikes on the Green and the volume of noise they make, disturbing what once was a quiet village where young children could play peacefully and safely. I realise that this might be a somewhat contentious issue, and that whilst many would agree with the above view, there will undoubtedly be those who wish to make a case for the motor-bikes and their riders. If anyone feels strongly on this subject, write to the Editor and letters will be published.

Congratulations to Tony and Freda Lloyd on the recent birth of their son David, and also to the Dane-Smiths on the birth of their daughter Ella Rose. Welcome to the Previtt family who have recently moved into Great Lane. Best wishes to Jean Parker who is convalescing after a recent operation, and thank you to Bill Estall for his poem in this issue.

On Sunday 11th September there will be a Tug-of-War Contest on the Green, with 32 teams taking part. I do not have any more details at present, but doubtless you will hear more about this nearer the date.

Kay Pote

LATE NEWS

Congratulations to Janet and Glenn Newman of Bull Cottage, Reach, on the birth of their daughter born on Friday 26th August.





# *St. Etheldreda and the Holy Trinity*

*Reach*

**FROM THE VICAR**

FROM THE VICAR

'...till death us do part?'

( A sermon preached in St. Mary's on Sunday 31st July, 1983. )

The subject of today's readings is The Mind of Christ, and there could be none more urgent or fascinating for the Church to consider. Unfortunately, it is so vast it can't possibly be contained within the readings of any given Sunday. The mind of Christ is virtually what the church as a whole considers every Sunday, because that mind is inexhaustible.

So I thought I would try to say something this morning about the bearing of his mind on a problem now seriously exercising the mind of the Church of England as a whole, namely the rights and wrongs of re-marrying the divorced in church during the lifetime of the previous partner. This was one of the major questions discussed at the meeting of the General Synod in York early in July.

As so often, there are those who take the line, which is still the official view of the Church of England, that it is logically (and that is a strong word) impossible to take lifelong vows (to remain faithful to a marriage partner) twice in one lifetime, i.e. before the first partner's death. And this is supported by the word of Jesus, recorded by St Mark, to the effect that whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery.

But the stringency of this view is weakened by the addition of an exception in St Matthew's version of this saying, the exception being that of adultery: i.e., divorce, which of course in those days implied re-marriage, is permitted if the other partner has committed adultery.

But even in these cases the Church as a whole has not been able to agree that re-marriage in church should be permitted.

The only concession individual bishops have been able to make is to allow prayers to be said in church with a couple who have re-married after divorce, prayers that this new marriage will be blessed by God for the healing of their broken lives.

Now, before we go further, perhaps we ought to remember how deep are the feelings of those who take the line of no compromise. But it isn't that they are heartless, or lacking in compassion. Nor do I think they are obsessed by a fear that any departure from this rigid line would 'open the floodgates', as we say, and lead to a great mass of requests for re-marriage in church. You have to remember that most people these days simply couldn't care less what the church thinks, about marriage or anything else of importance to our national life. No: I get the feeling there is just a deep concern that all the heroism exercised hitherto by the unhappily married, who have nevertheless remained faithful to their partners simply for Christ's sake, should go for nothing. Indeed, this very sentiment was expressed recently to a Bishop I know on his way to a previous meeting of the General Synod, when this problem first came up for discussion. 'You're not going to vote for re-marriage, are you', a woman asked, 'and say that all the sacrifices of the last 30 years have gone for nothing'.

Yet despite this - and you can easily see how the mind and heart of any feeling bishop must be almost torn in two - there are those who take the view that our present procedure is not sufficiently honest or consistent.

For example, if re-marriage in church is not permissible, what is the logic of allowing the state to 'do the dirty work' as it were, and then inviting the couple to come and have their new life blessed in church? If it is in order to bless a couple, surely it is right to re-marry them?

Incidentally, you may know that the Roman Church has a more logical way of dealing with this problem, namely by making a much larger use of the system of annulment, i.e., of annulling previous marriages, and declaring that, in the eyes of God, no marriage has taken place, if, for instance, the previous partner has not been a Roman Catholic, in addition to other serious impediments.

However, there are those who feel that even this procedure though admittedly more logical, is open to abuse, and that the process of annulment can be used as a mere 'get-out'. They feel it is more honest to recognise the bare grim facts as they are, and try to grapple with them more openly. And of course the facts are these: marriages, even marriages made in the best of good faith, even by devout Christians, simply die, and nothing on earth will mend them, or bring them back to life. Quite apart from this, there are the multitude of men and women whose partners are grossly unfaithful, cruel, and so on, so that it becomes a positive duty for them to save their lives and souls by getting a divorce.

But there is another category, which I suspect is growing larger year by year, which consists of those who make the mistake of what the old Prayer Book calls 'marrying unadvisedly', which doesn't simply mean marrying without a full realisation of all that marriage entails, but with hardly a notion of what Christianity is either.

Marriages like these not surprisingly break up in a very short time indeed. Unfortunately, however brief the partnership, the pain of parting is nearly always great. But increasingly one finds that at some point in this horrid experience of reflection on a broken life men and women have their eyes opened to the reality of Christ and his religion. Having become committed Christians, they fall in love again, and want profoundly to make a new life, not simply with a new partner but with a new faith. To all intents and purposes, as St Paul said, they are new people. The old has passed away. (Incidentally, it is often forgotten that St Paul himself expressed the view that if a believer's unbelieving partner chooses to leave him or her, he or she is at liberty to re-marry).

So there is now a deep feeling that the Church as a whole should face these facts, and say clearly that under certain circumstances she will allow re-marriage in church.

But here is the catch: who is to decide? At the moment the mind of the General Synod is veering towards the idea that each case should be judged on its merits by a skilled panel set up in each diocese to advise the bishop, and I incline to think that, despite all the difficulties and inconsistencies, this may be the way forward.

And it would have this to be said for it: the fact that Jesus himself reposed the most complete confidence in his Church to carry out his will and express his mind under the guidance of his Spirit. His words to Peter, at a great crisis in his ministry, are of limitless applications: 'I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven'.

I commend the problem to you.

J.K.B.

#### FROM THE CHURCHES

#### Worship in September: St Mary's & Reach.

4th <u>Trinity XIV</u>	8.00.a.m. Holy Communion (Reach)
	9.30.a.m. Matins & Eucharist (St Mary's)
	6.30.p.m. Evensong (Reach)
8th <u>Nativity of the B.V.Mary</u>	7.30.p.m. Holy Communion (St. Mary's)
11th & 18th: <u>Trinity XV &amp; XVI</u>	9.30.a.m. Parish Communion (St. Mary's)
	11.00.a.m. Family Communion (Reach)
	6.30.p.m. Evensong (St. Mary's)
21st <u>S. MATTHEW. Ap., Ev.</u>	7.30.p.m. Holy Communion (St. Mary's)
25th <u>TRINITY XVII</u>	9.30.a.m. Children's Eucharist (St. Mary's)
	11.00.a.m. Children's Eucharist (Reach)
	6.30.p.m. Evensong (St. Mary's)

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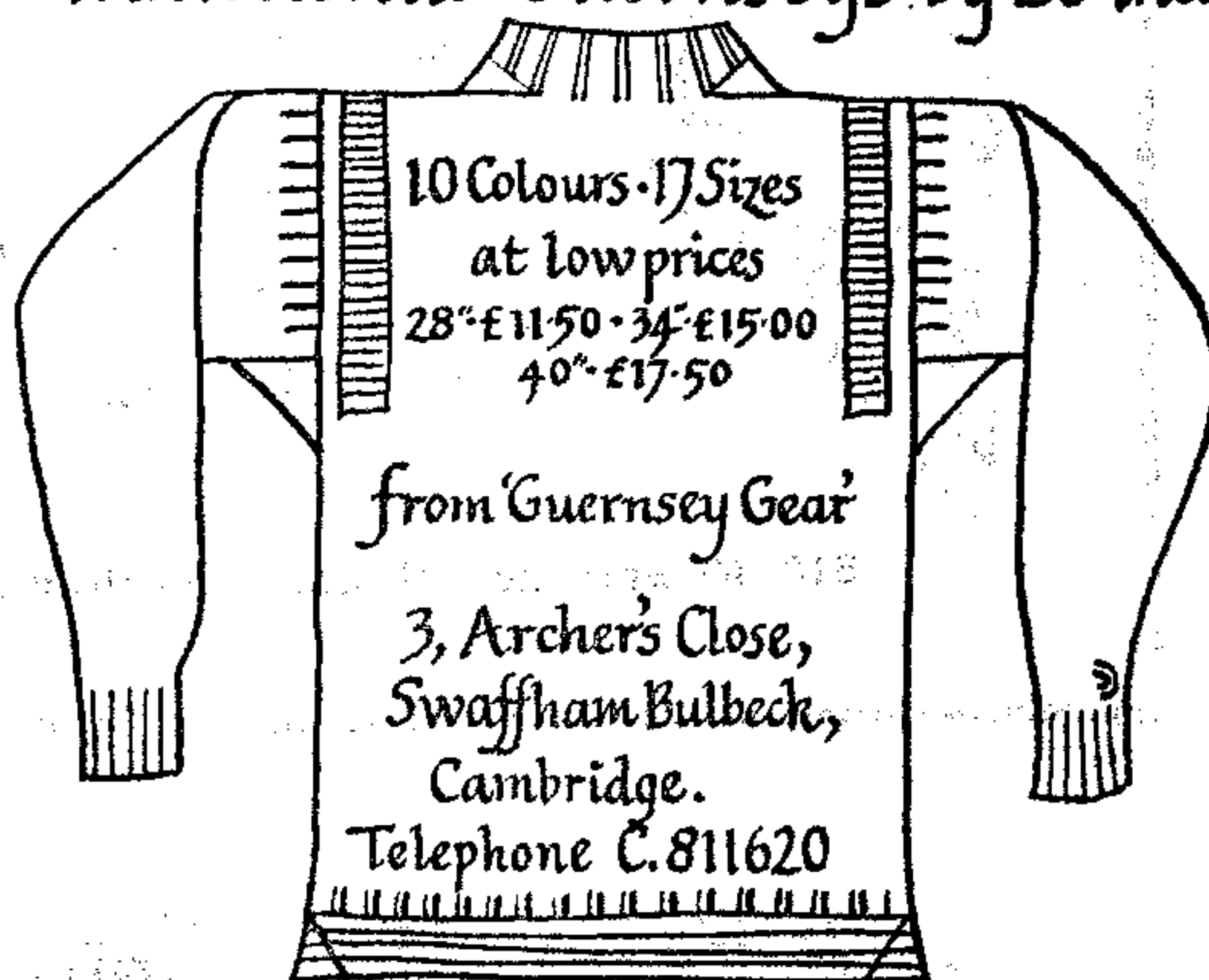
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FROM EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mrs Margaret Cook gratefully acknowledges the help of Mr. Timothy Aldworth in the preparation of the following article on the  
MEPAL OUTDOOR CENTRE.

Mepal Outdoor Centre is approximately 30 acres of old gravel workings, 3 miles south of Chatteris on the A.142 road. From about 1968, the centre was run by the County Council as an educational establishment providing basic tuition in sailing and canoeing to schools and organised youth groups throughout the County, together with limited camping facilities. Towards the end of last year, the County Council declared its intentions to close the centre in order to save about £30,000 per annum. There was considerable feeling in the county that this facility should not be lost, and the 4 District Councils of Fenland, Cambridge City, South Cambs and East Cambs agreed that they would underwrite running costs up to £20,000 per annum for a maximum of 3 years, if East Cambs were to take the Centre over. A steering committee was set up to examine ways and means, of which the Chairman of the Council's Health & Amenities Committee, became Chairman; it should be said that East Cambs's involvement is entirely an act of faith, since the Centre does not have much in common with any of the other activities managed by the Council.

New staff have been appointed: the Manager, Jim McCarn has just left the Army after 22 years in the Physical Training Corps, having qualified in an impressive number of sports. During the past summer term, the schools have been attending week-day sessions at the Centre on a regular basis: sailing dinghies and sailboards can be hired by individuals, there is swimming from a good beach, a climbing-tower, to enable the rudiments of rock-climbing and abseiling techniques under construction (with a welcome contribution from the King's School, Ely), and some play equipment has been erected. Jim McCarn was for five years the Army trampoline champion, so trampolining will inevitably feature in the various activities on offer at the Centre. Future plans also include the provision of a 50 unit caravan site, improved camping facilities, and self-catering accommodation so that it will be possible to market mixed activity holidays including both land and water based sports.

Considerable capital investment will be required to make the Centre viable, but the District Council is confident that residents of the County still believe these facilities should be generally available, and will make full use of them; and so justify the Council's action in acquiring the Mepal Pits for public use.

M. COOK.



## 1st Swaffham Prior Scout Group.

The Cub Pack have not been meeting during the school summer holidays, but I hope most of the boys are occupying otherwise idle hours by working for various proficiency badges. Many thanks to all those who have agreed to help as Examiners!.

The trip to London to visit the Royal Tournament was a very exciting occasion. As well as watching the show several boys dressed up in full parachute gear, (despite the heatwave!) while others tried their hand at sending coded messages, clambered around military vehicles, and even danced in the main arena with 100 or so Police Cadets and the massed bands of the R.A.F.

The fathers and sons camp is planned for the night of September 3rd/4th; please contact me during the week before for final details (Newmarket 742545).

I have entered the Pack for the District Football League during the coming winter. I am no footballer myself, so if we are to take part I shall need to delegate to a father or someone else interested in the sport. Please let me know if you could help, as without a doubt football is a favourite with the boys.

Please don't forget the Cheese and Wine evening at Goodwin Manor on September 10th. Tickets are available from any Committee member, or the Post Office. We should also be pleased to accept any prizes for the Tombola.

Pack meetings start again on the first Thursday of term. If the Pack is to continue successfully we must have some more adult help. If you might be interested and would like to see what we do, do come along to a Pack meeting at 6.00.p.m. on a Thursday and then decide if you would like to help occasionally or regularly.

Zandra Houston.

## A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY.

Reach Jazz Ballet/Keep Fit will start again for the Autumn on Thursday 22nd September at 8.00.p.m. for 10 weeks.

If anybody would like to join our troupe please contact Judith on 742519. The approximate cost for this term for 10 lessons will be £12.50.

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

## BOTTISHAM & BURWELL PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB.

September 20th	A Welcome to old and new members. Election of Slide Selection Committee (Slides of Club outing to Wicksteed Park will also be shown).
September 27th	Professor Ernest Dogmatick Judging! (Bring 3 slides for Slide Battle Selection).

Meetings are held on Tuesday evenings at Bottisham Village College in the Old Library from 7.30 - 9.30.p.m.

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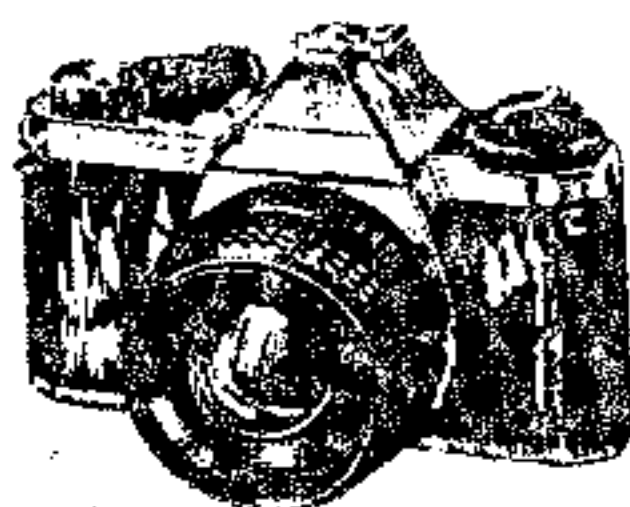
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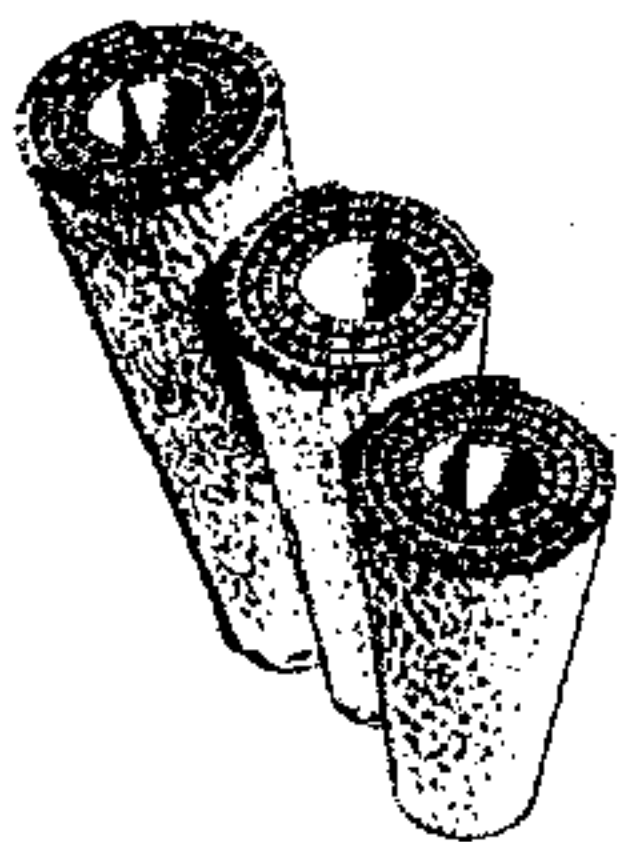
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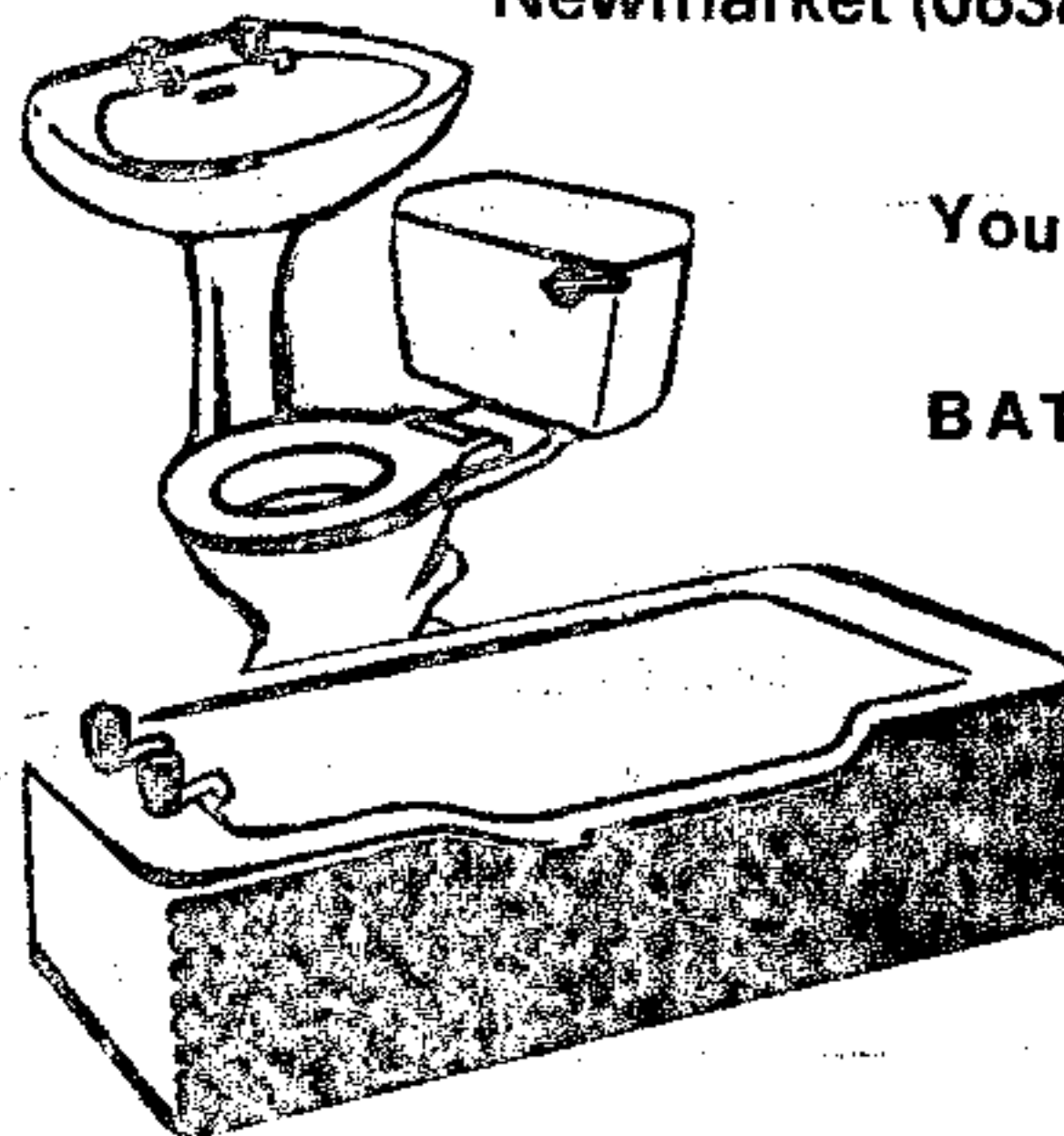
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## REACH VILLAGE CENTRE/GREEN CAB CLUB.

The 11th September sees the revival of the Reach Tug-of-War Championship held by Reach Village in conjunction with the Green Cab Club.

It is a charitable event with funds going to both the Reach Village Centre and the Green Cab's chosen charity; in this case towards a Kidney Dialysis Machine.

We hope you will be able to support this venture as from 2.00.p.m. on the Sunday. There will be apart from the competition a licensed bar, weight throwing, joy rides and more.

Please come and support us on the Green 2.00.p.m.Sunday 11th September.

Steve Neeves.

xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

### THE SUMMER SHOWER.

See the gentle drops of life as they kiss the hard baked ground  
And smell the freshness in the air as it reaches all around  
Watch the flowers lift their heads to greet the summer rain  
And see the droplets gather to run down the window pane  
Feel the coolness rising as it slowly wets the grass  
Watch the tall trees wave to the rain clouds as they hurry past  
See the rainbow forming as the sun shines through the haze  
Its brilliant colours never failing to wonder and amaze.  
Hear it softly patter as it strokes the outstretched leaf  
Waking up the small seeds that are sleeping there beneath  
See the birds bathing in the puddles on the ground  
And hear the thrush singing on the high perch he has found  
So remember when the rain comes do not wail or moan  
For without this gift from heaven this earth would be alone.

Bill Estall

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

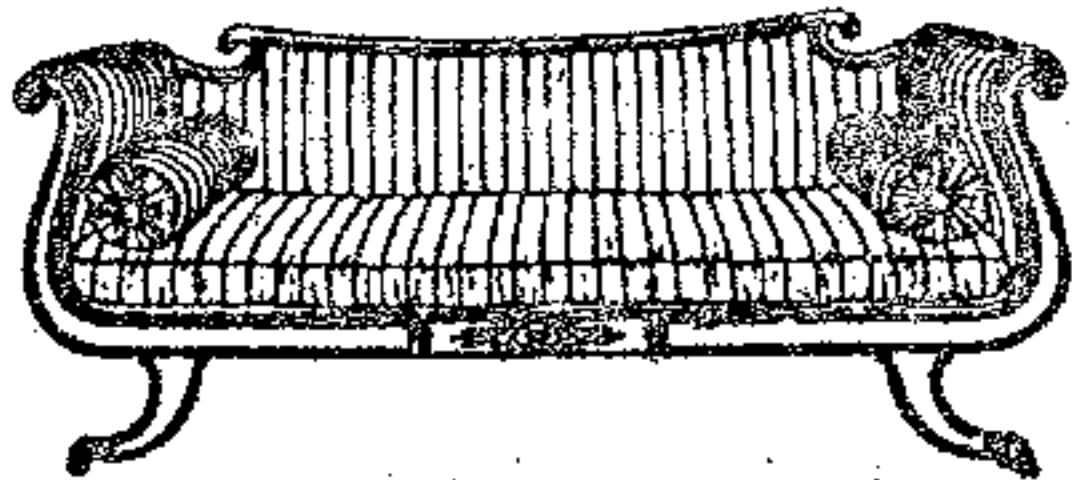
### THIS MONTH'S RECIPE

#### LENTIL BAKE

- 4 Large onions chopped
- 1 clove garlic crushed
- 2 oz butter
- $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of water
- 2 teaspoons marmite
- 6 oz lentils (soaked overnight)
- 1 teaspoon mixed herbs
- 5 oz grated cheese
- 4 oz breadcrumbs

Fry the onions and garlic in the butter until golden brown. Add the water and marmite and stir until dissolved. Add the lentils herbs and 3oz of the cheese. Pour into a casserole dish and top with the breadcrumbs, mixed with the rest of the cheese. Bake at Mark 2, 300 deg.F, 150 deg.C for 2 hours. Garnish with onion rings.

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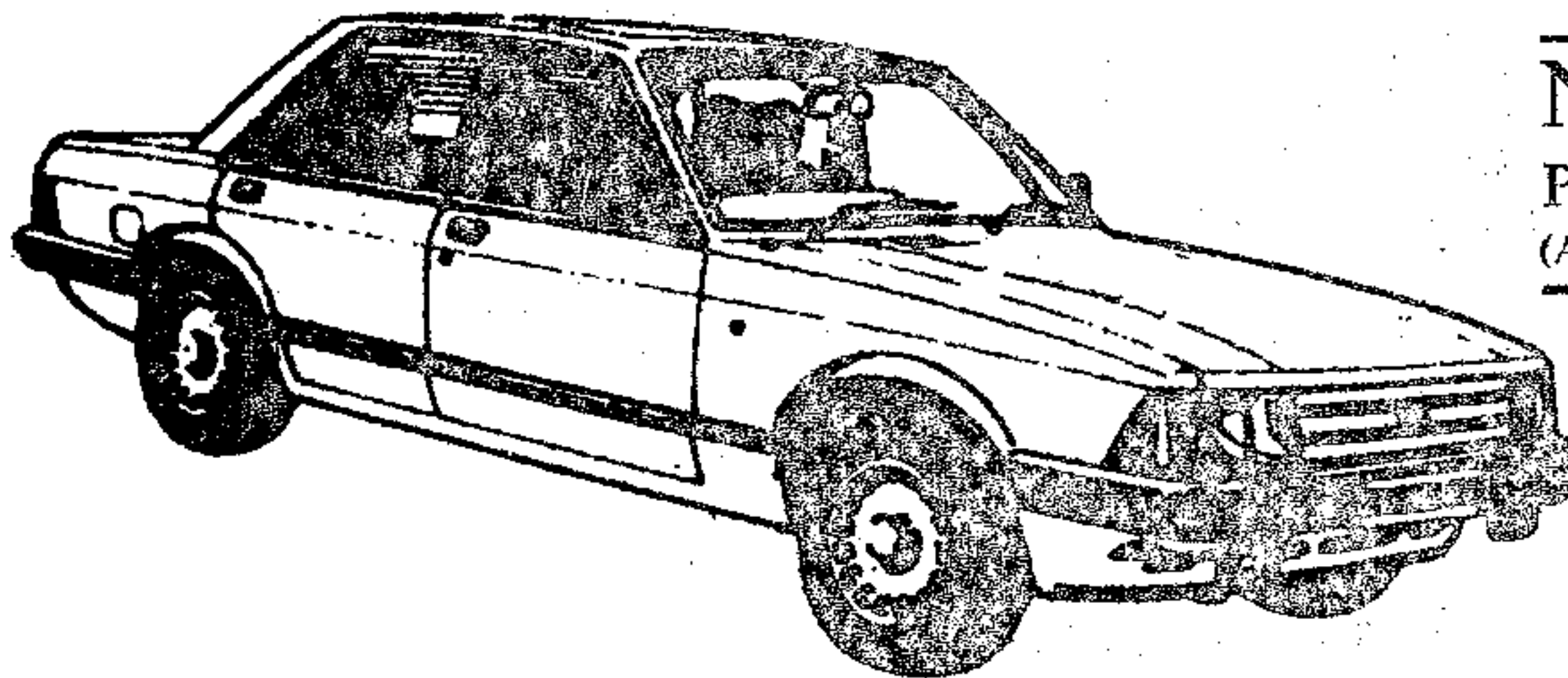


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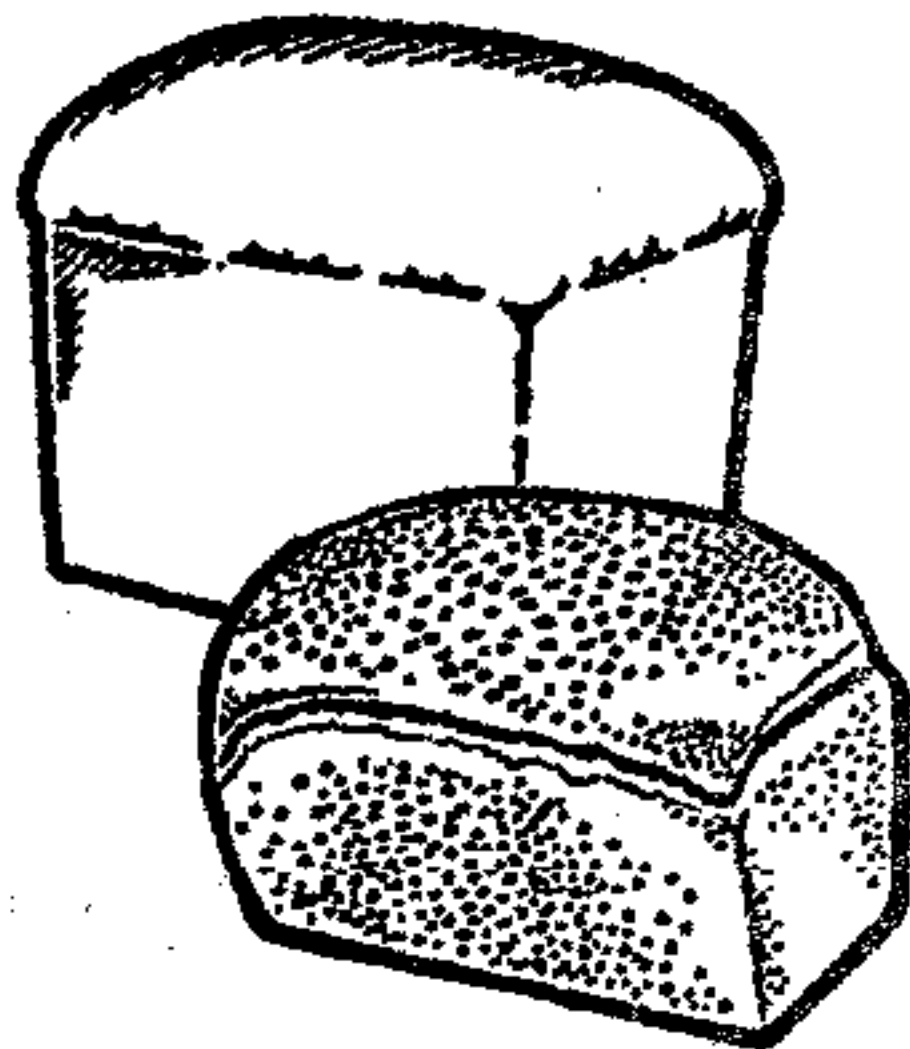
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