

HARRIETSHAM TIMES

News from August 1915

Induction of the Rev. H. de V. Watson

On Tuesday, August 3rd, the Rev. H. de V. Watson was inducted into the Rectory of Harrietsham by the Archdeacon of Maidstone the Ven. J. Maxwell Spooner. In spite of very inclement weather a good number of parishioners had gathered for the service, and the Clergy of the Rural Deanery were represented by the Rev. W. Gardner-Waterman, Vicar of Loose, and the Rev. H. R. Hughes, Vicar of Leeds, who read the Lessons.

The Rural Dean had intended to be present, but at the last moment was prevented from coming by the violent storms, and several of the neighbouring Clergy wrote that they were unable to come. Our band of ringers has been depleted by the War, but on this occasion Mr. Randall, the captain of the belfry, was able to secure the necessary number. We very much hope that old ringers will come forward again and that new younger ones will begin to learn the art, so that our beautiful old bells may not be silent owing to the absence of those who are serving their Country.

Anniversary of the Start of the War

A special service was held on Wednesday, August 4th in commemoration of the anniversary of the declaration of war with Germany. The Harrietsham section of the Kent Fencibles was present in uniform, and in spite of violent thunderstorms a

large number of people had assembled. After his address from the pulpit the Rector read the declaration of determination to continue the war to a successful conclusion, and the congregation signified their assent by uplifted arms.

Mothers' Union Outing

On Friday, August 20th, about 40 members had their summer outing. They assembled outside the school at 1.30 and packed into motorcars which conveyed them to Hayle Place, now a V.A.D. Hospital.

There, they were conducted through the war by Miss C. Marsham and they were much impressed by the excellence of the arrangements. They returned by Sandy Lane, where they saw Rev. E. Best-Dalison at the door of his Y.M.C.A. hut, surrounded by soldiers from the neighbouring Camp at Penenden Heath.

