

HARRIETSHAM TIMES

News from December 1915



Joint Memorial Service

A Memorial Service for George Parks and Walter Norris was held in the Parish Church at 4 p.m. on the 4th Sunday in Advent.

They worked together at Park Wood, enlisted at the same time at the outbreak of the war, were killed within a few weeks of one another, and their bodies lie buried in Flanders not more than a mile apart.

A large congregation assembled to do honour to their memory and show their sympathy with their relatives. The Harrietsham section of the Kent Fencibles were present in uniform, most of the members of the Working Men's Club, and the Band of Ringers, of whom George Parks used to be one, rung a muffled peal before and after the service.

Mr and Mrs Parks and Mr and Mrs Norris wish to return sincere thanks for the sympathy they have received in their bereavement.

Children's Christmas Party

A Children's Christmas Party was held in the school on Thursday 29th December, to which all children attending the Catechism Service or the Kindergarten were invited. After full justice had been done to an excellent tea the room was cleared for a short time and the curtains were drawn back showing a Christmas Tree, beautifully decorated and brightly lighted, from which presents were distributed to the children and also to the helpers. We have to thank many kind friends for subscriptions which enabled the children to have a very happy and enjoyable afternoon.

The attendance at Catechism is now distinctly good, 54 at Catechism and 26 at the Kindergarten. The latter is intended for children between 3 and 8 years. Mrs Watson would be glad to welcome any Mothers who would like to bring their little children and see what is done to interest and instruct them.

Last Day of Term at School

On the 23rd December, Mrs Buckingham, one of the school managers, visited the children and distributed the Late Major Buckingham gift of a sixpence to each child. This annual gift was a custom started by Major Buckingham in 1904