

HEENE

“O Light Invisible, we worship Thee !
We thank thee for the lights that we have kindled,
The light of altar and of sanctuary;
Small lights of those who meditate at midnight,
And lights directed through the coloured panes of windows,
And light reflected from the polished stone,
The gilded carven wood, the coloured fresco
O Light Invisible, we glorify Thee !”
(T.S. Eliot, 1888-1965)

A brief story of Heene

in the County of Sussex
Domesday - 1873 - 1993
Compiled by
Muriel G. Huxley-Williams

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To mark the occasion of the Centenary of St. Botolph's Church

Second edition 1993
With additional material by
Jacqueline Simpson
Irene Saxby
Neil Turner

It is always fascinating to me to learn about the past, to realise that for centuries people have lived, worked, prayed and played in the very place where we are tempted to think that we are the only people who ever mattered !

You will find this book a most interesting account of Heene Parish and I am very grateful to Miss Huxley-Williams for all the hard work she has put into producing it.

G.A. POTTER, M.A.
Rural Dean of Worthing
Heene Rectory, August 1973

I was presented with a copy of the book by Miss Huxley-Williams on the night I became Rector of Heene. I have consulted it many times since then. Some of you will have copies too, others of you will be reading the history of the Parish of Heene for the first time. All of us will want to thank Miss Jackie Simpson for her new material, particularly relating to the last twenty years, as well as Neil Turner and Irene Saxby for their contributions.

PETER R. ROBERTS
Rural Dean of Worthing
Heene Rectory, November 1993

I wish most gratefully to acknowledge the contribution made to this brief history by D. Robert Elleray, F.R.S.A., A.L.A., Borough Local Studies Librarian, with his two chapters "The Churches of Heene" and "The Modern St. Botolph's" and also with his generous assistance in the research. My thanks are also due to Mr. Henfrey Smail for permission to quote from his local histories, and to Lady Lauderdale for information about St. John's Church from her Story of St. John the Divine 1901-1951. This does not pretend to be a complete history, for the limitations of space preclude the writing up of many items of interest which have come to light during the research, and which, no doubt, will find their way into some future history of Heene.

M.G. H-W., August 1973

Second Edition

Additional material for 1973-1993 has been drawn from parish records. I am particularly grateful to Irene Saxby and Neil Turner, who contributed the sections on Heene School and the church choir, respectively, during that period.

J.S., August 1993

*"Where shall I begin, please, your Majesty?" he asked.
"Begin at the beginning," the King said gravely,
"and go on till you come to the end; then stop."
(Lewis Carroll)*

ANCIENT HEENE

The name HEENE is an ancient one, and since being recorded in Domesday Book as "Hene", has appeared in old documents spelt variously as Hayne, Hean, Heas, Heen, Heind, Heinde, Hen, Hey, Hyen, Hyn, Hyne.

The Anglo-Saxon word Hean or Heah means high, which we should hardly have expected to find in such a level district; unless, as has been supposed, the name implies that the old village was situated above the high water mark. In fact the old Chapel and its modern successor were built on a ridge 35 feet above sea level.

Heene began ecclesiastically as a "District" of the Parish of West Tarring, but during the 13th century there arose some doubt about its status resulting in much controversy and legal argument as to whether it was a "Parish" or a "District" (see page 6). In 1873, when the modern St. Botolph's Church was built, it finally became the "Parish of Heene"; and in 1890 Worthing was granted its Charter of Incorporation as a Borough, and the Parish of Heene became part of the Borough.

Two recorded stories, giving evidence of prehistoric Heene and of the Roman occupation, are worth including here. After a very severe storm at Heene and along the coast in 1842, there was an unusually low tide, and embedded in the mud about 200 yards from the beach opposite Heene Lane, was found a boat. It was described as "Ancient British" and "Pre-Roman", and was made from the trunk of an oak tree, measuring 18 feet long by 3 feet wide. Such boats are now dated to the Middle Stone Age. It had no metal fastenings, but ledges for seats, and footrests were left in the solid wood. Unfortunately this treasure has completely disappeared; possibly it is the same as a dug-out canoe long displayed in Worthing Museum.

Of the second story, there is more tangible evidence in existence. In the year 1901, some workmen digging a hole 6 feet deep for planting a tree at the junction of Mill Road and Grand Avenue, discovered a large sandstone with a Roman inscription giving the information that the stone was set up there in the early part of the 4th century A.D. to honour Constantine the Great. This historical treasure is now in the Lewes Castle Museum, and a cast of it is in Worthing Museum.

STUART ENCLOSURES

In Elizabethan times, Heene was a prosperous village of about 60 households, whose inhabitants had a large area of common land, plus orchards

from which they enjoyed the profits in common. Changes in farming methods, however, made the Lords of the Manor wish to enclose these lands, for greater profit. The villagers protested, and took their case to the Star Chamber, but after six years of wrangling, they lost their case. The commons were enclosed and the orchards uprooted; houses were smashed down, and the inhabitants evicted. It is thought that some built themselves hovels on the "Roughlands" just beyond the parish boundaries and called the area "Little Heene"; The Brunswick Inn was their tavern, and "Roughlands" became "Rowlands" Road. (See Chris Hare, *Historic Worthing: The Untold Story*).

A PLEASANT PLACE BY THE SEA

From all that can be gleaned about Heene as it was, we can build up a pleasant picture very far removed from the hustle and bustle of today.

A beautiful common called the Saltgrass formerly stretched for a considerable distance seaward from what is now the high water mark. But the sea, with no barriers to check its progress, continually encroached upon the land, and the common disappeared, leaving a green plateau out of reach of the waves, which formed a promenade during the summer months; although in rough weather it was sometimes made impassable by masses of shingle cast up by the waves.

The Reverend John Wood Warter, a vicar of West Tarring in 1834 to 1878, and author of *Parochial Fragments Relating to West Tarring*, describing an evening stroll to Heene, wrote "The path we took was by the seaside, one of my favourite walks, where there is a mile and a half of good green sward, running parallel with the rough shingle. It is a spot that Achilles might have chosen to beguile his grief - a spot which a saint might choose for holier meditation. Here often have I thought on time and eternity, death and judgment, the changes and chances of this mortal life, and the rest that remaineth for the people of God."

SEA ENCROACHMENT

On sea encroachment there have been many and varied descriptions and inconsistencies, but nevertheless there is some certainty that Heene did suffer much erosion over the centuries. Henfrey Smail, the local historian, has two interesting notes on the subject. Mr Smail quotes from a letter written by W. Bray, the Surrey historian, dated 3rd March, 1872, in which Mr. Bray writes: "In the year 1755 I was sent to enquire about a wreck which happened on the coast below Tarring, and which was claimed by the Lord of the Manor. The tenant went with me to the high water mark, and told me that when he was young (I do not remember his then age) they used to play cricket on the ground

on which we stood, and that the sea was then at such a distance that no-one ever struck a ball into it. Though so long ago as seventy-two years, I have a perfect recollection of what passed". Mr Smail wonders whether that is the first recorded evidence of cricket being played at Heene.

Mr Smail's second reference is to John Warter, who wrote: "The encroachment of the sea upon the parish of Heene is very great. Within twelve years the road to Worthing has twice been swallowed up, and full twelve yards of solid ground have passed into shingle between the Tarring Lane and the Heene Lane during the same period" (this was written in 1853, and it is interesting to note the reference to Heene as a "parish").

Mention of the sea reminds us that it has been recorded that a part of the Rector of Heene's stipend was paid in herrings - a tithe of the herrings caught off the coast being mentioned in the records as allocated to the clergy at Heene.

As long ago as 1587 there was a coastguard station and a signal post on the seashore with two beacons to give warnings in times of danger, and these were used when the invasion of the Spanish Armada was expected. Later a coastguard station known as the Western Watch Tower stood at the boundary of Heene and Worthing. According to Mr Smail, in 1826 the Officer in charge, one Lieutenant Seeworthy, scandalised the town by hoisting his washing in front of the building and was indignantly remonstrated with by the Commissioners for his impropriety.

BOTOLPH AND HEENE

After the Roman evacuation of Britain in the 5th Century, Heene would have come under the rule of the heathen invaders, and the Kingdom of the South Saxons was formed. Such of the inhabitants who could get away would probably have fled to the west as refugees. In course of time the Saxon population became more tolerant, and early in the 7th Century a small Monastery was established at Bosenham or Bosham, four miles from Chichester. The monks tried, unsuccessfully, to convert the heathen Saxons, who showed no desire either to listen to the Gospel or to follow the Christian way of life. Indeed, the South Saxons proved to be the most obdurate of the English invaders and were the last tribe to be converted.

One day, that small monastery received a school pupil named Botolph, who had fled from his East Anglian home after an attack from King Penda of Mercia. Botolph finished his education at Bosenham and joined the Benedictine Order.

With his brother Adulph, he went as a missionary to Belgic Gaul. Adulph became Bishop of Maastricht, but in 654 Botolph returned to his native Ikanhoe in East Anglia, where he eventually became Abbot of his own Monastery. Later he made many missionary journeys to the South Saxons, whom he never forgot, and did much effective evangelical work among them. (It was, however, St. Wilfred who completed the work of conversion. He took refuge from his enemies among the heathen South Saxons, and laboured for six years with self-sacrifice and zeal to "bring those ignorant and barbaric people to a knowledge of the faith." At last, at the end of the 7th Century, his efforts were crowned with success.) St. Wilfred became the first bishop of the Diocese of Selsey.

Whether Botolph ever came to Heene is not known, but the inhabitants evidently had good reason to be thankful for his ministry, for the little church or chapel was one of four in Sussex called by his name. He died around 680; he and his brother share the same feast day, 17 June. He was a popular saint in the Middle Ages, when many churches were dedicated to him; most are on the sea or on navigable rivers, so he may have been regarded as a patron saint of ships or of trade.

It is recorded that "The Will of John Stammer of Hyne of date 10th May 1543 contains a clause directing that his body be buried in the churchyard of St. Andrew's, West Tarring, and another clause bequeathing to St. Botolph's in Hyne 12d. for the painting." This Will of 1543 affords testimony that the Old Chapel of Heene bore the name of Botolph.

*"Five decades hardly modified the cut of a gaiter, the embroidery of a smock, by the breadth of a hair. Ten generations failed to alter the turn of a single phrase. . . the busy outsider's ancient times are only old ; his times are still new ; his present futurity."
(Thomas Hardy, 1840-1928)*

THE CHURCHES OF HEENE

The first church at Heene was almost certainly a building of Saxon date, and it is reasonable to suppose that the "chapel" mentioned in Domesday as being in the parish of Terringes [West Tarring] was at Heene. The status of "chapel" as opposed to church was the issue in a dispute between the 13th Century holders of the Manor of Heene, William de Whitanston [Wiston] and Robert le Faucover and Edmund Rich, Archbishop of Canterbury. The advowson of the "church of Hen" was claimed by the Lords of the Manor, which, they said,

had descended to them from Ralph, ancestor of William, and Sibilla, ancestor of Robert, in the time of Henry II. The case is noted in Selden's History of Tythes ". . . whereas the defendant pretended it to be a Chapell only, the issue was not so much whether it was Church or Chapell, as whether it had Baptisterium or Sepulturam (rights of baptism and burial) or no: so it appears in a case of r Hen. 3, where William of Whitanston in his court against the Archbishop of Canterbury, expresses, Ecclesiam de Hey (Heene) in Sussex to be of his Advowson, and the Archbishop pleads that what he calls a Church, non est Ecclesiam, imo Capella pertinens ad matriem Ecclesiam de Terringes, ita quod non est ibe Baptisterium neque Sepultura. . . ." In reply, William and Robert answered that it was not a chapel, but a mother church, even though neither Baptisms nor Burials took place there at that time but that baptisms had always been celebrated there until the time of Archbishop Stephen Langton (1207). They admitted that it was not customary to bury there. Unfortunately the roll containing the findings in this case is lost.

Thomas W. Horsfield, in 1835, remarks: "Like Durrington, though a distinct parish, maintaining its own poor, and having its own parochial officers, yet [Heene] is regarded as an appendage or chapelry of Tarring". About twenty years later, the Rev. Arthur Hussey, in his Notes on churches in the counties of Kent Sussex and Surrey, writes: "... Heene was merely a chapelry, it being admitted in the reign of King Henry II [1154-1189], that it has never been customary to bury, though it was asserted that baptisms had always been celebrated there up to a previous specified period."

Some time during the 14th or 15th centuries the chapel was rebuilt and part of the east end of this structure survives as a small ruin close to the chancel of the modern church. John Wood Warter, Vicar of West Tarring, commented in 1853 "As regards the chapel itself, all that remains may be seen in the annexed engraving Nothing whatever is known of the time when it was built, and the crumbling ruin gives no clue to it. The only portion yet standing is a part of the east end, not more than sixteen feet wide. It seems perfectly inexcusable that it should have been allowed to fall to decay. When the indifference to its existence as a separate place of worship first commenced is not clear, but probably it was about 1700. The faculty for taking it down was granted in August 1766. It is stated that duty had not been done there for some time when the permission was granted. My old parishioner, Daniel Monk, told me that when he was a boy Divine Service was held there once in three weeks, and that he very well remembered Mr. Cutler's uncle being married there; but he added that the fabric was then in a very dilapidated state. The person alluded to is thus entered in the [West Tarring] Register: '1747. Wiliam Penfold and Ann Dodson. June 2nd'."

As Warter says, there is no extant record of the chapel's construction, but careful examination of the ruin does provide a few clues, and it seems likely that the chalk stone and knapped flint work are of about 1400. The Rev. A. Hussey remarks: "A small portion of the east end of the church yet remains, exhibiting a fragment of piscina. This is not sufficient evidence to judge satisfactorily of the style of the building, except that it was not very early". By the middle of the 18th Century, then, the chapel had fallen into considerable disrepair, becoming, according to local farmers, a danger to grazing cattle. The result was, as indicated in the extracts, that a faculty was issued in August 1766 for the demolition of the building. The demolition seems, however, to have been a somewhat desultory affair, possibly amounting only to the removal of some of the fabric for building and repair in the vicinity, as was the case at Durrington Chapel some hundred years before. In addition to the fragmentary nature of documentary evidence concerning Heene Chapel, there is also a dearth of pictorial evidence about the building. The following is a list of illustrations of the site so far traced:-

(1) James Lambert, junr. A view dated 1778. Shows a large part of the east window, the whole of the east wall, part of the north wall and part of the west wall and doorway. "Signed Jas. Lambert Jnr." B M Add MSS 5673, fo.63 and 5677 fo.69.

(2) A.H. Grimm. A view entitled "Ruins of Heene Chapel". Signed "A.H. Grimm fecit., June 5th 1790." Shows ruins somewhat diminished compared with Lambert.

(3) An anonymous sketch dated 1804.

(4) W.E. Partridge. A small watercolour sketch (7" x 10 1/2") taken from the north, dated 1841. Shows the ruin much as it is at present, and also the Farm (demolished 1971), with cattle, labourers, and the sea in the distance. Clearly indicates the large mound on which the chapel stood. Worthing Museum. (See Plate 3)

(5) H. Syms. A sketch of Heene Farm and ruins, undated. (See Plate 2)

These illustrations and the forgoing texts amount to all that is known about the Chapel of Heene. Of the Saxon church there is some doubt that it stood on this site at all. In this connection must be mentioned the theory that the original church was sited to the south of the hamlet and subsequently destroyed owing to the extensive erosion by the sea at this point. Systematic excavation

of the mound site has never been undertaken.

POST MORTEM

There appears to be no record of what became of the pews and pulpit from the old chapel after it fell into decay, but about some other items there is a little information.

The Font was kept for a long time in the garden of the adjacent farmhouse. Later it was used as a flower-stand in another nearby garden, by this time much broken. Later still, the bowl of the font stood in the garden of a house where Mrs Beckles, widow of the first Rector of Heene, lived. This house afterwards became St. Botolph's Lodge, in Richmond Road. When Mrs. Beckles moved, in 1910, she offered the bowl to the church, and it was placed with the ruins of the chapel, where it remains to this day.

The Chalice and Paten were kept for a long time at the farmhouse, but all trace of them has now been lost.

The Chapel Bell, which rang for services, was last heard of in 1853, as being in the possession of a Mr. Butler, of Warminghurst, who used it as a dinner bell.

The keys of the chapel were described as "rusty old things, worth nobody's having".

The last Wedding in the chapel took place on 2nd June 1747, the last Baptism on 22nd December 1751, and tradition has it that the last service was conducted, in 1764, by a crazy lawyer named Burt.

Before we leave this sad story, a curious coincidence might be of interest. In a letter dated 15th September 1962, dictated (because of near blindness) by Mrs. M. Garbett, daughter of the first Rector of the new St. Botolph's Church (1873 - 1892), we find this comment : "My father . . . became interested in the old St. Botolph's ruins and discovered (I don't know how) that its last priest was an ancestor of my mother, Miss Dodson. . . ." In the section, "The Churches of Heene", Mr. Ellery notes that the last Wedding referred to was between "William Penfold and Ann Dodson".

IN THE PARISH OF WEST TARRING

Some references have been found to a "Heene Parsonage". Although

there is no certain evidence as to where this stood, it is believed to have been the house which later became the Croft Farmhouse (or Bushby's). Whether or not this is so, the reference to a parsonage suggests that there was a resident chaplain at Heene, whose duties would be to take the Sunday Services, celebrate the Holy Communion, and preach a sermon once a month (or less), and to minister at baptisms and marriages. During the periods when there was not a chaplain in residence the Vicars of West Tarring were responsible for the spiritual needs of the inhabitants of Heene, and it appears that they usually sent their assistant clergy to perform the duties.

Between the years 1282 and 1845 there were both Rectors and Vicars of West Tarring. The Rector was in full possession of the tithes of the parish, and for some time the Archbishops of Canterbury were Rectors of West Tarring; being non-resident, they appointed Vicars in their place who were duly charged with the cure of souls. In 1845 the Ecclesiastical Commissioners held the incumbency.

The Vicars of West Tarring were not always acceptable to the people of Heene. There is a story told of the Reverend William Stanley, Vicar from 1638 to 1648, being charged with neglect, having failed to arrange the services in Heene Chapel over a period of three years. It was complained that he seldom officiated himself, and that on occasions when he had done so he could not be heard. It appears that he was too much involved in politics, siding with King Charles II against the Republican party. Many of the parishioners, both at Tarring and at Heene, were sympathisers of the Republicans. Thus, there was a serious clash between Vicar and people. Stanley left the parish in 1648 and no one officiated at Heene for over a year. Oliver Cromwell appointed Richard Meggott in 1655 and the Book of Common Prayer was forbidden.

It is of interest to note that as a result of a religious census taken in Sussex, in the year 1674, the returns for Heene showed that, of persons of sixteen years of age and over, there were nineteen conformists, two papists, and no non-conformists.

SOME OLD REGISTERS

Canon L.P. Smith, in his "Story of Heene", notes some interesting items from Heene's old registers:

In an old paper register belonging to West Tarring, there are three entries for Heene as early as the year 1550, but entries in Heene's own register did not begin until 1594, and they ceased in 1751. The Chapel was then in such

a dilapidated state that the people had to go to the Mother Church of St. Andrew's, West Tarring, and all entries for Heene were from that time made in the West Tarring register. Heene's oldest registers were kept unused in the Tarring iron chest for safety, until they were returned to Heene in 1958.

Heene's old register covers a period of one hundred and fifty-seven years. It consists of twenty-two leaves (of which the last two are blank) stitched into a parchment cover. The entries begin on the inside cover, the first being a marriage, May 20th, 1594. On the outside is the following title, in four lines, inscribed in Old English Characters:-

"The register boke of heene
for chystings Weddings and
Buryalls from the XXth Daye
of Mayo Anno Domi 1594."

The five entries for 1594 are signed by "Robert Evans, Minister ther", and by the two Churchwardens. The one entry in the last year 1751, is a Baptism 22nd December, and is signed by "Wm. Albright, Curate", who signed the register for the 28 years 1723 to 1751.

The register contains only six hundred and six entries for the whole period of one hundred and fifty-seven years. These being two hundred and seventy-nine "Chystings", seventy-seven Marriages, and two hundred and fifty "Buryalls". The population of Heene was small in those days, but for some years there are no entries at all, either because there were none to enter, or because of neglect to enter.

PIRATES AND SMUGGLERS

Heene, in common with most places along the South Coast, was troubled from time to time by attacks from Pirates, mainly from France. The raiders, guided by the spire of West Tarring Church, plundered the villages in the absence of the men at the distant Broadwater market, wounded or killed those who resisted, and sometimes carried off prisoners. In 1444 A.D. the inhabitants petitioned King Henry VI to grant a charter for the villages of Heene and West Tarring to hold markets of their own on Saturdays to enable all to be on hand to defend their homes in case of attack.

This was granted in the following words :

". whereas we are informed in the humble petition of our beloved subjects situate near the sea, that they at various times do sustain and

suffer great injury both in their persons and goods from our enemies of France and from other parts; they are in terror lest their village should be ransackd and their goods taken. We have granted a market for themselves and their successors every week to be holden at the aforesaid village on Saturdays”.

Smuggling went on in the neighbourhood until much more recently than the raids. A reminder of this is a road named “Smugglers Walk”, near the west boundary of the parish. Many a cottage and inn had cellars and underground passages which served as hiding places where smuggled goods could be stored before despatch to London and elsewhere. One such was The Sportsmans’ Inn in Heene Lane (see page 14), which was probably the last house in the area to have a secret passage leading to the sea, and another house to the north of Heene Lane, which later became a school named “Heene Academy”, was also believed to have had an underground passage.

SOCIAL OCCASIONS

In the records covering the 16th Century, allusions are made to social gatherings called “Church Ales”. These were Annual Parish Festivals for which a band of “Mynstrylles” was employed, with violins or guitars and a “Drowme Player” (big drum). These Church Ales brought together parishioners from Heene and West Tarring for an afternoon and evening’s enjoyment. Some profit was usually made which the Churchwardens, who managed the socials, put to the Church Expenses Fund. In 1562 the Churchwardens of St. Andrew’s West Tarring, attended a Church Ale at Heene at the invitation of the Chapel Wardens, for which they paid 6d. for the privilege and enjoyment.

HEENE IN THE 19th CENTURY

The population of Heene appears to have fluctuated from time to time, and sea encroachment led to a decline both in size and population over a long period.

In 1801 there were sixteen houses and a population of a hundred and one, contained in an area bounded by Tarring Lane, now Wallace Avenue, on the west, a footpath to Goring, and the Teville Stream, now running underground, on the north, and the eastern boundary was a line approximately where Norfolk Street now is to the Coastguard Station on the seashore. Two farms, Bushby’s and the Church (or Heene) farm, occupied most of the land, the rest being market gardens, fields, and a common.

Bushby’s Farmhouse stood to the north of Heene Lane, facing what is now Chaucer Road. This house, put up for auction in 1927 and not reaching the

reserve price, was demolished in 1932; tradition says it was once "Heene Parsonage", on which was an inscription "The sea has gained six perchs on this coast since 1699."

Heene Farmhouse, the Manor House, was situated to the south-west, in a lane which led past the ruins of the Chapel into Heene Lane, where it joined the path to Goring, now Mill Road. The Manor House, having been altered and repaired in the 1890's, stood on the same site until it was demolished early in 1973, when flats were erected. Between Heene Farm and the sea was a stretch of open land called Heene Common, on which sheep grazed, and to the west towards Tarring Lane were the market gardens.

Most of the houses were situated on the east side of Heene Lane and can be identified. If we start at the coast end, the first house was the Sportsman's Inn, on the site where Heene Lodge now stands, which most certainly was a rendezvous for the smugglers, complete with large cellars and secret passages (see page 11). To the north of this was "Clump Square", for which we have two descriptions - "a collection of mean little houses", and "a dirty square building with a court in the centre which was inhabited by the roughs and drunks of the village". Whichever description is accurate, it must have been an unpleasant spot marring an otherwise attractive village; it was demolished at the end of the 19th Century and a Police Station and the Heene Rooms (in 1898) were built. The Police Station was later taken over for a Road Wardens' Headquarters, now demolished.

Continuing northwards, we come to a large house called The Lawn, which later became The Croft, which is still standing. A short distance further north was a footpath leading to Worthing (now Richmond Road), on the corner of which stood Heene Cottage, now No. 73, then Heene House on the site of which No. 138 Heene Road now stands. Towards the latter part of the 19th Century this house was used as a school called "Heene Academy" or Holt School, and later, when it was demolished, it, too, was found to have cellars and secret passages believed to have been used by smugglers. There is also a tradition that a Monastery stood somewhere in the vicinity, but there is no evidence for this.

A Toll (or Ticket) House stood at what would now be the west end of Cowper Road. This was used in coaching days, and known as Heene Gate. At this time the Commissioners were empowered to levy a coal duty on all coals coming into Heene. Officials known as Coal Meters were appointed to undertake the collection of this duty. In 1830 one Joseph Saunders was appointed to the Heene toll-bar, which was said to have stood until 1906.

Heene Mill, from which Mill Road takes its name, and which was demolished in 1903, stood a little to the east of where the modern house "Pevrill" now stands. It was served by a footpath leading to Goring. There had been a Mill on this site as early as 1587, when it was also used as a signal post. In Tarring Lane there was a barn (on the site of which is now a garage) called Wallace's Barn, whose owner was thought to have been the miller. Mrs. Garbett writes: "I well remember Mill Road when it was fields and the old Mill which was still working, as we used to fetch sacks of chicken feed . . . where Grand Avenue now is there was a row of one-storied wood shacks, all tarred black. I fancy they were to do with the brick fields or perhaps the fishermen's cottages."

The foregoing description shows Heene during the 19th Century as a fairly typical Sussex village of the period, with one notable exception. Sadly it had no place of worship of its own, the nearest being the distant Parish Church of West Tarring. This situation, however, was to be changed during the next two decades. Before we see how this came about, a note of some figures might be of interest:

SOME DETAILS OF HEENE'S RATES FOR THE RELIEF OF THE POOR

Amounts of Rates collected 1813-1872:

1813 - £116.00

1815 - £179.00

1814 - £117.00

1821 - £134.00

The Rates per £:

1840 - 1843 it was 6d. in the £.

1844 - 1850 it was 1/- in the £.

These figures are not significant in themselves, but their very existence is evidence that Heene was an important district in its own right, possessing its own Overseers of the Poor, arranging its own Poor Rate, assessing its own Ratepayers etc. Whereas Worthing was still only a hamlet in the ancient Parish of Broadwater, and did not have a Church of its own until 1812, and then only a 'Chapel of Ease' to Broadwater Church (the present St. Paul's Church in Chapel Road).

Returning briefly to earlier times we find that the original owner of the Manor Heene was William de Braose, Lord of Bramber, to whom it was given by William I as a reward for his help and loyalty in the Norman Invasion. Since

that time the Manor has passed, either by sale or inheritance, from person to person until it came into the possession of William Westbrooke Richardson in 1830. It was he who sold the greater part of the Manor to a business syndicate for development as a residential area. Then began Heene's modern period.

"The old order changeth, yielding place to new,
And God fulfils himself in many ways."
(Alfred Lord Tennyson, 1809-1892)

THE MODERN ST. BOTOLPHS

In September 1872 on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone, the Brighton Daily News gave details of the church: 'The style is Gothic, faced with flint on the outside and cased with brick on the inside. The West Wall is so built that it can be taken down at any time to enlarge the church . . . The chancel arch will be red moulded brick and all the arches [arcade] will be of the same material, moulded by special design. The inner moulding will be in chalk. . . the windows with dressings and the columns will be in Bath stone. . .' In fact, the exterior of St. Botolph's with its combination of red brick and large 'unarranged' slightly trimmed local flint is a distinctive type of late 19th century Sussex building and especially of a quite numerous range of buildings constructed in Worthing during the period 1860-1910, such as St. Matthew's, Tarring Road (1898), the Baptist Church, Christchurch Road (1880) and the Methodist Church (demolished 1958), Chapel Road.

A list of subscribers appeared in the Brighton Gazette as follows:

Heene Estates Co.	Site and	£700
Mrs Coomber		£500
Incorporated Soc. for the building & Enlarging of Churches		£105
W. Burchell, Esq.		£105
H. Harwood [?], Esq.		£105
West Mansion [?]		£105

In 1835 Horsfield, History of Sussex, Vol. 2, p.192 wrote of Heene "Within the last few years, owing to the increase of its fashionable neighbour [Worthing], several good and commodious lodging houses have been built here, and bathing machines have been established for the use of visitors . It is to Worthing what Rottingdean is to Brighton, a calm retreat from the garish bustle of a fashionable watering place". Although 'garish bustle' sounds rather an odd description of early 19th century Worthing, it is a fact that the rapid growth of the town during the years 1840-1880 with the consequent engulfing

of the tiny hamlet of Heene directly led to the need for a new church. In 1864 the Heene Estate Land Company which had been formed, based upon the conditions of the West Worthing Improvement Act 1865, for local development was sold to the West Worthing Investment Co. Ltd. with a condition laid down relating to the construction of a new church: 'William Westbrooke Richardson of Brighton (formerly of Findon Place) sold to Cyrus Alexander Elliott of Elm Villa, Broadwater [and others] . . . 310 acres of land for the sum of £35,000 on condition that the purchasers shall within five years of that date erect a complete church on a site according to such designs and materials that shall be prescribed . . .'

The shareholders of the Company proved themselves extremely generous for they not only gave the land for the new church, but in addition, an adjoining site for a vicarage, a separate plot a little to the southwest for a graveyard, and £700 towards building the church itself. A building Committee was formed in 1872 and an appeal launched which provided enough capital to commence building towards the end of that year. The architect chosen to design the church was well known in Sussex - Edmund E. Scott of Brighton. Nicholas Taylor, *Architectural Review*, Jan.-July 1965, p. 127, describes him as: ". . . essentially a Sussex man working out High Victorian ideas in terms of flint and timber and the local purplish stock brick laced with bright red dressings of 'imported' 'kiln brick'. Scott's masterpiece was St. Bartholomew's, Brighton, which shows the influence of early Gothic brickwork, and it is of considerable interest that St. Botolph's was begun in the same year as St. Bartholomew's and has, as Nicholas Taylor says, '. . . some similarities in the use of clean cut unhampered brick detail . . .'

By the summer of 1873 a chancel and three-bay nave with aisles and transepts had been completed providing seats for some 300 people. The construction was carried out by Messrs. Nash & Co. of Brighton and cost £2,600. The foundation stone was laid on the 12th of September 1872, by the Rev. John Wood Warter of Tarring assisted by the Rev. Beckles, curate of the Chapel of Ease, later St. Paul's. The following account of the ceremony appeared in the Brighton Daily News for September 13th 1872: 'The Church is to be built on the site of the old church. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. J.R. Warters [sic], B.D. of Tarring, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Beckles, curate of the Chapel of Ease. After the prayer the choristers of the Chapel of Ease sang the 84th Psalm. The Rev. Warter then delivered a short and appropriate address . . . Messrs. E. Nash & Co. of Brighton have undertaken the contract, at about £2,000. The seating accommodation is for 350 people. The size of the nave is 49 feet in the clear - the chancel will be about 32 feet. The [open] pews will be [of deal] stained and polished, with sloping backs. The

windows with dressings and columns will be of Bath stone. The chancel will have a fancy cresting, with slate roof, the timber being stained and varnished. The architect is Mr. E. E. Scott of Brighton . . . the weather was splendidly fine . . . About 150 people present.'

The Consecration of the partly completed church, together with that of the Burial ground in St. Michael's Road, was performed by the Bishop of Chichester, Dr. Durnford, on September 29th 1873. The Sussex Daily News for October 30th 1873 has the following account: 'The Petition for Consecration was presented to the Bishop who delivered it to the Registrar to be read aloud. After the ceremony there was a public breakfast at 3 p. m. at the Assembly Rooms, West Worthing, the catering being done by Mr. Giffard of the West Worthing Hotel. The same evening a full choral service was held at St. Botolph's and the Rev. A. M. Lucklock, M.A., of Jesus College, Cambridge, preached the sermon.' The exact position of the foundation stone, and whether or not it was inscribed, is not recorded, and has not been traced. The complete Church as designed by Scott was not fully realised until 1879 when the west end of the nave, tower and spire were completed, increasing the seating capacity by some 300. Brief descriptions of the completion and subsequent enlargement are noted in the entries under Heene in editions of Kelly's Sussex Directory published during the period:-

1874 'The church consists of a chancel, nave aisles and transepts, and a bell tower with 1 bell.'

1878 'The church is now being lengthened, a tower and spire are also about to be added at the S.W. corner and will together be about 150' feet high.'

1905 'The church was enlarged in 1878 at a cost of about £6,850 and again in 1904-5 at a cost of about £2,000.

It was in fact only a short time before the completion became a matter of urgency owing to the continuing growth of the population plus the seasonal influx of visitors to the locality. There were frequent complaints about the absence of sittings for the local parishioners and the Churchwardens made several attempts to obtain permission to allot seats to residents but the Bishop remained adamant that all sittings should remain free and unappropriated.

In 1903 it was decided that enlargement should be put in hand and the well known Worthing architect R. Singer Hyde was commissioned to carry out the work, the contractors being the local firm of F. Sandell. The Petition for the necessary Faculty (see facsimile) dated 27th July 1903, states that the

'Petitioners are desirous of making certain alterations restorations and additions of in and about the Parish Church of St. Botolph's of Heene . . . and enlarging same'. The actual nature of the alterations are given : ' . . . to remove the north and south aisles and erect new aisles double the width of the present. To make three new entrances with inner swing doors with external doors opening outwards. To take down old, and rebuild nave and enlarge chancel. Transepts, Vestries etc. - To refloor with wooden blocks except portion of Chancel to be laid with tiles and to make other minor alterations . . .' The Petition was signed by J.P.Fallows, Ernest W. Bennett and Harry C.B. Gibbs, Churchwardens. Had the plans outlined in this Petition been fully carried out Heene Church would have become very large (seating was already 1,100) even for the rate of urban expansion then going on in the West Worthing area. However, for reasons not explained, but perhaps owing to lack of capital, only half the enlargement was ever executed although the report in the Sussex Daily News of June 1905 confirms the original intentions to enlarge the north side of the church: ' . . . enlargements have given [St. Botolph's] a somewhat lopsided appearance . . . it is the intention to enlarge the north side to match . . .' The lopsidedness has continued and has become a distinguishing characteristic. At this period the size of the building began to impress visitors, and we find the Sussex Daily News (1911) referring to 'The lofty cathedral-like church of St. Botolph at West Worthing. The doubling of the width of the south aisle to twenty feet made the construction of a separate pitched roof necessary, together with three much enlarged buttresses along its south wall to take the increased thrust. The south transept was extended about eleven feet southwards and about the same distance eastwards bringing its east wall almost into alignment with the east end of the Chancel; the section of the south wall of the Chancel together with a traceried window remained in situ, enclosed by the new outer wall. The work cost in the region of £2,000 and was completed in time for Easter 1905.

After the 1914-18 War the decline in church-going increased and the necessity for enlarging St. Botolph's was no longer felt. In 1935, the south transept was converted into a Chapel and an altar designed by W. H. R. Blacking (costing £428), was constructed against the south wall. It is used for weekday services and contains the Reserved Sacrament. In 1938 a small flat-roofed 'second vestry' was built at the east end of the vestry of 1905. In 1963 the broach spire was completely renovated and re-shingled at a cost of £4,000 but unfortunately in the process the four spire lights or small decorative dormers which were such a typically Victorian feature of Scott's design, were removed, altering the balance of the spire's proportions.

Also in the 1960's the interior walls of the chancel were painted white,

obliterating the rich ornamental brickwork which had originally formed a setting for the High Altar (see Plate 8).

Some changes were made to the internal layout of St. Botolph's in 1980. A small wooden porch just inside the main door was removed, and the whole space beneath the tower was transformed into a large entrance area. This entailed blocking the archway leading into the south aisle, and setting glass doors into the one leading into the nave. Several pews were removed at the back of the church, and also others just in front of the pulpit and lectern, giving more space at each end of the building. This is particularly appreciated during Baptisms, processions and the Easter Liturgy. The church was also carpeted, which contributes towards its peaceful and prayerful atmosphere.

In 1984 the main altar and that in the Lady Chapel were moved slightly forward, so that the celebrant can face the congregation during the Eucharist.

In 1982 an extension known as the St. Botolph Rooms was built against the north wall of the church alongside the existing vestry. Two windows in the north aisle of the church were enlarged into doorways giving direct access to these rooms, which are much used for meetings of parish organisations, social gatherings, the Children's Church and so on. The outer walls of this extension are faced with large flints and brickwork, in a style similar to that of the church walls. The architect was Robert Brough, and the work carried out by a local firm, Edward Snewin and Son. It was made possible by a generous bequest from Mrs Winifred Deakin.

THE BELLS AND CLOCK

In 1880 shortly after the completion of the tower 8 bells were acquired and hung. They were all given by various local people connected with the parish. The bells are inscribed thus:-

(1) Treble. Cast by John Warner & Sons London Sept 1879 / The gift of William Burchell / 5 Broad Sanctuary Westminster.

(2) Cast by John Warner & Sons London Sept 1879 / To the Glory of God / Given by the worshippers / at St. Botolph's Heene / 1879.

(3) Cast by John Warner & Sons London Sept 1879 / The gift of Mrs Loder - Worthing / Te Deum Laudamus.

(4,5,6 &7) All inscribed cast by John Warner & Sons London.

(8) Tenor bell. (10+ cwt .). Cast by John Warner & Sons London Sept 1879 / Presented to St. Botolph's Church - Heene / by George Jonathan Mills / All worship be to God only.

The bells are hung in a frame, the 3rd and 4th bells being at the upper level. Soon after the new bells were installed a team of bellringers was formed and soon distinguished themselves under E.H. Lindup who became Captain in 1896, ten years after he joined the team, and celebrated his Diamond Jubilee as a ringer in 1946. In the southwest corner of the nave there is a brass plate mounted on wood commemorating: '10 successful years of change ringing 1897-1907 during which the County Association Challenge Bell was won five times by the Heene Ringers. . . '

John Warner & Sons also supplied bells to the churches of Broadwater (old 6th), and St. Mary of the Angels, Worthing. The Warners were a Quaker family and their brass foundry was established in Wood Street, Cheapside, c1740. Between 1858 and 1920 the firm supplied some 184 bells for Sussex Churches.

Elphick, Sussex Bells and Belfries, 1970, mentions a reference in Quartermain's West Sussex Churches that Heene Chapel had an A frame for a single bell. There seems to be no record to confirm the '1 bell in a tower' referred to in the Sussex Directory 1874, p.2,787. Reference to a contemporary photograph taken by a local photographer T.D. Green in 1873, clarifies this point however, for it shows the church under construction and indicates a small stone bell gable for a single bell at the west end of the nave roof.

There appears to be no record of the installation of the clock but the inscription on the mechanism reads 'Thwaites & Reed / London 1884', which indicates a period of about five years between the completion of the tower and the arrival of the clock. The single dial with arabic numerals is on the south side of the tower. It strikes the hours, half hours and quarters; it was electrified in 1975, having previously been wound daily.

In 1978 and 1982 repairs were made to the woodwork of the bell-wheels and frames, and some brickwork in the tower was repointed. This work was done by the bellringers' team (Captain of the Tower, Peter Wood), assisted by a grant from the Sussex Bell Restoration Fund.

MUSIC AT HEENE

An account in the Sussex Daily News of the Consecration Service of the newly built St. Botolph's Church contains the following paragraph: "The proper psalms were chanted by the choir numbering about thirty voices, who also sang the Anthem, Solomon's Prayer, very effectively: the Service was in fact full choral. It may here be mentioned that the choir has been organised only two months, and credit is therefore due to the organist, Mr. J.G. Smith, for his training capabilities in the capacity of choir master."

In 1891 in a report in the local press of the Harvest Thanksgiving Service, we read: "... Choral Communion followed under the direction of Mr. A. Boyse, F.R.C.O., the organist; the reputation which St. Botolph's has gained for the efficiency of its musical arrangements was fully maintained."

On 4th May 1892, the occasion of the institution of the Reverend Edgar Lambert, it was recorded that: "... a short form of morning prayer was proceeded with, the musical portion being effectively rendered by the choir under the direction of the organist, Mr. A. Boyse." (This 'shortened form of morning prayer' contained two very long lessons and three psalms.)

The foregoing extracts give evidence of the interest shown in music during the first years of the church. Indeed, the Annual Accounts for the period reveal a high proportion of the income of the parish being used for its provision, a typical example being the accounts for the year 1875 which includes the following items:

	£	s.	d.
Organist	50	0	0
Choir	13	9	7
Hire of harmonium and choir practice room	10	15	0

This was a little more than a third of the total expenditure which was £203.13.0 and the "balance to Rector" that year was £128.18.63/4.

It is not clear whether the harmonium mentioned was used for the services but it was not until 1881 that the church had its first organ. Built by Whitely Brothers of Chester, Mr A. Boyse said of it, "the organ was well built structurally, and all the pipes good, but the pneumatic work very early went wrong; it was very faulty, and gradually got so bad as to make the organ unplayable for the church service." In 1893 Walker and Sons carried out the necessary rebuilding and enlargement so effectively that, apart from tuning,

it was not until 1909 that a further renovation became necessary, and was again carried out by Walker and Sons. Of this work Mr. Boyse reported, "The organ will be much improved all round: in tone, convenience of handling, and in greater promptness of speaking, of the pedal pipes. The two new stops, with quite a different quality to anything in the organ at present, will be a new feature to us in tone and colour." This organ was to serve the church for many years to come, during Mr. Boyse's life-time and for long afterwards.

The story of 'Music at Heene' under Mr. Boyse's direction, cannot be dealt with adequately in a few words. We must be content with recording that Mr A. Boyse, F.R.C.O., became organist of St. Botolph's Church in 1886, and continued in that capacity until his death in 1940; fifty-four years of devoted service giving pleasure to many and inspiring worshippers. A truly remarkable achievement.

Charles William Hide was appointed organist in 1940, and continued devotedly to provide a high standard of music for seventeen years. In 1960 a stained glass window was placed in the church as a memorial by his family.

The organ of 1909 proved to be indomitable, functioning for longer than ought to have been expected. By 1950 it was beginning to show visible and audible signs of 'wear and tear'. However, the organists of this period, first Mr. C. Hide and then Mr. R. Waters, achieved some surprisingly good results. In fact there was one seemingly odd situation when Mr. Waters was giving an organ recital in aid of the organ fund, when someone was heard to remark: "Why do we need a new organ?"

In 1965 the task of restoring the organ was seriously tackled, having been deferred since 1960 owing to the more important task of re-shingling the spire. The organ fund now stood at £2,200 and was very far short of the sum required, about £8,000 for restoring it to its former standard. The alternative was to buy a much smaller instrument which might prove inadequate for the church. The problem of raising a large sum of money once again, and also whether it would be justified to spend that money on what some people might consider a luxury, caused much heart searching until it was eventually resolved by having an organ built with two keyboards in place of three and about the third of the size, using the best of the old instrument, for the sum of £4,275, with the addition of £275 for removing the consol to the North wall of the Lady Chapel behind the choir. This work was carried out by Walker and Sons and the new organ was dedicated by the Archdeacon of Chichester, The Venerable L. Mason, on St. Botolph's Day 17th June 1966.

To the parish's credit the money had been raised within a month of this date and there was £70 in hand which was put towards a new stop.

Further Organists were Mr. B. Parsons, Mr. J. White, Mr. C. Levitt, Mr C. Norvall, Mr G. Caperon, and Mr. J. Ross. The last named organised a memorable series of concerts and recitals in 1980-83.

In the absence of a resident Organist a number of relief organists maintained the musical ministry of the parish after the departure of Mr. Ross. Mr. Neil Turner was appointed as Organist and Choirmaster in September 1986. The tradition of an all boys top line was restored, by recruiting from local schools. Regular fully choral services at the 10 a.m. Eucharist and Evening Prayer again became part of the life of the parish. A new set of choir robes was purchased for the newly strengthened choir.

In 1987, an Organ Fund was again set up at the instigation of Mr. Philip Bailey, then Sub Organist, by means of organ recitals and concerts in addition to financial contributions to 'Project '95'.

A complete set of 'New English Hymnals' was bequeathed in memory of Miss Beatrice Bladon in 1986.

With the appointment in 1993 of Mr. Jonathan Ericson as the Assistant Organist, sometime Assistant Organist of Newcastle Cathedral, the musical tradition of St. Botolph's looks set very fair for the future.

ST. JOHN THE DIVINE, WEST WORTHING

From Mission Room to Parish Church

On 6th January 1901 the first service was held in the newly opened St. John's Mission in the Elm Grove area of Heene. The Service of Evening Prayer was attended by some seventy to eighty people with twelve choirboys. The following week a Sunday School was opened with fifteen girls and eighteen boys, and a working men's club formed with twenty members. The Rector of Heene, The Reverend J.P. Fallowes, in his first address, stressed the fact that it was not a church, but merely a temporary "Place of Assembly". Holy Communion was celebrated there for the first time in that year on the first Sunday after Easter, at which there were thirteen communicants, and by that time the Sunday School had trebled in numbers. This was a most encouraging start to the new venture.

From 1902 there were regular celebrations of Holy Communion once a month with an occasional Choral celebration, and the Easter Offering had risen to £1. Although at this time requests were made for the enlargements to the Mission, this had to be deferred owing to the much needed extensions to the parish church. It was therefore not until 1914 that the Mission Room was enlarged to hold two hundred people. Dr. Burrows, Bishop of Lewes, dedicated the new chancel which was separated from the former portion as this was used for functions other than services.

In this small district the numbers in the Sunday School had increased to one hundred and seventy children and nineteen teachers, and when they walked in procession to the parish church for services they must have looked quite impressive. The Church in those days bore witness in public, and during a National Mission in 1916 the congregation marched round the streets singing hymns on their way to the parish church.

An important step forward was taken in 1933 by the appointment of the Reverend L.R. Richardson as the first priest in charge who introduced a regular Sung Eucharist at 10 a.m. on Sundays.

It was at this time that definite plans were set in motion for the building of a church to hold four to five hundred people. The sum required was nearly £8,000 and at a public meeting in the Heene Rooms on the 6th November 1934 an appeal was launched for the building fund. Within two years there had been raised £3,000 in money and promises, and Mr. N.F. Cachemaille-Day, F.R.I.B.A., was commissioned to design the new church. The original design included a tower, spire and Rood Screen. However the tower and spire were to be added later and the Rood Screen was abandoned on the grounds that it would spoil the proportions of the interior of the church. The foundation stone was laid on 11th December 1936 by Lady Winterton, deputising for Lord Winterton, M.P., who was attending a Privy Council in connection with the abdication of Edward VIII, and the church was completed in 1937 and dedicated on 8th October by the Bishop of Chichester, Dr. Bell.

By 1939 over £5,000 had been raised, and this was achieved by direct giving without recourse to money-raising efforts. Also in 1939 the Reverend A.S.F. Maitland succeeded the Reverend L. Richardson as priest in charge, and when, in June 1940, the church was licensed for marriages, his marriage to Miss I. Shipton was the first to be performed in the church.

During the ensuing years much work was achieved in providing Services, and in social and welfare work in the community, until in 1951, the occasion

of the Golden Jubilee of the opening of the Mission, the Bishop of Chichester formally announced approval for the formation of a Conventional District of St. John the Divine, with the Reverend A.S.F. Maitland as the first Vicar.

An Order in Council was made in 1955 approving Parochial Status and the Patronage was vested in the Bishop of Chichester. The first important event to take place in the new Parish Church of St. John the Divine was the institution and induction of the Reverend T.R. Teaggart, who had been Vicar of the Conventional District of St. John's since 1953, as the first Vicar of the new parish.

The church was finally completed when the new tower, spire, bell and clock were dedicated by the Bishop of Chichester, Dr. R. Wilson, on 9th October 1966.

This has been a brief outline of what has been achieved in eighty-five years from the time when a small Mission Room was built to serve a rural community until the establishment of a parish church serving a modern densely populated town area.

HEENE CHURCH DAY SCHOOL

It appears that there was a class of children, but with no proper accommodation, for some years before the school in Heene Road was built. Mr. Beckles wrote to parishioners in 1876: "I do earnestly beg you to assist me in my efforts to supply Heene's great need, viz. some building which Miss Nicholls may use for her school." It was to be ten years before this earnest wish would be realised; a site in Heene Road was purchased from Mr. Joseph Lucas for the sum of £108, and on the 18th January 1886 a small school was opened and twenty-five children admitted. The name of this first school was the Heene National Mixed School. Within three years the need had arisen for more accommodation.

One of the original school managers was the Reverend John Gresson, M.A. Himself the headmaster of a school (first in Heene Terrace and later on the site of the present Public Library), John Gresson was keenly interested in the education and welfare of the young and became a great friend of the school and parishioners. After his death in April 1889 the enlargement to the Infants' Department was made as a memorial to his memory with an inscription placed on the south wall of the building. Another memorial to John Gresson is the pulpit in the church which was presented by his many friends, and which also bears an inscription.

A brief note on the teachers' salaries at this time is of interest. Before 1900 these varied from £35 to £50 annually, and the head teacher received £110 in 1902.

Following the pattern of the population of Heene, the numbers of children attending the school continued to increase. By 1920, when there were some 138 scholars, it was becoming obvious that the building was inadequate for its requirements. After much pressure from the (then) Board of Education, the managers prepared plans for extensions to the school providing for four classrooms on two floors and an assembly hall, at a cost of £4,464. Even in those days delays occurred and it was to be ten years before the work was carried out. There was a further delay in the opening of the enlarged building, due to the outbreak of war, but on the 8th December 1939 the Bishop of Chichester, Dr Bell, performed the Dedication Ceremony. Apart from a grant of £216 from the National Society the entire sum was raised by the parish.

The period after the war was a difficult one. The schools in Worthing were being reorganised, and at one time it seemed that Heene School would not survive. It is to the credit of successive managers, that not only did it survive, but went from strength to strength.

Holy Trinity School was closed in 1960 and many of the children were transferred to Heene School. In order to provide the extra accommodation required a prefabricated hut was erected in the playground which formed a self-contained unit for the Infants' Department. This was ready for use in the Autumn Term 1961 and a Service of Blessings was conducted by the Reverend M.C. Langton, M.A., Director of Religious Education, on 18th October.

After many years of controversy, proposal and counter-proposal, the plan to build a new school in Norfolk Street, as a joint venture between Holy Trinity and Heene parishes (Norfolk Street being in Holy Trinity parish) was agreed. The new school was to be a First and Middle School within the Local Education Authority's Comprehensive Scheme, catering for children aged five to twelve years. Work on the first phase of the new building commenced in October 1972 and it opened as the First School Department on 5th September 1973.

Heene Church of England First School, as a school in its own right, enrolling children from 5 to 8 years old, opened to a new era in September 1985. Mr. Pendergast and several of the teachers from the Middle School accompanied the children over 8, moving to Thomas a' Becket School. This was a great help to the children, for they did not feel so new and 'on their own'. Mrs. Hilary

Ring and her teachers soon managed, with the able assistance of Mrs. Joan Lane, the Deputy Head, to make the school a lively and happy place. After a relatively short time, Mrs. Ring had reluctantly to give up the headship, as she had to move from the neighbourhood with her husband. Mrs. Anne East was then appointed Headteacher. The school was extremely fortunate to have appointed her. The school has gone from strength to strength, and at the time of writing, 1993, numbers have increased to bursting point, now 151.

During these years many changes have taken place. Increasing numbers have meant extra classrooms. At this time of financial restrictions this was only made possible by the generosity of the Trustees of the school, the Rector and Churchwardens of St. Botolph's, Heene, who were able to contribute considerably, and to make the building of the extensions possible.

The colossal changes within the education system laid down by the Department for Education have placed many more responsibilities on both teachers and governors. The introduction of the National Curriculum and the Local Management of Schools has placed enormous extra work on the staff, not least the School Secretary, now the Bursar, who has needed a computer to help her cope with all the accounting.

With the creation of the Parish of Christ the King the amalgamation of the churches of Christchurch, St. Pauls, Holy Trinity and St. Matthews, in 1991, the team rector of that parish is now an ex-officio Foundation Governor, with a second Foundation Governor also from that parish. The team vicar who is attached to St. Matthew's has also been co-opted onto the Governing Body. These clergy share with the Rector of Heene the conducting of assemblies at the school.

The children are now to be seen mostly dressed in their practical school uniform, and visitors to the school always comment on the happy, disciplined and enthusiastic atmosphere in the School. It is a good place to learn, where the best of Christian living is taught.

As for the old school building in Heene Road, now the Community Centre, it is a really thriving Community. Many alterations and additions have been made, and it caters for all ages, from toddlers in the Play School through the age range, with many activities. The Rector of St. Botolph's is a trustee, and a member of the congregation also serves on their committee. May the old and new School go from strength to strength !

APPENDIX

ASSISTANT CLERGY DURING HEENE'S MODERN PERIOD

1891-1892 D. Jenks.
1892-1898 G.C. Battiscombe.
1893-1895 R. Eckett.
1898-1900 H. Wynne-Jones.
1900-1903 H.F. Hancock.
1900-1905 H. Lascelles.
1904-1905 F.C. Bland.
1906-1928 L.S. Blenkins.
1911-1917 C.B. Pennington.
1917-1918 A.D. Pierpoint.
1919-1930 E.L. Bull.
1927-1930 W. Derritt-Smith.
1930-1930 E.J. Borrow.
1931-1931 Q. Morris.
1931-1931 H.G. Wright.
1931-1933 B. Higgins.
1933-1938 L. Richardson.
1933-1934 R.W. Barney.
1934-1936 R.C. Rudgard.
1936-1940 H.S. Box.
1939-1951 A.S.F. Maitland.
1940-1943 B.J. Kett.
1950-1952 M. Wells.
1953-1953 G.W. Forster.
1954-1962 F.A. Parkins.
1963-1966 E.G. Hobhouse.
1967-1970 M.J. Banister.
1971-1976 R.P.B. Durrant.
1987-1989 B.W. Doyle.
1991-1994 C. Macrae.

RECTORS OF HEENE IN THE MODERN PERIOD

1873-1892 H.M. Beckles.
1892-1895 E. Lambert.
1895-1930 J.P. Fallowes.
1931-1947 E.A. Haviland.
1947-1958 D.F. Wilkinson.
1958-1964 E.H. Roseveare.
1965-1975 G.A. Potter.
1975-1984 J.H. Money.
1984- P.R. Roberts.

TAIL PIECE

In view of the first Rector's "most positive and emphatic disclaimer of ritualist intentions" in 1873 (see page 27), it is worth quoting an early but unfortunately anonymous typed document shown to Miss Huxley-Williams: "I came to Worthing in 1874, and heard much talk of the ritualistic practices at Heene Church, and was told that on Palm Sunday there was to be a procession including a donkey with palm branches, so I went to Heene Church in the evening. The church was full, the people were crowded, but being tall I managed to get a glimpse of the clergy and choir, and I need hardly say there was no donkey."

This mocking rumour was not unique to Worthing; it was going the rounds in Stroud in 1859 and in Huddersfield in 1860, plus a story about a cow and a live baby displayed in church at Christmas! Such rumours are a vivid reminder of the religious controversies of a bygone age, which played a part in the histories of several Worthing churches.

J.S.