

KIDDIES AND COSTERS HOLD OWN SERVICES

The Tenth Century Norman church of St. Mary's, Buriton, in Hampshire, held its annual toy service for the benefit of children in the County hospitals. Youngsters from Buriton itself and surrounding villages brought offerings of toys which were received by Bishop Lovett. In this way for the past twenty-seven years twenty thousand toys have been given to sick children. The lives of those little inmates were made brighter by the gifts of which more fortunate children brought to St. Mary's Church.

Meanwhile at St. Mary Magdalene Church in the East End costers in their traditional finery attended the Pearlies' Harvest Festival. There's nothing ~~xxx~~ that smacks of the country about the citizens of the Old Kent Road, but the Pearlies know that the fruit and vegetables they sell come from the land, and for generations they've given thanks in their own way at their own harvest festival in the costers' cathedral. The younger generation will ~~all follow~~ in father's footsteps. When the spivs are burning below ~~the gates of the Pearlies~~ ^{enter} may the genuine pearlies ~~be entering~~ the Pearly Gates.