

# THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

## NEWTON MEARNS PARISH CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

NOVEMBER, 1967

### Minister:

Rev. W. MURRAY MACKAY, M.A., S.T.M.  
Tel.: NEW 2747

### Session Clerk:

Mr W. T. DAVIDSON, 1 Raeside Avenue  
Tel.: NEW 2534

### Clerk to Congregational Board:

Mr W. T. DAVIDSON, 1 Raeside Avenue  
Tel.: NEW 2534

### Treasurer:

Mr WALTER RODGER, 220 Ayr Road  
Tel.: NEW 2467

### Organist:

Mr JAMES LITTLEJOHN, 33 Newfield Sq., Nitshill  
Tel.: BAR 1461

### Church Officer:

Mr WILLIAM DINSMOR, 52 Castle Road  
Tel.: NEW 2777

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Sabbath Services—9.30 a.m. and 11.30 a.m.

Sabbath School—Primary: 11.30 a.m.

Junior and Senior: 10 a.m.

Bible Classes, 10.15 a.m. Youth Fellowship, 7.45 p.m.

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### REGISTER

#### Baptisms

*"Suffer the little children to come unto me."*

Carole Brown, Low Walton.  
Doreen Sandra Arkless, 35 Castle Road.  
Douglas Graham Stuart, 5 Raeside Avenue.  
Shona Mary Wilson, c/o Kelly, 4 Townhead Road.  
Gillian Cochrane Murray, 3 Limetree Crescent.  
Andrew Gordon Haig, 9 Cameron Drive.

#### Deaths

*"Christ the first fruits of them that are asleep."*

Miss Etta Waddell, Linnard, Westbrae Road.  
Mr C. J. Thom, J.P., 125 Beech Avenue.  
Dr. William Napier, 3 Glebe Road.  
Miss Pamela Hope, 57 Arisdale Crescent.  
Mr John Rodger, Netherplace Farm.

### NEW MEMBERS

#### By Profession

Mr Ewen Finlay, 2 Sherbrooke Ave., Glasgow, S.1.

#### By Certificate

Mr and Mrs W. C. Black, 22 Lambie Crescent.  
Miss Duff, 31 Fairweather Place.  
Mr and Mrs John Ewing, 49 Fruin Avenue.  
Mrs Ellen Glaister, 18 The Cottages, Crookfur.  
Mr and Mrs Norman Hollywood, 24 Rodger Ave.,  
Mrs Murray, 55 The Cottages, Crookfur.  
Mr and Mrs D. R. Macfarlane, 2 Moidart Gardens.  
Mrs A. Parker, 12 Glebe Road.  
Mr and Ms James D. Pollock, 3 Lomond Drive.  
Mr and Mrs H. Simpson, 47 Fruin Avenue.  
Mr and Mrs J. Winchip, 14 Fraser Avenue.

### MINISTER'S LOG

As was intimated on Communion Sunday, the Kirk Session appointed Mr Walter T. Davidson as Session Clerk of the Congregation. He has already filled the position on two previous occasions when Mr Thom was in Australia and in Canada, and did so with great acceptance to all. He has been a member of our Church for over 30 years, coming from London Road congregation in Edinburgh where both he and his wife were active workers. Not only so but his work as agent of the Bank of Scotland during these years in our district has given him a wide knowledge of people. We feel very grateful that we have a man with such experience and gracious personality to fill the leading post of elder in our midst.

We have been accustomed to beautiful floral displays at special services of the Church, and at the ordinary diets of worship, but we would like to thank Mrs Carlaw and Mr John Russell as well as the team that helped them for the decoration on the day of Harvest Thanksgiving. The flowers in the Chancel, the Vestibule and the passage windows together made up a memorable scene. Mrs Carlaw would be the first to acknowledge that John Russell produced the shade of flowers she desired, but we know, also, how much is due to her. The loaf of bread presented by a baker with its moulding of stalks of corn and field mice, was also a striking part of the display.

I spoke in the last Supplement of the experiment of Self-Assessment regarding the Co-ordinated Appeal. The Assembly needs one million and a half pounds as its total givings by 1972. The representatives of 6 Churches met in Broom Hall on Tuesday, 24th October. After a full discussion each Church was to indicate what it would go back and recommend to its Congregational Board or similar court. Our delegates having had a private conference decided that they would recommend a 10% increase to the Co-ordinated Appeal each year for the next five years. This would mean about £600 and we hope that if the Board accepts the proposal, that the Congregation will try to make this possible. The wider work of the Church in Church Extension and in Foreign Missions is being held back through lack of funds. If we each do our bit in our congregation we should manage to give what the Church needs from us.

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### IN MEMORIAM — C. J. THOM

C. J. Thom was born in a village called Kintore in Aberdeenshire. He came of farming stock, his father latterly being a seedsman and selling to the farmers. He graduated in Science at Aberdeen University, teaching for the first few years in the Black Isle, and Fraserburgh, before coming to Greenock to the Highlanders Academy. He taught evening classes on Navigation—The Board of Trade bringing out a regulation that no fishing vessel should sail without a 2nd hand having this certificate. When war broke out in 1914 he enlisted in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, serving for 5 years and returning to Greenock High School.



He was transferred to Lochwinnoch in 1922 as deputy head master, and then came back to Greenock to Cartburn School in 1923. In 1931 he was appointed headmaster of Mearns Junior Secondary School, and in 1945 to the South School in Paisley retiring from there in 1952. He was inducted as an elder in 1934, served as treasurer for 8 years during which the present church was built, and appointed Session Clerk in 1945. He served as Presbytery and Assembly Elder for the congregation, and on many committees of the Presbytery and of the Assembly. He was a Justice of the Peace.

SERMON PREACHED ON SUNDAY,  
10th SEPTEMBER, 1967

"There seems to me one subject that is above all appropriate on this Sabbath morning, that of the Church. We mourn to-day the passing of our Session Clerk and it could be said of him that he dedicated his life to it.

Let us begin by defining what we mean by the Church. We can think of it in two ways. There is an old saying—*Ubi Christus, ibi Ecclesia*—where Christ is, there is the Church. Whatever you may be doing, wherever you happen to be if you are manifesting Christ, then you are taking the Church with you. There is, however, another way we can think of the Church, viz. the institutional or organised Church. We mean the four walls of the building, and all the services that take place in it, the teaching of the young, etc., and the arms of it that stretch out to the ends of the earth. It was to this conception of it that Mr Thom devoted his life.

We know that the organised Church is not so popular in our day as it once was, but that it is vital to the spreading of the gospel was a truth upon which he had laid hold. Dr. John White once said—There is no salvation within the Church, and there is no salvation without the Church. There is no Salvation within the Church in the sense that there is only one ministry that of the Lord Jesus Christ and all others are derivative, functional, and dependant. On the other hand there is equally no salvation without the Church in that an idea if it is to be of any value to the majority must be embodied in an institution. If there is one lesson that he taught by his life, I believe it was this. I mention 3 things he did for our congregation (1) He took a heavy burden off the minister. (2) He took charge of the preparation for the Communion Service, and (3) he maintained unity in the Session.

First of all he shouldered a burden that would have fallen on the minister. Paul says of the Church in his day in Ephesians 4 v14—"He gave some to be apostles and some prophets and some evangelists for the edifying of the body of Christ." All these offices are spiritual, but there are many more in the running of a Church. It is the structure of the Church of Scotland that it all revolves around the elder. He is the hub of the machine. When John Knox looked for some authority to replace that of the Pope he found it here. Somewhere in the centre of it all "floats the Ministry", but the elder is the kingpin. I have been fortunate that I had in him one who did not spare himself in his task. He allocated new members to their districts; he sent off disjunction certificates; he kept his watchful eye on the congregation; if there was an ordination of elders he carried it through. What the minister would have had to do and would not have done so efficiently, he carried out. He thus set me free to do the tasks for which I had been more specially trained.

Secondly he made all the preparations for the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. "He gave some to be apostles, etc., for the edifying of the body of Christ." Certainly he inherited much from the past and he would have been the first to admit it. He had a rota of the elders. In a large session each was given his turn of the various duties. He had to arrange who would prepare the elements, who would be on duty on the aisles, who would write cards for visitors, where each would sit in the Chancel, etc. He occupied a seat in the latter where he could see the whole congregation, and watch that everyone was served. No one moved without a sign from him, which to the congregation was probably unnoticed. In this way he organised the service so that men were brought face to face with the Crucified and Risen Christ. "He gave some to be Apostles, etc., for the edifying of the body of Christ."

Thirdly he maintained unity in the Session. This letter to the Ephesians is on the subject of unity. Perhaps we are a little tired of the theme. But Paul meant the unity of the Church of God, the unity of different congregations, and the unity within the fellowship. It was this last that he achieved. Fellowship is important and if you cannot find it in a church one wonders where one can hope to do so. He was good at dealing with men. He got on well with them. If a man did wrong he did not hesitate to tell him. He had a strong personality, but he was also at all times considerate. "Till we all come on the unity of the faith, says the apostle, unto the perfect man."

Mr Thom was married twice. His first wife died in 1940 and he re-married in 1942. Few will have the experience he had of almost reaching his silver wedding in the first instance, and of celebrating it in the second. We would pay tribute to the help he received in both.

The present Mrs Thom will be better known to the congregation to-day and it would testify what a strength she has been not only to him, but to our own Church. She was President of the Woman's Guild for 4 years, and secretary of the South West Council for a similar period. She is at present serving on Assembly Committees. To her, to his son and daughter, to his brother and sisters, and all his kith and kin we offer the deep sympathy of the congregation. "Well done, good and faithful servant."

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Miss Etta Waddell, Linnard, Westbrae Road, died on Saturday, 2nd September, 1967. Those of us who knew her would acknowledge that she was a delightful companion to meet on any occasion. She was always bright (and it is not easy to be so when one is not feeling well). She was a very good conversationalist—not monopolising the occasion but skilled in making others express their views; she was full of humour, and interested in life be it politics, recreations or the Church. It is not surprising, therefore, that this was her life. When I first met her she had come as a friend to be a companion to Miss Mann of Whitecraigs House. She did a great deal to lift her out of moods of depression into which, through her illness she became rather prone to fall. After her death she stayed with Miss Anna and Miss Elizabeth Mather, and she was of great help to them. She gravitated naturally to people, and with her wide interest fitted into their thoughts and ways. She was a regular attender of the Church, and took a great interest in its work. To her brother and sister we offer to-day the deep sympathy of the congregation.



Dr. William Napier, 3 Glebe Road, died on Sunday, 8th October, in a Renfrewshire Hospital. He and his family came to live in this district from the Cardonald area of Glasgow about 10 years ago. He had still a year or two to go before he retired from the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Paisley, where he had spent all his medical life, and he wanted to get closer to the countryside he loved. Of walking he was particularly fond, and one had only to watch him striding purposefully along the road to realise how true this was. He was a great reader, and Shakespeare was a constant companion. Music in addition played a large part in his life, the radio to him meant more than television for it was the medium of the music of the famous orchestras of Europe. It was the man himself, however, that stood out through his work, his home, his recreations. He had a most alert mind and he retained this to the very end of his life. He always seemed to be aware of all that was going on. One could imagine that in his medical life very little would ever escape him. His home was a haven of love and affection and he contributed in no small way to it. He had the joy of seeing the children grow up in the fear and admonition of the Lord, and this must have been a great joy to him. We know how they took their place in the life of our congregation. He was elected an elder in 1959 and proved himself to be most faithful in his office, being a regular attender in the Church wise in counsel in its Courts, and watching over his district with diligence. As could have been expected he took a keen interest in the music of the church. He was supported in fullest measure in all his activities by his wife; her attendance at the hospital every day for the last five months was evidence of how she watched over him. To her, his son and daughters, and all his kith and kin we extend our deepest sympathy in the passing of one so justly loved. "I am the Resurrection and the Life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."

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Pamela Hope, 57 Arisdale Crescent, died on Saturday, 14th October, 1967. She had been seriously ill for some months but one always hoped that somehow she might overcome the insidious disease that afflicted her. Mercifully she did not know the gravity of it, and slipped away very quietly and even peacefully. She was 15 years of age, had been educated at Broomlea, and been very happy in her time there. She was interested in ballet, and this was a great joy to her. She started teaching in the Primary Sabbath School, and indeed was present at the Harvest Thanksgiving Service, a fortnight before her death. In the home she had grown to be a great companion to her mother. We would like her to know how deeply we sympathise with her in her great loss. Words are poor vehicles to convey all that is in our heart, but she is surrounded by a congregation that would try to bear with her a bereavement that can only be very hard to bear. To her brothers, Peter and Michael, we would also offer our deepest sympathy.

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John Rodger, Netherplace Farm, died on Monday, 23rd October, 1967. He lived all his days in the parish of Mearns. His boyhood days were spent at Bonnyton Farm. This became famous overnight during the last war as the ground on which Hess's aeroplane came down, though Hess himself came down on Floors Farm. He set up his home on his marriage at Netherplace where he remained for the rest of his life. I remember as a young minister visiting him and as we looked over

a dyke, and I listened to him, I realised that I was in the presence of a man who had the fear of God, in the right sense of the word, in his heart. It was not that he was a man of many words but the impression remained with me. His mother lived to be over 90 and I had the privilege of knowing her. She was still the head of the family and one could realise the training her family had received. He did not take easily to the motor car. He loved the horse, and up to a few years ago he still delivered his bags of potatoes—and this was a line in which he excelled—by horse and cart. His wife has been a great helpmate to him in his life and work. She took over, indeed, her husband's district as an elder during the past years. The family of Lambie from which she came has a long history in the district, and we think of Langton and Pilmuir especially in her connection. We rejoice that we still have some of their relations in the congregation. On his side the Rodger family's roots go deep into the parish. It is interesting that in the new Crookfur Scheme these names are preserved in Rodger Avenue and Lambie Crescent. We shall miss him much, and to his wife, his son and his daughters, and all his kith and kin we offer our deepest sympathy.

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## CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS, 1967

### WOMAN'S GUILD

"Christmas Night"—Monday, 11th Dec., evening

### YOUNG WIVES GROUP

Afternoon Party—Wednesday, 13th Dec.

### JUNIOR BOYS' BRIGADE

Friday, 22nd Dec., 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

### SPARKS

Wednesday, 20th Dec., 6-7 or perhaps 8 p.m.

### YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday, 20th Dec.

Carol singing ending with hot soup in Church Halls around 9 p.m.

Service in the Church on 17th Dec., at 6.30 p.m.

### GIRL GUIDES

Thursday, 21st Dec., 8.30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Decorating the Geriatric Wards at Mearns-kirk—then Carol singing there. Return to Church Halls for tea and a sing-song.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL PARTIES

Saturday, 16th Dec.

afternoon—The Younger Children  
2.30 p.m. - 4.45 p.m.

Evening—The Older Children  
5.15 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.

### BOYS' BRIGADE (both Senior and Junior)

Visit to Pantomime at The Pavilion  
Friday, 29th Dec. (Buchanan Bequest)

F. M. Hunter

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## THE WOMAN'S GUILD

The Woman's Guild held their Coffee Morning on Saturday, 28th October, when the sum of approximately £195 was realised. Our thanks are due to the Conveners of the Stalls and to the Kitchen Staff for the efficient work they did to help make



the morning a success. The assistance of the young Guides in serving the Coffee was much appreciated.

This session our work party has started making knee rugs for the patients in Cowglen Hospital and would be grateful for any spare balls of wool which members of the congregation could give us for this project.

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## VARIA

The Service at 11.30 a.m. on 24th December, will include the offering of gifts by the children. These will be sent to Mearns Kirk Hospital and Cross-lees Corporation Children's Home. The Primary Section will go to their classes at the close of the second praise.

There will be no Sunday School—all sections—on Sundays, 31st December, and 7th January.

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## THE BOYS' BRIGADE (COMPANY SECTION)

We have now started our new session for which we have great expectations. We have on our Roll at time of writing 35 boys, our biggest Company for many years.

The Pipe Band which was started 2 years ago is now ready for taking on the road at our Church Parades. In September, we held a Recruiting Drive in Crookfur area which proved successful for the Junior Brigade and Sparks.

This year in B.B. Week, we are aiming for a target of £75. From this total, we remit one-third to Brigade H.Q., plus the insurance for all Company activities which will this year amount to £15. I would ask all of you to give generously during B.B. Week to any boy of the 79th Company who may approach you during week 18th - 25th November.

Also during the session we will be holding another Rag Week, commencing in December, to raise funds for our Band as we now require a further three sets of Pipes and at least one more Drum plus a skin for the Bass drummer. At this time I would like to renew the search for the Company Mace which at the moment we are unable to trace. If anyone has any knowledge of this piece of equipment, please get in touch with any officer of the Boys' Brigade.

This year for our Annual Outing at Christmas, we are moving away from the tradition of taking the boys to the circus, instead we are taking both the Company and Junior Section to a Pantomime in Glasgow. We hope that this will help to make both sections feel part and parcel of the one great organisation.

We are this session running a Soccer team in the Glasgow Battalion 2nd League, H Division, and although we have still to register our first win, we feel it is not far away.

A. J. Watt, Captain

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## THE JUNIOR SECTION, BOYS' BRIGADE

Th new session for the Company began on 1st September, and from a roll of 24 boys at that date, it has grown steadily to, as it is at present, 28 boys which is very encouraging indeed.

The Achievement Scheme is now in its second year, and as the officers and boys are finding out,

a great deal of work has to be covered for this in a relatively short period of time. The system is built around six awards which the boys can attain over a period of three years, each boy having to gain a fixed number of achievements before receiving such an award.

The Hallowe'en Party and Fancy Dress Party took place on Friday, 27th October, and both boys and officers had a very enjoyable evening. Mrs Olivia McCance very kindly came along to judge and present the prizes and due to the very many wonderful outfits, she had a most difficult task. It was a credit to parents and boys alike for such a display of colour, variety and great preparation which had gone into the costumes.

Staff-wise the Company is stronger this year than of late, and in addition to Miss Emily Fairlie and Miss Madeleine Shaw, we have enlisted Miss Moira Dinsmor and Mr Lindsay Forbes whose services are being very much appreciated.

I would like to mention to parents who have sons aged 8 to 11 years to encourage them to come along any Friday evening, 6.30 - 7.45 and join the Company.

Kenneth Cromar, Lieutenant-in-Charge

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## LETTER FROM JUNIOR BOYS' BRIGADE TO PARENTS ON OCTOBER 27th

Dear Parent,

Commencing next Friday evening, it is proposed to start a Boys' Payment Card System by which regular weekly payments of say 3d or 6d by the boy would be entered in his own Payment Card and the money lodged in the bank at regular intervals. His money could be used to help finance something outside normal Boys' Brigade activities, such as an annual one day excursion at the end of the session. This would not only encourage the boy to save money but would also give an opportunity to see his money help pay for something for which he has saved through the weeks.

At present the Junior Section has 28 boys on its roll and increasing weekly and we are pleased to announce that in addition to a class learning to play tubular bells, a piping class has now been started and we hope the coming weeks will see good progress in each.

Recently, some parents will have noticed that their boy has had a small length of red ribbon pinned below his badge. This is awarded weekly to each boy in the squad which throughout the evening has been best behaved, most helpful and most enthusiastic in its activities.

We hope that these few lines have put parents in the picture with the Company's new activities and developments in the Junior Section and any parent who wishes to come along any Friday evening to have a look at the boys' activities will be made very welcome.

Kenneth Cromar, Lieutenant-in-Charge

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## THE CHOIR

"WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF THE CHOIR?"  
was a question put by someone recently.

Who is to answer this question?

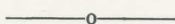


It must be obvious to all, that the choir is, at present, unable to play its full part in the Services of the Church because of lack of numbers and balance.

Who has the answer?

HAVE YOU?

J.A.L.



## 2nd MEARNS BROWNIE PACK

Brownies commenced the new session on September 14th with 40 smiling faces.

Two Brownies have since gone up to Guides—one has removed from the district—and 4 new girls have joined.

A very successful Hallowe'en Party was held and great credit is due to the children and parents for the very excellent forms of Fancy Dress and

wonderful Turnip Lanterns that were present. 'Twiggy' and 'Snap-Crackle-Pop' were two of our Prize Winners. Dooking for apples and mashed potatoes seemed to be enjoyed by all—even the leaders.

This session we are trying to teach the Brownies some new Camp Fire Songs and also pass as many 1st Class Brownies as possible before the new rules and regulations are brought out in March, 1968.

J. O. Simpson, Brown Owl

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## DATE OF PUBLICATION OF SUPPLEMENT

The next Supplement will be available for distribution on February 11th, 1968.

If you have any material that you think would be interesting to the congregation, would you endeavour to have it in the hands of the Minister not later than 14 days before date of issue.

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## OFFICIALS OF THE CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

### THE WOMAN'S GUILD

President: Mrs WALTER CUTHILL, 34 Woodvale Av., Clarkston Tel.: GIF 4144

Secretary: Mrs W. W. BLUE, 19 Townhead Road Tel.: NEW 3214

Treasurer: Mrs A. M. R. RUSSELL, Netherfield, Glebe Lane Tel.: NEW 1658

The Guild meets on Monday evenings at 7.30 p.m.

### YOUNG WIVES GROUP

President: Mrs J. McLEAN, 25 Pollok Road Tel.: NEW 3151

Secretary: Mrs N. HOLLYWOOD, 24 Rodger Avenue Tel.: NEW 4896

The Group meets in the Upper Hall on alternate Wednesday afternoons.

A Creche is available.

### THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent: Mr F. D. LEITH, 22 Blackhouse Avenue Tel.: NEW 2596

Secretary: Miss MARGARET DINSMOR, 52 Castle Road Tel.: NEW 2777

Treasurer: Mr ROBERT HODGINS, 46 Cheviot Drive Tel.: NEW 3795

### THE BIBLE CLASS—The Minister

### THE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

President: Mr NEIL RODGER, 22 Arisdale Crescent Tel.: NEW 3803

Secretary: Miss MAUREEN JAMMET, Eastwood Court, Crosslees Drive, Thornliebank Tel.: GIF 5592

The Youth Fellowship meets on Sunday evenings at 7.45 p.m.

### THE BOYS' BRIGADE—79th GLASGOW COMPANY

Captain: Mr ALEX. J. WATT, 47 Braefield Drive, Thornliebank

The Company meets in the Hall on Friday evenings at 7.30 p.m.

### THE JUNIOR SECTION, THE BOYS' BRIGADE—79th GLASGOW COMPANY

Leader: Mr KENNETH CROMAR, 26 Moorhill Road Tel.: NEW 3426

The Company meets in the Hall on Friday evenings at 6.30 p.m.

### THE GIRL GUIDES

Captain: Miss JANE CLEMENTS, Hollytree House, Todhill Tel.: NEW 3183

The Company meets in the Hall on Thursday evenings at 7.30 p.m.

### THE BROWNIES

Brown Owl: Mrs W. A. SIMPSON, 56 Craighlaw Av., Waterfoot Tel.: BUS 2182

The Brownies meet in the Church Hall on Thursday evenings at 6 p.m.

### THE BADMINTON CLUB

President: Mr COLIN ATKINSON, 106 Beech Avenue Tel.: NEW 2970

Secretary: Miss LESLEY WILLIAMS, 65 Larchfield Avenue Tel.: NEW 2484

The Club meets on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons.

### SPARKS — BOYS 5 - 7 YEARS

Leader: Miss ANNETTE CROSSLAND, Glamis Avenue Tel.: NEW 2568

Sparks meet on Wednesday evenings between 6.30 - 7.30 p.m.