

SOUTHAMPTON PUBLIC LIBRARIES

CLASSIFICATION	SUBJECT	SOURCE	DATE
HS J	CHURCHES C.E. HOLY ROOD CHURCH Quarter Jacks	S.D.E.	23.6.51

'WORTHY GARDEN SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE'—Mayor

'Little Men' of Holy Rood 'at work' at work again

THE quarter jacks in the clock tower of the historic Holy Rood Church came to life at noon today. Two minutes before then, Mrs. Harry Parsons, whose husband, the late Mr. Harry Parsons, J.P., defrayed the whole cost of the clock, pressed the time switch to set the clock in motion.

Then a small gathering who had assembled inside the ruins tied outside where, joined by crowds of passers-by, they waited for the clock to strike midday and the quarter jacks to come into motion.

It was the culminating point of a ceremony which began a few minutes earlier when Alderman R. J. Stranger, chairman of the Holy Rood Merchant Navy Memorial Fund Committee, explained that, in the two years the fund had been open, donations totalling £7,656 had been received. The latest final cost of the scheme, he continued, was estimated to be £9,968, which left a deficit of £2,312.

Mayor launches final appeal

It had been decided, he added, to close the fund at the end of July, but the Mayor (Councillor Mrs. M. Cutler, O.B.E., J.P.) had launched a final appeal for further funds to make up the deficit.

"We are hoping that, with the assistance of everybody interested in this Merchant Navy War Memorial, we shall get the required amount," he ended.

The Mayor, who received a

number of cheques totalling £150 at the ceremony, expressed her pleasure that so much money had been raised to restore the ruins of Holy Rood church to a really worthy garden shrine of remembrance for the men of the Merchant Navy.

She read from a brochure which outlined the scheme:

"May all who enter this garden give thanks to Almighty God, and recall the glorious achievements of our Merchant Navy in peace and war, and proudly remember that Great Britain still has the greatest and finest Merchant Navy in the world."

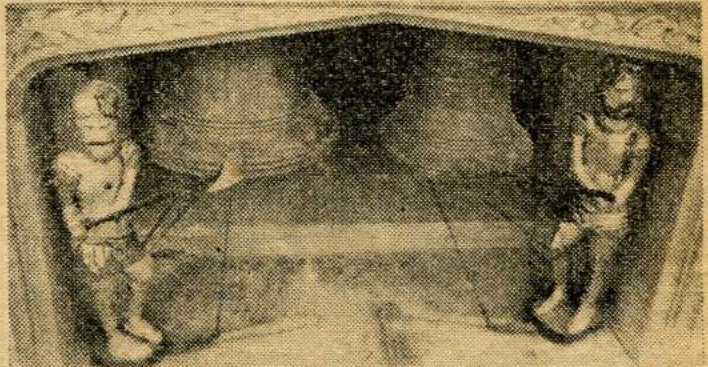
The Mayor added that she was delighted with the financial contributions which had been received since the final appeal was made.

Mrs. Parsons sets clock in motion

Mrs. Parsons, who was accompanied by her son, Mr. Frank Parsons, before she pressed the time switch to set the clock in motion, spoke of the interest her husband, the late Mr. Harry Parsons, as chairman of the Harbour Board for many years, had taken in the Merchant Navy Memorial.

"He was particularly anxious to see the new clock installed and working, together with the quarterjacks which have for so many years been a feature of Southampton.

(CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE)



The "little men," the quarter jacks, below the new clock. "Echo" photo.



Mrs. Parsons (left), accompanied by the Mayor, pressing the time switch to start the clock.—"Echo" photo.

Holy Rood with many generations of Southampton people.

The port would be doing less than justice to their memory and also to an old friend, if nothing had been done to preserve some part of the fabric of Holy Rood which suffered so heavily in the war.

It was to be hoped, he ended, that the ceremony, and the sight of the clock and quarterjacks functioning, might cause a new surge of public interest in the memorial scheme, and also that they might for a long time to come measure only hours of peace and happiness for the townspeople of Southampton.

Men who carried out the work

During the ceremony Mr. L. Berger, the Borough Architect, presented to the Mayor and to Mrs. Parsons those responsible for the carrying out of the work on the memorial. They included Mr. F. Windward, chief architect, Borough Architect's Department, Mr. H. Dolman, clerk of works, Borough Architect's Department, Mr. F. A. Oliver, Stoneham Memorial Co., Ltd., Mr. J. Hutton, general foreman, Stoneham Memorial Co., Ltd., Messrs. J. Ousley and H. Phelps, of Messrs. A. E. Jukes and Son, Ltd., and Mr. G. Jordon, of Smith's Clocks, Ltd.



The Mayor, Mrs. Parsons, and the Sheriff (Alderman E. Burrow) watch the quarterjacks go into motion.—"Echo" photo.

SOUTHAMPTON PUBLIC LIBRARIES

CLASSIFICATION	SUBJECT	SOURCE	DATE
HS j	CHURCHES C.E. HOLY ROOD CHURCH Quarter Jacks	S.D.E.	23.6.51

ER PAVILI
aturday), JUNE 2
gatta D
ROYAL PIER ORGHI
ght. Admission 3/-
and Refreshment B
FLOOR! GOOD
TOUR
le of W
on with Red Funnel
visiting SANDOWN,
GODSHILL (stop fo
on 10.45 a.m., Ryde 5.
de Esplanade 1.15 p
re of Boat and
nel Steamers Booking
entrance.
F WIGHT
UXE STEA
COACH
SUNDAY
OWES, by Coach ove
OR, BLACKGANG, FE
thampton by 6 p.m.
Children half-p
S OFFICE, Pier Ent
ATRE SC
pals:
JOY SANDER, L.G.S
en and Adults in E
to Art.
UE, SOUTHAMPTON.
HOTEL NORTH/
SOUTHAP
Tel. 2871
TONIGH
ORCHESTRA.
Dance 7/6; Dinner

'Quarter Jacks' at work again

(Continued from Front Page)

"The installation of the clock is the first portion of the memorial to be completed. I have much pleasure in starting the clock, and I wish you every success, Mr. Mayor, in your efforts to obtain the remaining portion of the funds required to ensure completion of this very worthy scheme."

Unique in So'ton's post-war history

Describing the ceremony as unique in the post-war history of Southampton, Mr. C. F. Carr, General Manager, Southern Newspapers Ltd., who proposed thanks to the Mayor and Mrs. Parsons, felt it must be a delight to all Solonians that a fine new clock was once again measuring the hours on the historic site and that the "little men" of Holy Rood were once again at work.

He spoke of how much the generous provision of Mr. Parsons, in making the clock replacement possible, was appreciated by the people of Southampton and not least by the committee responsible for the initiation of the Holy Rood Merchant Navy Memorial Fund.

Excellent tradition carried on

Those who served on the Fund Committee, he said, remembered the beginning of the scheme under Alderman Dibben. Since then, each succeeding Mayor, Alderman Blanchard and Alderman Dr. Barendt, had placed their inspiration behind it, and their present Mayor (Councillor Mrs. Cutler) was worthily carrying on the excellent tradition.

"The Mayor's House"

The Mayor, he pointed out, was, in fact, coming to what was, in fact, in the religious sense, the Mayor's house, because it was there that a long lineage of Southampton Mayors went to

read proclamations and make announcements of public interest.

"This ancient church, therefore, has civic roots at least as deep and strong as those in the old Audit House which used to stand over the way, and roots certainly stronger and deeper than those of the new Civic Centre, fine and handsome though it be."

Twice hallowed ground

They were, he recalled, standing on twice hallowed ground. Firstly, in the religious sense, and, secondly, by the association of Holy Rood with many generations of Southampton people.

The port would be doing less than justice to their memory and also to an old friend, if nothing had been done to preserve some part of the fabric of Holy Rood which suffered so heavily in the war.

It was to be hoped, he ended, that the ceremony, and the sight of the clock and quarterjacks functioning, might cause a new surge of public interest in the memorial scheme, and also that they might for a long time to come measure only hours of peace and happiness for the townspeople of Southampton.

Men who carried out the work

During the ceremony Mr. L. Berger, the Borough Architect, presented to the Mayor and to Mrs. Parsons those responsible for the carrying out of the work on the memorial. They included Mr. F. Windward, chief architect, Borough Architect's Department, Mr. H. Dolman, clerk of works, Borough Architect's Department, Mr. F. A. Oliver, Stoneham Memorial Co., Ltd., Mr. J. Hutton, general foreman, Stoneham Memorial Co., Ltd., Messrs. J. Ousley and H. Phelps, of Messrs. A. E. Jukes and Son, Ltd., and Mr. G. Jordon, of Smith's Clocks, Ltd.