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18.10.82

St. Matthew's School memories sought

Sir. — As the only surviving son of Mr. A. J. (Johnny) Dee, Headmaster of St. Matthew's C. of E. School for some 40 years, the recent closure of the old buildings evoked a whole flood of memories, happy but others not so, but all, in retrospect, I believe amusing and not a little nostalgic.

I am prompted to commit these to paper before they are lost for ever, in the hope that such a collection would be of interest not only to my generation but as a record of village life as it was in the early and middle 20th century.

I am therefore appealing to anyone who was connected with the Cainscross School and Church to send me any material in the way of anecdotes, photographs, maybe old books, letters and suchlike, so that I can widen the picture well beyond my own limited memory. I shall, of course, return anything sent, or shall be pleased to visit folk to 'collect' by word-of-mouth. Please send contributions to me at 'Telnes', Burma Road, Nailsworth, Stroud GL6 0DT.

To stimulate failing memories — as is mine — I mention Mr. Percy Giles, Miss Elliott, Miss Sophy King, Miss Beatrice Hopson, Miss Margaret Hemming, Miss Farr, Miss Ratcliffe, The Reverend Wilkinson Storey, Miss Spry Davis, Miss Eddles, the Cosham Tea, The Whitsuntide Treat, Derry Hay and the Ditch (now Victory Park), Choir Practices and the Choir Outings, Blackberry Picking and the landing of an aeroplane during the First War, the School Gardens and the Apple Orchard.

Please respond quickly — Years are passing!

B. T. Dee

'Telnes',
Burma Road,
Forest Green,
Nailsworth.

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