

ST PETER'S HAMBLEDON : APRIL 1986

The Rector writes:

My dear Friends

First I would like to thank all those who took the trouble to fill in and return our questionnaire. Some of the replies were very full and all were interesting and stimulating. As you might imagine, opinions were diverse and wide-ranging and some, quite obviously, held very strongly. Strong opinions are no bad thing as long as one doesn't feel that everyone else is bound to feel exactly as we do! As I think I have said before, it is important to remember that the church is a family and that in any family there has to be tolerance and acceptance if the family is to live and work together in harmony with one another. Obviously in this letter I cannot give you exact details of the results but there were a number of obvious trends. Allowing for the fact that quite a few couples sent in one return between them (what harmony!) about 90 or so people bothered, which I felt was very encouraging. Of those 55 attended regularly in the morning and 63 in the evening; 41 said they would prefer to have the monthly Family Service at 11 00 am and 17 to stay at 10.00 am. 59 said they would like to see a monthly Holy Communion service in the morning; of those 19 would prefer 1662 every time and 40 alternating with ASB. 25 said they valued 1662 once a month in the evening, whilst 28 said that they didn't. 33 said they would value Holy Communion twice a month in the evening, whilst 16 said they wouldn't. 6 said they would like Holy Communion mid-week every week - 4 once a month - 15 on Saints days. 20 said they give to God's work regularly through the weekly envelopes.

Do pray for the PCC as they continue to discuss these things and make decisions for the future.

As we approach Pentecost I am reminded of St Paul's words to the Corinthians: "The letter kills but the Spirit gives life". Or in the words of the old song "It's not what you do but the way that you do it". Ultimately this must be true of all our living and worshipping, whether it be 1662, ASB or whatever; if it is not Spirit-breathed and motivated it will never be effective.

Yours sincerely

PETER SERTIN

CALENDAR FOR APRIL 1986

April 5 7 30 pm PARISH BARN DANCE :
CHICHESTER HALL, WITLEY

April 6 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

8 00 am Holy Communion
10 00 am Family Service (followed by coffee
at the Rectory)
12 00 noon Holy Communion
6 30 pm Evening Prayer (1662)
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

April 9 8 15 pm MEETING FOR BIBLE STUDY AND
PRAYER AT THE RECTORY

April 13 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

8 00 am Holy Communion
11 00 am Morning Prayer (1662)
6 30 pm Evening Prayer (ASB)
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

April 17 8 00 pm ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING IN THE
VILLAGE HALL

April 20 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

8 00 am Holy Communion
10 00 am Children's Church
11 00 am Morning Prayer (1662)
6.30 pm Holy Communion (ASB)
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

April 23 8 15 pm MEETING FOR BIBLE STUDY AND
PRAYER AT THE RECTORY

April 27 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

8 00 am Holy Communion
11 00 am Morning Prayer (1662)
(Sunday Club meets at the Nursery School)
(Pathfinders meet at the Rectory)
6 30 pm Evening Prayer (ASB)
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

AND IN MAY

May 4

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

8 00 am Holy Communion
10 00 am Family Service (followed by coffee
at the Rectory)
12 00 noon Holy Communion

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FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER (contd.)

6 30 pm Evening Prayer (1662)

7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

May 7 8 15 pm MEETING FOR BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER AT THE
RECTORY

May 8 ASCENSION DAY

10 15 am Holy Communion

May 9 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY IN THE VILLAGE HALL

May 11 SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY

8 00am Holy Communion

11 00 am Morning Prayer (1662)

(Sunday Club meets at the Nursery School)

(Pathfinders meet at the Rectory)

6 30 pm Evening Prayer (ASB)

7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

CHURCH REGISTERS

Burial : 13 March : Alice Harris
(We extend our sympathy to the family
of Mrs Harris)

Burial of Ashes : 14 March : Charles Vacher

FREEWILL OFFERING SCHEME

Total for February 1986 : £421.24 : E F Denny

CHURCH FLOWERS : April 6 : Mrs A Stedall
13 : Mrs B Gardner
20 : Mrs J de Berniere-Smart
27 : Mrs R Steele

CHURCH CLEANING : April 4/5 : Mrs M Reynolds
11/12 : Mrs B Gardner
18/19 : Youth Fellowship
25/26 : Mrs D Staines

Olive Roderick would like to thank all ladies who turned up at
the church on Friday 21 March to help with the annual spring-
clean.

CHURCH TRANSPORT

Mrs Maureen Reynolds continues to act as co-ordinator for church transport. If you would like a lift, or can offer a lift, please let Maureen know on Godalming 20753.

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

A very successful coffee morning was held at Little Woodlands on 5 March at which £139.00 was raised towards the work at The Shepherd of the Hills Children's Home in the Philippines, being run by Christian Outreach. The work of Christian Outreach is very much in need of our prayers and especially we have in mind Sarah and Stephen Clarke who are at present in the Sudan furthering the work of Christian Outreach in that country.

DON'T FORGET: PARISH BARN DANCE : SATURDAY 5 APRIL AT 7 30 pm in the CHICHESTER HALL WITLEY : Tickets on sale at the Village Shop.

A LITTLE FURTHER AHEAD : ANOTHER BARN DANCE !!!
HAMBLEDON VILLAGE HALL : SATURDAY 21 JUNE

The Village Hall at Hambledon is urgently in need of expensive maintenance repairs and this is the reason for holding this Barn Dance to raise funds for the Hall. The Hall is not large enough to hold a big Barn Dance and numbers are to be restricted to 60 people. Please make a note of the date and give the Village Hall Committee your support as they try to make it a viable proposition. The Village Hall belongs to the people of Hambledon; please make sure that it is used - a Hall that stands empty does not support itself.

PERSONALIA

Dr Jack Symonds is now home from hospital and by all accounts is managing well on his two sticks - we feel it will not be long before his car is chugging around the village again! In thanking God for Jack's good recovery please pray for Mrs Mary Hutchins as she is admitted to the County Hospital for a hip replacement operation.

It is good news about the Lane End twins - both girls - to Julia and Jeremy Harrington, now safely at home. Many congratulations!

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Mavis Harvey is now at home following her operation in the County Hospital; we do pray for Mavis, who has had such a run of poor health for some considerable time. We send our good wishes to Mary Luff who is shortly to be married and will be leaving Hambledon to live in Guildford.

PARCELS FOR RUANDA : CMS

Four ladies spent two enjoyable evenings making up five parcels with the useful articles so kindly given. It has to be done in a special way; first half a sheet is spread out and in the centre a rectangle 24" x 18" is made of some soft material such as a towel, blanket or sheet. On top of this is piled an assortment of clothes, with medical supplies tucked in the folds, and a few 'extras' for the missionaries (such as soup, sultanas, reels of cotton or soap). The sheet is wrapped round like a parcel and sellotaped securely. A list of contents and greeting card is secured to the sheet. The whole bundle is placed in a plastic bag and the weight checked. The skill is to make the finished parcel exactly 10kg. After a little adjustment here and there and a final check at the PO the following day (very useful to find the churchwarden there!) the parcel is sewn into the outer sheet and the whole parcel finally tied with string and labelled.

We have been given enough postage for five parcels at £16.50 each. There is £5. in hand but sufficient goods for two more parcels at least. We will pack two more parcels in hope that we will be given sufficient postage. Postal arrangements to Uganda are again functioning and three parcels have already been despatched. Two more are undergoing final stitching. This has been a parish effort, for which we thank everyone and now pray that the parcels will arrive safely and the contents be useful at Kisiizi hospital.

Sheila Bolton and the
Missionary Committee

ELSTEAD MISSION GROUP are most privileged to have Col. Orde Dobbie MBE as their speaker on Tuesday April 8th at 7 45 pm in the United Reformed Church Hall, Milford Road, Elstead, and have invited anyone to join them. Col. Dobbie, who lives in Jerusalem, is talking about that interesting city where he worked at the Garden Tomb for 8½ years, and about the international fellowship of "Christian Friends of Israel", which he now serves, and who are seeking to bring believers of all nationalities together.

5/10/74

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For further details or requests for lifts please contact
Sheila Bolton on Wormley 2748.

HAMBLEDON BROWNIES

After being Brown Owl of the Hambledon Brownies for 21 years I have sadly decided to "retire". Over the years I have had a lot of fun and enjoyment with the Brownies, and best of all, I have got to know and take an interest in so many children in the Village and surrounding areas. I have been trying since Christmas to find someone to take over from me and had planned to finish at Easter. However, I have not been successful and this notice is really to ask someone, or some people, to run the Hambledon Brownies. It really needs two people, to be Brown Owl and Tawny Owl, and possibly a third person to make it easy and fun to organise. Please think about helping - it would be sad to see the Pack close down. If you would like to help or want to know more, please contact me as soon as possible on Wormley 2889.

Elizabeth Maclay

THE BIBLE SOCIETY

There will be many to whom the Bible Society, founded in 1804, needs no introduction but it is important to keep in focus its work and its needs.

The Society exists essentially to enable as many people as possible to obtain a Bible in their own language at a price they can afford: it undertakes the work of translation, production and distribution of Bibles worldwide - last year 2 million Bibles were distributed.

The Bible Society is not a rival to your favourite missionary society or an 'optional extra' for Christians. It is an indispensable ally of all Christian churches and missionary organisations throughout the world and needs support and publicity from all Christians.

One exciting project at present in train is helping the Amity Foundation to produce 250,000 Bibles and 500,000 New Testaments in Chinese on a printing press

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to be set up, with the agreement of the Chinese Government, at Nanjing Teaching University. This will cost over £4 million.

One of the ways in which Hambledon is linked with Bible Society work at the local level is through the Godalming and District Action Group. The Group's task is to make people aware of the work and needs of the Society in the hope that they will be led to support it by prayer and with money. David Symonds has served on this Group for over 20 years and has now retired. Our thanks are due to him for his devoted work. His place has been taken by Peter Harvey (tel. Dunsfold 315). There is a separate self-managing Ladies Group who undertake fund-raising and meet monthly for prayer. New members will be very welcome. Mrs Eula Symonds (tel. Godalming 6357) will be pleased to give further details.

One very practical, simple and satisfying way of supporting the Society is by joining the Bible-a-month Club. For only £2 a month, which can of course be paid by banker's order if desired, each subscriber has the happiness of knowing that he or she has enabled at least one person somewhere in the world to have a personal Bible. Last year the Club supplied half a million out of the Society's total of 2 million Bibles.

The Bible-a-month Club encourages on-going commitment and members are told each month, on a small slip of paper, in which country their gifts will be used; there is a thumbnail sketch of that country's spiritual and material problems and a list of relevant subjects for prayer. There is also a well-produced quarterly news sheet. The Club hopes to double its membership by 1988.

If you are not already a Club member, please do give this work your prayerful thought. You will never regret joining. Membership forms are at the back of the Church - or contact Peter Harvey for these and any other information.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

At our meeting last month we listened to a delightful tape-recording of a talk given by an American. For many years he has studied the life-span of eagles and their young, quoting texts from the Bible relating to the Lord's protection over His people, as in Deuteronomy chapter 32 v.11. A picture of the mother eagle stirring up her nest, spreading abroad her wings, bearing them and teaching them to fly and protecting them from harm.

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The leadership of the Group has now been handed over to Mrs Brenda Gardner to whom the members gave a warm welcome in February.

The date of the April meeting will be announced later.

Sonia Symonds

AND FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP:

.....Heartfelt thanks to Sonia Symonds who, for so many years, has led our Women's Fellowship - making it such a happy, friendly, worth-while Christian meeting. She has certainly earned her retirement. Our good wishes go to Brenda Gardner who will prove, we are sure, a worthy successor.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON GROUP

Those of us who went to Juniper Hill for our March gathering would like to thank Mr & Mrs Steele for making us so welcome. We had a very interesting afternoon with our thoughts focussed on Oakhurst Cottage, and we do thank Edric Hardy very much for coming to tell us about the history of the cottage and to show us the video of children enacting the life of Mary Ann Lickfold in 1850. We were sorry that some folk were unable to be with us but hope to see as many as possible on April 9 at Mrs Ellingson's home to hear Mr Peter Stock talk about Godalming.

Brenda Gardner

AND FROM TIM AND ZINNIA SYMONDS IN HONG KONG:

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"Explo '86 : Tim saw the new year in with 600 or so young Chinese christians at an all-night prayer meeting organised by Campus Crusade for Christ as part of their international satellite link-up. In March there will be evangelistic meetings, etc. organised in 14 areas of Hong Kong and the showing of the Jesus film at Easter on television. It's a prayerful group behind it and the potential is exciting. Please pray that many will turn to Christ".

May Tim and Zinnia be encouraged in the work that they are doing in Hong Kong; please uphold them in prayer as they continue to spread the good news of Jesus and His joy.