

AUGUST

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, HAMBLEDON

THE RECTOR WRITES

Safely home again from his six weeks tour in West Africa when he visited the Churches of Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Gambia, the Bishop of Guildford lost no time before reporting at length both to the Diocesan Synod, and also to a special gathering of all the clergy of the Diocese. It is ten years since the Link was formed between Guildford Diocese and the Province of West Africa, and it was time our Diocesan Bishop went to see the situation for himself.

I think I ought to pass on to you briefly a main discovery he brought back with him. His chief impression was the speed at which these countries, and especially Nigeria, are developing economically. Everywhere he saw impressive buildings, matched by vigorous agricultural research and progress, and all rests securely upon their enormous potential as one of the great oil producers of the world. All this has rubbed off on to the Christian Church, again especially in Nigeria, which is now well maintained by African giving. It is clear that our Diocese need not and should not regard the West African churches as in any sense poor relations. The Bishop believes that the Link with our Diocese should not henceforth take a financial form. The church there is growing quite quickly and is already self-supporting. The Link IS however still needed, and greatly valued, for the fellowship and encouragement it gives, and it is here that our Bishop wants our support to grow.

What then, about our money? As I came home reflecting upon the Bishop's report, I felt that there were two further things to be said:-

1. While we rejoice at the financial soundness of the churches of West Africa, we must not forget that

2.

other countries give a very different story. Rwanda in Central Africa is said to be among the poorest countries in the world. In several other African countries, in much of Asia, and in South America, the Christian churches are often desperately poor. How much can a church member be expected to give if his family is near the bread line? Often the national clergy have no hope of buying the simplest books they need for study, and are hard pressed to pay for the education of their children; so that the problem may be how to produce an educated clergy at all.

2. This is where we want to channel our financial help. As we take all this to heart and look to find ways to help where help is really needed, it is a comfort to know that our great Missionary Societies are in the best position to assess the relative needs in different areas. We can scarcely do better than give strongly to them. When asked whether, in view of his recent survey, he thinks we ought to continue to give to Missionary Societies, the Bishop said he thought we ought to give more. I believe he is right. It is thoughtful giving that is needed.

DIARY FOR AUGUST

3 SUN. TRINITY 10

Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon

10 am Children's Church: Rev. Derek

Parsons

11 am Morning Prayer do.

6.30 pm Evening Prayer: Canon Charles

Oldham

7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage.

10 SUN. TRINITY 11

Holy Communion at 8 am

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at The Rectory

11 Mon. 2.30 pm Hambledon Homes Holy Communion

17 SUN. TRINITY 12

Holy Communion at 8 am and 7.30 pm

10 am Children's Church

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage

24 SUN. TRINITY 13 S. BARTHOLOMEW'S DAY

Holy Communion at 8 am and 10 am

10 am Series 2 Holy Communion

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at Little Woodlands

31 SUN. TRINITY 14

Holy Communion at 8 am and 7.30 pm

11 am Morning Prayer: John Hamilton, Esq.

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Open Evening for Young People
(Barbeque)

and in September

1 Mon. 2.30 pm Hambledon Homes Holy Communion

7 SUN. TRINITY 15

Holy Communion at 8 am and 21 noon

10 am Children's Church

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage

14 SUN. TRINITY 16

Holy Communion at 8 am

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at The Rectory.

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CHURCH FLOWERS

August 3rd	Mrs. M. Fitzpatrick	Sept. 7th	Mrs. B. Wieler
10th	Mrs. B. Wieler	" 14th	Mrs. M. Caroe
17th	Miss F. Denny		
24th	Mrs. D. Symonds		
31st	Mrs. J. Cave		

FREE WILL OFFERING ENVELOPES

Total for June 1975 £36.59p

E.F. Denny

OUR CHURCH SCHOOL

No reply has been received yet from the Department of Education and Science regarding the future of our church school, and in view of this the Local Education Authority decided a week before the end of the summer that the school must continue as at present until Christmas.

So we have a reprieve, at any rate for one term. Now we go on hoping that the value of the small country school will be fully recognized by the Minister, and that when the ultimate decision comes it will be for continuance.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

During the months of August and September we hope to meet once a fortnight at 8.30 pm for a short time of prayer for parish and wider needs, and also for some communal Bible Study (following a simple study guide suitable for informal parish groups). The dates are

30 July
13 August
27 August
10 September
24 September

These take place at the Rectory, except for 30 July which is at Heath Cottage. All are most welcome even if they cannot come every time.

OPEN EVENING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Young People in their late teens and early twenties will know that several excellent vacation Open Evenings have been held at the kind invitation of Mrs. Ellingson. It has been good for those who spend much of the year away at college or school, and others who remain here in Hambledon, to meet each other at these.

It is hoped to have another, this time a Barbeque, on Sunday 31st August at 7.45 p.m..

PERSONALIA

MR. ALAN FITZPATRICK hopes to be home again in a week or so to convalesce further from an operation. Then, all being well, a holiday; and we hope that afterwards he will feel both comfortable and fit again.

MRS. FREEMANTLE Mrs. Freemantle has just retired from the staff of our Church School after teaching there faithfully for 29 years! This is a tremendous tract of time at one school. Her cheerful good nature will be remembered both by her colleagues over the years, and by the very large number of boys and girls (some now parents themselves) who have passed through her hands. Presentations in which children, staff, parents and managers shared, were made when she left. We give her our warm thanks and our very best wishes for many years of happy retirement.

REV. DEREK PARSONS After 20 years on the staff of King Edward's School, Witley, during which he has been House Tutor, then Housemaster, Assistant Chaplain, then Chaplain, our friend the Rev. Derek

Parsons is leaving. In the autumn term he takes up a post in the comprehensive school at Effingham in charge of Religious Studies, which will occupy him fully from Monday to Friday in term time. He is also, however, to take charge of the parish of Alford (where Mr. Elton has been ministering during the interregnum) in the Deanery of Cranleigh.

Mr. Parsons has helped us here in Hambledon at many times during the years, and again this summer, and we give to him and to his wife and family our warmest good wishes as they begin what will be for them all a very different life.

MR. JOHN HAMILTON Our church members will want to find a place in their prayers for John Hamilton, our only Hambledon ordination candidate. From Rugby School he went to Cambridge where he took an economics degree. He then taught in a comprehensive school in North London for a year before returning to Cambridge where he has just taken a further degree in theology. This autumn will be for him a final term at Ridley Hall, Cambridge. He prepares to be ordained at the end of the year, and would spend the next three years or so as a curate (not necessarily in the Guildford Diocese of course).

We are always very glad when he is able to preach here in Hambledon, and the opportunities for this will not come to us so easily when he is in a parish. So we look forward the more to 31 August when he preaches for us at 11 a.m.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Women's Fellowship is now closed until the third Thursday in October. The Rector kindly spoke at our May meeting which was held at the Rectory, by kind invitation of Mrs. Thompson, who

acted as our hostess.

At the June meeting we listened to the record 'If my people ...' a musical experience in Worship and Intercession and Prayer for our Nation. We also welcomed again Jane Hansford, who sang and played her guitar. Mrs. Dorothea Ellingson, to whom we owe so much every month, was our hostess.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The W.I. met at the Village Hall on Wed. 11 June.

With European Architectural Heritage Year in mind, MISS MARY PARKER gave a most interesting talk on some of the very old building in Hambledon. One on ancient construction mentioned by Miss Parker was the Lime Kiln near the church.

After tea MRS. C. KAHN kindly invited the members to walk round the lovely garden of Malt House. The afternoon was extremely hot and they were appropriately refreshed with ice cream,

On July 2nd, HAMBLETON W.I. entertained 35 old people, some of whom came from Guildford. After a very pleasant drive round the countryside, they enjoyed a delicious tea provided by the members.

A team of three members from BUSBRIDGE W.I. and their supporters joined HAMBLETON W.I. for a garden meeting at Court Farm on Wednesday, July 9th.

After the business of the meeting had been completed, the team competed in a quiz against a team from Hambledon. The questions were on gardening, cooking and crafts. With MRS. STEELE as question-master the quiz was both amusing and enlightening, with Busbridge proving too expert a team for Hambledon. The meeting ended with tea and a walk round the garden. B.J. Major