

ST PETER'S HAMBLEDON  
AUGUST 1985

Rector's Letter

My dear Friends

This month I would like to reflect to you some decisions made by our PCC after much thought and prayer. It has been decided, following our successful Family Service in June, that there should be a regular Family Service for everyone at 10.00 am. on the first Sunday of the month and Children's Church as at present on the third Sunday. In this way it is hoped to draw together various elements in our Church who worship at different times, to promote our unity in Christ and to provide a Christian witness to our community. At 12.00 noon on this Family Service Sunday there will be a shortened form of Holy Communion. The rest of the Sunday mornings at 11.00 am. will be our usual Morning Prayer, with a Holy Communion service on the fifth Sunday when it occurs. One of the joys of coming to Hambledon has been to see the large numbers of young people attending the Evening Service (sometimes as many as sixty or seventy!). At their "after Church" meetings they have been discussing their needs in worship and the Council has come up with the following pattern. As at present the first Sunday will be a Youth Service and the third Sunday Holy Communion ASB. The remaining Sundays will be Evening Prayer ASB and the fifth Sunday given to special services. It has been decided to start this pattern of services from the first Sunday in October, which will be our Harvest Thanksgiving, and to continue for an experimental period of six months.

There will be two special collections in the Autumn. In view of the great needs in Africa at this time, it was felt appropriate that we should give all our collections at Harvest to the third world via Tear Fund. Also the morning collection on November 17th to the Almshouses.

I would like to bring before you the needs of our Sunday Club led at present by Nigel Pollock. There is a great need for new helpers and Nigel himself feels, a new leader. There are great opportunities for teaching the Christian Faith to our young people and especially there is a need for someone to lead an 11+ group. It is hoped to introduce Pathfinders,

Explorers and Discoverers, which is a national young people's movement sponsored by the Church Pastoral-Aid Society. Do pray for new leaders and helpers and perhaps ask yourself whether you are not in fact the answer to your prayer! Much help is available to help you to teach others, so do seriously consider this avenue of Christian service and if you are interested have a word with either Nigel or myself.

The last thing that was decided is that a small stone may be authorised to be placed over ashes buried in the Churchyard. This will be flush with the grass and a short inscription may be placed on the stone. For details please contact me.

I do hope that all these decisions will commend themselves to you. Total unity of opinion can never be achieved, but your Church Council have given a great deal of thought and prayer to these matters, and whilst always welcoming your comments, also ask for your support.

With prayerful good wishes,

Yours sincerely

PETER SERTIN

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CALENDAR FOR AUGUST 1985

Aug. 4 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY  
8 00 am Holy Communion  
10 00 am Children's Church  
11 00 am Morning Prayer  
6 30 pm Evening Prayer  
7 45 pm Youth Service

Aug. 11 TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY  
8 00 am Holy Communion  
11 00 am Holy Communion (1662)  
6 30 pm Evening Prayer  
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

Calendar for Aug. (contd.)

Aug. 18 ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8 00 am Holy Communion  
10 00 am Children's Church  
11 00 am Morning Prayer  
6 30 pm Holy Communion (ASB)  
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

Aug. 25 TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

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

NO MEETINGS FOR BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER WILL BE HELD DURING  
THE MONTH OF AUGUST.

And in September:

Sept. 1 THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8 00 am Holy Communion - The Rev. Pat Ashe  
10.00 am Children's Church  
11 00 am Morning Prayer - The Rev. Pat Ashe  
6 30 pm Evening Prayer - Mr G M Bolton  
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

Sept. 8 FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

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

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CHURCH FLOWERS

Aug.	4	Mrs E Secrett
	11	Wedding
	18	Mrs V Stevens
	25	Mrs J de Berniere-Smart

CHURCH CLEANING

Aug.	2/3	Mrs O Roderick
	9/10	Mrs B Gardner
	16/17	Mrs R Hall and Ben
	23/24	Mrs P Williams
	30/31	Mrs A Stedall



FREEWILL OFFERING SCHEME

Total for June 1985 : £365.41

Plus repayment of Income Tax on Covenants : £1523.90  
(which is £193.06 more than 1984)

E F Denny

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CHURCH REGISTERS

WEDDING

June 29 David Riddle and  
Christiana Mary George

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THE TILLER REPORT : One man's view :-

The main concern of the Tiller Report appears to be the decline in the number of ordained clergy in the Church of England. It seems to consider as extremely unlikely that there will ever be a worthy recovery. It thus disregards the times in history when there has been a serious decline followed by an improvement.

The problem is not one affecting the Church in England alone. The Roman Catholic Church is desperately short of priests in both France and Ireland, for young men are not entering the seminaries in numbers nearly approaching priests who retire or die. The Church of Scotland is also short of manpower, and retired ministers are often recalled to duty and to take responsibility for more than one charge.

In England before the 1914-18 War there were more parish clergy and curates but fewer bishops than to-day: in those days the bishopric of Winchester included Guildford, and the diocesan prelate had to travel round his large diocese by train or horse transport. (A bishop's official gaiters and apron are relics of the time when he rode on horseback.) The increase in the number of diocesan bishops, with the consequent increase in 'palaces', chaplains, staff and organisation, has not resulted in larger numbers of parochial clergy. Canon Tiller calculates that a minimum of 11,600 full-time clergy are needed to support the existing parish structure, but that the

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numbers are down by about a thousand at present. The question, therefore, is how to stop the decline and how to reverse the tendency.

The Tiller Report estimates that the desired total of 11,600 clergy will not be attained until about the year 2006. But should the radical changes it proposes be adopted if there is a foreseen end to the present crisis? Members of the laity are apparently responding to spiritual needs through becoming lay-readers and part-time non-stipendary ministers in such measure that, over the country, a modest recovery in the number of baptisms, confirmations and communicants has been noted.

The Tiller Report proposes the abolition of patronage (and, in addition, the parson's freehold) as a means, presumably, of sharing the available clergy more fairly. This proposal in both the Leslie Paul Report and the Morley Report of the 1960's was rejected by the General Synod in that decade, so a future Synod would go back on the former decision if it accepted the proposal this time. The result of the abolition of patronage would be to give the Diocesan bishop more power and the PCC less, and would be the same as an extension of ecclesiastical patronage. Ecclesiastical patronage is against the tradition of the C. of E. and has never been looked on with favour by any (especially Evangelicals) who wish to preserve the continuity of churchmanship in their parishes.

ACCM looks for action by deaneries on the Tiller Report and offers four possible courses of action. The first is to ignore the problem, and this can be rejected at once. The second is a strong re-affirmation of the Church's current commitment, and this seems to be the best. The second of two articles by Margot Lawrence contributed to the 'Daily Telegraph' on 11 and 12 July supports this in its conclusion. Miss Lawrence points out that both the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London, neither of whom can be described as an evangelical, are on record as "believing in the Prayer Book's great significance for doctrine and faith". Dr Runcie advocates that young ministers and laity should be made more familiar with it.

Action then may be recommended as follows:-

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- (a) Greater emphasis on the use of the Prayer Book of 1662, and teaching from the pulpit and in discussion groups on it and its 39 Articles. \*\*\*
- (b) Increased co-operation with the free churches, particularly in promoting evangelism and in Bible Study groups.
- (c) Larger participation in meetings for prayer for both the Country and the Church. The slogan of the early sixties was "Pray more for the clergy. Pray for more clergy". To new praying people will come the realization that Tennyson was right when he made his often quoted remark.
- (d) A courteous representation to ACCM that the impression this Council gives that it tries to preserve a balance of churchmanship in its selection of the candidates who come before it, and that it does so to the exclusion of evangelicals who apply. Instances can be quoted of applicants of evangelical persuasion, educationally worthy, with a clear feeling of vocation who have been turned down by ACCM for no apparent reason. Others are discouraged from applying when these instances are reported, and potential candidates for the Ministry are lost.

D.G.C.S.

\*\*\* Note The Prayer Book services in modern English are printed at the end of the ASB if people cannot become accustomed to Cranmer's magnificent prose.

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#### PERSONALIA

Many congratulations to Elizabeth Lasseter who has achieved a First Class Honours degree in Geophysics at Edinburgh University. She is going to work for B.P. Exploration.

Our good wishes for the future happiness of Jenny Arden-White and Charlie Arbuthnot who are to be married in Hambledon on August 11.



Andy Maclay has been accepted for September at All Nations Christian College. This will be for a 1 or 2-year course with a view to doing missionary work in French-speaking Africa.

Brenda Gardner had the misfortune to fall whilst on holiday in Switzerland and arrived home in plaster having broken a bone in her foot.

Ernie Jeffery is being admitted to the Royal Surrey County Hospital on 28 July for a hip replacement operation.

Keith Fish has chicken-pox.

Jean and Rachel Jones of St Dominic's Lodge are progressing following their car accident and Rachel is now home and walking without the aid of crutches.

Please continue to pray for our sick friends and for all who are house-bound.

Eve and David Thompson have been seen recently at one or two local events. They are looking well and are both good advertisements for retirement! They are still pleased to see Hambledon friends - do call and see them if you can - a ring on Battle 3000 is adviseable beforehand!

On 15 August 1984 Paul and Faith Atkins left for Kenya to start a two-year contract at St Andrew's School, Turi. Paul is responsible for science teaching and is in charge of setting up a computer centre. They are now nearing the half-way stage of their contract but please continue to pray that the Lord will use them both in the work they are doing in Kenya.

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#### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON GROUP (ex W.I.)

The last two meetings of the Wednesday Afternoon Group were very much enjoyed at Juniper Hill and Feathercombe. A beautiful pure silk christening robe with hand made lace, along with other pieces made by Mrs Morley, with her collection of old lace, illustrated her fascinating talk on the evolvement and use of lace through the ages.

Did you know that there is a grinning cat's face in stone at Cranleigh church? This is said to have given Lewis Carroll his idea for his Cheshire cat in Alice-in-Wonderland. Unusual

and amusing incidents like this kept us amused and intrigued when in July we enjoyed Mrs Gould's "Unknown Surrey".

Next meeting Wednesday September 11th at Hawthorn Cottage at 2.45 pm. Come and join us and enjoy an informal afternoon - further details later.

Do keep in mind our evening meeting on Wednesday October 9th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall with Mr Fred Sheppard's sight and sound slide show, beautiful pictures and music, well worth seeing; everyone welcome bring all your friends and that includes husbands!

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#### OAKHURST COTTAGE

Edric Hardy reports that the visitors to Oakhurst are most enthusiastic in their praise for this delightful cottage.

There has been a steady stream of visitors during the summer and if you have not already made a point of visiting the cottage, this can easily be arranged by ringing Edric on Wormley 4733.

On May 1 there was an article on the cottage printed in the London Standard as a result of which quite a number of people came visiting from further afield. Mr and Mrs Michael Atkins and Mr and Mrs Douglas MacLachlan have recently been added to the 'team' of stewards and this has helped Edric in planning the rota for the Sat/Sun/Tues/Thurs. afternoons when the cottage is open.

A recent addition to the cottage is a fine example of a patchwork quilt which was made and finished quite recently by the two ladies who also made the rag rug to be seen in the second bedroom. Although the quilt is of recent manufacture, all the materials used are at least one hundred years old, some even older, and this has been authenticated by the Victoria & Albert Museum. Joan Hardy has even counted the pieces in the patchwork - see if you come up with the same answer!