

ST. PETER'S CHURCH° HAMBLETON

DECEMBER 1977

THE RECTOR WRITES

THANK GOD FOR CHRISTMAS

Many of its traditions, such as the decorations, the festive meals, the singing and the giving, we could if driven to it do without (though our winter would then become a much more drab affair). But the great and glorious FACT from which it all sprang is something we cannot do without. GOD CAME HERE, was made man. So he knows, from the inside as it were, all our common human experiences of pain and suffering, or bereavement, of insult, poverty, and gross injustice. When we pray to Him, we are praying to one who has been in it as we have. Let nobody now say God does not care.

One thing He did not share with us. He never sinned. And it was because of this that He was able to take our place at the last, and (as Peter put it) "carry our sins in His own body on the cross". He came, and He died, to bring us to God.

Together, this really is the greatest event in all history. So no wonder we sing ... no wonder we give to others ... when God in His love has given all this to us.

We shall again be having our Rectory New Year's Eve party from 8 pm to midnight. All are most welcome, for all or part of the evening.

From us all at the Rectory,
A Very Happy Christmas

P.S. Leaflets giving full details, and application forms, for our Congregational Week-end House Party at Fairmile Court, Cobham, will be available later in December both at Church and also from the Rectory. The dates are February 10 to 12. There will be room for 35. Many of those who came before will want to come again, and we hope there will be some first-timers too.

2.

DIARY FOR DECEMBER

- 4 SUN. Second in Advent Missionary Box Opening
Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon
10 am Children's Church
11 am Morning Prayer
6.30 pm Evening Prayer
- 8 Thu. 8 pm. Parish Fellowship: Village Hall:
"Wells Cathedral: Mr Martin Caroe
- 11 SUN. Third in Advent
Holy Communion at 8 am
11 am Morning Prayer, with Public Baptism
Last Sunday Club of term
6.30 pm Evening Prayer
7.45 pm Young People at The Rectory
- 14 Wed. 8.15 pm Prayer and Bible Study (Rectory)
- 18 SUN. Fourth in Advent
Holy Communion at 8 am
10 am Children's Church TOY Service
11 am Seven Lessons and Carols
6.30 pm Nine Lessons and Carols
7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

- 24 CHRISTMAS EVE 11.30 pm Holy Communion
- 25 CHRISTMAS DAY 8.00 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Short Christmas Service
- (There will be no evening service on Christmas Day)

AND IN JANUARY 19781 SUN. SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS Circumcision of Christ

Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon

10 am Children's Church

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage

4 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study and Prayer (Rectory)

8 SUN. SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Holy Communion at 8 am

11 am Morning Prayer

First Sunday Club of term

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at The Rectory

12 Thu. 8 to 10 pm Parish Party (Village Hall)

CHURCH FLOWERS

December 4 Mrs P.M. Corbett

11 Mrs E.A. Wieler

18 Christmas Flowers

25 Christmas Flowers

January 1

8 Mrs E.A. Wieler

FREE WILL OFFERING ENVELOPES

Total for October 1977, £98 - 62 p.

E.F. Denny

CHURCH REGISTERSMarriage October 26 Edwyn Ernest Allum and

Florence May Rafarel

Cremation November 18 Gertrude Mary Hutchins
of Hydestile CottagesHAMBLEDON and HYDESTILE POPPY APPEAL, 1977

House to house collection

£120 - 58 p.

Hambledon Church Remembrance Service

£49 - 53 p.

RECORD TOTAL

£170 - 11 p.

(the previous year's total was £141 - 51 p.)

Thank you for your generous support.

J. de B-S.

4.

WOMEN'S DAY AT THE RECTORY

At 10.30 am on 17th November we began to gather at the Rectory for coffee prior to a stimulating programme of News and Views. It soon became clear that if Women's Day becomes more popular the Rectory will need extension. At 11.30 am with every seat occupied we settled down to hear a very moving "tape" from Mrs Pytches, who spoke of the agonising decision her husband had made to resign his Bishopric of Bolivia, Chile, and Peru, and their readjustment to a new life in an English Vicarage. Mrs Wilson then introduced Mr Locke, N.S.P.C.C. Inspector for this area, who gave a telling and sometimes distressing summary of the work being done by the Society. Mrs Lance told us how a visit to a young married friend with multiple sclerosis in Hydestile Hospital had led her to visit the ward regularly, and what challenging yet rewarding work this was. There followed another "tape", this time one that had been recorded without our knowledge at one of the 10.30 am Tuesday Bible Study groups. A cacophony of chatter ended with a well known voice giving away her crochet secrets! Do we really make all that noise? We hastened to reassure the gathering that we do in fact sit down to serious study, and how meaningful this is. Mrs Hardy gave us a hilarious demonstration of what goes on in her class for 5-8 year olds in Sunday Club using home made puppets; and she showed us how to make a gorgeous character out of a screwed-up piece of newspaper, a paper bag, and a stick, who became Jeremiah in his pit! Mrs Gardner had brought a selection of Christian books for sale, and she gave us quick reviews of some she specially recommends, including "The Hiding Place", and books by Catharine Marshall.

During lunch of soup and sandwiches, we had the opportunity to inspect Mrs de Vere Green's superb collection of fans, and to ask her all about them.

Mrs Wilson presided over an N.S.P.C.C. Christmas Card sale-table, and we were able to browse among the books brought by Mrs Gardner.

Promptly at 2 pm the afternoon session started with some transparencies and a film presented by Mrs Vacher showing snippets of Last February's Parish Week End at Faimile. This was followed by Miss Parker's review of the 60 years since the W.I. was started in Hambledon in 1917 when her mother was the first secretary. Mrs Hardy then gave us some more demonstrations of the aids used in Sunday Club including an ingenious T.V. show. No wonder the attendance on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at the Ractory is increasing. Many of us felt we would like to go too! Finally Mrs Collins, a cousin of Mrs Thompson, told us how she had helped an optician friend tour Southern Africa, and fit poor African people with glasses to correct defective eyesight; and how this work is possible only because hundreds of pairs of unwanted glasses are collected from all over England and adapted for re-use. If you have any unwanted glasses or their cases they will be gratefully received at the Rectory. The day, attended by over 70 people, finished with tea and a silver collection for the N.S.P.C.C.

J. de B-S.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

The Toy Service will be on 18 December at 10 am. Toys in good condition which can be spared will be most welcome - unwrapped please, so that local staff of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children can earmark each toy for a child for whom it will be most suitable.

The 11 am and 6.30 pm services on 18 December will be services of Lessons and Carols.

The services on 25 December will be our usual services of Christmas Day (not as for a Sunday, so that there will be no 10 am or evening services that day).

6.

Gertrude Mary Hutchins

Nurse Hutchins died in mid November after a long illness bravely borne. She came to Hambledon as a trained nurse from Manchester in 1924, served at the old infirmary here for some years, then took up her main life's work as our District Nurse. As well as being a great reader, she found time in her busiest years for the Women's Institute, and to help in the village fetes and other activities of the Parish Council, and for socials for the troops. But it is especially as district nurse that she will long be remembered and loved; cycling in all weathers, and often making several visits in a single day at times of special need. All this was in the days when most Hambledon people had no telephone by which they could keep in touch with the doctor, and no transport, so that she was, as one of our ladies put it, the "lifeline" for many.

Among the Bible promises she remembered and relied on was "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee", and this was a strength to her in the closing days.

To her husband, who nursed her devotedly at home, we send our special greetings now.

PERSONALIA

We were very grieved when Mr Charles Vacher suffered another heart attack while showing a short film at our Women's Day. He was taken to St. Luke's Hospital straight away, and needs to be under their constant observation and care. Mr Luff too had the great disappointment of a further heart attack, a real blow to him after his patience over convalescence, and he too is at St. Luke's Hospital. Mrs Arden-White was taken quickly to Milford Chest Hospital after warning heart pains, and had an enforced spell of rest before being allowed home to what must now be a less intense daily programme. Mrs Hopkins of

Wormley Lane is also in hospital now, and Mr May senior has gone to St. Luke's, his illness having taken a more serious turn. To them all we send our remembrances, and very best wishes for a steady recovery.

To George and Margaret Freemantle, a son! And even the misfortune of Elizabeth falling a victim to measles at the same time could not rob the family of its joy. We rejoice with them.

PARISH FELLOWSHIP

Dr Tony Laughton's lecture to us in November on "What's new in Oceanography", illustrated by colour transparencies, gave us a most fascinating evening. We were shown how recent researches have proved that the great land masses of America and Africa are still moving steadily further apart. We were shown the great mountain range that is slowly being thrust upward in mid ocean. And we are grateful that though most of us are ignorant of geology, he was able to teach us so much so pleasantly, carrying us with him all the way.

On Thursday 8 December, again at 8 pm in the Village Hall, Mr Martin Caroe is bringing colour transparencies to introduce us to Wells Cathedral. Wells is one of the Cathedrals for which as architect he is responsible, and no doubt we shall learn much more about it than the average sight-seer would be able to discover.

Looking on into the New Year, the January Parish Fellowship will be our Parish New Year Party. There will be games, to be played or watched as you will, and refreshments, and much fun to be had from 8 to 10 pm. Tell others about this and encourage them to come with you. The date is Thursday January 12.

On February 9, Mr Ted Sutton of Byrny Hall will show slides and tell the story of his sailing the Atlantic.

8.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

It was so nice to welcome again Mr and Mrs Stuart Piggin from Australia at the October meeting of the Fellowship. Readers will probably remember that the Piggins spent some months here in 1973/74 whilst he was writing a thesis for his Ph.D. Now they are over in this country again for a few weeks as Stuart is doing some research work. He holds a university post at Wollongong near Sydney. They spoke to us about their life and work in Australia. Their two little girls joined us for tea. The date of the December meeting of the Fellowship will be announced later.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Hambledon W.I. met in the Village Hall on Wednesday November 9 for their Annual General Meeting. The treasurer MRS VACHER gave her report and announced the very successful result of the Autumn Sale which produced £160. The secretary MRS LOCKE gave a resume of the years activities; and the president MRS HARDY thanked everyone for their help and support. MRS CROWHURST was nominated as the new president, the committee consisting of MRS ALLEN, MRS BRUNT, MRS BRANDON, MRS GARDNER, MRS JEFFERY, MRS PEER, MRS STEELE, and MRS VACHER.

Final arrangements were discussed for the Group Meeting on Nov. 10 at Grayswood, at which Hambledon was to be the Hostess Institute. Plans are in hand for the Institute's Diamond Jubilee Supper on December 2. Tea was served by the retiring committee. Christmas cards from the Cheshire Home were sold, and the stall did brisk business.

B. Davis

Shaftesbury Homes and Arethusa

A Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols
at St. Giles in the Fields, Holborn
(Car Park, Compton St./Tottenham Court Road Und.)
6 pm Monday 12 December
Further details from Major R.P.A. de Berniere-Smart)

H A M B L E D O N

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES - ISSUE NO. 8

One of the most important matters to be dealt with at the last meeting of the Parish Council was to co-opt a new member in place of Mr. George Freemantle, who had to resign for business reasons. It was unanimously decided after some discussion that Mr. Tom Grillo be asked to fill the vacancy. Mr. Grillo has since accepted this situation.

The Jubilee Committee, with some money left over from the celebrations, decided that a walnut tree be purchased and planted in an appropriate place as a reminder of the 1977 events. The Hon. Mrs. Winton Dean is to be asked to 'plant' the tree, and the ceremony will take place at midday on one Saturday towards the end of November. Further details will be published when the date is finalised.

Mr. Chesson has finished his work on the Wieler Pond using the mechanical digger; manual work will start again on Saturday mornings between 10 a. m. and noon. All volunteers will be very welcome, provided they come equipped with spades and wellies.

At long last the Wormley Lane nameplate has been erected, and we hope this will be of benefit to the people living along that road.

The Boundaries Commission will soon be discussing possible improvements to the parish boundaries - anyone who has a point to make on this subject should speak to the Chairman or any other member of the Parish Council. If suggestions could be put in writing, it would be helpful.

The Parish Council has been undertaking a review of bridleways within the parish, and have made application that a relatively short length of footpath on Hambledon Common be upgraded to become a bridleway. This would complete a large figure-of-eight circuit and enable riders to have their enjoyment without damaging footpaths.

Parish Council Members:

Michael F. Coleman (Chairman) - Beech Brow, Rock Hill, Hambledon	Wormley 2977
Michael G. Stevens (Vice Chairman) - Hydon Barn, Upper Vann, Hambledon	Wormley 2624
Kenneth R. Edwards 4 Cherryhurst, Wormley Lane, Hambledon	Wormley 3329
Thomas W. Grillo Beech Hill, Hambledon	Wormley 3255
Barbara J. Major Court Farm, Hambledon	Wormley 2656
Edward L. Sutton Bryony Hill, Hambledon	Wormley 2807
Ronald S. Vickery Glebe Cottage, Hambledon	Wormley 2036
Clerk: Mary Neal Highfield, Hambledon	Wormley 3532

Although these notes are about Parish Council activities, the Parish Council are only representative of the people and we would be delighted to accept any notes of activities that other village organisations may like to present to the Clerk for inclusion with our reports of the Parish Council meetings. Also, village organisations might like to contribute entries to the Parish Calendar which will be placed on the Parish Noticeboard by the village shop. We hope this will avoid double booking of events.