

ST PETER'S HAMBLEDON : DECEMBER 1985

My dear Friends

At times I feel we are becoming obsessed with 'news'. TV and radio provide a steady stream of news summaries, news programmes and news magazines. We often complain that they and our daily newspapers are mainly full of bad news; the old expression that "no news is good news" has taken on a new meaning!

Evangelism is derived from the Greek word for 'good news'; in fact God's good news (the Gospel). It means the spreading and proclaiming of this good news which centres on what God did in Jesus Christ (as recorded in what we call "the Gospels"). Here is the best news ever; it is about God's love for the world being shown in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus who came to rescue us and bring us back into relationship with God for ever.

Christians are under an obligation to share the good news they have. It is a vital part of our God-given responsibilities in the world. It is part of our mission on which God has sent us. On the one hand there is the fulfilling of the Great Commandment, with love for our neighbours being shown in social involvement and action; on the other hand there is the Great Commission to "go into all the world and preach the Gospel", i.e. evangelism.

At the first Christmas it was given to the Angels to proclaim the "good news of great joy that will be for all people", that "to us in the town of David a Saviour has been born; Christ the Lord". May we find in Him, the Lord Jesus, our Saviour, and may we, like the Angels, proclaim this good news in Hambledon.

With sincere good wishes to you for Christmas and the New Year.

PETER SERTIN

CHURCH REGISTER

DEATH : 7 November 1985 : Alan John Wingate.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 1985

Dec. 1 FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

- 8 00 am Holy Communion
- 10 00 am Family Service (followed by coffee
at the Rectory)
- (Preacher : Geoffrey Marshall-Taylor, Head of
Religious Broadcasts for Schools)
- 12 00 noon Shortened Form of Holy Communion -
Canon Charles Oldham
- 6 30 pm Evening Prayer (1662) - Taken by the
Young People's Fellowship
- 7 45 pm Youth Fellowship
- (The Rector is preaching in St Paul's Woking)

Dec. 4 8 15 pm MEETING FOR BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER AT
THE RECTORY

Dec. 8 SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT (BIBLE SUNDAY AND
MISSIONARY BOX OPENING)

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

Dec. 15 THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

- 8 00 am Holy Communion
- 10 00 am Children's Church Toy Service
- 11 00 am Morning Prayer (1662)
- 6 30 pm Holy Communion (ASB)
- 7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

Dec. 22 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

- 8 00 am Holy Communion
- 11 00 am SERVICE OF SEVEN LESSONS AND CAROLS
- 12.30 - 1.30pm HUNGER LUNCH AT THE RECTORY
- 6 30 pm SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS
- 7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

Dec. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

- 11 30 pm HOLY COMMUNION

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Dec. 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

- 8 00 am HOLY COMMUNION
- 10 00 - 10 45 am FAMILY SERVICE
- 11 30 - 12 15 pm FAMILY SERVICE
- 12 20 pm HOLY COMMUNION

Dec. 29 SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

- 8 00 am Holy Communion
- 11 00 am Morning Prayer (1662)
- 6 30 pm Special Service taken by the Youth Fellowship
- 7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

AND IN JANUARY 1986

Jan. 5 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

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

Jan. 12 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

Jan. 15 8 15 pm MEETING FOR BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER AT THE RECTORY

<u>CHURCH FLOWERS</u>		
Dec.	1	Youth Fellowship
	8	Mrs Betty Paine
	15	Mrs Eula Symonds
	22	Christmas Flowers
	29	Christmas Flowers

There is now a new rota in the Church porch covering the period January/June 1986. Please put your name against a date when you will be able to do the Church flowers. We are most grateful to all who give their time and provide flowers and foliage each week. New names are always welcome!

CHURCH CLEANING Nov. 29/30 Mrs B Gardner/Mrs J Hardy
 Dec. 6/7 Mrs P Williams
 13/14 Youth Fellowship
 20/21)
 27/28) Mrs O Roderick

An especial welcome to the Youth Fellowship on the Flower and Church Cleaning Rota.

HUNGER LUNCH

There is to be a Hunger Lunch at the Rectory on Dec. 22 from 12.30 - 1.30 pm. Please come and give us your support. All proceeds to Tear Fund. It would be helpful if names could be put on the sheet which will be provided at the Church door on Sunday Dec. 15.

FREEWILL OFFERING SCHEME

Total for October 1985 - £423.18. : E F Denny

PERSONALIA

We send our good wishes to Mavis Harvey who is at present in the Royal County Hospital suffering from an unknown virus. The latest news from Peter is that Mavis is making some progress, although slow, and we continue to pray that God will strengthen and restore her during the coming days.

Our thanks to the 'lads' of the Youth Fellowship for the new coat of paint now applied to the Church flagpost and for restoring the light on the tree at the top of Church Lane. We are particularly grateful to them, especially as the original estimate for repairing the light was to have cost a considerable sum of money.

MRS IRIS CULLIS died at Hydestile Hospital on Nov. 19; she had been in poor health for many years. Iris lived at Hazels, Vann Lane, the home of Mrs Gammidge, for some considerable time until her health deteriorated; she retired to live in Elstead.

MISSIONARY BOX OPENING

The Mission Boxes for Ruanda and CPAS are due for emptying and holders are asked kindly to leave them at the Church on the second Sunday in December (Dec. 8th).

C T Redman

PARISH MISSIONARY COMMITTEE

A new enlarged Missionary Committee has been formed and has reviewed our Parish's contribution to worldwide mission. For several years we have given a relatively high proportion of our income to many missionary societies at home and abroad but our learning and praying has been largely dependent on deputation speakers and the few of our number who have knowledge of a particular mission.

We intend to give money to most of the societies we have supported in the past but we shall focus particularly on four societies. These (and their representatives) will be: Ruanda Mission (Mrs Edna Atkins), Intercontinental Church Society (Mrs Marilyn Sertin), Overseas Missionary Fellowship (Mrs Eula Symonds) and Tear Fund (Tim Arden-White). These four people, the Rector, Dr Jack Symonds and Mrs Sheila Bolton (co-ordinator) are the new Committee. They would like your ideas.

During each quarter of 1986 there will be opportunities to learn more about one of these four societies through deputation speakers, occasional special meetings, displays and distribution of literature. Collecting boxes will be available for children and a prayer paper will be distributed with the parish magazine three times a year. These are some of the ways we hope to increase interest and enable more people to be involved in Christian mission.

Sheila Bolton

CHURCH DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

The Church will be decorated for Christmas on Sat. Dec. 21. Any gifts of holly, ivy and foliage (particularly variegated) will be very welcome. Holly can be picked during December to save the berries from birds and stored lying on a cold floor or even on the grass, covered with a plastic sheet.

Audrey Stedall

BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 1985

Hambledon and Hydestile have once again made a magnificent response to this year's Poppy Appeal and increased our record total by over 25%. The result is as follows:

House-to-House Collection	: £328.76
Church Collections	: 246.66
Wreath	: 5.60
	<u>£581.02</u>

(last year's record total £444.60)

So many thanks to you all and in particular to the collectors and all those who helped.

J.A. de Berniere-Smart

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

Stephen and Sarah Clarke are now based in Leamington Spa working for Christian Outreach where Stephen is Assistant Home Director. In the Newsletter for Autumn 1985 they write concerning the Shepherd of the Hills Children's Home in the Philippines which has appeared in past editions of this magazine when both Jenny Arden-White (now Arbuthnot) and Stephen Clarke were concerned with this work. The latest news is "After six years of financial support for the work, we are now sending the first two people to work for a year with the younger children.

"Brenda Scott and Lily Dubash will continue the work started by Mary Clarke and Sarah Blee when they visited the Home in 1984 to help the pre-school children. Because of the large numbers of children in the Home, it is difficult for the housemothers to give as much time to the toddlers as is needed. Brenda and Lily will be setting up a kindergarten to help the children play and learn together. Brenda is a trained nursery nurse and Lily has had a lot of experience as a nanny and so they are well qualified to help the children in their development.

"Seven people of varying experience, including four of last year's Work Scheme, will be flying to Manila in January to build a single-roomed playschool on the site of the old piggery!. They will also be finishing the

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projects which were started in 1984 and providing irrigation schemes for the farmsite.

"Tony Herring, a builder, will be leading the group, which includes Tim Gomm, Eddie Holden and Adrian Gardner, Gareth Taylor from Tony's church in Teignmouth, Mark Ingram, a teacher from Harrow, and Steven Ayres, who has been working as a mechanical assembler in Cirencester.

"Together they provide a terrific assortment of skills and experience and the hope is that they will be able to help Fe and Jo Mejica make the Shepherd of the Hills Children's Home an even better refuge for needy children.".....

Do please remember in your prayers the Rev. Jose Mejica and Mrs Fe Mejica who are responsible for the day-to-day running of the Home. Neither have been well during 1985 although both are showing some signs of improvement; Jo shoulders not only the responsibility for the Home but for the many churches in his care as regional moderator for the United Church of Christ.

BLANKETS FOR SUDAN

Earlier this year a local appeal was launched for blankets which could be left at Charterhouse Turf Machinery, 34 Church Road Milford. We now learn that the first four container loads have arrived safely at Girba Central Refugee Camp. They were received with great excitement by the refugees who will be very glad of them as the nights begin to get colder. The containers, which will stay at the camp, are being used as very secure waterproof food stores. Blankets are still needed and so too are small cotton T-shirts. These can be left at Charterhouse Turf Machinery at any time between 9 am - 5.30pm Monday - Friday.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON GROUP

We had a happy time at our sale on Sat. Nov. 9 making around £164. We like to think that some of you got a bargain! Thank you for all the things you brought for us to sell. All surplus good clothing was taken to the Cheshire Home and from the proceeds of the sale donations will be given to the Village Hall and some worthy charity such as Tear Fund. A good time to come and join us is at our Christmas party on Wed. Dec. 11 at 2.45 pm. Mrs D Ellingson has opened her home for us and you will be assured of a warm welcome. We are planning an interesting programme for next year.

J. Hardy.

NEWS FROM HONG KONG

Tim and Zinnia Symonds rely on our prayers for their work with the Overseas Missionary Fellowship in Hong Kong. They have recently celebrated the church's second anniversary at which they had 104 adults present at a special service. The work is hard and often unrewarding on the surface but they have seen a steady growth in the Wives Group and the elderly fellowship. They ask for particular prayers that more eligible young men will come forward for the Young People's Fellowship.

Tim and Zinnia have now adopted a young Chinese girl (Susanna) who is 6 years old. She is being coached at home by Zinnia to improve her English and then it is hoped she will be able to join Caroline at school. This has meant that Zinnia has had to stop being a student herself (of Cantonese) for the time being. Susanna is settling in well into her new home (this is her fourth home) and is becoming increasingly secure in her relationship with Tim, Zinnia and Caroline.

Caroline has recently undergone an eye operation to cure a squint and this has proved successful. Following the operation the family were able to enjoy a fortnight's holiday locally.

Please pray for this family as they seek to do God's will in such a difficult area. Two targets for special prayer are crime and drugs. Trafficking in dangerous drugs is big business in a place like Hong Kong, running into many millions of pounds. "What we long and pray for most, however, is a mighty out-pouring of God's Spirit in revival power".

The family are due back for their first furlough in August 1986. They will be in UK for one year and pray that it will be God's plan that they should return again to Hong Kong to continue the work that they have started.