

ST PETER'S CHURCH HAMBLEDON
DECEMBER 1986

My dear Friends

December is always an exciting month, with all the preparations for Christmas, starting with the Family Toy Service at 11.00am on Sunday December 7th when children will bring new, or nearly new toys, to be distributed by the London City Mission. Missionary Boxes will also be returned on this Sunday, which is appropriately enough Bible Sunday, when we especially remember the work of the Bible Society and Scripture Union. The following Sunday, December 14th, we have a return visit from Canon Keith de Berry, who led a Mission in the Parish just before I arrived and I know he is looking forward to being with us. There will be an opportunity to meet him and his wife informally over coffee after the Morning Service and a cup of tea in the Rectory around 4.00pm. He will also be preaching at our Evening Service. The Royal progress culminates in our two Carol Services on Sunday 21st December; our Midnight Service on Christmas Eve and our Family Services on Christmas Morning. So often Santa Claus is pushed into the centre of the stage in our children's minds and all these activities will give us the opportunity of allowing the Christ child to take his rightful place in our celebrations.

Christmas is of course a time of giving and no doubt present lists are already being compiled in the hope that no one will be left out! May I suggest that we all put St Peter's Hambledon on our list and prayerfully seek to know what God would have us give to promote the extension of His worship and kingdom in our parish. There are many things small and great that would help and enhance God's work here. If you would like to be associated with this, please send your gift to me, however little or much, as God directs you.

From all of my family to all of you we wish a Happy and Blessed Christmas.

Yours sincerely

PLTER SERTIN

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 1986

- Dec. 3 8 15 pm MEETING FOR BIBLE STUDY AND
PRAYER AT THE RECTORY
- Dec. 7 SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT : BIBLE SUNDAY AND
MISSIONARY BOX OPENING
8 00 am Holy Communion (1662)
11 00 am FAMILY AND TOY SERVICE :
followed by coffee at the Rectory
6 30 pm Evening Prayer (1662)
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship
- Dec. 8 7 45 for 8 00pm PCC meet at the Rectory
- Dec. 14 THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT : CANON KEITH de BERRY
8 00 am Holy Communion (1662)
11 00 am Morning Prayer (1662):
followed by coffee at the Rectory
(Sunday Club meets at the Nursery School)
(Pathfinders meet at the Rectory)
6 30 pm Holy Communion (ASB)
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship
- Dec. 21 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
8 00 am Holy Communion (1662)
11 00 am SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS
6 30 pm SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship
- Dec. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
11 30 pm HOLY COMMUNION (1662)
- Dec. 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
8 00 am HOLY COMMUNION (1662)
10 00 - 10 45 am FAMILY SERVICE
11.30 - 12 15 pm FAMILY SERVICE
12 20 pm HOLY COMMUNION (1662)
- Dec. 28 SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
8 00 am Holy Communion (1662)
11 00 am Holy Communion (ASB)
6 30 pm Holy Communion (ASB)
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

AND IN JANUARY 1987

Jan. 4 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

8 00 am Holy Communion (1662)

11 00 am FAMILY SERVICE :

followed by coffee at the Rectory

6 30 pm Evening Prayer (1662)

7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

Jan. 11 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

8 00 am Holy Communion

11 00 am Morning Prayer (1662) :

(followed by Holy Communion)

(Sunday Club meets at the Nursery School)

(Pathfinders meet at the Rectory)

6 30 pm Holy Communion (ASB)

7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

FREELWILL OFFERING SCHEME

Total for October 1986 : £579.95 : Edric Hardy

Will the person who inadvertently (?) placed FWO envelope No. 5 belonging to St Bartholomew and St Christopher Haslemere in the collection at St Peter's Hambledon on Sunday 23 November please contact Edric Hardy on Wormley 4733.

CHURCH REGISTERS

Baptism : November 2nd : Martha Patricia Frangnell

Burials : November 12th : Ronald Gray Banks

November 18th : Ernest Jeffery

November 24th : James Mansergh Wentworth Martin

CHURCH CLEANING

December 5/6 Mrs O Roderick/Mrs J Lee

12/13 Mrs D Newel

19/20 Youth Fellowship

26/27 Mrs D Staines

CHURCH FLOWERS

December 7 : Mrs Finnigan

14 : Mrs M Parker

21 : Christmas Decorations

28 : Christmas Decorations

THE BIBLE SOCIETY

The Plant Sale held on the Village Green on 24/25 October realised £130 (inspite of the weather!) and a cheque for that amount has been sent on behalf of the Parish to the Godalming Bible Society Action Group. The organisers (Joan and Eddric Hardy and Mavis and I) would like to thank all those who generously supported this event by purchasing plants and by gifts of plants or money.

Peter Harvey

DAILY BIBLE READING

The start of a New Year is an ideal time for us to review our daily Bible Reading.

If you would like to order Scripture Union Daily Notes, or Every Day with Jesus, or change your existing order, do please let me know.

Rosemary Arden-White

MISSIONARY BOXES

Those who have collecting boxes (mainly Tear Fund, Intercor and Rwanda boxes) are reminded that December 7th is the Sunday to bring them to Church for the end of year emptying. Children who collect should bring them to the Family Service at 11 00am. We will be sending in the money to the Societies before the end of the year.

Sheila Bolton

1986 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPEY APPEAL

Hambledon and Hydestile once more excelled themselves and beat last year's record sum collected by £18.70. The result is as follows:

Wreath	6.20
Church collections	204.00
House- to - house	<u>389.52</u>
(1985 : £581.02)	<u>£599.72</u>

Thank you all for being so generous with your support which I know will continue next year when Mrs Elizabeth Brockman of Beech Hill Cottage takes over from me.

- 4 - Jean de Berniere-Smart

HAMBLEDON NURSERY SCHOOL

The Christmas Fair was a great success and a very happy occasion. Our warmest thanks to everyone who helped and to all who came or sent gifts of all sorts. We raised the magnificent total of £580.23 - a wonderful result.

Mary Caroe

TOY SERVICE

The annual Toy Service will be held on Sunday 7th December as part of the 11 00am Family Service. Children are asked to bring along a toy which they have out-grown or no longer play with but which is clean and in really good condition. Please do not wrap the gifts but it would be much appreciated if a piece of wrapping paper could be enclosed to be used by the people allocating and distributing the gifts.

The toys will be going to the London City Mission. This Charity has been operating for 150 years and now has 32 mission centres throughout London which offer a wide range of practical help, including play-groups and toddler clubs, as well as much-needed spiritual guidance.

David Linley runs the Kings Cross centre and has requested toys for distribution among the many needy families in his area.

Rowena Hall

PERSONALIA

We send all good wishes to Tony Cannon and Lynn Critchley who were married at Christ Church, New Malden on Saturday 22nd November. Tony at one time was Leader of Hambledon YPF. It is good to learn that Mrs Lynda Hughes of Admers Cottage is back home and recovering well from a recent operation and after some months in hospital Mr Charlie Elliott is now back at home. Once again Jeanette Aldridge has held a very successful coffee day at her home in aid of the Save the Children Fund at which there were cakes and gifts and Christmas cards; over £500 was raised for this very worthy cause.

MR ERNEST JEFFERY

Ernie Jeffery died on Wednesday 12th November and many gathered at St Peter's for his funeral on 18th November. We especially ask that God will comfort Ernie's son, Robert, at this time.

THE LONDON CITY MISSION - 15 -

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Ernie was born in Hambledon in 1909 and lived for many years at Rose Cottage on the Village Green; he was the youngest of 5 children. The Jeffery family were prominent in the Hambledon Cricket team before and after the 39-45 war and for most of his life Ernie worked in the same garden at Hambledon Hurst. He was married to Alice in 1939 but he had been a widower for many years since Alice died quite suddenly in 1963. Ernie saw action with the Royal Artillery in the 39-45 war which was quite a new world for someone who had rarely left his home village. He was an ideal family man, justly proud of his son and daughter-in-law and his two grandsons Toby and Alexander. In recent years he obtained a telephone and to everyone's surprise and delight became an avid user of the instrument at a time when he was becoming less mobile. Although the last few years of his life were marred by ill-health, he suffered pain in characteristic uncomplaining fashion; he took it all in his stride and was always keener to talk about the kindness of those who helped him rather than his own pain and worries. A quiet, gentle, kind man; doggedly loyal; easy to talk to and get on with; loved by many; a countryman who will be sadly missed. We thank God for the life of Ernie Jeffery; a man who lived close to nature and close to God - in every sense a Christian gentleman.

MAJ.-GEN. JAMES MANSERGH WENTWORTH MARTIN

Known to his family as Mansergh but to his wife and Hambledon he was 'Jim'. He died at the age of 84 having served a long and distinguished army career from 1922 when he was commissioned into the Royal Field Artillery following education at Charterhouse and Woolwich. He retired in 1956 and he and his wife, Jean, whom he married in 1944, came to live in Hambledon at Great Meadow which had been his family home. Together they were a great asset to the village and their friendship meant much to neighbours and villagers alike. He laboured long and hard in his garden which he loved and he once transported himself a load of furniture in an old van across Europe to a holiday house that he had acquired in Portugal.

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Jean and Jim were a devoted couple and when Jean died in 1978 it came as a great shock, from which he never really recovered; but through it all he proved a particularly understanding friend to others who had been bereaved. He was a humble man, although perhaps on first acquaintance rather formidable but on getting to know him there was great kindness and understanding of folk. A keen sportsman, he was a high-handicap polo player and was invited to be Referee of the Wimbledon Tennis Tournament when he retired from army life. He was a first-class ski-er and played tennis and golf into his 84th year! Jim will be much missed and our thoughts are with his family in their bereavement. We cannot mourn for him: at death the Christian enters into that Fuller Life - no more to endure the limitations of this life. So we give thanks for him, for a life well lived, for entry into Life Eternal: the real person lives on - reunited with Jean.

FAITH IN THE CITY : A CALL FOR ACTION BY CHURCH AND NATION
The Deanery Synod are giving serious consideration to this report and our PCC is discussing what part our Parish can play to encourage Parishes in Urban Priority Areas. At the last Synod, Father Charles Laurence, who was a Curate at Haslemere and is now Vicar of Holy Trinity, Ashton-under-Lyne in the Manchester Diocese, was invited to share with us his work in his Parish of 3,000 inhabitants in a small area of Ashton. He described his Parish as an inner city family where the community live happily together and where there is little vandalism or violence. This Parish is at some distance but already Tom and Rosemary Arden-White have been able to visit it and they write:

"We share Charles Laurence's belief that God has sent him to Ashton to face one of to-day's greatest challenges - bringing the love of Jesus Christ to our non-Christian immigrant communities. As the majority (67%) of his parishioners are Hindus or Muslims, with many unable to speak English, he cannot invite them to his church services or preach the Gospel directly to them; yet, because of his Anglo-Indian descent, he is perhaps ideally equipped to win

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their confidence. Already, they have such a high regard for his work among them that they are more than happy to send their children to the Church School, where they make up 84% of the total attendance. There they absorb Christian teaching and share fully in the school's activities while remaining free to observe their own religious festivals. At present, that school is also the meeting place for the community, open day and night, but it has obvious limitations for that purpose and Charles Laurence's bold plan is to convert the rear half of his large church building into a two-storey recreational and community centre. Surprisingly, it seems that he is the first person to envisage such use of an Anglican church in a predominately Asian community. His project, which has the full support of the Church authorities, will cost £100,000, of which his PCC plan to raise £30,000. We must do all we can to help him find the remainder".

By February 1987 we have to tell the Deanery Synod if, as a Parish, we wish to join with others and be linked with Holy Trinity, backing them with prayer, generous financial support and visits. Peter Sartin, the Churchwardens or Deanery Synod members, would like your views.

Sheila Bolton

A PLEA FOR CHRISTIANS IN JAIL

You may have seen on the notice board in the church porch information about Prisoners of Faith in Egypt. The notice is not to provide news about happenings in Cairo but a plea for your action in this country. The information has been given publicity in the Autumn Bulletin of the Evangelical Alliance. Prayer and protest from the West led to the release from prison of six Christians who had been incarcerated for seven months without charge or trial.

Later, however, Hassan Zerhouni and Abdul Hadi from Morocco, and Faithi Ben Nejema and Ali Hammami from Tunisia were arrested while they were attending a Christian leadership course in Alexandria. Christians in Egypt have requested Christians in the West to pray for their release.

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Mr Michael Morris of the Evangelical Alliance has made an appeal to us not only to pray, but also to write letters to H.E. the Egyptian Ambassador at the Embassy, 75 South Audley Street, London, W.1. to lodge a courteous protest over the arrest of the Africans, saying that their co-religionists in Britain feel aggrieved, and asking him to take up the matter of their release with the authorities in Cairo. Egypt permits freedom of religion, but the 10 million Christians are a small minority in that country. The four, in whose behalf we are bidden to write, have been detained in Torah Prison, South Cairo. A copy of any letter you write should be sent to our local M.P. It is not necessary to tell the Egyptian Ambassador that you are sending such a copy but you may care to ask our M.P. to raise the matter with the Foreign Secretary.

D.G.C. Symonds

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Those of us who were at the October meeting had a very enjoyable afternoon when Mrs Nancy Morris shared with us some of her experiences in India. She told us how God called her to serve Him on the Mission Field and then, having shown us how to put on a Sari, she went on to tell us how she worked with her husband in their dispensary on the foothills of the Himalayas, ministering to the bodily needs of all who came and sharing with them the good news of Jesus Christ.

Our next meeting will be on December 11th at 3.0pm when we gather at Ellingsons to have our Christmas mincepies and to welcome the Rev. George Goldsmith from Binscombe Evangelical Church who is coming to talk to us.

Brenda Gardner

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON GROUP

Thank you to all who gave so generously of things to sell and to those who came to buy at the W.A.G.'s sale on November 22nd. We made a splendid £268.76 from which substantial donations will be given to the Cheshire Homes and the Village Hall. From the clothing left, cotton garments were passed on to Sheila Bolton for the

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Ruanda Mission, the rest going to the Cheshire Home for their shop.

Our next meeting is at Ellingsons on Wednesday December 10th at 2.45pm when we have our Christmas party - a pot luck affair - bring a little something for tea.

A happy and blessed Christmas to you all from the Wednesday Afternoon Group.

Joan Hardy

A COMMUNICATION FROM THE DHSS ON GOING INTO HOSPITAL

If you have to go into hospital you do not want to be worried about what happens to your social security benefit or pension. It is best to let your local office know at once if you or a dependant have to go into hospital. As soon as you know when you are to be discharged tell your local office and they will make sure you get the right amount of money.

Most social security benefits are paid to help with your ordinary needs at home, or the special needs of disablement. When you are in hospital some of these needs are met by the National Health Service, so your benefit may be reduced or withdrawn (Leaflet N19).

You may be able to get help with your public transport fares or petrol costs when you travel to hospital as an out-patient or in-patient, or when you are discharged from hospital (Leaflet H11).

If you would like more information just dial 100 and ask for Freefone DHSS. They will also be able to send you the leaflets mentioned above.
