

ST PETER'S CHURCH \* HAMBLEDON \* DECEMBER 1987

The Rector writes

My dear Friends:

"... God ... gave ...".  
(John 3:16)

Part of the joy of Christmas is the presents we give and get. And they all started from the wonderful gift, which marked the first Christmas, when "God ... gave us His only begotten Son". That gift reveals God's love. It was because He "so loved" that He "so gave". That gift meets man's need of "everlasting life", and all else besides; a whole lot of smaller packages, stocking-fillers, wrapped up in the all-inclusive parcel of the Love gift. "He that spared not His only Son ... how shall He not with Him freely give us all things". (Romans 8:32.) That gift becomes our example. "If God so loved us, we ought also to love one another". (1 John 4:11). That gift demands our thanks; "Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift". (2 Corinthians 9:15). In writing your letters of thanks for your presents, don't forget the giver of the First and Best; only thank Him, not with a letter, but with a life!

A Christmas prayer:

May the jollity of this great Day never overshadow its blessedness, and may we ever rejoice in, and share with others, Thy loving, living, lasting, Christmas gift to us.

Amen.

Yours sincerely

PETER SERTIN

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 1987

Dec. 6     SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
             MISSIONARY BOX OPENING

8 00am    Holy Communion (1662)  
11 00am    FAMILY TOY SERVICE :  
              Mr G Marshal-Taylor  
6 30pm    Evening Prayer (1662)  
7 45pm    Youth Fellowship

Dec. 9     8 00pm    MEETING FOR BIBLE STUDY AND  
              PRAYER AT THE RECTORY

Dec. 13    THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT : BIBLE SUNDAY

8 00am    Holy Communion  
11 00am    Morning Prayer (1662)  
             (followed by Holy Communion)  
(Sunday Club meets at the Nursery School)  
6 30pm    Holy Communion (ASB)  
7 45pm    Youth Fellowship  
(Preacher at 11.00am and 6.30pm will be  
Mr Andrew Page of Scripture Union)

Dec. 20    FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8 00am    Holy Communion (1662)  
11 00am    SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS  
3 00pm    CHRISTINGLE SERVICE  
6 30pm    SERVICE OF SEVEN LESSONS AND CAROLS  
7 45pm    Youth Fellowship

Dec. 24    CHRISTMAS EVE

11 30pm    Holy Communion (1662)

Dec. 25    CHRISTMAS DAY

8 00am    Holy Communion (1662)  
10 00 - 10 45am    FAMILY SERVICE  
11 30 - 12 15pm    MORNING SERVICE  
12 20pm    Holy Communion (1662)

Dec. 27 SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

8 00am Holy Communion (1662)  
11 00am Holy Communion (1662)  
6 30pm Holy Communion (ASB)  
7 45pm Youth Fellowship

AND IN JANUARY 1988 .....

Jan. 3 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

8 00am Holy Communion (1662)  
11 00am FAMILY SERVICE  
6 30pm Evening Prayer (1662)  
7 45pm Youth Fellowship

Jan. 10 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

Jan. 13 8 00pm MEETING FOR BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER  
AT THE RECTORY

\*\*\*\*\*  
CHURCH REGISTERS

Wedding \* October 24th : John Henry Nicholas BELLENIS  
and  
Jane Lee PAPPS

\*\*\*\*\*  
FREEWILL OFFERING SCHEME

Total for October 1987 : £521.60.

Edric Hardy

\*\*\*\*\*  
CHURCH FLOWER ROTA FOR DECEMBER

December 6 : WEDDING FLOWERS  
13 : Mrs Anne Smith  
20 : CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS  
27 : CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR DECEMBER

December 4/5	Barbara Major/Anne Disney
11/12	Elizabeth Secrett
18/19	Pat Williams
25/26	Rosemary Arden-White/ Pat Williams

We should be very grateful for more helpers for cleaning the Church. It involves about 2 hours every three months and is so worthwhile.

\*\*\*\*\*

BIBLE READING 1988

Psalm 119 v.130a. "The unfolding of your words gives light ... " - but we need to read "the word" regularly and understand it. Many of our congregation find that the choice of Scripture Union Daily Notes, or C.W.R.'s Every Day with Jesus, are an enormous help. It is an encouragement to know that thousands of others are reading that very portion on the same day, and that they too are calling on the Spirit of God to illuminate that word, which "gives light".

If you haven't already tried this scheme, do consider starting in January 1988. These commentaries will be available from December 13th, which is Bible Sunday.

Rosemary Arden-White

\*\*\*\*\*

MISSIONARY WORK

Boxes

Many families have kindly taken Missionary boxes and these will be collected from you at the Family Service on December 6th. Please make sure your box is named. Anyone who cannot bring their box to the Service, please contact Shirley Pollock on Wormley 2116.

/ .....

/ .....

Christmas Gifts

As you are aware, we have several young people from our Youth Fellowship who are serving the Lord abroad and at home. They are Tim Arden-White in Sparkbrook, Birmingham; Felicity Arden-White in Thailand; Phillipa Duffy with Jackie Pullinger in Hong Kong; Simon Mabley with CMS in Pakistan; Rick James in Honduras and Caroline Dent in Strasburg, shortly going to Africa. We also have a link with Tim and Zinnia Symonds in Hong Kong.

It is our tradition to give them our love and support at this time and there is an offertory plate at the back of the Church for anyone who would care to make a contribution. Please give generously.

Shirley Pollock

\*\*\*\*\*

LADIES ONLY !!!

You are invited to a Christmas Lunch Meeting at St Peter's Rectory on Tuesday December 8th:

11 00am Coffee & Mincepies  
Bookstall  
Bring & Buy Stall : Cakes : Groceries  
: Seasonal goodies  
All in aid of Christmas gifts to be sent to our young Missionary Workers.  
Some of their mothers will be telling us briefly where they are and what they are doing.

12 45pm Pot-Luck Lunch.

\*\*\*\*\*

# Christingle

## -The Light of Christ.

### CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

As part of the Christmas celebration, there will be a Christingle Service at St Peter's on Sunday 20th December at 3.00pm.

The Christingle Service celebrates Jesus' life on earth and offers a chance to support the work of The Children's Society. The Society helps more than 10,000 children and families every year; children and young people suffering from the pressures of handicaps, unemployment, homelessness and family breakdown.

A Christingle symbolises the world we live in and the love Christ showed by his life on earth. The orange represents the world, four cocktail sticks stand for the four seasons of the year and the fruits and sweets they carry are the fruits of the earth and the food we eat. The red ribbon reminds us of the blood Christ shed for us and the candle represents the Light of the World.

Christingles will be issued during the service, and by their candlelight we shall sing carols and hymns. Everyone is invited to bring a gift of money they have collected for The Children's Society. Special Christingle purses are available for you to present your gift and the Society has provided collecting materials that can be used by children and adults. On the other hand, why not think up your own ideas for raising your gift? Purses and collecting materials are available from Julia Harrington.

/ .....

Everybody enjoys the Christingle Service and it is a good opportunity to help The Children's Society to continue and to expand its much needed work.

To assist us in estimating numbers, if you wish to attend the Service, please ring Julia Harrington on Wormley 3406.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### PERSONALIA

We have good news to report on many sick friends: Mrs Elsie Frogley is now safely back at home following her spell in hospital and since the last edition of the magazine, Mr Ernie Winter, Mr Ted Sutton and Mrs Pat Baldry have all been into hospital and are out again now. Mrs Thalia Dean is at home again and so is Mrs Rene Rolison, following an operation for cataract. We send to them all our good wishes for continued good health.

Peter Roderick has been much in our thoughts and prayers recently and we thank God for His answer to our many prayers that Peter came safely through his operation to remove and replace the pin in his hip. Both Peter and Olive wish to express their thanks to all Hambledon friends for their good wishes and prayers during this difficult time and although it is going to be a long haul, patience is now the name of the game.

Christopher Gravestock and Rosalie Brown are to be married at St Peter's on December 5th. We send to them both our good wishes for much happiness in the future.

It has recently come to our notice that Mrs Dorrie Jeffery is now a great-grandmother! Many congratulations!!!

\*\*\*\*\*

Our Church Treasurer acknowledges with grateful thanks an anonymous donation for the work of St Peter's which has come through the Charities Aid Foundation.

And still on the question of money .....

Many thanks to all who so generously supported the Christmas Fayre organised by the Hambledon Nursery School on Saturday 21 November. This raised a magnificent total of over £680.00.

\*\*\*\*\*

MRS JESSICA HARCOURT-WILLIAMS

We extend our sympathy to the family of Mrs Jessica Harcourt-Williams who has recently died. Jessica and Tony Harcourt-Williams lived at Admers Cottage for many years and were much loved villagers.

\*\*\*\*\*

1987 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

This year the wonderful total of £610.37 was collected throughout Hambledon and Hydestile. This total was made up as follows:

Wreath	6.20
Church Collections	200.55
House-to-House Collections	<u>403.62</u>
	610.37

Many thanks to everyone for being so generous and special thanks to the kind people who made the House-to-House Collections.

Elizabeth Brockman

\*\*\*\*\*

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

I'm sure the Parish Council can speak for the whole village when we say a big thank-you to everyone all over the village who got out after the storm and worked so hard to clear the roads. It was a fantastic effort and we are all very grateful. So many people were involved, it is impossible to name them but we do particularly thank Redland Brickworks for their hard work on road clearing with various machines and their kind offer to the village of the use of their microwave cookers and hot showers.

Elizabeth Maclay

\*\*\*\*\*

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF HAMBLEDON FETE COMMITTEE :

Fete in '88 : Hurricane Photographs

Another category and theme will be added to the PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION for the Fete on 9th July. Class 'C' will consist of any 2 photographs showing parts of Hambledon in the aftermath of the 'hurricane'. Previously mentioned entry conditions will apply.

The Godalming firm, WEYCOLOUR, has agreed to sponsor the Competition and will provide the prizes.

Mic. Coleman

\*\*\*\*\*

JOURNEY THROUGH PAKISTAN AND INDIA

(Gay and Phil Mabley have recently been to visit Simon and have kindly contributed some of their impressions for the magazine)

We drove to Heathrow in torrential rain and wind with the temperature at 45°F (the hurricane was only 24 hours away - but that's another story!) Sixteen hours later we stepped out of the plane in Karachi to brilliant sunshine, yellow sand and a temperature of 102°F.

/.....

/.....

We had one day in which to see as much as possible before flying on to Peshawar. As it was Friday the city was very quiet; we walked barefoot in a mosque (the first of many), saw the magnificent tomb built for the founder of Pakistan, the vast dhobi ghat where the washing of Karachi is hung out to dry, camels, rickshaws, horse-drawn victorias, the church where my grandparents married and, just to remind us that it was a Moslem country, lots of ladies in purdah wearing the all-enveloping burkha. The residential areas reminded me very strongly of western France with their shuttered houses and walled gardens covered in flowering shrubs.

At the airport in the queue for Peshawar the only other "Europeans" were a few American Aid workers going out to help in the Afghan Refugee camps; the rest were business men in shalwar qamiz and fierce-looking Pathans wrapped in blankets and carrying enormous bundles tied up in sheets. Because of the difficult situation out there, there is very strict security and we were checked and double-checked and checked again and body searched before they would allow us on the plane. Religion is very much a part of everyday life there, and the pilot offered up a prayer before we took off, and before we landed "Inshallah" at Peshawar. We flew across desert for a great part of the way but gradually greenery appeared below us and mountains appeared on the horizon. As we began the descent to Peshawar the pilot told us the cricket score (the World Cup was taking place there) and that it was raining with a temperature of 70°. We descended through thick cloud and on the other side were green fields with hedges, roads, cars, houses; and then we were down and taxi-ing along a runway full of puddles - it felt just like home! While waiting for our luggage, I noticed how the women who in Karachi had left their heads uncovered were now covering themselves up and I remembered that Simon had told me that in Peshawar I must behave like a Moslem woman. Then at last we were out and there was Simon waiting for us with a taxi.

/.....

We stayed in Simon's room in the "Bachelor Block", the bungalow in the grounds of Edwardes College where the English masters live. That evening we all went out for a meal in a restaurant and because I was with them we had to eat in the purdah section, separated from the rest of the restaurant by a screen. Simon took us over the College and it reminded me of any Public School at home. He now teaches the younger boys at Edwardes School, which is in the grounds of the College, and we had "chai" in the staffroom and met the other teachers, including Mary Cawthorne whose daughters are at King Edward's School at Witley. By this time I was becoming quite used to wearing shalwar qamiz (borrowed from my daughter Sarah) and began to feel quite naked if I didn't have a veil over my head. In fact, I found it quite an asset as it acted as a filter for all the red dust that continually rose from the passing traffic.

One afternoon Simon drove us in the school truck up the Grand Trunk Road to the ruins of the Buddhist monastery of Takht-i-Bai, about 50 miles away. The whole journey was made amidst noise, heat and dust but then we turned off in a small village, parked by the side of a track and walked the last half-mile to where the steps cut in the side of the mountain wound their way up and up to the very top and the buildings of the monastery. The views were magnificent and I have never been anywhere so utterly quiet and still; the perfect place for meditation.

(to be continued ....)

\*\*\*\*\*

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON GROUP

By the time you read this we shall have had our Christmas Sale and hopefully you will all have given or bought something. The proceeds of the event will go to the Village Hall Improvement Scheme and local charities.

/.....

The Christmas party will nicely round off the activities for 1987 and this will be held on Dec. 9th at 2.45pm at Ellingsons. We ask those who are coming to bring a little for tea.

Our programme for the year has been varied, ranging from flowers to vets, pottery to travel. The sessions are informal and enjoyable; so why not come and join us on the second Wednesday of each month - for just 25p!

Thank you on behalf of us all to the hostesses who have opened their homes during the year and provided tea (much too much!) and thanks to all who helped to make it a happy friendly group. The trading table is always popular with the things you bring to sell, from which a small percentage goes to Group funds.

Wishing a Happy and Blessed Christmas to you all from the Wednesday Afternoon Group.

Joan Hardy

\*\*\*\*\*  
WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

"Birds" ..... Mrs Nancy Morris certainly had the attention of all of us when she spoke at our October meeting on this subject - dear to the hearts of all of us! She showed us how often different birds were used in the Bible to illustrate God's love and care for us, and then drew on her experiences in India to bring us further anecdotes when God had again touched human hearts through "Birds" -

Our next meeting will be on December 17th - the third Thursday in the month. This will be at Ellingsons - our thoughts will be on the Christmas message and we shall indulge in mincepies as usual!

Brenda Gardner

\*\*\*\*\*