

ST PETER'S HAMBLETON : FEBRUARY 1985

It has been most heartening that, in January's snowy weather, people have kept coming up the hill to Church to contribute to the worship of God and strengthen our fellowship as Christians. The services have been maintained and there have been some special times of sharing and warm friendship, even if occasionally the physical temperature has been low. Well done all those who have made great efforts to support the services and other events! We have specially prayed for those who have been prevented from joining us by reason of sickness or age.

The PCC and the Wednesday evening Bible-study group have helped to suggest a plan for a Lent study series. I think it will be an interesting (and even exciting) scheme with something for everyone. On Ash Wednesday we have the usual Holy Communion service at 11.30am. Then on the following five Wednesday evenings, beginning on February 27, we shall have video-tape presentations from a series co-ordinated by the late David Watson, formerly Vicar of St Michael-le-Belfry, York. Each takes a different subject and has contributions from leading Christian thinkers and lay people.

My suggestion for a linking theme for the series is 'THE JOY OF DISCIPLESHIP' within which there will be the particular video-tapes on Disciples, Miracles, Lifestyle, Prayer and the Crucifixion. There were twelve subjects to choose from, so we may find that we do not want to stop after the five. We are most grateful to Tom and Rosemary Arden-White for their offer of the use of both their house and their video-recorder.

Please support this opportunity by coming yourself and thinking of others who might like to come and join with us. There may be some people not involved in our regular worship and study who may see this series as a way of taking a look at what the Christian faith could mean for them. Do invite them to come. The meetings will last for just an hour, from 8pm to 9pm.

For those who want to do some deeper study we shall be offering for sale, as a Lent book, Richard Foster's 'Celebration of Discipline' which has a link with the suggested theme and which has a foreward by David Watson. Those who read it may find it rewarding to make connections between the book and the video-tapes. I look forward to sharing with you in this time of learning.

Mac Bolton

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CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 1985

Feb. 3 SEPTUAGESIMA

8 00am Holy Communion

10 00am Children's Church

11 00am Morning Prayer : Archdeacon of Surrey : Rev. Paul Barber

6 30pm Evening Prayer : Mr J J F Foster

7 45pm Youth Fellowship

Feb. 6 8 15pm Meeting for Bible Study and Prayer at Little Woodlands

Feb. 10 SEXAGESIMA

8 00am Holy Communion

11 00am Holy Communion (1662) :

Rev. C E Elton

(Also Sunday Club at Nursery School)

6 30pm Evening Prayer : Mr R C Ellen

7 45pm Youth Fellowship

Feb. 17 QUINQUAGESIMA

8 00am Holy Communion

10 00am Children's Church

11 00am Morning Prayer : Mr M Bolton

6 30pm Holy Communion : Rev. N Turton

7 45pm Youth Fellowship

Feb. 20 FIRST DAY OF LENT : ASH WEDNESDAY

11.30am Holy Communion : Canon C Oldham

Feb. 24 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

8 00am Holy Communion

11 00am Morning Prayer : Rev. R Hyatt

(Also Sunday Club at Nursery School)

6 30pm Evening Prayer

7 45pm Youth Fellowship

Feb. 27 8 00pm Lent Study Meeting :  
'Disciples' (video-tape) at  
Little Woodlands

AND IN MARCH:

March 3 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

8 00am Holy Communion  
10 00am Children's Church  
11 00am Morning Prayer : Mr R Roberts  
6 30pm Evening Prayer : Rev A Petit  
7 45pm Youth Fellowship

March 6 8 00pm Lent Study Meeting - 'Miracles'  
(video-tape) at Little Woodlands

March 10 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

8 00am Holy Communion  
11 00am Holy Communion (ASB) : Rev D Parsons  
(Also Sunday Club at Nursery School)  
6 30pm Evening Prayer  
7 45pm Youth Fellowship

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CHURCH FLOWERS

February 3 Mrs B Paine  
10 Mrs J Hassard-Short  
17 Mrs M Stevens  
24 Mrs D Symonds

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FREEWILL OFFERING SCHEME

Total for December 1984 : £312.68

Total Freewill Offerings for 1984 : £5,852.81 which  
includes £1,330.84 repayment of Income Tax on  
Covenants. This represents a rise of £634.02 in 1984.

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WEEKLY CHURCH CLEANING

Owing to other commitments Mrs Bourne has had to give up  
cleaning the Church and we take this opportunity of thanking  
her for the way she has looked after the Church over the years.  
Several members of our congregation have surprisingly and  
very kindly suggested that it would be nice for Church members  
to be responsible for cleaning the Church each week, until a  
new cleaner can be found. Any member who has not already  
signed the list provided and would like to take part in this  
work, please contact Mrs Olive Roderick (Godalming 22425).



The late YOLANDE WILSON

On the anniversary of her death in February 1984, it may be of interest to Yole's friends to hear that as a result of the note in the papers last February, a sum of over £900 was received by the NSPCC in her memory. A further sum of £600 has been raised by a raffle for a double quilt made by her sewing friends of the Witley Quilters, and presented by them to the NSPCC for sale. Dr Gilmour, Director of the Society, has agreed that this memorial fund be earmarked for the benefit of the "Farnborough Family Craft Centre". This is a new venture to give practical help and instruction to young people in running a home and being parents. Yole was present at the opening, was a keen supporter, and gave some sewing lessons there.

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PERSONALIA

We are delighted to learn of the engagement of SARAH MABLEY to STEPHEN CLARKE and send to them both our very good wishes. MRS VARDEN is now home from hospital and progressing slowly. The magnificent sum of £872.80 has so far been received following the Marathon Organ Play-In at Hambledon Church on Monday 31 December by CHRIS RILSDALE SMITH. All proceeds went to the Ethiopia Famine Appeal and we congratulate Chris on such a splendid result. Chris for his part would like to thank all who have given him their support. JEREMY AND SUE ERDE announce the safe arrival of a daughter. CAROLINE ATKINS is having to loosen the reins as Leader of the Youth Fellowship for a spell whilst undergoing a dental operation. We assure Caroline of our prayers for a speedy and successful recovery and also to TIM ARDEN-WHITE and KEITH FISH jointly leading the young people until Caroline is back in the saddle.

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HAMBLEDON VILLAGE HALL

the AGM will be held in the Hall at 8.15pm on Tuesday 12 February. Several of the longer serving members of the Management Committee feel that it is now time for them to stand down and to make way for new blood and fresh ideas. Anyone who would be interested in undertaking this form of community service is asked to get in touch with the Hon. Sec. Sally Falk on Wormley 3863.

A further article in the series on Societies we Support:

#### THE GIDEONS

The fascinating and exciting story in the book of Judges in the Old Testament in which God whittled down an army of 32,000 men to a small dedicated band of only 300 which God used to rout the Midian hordes, was the inspiration for three Christian commercial travellers in Wisconsin USA in 1899. These men formed the Gideon association to provide Christian fellowship amongst businessmen, relying on Gideon's God and Gideon's secret weapon the "Sword of the Lord".

In 1903 an American Gideon on a visit to England took home with him the idea of placing Bibles in hotel rooms and so began the international ministry that to-day is operating in over 130 countries by more than 70,000 Gideons who distribute over one million Bibles and Testaments every two weeks. The work in the British Isles only commenced

officially in 1949 and by 1984 there are over 220 branches putting the Scriptures into hospitals, hotels, motels, guesthouses, schools, police training centres, eventide homes, prison cells, borstals, and even into the cabins of passenger liners and on board civil aircraft.

Gideons believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and that it's message is relevant to the problems of the critical days in which we live. All Gideons are members in good standing of their local Christian churches who meet together for Christian service and witness; they share the joy of their faith in Christ by personal testimony and by presenting copies of the Bible or the New Testament.

The need throughout the world is so great and the hunger for God's Word so apparent that Gideons in the British Isles have an increasing burden not only to ensure adequate Scripture distribution in the homeland but also to support financially the distribution of God's word in the many underprivileged and needy countries overseas. Because the work is carried out at branch level by local Christian business and professional men who do this work voluntarily in their spare time, every £1 donated is used entirely for the purchase and distribution of Bibles and Testaments. This ensures the greatest possible outreach at the lowest possible cost.

Remarkable letters are received daily at the National Headquarters at Lutterworth telling their own story of the comfort, help and inspiration people have received from

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reading a copy of the Scriptures either in a hotel room or within arm's reach of a hospital bed and as a result many folk have found new life and hope in Christ. A personal reply is sent to all enquirers and this is followed up locally by a visit from a branch member with a view to introducing the enquirer to the fellowship of a live local church. Gideon members bear the entire cost of administration of the work by payment of an annual subscription but the rewards and fellowship in the work more than compensate for the commitment involved. In Gideon's day the battle cry was "The Sword of the Lord" while twentieth century Gideons wield "the Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God" - (Ephesians 6.17). In this age of space travel and nuclear power, men and women in all walks of life - and boys and girls too - are discovering that the Word of God is still "quick and powerful, sharper than any two edged sword"... (Hebrews 4.12).

Roger Mitchell

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NATIONAL TRUST : OAKHURST COTTAGE

The National Trust are hoping to open Oakhurst Cottage Museum to the public on 1 April 1985.

If you would like the opportunity of showing interested people around the cottage on a voluntary basis, possibly one day per month, please contact Elric or Joan Hardy on Worrley 4733 for details.

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BIRTHDAY PARTY

The Diocese has its 50th birthday on May 1st and will be celebrating with banners. Representatives from all the churches in the Diocese will be coming together for a eucharist at 7.30 pm in the Cathedral. At 7.00 pm there will be a programme of music and readings to lead us into the theme of this year's service - "We are One in Christ". It is hoped that each deanery will have a pennant specially designed and made by students at the West Surrey College of Art and Design and each parish will have its own banner. So hopefully we shall begin with a sea of colour.

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Bishop Michael will be preaching and Bishop Kenneth celebrating. Fourteen hundred people from the parishes will be there - but that is only a small number from each parish. So this year each parish is thinking of ways in which what happens at the Cathedral can be linked to its own Services on the Sunday following. It is always a good thing to spread a little happiness around.

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#### GUILDFORD DIOCESAN FAMILY LIFE GROUP

As you may be aware, there are many people to-day who are part of a step-family, due to death or divorce and re-marriage. Being a step-parent is often very demanding and brings its own unique problems.

The Guildford Diocesan Family Life Group has decided to see if it can be of any help to step-parents. In order to do this a meeting has been arranged on February 8th 1985 at 7.45 pm at Christ Church Hall, Waterden Road, Guildford. During the meeting Dr and Mrs Belshaw, both step-parents and members of the National Step-Family Association, will speak. The meeting will then split into small groups to see in which areas the Church and in particular the Guildford Diocesan Family Life Group can be of help to step-families. Further information can be obtained from Christine White on Guildford 571826.

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#### LETTER FROM TEAR FUND:

A letter has been received from Tear Fund acknowledging the £150.00 sent to them following the Hunger Lunch held on Sunday 23 December. They report that they have been greatly encouraged by the tremendous response from Tear Fund supporters to the needs of the Ethiopian people. Tear Fund has just made an emergency relief grant of £20,000 to send 100 tons of grain to Ethiopia, 70 tons will be going to the Wolayta region of Sidamo, south of Addis Ababa, and 30 tons will go to the northern province of Eritrea, where only a few relief agencies are actively involved.

Tear Fund is working through SIM-AID, the relief and development arm of the Society of International Missionaries, which currently provides medical assistance and food for over 500 families in Wolayta, and more than 400 in Asmara. Two nurses supported by Tear Fund, Ruth Cordle and Nicola Sullivan, have gone to work at two feeding centres in Wolayta.



TEAR FUND : 20/11/68  
Tear Fund have been committed to a number of relief and development programmes in Ethiopia over the last ten years, and this year Tear Fund's aid has topped £300,000. The money is being used, through SIM-AID and the Kale Heywet ('Word of Life') Church, to fund large-scale well-drilling, water improvement and forestry projects, thus seeking to deal with the causes of suffering as well as the immediate effects.

Please pray for the people of Ethiopia - especially those who are suffering acutely from the effects of malnutrition and disease. Pray too for all who are working to bring help and hope where it is most needed.

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Letter from The Children's Society following the £21.57 sent to them as a result of the recent half-yearly box opening:

Even though the Christmas season has passed us by very rapidly, it is still as important as ever that we continue to help in as many cases of hardship and neglect as possible. The Children's Society currently operates 96 projects, homes and care centres in England and Wales and, although the type of project may vary, there is one underlying need for all of them; and that is the unerring help and support of all our friends, for which we are very grateful. It is only with the help of our kind supporters that we can continue to develop and expand our work.

Each year over 7,000 children receive our help, which is only made possible with the very generous efforts and prayers of our boxholders, donors, and of friends such as yourselves.

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#### THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The next meeting of the Fellowship will be held on Thursday February 28th at 3 pm in the home of Mrs Ellingson.

M.S.S.