

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, HAMBLEDON

JANUARY, 1975

THE RECTOR WRITES

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied, "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way."

Many will remember how movingly King George VI quoted those words at the close of his Christmas broadcast to the nation near the beginning of the last war. They sank immediately into my memory and I often find myself thinking of them again.

1975 is likely to be for us as a nation a difficult year. For each of us as individuals it is in any case unknown. Do you wish you knew what lies ahead? "Give me a light," we say.

The author of these words, Minnie Haskins, suggests something better than a light and a known way . . . MY HAND IN THE HAND OF GOD. This means allowing HIM to set my direction; it means being willing to go His way; it would involve going at His pace; it would follow that we are on the right track, though we cannot see where it leads and though we have not chosen it. It implies that we TRUST Him entirely. We are safe there.

Put your hand into God's hand as 1975 begins.

May it be a very happy New Year for you all.

2.

Diary for January

SUN. 5. SECOND AFTER CHRISTMAS

Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon
10 am Childrens Church
11 am Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
6.30 pm Evening Prayer
7.45 pm Young People at the Rectory.

MON. 6. 2.30 pm Holy Communion: Hambledon
Homes

THUR. 9. 8 pm Church Fellowship: Social Evening
in the Village Hall

SUN. 12 FIRST AFTER EPIPHANY

Holy Communion at 8 a.m.
11 a.m. Morning Prayer: Rev. G.F.
Grobecker, MA Deputy Assistant Chaplain
General.
6.30 pm Evening Prayer.

MON. 13 8 pm Bible Study at The Rectory.

SUN. 19 SECOND AFTER EPIPHANY

Holy Communion at 8 am and 7.30 pm
10 am Childrens Church
11 am Morning Prayer
6.30 pm Evening Prayer and Holy Communion
7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage.

MON. 20 8 pm Parochial Church Council Meeting

THUR. 23 3 pm Women's Fellowship Party: Ellingsons

SUN. 26 SEPTUAGESIMA

Holy Communion at 8 am and 10 am
10 am Series II Communion Service
11 am Morning Prayer
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

MON. 27 8 pm Bible Study at The Rectory.

AND IN FEBRUARY

SUN. 2. SEXAGESIMA

Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon
10 am Childrens Church
11 am Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
6.30 pm Evening Prayer
7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage

MON. 3. 2.30 pm Holy Communion: Hambledon Homes

SUN. 9. QUINQUAGESIMA

Holy Communion at 8 am
11 am Morning Prayer
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

CHURCH FLOWERS

The rota for January is

January	5	Miss Parker
	12	Mrs. Wieler
	19	Mrs. Steele
	26	Miss Denny

FREE WILL OFFERING ENVELOPES

Total for December £39.41p E.F. Denny

MISSIONARY BOX OPENING Boxes were emptied on
24 November. We thank all those who have given
to missionary needs in this way. The results
were:

Church Pastoral Aid Society	£12.53p
Ruanda Mission	£19.85p
Leprosy Mission	£ 7.50p

CHURCH REGISTERS

Public Baptism

November 24 Katherine Anne Vacher

4.

BIBLE STUDIES AT THE RECTORY and later A LENT COURSE

Easter comes early in 1975 and Lent begins in mid-February. During Lent itself the Rector plans to hold a special course of study evenings once a week in the Rectory when he hopes many of our church members will come. More about that later.

Before that, there would be time for only a short series of Bible Study evenings once a fortnight on a Monday evening at 8 pm, again at The Rectory. All who can come will be most welcome. The dates are January 13 and 27.

On Monday, February 10, there is a special meeting in connection with Mission Unlimited when the Bishop of Guildford will speak at Godalming Baptist Church. The Lent Course would begin the week after that.

PERSONALIA

It has been a pleasure to have many of our YOUNGER MEMBERS back from school, college, and university, and to hear from them news of the notable strength and liveliness of college Christian Unions.

Some who are in the last years of school life go back to "Mocks" and then plenty of hard work before important examinations in June. Our very best wishes to them all.

There is good news of some of our SICK MEMBERS. Canon Oldham has slowly improved and is now allowed by his doctor to attend services and even to conduct them again. Mr. Jack Edwards went into hospital again as was planned, but thanks to the good work of the nurse who visited him at home he needed only minor treatment after all, and there seems now good prospect of his foot healing well. Mrs. Freemantle who suffered much more from her scalding than most of us at first realised and has had a very rough time, is now well on the road to a

5.
full recovery. It is just about twelve months since Mrs. Kenneth Cole had her operation, and this has been a very difficult year for them both. Just lately she has at last been feeling rather better, but we ought to continue to remember them in our prayers.

Recently confirmed. We welcome into the full family life of the church Timothy Parker who was confirmed by the Bishop of Reading at Bradfield College on 7 December.

Welcome to Hambledon. Dr. David Williams joined the team of doctors at Chiddingfold last Spring, but it was not until November that he was able to bring his wife and two small children to set up their home at "Biffins". We hope this will be a very happy home for them, and send our warm greetings both to them and also to Tom and Sarah Grillo and family who have moved from Biffins to "Beech Hill."

Visitors from Australia. Mr. & Mrs. Roderick West and their family have been very welcome visitors at our services during the last weeks of the year. Roderick is a licensed Reader in the Diocese of Sydney and it was good to have him preaching one Sunday evening in December. We ought to remember him specially in our prayers as he now goes back to be Headmaster of Trinity Grammar School, Sydney.

In memoriam In loving memory of Ellen Tinnell, born Wedmore, Somerset, 26 June 1902, died Hambledon 4 January 1971 from Jim

Warmest Greetings to Mr. & Mrs. Peter Roderick who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in December

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

We were given a splendid evening in December when Mr. Martin King came to show us his very beautiful colour transparencies of Natural Life in the Holy Land. It was both delightful and interesting to see some of the birds, the flowers, and the very scenes that the Lord Jesus Christ would certainly have seen nearly two thousand years ago, and all who came greatly enjoyed the evening.

We meet next on Thursday 9 January, as usual at 8 pm in the Village Hall, but this time for a Social Evening, with refreshments and games. The games will be chosen to suit those who come. If some prefer to sit and watch others take part, they will thoroughly enjoy that. Most however will not be able to resist joining in. For us all it could be a most happy evening. Bring your friends.

WOMENS' FELLOWSHIP

Mrs. Pouncy, from St. Peters Church, Old Woking, was the guest speaker at the November meeting of the Fellowship. Her talk was on the subject of 'Heaven' and she interspersed it with readings from the New Testament, which revealed the wonderful prospect of the future life compared with the sufferings and problems of the present days.

The New Year Party is planned to take place on Thursday, 23rd January at 3 p.m. and will be held at Ellinosons.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Annual General Meeting of the Hambledon W.I. was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday, December 11. On arrival, members were invited to vote for the new committee. Busbridge W.I. kindly sent two members to act as tellers. MRS. STEELE presided for the last time before handing over to MRS. HARDY, the

new President. After the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports, both of which were encouraging, it was decided to send donations to the NSPCC, the Salvation Army, the Cheshire Home, and the Hambledon Homes. A contribution to the collection for Help the Aged was also made. In her report Mrs. Steele emphasised the importance of calling on people when they came new to the village, and amongst other things inviting them to join the W.I.. She thanked MRS. CROWHURST as secretary and MRS. VACHER as treasurer for the help and support they had given her during her term in office.

The tellers having counted the votes, the result was announced. The following were elected:- MRS. ATKINS, MRS. BOOTH, MRS. BRUNT, MRS. CROWHURST, MISS DAVIES, MRS. HARDY, MRS. JEFFERY, MRS. MAJOR, MRS. STEELE, and MRS. VACHER.

The meeting ended with a lively rendering of some well-known Christmas Carols led by Miss Parker on the piano, followed by a delicious tea which was very welcome. Singing is indeed thirsty work!

The next meeting is on Jan. 8 when MRS. FREEMANTLE will talk on "My trip to Canada."

Mrs. B.J. Major

CHURCH SCHOOL

Since the Rector wrote his letter two months ago in the November magazine, the County Education Authorities have taken a further step. There is now displayed outside the school official public notice of their intention to cease to maintain the school after September next when alternative provision is available at Busbridge C. of E. first and middle schools.

During the two months following the posting of this notice, formal objection by interested parties can be made to the Secretary of State, whose responsibility it will be to weigh the arguments and give a final decision.

8.

There are three parties interested here, the Managers of the School, the Hambledon Parish Council, and the recently formed Hambledon School Association (representing the parents), and they all share the view that it would be far better for our Church School in Hambledon to continue, at least as a first school up to the age of 8 years. The reasons for this view, in brief, include:

1. The journey to Busbridge along our narrow road without footpaths could be dangerous.
2. There is the real possibility of over-crowding at the Busbridge school.
3. The removal especially of our younger children from the small classes and local environment where they and their families are known would be a loss educationally.

As against this, the Education Authorities believe:

1. That the new and larger premises would make for better education, and
2. That the cost of maintaining so small a school in Hambledon will be prohibitive: in the jargon of the day it is not financially viable.

Parents as interested parties could well now write a short letter giving their views and the reasons for it. The letter should be addressed to: The Permanent Secretary, Dept. of Education and Science, Elizabeth House, York Rd. London, SE1 7PH; and should be headed Hambledon C. of E. (Aided) Primary School, No. 3358

In addition, all three bodies, the Managers, the Hambledon Council, and the new School Association, are sending in their reasoned objection to the scheme. We can all pray that as the Minister weighs the various arguments for and against, the final decision may be what is best for the boys and girls in our care.

DJT