

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, HAMBLEDON

JULY, 1975

THE RECTOR WRITES

My wife and I hope that many of you will be able to come to the Rectory for tea on Sunday 6th July between 4.30 and 6 p.m. With us for the day will be the Rev. Edward Shirras, and his wife and children will be with us for tea. We expect also to have at home all three daughters, Clare, Judith and Jill, together with Clare's husband John and baby Joanna. We thought that on this day when, unusually, we are all together, it would be nice if our congregation could come too, with longer time to meet them than they have had hitherto. All are most welcome. Come if you can. Incidentally, if some of our members have not been to the Rectory since we arrived, it is high time that was put right!

As you will see from the Diary, Mr. Shirras comes to us on 6 July to preach on behalf of the Church Pastoral-Aid Society. Here in Hambledon we have a special place in our hearts for this great society, for they are Patrons of this living, and indeed it was Mr. Shirras himself who came here a year ago just after Mr. Elton left, to meet the Wardens and Church Council and confer with them about a successor. Now he comes to tell us in his sermons something of the work of CPAS, which for more than a century has been in effect the missionary society of the Church of England to large numbers in our own country (especially in the great cities) who are far out of touch with any church, and never hear its message. Through the Christian camps it provides for urban children, through the

literature it puts in our hands, through the grants it gives to enable many a parish to have a curate, it has had a great share in the work of the Mission Field of England. It will be good to hear more about it, and to give too.

DIARY FOR JULY

6 SUN. TRINITY 6

Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon
 10 am Children's Church
 11 am Morning Prayer: Rev.E. Shirras, B.Sc.,
 (Asst. Secretary, C.P.A.S.)
 6.30 pm Evening Prayer: Rev.E. Shirras
 7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage
 Loose collections 11 am and 6.30 pm to CPAS

7 MON. 2.30 pm Hambledon Homes Holy Communion

13 SUN. TRINITY 7

Holy Communion at 8 am
 11 am Morning Prayer
 6.30 pm Evening Prayer
 7.45 pm Young People at The Rectory

18 FRI. 2 pm Church School End-of-Term Service

20 SUN. TRINITY 8

Holy Communion at 8 am and 7.30 pm
 10 am Children's Church
 11 am Morning Prayer: Public Baptism
 6.30 pm Evening Prayer
 7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage

27 SUN. TRINITY 9

Holy Communion at 8 am and 10 am
 10 am Series 2 Holy Communion
 11 am Morning Prayer: Rev.Derek Parsons, MA
 6.30 pm Evening Prayer: Rev.Derek Parsons
 7.45 pm Young People at Little Woodlands

and in AUGUST

3 SUN. TRINITY 10

Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon

10 am Children's Church: Rev. Derek Parsons

11 am Morning Prayer: Rev. Derek Parsons

6.30 pm Canon Charles Oldham

10 SUN. TRINITY 11

Holy Communion at 8 am

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at The Rectory

CHURCH FLOWERS

July 6 Mrs. T. Arden-White

13 Mrs. B. Wieler

20 Mrs. M. Caroe

27 Mrs. M. Stevens

August 3 Mrs. A.

Fitzpatrick

10 Mrs. B. Wieler

FREE WILL OFFERING ENVELOPES

Total for May 1975, £35.92p

E.F. Denny

CHURCH REGISTERS

Baptism

May 25 Alastair Stuart Cook

NEWS FROM THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

At the first meeting of the new Council on 13 June several matters were discussed which can be publicized usefully here:-

CHURCHYARD A number of members of the congregation responded to our appeal for help in taming the grass especially near the tombstones. We thank them all sincerely, and especially those who have been to work there several times. We want quickly to complete cutting down such long grass as remains to the point when machines can take over. Then the whole of our attractive churchyard can be kept neat and tidy all through the year.

CAR PARKING AT COURT FARM Those who bring cars to our church services will remember that there was one Sunday recently when the courtyard was out of action because it was being resurfaced. This is a reminder to us that our considerable usage of the courtyard must have contributed a good deal to its need for restoration.

Now that the surface has been renewed let us do our part to **DRIVE ONLY VERY SLOWLY** when entering and leaving, both to take care of the gates, and also to avoid throwing gravel on to the grass verges. We are most grateful to Major and Mrs. Major for their kindness.

EASTER OFFERING At the Church Annual Meeting some members had expressed disappointment at the fact that the Easter Offering is now added to an incumbent's income when the Diocese calculates what subsidy is needed to bring his stipend up to the Diocesan scale. After a thorough discussion by the Council, the following points emerged:

(i) Though most unfortunately it was not realised by our church members, this scheme was approved by the clergy of the Diocese in 1969 as being the fairest available, and has been operating ever since.

(ii) In recent years the Diocesan authorities have faced the task of ensuring that clergy stipends did not lag too far behind inflation, and also of reducing the unreasonable anomalies between parishes. (Easter Offerings, for instance, might vary between one parish and another by over £200, and not necessarily according to the merit of the person concerned!) In doing this, the Diocese had inevitably to call for a sharply increased quota from the parishes, and in order not to make their demands even greater they felt it right to add together all an incumbent's income (including Easter Offering), and then add their subsidy to bring the total up to the Diocesan scale. Here in Hambledon the subsidy from the Diocese amounts to more than half the stipend, so we have every reason to be grateful to them.

(iii) The scheme adopted in 1969 is nationwide. All the Dioceses work this way, and the Church Commissioners also give some central funds to the Diocese on this basis. So even if we wished to do so we could not change it.

ORGAN The updated quotation for organ renovation was, as we feared, considerably increased. There is, however, the possibility that the Council can find a cheaper way of gaining the desired end, and this is being explored immediately.

WELL DONE

At the Village Annual Meeting in May there was news of the fine performance of a young Hambledon motor cyclist, John May. A fortnight earlier he had been the only one of 15 British riders to complete a gruelling West German round of the European two day championship. Atrocious conditions with mud, snow, and cold faced 129 riders from many nations.

Subsequently the British team did much better in Czechoslovakia, when four of them, again including John May, took gold medals. This was a test of courage and character as well as skill.

P.S. The Rector hopes that always someone will be kind enough to let him know similar good news of our parishioners. It will be a pleasure to publish it in this magazine.

SOME THANKYOU'S

COFFEE MORNING AT ARAN LODGE We are most grateful to Major and Mrs. de Berniere Smart for arranging their coffee morning, and kindly dividing the proceeds between the Village Hall fund and our own Organ Fund. It was a most happy event on a lovely day, and the total raised was some £72.

HUNGER LUNCH At the Rectory Hunger Lunch on 18 May £28 was given to the hungry and homeless through Tear Fund. Thank you, all who helped and gave.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY has written to express thanks for the gift of £15.25p

sent from Hambledon after the box opening recently. The letter continues: "In these difficult days of rising costs of the basic essentials needed for the maintenance of our large family it is so encouraging to know we have the continued support of our many kind friends in Hambledon."

WEDNESDAYS

Numbers were good at the short series of study evenings now concluded, and we hope to plan another in the autumn, beginning early in October.

Until then, we shall be glad to welcome at the Rectory all who can come on alternate Wednesday evenings, beginning on 2nd July, at 8.30 pm. We shall begin with a short time of prayer together, for our parish and people, and for God's work the world over, and members can bring their own suggestions for prayer of course. Then there would also be some Bible Study, where again members' suggestions on themes would be welcome. Then coffee after that. Come any Wednesday you can. In July the dates are 2nd, 16th and 30th.

SUNDAY PREACHERS

It will be good to welcome the Rev. Derek Parsons (Chaplain of King Edward School, Witley) and Canon Charles Oldham to our services on 27 July and 3 August as shown in the Diary. We thank them for coming to us.

PERSONALIA

MRS. WHITE has been in Milford Chest Hospital suffering from a blood condition which is still being explored.

MR. TOM ARDEN-WHITE is safely back home after a hernia operation from which he is convalescing well. We are so glad that MISS BIRLEY is much

improved from her shingles and is beginning to get about again.

We ought also to remember in our prayers those who are improving only very slowly from long illness, including MAJOR RICHARDS whose attack of pneumonia last month set back his progress most disappointingly.

Reports of the June meetings and other news of the WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP and of the WOMEN'S INSTITUTE will be included by our parish recorders next month.

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