

ST PETER'S HAMBLEDON  
MARCH 1986

The Rector writes:

My dear Friends

Alan Foster, a member of Haslemere church and lay chairman of the Deanery Synod, has been commissioned by the diocese to visit parishes to talk about money and urge them to undertake Christian Stewardship campaigns. He was recently invited to meet the PCC and brought with him a chart showing facts and figures relating to parishes in the deanery and diocese. How does Hambledon compare? As far as numbers for usual Sunday attendance and numbers of people contributing financially, very well. Alan Foster said that Hambledon was well known in the deanery for its vigorous and well-attended Youth Fellowship and for the high level of spiritual life in the parish. However, when it came to the level of financial commitment we are near the bottom of the pile. We have fifty-one people who covenant an average of £41. The average for the Diocese is £98.50 and the Deanery £74.05. Hence the concern. Alan Foster spoke of money in terms of commitment to Christ and His Church. How much is it worth to you he said? Supposing you take the Daily Telegraph on a regular basis (or some other newspaper!); this would cost you £98.80 per annum. Even at this level of commitment, if everybody responded, we would more than double our covenanted income! Does your Church mean as much to you as your Daily Telegraph? (or whatever). Put like this, it is very challenging. Also, I think, very helpful to be able to see things in practical terms. We were asked by Alan, not just to see giving as an attempt to cover costs, but as a joyful celebration of our Christian faith. How will we respond?

In the short term, I think it would be good for all of us to examine our giving in the light of what God's Son has done for us "by His death and resurrection". If we all do this I am sure that our response will be overwhelming and generous.

In the long term, we are asking the Stewardship Adviser to the Diocese to come and address us after the Annual Church Meeting on 17 April. Do pray that God will guide and direct our thinking by His Holy Spirit and also any action which we may feel it right to take in the future. Personally I feel

/.....

...../

that a direct response to God's love and goodness is probably best. Obviously though this needs prayer, teaching and information to direct and stimulate our response.

God grant to all of us a joyful Easter and a real experience of Christ's living presence amongst us and in our hearts.

Alleluia Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Yours sincerely

Peter Sertin

\*\*\*\*\*

CALENDAR FOR MARCH 1986

Mar. 2 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

- 8 00 am Holy Communion
- 10 00 am Family Service (followed by coffee at the Rectory)
- 12 00 noon Holy Communion
- 6 30 pm Evening Prayer (1662)
- 7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

Mar. 5 10 30 am Coffee Morning at Little Woodlands

- 8 00 pm LENTEN TALK AND MEDITATION ON THE BEATITUDES: "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness"

Mar. 7 WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

- 10 00 am Service at Baptist Church Godalming
- 1 30 pm Service at Milford Chest Hospital

Mar. 9 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT (MOTHERING SUNDAY)

- 8 00 am Holy Communion
- 11 00 am Morning Prayer (1662)  
(Sunday Club meets at the Nursery School)  
(Pathfinders meet at the Rectory)
- 6 30 pm Evening Prayer (ASB)
- 7 45 pm Youth Fellowship



Mar. 12 8 00 pm LENTEN TALK AND MEDITATION ON THE  
BEATITUDES : "Blessed are the pure in  
heart"

Mar. 16 FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

8 00 am Holy Communion  
10 00 am Children's Church  
11 00 am Morning Prayer (1662) :  
The Rev. D J Thompson  
6 30 pm Holy Communion (ASB)  
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

Mar. 19 8 00 pm INSTITUTION OF PREB. RONALD GREEN  
St Mary's Chiddingfold.

Mar. 21 10 00 am Annual Church Spring-clean

Mar. 23 PALM SUNDAY

8 00 am Holy Communion  
11 00 am Morning Prayer (1662) : Rev. D Parsons  
(Sunday Club meets at the Nursery School)  
(Pathfinders meet at the Rectory)  
6 30 pm Evening Prayer (ASB) : Mr Justin Welby  
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

(The Rector will be taking a Parish weekend for  
St George's Tunis)

Mar. 24 PCC meet at the Rectory

Mar. 27 MAUNDY THURSDAY

8 00 pm Service of Holy Communion  
"Blessed are the peacemakers"

Mar. 28 GOOD FRIDAY

11 00 am Morning Service : "Blessed are the meek"  
FOLLOWED BY HUNGER LUNCH AT THE RECTORY

Mar. 30 EASTER DAY (clocks go forward one hour!!)

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

AND IN APRIL .....

Apl. 5 PARISH BARN DANCE CHICHESTER HALL WITLEY

Apl. 6 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EASTER  
8 00 am Holy Communion  
10 00 am Family Service  
(followed by coffee at the Rectory)

12 00 noon Holy Communion  
6 30 pm Evening Prayer (1662)  
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

Apl. 9 8 15 pm BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER MEETING  
AT THE RECTORY

Apl. 13 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER  
8 00 am Holy Communion  
11 00 am Morning Prayer (1662)  
(Sunday Club meets at the Nursery School)  
(Pathfinders meet at the Rectory)  
6 30 pm Evening Prayer (ASB)  
7 45 pm Youth Fellowship

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

BAPTISM :

February 2 Aimée Elizabeth Louise Vacher  
February 9 Nicholas John Frederick Viner  
February 15 Alexander Robert Pickup

FREEWILL OFFERING SCHEME

Total for January 1986 : £675.32 : E F Denny

\*\*\*\*\*  
CHURCH FLOWERS

Mar. 2 Miss Harrill and Miss Bather  
9 Mrs Jean Finnigan  
16  
23 Youth Fellowship  
30 Easter Flowers

CHURCH CLEANING

Feb. 28/Mar. 1 Mrs Pat Williams  
March 7/8 ( Mrs J de Berniere-Smart  
( Mrs R Arden-White  
March 14/15 Mrs M Caroe  
March 21 SPRING CLEANING AT 10 00 am



#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

A short prayer meeting is held at the Rectory each Saturday morning at 9 am to pray for the needs of the parish and the world.

The Bible Study Groups for ladies meet each Tuesday and Wednesday at 10.30 am. On Tuesdays at the home of Faith Denny and on Wednesdays at the home of Rosemary Arden-White.

#### THURSDAY 17 APRIL : ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING IN THE VILLAGE HALL

The Bible Study Groups are holding a coffee morning with cake and produce stall on Wednesday 5th March at Little Woodlands from 10.30 am. The proceeds will be in aid of the Shepherd of the Hills Children's Home in the Philippines.

PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT US

Rosemary Arden-White

\*\*\*\*\*

#### THE TREASURERS TEXT : 2 Corinthians 9 vv 6-7

In financial terms 1985 was an unusual year in that we completed the interregnum, undertook major renovations to the Rectory and installed our new Rector. Whilst full accounts will be produced at the Annual Meeting, the outcome will show a deficit of approximately £1400 after meeting all our expenses and maintaining the previous levels of our outward giving.

I have mentioned in previous articles the new "potential" basis on which the quota that we pay to the Diocesan Authorities is drawn and whilst this is being introduced on a stepped scale, we face, in 1986, having to find £600 per month i.e. an additional £200 per month.

We have already received a number of kind gestures by way of increased covenants etc. but if you have not already considered increasing your regular giving, could I ask you please to think of one of the following options:

- (1) Completion of a new 4-year covenant (this enables us to reclaim tax from the Revenue).
- (2) The commencement of a freewill offering scheme, or the increase of an existing commitment.
- (3) Completion of a monthly/annual bankers order.

/.....

/.....

Please read my text and search your heart -  
St Peter's Church does need your help to increase its  
income.

Either Faith Denny or I have covenants, bankers orders  
or advice available!

Creighton Redman

\*\*\*\*\*

#### EAST AFRICA EVENING

This very enjoyable and purposeful event, held in the Village Hall on February 5th, began with a virtuoso performance by Michael Atkins who projected and described nearly two hundred slides in forty minutes. His and Edna's enthusiasm for their holiday in Kenya with Paul and Faith was both obvious and understandable as we watched a rapid succession of beautiful pictures while Michael reeled off the names of an enormous variety of wildlife with the authority of a lecturer in natural history!

The scenes that followed were in sharp and challenging contrast as we moved from Kenya to Uganda and Rwanda. Dr Jack Symonds showed some slides of the hospital at Kisiizi where he and Sonia spent such a significant part of their life. He highlighted the physical and spiritual needs of so many Africans as he recalled a conversation with a man whose leg he had amputated. That man said he knew that Jack would one day be with The Lord but he admitted having no such assurance about his own destiny, which made Jack realise what a challenge to him such spiritual blindness would be. We saw finally a poignant twenty-minute filmstrip with recorded commentary featuring the fight against malnutrition, just one aspect of the work of the Rwanda Mission which Hambledon supports.

Basic items are desperately needed by Kisiizi Hospital and Kabale Preparatory School. Sheila Bolton spoke about the collection and posting arrangements which she is very kindly handling for those who wish to help.

\*\*\*\*\*



The following letter has been received from  
The Children's Society thanking the carol party for the  
£75.00 that was collected:

"Your generosity and that of so many other friends at this time of the year makes it difficult for us to acknowledge your donation as personally as we would wish. We feel sure that you will agree that careful stewardship of our resources is ever more vital in these difficult days, so in order to keep our administrative costs to a minimum and ensure that your donation is used for the youngsters for whom it was intended we hope you will accept this printed letter rather than the personal "thank you" which we would have preferred.

"We know that we can look to the new year with confidence because we have the support of people of goodwill such as yourselves. Together we will continue to respond to the changing needs of children with an unchanging love and concern. Indeed our love must grow to embrace the many who have yet to come to us for help but whose needs cry out as once the orphans in the streets of London cried out to our Founder. We must not fail them, as we know God will not fail us."

\*\*\*\*\*

And from Tear Fund in response to the £107.36 which was donated at the Hunger Lunch on the Sunday before Christmas:

"Your gift has been allocated to our General Fund. This fund is used to support a large number of relief and development programmes around the world, together with a team of fully qualified personnel serving alongside national Christians in specialist roles.

"The network of national churches and mission agencies through which we work now spans the globe, and enables us to respond to a wide variety of requests for immediate and long-term aid.

"Tear Fund is not only committed to helping to meet the physical and material needs of the poor and deprived peoples of the world however. We believe that spiritual enlightenment and development is equally important. We never forget that "man does not live by bread alone".

"It is for this reason that alongside the essential task of alleviating physical suffering, preventing disease and improving living standards, we are helping to meet the spiritual needs of people in many countries around the world. Our Overseas Evangelism and Christian Education Department.



provides hundreds of scholarships for potential leaders of the church, contributes towards the cost of Bible college premises, the production of Christian literature and other evangelistic outreach.

"Please pray that in all the work undertaken with Tear Fund's help the Christian message of reconciliation and healing through Christ will be clearly heard and widely understood."

\*\*\*\*\*

#### WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Women's Fellowship new year party got off to a good start with the warmth and hospitality of Dorothea Ellingson's home. Some hair-raising adventures on summer holidays were related together with graphic descriptions of beautiful scenery - made by God for our enjoyment. We all ate far too much of the good things provided for tea.

Come and join us on February 27th - same time, same place (3 pm) where a warm welcome awaits you.

Joan Hardy

\*\*\*\*\*

#### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON GROUP (ex-WI)

There are 75 in Great Britain, 142 elsewhere in the world, all because of the compassion and determination of one man. Mr Chamberlain told the WAG's how Leonard Cheshire had, since 1945, created the Cheshire Homes for severely physically disabled people. There are 40 residents at Hydon Hill, the one on "our" doorstep. Financial help is always needed but practical help just as much; by visiting and doing small things for the residents; acting as escorts on outings, housemothers to do sewing etc. Helping in the occupational therapy workshop; assisting at fetes, coffee mornings and general fund-raising. Newspaper is always needed and did you know that there is a nearly-new shop where very good clothing can be bought? Mrs Gillian Ure (Hascombe 510) would willingly supply further details on any aspect of the work carried out at Hydon Hill.

Our March meeting is to be held at 2.45 pm the 12th at the home of Mrs Ruth Steele, Juniper Hill, Clock Barn Lane. Come and find out why Oakhurst cottage is so unique to our heritage and the National Trust.

Joan Hardy