

ST PETER'S HAMBLEDONMay 1977

THE RECTOR WRITES

We shall be most glad to welcome back the Rev. Patrick Ashe (director of Project Vietnam Orphans) on 1st May when he is kindly conducting Children's Church at 10 am and also the 11 am service.

On 15 May my cousin, the Rev. Dr. David Milton-Thompson, is spending the day with us and preaching at Children's Church, and also at 11 am and 6.30 pm. He served as a doctor on a destroyer in the war, then after that went out as a missionary doctor for the Church Missionary Society originally to China. Soon came the Communist takeover, when missionaries were withdrawn, and he was then re-assigned to Africa. He has served ever since with his nurse wife, in charge of the teaching hospital at Kaloleni in Kenya. At his Bishop's suggestion he came home a few years ago for a short theological course before being ordained. It is for his long missionary service that he was given the O.B.E. a year ago.

Ascension Day is on Thursday 19 May. The fact that, sadly, this is no longer a general public holiday makes it easy to forget that this is a great church festival day, when we rejoice that Jesus our King is in residence, at home; AND HE REIGNS. We celebrate at a Communion Service at 10.15 am, and hope many will come. There is a cup of coffee just after 11 am at the Rectory for all who can join us.

2.

DIARY FOR MAY

1. S. Philip and S. James Day. Easter III

Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon

10 am Children's Church: Rev. Patrick Ashe

11 am Morning Prayer: Rev. Patrick Ashe

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage

4 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study and Prayer (Rectory)

8 Fourth Sunday after Easter

Holy Communion at 8 am

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at Rectory

9 Mon. 7.45 for 8 pm. Parochial Church Council

15 Rogation Sunday. Fifth after Easter

Holy Communion at 8 am and 7.30 pm

10 am Children's Church: Rev. Dr. D. Milton-Thompson

11 am Morning Prayer: Rev. Dr. D. Milton-Thompson

6.30 pm Evening Prayer: Rev. Dr. D. Milton-Thompson

7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage

Collections all day to Church Missionary Society

18 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study and Prayer (Rectory)

19 ASCENSION DAY 10.15 am Holy Communion

11 am Coffee at the Rectory

22 Sunday after Ascension

Holy Communion at 8 am and 10 am

10 am Series II Communion Service

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at Little Woodlands

29 WHIT SUNDAY

8 am Holy Communion

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Holy Communion, hymns and sermon

7.45 pm Young People at

AND IN JUNE

3.

1 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study and Prayer (Rectory)

5 Trinity Sunday: QUEEN'S JUBILEE

Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon

10 am Children's Church

11 am National Jubilee Service

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage

12 First after Trinity

Holy Communion at 8 am

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at Rectory

CHURCH FLOWERS

May 1 Mrs M. Caroe

8 Mrs E.A. Wieler

15 Mrs V.R. Stevens

22 Mrs J. de Berniere Smart

29 Whitsun Flowers

June 5 Mrs E. Secrett

12 Mrs E.A. Wieler

19 Mrs M. Caroe

FREE WILL OFFERING ENVELOPES

Total for March 1977 £51. 21p.

E.F. Denny

BRIEF EXTRACTS FROM THE CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

Numbers were encouragingly large this year and some had difficulty in finding chairs.

ELECTIONS. The Rector and people together elected Mr Cecil Chapman and Mr Peter Roderick as Churchwardens. The sidesmen were re-elected, with the addition of Mr Peter Gardner and Mr Edric Hardy; and Mr Alan Harper was re-elected as Honorary Auditor. For the Parochial Church Council, Mrs John Major and Miss Anne Disney vacated office after serving for three years, and Miss Mary Parker, Mr Tom Grillo, and Mr Tony Cannon were elected.

ELECTORAL ROLL Mr Roderick reported that during the year 16 members had moved away, and four had died. Ten new names had been added, though some further forms were still due to come in. The present roll numbered 226.

FINANCIAL MATTERS Our treasurer Mr Chapman presented the years accounts (available for inspection at the door of the Church). During the year, the cost of overhauling and improving the organ (£1320) had distorted the figures. Other costs had inevitably risen, from £2445 to £3059, the increase in the cost of heating oil being a major factor. On the other hand, generous giving by the congregation had brought in £4095 compared with £3518 in the previous year. Though we had been able to carry the increased costs and the expenditure on the organ, outward giving to missionary and other needs elsewhere had fallen to £907 (compared with £1357 in 1975). There was a united desire to see our missionary giving restored to full strength this year.

CHURCH PROPERTY Buildings and furnishings were in good order generally. The task at present before us was the treatment of woodworm in the roof timbers and some pews. This was being dealt with one week in May, at the close of which we would need to call for the help of willing members to clean up, and restore books, carpets and hassocks ready for the following Sunday.

REPORTS Mr Tom Grillo presented an admirably brief account of the proceedings of the Church Council. We heard of the Magazine from Mr Ray Williams, and the meeting gave warm thanks to Mrs Roderick, Mr and Mrs Williams, Mrs Chapman, and the distributors for their excellent work in production and distribution. Dr Jack Symonds again gave welcome light relief with a hot-too-serious account of what goes on at Deanery Synod. Then, after a cup of tea provided by Mrs Fanny Jeffery and Miss Faith Denny, the Rector's review of the year concluded the evening. This was lit up by Mr Charles Vacher's short film of the Fairmile week end, and by coloured transparencies provided by Cecil Chapman, Edric Hardy and Jack Symonds. We recalled the Bishop's week end last June, and the visits in the autumn of Andrew Way (Cambodia and Thailand); and Mrs David Pytches (Chile), and of the Rev. Ted Elton on Remembrance Sunday. We heard of the growing strength and usefulness of the Young People's group, and of the service they rendered both to the church, and in the Almshouses and elsewhere. Children's Church was as well attended as ever (with as many as 30 boys and girls on the books in the senior section alone). The number of communicants during the year had grown further. There was news of the Church School, with its revised age range of 5 to 9, and the forthcoming appointment of a permanent Head Teacher. Film and slides gave a better impression of the happiness of the Fairmile week-end House Party than words could easily do. The Rector looked ahead to the Village Jubilee celebrations where we would all be involved, and of his hopes to develop further the provision for children on Sundays. He mentioned important coming events (listed on page 6). And he thanked most warmly only our Church Officers, but the large number of members who worked hard and willingly, and made our service together so happy and rewarding.

6.

FORTHCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June 5 Queen's Jubilee. Special Services
7 (Tuesday) Village Jubilee celebrations
11 (Saturday) Arts & Crafts Exhibition (Hall)
July 3 Rt. Rev. David Pytches, Bishop of Bolivia,
Chile and Peru at 10 am, 11 am and 6.30 pm
21 (Thursday) 8 pm Organ Recital: Christopher
Mabley, A.R.C.O.
Sept 29 (Thursday) Harvest Supper (Hall)
Oct. 2 Harvest Thanksgiving Services
Feb. 10/12 Fairmile Court Congregational House Party

MIDWEEK PROGRAMMES

The informal evenings at the Rectory for Bible Study and Prayer will take place fortnightly (on Wednesdays at 8.15 pm) on May 4 and 18, and June 1. We are studying together John's Gospel, and during these weeks will be looking into chapters 2 and 3. All are most welcome. There is a cup of coffee afterwards at just after 9pm.

The Tuesday morning Bible Study Group (for ladies) had reopened after a short Easter break. Ladies are welcome at the Rectory at 10.30 am.

The May meeting of the Women's Fellowship takes place on May 26 at 3 pm, but not this time at the home of Mrs Ellingson. The venue is Pendleton Cottage at the kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Brandon.

CHRISTIANITY IN CAMBRIDGE

There are a vast number of different Christian organisations in Cambridge University, but the biggest is the Cambridge Inter-Collegiate Christian Union (C.I.C.C.U.). This is the second largest society, after the Union Debating Society, in the University, and is highly respected. C.I.C.C.U. organises a Bible Reading on Saturday evenings, with leading Christian speakers, and there are always at

least 700 people there. There is also an evangelistic address on Sunday evenings. The teaching is outstanding, and it is great to be with so many other Christians, although its very size has some drawbacks.

However, each of the twenty colleges has its own Christian Union organisation, and it is here that one can find close Christian fellowship. Obviously the colleges are very different in many ways, but they all have a programme of Bible Studies and weekly prayer meetings. We really get the best of both worlds at Cambridge, with a small friendly Bible Study Group and marvellous central teaching.

C.I.C.C.U. has always adhered to distinctly evangelical doctrines, and its central urge is evangelism. Once every three years a Mission to the University is mounted, and this happened last term. John Stott of All Souls, Langham Place, delivered a series of eight central addresses under the title "Who's Jesus?" Christians stirred from their slumbers and dragged their friends along to listen, so that there was an audience of 1000 every night, and 2000 (by TV relay) on the peak nights, out of a University of 8.500. Each college was assigned an assistant missionary, and many other students were encouraged to consider the person of Jesus Christ, in tea parties, discussions, and by the "Who's Jesus?" poster campaign. We hoped at least to get some reaction for or against, instead of the normal apathy, and I know that it set a lot of people thinking, and that there will be more people at Bible studies this coming term.

People may point to empty churches in other parts of the country, but Cambridge is symbolic of a living expanding Church.

Andrew MacLay

PERSONALIA

We warmly congratulate MR and MRS GEOFFREY DE HAVILLAND of Old Barn Cottage on the birth of a baby daughter.

Our best wishes for a good recovery go to several of our friends who have been on the sick list. MISS ANNE DISNEY had the misfortune to break a bone in her ankle while on a brief stay in France. MRS HATTO broke her right wrist, not long after her husband had returned home from hospital after an operation, so that both have been in the wars. MR RICHES had suddenly to be taken from Hydestile Cottages to Milford Chest Hospital where he was put into intensive care. And MR JACK EDWARDS also went from Hydestile Cottages to the same hospital so that they could alleviate his laboured breathing. MR GEORGE ATKINS too has not been well, and has been taken into St. Luke's Hospital.

We are very grateful to our Young People's Group for having taken on the weekly church cleaning for several weeks while we were without a regular cleaner. We are glad to say now that DEBORAH BOURNE has taken this task on.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Hambledon W.I. met on Wednesday 13 April in the Village Hall. The President dealt with the business, including plans for a visit to Enton Hall Health Clinic the following week, and a visit later in the month to Marley factory.

Members then entertained each other, and there was considerable laughter exchanging hints on HOW TO SAVE TIME AND MONEY ON HOUSEHOLD CHORES. These included adding vinegar to Yorkshire pudding (Mrs Allen); breaking scrambled eggs straight into the saucepan (Mrs Symonds); using tissue paper brushed with milk for sealing jam (Mrs Gardner); and many others. Mrs Booth won the raffle, and Mrs Jeffery served tea.

R.C. Steele