

ST. PETER'S HAMBLEDON

OCTOBER 1982

THE RECTOR WRITES

In last month's magazine there was a note telling how Timothy Symonds is to leave for Singapore on 7 October, and to go on to Hong Kong in mid-December to serve the Chinese Church there. Pages 6 and 7 will give some picture of the work to which God has called him, and below is a short message he has written. I hope that many of us will pray faithfully for him and for Zinnia and little Caroline over the next four years, that God will bring a rich Harvest from their service.

"My grandparents served in the China Inland Mission (C.I.M.) in the early part of this century, and my mother was born in China. During my career in the Army I had the opportunity of doing a 2½ year Chinese (Cantonese) language course at the Ministry of Defence Language School in Hong Kong when my wife and I were stationed there in 1971-6. We developed a love for the place and the people, and now look forward to returning to Hong Kong as missionaries in the Overseas Missionary Fellowship (formerly C.I.M.) in October for an initial term of four years. Our main task will be helping to plant churches in the concrete jungle of high-rise buildings.

God has encouraged us with the words from Psalm 37, v.4 :- "Delight yourself in the Lord and He shall give you the desires of your heart".

Timothy Symonds

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 1982

- 3 HARVEST THANKSGIVING (17th after Trinity)
Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon
10 am Children's Harvest Service
11 am Morning Prayer
6.30 pm Evening Prayer (ASB)
7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage
- 10 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
CHURCH PASTORAL-AID SOCIETY SUNDAY
Holy Communion at 8 am
11 am Morning Prayer: Rev. David Bubbers
and Sunday Club
3 pm P.C.C. meets at the Rectory
6.30 pm Evening Prayer: Rev. David Bubbers
7.45 pm Rev. David Bubbers with Young People
at the Rectory
Collections all day to C.P.A.S.
- 13 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study at Bermonde
- 17 NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Holy Communion at 8 am and 6.30 pm
10 am Children's Church: Rev. G. Carr
11 am Morning Prayer: Rev. G. Carr
6.30 pm Holy Communion: Rev. Patrick Ashe
7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage
- 24 TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Holy Communion at 8 am and 9.45 am
9.45 am Holy Communion (A.S.B.)
11 am Morning Prayer: Sunday Club
6.30 pm Evening Prayer
7.45 pm Young People at Little Woodlands
- 27 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study & Prayer (Rectory)
- 31 TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Holy Communion at 8 am and 7.30 pm
11 am Morning Service for Children & Adults
6.30 pm Evening Prayer
7.45 pm Young People meet

AND IN NOVEMBER

- 7 TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon
10 am Children's Church: Public Baptism
11 am Morning Prayer
6.30 pm Evening Prayer (ASB)
7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage
- 10 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study & Prayer (Rectory)
- 11 Thu. 8 pm Parish Fellowship (Village Hall)
- 14 TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Holy Communion at 8 am
10.50 am Remembrance Service: Sunday Club
6.30 pm Evening Prayer
7.45 pm Young People at the Rectory

CHURCH FLOWERS

Oct. 3	Harvest Flowers
10	
17	Mrs P. Gardner
24	Mrs J. Hassard-Short
31	Mrs M. Richards
Nov. 7	R and P. Williams
14	Remembrance Sunday

FREE WILL OFFERING SCHEME

Total for August 1982 £318.58p.
E.F. Denny

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDIES The dates of
our informal fortnightly evenings are:-
Oct. 13 at BERMONDE by kind invitation of
Mr Ray Williams

Oct. 27 at the Rectory

We are beginning to look at the book Joshua
where there is much to learn from the character
and experiences of this great Old Testament
leader. Join us whenever you can.

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY GROUPS continue throughout
October with a welcome for all ladies:-

Tuesdays 10.30 am at the Rectory

Wednesdays 10.30 am in Little Woodlands

FOR CHILDREN

Children's Church (parents and children, in
Church, 10-10.30 am) will be on October 3
(the Harvest Service, when children are
invited to bring harvest gifts to decorate
the Font)
and Oct. 17

Sunday Club (for children aged say 4-12, in
Rectory from 11 am to noon) is on Oct. 10
and 24. A creche is provided to enable
parents to come to the morning service.
Special Service All children and their
parents, together with our morning congre-
gation, join forces at 11 am on 31 Oct. A
slightly shorter service will, we hope, be
within reach of our younger members.

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL

The Cathedral Chapter is seeking in every
parish an enthusiast who would act as the
Cathedral's link person, to gather a small
group who would "champion, promote and pray
for the cause of the Cathedral", and seek to
raise a minimum of £125 a year for it.

Could some member please volunteer to the
Sector now?

HARVEST SUPPER
VILLAGE HALL FRIDAY 1st OCTOBER
7.30 for 8 pm
Tickets £1.50 on sale in Village Shop
BRING YOUR OWN PLATES AND CUTLERY

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES
SUNDAY 3rd OCTOBER

8 am Holy Communion
10 am Children's Harvest Service
11 am Morning Prayer
6.30 pm Evening Thanksgiving

PARISH FELLOWSHIP

Here, to whet your appetite, and to enable you to book the dates, are the Autumn plans:-

Nov. 11 Mr R. Steele is arranging another of his splendid "Call my Bluff" evenings, with two teams to amuse us.

Dec. 9 Mr Andrew MacLay, who has learned much during the last two years from long stays in India and Africa, shows some of his large collection of transparencies.

VISITING PREACHERS IN OCTOBER

THE REV. DAVID BUBBERS, who comes to preach morning and evening and to speak to the Young People on 10 October, is General Secretary of the Church Pastoral-Aid Society. The Rector was for many years on its London committees, and knows what great work it does, giving pastoral and financial aid to needy parishes throughout our homeland. Loose collections throughout the day to C.P.A.S.

THE REV. GEOFFREY CARR, retired from parish work is still active in hospital ministry in Guildford. On 17 October he conducts Children's Church and preaches at 11 am.

THE REV. PATRICK ASHE is always a welcome friend. He conducts the Communion Service and preaches at 6.30 pm on 17 October.

The population was a modest 600,000 in 1944, but floods of refugees fleeing China in 1949 spiralled that figure to 2½ million. Newcomers made their homes on roof-tops, in stairways and in crude shanty towns on the hillside. New government housing accommodates fifty percent in tiny flats in huge housing estates. In some parts of Kowloon the population density rises to a dizzy 500,000 per square mile, and the 3¼ sq. miles of Kowloon houses half the present population of 4½ million! Pressure on space and services forced the government partly to close the border in 1973, and caught 'freedom swimmers' are returned to China. But both legal and illegal immigration continue and the population goes on rising. Private capitalistic enterprise with minimum government intervention has produced a flourishing economy.

It is a fascinating anomaly that, with colonialism everywhere on the retreat and England drastically scaling down her involvement in the Far East, Hong Kong has continued as a British Crown Colony up till now from which democratic machinery is conspicuously absent. The reason has been of course, that China would never consent to Hong Kong's independence, nor even self-government by normal democratic means; so the anomaly has persisted.

Dominant among the sounds of Hong Kong are the click of the abacus beads, the ring of the till and the shuffle of the mahjong tiles - all illustrating preoccupation with the one all-absorbing subject of money. Where the very survival of a people depends on its balancing its budget, materialism bald and blatant is the religion of most.

Under the veneer of westernization throb the deep superstitions of a basic animism overlaid for the most part with a mixture of Buddhism and Confucianism. Lights from a gaudy idol shelf shine out from the most fashionable shops,

and it is clear that most are still bound by a fear of evil spirits and indeed by Satan himself.

THE CHURCH IN HONG KONG

With the flood of refugees in 1949 came many Chinese Christians, pastors and missionaries. Many Christian groups stayed on to help in refugee work and thus sprang up many church-based social and educational institutions. The Church has grown to embrace nominally 12% of the population. With all this, one is justified in asking if Hong Kong still needs missionaries.

It became clear that there are still areas of unmet need in Hong Kong. Large sections of the community remain unreached with the Gospel and there is a need for skilled evangelists and church planters to work through the existing church in establishing churches in the high-rise concrete jungle. Missionaries skilled in youth work are needed to establish lively Bible-based programmes among the people who throng the churches. For people with gifts in the areas of theological education, opportunities abound in day and evening Bible schools.

National Church leaders have expressed their desire for missionary help of the right kind - those who are willing to work for a high standard of fluency in Chinese and to steep themselves in Chinese culture, and those who have the expertise and experience that the church in Hong Kong needs.

8.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The new session opens on Thursday 28 October at "Ellingson's". The meeting starts at 3 pm and ends around 4 o'clock, followed by tea.

All ladies are very welcome to join in a time of friendship and fellowship. The speaker at the first meeting will be Mrs J. Symonds.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mrs Major, The President, conducted the business meeting at Hambledon W.I. on Wednesday September 8 when arrangements were finalised for the annual sale on Saturday 23 October. Birthday posies were presented to Miss Denny, Mrs May, Mrs Symonds and Mrs Redman.

Mrs Wainwright gave a talk on the History of the Red Cross. The saying "Old men dream dreams and young men see visions" was so true in the life of Jean Henri Durrant who, horrified by experiences of Solferino, promoted the establishment of the International Red Cross in 1863, for which he was awarded the first Nobel Prize in 1917. Delegates from 14 countries adopted the Geneva Convention in 1864 providing for neutrality for personnel treating wounded etc. The Red Cross has twice been awarded the Nobel Prize for its wonderful work. Mrs Steele gave the vote of thanks. Mrs Ling won the raffle.
E.G.F.

INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHIC SCIENCES OPEN DAYS

The I.O.S. at Brook Road, Wormley, is holding a series of Open Days from Tuesday 5 to Friday 8 October inclusive, from 1 to 5 pm.

Scientists at I.O.S. conduct research into a wide range of problems connected with the marine environment. There are strong support groups to develop instruments and equipment which will work for a long time deep in the ocean.