

ST PETER'S CHURCH * HAMBLEDON

SEPTEMBER 1991

Dear Friends

The Creator, Conservation, and the Community

As we all know, there has, quite rightly, been an increasing concern in recent years about environmental issues, in view of the dangers of global warming, the destruction of the rain forests, pollution of the atmosphere, the waters, and so on.

The Bible tells us that we have a God-given dominion over the earth, but a delegated dominion. (Genesis 1: 26-28). The earth was made fruitful before man was told to fill and subdue it (Genesis 1). We can clear, plough, irrigate and enrich the soil, put plants under glass to catch more of the sun, manage the soil by rotating crops, improve our stock by selective breeding, produce hybrid grains with a fantastic yield, and mechanise our reaping and threshing by using huge combine harvesters. But we are merely co-operating with the laws of fruitfulness which God has already established. Even with all the advances of modern technology, we are still utterly dependent on the goodness of God, who gives us sunshine, rain, and fruitful seasons. If we think of the earth as a country estate, then we are not the landowners, but the bailiffs who manage and farm it on the owner's behalf.

Furthermore, in our ownership of land and property, we have to remember the needs of others in the community. In Old Testament times, all land reverted to its original owner every 50 years, in the Year of Jubilee. God was teaching that the land was still His.

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Pope John Paul II stated in 1981 that with regard to the ownership of property, "Christian tradition has never upheld this right as absolute and untouchable. On the contrary, it has always understood this right within the broader context of the right common to all to use the goods of the whole creation. The right to private property is subordinated to the right to common use, to the fact that the goods are meant for everyone". We see this illustrated in cases of "compulsory purchase", where the needs of the wider community can be upheld if they are believed to outweigh those of the individual.

What does all this mean for us to-day? First, in our concern for our homes, land, and possessions, we must make sure that we look after them but do not worship them. St Paul warns us against "worshipping created things rather than the Creator". (Romans 1:25). The same applies also to the environment; we must look after it but not worship it, for that is to break the 1st Commandment. Secondly, we are accountable to one another within the community. I am not living alone on a desert island, totally owned by me, but within a community. "The Englishman's home is his castle" is a dangerous philosophy! The Bible tells me that we are "members one of another", and I must practice hospitality and generosity, bearing in mind that all the good things I possess, and the money I have, are entrusted to me by God, and I must exercise a good and unselfish stewardship of them.

Lastly, we are accountable to God. One day we shall have to give an account of our lives to God.

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Furthermore, the Bible tells us that heaven and earth will pass away, and that one day there will be a new heaven and a new earth. This, together with the fact that our stewardship here on earth is a short one compared with eternity, should help us to view our property and possessions in context. "We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can take nothing out". (1 Timothy 6:7).

In about a month's time we shall be celebrating Harvest Festival again. Perhaps these simple thoughts (taken from the Bible) about our stewardship and accountability may add extra meaning to our observance of the Festival.

Yours very sincerely

CHRISTOPHER BLISSARD-BARNES

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 1991

1st 14TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8 00am Holy Communion

10 30am Family Service with Baptisms
(Jonathan and Thomas Atkins)

6 30pm Holy Communion

At 2.00pm the Return Cricket Match will be played
against a Village Team on the Cricket Green,
Hambledon. (see page 8)

2nd Diocesan Clergy Conference starts at
Winchester until September 5th.

4th 8 00pm Healing Prayer Group meet at the Rectory.

7th 9 00am Meeting for Prayer at the Rectory.

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8th 15TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8 00am Holy Communion
- 10 30am Holy Communion (1662)
- 6 30pm Evening Prayer

- 10th 2.00-3.30pm Presentation of Christian Basics
Video Course, (CPAS), St Paul's, Camberley.
8 00pm Clergy/Readers' Meeting at the Rectory.
8 30pm Worship Group.

- 14th 9 00am Meeting for Prayer in the Vestry.
"March for Jesus" in Guildford and Godalming.
(see page 12).

15th 16TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8 00am Holy Communion
 - 10 30am Morning Prayer (ASB)
 - 6 30pm Holy Communion (with Healing Ministry)
- Preacher at 10.30am and 6 30pm Canon Ian Savile,
Patronage Secretary, Martyrs' Memorial Trust
(CPAS). (see page 11).

- 17th 8 00pm Outreach Committee, Lower Burgate.

- 18th 8 00pm Bible Study and Prayer Group meet at
the Rectory.

- 21st 9 00am Meeting for Prayer in the Vestry.

22nd 17TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8 00am Holy Communion
 - 10 30am Morning Prayer (1662)
- Preacher The Rev. David Thompson -
(see page 11).
(followed by shortened form of Holy Communion.
6 30pm Evening Prayer

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- 24th 8 00pm PCC meet at the Rectory.
- 28th 9 00am Meeting for Prayer at the Rectory.
10.00-3.30pm "Promise of His Glory"
(see page 12)
- A training day for Worship Leaders, Farnham.
- 29th ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS
8 00am Holy Communion (1662)
10 30am Holy Communion (ASB)
6 30pm Special Service led by the Youth Fellowship.

AND IN OCTOBER

- 1st 8 00pm Bible Society AGM, Godalming.
(see page 11).
- 8 00pm Meeting at Busbridge Church Centre for any who are thinking about the possibility of "full-time" Christian Ministry, with the Rev. Julian Hubbard, (The Advisory Board for the Ministry).
- 2nd 8 00pm Healing Prayer Group meet at the Rectory.
- 4th 12 noon Diocesan Renewal Meeting, Christ Church Woking: Speaker, the Archdeacon of Surrey.
- 5th 9 00am Meeting for Prayer at the Rectory.
7.15 for 7.30pm HARVEST SUPPER AND ENTERTAINMENT
VILLAGE HALL (see page 10).
- 6th 19TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
HARVEST THANKSGIVING
8 00am Holy Communion
10 30am Family Service with Baptism.
6 30pm Holy Communion.

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CHURCH REGISTERS

WEDDINGS * JULY 27TH * Samuel George Christopher
PARKER
and
Bridget Sarah HUGGINS
* Trevor David SHEPPARD
and
Michaela Joanne BAIGENT

FREEWILL OFFERING SCHEME

The total of planned giving in July amounted to £1383.60. Also received during the month was the return of £6587.23 in tax reclaimed on covenanted giving, with a further £2000.01 tax reclaimed on the generous lump-sum "Gift Aid" donations received during the year.

John Taylor.

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER

6/7 Pippa Ayres and Ann Howlett
13/14 Brenda Jones
20/21 Rosemary Arden-White
27/28 Pat Williams

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER

1 Wedding Flowers
8 Mrs Joan Hassard-Short
15 Mrs Marian Bassett
22 Mrs Rae Taylor
29 Mrs Ann Smith

CHURCH OPENING DURING SEPTEMBER

It is planned to open the Church on Saturdays and Sundays during September from 2.00pm - 4.00pm and the following have kindly agreed to act as "Stewards" :-

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|-------------|-------------------------------|
| September 1 | Mr & Mrs Peter Roderick |
| 7 | Amy Aylward |
| 8 | Mrs Joan Lee |
| 14 | Mrs Ann Burling |
| 15 | - |
| 21 | Mr Roger Lasseter |
| 22 | Mr & Mrs Cook |
| 28 | - |
| 29 | - |

We are most grateful to those who are prepared to help in this way and you will see from the three "blanks" that more helpers are needed. Geoff Clarkson is in charge of the Rota - please contact him on 0483 421791 if you feel you can take on this task.

SERMON SERIES ON "REVIVAL"

The series begun on August 18th will continue at the 6.30pm Services as follows :-

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|---------------|--|
| September 1st | "When does revival come?" (lessons from history). |
| September 8th | "How does revival begin, and what is its purpose and results?" |

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September 22nd "How should we prepare for a
revival?"

BIBLE STUDIES AT THE RECTORY ON THE THIRD
WEDNESDAYS

The Church at Corinth was a lively "charismatic" fellowship which nevertheless faced many challenges. St Paul's teaching is of very great relevance and importance for us to-day. We hope to study the first 3 chapters of the First Epistle, as follows:-

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|----------------|--|
| September 13th | 1 Corinthians 1:10-17 Encouragements and Warnings. |
| October 16th | 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Christ, the Wisdom and Power of God. |
| November 20th | 1 Corinthians 2. The Cross and the Holy Spirit. |
| December 18th | 1 Corinthians 3. Dealing with divisions in the Church. |

All are welcome.

C.B-B.

CRICKET MATCH AGAINST A TEAM FROM THE VILLAGE

A good number of people turned out to watch the match on Sunday afternoon, August 4th. The weather was fine, and it was a most enjoyable afternoon. The Church won on this occasion, and there is to be a return match on the afternoon of September 1st, when we hope many people will again come along.

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Many thanks to Mr Mic Coleman for the arrangements, also to Mrs Sylvia Coleman for her help with the tea, and to Giles Carpenter for captaining the Church side.

PERSONALIA

Wes Robinson and Becky Fyleman are to be married on Saturday 21 September at Brinscombe in Gloucestershire. We pray for God's richest blessing on them both as they prepare for the "great day" and for the days that lie ahead.

PATHFINDER HOUSEPARTY WEEKEND

The "Gerald Daniel", a converted naval minesweeper, was the unlikely venue for our weekend away. Permanently moored in the estuary of Chichester Harbour near Chidham the boat proved an exciting base for our weekend activities, which followed a distinctly nautical theme, with teaching based on St Peter's step of faith on to the stormy waters of Galilee. Fortunately we experienced calmer waters in Chichester Harbour so we were able to spend a couple of afternoons learning to sail and canoe, under the careful supervision of the residential staff at the base.

The weekend lasted from July 19-21 and the success was greatly due to the enthusiastic team of 9 leaders who brought many elements of the teaching alive to the group through their personal witness. Special thanks to David and Liz Jenkins whose culinary and parental role over the weekend was invaluable. Thanks also to the PCC for their financial support and to all those who supported us in prayer ... they worked ... many seeds were sown, and for four young people the weekend meant a personal step of faith in committing their lives to our Lord Jesus.

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It is hoped that a similar weekend can be arranged for the Christmas holidays: anyone interested in the Group, future events and especially involvement in the leadership, please contact Giles Carpenter on 0483 861364.

Giles Carpenter

HARVEST 1991

Our Harvest Festival Weekend is on 5/6th October. The Harvest Supper will be held in Hambledon Village Hall on Saturday, 5th October at 7.15 for 7.30pm. Please remember to bring with you a place setting for main course and a sweet. The tickets will be on sale in Church on Sundays 22nd and 29th September at £2.50 each but can be ordered by ringing the Williams house - Wormley 682455 - on or after Monday 23rd September.

Sunday 6th October at 10.30am provides an opportunity for children to bring their Harvest Gifts to the Family Service. Do please let the Rector know of anyone in the Village, or connected with the Church, who would appreciate a Harvest Gift.

FRIENDS OF "THE CELLAR"

Rosemary Arden-White tells us that The Cellar in Crown Court, Godalming, have been donated a beautiful patchwork quilt which they are proposing to sell to raise funds for their work. It has been decided that the sale will take the form of a "draw" and tickets will be offered at £1. each. These can be obtained from Rosemary and if you require any further information, her tel. no. is Wormley 682582. The quilt is a large single-bed size.

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PARISH NOTES & NEWS

Parish Weekend at Fairmile Court, October 18-20th

Plans are now well in hand, and brochures giving full details of the programme, the accommodation, facilities, fees, etc. together with a booking form, are at the back of the Church. We do hope many people of all ages and from all our congregations will come and make it a real occasion for the Church family to be together. The programme will allow time to enjoy the facilities of the house and grounds, including tennis courts, squash courts, table-tennis, volley-ball, and croquet, and within easy reach there is a 9-hole golf course, swimming, walking, brass-rubbing, Hampton Court, and the RHS Gardens at Wisley.

We are very fortunate indeed to have our Archdeacon, the Ven. John Went with us as our speaker, and also his wife, Rosemary. There will be time too, to let our hair down during the DIY entertainment on Saturday evening! Do please complete your booking form and give it to Tom Arden-White with the deposit (£10 per person) as soon as possible, so that he can plan the accommodation.

The Bible Society

The Godalming Bible Society Action Group is holding its AGM on Tuesday October 1st at 8 00pm at Godalming United Church in Bridge Street. Support will be very welcome. Each Church is invited to enter a team of 2 people in the Bible Quiz. If you would like to know more, please contact Keith Mitchell on Wormley 683891.

Visiting Preachers in September

We are much looking forward to the visit of the Rev. Canon Ian Savile, Patronage Secretary of the Martyrs' Memorial Trust, (CPAS), the Patrons of St Peter's Hambledon, as our preacher on September 15th at 10.30am and 6.30pm and on September 22nd, the Rev. David Thompson, a former Rector of the Parish, will preach at the 10.30am Service. It will be a great pleasure to welcome them both.

HOME MEETINGS WILL BE STARTING AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER

Most Home Meetings are taking place on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, whilst on the first Wednesday there is the Healing Prayer Group at the Rectory, and on the third Wednesday a Bible Study and Prayer Meeting at the Rectory. The Healing Prayer Group continues to be encouraged by answers to prayer.

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL FLOWER FESTIVAL

This will be held from September 26-29th to mark the 30th Anniversary of the Consecration of the Cathedral. All are very welcome. St Peter's is doing a flower arrangement.

DEANERY VISIT TO THE LONDON CITY MISSION

As mentioned in last month's magazine, this will take place on October 7th. For full particulars please contact Nigel Pollock on Wormley 682116.

MARCH FOR JESUS

These are happening all over the country on September 14th. There will be presentations of Graham Kendrick's musical score "Crown Him" in the centre of Guildford at 11.00am, 3.00pm and 8.00pm and also in Godalming.

"THE PROMISE OF HIS GLORY"

This Conference is being held at St Thomas-on-the-Bourne, Farnham, on September 28th from 10.00am to 3.30pm, and is for all those involved with planning and leading worship. There are leaflets giving full particulars at the back of the Church.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Mrs Joan Vickery has had an encouraging letter from the Society in response to the amount sent from the half-yearly box opening at the beginning of June. In acknowledging the receipt of £88.19 the Society

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expresses their warmest thanks to all concerned for their generous contributions.

The "Safe Houses" for runaways have proved to be most successful and financial help is needed now more than ever before.

If you would like to be a part of this very worthwhile work, Mrs Vickery would be happy to provide you with any information that you may need. She can be contacted on Wormley 684101.

HAVE YOU SEEN AN ANGEL?

There is far too much written about demons, and evil spirits, and far too little written about angels, yet many people have seen an angel at some stage during their lives. This has meant a lot to them, but they have told few, if any, about it.

If you have had an "angel experience", Mrs Hope Price at The Vicarage, 19, Canford Bottom, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 2HA, would love to hear from you so she can include it in the book she plans to write about angels.

Alternatively, please hand it in at the Rectory, and we will forward it on. Geoff and Hope Price were colleagues in our last Parish in Dorset.

C.B-B.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON GROUP

The past and present came together on a beautiful afternoon. Chairs were brought out from the Cricket Pavilion on Hambledon Green and we sat in the sunshine in a very pleasant setting - what could be better! No doubt the past, present and future were mulled over as we relaxed in each other's company. We much enjoyed having the company of Mrs Brenda MacLaughlan (now living in Haslemere) and that of our President,

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Mrs Hilary Morrison, who has been absent from us for far too long! We are delighted to see her about again following a period of ill-health.

The past came to life when several members stepped back in time with a visit to Oakhurst Cottage and had a conducted tour around the National Trust property which is open to the public in Hambledon.

Times have certainly changed since the days of water from the well, cooking over the fire and clothes washed by means of a "dolly" and tub. We are all a lot better off materially speaking these days but have lost much in the pace of life over the years.

A cream tea was provided from Ann's pantry - a fitting end to a leisurely and restful afternoon.

On Wednesday September 11th in the Village Hall we are provided with an option, when either Mr Les Bennett or Mr Arnold Madgwick will be talking to us and showing slides.

Looking ahead into October the WAG's Annual Sale will be on Saturday 12th. Do start collecting saleable things together to make it an even bigger event this year!

Joan Hardy

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We were very pleased to have Mrs Caroline Bradley with us at our July meeting. Being the Health Visitor to the Elderly, attached to our local surgeries, she was able to pass on a wealth of useful information relating to help and services

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available to us, and details of where, or to whom, one should apply for specialist help, equipment, accommodation, and so on. We were grateful to her for sparing time to come.

On Wednesday September 25th at 3.00pm we are meeting at The Hill once more. Come prepared to choose your favourite hymns, and we'll have some singing, followed by tea. If there's an Indian Summer we might be in the garden!

Brenda Gardner

AND SOME FURTHER CONFERENCE DATES IN WHICH YOU MAY BE INTERESTED:-

Christian Human Rights Conference

This is being organised by Christian Solidarity International, and will take place at St Aldgate's Church, Oxford, on Saturday September 28th from 10.00am to 4.30pm. I have 10 free tickets. If you wish to go, please sign the list at the back of the Church and ask me for a ticket. The conference will examine human rights problems around the world, particularly as they affect Christians.

C.B-B.

"Rebuilding the Ruined Places"

This is the title of a conference being arranged by Anglican Renewal Ministries, to be held at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire, from November 4th-7th 1991. It will be led by the Rev. Ian Chisholm and a team from St Peter's Church, Conisbrough. During the last few years this Parish has seen an extraordinary move of God, whereby

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hundreds have come to a knowledge of Christ. The Church now has 4 Sunday Services, with a lay-person responsible for each congregation. The teaching will focus on ways in which the Holy Spirit can renew individuals, the Church and Society, and the team will share about the outreach they have been doing in their community. There is a leaflet about the conference at the back of our Church.

A NICE LITTLE COTTAGE LIFE?

I think that many of us, when Christ has enabled us to overcome one or two sins that were an obvious nuisance, are inclined to feel (though we do not put it into words) that we are not good enough. He has done what we wanted him to do, and we should be obliged if he would leave us alone

Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what he is doing ... But presently he starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make sense ...

You thought you were going to be made into a decent little cottage, but he is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it himself.

C.S. Lewis
