

RECTOR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

References have been made in this magazine to certain alterations, additions and improvements which are being made to three buildings in the Parish—the Church, the Day School and Hambledon Homes. Everyone who knows the School will agree that there was need for modernisation, and we are glad to report that the first stage of the improvements is nearing completion. The need for repairs to the Church and the re-decoration of the interior may not be as apparent at first sight, but one of the results of repairs will be a less-draughty and a better-heated church this winter. It is now many years since the church was re-decorated and a big improvement should be seen when the work is completed.

The third improvement concerns the welfare of the residents at Hambledon Homes. The attendances at the services in the Homes have increased recently and the present accommodation is inadequate. There is also a need for some kind of recreation room where occasional concerts and films and also television programmes can be provided for the old people. The "Comforts Fund" helps to provide these additional amenities, and when a suitable room is available a television set will be installed. Here may I mention how grateful the Comforts Fund Committee is to the kind friends in the area who support its efforts. The Surrey County Council has promised to build a recreation hut which will be annexed to part of the Homes. It will be a "dual purpose" building—providing both a chapel and a recreation room. Some of the furnishings for the chapel are already provided, but the Comforts Fund will be responsible for the actual furnishing of both chapel and recreation room. Further details about this will be given later.

These improvements and alterations to buildings reminds us of the need for advance in every department of life. If we never touch our homes they quickly fall into decay, and if we neglect our gardens they soon become wildernesses. What is true of the material is also true of the spiritual. Our bodies need regular food and exercise, and we see to it that provision is made for these needs. But do we really give sufficient thought for that part of us which will live on after our bodies have ceased to exist? If we neglect the daily needs of the soul it will suffer loss, just as does the body which is neglected, or the building or garden which is left uncared for. Perhaps a careful examination of our personal lives would be timely, and it may well be that that seat in church will be more often occupied as a result, and that Bible at home more often opened.

Yours sincerely, C. EDWARD ELTON.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Confirmation Class re-opens Friday, September 11th, at 7.30 p.m. (in church).

Young Wives' Group.—The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 24th, at 3 p.m. at Beech Hill (by kindness of Mrs. Grillo).

Sunday School re-opens in September.

Children's Church on Sundays, September 6th and October 4th, at 10 a.m.

Harvest Festival.—Sunday, October 4th.

Church Fellowship re-opens on Thursday, October 8th, at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall. Film of the Church Fête (1959) will be shown and coloured slides and films taken by various members of the Church Fellowship will also be shown.

The Church Fellowship is held on the second Thursday in the month throughout the winter, and is open to all members of our congregation and their friends. There is no membership fee. A varied and interesting programme is being arranged, and details will be given shortly.

L.H.M.U. (Church Pastoral-Aid Society).—Meeting in Hambledon at 3 p.m. on Thursday, October 15th.

Mrs. Kate Hornett.—Everyone who knew Mrs. Hornett must have been aware of her firm and simple faith in God, and one has no hesitation in referring to her death as her "Home Call." She was one of Hambledon's oldest residents, and was until recent years a regular worshipper at her Parish Church. When she was no longer able to walk to church she still took a keen interest in the affairs of the Parish, and even at the age of ninety-four she was, in spite of failing sight, knitting articles for the annual Church Fête. Mrs. Hornett will be very much missed by many and in particular by her daughter, Mrs. Allen, who so lovingly cared for her for many years.

We assure Mrs. Allen and her family of our sincere sympathies in their bereavement.

Mrs. Hannah Jelley, another Hambledon resident, died in Frimley and Camberley District Hospital on August 6th, and to her son and other relatives we extend our sympathies in their time of sorrow.

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We have been delighted to welcome back to Hambledon **Mrs. Kenneth Cole**, and we are glad to know that she is making steady progress. We assure her of our continued prayers.

The residents of Hambledon Homes have been pleased to see **Mrs. Rampton** again, and they are most grateful to her for her visits and for the flower arrangements which mean so much to them.

We were sorry to lose from Hambledon Homes **Mrs. Collier**, who had served there as Matron for several years. Both she and her husband (who died last year) had done a great deal for the welfare of the residents, and many of the improvements at the Homes have been due to their hard work and keen interest. We hope that both Mrs. Collier and Paul will settle happily in their new home at Spalding.

Commonwealth and Continental Church Society.—Garden Meeting in London. The Secretary of the Society has asked us to thank most sincerely all those who so generously gave cakes towards the stall, which realised £17 19s. 5d. With the exception of one cake, which was brought from Liverpool, all the gifts were taken from Hambledon.

We are particularly grateful to Mr. Benden, of Buss's Cottage, who so kindly transported our cakes to London—and what a load!

EILEEN ELTON.

Re-decoration of St. Peter's Church.—The Parochial Church Council has decided that some of the money in the Fabric Fund should be used to re-decorate the church, and also that certain necessary repairs to the wood work and fabric should be carried out. It is hoped that the work will be commenced towards the end of August, or early in September. The re-decoration will not affect the Sunday services.

Day School Improvements.—The new section of the school, providing modern sanitary and cloakroom accommodation, and also a servery and staff room, is now nearing completion. This is only the first stage of the improvement scheme and it will be necessary to replenish the School Managers' Fund in order that the work may be completed at some future date. The Diocese has generously promised that, if the Parochial Church Council will pay £30 per year into the Fund, an equal sum will be paid from the Diocesan Funds. The Council has agreed to undertake to send £30 per annum. (The Rector and Churchwardens have agreed that in future the Offertory at the Holy Communion on Christmas Eve should be for this Managers' Fund.)

Hambledon Homes—New Hut.—Surrey County Council has agreed to build a Chapel-cum-Recreation Hut at the Homes. Fuller details will be given shortly.

The Surrey County Council has appointed **Mr. and Mrs. Cook** as the **new Superintendent and Matron of the Hambledon Homes**. They have already taken up residence there and we welcome them to the village and hope that they will be very happy in their new work and home.

Major Fairbairn-Crawford's many friends in Hambledon and Chiddingfold have been sorry to learn of his recent illness, and we hope that he will soon be feeling stronger again. Our thoughts are with him and his wife at this time.

As this magazine goes to press our organist, **Mr. Titheridge**, is in hospital for an operation, and we hope that his throat trouble will be cured as a result, and he will soon be with us again at the services. We are grateful to him for his faithful service to our church.

Several of the members of our church have been in hospital recently. We are glad to have Mr. Cronhelm and Mr. Muirhead home again, and also Miss Jennings.

B.R.C.S. CADETS

Hambledon ran a Red Cross Link for many years, under the guidance of the Misses Andrews, but this lapsed when they moved from the village. We are anxious to start a Red Cross Cadet Unit for boys and girls aged 11—16, but it is difficult to find someone to lead them. Would anyone with Red Cross or nursing experience and who is fond of children and who could spare one evening a week for an hour, kindly get into touch with Mrs. Low, "Findings," Hambledon.

HOLY BAPTISM

- June 28th. Robert Graham, son of Robert Henry and Betty Piper.
Aug. 2nd. Shirley, daughter of Charles William and Margaret Joyce Dedman.
16th. Andrew James Seymour, son of Anthony Seymour and Juliet Ann Laughton.

BURIALS

- Aug. 6th. Kate Hornett, aged 94 years.
13th. Hannah Jelley, aged 73 years.