

PARISH NEWS

10p.

Pett Level

JULY 1986

RECTOR'S LETTER

My Dear Friends,

June has been a very eventful month around the churches. We have had a very successful Spring Fair at Guestling and a beautiful Confirmation Service. Work in the churchyards has gone on with a vengeance and I am most grateful to those of you who willingly give up so much time. We have a policy of keeping certain areas of our churchyards mown and cleared, while allowing other areas to remain a natural habitat for flora and fauna. Both our churches need attention, and as you will see Guestling faces yet another major repair job, this time to the tower.

The parishes enjoyed a visit by the Church Army, and Pett welcomed a Salvation Army visit. We shared in the Anniversary at Pett Methodist Church, packed with Methodists and Anglicans, and I was honoured to take that Service and preach at the request of the Rev Bernard Dowding. He moves from Hastings to Colchester in October, with responsibility for churches in the Colchester district. We congratulate him and wish him well. We look forward to a happy and fruitful association with his successor.

The beautiful weather augers well for the "Wedding season". I look forward to the wedding between Paul Goodsell and Sandra Buss. Paul is the son of Val and Vick Goodsell, and grandson of the late "Spen" and Mabel Glazier. Spen was for many years the very loyal and competent vergar of Pett Church and must surely be rejoicing with them 'on another shore'. Val and Vick do sterling work for the church in the family tradition. We owe Vick a debt of gratitude for keeping Pett on time by looking after the clock. We wish Mabel well; sadly she is in hospital now.

Every wedding reminds us of God's wisdom in making the loving family the basis of stability in society. Of all the institutions through which we pass in life, - school, college, work, clubs, societies, the church, - our friendships are often transient. Our families are those institutions which remain important through the whole of life. Ideally they are the repository of love, stability and fellowship. The church is a family, our wider family in which we are all united by ties of love, care and support. We have been particularly aware of the prayerful thoughts of the Church families during the worrying time of my mother's

illness. I am glad to say that she seems to be a great deal better, and recovery, - though slow, - seems sure.

With all good wishes for your holidays.

Every blessing,
Yours sincerely,
Michael.

JULY SERVICES

Pett Level

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------|
| 13 & 27 | Holy Communion | 8.00am |
| 2 (Visitation of B.V.M.) | Holy Communion | 10.00am |
| 23 (St Mary Magdalen) | Holy Communion | 10.00am |

Pett

| | | |
|--------|------------------|---------|
| 6 & 20 | Parish Communion | 9.45am |
| 13 | Family Service | 10.00am |
| 27 | Morning Prayer | 9.45am |

Guestling

| | | |
|---------|------------------|---------|
| 6 | Family Service | 11.00am |
| 13 & 27 | Parish Communion | 11.00am |
| 20 | Morning Prayer | 11.00am |

SERVICE THEMES DURING THE MONTH OF JULY

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 The more excellent way | 13 Fruit of the Spirit |
| 20 The whole armour of God | 27 The Mind of Christ |

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism

NICHOLAS MARK JONES at Guestling, 29th June

DARREN BRIAN APPS at Guestling, 12th June

Marriage

PAUL GOODSELL and SANDRA BUSS at Pett, 21st June

Funerals

THOMAS VICTOR COOK at Hastings Crematorium, 30th May

ROBERT FRED OSBORNE at Pett, 19th June

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord and let light perpetual shine upon them.

WATER SUPPLY ('GUESTLING')

Having received the Faculty, work will soon take place. It is my earnest hope to have water laid on for the Flower Festival. Grateful thanks to Mrs Corrin Merricks of Church Farm for allowing us a branch supply. Otherwise, it would have been too expensive. Thanks to J. Hughes for negotiating with contractors.

Rector.

CONFIRMATION (GUESTLING)

It was a great joy to welcome Bishop Peter. A beautiful evening enhanced the enjoyment of the lovely Service attended by candidates, parents, friends, relatives and members of both congregations. As is general now, the candidates made their very special act of First Communion, a moment they will treasure as they make regular acts of Communion throughout their lives. Please pray for the newly confirmed, (named last month); May God Bless them and give them much joy in their Communicant life.

Rector.

GUESTLING CHURCH TOWER

During the storms of March a good deal of damage was done to Guestling tower. This was particularly bad on the south and south-west facing walls which receive the worst of the weather in the form of salty rain-bearing winds. The result has been that serious spalling of the Bath stone has taken place over the years and the winds of March brought much of it down, exposing other layers to damage. In the 1890's following a serious fire at the church, extensive rebuilding and restoration took place. The Victorians were prone to using very hard mortars both in building and re-pointing. These mortars are far harder than the stones they bind. Walls have to breathe and dissipate moisture. Where mortars are so hard such breathing has to take place through the stonework itself rather than through the mortar. Frost is ruinous to damp stonework since it freezes trapped water, thus flaking and spalling the stonework. All these things have happened at Guestling Church, and we must now put the tower into good order. The projected cost is £10,500, a huge expense for us, but one which is vital at this stage if further and much greater damage is to be prevented.

Rector.

GUESTLING SPRING FAIR

What a wonderful Fair again this year! And such a splendid result! I am most grateful for all the goodwill and hard work which combined to make attractive and well-stocked stalls. Success is due in large measure to Lady Ashburnham and her helpers. I do thank you all for your generosity. It is much appreciated. The total raised was a mighty £953 for Church Funds.

Rector.

AROUND THE PARISHES

Meeting Point: 16 July, Park Cott. Guestling, 8pm Flower arranging (R. Gainsbury). Bring flowers, oasis, etc.

Guestling collection: The May collections were £217 and the total for the year to date is £1144. Christian Aid collection in the parish was £165 and £29 has been sent Church Army in June.

Three Oaks W.I.: On 10th July there will be a talk on A.C.W.W.

Royal British Legion: The next meeting is on 7th July at The Smuggler at 7.30pm.

Pett Cricket Club: Home fixtures are as follows:- 5, Udimore; 6, Old Hastings; 12, Edmonton Veterans; 19, Icklesham Casuals F.C.

Guestling P.C.C.: Next meeting is on 4th July at St. Andrew's Peep at 7.15pm.

Pett P.C.C.: Next meeting is on 15th July at the Rectory at 7pm.

Pett Level Preservation Trust: The annual Fete is on the Trust land at Pett Level on Sunday, 17th August. All offers of help or suggestions to Mrs Hawksley (812705).

Pett & Fairlight Friendship Club: (Over Sixties) Our Club urgently needs new members, male or female. We meet every Thursday at Pett Village Hall. Free door to door transport, luncheon, coffee, tea for £1. Friendly atmosphere, scrabble, a natter or bring your knitting. Public Library visits fortnightly. If interested ring Mrs Evans (813269) or Mrs Newman (813481).

Bradshaw C.E. Primary School, Guestling: In order to hide the mobile classroom from the road, the Governors have

The Sign

July 1986
The Nationwide Magazine Inset for Church and Parish No. 980

Taking it easy

Most of us put a good deal of thought into our annual week or two away and it probably costs us a lot of money. What do we hope to get from it?

A change of routine

Most of us would be lost without a degree of monotony in our lives! The daily round, the predictable pattern of things, means much to us. But it's always good to have a change, otherwise the regular pattern which should be to us a comfort and a security soon becomes instead a wretched burden.

The stimulus of new things

Going away on holiday takes us to places we may not before have visited and enables us to meet new people and to make new friends. We live through fresh experiences. Of course we need a balance between old and new.



photo: Graham Tatlock

We are rightly content with the familiar (places and faces), but if we are not to descend into a dull complacency we need also new sights and fresh faces to stimulate us, to extend our horizons and to put new life into our flagging spirits.

The perspective of distance

Things sometimes get on top of us: We need to stand back or stand aside and see things in (better) perspective. The day-to-day worries, some of them half-imaginary and some of them all too real, take on a different significance when we see them from a distance. And this new

perspective helps us on our return to take up the daily cares with new courage.

The refreshment of idleness

Most of us work quite hard: some work very hard. The old saying is perfectly true: 'all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy'. Life is meant to include work, but it is not meant *only* for work. Sleep and rest are built into the very fabric of life. A holiday that is so strenuous that at its end we feel we need a rest is not the kind of holiday most of us need!

So take it easy (if you can) and have a good holiday.

New Light on the Parables

by the Revd Dr A. L. Moore

The poor fool

And he told them this parable: 'There was a rich man whose land yielded heavy crops. He debated with himself: "What am I to do? I have not the space to store my produce. This is what I will do," said he: "I will pull down my storehouses and build them bigger. I will collect in them all my corn

and other goods, and then say to myself, 'Man, you have plenty of good things laid by, enough for many years: take life easy, eat, drink, and enjoy yourself.'" But God said to him, "You fool, this very night you must surrender your life; you have made your money — who will get it now?" That is how it is with the man who amasses wealth for himself and remains a pauper in the sight of God.' (Luke 12.16-21, NEB)

The man in our story was highly successful, so much so that he had practical problems coping with the abundance of his wealth. But he was really quite poor because he was three times a fool!

to page eight

What Do You Think?

Question Competition

What Christian book, other than the Bible, has had the greatest influence on your life?

Answers in not more than 100 words, should be sent to Question Competition, The Sign, St Thomas House, Becket Street, Oxford, OX1 1SJ by 31 July. A £6 Book Token will be awarded to the winning entry.

YOUR LETTERS



Questions? Problems? Opinions? Let the Editor hear about them. Write to 'Your Letters and Comments', *The Sign*, St Thomas House, Becket Street, Oxford, OX1 1SJ. Please enclose s.a.e. A £4 Book Token will be sent to the writer of any letter published.

Success in Life

We asked readers to send in their own definitions of what in fact is success in life. A large number of thoughtful answers were received. We print here as many of their interesting answers as space allows. The winning entry is printed on page 3. — Ed.

Knowing God's Will

Success in life consists in knowing God's will for one's life, and realizing one's true potential by being led by God through all walks of life for the good of all mankind. A truly successful person will have the joy and certainty of knowing that all things, even the worst that may befall him, will eventually turn out to be good. Jesus was supremely successful because despite the pain and agony he had to endure on the cross he could confidently say that he had accomplished the task that was assigned to him by his Father. — R.R. SELVENDRAN, NORWICH

The Capacity to Love

Success in life is not the acquisition of material things, nor even the status of a good job in society. I would define success in life as the capacity to love. The love I speak of is the kind of self-giving love God has for us and with which he wants

us to love our brothers whatever their creed or culture or nationality. This kind of loving is not easy; but it is the one quality of life that will endure forever. People who have learnt to love in this way, giving totally of themselves, are the really successful people in life. — J. BOOTH, SEABURN

Happiness and Humility

Success in life can best be defined perhaps in happiness and humility. St Paul wrote: 'I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content' (Philippians 4.11). In terms of positive action and behaviour, the key to success in life can be found in Jesus' words: 'I am among you as he that serveth' (Luke 22.27). Success in Christian terms thus lies in contentment and in service to others. — G.H. BEECKEY (DR), HULL

A Matter of Comparison

Success in life depends very much upon the personal point of view in comparison to those of others. Success to an African chief might be to own ten wives and a hundred cattle. To a Christian it can mean a life of service to others and the constant worship of God. Perhaps the best definition of success in life is beautifully summed up in 'My duty towards God', 'My duty towards my

neighbour', in the Book of Common Prayer. If our life has embraced all those things we can without doubt say that our life has been a success.

— G. CREMER, HORNSEY

Looking to Jesus

I believe the only way to have success in life is when you ask the Lord Jesus Christ into your life as your own and personal Saviour. I believe that no other success will get you to heaven. We all need to learn to build our lives on the Lord Jesus Christ. — N. DEASLEY, DROMORE, CO. TYRONE

The Accomplishment of Aims

The best definition of success in life that I can think of is true happiness resulting from the accomplishment of one's worthiest aims. We would each judge another person's measure of success differently; but if it has not brought joy and happiness it is not success. Similarly an unworthy aim would not qualify one for being a success in life. — N. NICHOLS, OXFORD

Smile Please

Help wanted. Man wanted to handle dynamite. Must be able to travel unexpectedly. Local press advertisement

Bible Quiz

Find this Clothing

1. 'Strength and honour are her clothing.'
2. 'Wolves in sheep's clothing.'
3. 'Scribes in long clothes.'
4. 'A man . . . in bright clothes.'
5. 'A wearer of gay clothes.'
6. 'The people washed their clothes.'

Solution on page four

MY FAITH

A Hospital Consultant Anaesthetist



It is very difficult to say in what way one's faith may affect one's working life. Indeed it is perhaps doubtful whether it is right and proper to single out any one particular aspect of one's activities for this special consideration when it must surely be true that one's convictions should colour every aspect of one's living. The anaesthetist is perhaps unique amongst doctors in that he may claim his specialty had a divine founder inasmuch as it is recorded in Genesis 2.21, 'and the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof'. (It may be noted that the biblical Hebrew word for this particular 'deep sleep', which occurs only three times in the Old Testament, has been adopted in modern Hebrew as the word for anaesthesia.) Again of all doctors the anaesthetist stands alone in that, while today his expertise is widely called on in related fields of intensive care and resuscitation, his basic professional skills are usually

practised on an unconscious patient with whom communication is not possible. Moreover, by the time of the actual anaesthetic the anaesthetist is usually a masked figure confronting an already sedated patient, for which reason it is not surprising that he is often remembered as little as the engine driver who takes his passengers for other and less dangerous rides. Nevertheless, important parts of his work are the pre-operative visit, at which he can do much to reassure the anxious patient, and post-operative care in which some friendly words can contribute to the effects of pain-relieving drugs and the alleviation of anxiety.

Sheer Miracle

I think it is more helpful, at least on a purely personal level, to consider the effect of one's working life upon one's faith. To me the sheer miracle of every anaesthetic has never ceased to lose its wonder; that one can produce reversible unconsciousness, abolition of all sensation of pain, and ideal conditions for the satisfactory completion of surgery without any apparent damage to the patient as a whole and in particular to that most delicate of organs the brain, never ceases to cause me to marvel. The psalmist wrote (107.23-24), 'They that go down to the sea in

ships, that do business in great waters — these see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep'; words which I feel could well be paraphrased for the anaesthetist of today. Or again he could not but echo Psalm 139, verse 14, 'I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well'.

Decisions

Finally, one can never forget that from time to time the anaesthetist is involved in the making of the distressing decisions frequently referred to as 'turning off the life support machine', or the management of those cases which most acutely bring to the fore the whole problem of life and death. I am sure that in some inexplicable way these experiences serve to strengthen rather than to weaken one's deepest convictions.

QUESTION COMPETITION REPORT

We asked readers for their definition of success in life. The winning reply comes from L. Hampson of Sidford, Devon:

In St Mark's Gospel, 12.30-31, we have a definition of God's law.

This involves the whole nature of Man.

The heart is compassionate and understanding.

The soul is given to prayer and eternal values.

The mind reasons and plans time methodically.

Human strength, by the Grace of God, works for His Glory to the utmost.

Our neighbour is treated and loved as ourselves.

So, success in life, is a fulfilling of the LAW OF LOVE.

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THE STORY OF OUR CHURCH

The Puritans gain strength

Illustrated by L. W. Bacon MSAID

LAUD'S IDEAS WERE FIERCELY OPPOSED BY THE PURITANS DESPITE THE EXAMPLE OF MANY DEVOUT CHURCHMEN LIKE GEORGE HERBERT AND NICHOLAS FERRAR



SO THAT CHARLES HIMSELF IS UNABLE TO ARREST FIVE LEADING MEMBERS HE ACCUSES OF TREASON



FINALLY LAUD'S POLICY CAUSES RIOTS IN LONDON AND EVEN STRONGER OPPOSITION IN PARLIAMENT



HE DECLARES WAR ON PARLIAMENT BY SETTING UP HIS STANDARD AT NOTTINGHAM

BOOKSHELF

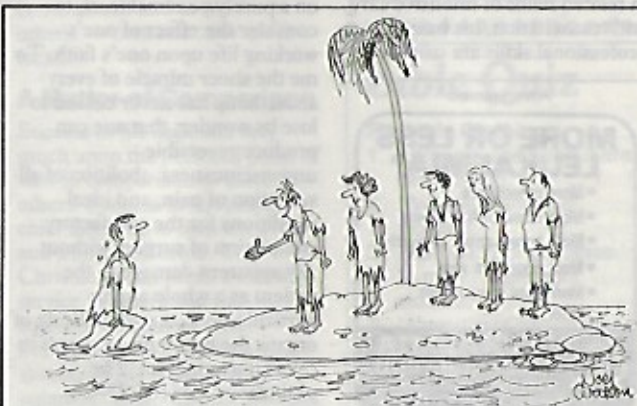
Through Cloud and Sunshine
Joy Martin Mombay's Popular Christian Paperbacks, £2.50

Deaconess Joy Martin, the author of this book, terminally ill with bone cancer, has written it in the hope that it will help others to face their difficulties with renewed courage and confidence in God. There has been plenty of cloud in Joy Martin's life; the sunshine in it comes from her unconquerable confidence in and reliance upon God. The central message of the whole book is the love of God, and this thread runs through the narrative as it has taken her through the many difficulties and triumphs of her life. Even the physical act of writing this book was accomplished with great difficulty by Joy Martin. The result

is not only a profoundly moving book, but one which has a most interesting and varied story to tell. How, after a difficult childhood, she eventually found life within the Church, became a reader, then a Deaconess, is all narrated with much skill. This is the kind of book of which a reader will feel moved to say, on finishing it, 'I am glad I read that'.

Characters Around the Cross
Tom Houston MARG Europe, £1.95

The former Executive Director of the Bible Society, a well known Bible Expositor, has written an interesting little book here, the title of which explains it. Judas, Peter, Caiaphas, Mary Magdalene, Joseph, Pilate, Herod, Thomas, and others, are gathered together here and brought out in the pages of the Gospels and presented in a lively and interesting manner.



'Good! We have enough for a choir now!'

Solution to Bible Quiz
on page two

1. Prov. 31.25 4. Acts 10.30
2. Matt. 7.15 5. Jas 2.3
3. Mark 12.38 6. Ex. 19.14

Tablets for Today

A simple guide to the Commandments

by Canon William Purcell

What Price Life?

You shall not kill
(Exodus 20.13, RSV)

Before trying to find out what this Commandment has to say to us now it is essential to find what it does not say. It was never intended to stand as a total prohibition of the taking of life in any circumstances. A look at its origins makes that plain. It was never intended as an argument against capital punishment, or euthanasia, or anything else of that kind. It was born in a primitive society where the limitation of killing was a necessity if any kind of civilized life was to be achieved. What it prohibited was private killing for gain or vengeance.

But behind that lay the recognition of the hard truth that man has always had an instinct to kill, and that the taking of life when it suits his convenience has always come fearfully easy to him. In the old world of the Old Testament it needed only the flash of a dagger in some tribal quarrel and the deed was done. In the modern world it needs only the pressing of a button and then again, the deed is done on a huge scale.

Restraint

This is where the whole thing begins to link up with our own situation now. This Commandment represents an attempt to impose some kind of restraint upon the killing instinct of man, and to implant in his mind a due sense of the solemnity of taking a human life in any circumstances. So this Commandment has something

of enormous importance still to say to us. The first truth which it represents is that human life is sacred.

This truth took a long time to emerge from the past when men killed each other easily. It could disappear altogether in an age like ours when it can be done more easily still, by remote control, and with consequences undreamt of in any former time. So the Commandment, 'You shall not kill', is based on the principle of the huge value of human personality. Once that sense of its value has been lost sight of, dreadful possibilities loom up, such as the gas chambers of the Second World War and the multi-megaton death which is now a possibility in an age of the nuclear bomb.

Principle

The ancient principle which this Commandment enshrines is enormously meaningful at this point — the principle of reverence for life. One very modern application of this principle is to avoid thinking of other parts of the human race, such as members of the Soviet block, as necessarily implacable enemies. They might be; but they cannot afford, any more than we can, to allow that attitude to continue to the point of mutual destruction.

Now here are three questions to think about.

1. What reasons can you give for saying that human life is sacred?
2. Do you think that this Commandment could be used to support the arguments against war in any circumstances?
3. What would you understand by the expression 'reverence for life'?

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WOMEN TODAY

by Marjorie Idle

This inset — *The Sign* — which you are probably reading as part of your parish magazine, goes out nationwide. So we concentrate on subject matter which will be relevant to the great majority of our readers.

Thames Valley

If anyone in the Thames Valley, however, feels they would like to commit some of their spare time to working for the homeless, the Marlow 'Shelter' group would be glad of new committee members.

The person to contact is Mrs R.V. Jewell JP, 3 Mill Road, Marlow, tel: 06284 3659.

Competition

Quite a problem this — finding the right people to work on a committee. You might ask your friends and your church; if you belong to a Parent-Teacher Association, perhaps you meet like-minded parents there. Where else do you look? You pray and pray again and often the answer begins with an idea from someone else.

So write me a letter telling me how you find committee members for your good cause; I will share the ideas later this year and there will be a Book Token for the best letter. Send them, marked 'Competition', to Mrs M. Idle, c/o St Thomas House, Becket St, Oxford OX1 1SJ.

Cooking

Thank you for all your letters about men cooking, many of them full of admiration for delicious Christmas dinners.

It is clear that many men

begin cooking because it is useful and continue because they enjoy it.



photo: Stephen Mayes

Mr David Harding is delighted that *Food and Cookery Review* encourages men to come forward. Mr Len Atack says 'It is a poor man that cannot make a meal'. Mrs B. Brooker says men 'bring a refreshing touch of originality' to the meals they cook.

Like many others, Mrs Irene James' husband prepares, cooks and washes up on Christmas Day 'as a way of saying thank you' for all the meals she cooks for him the rest of the year.

The letter with the most zest was the briefest and put the opposite point of view. Hubert Idle (an unknown but distant relative) said, 'With a name like mine, why should I have a wife if I do not let her do the cooking?' Underneath Joyce wrote, 'After 57 years I still enjoy preparing and cooking meals — so he cannot!' They receive a Book Token jointly. Long live marriage.

For Children. Prizewinners. February 1986.

Rachel Armitage, Mirfield.
Michelle Dary, Huddersfield.
Caroline Mumby, Driffield.
Lisa Murray, Southrey.

Advertisement

Loneliness is just one problem

And it is a fairly common problem for seafarers away from home for months at a time. But it is only one of the troubles that people bring to us. As a Christian society working among seafarers we are asked for all kinds of help — spiritual, emotional, social and practical.

And we are there, ready to give all the help we can, in all parts of the world. To give this help we depend entirely upon voluntary contributions. Please help us to continue the Anglican Church's ministry to seafarers by a legacy, or please send whatever you can to The Missions to Seamen, Freepost, London, EC4 4EP.

The Missions to Seamen
St. Michael Paternoster Royal,
College Hill, London EC4R 2RL.



FOR CHILDREN

Here is a story of a greedy little mouse who, like some children, didn't like sharing with his brother. But none of you are like that, of course!

Timothy Learns a Lesson

Timothy Mouse was foraging for food. Usually he and his brother Titus foraged together. But tonight he had left Titus asleep, thinking, the greedy little mouse, that if he found a special tit-bit, he could eat it all himself. Luck was with him. A child had dropped a large piece of

fruity cake at tea-time. Timothy tucked into it. He was swallowing the last crumbs, feeling very full, when he saw Sandy the cat, crouching under the table, ready to spring. Timothy



Illustration by Charles Bannerman

darted to his hole, and then, head and front paws inside, the rest outside, realized the awful truth — the cake had made him too fat to get through! Sandy was between him and the larger hole across the room. He thought his last moment had come!

There was a squeak behind Sandy. Titus was standing outside the large hole. He squeaked again! Sandy sprang for him! Titus ran round the room. Sandy chased him, and Timothy dashed into the large hole. After a few awful moments Titus dashed in too, only just in time!

Think it Over

Ah, dear God, marriage is not a thing of nature but a gift of God: the sweetest, the dearest, and the purest life above all celibacy and all singleness, when it turns out well, though the very devil if it does not.

Martin Luther

'Titus, you are brave!' gasped Timothy.

'You'd have done the same for me,' said Titus.

Timothy remembered what he had done, and was ashamed! Tomorrow Titus should have the biggest share of anything they found! Timothy had learnt his lesson!

Jennie

Competition

Here are five jumbled words from the story.

EAKC SEOMU YSDNA
LHCDI ELTBA

Find what they are, then draw them. Send, with name, age and address, by 31 July, to Jennie, St Thomas House, Becket Street, Oxford OX1 1SJ.

Light on Old Sayings

Tommy Atkins

The popular name at one time for a British private soldier. The origin lies in the fact that at one time all recruits were served with manuals in which were to be entered the name, age, date of enlistment and other details of the holder. With each book was sent a specimen form showing how the one in the manual should be filled in, and the hypothetical name selected was Thomas Atkins. The poet Rudyard Kipling made use of the title in his Barrack Room Ballads, in which he wrote about the private soldier.



The Children's Society.

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Church of England Children's Society
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New Light on the Parables
from page one

1. He failed to see that life does not simply consist of the abundance of a man's possessions. He was thoroughly materialistic (and would have fitted well into today's climate of thought). 'Take your ease, eat, drink and be merry' are quite legitimate aspects of living; but they are not the totality, nor even the central part. Life is above all for loving; it is for self-giving and service, for savouring the goodness of God towards us and for sharing his goodness in kindness one to another. None of this seems to have entered the rich man's vision.

2. He arrogantly supposed that his future was in his hands and

that he could secure the future. In fact, none of us knows what tomorrow has in store. A similar thought comes in the letter of James 'Come now, you who say "today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and get gain" whereas you do not know about tomorrow. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes' (James 4.13-14).

3. He was self-centred, thinking only how to lavish his wealth upon himself and not at all how he might contribute, through his wealth, to the consolation and care of others.

What is left unsaid in our parable is the contrast. For there is a wise man who though also

very rich indeed behaved altogether differently from the 'poor' rich man of our story.

Three times wise

This rich man was in every way wise.

1. He was not materialistic, considering prayer his 'meat and drink', caring above all for things of the spirit and communion with his Father.
 2. He did not attempt to secure his future but left every moment in his Father's hands, trusting himself to God whatever might befall him.
 3. He was in no way self-centred but spent himself in the service of others giving himself utterly to those in need.
- Take warning from the rich fool and draw inspiration from him who was both rich and wise!

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says Johnny
Morris

says Johnny
Morris

"In all my travels I've become more and more aware that care for older people is a growing problem in many parts of the world. The work of the DGAA, therefore, is helping to fulfil an increasing need. In fact, there is no doubt in my mind that the DGAA's commitment to the elderly is unrivalled".

With swift financial aid, the DGAA continues to help hundreds who used to live comfortably and securely, are now bereaved and living on pensions slashed by inflation. And later, should illness or infirmity dictate, the DGAA offers a necessary service of devoted, professional care in thirteen Residential and Nursing Homes.

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JULY CALENDAR

- 3 Th St Thomas the
Apostle
6 S 7 after Pentecost
(Trinity 6)
13 S 8 after Pentecost
(Trinity 7)
20 S 9 after Pentecost
(Trinity 8)
22 Tu St Mary Magdalen
25 F St James the Apostle
27 S 10 after Pentecost
(Trinity 9)

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decided to plant a row of cupressus trees on the east side. The cost is £5 per tree, and if anyone interested in the school would like to donate one, please contact the Rector.

Pett Church Fete (23 August): If anyone has any glass or china they can spare, please take it to Miss S. Lawson, Oakleigh, Pett Road, Pett. If necessary it can be collected

Guestling Flower Festival: This will be held on August 23rd to 25th. The theme is on missions with the title, "From Greenland's Icy Mountains". Refreshments will be in the church, but we need a small tent to sell produce in. If anyone could loan this for the duration of the festival we should be most grateful. Please contact Mrs Sankey.

Pett Welcome Booklet: The booklet published by the P.C.C. in March has proved so popular that a reprint will soon be necessary. If there are any omissions or errors which should be put right in the new edition, please notify Avril Thurley in writing before the end of July.

Sponsored Bicycle Ride: The Sussex Historic Churches Trust will be holding this event on Saturday, 6th September from 10am to 6pm. Our local churches will be open. Sponsor forms and details are available from Mr John Hughes or Miss Avril Thurley.

Three Oaks Village Hall Fete: This is on Saturday, 26th July at 2pm. Sideshows, Tombola, Raffle, Teas, Cakes, Produce.

Pett W.I. Badminton Group: This meets each Wednesday from 10am to 12 noon at Pett Village Hall. Beginners are welcome.

Pett W.I.: The Friday, 18th July meeting will be followed by a talk on the Solomon Islands given by Mr E. Stokes. The competition is to get as many items as possible on a one-inch safety pin. Mrs Sheila Swift with helpers will serve tea and cakes and there will be a raffle. Guests most welcome.

Pett Church Piano: Mrs Medlock wishes to thank all those who supported her Coffee Morning to raise funds for the overhaul of the piano. The total raised was £71.60.

Feed the Hungry Fellowship: For the month of May we collected £62. This goes to the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, to help save the children in the villages of Northern India from going blind, due to malnutrition. Grateful thanks to all members. J.A.S. and I.S.

August Magazine: The closing date for receipt of items is 13th July. If you could let me have items for September also by this date I would find it very helpful on this occasion. Thank you. J.K.

FROM THE TREASURERSPETT:More on Stewardship

Last month the Rector wrote about Stewardship in Pett, so I thought this would be a good time to thank all those people who signed pledges or Covenants as a result of the original campaign, and who have honoured them faithfully ever since. The drop-out rate amongst those who have remained in Pett has been remarkably low, and indeed some of those who have left the parish have still continued to contribute. My job as Treasurer has been made so much easier simply by knowing roughly how much money to expect each month.

The four-year Covenants will run out at the end of this financial year (March 87), and I do hope you will feel able to renew yours. I will be writing to you individually nearer the date. That will also be a good time to review the level of your giving - if your income has increased in the last four years you may feel you can increase your offering; on the other hand, if you've been made redundant or retired, you might well need to reduce it. However much or little you can give, thank you for giving it regularly.

Now I would like to say a few words to those of you who have come to Pett since 1983, and are very much a part of the Church, but who have not yet joined the envelope scheme. Do please join it! And if you pay tax please also Covenant your offerings - it really is quite painless, and it enables me to recover 41 pence for every £1 you give. That's £20 a year if you give £1 a week, or £100 a year if your weekly offering is £5, so you see it really is worthwhile. Please think about it.

Avril Thurley

GUESTLING:Covenants

The current year's tax repayment on weekly, monthly and annual covenants has been received and amounts to £710. This means that thanks to all those tax-paying parishioners who have signed covenants of varying amounts spread over a minimum of four years the government has effectively contributed over one quarter of this year's diocesan quota. If any parishioner would like to take out or increase his or her covenant so that the government contributes one half of the quota, the Treasurer will be pleased to advise. Alternatively, if anyone wishes to make an outright donation of £100 or more to, say, the Church tower restoration or any other expenses, this too can be turned into a covenant spread over four years. If you are interested please contact the Treasurer.

John Hughes

PETT RECTORY FETE

Stallholders' Meeting, The Rectory, 7pm 2nd July.

C.M.S. MEMBERS' DAY & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Resources for Mission: On 31st May Elizabeth White and Peggy Daly represented Pett and Guestling at the Council Meetings in London. The direction of thought was on resources for Mission. Loud and cheerful hymn singing was followed by worship led by the young and enthusiastic Rev Brian Lipscombe and by a presentation by the Area Secretary for Asia, John Clark. The President, Rt. Hon. David Bleakley, C.B.E. and others made excellent speeches. The message came over very clearly that the resources needed for Mission were more prayer backing, more qualified young people and more financial support. During this most enjoyable day a fresh spirit of enthusiasm and commitment showed itself. The task of relating the ancient faith to the modern world lies before us all. Thank you for the wonderful support the parishes of Pett and Guestling give to Mission.

Peggy Daly

GUESTLING CHURCHYARD

My grateful thanks to all who have 'enlisted' in the enormous task of grass cutting. Areas undertaken already look 'cared for'. I will be very pleased to hear of others willing to help. Many hands make light work. Thank you.

Rector

FUTURE EVENTS IN THE TWO PARISHES

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| PETT RECTORY FETE | Saturday, 23rd August 2-4pm. |
| GUESTLING FLOWER FESTIVAL | 23rd - 25th August |
| | Lunches, coffee, etc, available. |
| PETT HARVEST FESTIVAL | Sunday 28th September, including |
| | a united Songs of Praise. |
| GUESTLING HARVEST | 3rd October, Supper/Entertainment. |
| | 5th October includes a united |
| | Evensong. |
| MISSIONARY WEEKEND | Sunday, 12th October. |

ROTASPett Level

6 Mrs Underwood 13 Mrs Hawksley
 20 Mrs Moon 27 Mrs Butchers
Sacristan: Miss Daly

Pett

6 Flowers: Mrs Strickland, Mrs Hickman
 Sidesmen: Mrs King, Mr Cooper
 Server: M. Plank
 Reader: Mrs Hawksley (Deuteronomy 10:12-11:1;
 Romans 8:1-11)

13 Flowers: Mrs Pannell, Mrs Harris
 Sidesmen: Mrs Bowman and young people

20 Flowers: Mrs Pruden, Mrs Parsons
 Sidesmen: Miss Daly, Mr Underwood
 Server: J. Underwood
 Reader: Mrs Trueman (1 Samuel 17: 37-50
 2 Corinthians 6:3-10)

27 Flowers: Mrs Kind, Mrs Appleton
 Sidesmen: Mr & Mrs Taylor
 Reader: Mrs Scott (2 Samuel 9; Matt. 6: 19-end)

Guestling

6 Flowers: Mrs Brooks, Mrs Parkes, Mrs Quaife
 Sidesmen: Young people

13 Flowers: Lady Ashburnham, Mrs Sankey, Mrs Rugg
 Sidesmen: Mrs Wicking, Miss Groves
 Elements: Mrs Quaife, Mrs Sankey
 Readers: Mr Saville (Ezekiel 37: 1-14)
 Mr Fisher (1 Corinthians 12: 4-13)

20 Flowers: Mrs Jennings, Mrs Saville, Mrs Williams
 Sidesmen: Mr Jennings, Mrs Saville
 Readers: Mrs Griffiths, (2 Samuel 1: 1-12 & 17-end)
 Mrs Mitchell (1 Timothy 6: 6-end)

27 Flowers: Mrs Gainsbury, Mrs Groves, Mrs Wicking
 Sidesmen: Mr McCausland, Mr Hughes
 Elements: Mrs Gainsbury, Mrs Williams
 Readers: Mr Tytherleigh (1 Samuel 24: 9-17)
 Mr Griffiths (Galatians 6: 1-10)

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF THE CHURCHES OF ST. LAURENCE,
QUESTLING AND ST. MARY AND ST. PETER, PETT

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Reader:

Mr. B. W. Pannell, Pett.

Editor of Magazine and Diocesan Reader: Mr. J. King.

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Diocesan Synod:

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