



GUESTLING

OCT 1986

PETT

PARISH NEWS

10p.

Pett Level

CWB

OCTOBER 1986

RECTOR'S LETTER

My Dear Friends,

August was the month in which the Parishes enjoyed two of their major social functions, the Guestling Flower Festival and the Pett Church Fete. Both events were highly successful and both owe their success in large measure to the hard work of the organisers and helpers and stall-holders as well as the tremendous generosity of the parishioners and visitors. I am particularly grateful, in respect of the Flower Festival at Guestling to Mrs Eve Sankey and her flower ladies for the lovely displays of flowers and all the thought and skill which had gone into their presentation. Likewise to Mrs Ruth Saville and Mrs Margaret Macfarlane for their wonderful refreshments which they sustained in both quality and quantity throughout the three days. We are all most thankfully aware of the great generosity of those who provided them with all kinds of food and provisions throughout the festival and I would wish to thank all concerned for their work and kindness. Likewise the organists who provided live music during the festival. The festival included a special Songs of Praise and I am grateful to Guestling Choir for their part in that. The financial total was £780 and I know how delighted we were with that. Thanks to Mr John Hughes for the customary watchful eye he kept on the finances of the Festival. In respect of the Rectory Fete at Pett I was so very pleased with the event and am thankful to all those who so willingly responded to our needs. There were many very well-stocked stalls and good sideshows, lots of prizes for the raffle and several competitions. I am pleased that the new tea arrangements were well thought of we saved well over £100 by not having a marquee. The takings on the day, including donations, was in excess of £1,350 which will come in very handy when our maintenance bills start to come in. My thanks to Avril and Wilf Slack for their handling of the financial side and Mr A. Dunlop and the men who brought tables and chairs etc from the village hall to the Rectory.

The sudden change in the weather is a salient reminder that Autumn has really arrived and with it the thoughts of the onset of Winter and all that will mean for the churches' calendars.

We shall shortly be celebrating Harvest Festivals, a local reminder of God's faithfulness and goodness to us. We are

only too well aware of the amount of hard work which goes to making for a good harvest. Over the past weeks we have seen our local farmers busy from dawn to dusk in the fields. This is the conclusion of months of work, patience, care and some anxiety. A good harvest is always at the mercy of the weather. Even when safely gathered in a satisfactory financial outcome depends heavily upon the prices of world markets. The harvest produced locally does not have the destination it would have had years ago when it would have been bought by local grain merchants and millers and the flour, barley and oats used in bakeries, breweries, and provender mills of the locality and consumed by those living in neighbouring villages. We now produce our harvest for a world market and for better or worse the prosperity of our farmers is tied in with a much wider and more complex trading system.

There are many references to harvests in the New Testament. Jesus certainly sees the world as God's harvest, the people as the precious grain He yearns to gather in. Jesus places this task into the hands of the disciples accompanied by warnings about the urgency attached to the task. In St John ch 4 v 35 we read these words; "Do you not say there are yet four months and then comes the harvest? I tell you, lift up your eyes and see how the fields are already white for harvest." Jesus was obviously speaking of the harvest of people. We are reminded of two important things. The harvest will not wait for the harvesters until they are ready. It will ripen, go past its best, then rot and be lost if reapers are not found. The harvest is an ongoing process. In agriculture it comes round year after year. On many farms where a variety of crops are grown harvesting of one sort or another lasts many months. The Mission of the Church is also a never ending task. It requires men and women, it requires resources, spiritual and financial, to put and keep reapers in the field. It requires the strong back-up of other Christians not themselves actively involved in the work but supportive of the work by their prayers and work in their local parishes. I wish to stress here the importance of this work in our own parishes. We have our own Missionary representatives on C.M.S. in Hastings and in the local Deanery Overseas Group. We have a Missionary Committee of members of the joint Parishes of Guestling and Pett. They keep the activities and the needs of missionaries before us, in particular the activities of Timothy and Frances Britton, our link missionaries.

Like the world harvest of grain etc where a much more complex marketing system exists, similarly in the Christian Mission a much more complex and often sensitive situation exists heightened as it so often is by political and cultural factors as well as the presence of other world religions.

These factors have always been there, but are now much more widespread with the shifting of populations exemplified clearly by the presence of a multi-racial, multi-religious society in our midst in this land. A missionary situation clearly exists at home as well as abroad, the needs are much more varied and the resources and understandings have to meet them if a realistic mission is to exist. Speaking of resources, and needs, any Christian mission must include a ministry to men's total needs, not simply to their spiritual needs. This means that among the missionaries there must be agriculturalists, doctors, engineers, nurses, dieticians, scientists and many more professions.

When our thoughts turn to underdeveloped countries we are reminded of the great differentials which exist between North and South. Harvest time is a time when this especially hits us. In some measure we meet the challenge by our local giving to mission in ways of which you will, I hope, be aware. Let us always keep those needs before us and the work of those in the missionary societies in our prayers.

With all good wishes and prayers,
Yours sincerely,
Michael

SERVICES IN OCTOBER

As usual, except for special events listed below.

Dates for your Diary

Friday Oct 3rd 7.15 for 7.30pm Guestling Harvest Supper. At Guestling Village Hall.

Sunday Oct 5th Guestling Harvest Festival.

11am Parish Communion.

6pm Evensong (Sale of produce to take place afterwards)

Sunday Oct 12th Church Missionary Society Weekend. Special preacher Dr Fernandes. 10am PETT Family Service. 11am Parish Communion, GUESTLING.

Monday Oct 13th 7.30pm Special meeting for Parish Treasurers, Churchwardens and Incumbents at Icklesham Village Hall.

Friday Oct 17th St Luke's Tide Service at Rye Parish Church 7.30pm at St Mary's RYE.

Tuesday Oct 28th 10am Ministers Fraternal Upper Room, St Mary's Church RYE.

Friday Nov 7th Guestling PCC at St Andrews Peep.

October 29th I am hoping that we will have a joint PCC to discuss the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood. At the time of writing I have not finalised the speaker but hope to have someone well known and very able on this and many subjects. I am hopeful that the meeting will take place in the Pett Methodist Church Hall. Please hear notices in church for further information and keep the evening free of other appointments if possible.

SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE

SUSSEX HISTORIC CHURCHES' TRUST

I am most grateful to our local organisers (Miss Avril Thurley for Pett, Mr John Hughes for Guestling) for having organised the operation in the Benefice this year. I am also most grateful to all those who gave time on Saturday 6th September to man the churches, sign in the cyclists and give them sustenance. Many thanks, one and all!!

Michael

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

We welcome Ashliegh James Pook the child of Mr & Mrs Pook of 41 Austen Way, Guestling. May God bless him and his family.

We congratulate

Robert Milsom and Melissa Billings whose marriage took place on Saturday August 30th. (at Guestling)

Timothy Durrant and Amanda Shoesmith whose marriage Blessing took place on Saturday September 13th (At Guestling).

May God bless them in their life together.

We commend to God's keeping

Mrs Caroline Owers whose funeral took place on Tuesday September 16th (At Pett). Our sympathy goes to her family. "Rest Eternal Grant unto her and may light perpetual shine upon her."

AT PETT

Altar Plinth. I am very pleased to say that an altar plinth has been made for the High Altar. This raises the altar to give it prominence in the sanctuary. Mr Barden has produced it in a style which is most in keeping with the rest of the structure and I am most grateful to him for the excellent workmanship he has produced.

Organ Light I am most grateful to Mr W. Slack for having made and fitted a very effective light above the organ. Mrs Medlock finds this very useful.

AT GUESTLING

The window broken in the robbery has now been reinstated.

Chalice. A beautiful chalice has been given in memory of the late Mrs Pearl Farmer by her sister and brother-in-law Mr and Mrs Breeds. I am so very pleased to have this gift which was dedicated to her memory on Sunday 14th September.

Seat A lovely seat has been given by Miss Nye in memory of her sister, the late Mrs Christmas. This is a most acceptable gift to the church and stands by the main door commanding a good view of the valley. I know it will give great pleasure to many.

PARISH MAGAZINE

The Editor, at his discretion and in certain cases after consultation with The Rector will be willing to include items of news from persons and organisations in the Benefice when space permits. These should be handed to him on or before the closing date published in the current magazine.

The Rector

THE GIDEONS

The Gideon Society is holding an open meeting at St Matthews Church Hall, London Road, St Leonards on Sea on Saturday 4th October 1986 at 3pm. Guest Speaker. The Rev George Duncan.

PETT FETE

In 1985 we took £1242 at the Fete, and after expenses we showed a profit of £1060. This was nearly twice as much as

we had ever made before, and I thought it was an exceptional result, not to be repeated. I was wrong; this year we took £1367. Even better, we have no marquee to pay for, as we used the Rector's tent for teas, so this will be nearly all profit. There was a full list of result in the Church porch, so I will not repeat them here.

Many thanks to all who helped in any way, either on the day or by supplying goods for the stalls. My personal thanks go to Wilfred Slack for his cheerful and efficient help in the office all the afternoon. After everything was cleared up and all the visitors had gone home we were still happily counting the takings!

Finally, special thanks to Michael, whose weeks of hard work planning and organising the Fete paid off so handsomely. We can now await the Architect's quinquennial report with rather less apprehension.

Avril Thurley (Hon. Treas. Pett)

AROUND THE PARISHES

Royal British Legion Next Meeting is at The Smuggler on 6th October at 7.30pm.

Three Oaks W.I. The Annual Meeting of the Institute with V.C.O. is on 9th October.

Guestling Collections The August collections, including F.W.O. envelopes, were £256 and the total for the year to date £1837.

Pett Level Naturalists Mr Donald Wise will talk on "The Countryside and Wildlife around Hastings" on Friday 17th October at 7.30pm in Pett Village Hall.

Pett Village Hall An Indoor Market will be held on Saturday 15th November starting at 2pm. Tables may be booked in advance for £3.50 (or £4 on the day), by telephoning 812551.

Pett, Fairlight, Guestling and Icklesham Welfare Association We have been approached by several people asking for help. We would, therefore, like to have the name and address of anybody willing to sit with elderly and/or disabled persons, to enable the relative looking after them to have a break or go shopping, etc. Please contact Mrs D.C. Rugg. The Little House, Friar's Hill, Guestling. (Tel: 812251).

Feed the Hungry Fellowship The figure collected for July and August, £83, goes to the Royal Commonwealth Society for the

Blind, to help nourish children in North India who go blind from an early age owing to malnutrition. This condition is a terrible and prevalent fact in the Third World. Many thanks to all members.

November Magazine The closing date for receipt of contributions is 12th October.

GUESTLING FLOWER FESTIVAL

Refreshment Stall

This is to say thankyou to the many people who provided cakes, pies and other food, and who gave produce, for the stall. Your hard work and kindness were greatly appreciated. Thank you, too, to those who helped run the stall over the three days of the Festival.

The stall raised nearly 30% more than last year and made a great contribution to the success of the Festival.

Margaret Macfarlane
Ruth Saville

FAMILY SOCIAL WORK Frances Read and Elizabeth White were delighted with the grand sum of £133 made at the Tea Party on 9th September. A special thank you from "Liz" for so much help, support in numbers, gifts and cash from her many friends in Pett, Guestling and Three Oaks.

PETT W.I. The Annual Meeting is on 17th October when we welcome the visiting V.C.O. This is the month when the new committee and president are elected. Mrs Margaret Newton will retire this month and we will wish to thank her for her work during the past three years.

PETT LEVEL PRESERVATION TRUST

A Boot Fair was mistakenly announced in last month's magazine. We do hope to have one next year.

Pett Level

- 5 Miss Daly 12 Mrs Underwood
 19 Mrs Moon 26 Mrs Hawksley
Sacristan: Miss Avril Thurley

Pett

- 5 Flowers: Mrs Medlock, Mrs Grundy
 Sidesmen: Mrs Rootes, Dr Butchers
 Server: J. Underwood
 Reader: Mrs Rootes (Genesis 32: 23-30;
 1 Cor 9: 19-end)
- 12 Flowers: Mrs Bacon, Mrs Owen
 Sidesmen: Mrs Scott and young people
- 19 Flowers: Mrs Jury, Mrs Butler
 Sidesmen: Mrs Jury, Mr Cooper
 Server: M. Plank
 Reader: Mrs Hawksley (Isaiah 33: 17-22
 Rev 7: 2-4 & 9-end)
- 26 Flowers: Mrs Strickland, Mrs Hickman
 Sidesmen: Mrs Taylor, Mr Taylor
 Reader: Mrs Taylor (Proverbs 8: 1 & 22-31;
 Rev 21: 1-7 & 22-end)

Guestling

- 5 Flowers: Harvest; all help please.
 Sidesmen: Mrs Saville, Mr McCausland
 Elements: Miss Groves, Mrs Gainsbury
 Readers: Mr Saville (Readings to be arranged)
 Mrs Griffiths (Readings to be arranged)
- 12 Flowers: Mrs Brooks, Mrs Quaife, Mrs Parkes
 Sidesmen: Mrs Sankey, Mrs Wicking
 Elements: Mrs Williams, Mrs Quaife
 Readers: Mr Griffiths (Ezekiel 12: 21-end)
 Mrs Mitchell (1 Peter 1: 13-21)
- 19 Flowers: Lady Ashburnham, Mrs Rugg, Mrs Sankey
 Sidesmen: Mr Jennings, Mr Hughes
 Readers: Mr Tytherleigh (Ezekiel 11: 14-21)
 Lady Ashburnham (Hebrews 13: 1-21)
- 26 Flowers: Mrs Jennings, Mrs Saville, Mrs Williams
 Sidesmen: Miss Groves, Mr Barnett
 Elements: Mrs Sankey, Mrs Gainsbury
 Readers: Mr Barnett (Genesis 1: 1-3 & 24-31)
 Mr Fisher (Colossians 1: 15-20)

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

Diocese of Chichester

Rector:

Rev. M. Butler,
Pett Rectory. (Hastings 813234)

Reader:

Mr. B. W. Pannell, Pett.

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

Church Officers

GUESTLING

Churchwardens:

Lady Ashburnham,
Little Broomham,
Guestling. (Hastings 813085)

Mr. W. H. Fisher,
Holly Cottage, Pett Road,
Pett. (Hastings 813440)

Secretary:

Miss J. M. Groves,
13 Mill Lane,
Guestling. (Hastings 813341)

Treasurer:

Mr. J. M. C. Hughes,
Mount View, Butchers Lane,
Three Oaks. (Hastings 814235)

Free Will Offering:

Mrs. E. Sankey,
St. Andrews Peep,
Guestling. (Hastings 812336)

Electoral Roll:

Mrs. R. Saville,
7A Mill Lane,
Hastings. (Hastings 813315)

Organist:

Mrs. S. Hughes,
Mount View, Butchers Lane,
Three Oaks. (Hastings 814235)

Choirmaster:

Mr. K. Tytherleigh,
Hillcrest, Three Oaks.
(Hastings 751516)

Deanery Synod:

Mrs. A. P. Williams
Miss J. M. Groves

PETT

Churchwardens:

Mr. B. W. Pannell,
Springdale Cottage,
Pett Road. (Hastings 812117)

Mr. J. King,
Red Gables,
Pett Road. (Hastings 813316)

Secretary:

Miss M. Turner,
Tawstock, Pett Road,
Guestling.

Treasurer:

Miss Avril Thurley,
Rectory Cottage, Pett.

Free Will Offering:

Mrs. J. Cooper,
4 Rectory Park,
Pett. (Hastings 812401)

Electoral Roll:

Mrs. J. Gillow,
Redruth,
Pett Road, Pett.

Organ and Choir:

Mrs. J. Medlock,
Chick Hill, Pett.

Deanery Synod:

Dr. and Mrs. E. Butchers

Diocesan Synod:

Mrs. A. P. Williams,
Woodbine Cottage,
Pett. (Hastings 813402)