



MAR 1988

GUESTLING

PETT

PARISH NEWS

10p

Pett Level

CWB

MARCH 1988

RECTOR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

I was fortunate enough to be able to attend a course at Crowhurst Old Rectory, a Home of Healing. The course was designed for clergy and doctors and was conducted by The Rev'd David Howell, Director of Crowhurst. The very fact that the course was for clergy and doctors reflects at once the firmly held fact that there is a very important interaction between our bodies and our souls. The well-being of one affects the well-being of the other. We are so familiar with the fact that stress, worry, sadness etc., take their toll upon our physical stamina and can actually cause as well as aggravate adverse physical conditions. We do tend to see our bodies and souls as separate entities, the well-being of one being the domain of the doctor, the well-being of the other being the domain of the priest. Yet experience of both shows that these domains often cross and what we thought was a physical condition bringing us low, turns out to be the result of some present or past spiritual condition which has caught up on us and taken us by surprise. The contrary can also be the case, as indeed a mixture of physical and spiritual problems which really forms the basis of pastoral visits by the clergy in times of sickness. His ministry undergirds all that the doctor is doing for you with surgery and medicine.

Now if we turn to the life and ministry of Jesus we find that healing occupies a good deal of Jesus' time and energy. When we were young we may be forgiven for thinking that Jesus performed miracles of healing to prove His Divine origin and to enhance His reputation. This does not fit in at all well with His character and ministry for in respect of "mighty works" Jesus often tried to keep them secret. In several cases of healing, Jesus told the onlookers (if any) and the healed person not to tell anyone. The healing was a matter between Jesus, the sick person and God. It is also true that the healings which Jesus performed, brought about a new relationship with life. For the sick, whether blind, deaf, dumb, leper, lame, maimed, or however afflicted, the cure opened up a completely renewed and restored way of life. Restoration to health enabled the person to take up their lives again - hearing, conversing, working and earning their living. Self-respect was restored with material and physical well-being.

In the case of the leper ostracised by society, a whole new lease of life was given. In short, the person became whole again. Wholeness is really the key to Christian healing. Healing means far more than the curing of a physical ailment though this may well be involved. Lack of wholeness may take many forms; it may be some physical illness, it may be the belief that we have some physical illness, when we are really perfectly well. It may be that we have some very bad memories of childhood, or any of the years between then and now. It may be that we have some guilt, some negligence, some sin, which we have not confessed, or which, having confessed, we cannot accept that we are forgiven. These dreadful weights we take around with us are lowering in the extreme and release from them is an integral part of our healing (wholeness). We know only too well how our state of mind can make us feel rotten too, and with our minds "put at rest" can also come a sense of physical well-being.

In the case of physical healing through surgery or medicine, we know that we must be prepared for the medicine to be ineffective or the surgery to be of no avail. We also know, however, that the state of mind in which we approach both is very important. If we approach with a positive and co-operative spirit this can often compliment the physical changes which drugs and surgery can bring about. If we approach them with an extremely pessimistic attitude that can actually militate against our healing. There is therefore a spiritual (psychological) as well as a physical aspect to our healing. Equally so, the mainstream of Christian healing places very great importance upon the work of medical science. It is God's will that people are whole, complete and well; the work of Jesus makes this clear. It is also true that He had given to men and women the skill to develop medicine and surgery to play a major role in the bringing of wholeness. God has given His church a commission to play an important part in the healing process by the laying on of hands, the Holy Communion and the Anointing of the sick and, we must not forget it, the Sacrament of Penance (Confession and Absolution). There are many scriptural references to healing in the Bible, some which refer to the God-given skill of doctors and pharmacists; others which give clear authority to the Church to play a part in healing. It is therefore in response to these Biblical texts, especially those which deal with the practice of the early Church, that the Healing Ministry of the Church has been revived and is practised.

Next month I will say a little more about the ministry of healing. In the meantime, I would like to wish you all a very Happy and Blessed Easter. Yours sincerely - MICHAEL.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

There were no Baptisms in January.

Weddings (Guestling): We congratulate Mr. Richard Williams and Miss Kate Cox whose wedding took place on Saturday, 23rd January. May God Bless them in their life together.

Funerals (Pett): We commend to God's keeping the soul of Mrs. Joyce Lewis whose funeral service took place at the Crematorium on Thursday, 28th January.

Also at Guestling:

Mrs. Irene Carruthers whose funeral took place on Tuesday, 26th January.

Mrs. Hann whose ashes were buried in Guestling churchyard on Wednesday, 20th January.

Rest Eternal grant unto them O Lord and may light perpetual shine upon them.

FLOWER FESTIVAL 1988

This is a preliminary notice giving good warning to avoid double bookings. The Festival is moving forward one week this year, to AUGUST 19th-21st. We have done this in desperation to try to enlist help (which has gradually been diminishing). It needs a lot of people to cover the three days, helping with the refreshments, stewarding etc., so PLEASE, if you can help, ring 812336 or contact Lady Ashburnham. It would be a pity if this annual and popular event had to end through lack of support.

GUESTLING - NEW LAWN MOWER

The old mower is now no longer serviceable and the cost of repair is so considerable that the P.C.C. have decided to invest in another. Sir Denny Ashburnham is making enquiries as to the best purchase to fulfil our requirements. In the meantime, we are trying to scrape together funds to purchase it. I have asked for donations and have some £150 to date. We shall actually require about £500, so any donations will be most gratefully received.

Michael.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

A Confirmation is planned for Summer 1988. Anyone wishing to pursue the idea of Confirmation this year will be most welcome to get in touch with the Rector. Arrangements will be made for an inaugural meeting for both young people and adults, when it is known who would like to take part in the classes.

Michael.

GIFT OF NEW LIGHTS TO ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH

A generous anonymous donor has given two new fluorescent lights to St. Nicholas Church, which have improved the lighting situation considerably. We do thank them very much indeed. I am also indebted to Mr. W. Slack for having installed them for us.

Michael.

THE ROOF AT PETT CHURCH

Quite understandably I am being asked when the roof is going to be repaired. I am very hopeful that by the time you read this, the scaffolding will have gone up and, who knows, the work might well have been done. We certainly did not drag our heels; Mr. Pannell put the wheels in motion the day after the storm. Shortage of scaffolding and sheer volume of repair work has caused the delay. I am most grateful to Mr. Pannell for all that he has done.

Michael.

STORM DAMAGE REPAIR AT GUESTLING

I am grateful to Mr. Fisher who has looked after the arrangements for work on the main part of the roof to be carried out. He is presently involved in arrangements for repair to the tower. Having been advised by the roofing contractor and the Architect that the entire tower roof is in need of repair, we are taking steps to execute this work at a projected cost of £4,670 plus V.A.T. It seems good sense to do the work now, since scaffolding is needed in the case of repair or complete restoration and it is better to "grasp the nettle" than to do repairs now and pay scaffolding charges and in a few years' time repeat the process, paying scaffolding charges again.

Naturally this work will put great pressure on our resources and we shall appreciate any donations please.

Michael.

AROUND THE PARISHES

Royal British Legion. The next meeting will take place on 7th March at 7.30 pm at The Smuggler, Pett Level.

Pett Level Naturalists' Society. The Annual General Meeting will be held in Pett Village Hall on Friday, March 18th at 7.30 pm. This will be followed by a talk by Mr. Alf Simpson on 'New World and Old World Reserves'.

Meeting Point. Wednesday, 16th March at 8 pm. 1, Woodside, Pett Road. Demonstrations of how to make Easter Eggs. All welcome. (The home of Betty Dymott).

Pett and District Horticultural Society are holding their Annual General Meeting at Pett Village Hall on Thursday, 17th March at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome.

St. Michael's Hospice. Help is required, as one feels so able to assist with Fund Raising in the Pett and Guestling area in connection with the Hospice. Please contact Hastings 813624 if you feel you could help. Thank you.

Guestling Collections. The January collections, including F.W.O. envelopes for Church expenses, was £248. This is the first month of the new financial year for which the monthly quota is £274, the largest part of which is allocated towards the payment of our Rector's salary. J.M.C. Hughes.

Guestling and District Welfare Association will hold a Coffee Morning on Saturday, March 19th at the Three Oaks Village Hall at 10.30 am. Bring and Buy, Cakes, Raffle.

COMMUNITY CHARGE

Your Questions Answered

Mr. Willis, R.D.C. Treasurer, will address the PETT VILLAGE ASSEMBLY MEETING on this subject at the PETT VILLAGE HALL on MARCH 21st at 7.30 pm. All are welcome.

Pett Bowls Club. We are holding our Annual Jumble Sale on Saturday, 26th March from 2.00 to 4 pm. at the Village Hall. Entrance fee is 10p. A Raffle has been arranged and there will also be cups of tea and cakes for sale. We look forward to seeing our friends looking for bargains!

CLOSING DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR APRIL MAGAZINE IS TUESDAY, MARCH 15TH.

THREE OAKS W.I.

There were several members absent at the February meeting, but Mrs. Olive Barton was welcomed back after her illness. Members were reminded of a 'Bring and Buy', which will be held at the March meeting in aid of W.I. funds. Mrs. Joan Brooks will be Delegate at the Annual Council Meeting, and Mrs. Eileen Cruttenden the Outings Organiser, will be arranging a mystery drive for later. The arranged Speaker for February was unable to appear, but will do so at a later date. The Programme was re-arranged and Mrs. Betty Newman stepped in. Her subject was 'Hitch Hiking across the North American Continent'. Members found it most interesting. Quite a number of flowers were entered for the 'Flower of the Month' competition. A. QUAIFE.

PETT W.I.

'Getting the best from your Garden' should be of great interest to Pett W.I. members. This talk will be given by Mrs. C. Hudson on Friday, 18th March and includes a number of slides. There will also be a competition for 'My most interesting Post Card'. Visitors are most welcome to attend and stay for tea. MRS. P. FOX

Friday, March 4th, 2.15 pm. Women's Day of Prayer, at St. Mary & St. Peter, Pett. Interdenominational.

PETT LEVEL ROTA

Mar. 6th Mrs. Butchers. 13th Mrs. Underwood 20th Mrs. Pannell
27th Mrs. Hawksley SACRISTAN Mrs. Hawksley

GUESTLING ROTA

Flowers and Cleaning

Mar. 6th Mrs. Jennings Mrs. Durrant Mrs. Williams
13th Mrs. Gainsbury Mrs. Groves Mrs. Wicking
20th Mrs. Pearson Mrs. Gill Mrs. Jagger
27th Mrs. Brooks Mrs. Quaife Mrs. Parks
Apr. 3rd Easter Decorations - All help please

Sidesmen

Mar. 6th Mr. Jennings Mrs. Williams 13th Young People
20th Mrs. Gainsbury Mr. McCauseland
27th Sir Denny Ashburnham Mrs. Sankey

Elements

Mar. 6th Mrs. Gainsbury Mrs. Quaife
27th Mrs. Williams Mrs. Quaife

Readers

Mar. 6th	Mrs. Williams	Gen. 12. 1-9
	Mr. Fisher	1 Pet. 2. 19-end
13th	Young People	
20th	Mr. Gill	Isa. 53.7-end
	Mrs. Griffiths	Matt. 27. 33-54
27th	Mrs. Mitchell	Isa. 50. 4-9a
	Bernard le Roux	Phil 2. 5-11

PETT DUTY ROTA

No Flowers in Lent. Easter decorating will take place on April 2nd at 10 am. in Pett Church. Anyone wishing to donate a lily in remembrance of someone, please let Joyce Cooper know on Hastings 812401.

Servers

Mar. 6th	Mr. Bowman	20th Julian Underwood	27th Mr. Plank
Apr. 3rd	Mr. Plank		

Readers

Mar. 6th	Mrs. Hawksley	Gen. 12. 1-9	1 Pet. 2.19-end
13th	YOUNG PEOPLE		
20th	Mr. Taylor	Jer.31. 31-34	Heb. 9. 11-14
27th	Mrs. Daly	Exod. 11.	Mark 14.

Sidesmen

Mar. 6th	Mrs. King/Mrs. Ferguson	13th Mrs. Bowman/Y.P.
20th	Mr. Underwood/Mr. King	27th Dr. & Mrs. Butchers

SUNDAY SERVICES

Mar. 6th	Parish Communion 9.45am.	Pett
	Parish Communion 11.00am.	Guestling
13th	Holy Communion 8.00 am.	Pett Level
	Family Service 10.00 am.	Pett (Mothering Sunday)
	Family Service 11.00 am.	Guestling
20th	Parish Communion 9.45 am.	Pett
	Matins 11.00 am.	Guestling
27th	Holy Communion 8.00 am.	Pett Level (Palm Sunday)
	Matins 9.45 am.	Pett
	Parish Communion 11.00 am.	Guestling
	H.C. St. Nicholas every Wednesday	10.00 am.

EASTER SERVICES

Apr. 3rd	8.00 am.	Holy Communion	Pett Level
	9.45 am.	Parish Communion	Pett / 11.00 P.C.
			Guestling
	6.00 pm.	Songs of Praise	Guestling

Mar.	31st	Maundy Thursday.	10.00 am.	H.C. Pett
			6.30 pm.	H.C. Guestling
Apr.	1st	Good Friday	10.00 am.	Family Service - Pett
	"	"	2-3 pm	Last Hour (Canon Harvey - Guestling)
Apr.	2nd	Holy Saturday	Lighting of Pascal Candle, Renewal of Baptismal Promises at Pett.	

SYNODICAL GOVERNMENT

Many people switch off when they hear these words, probably because they have only a hazy idea as to what it is and how it works. In order to give ordinary members a say in how the Church is run, a system of representation has been introduced which can be compared roughly with that of local and national government. At the A.G.M. of the Parish Church, the members of the Electoral Roll elect the Parochial Church Council to look after the affairs of the local church, plus two or three representatives for the Deanery (or district) Synod - in our case, Rye. In turn, the Deanery elects three lay and three clerical members to represent it on the Diocesan (or county) Synod. General (national) Synod members, (a given number from each Diocese), are also chosen by members of the Deanery Synod. In a diocese like ours, which covers both East and West Sussex, we in Rye cannot possibly know all the candidates, but we are fortunate in having a local member, Dss. Dr. Una Kroll. It is the General Synod's decisions which hit the headlines, but they are supposed to reflect the views of us in the parishes, deaneries and dioceses.

From time to time we will be printing reports of Synod meetings. If you have strong views on any of the issues facing the church today, please make them known to your own parish representatives. (See names on back cover).

GUESTLING - CLEANING AND FLOWERS

Visitors to Guestling Church often comment on its well-kept appearance and the beauty of its flowers. This is thanks to the skill and care of our regular helpers. Until recently we had six teams, but several of our members have moved away and we are now reduced to five. If you feel able to help with either the cleaning or the flowers or both, Anne Williams would be glad to hear from you (Hastings 813402). You would be committing yourself to only one to two hours every six weeks.

Editor of Magazine: Rev. R. B. Smith, St. Mary's Church, Hastings (Hastings 813402)
Diocesan Secretary: Rev. R. B. Smith, St. Mary's Church, Hastings (Hastings 813402)

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

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