



November, 1996

GUESTLING

PETT

PARISH NEWS

20p

Pett Level

ROBIN WRITES:

TOGETHER YET DIFFERENT

It is just over a year since I was instituted and inducted as the Rector of the United Benefice of Fairlight, Guestling and Pett. We have a difficult task in making this work. It needs tolerance, patience, understanding and hard work to make something of it. The task is to hold the Benefice together and to share the resources available, but also to allow the parishes to remain distinctive and develop in their own way. We need something that enables the parishes to be TOGETHER YET DIFFERENT.

Togetherness

Already we are seeing the benefits of being together. A small Benefice Standing Committee has been formed of the Churchwardens and Treasurers. We are delighted to say that this group has been very supportive and encouraging of each other. They get along very well indeed, much better than we could have hoped. From this group has come the recommendation of a UNITED MAGAZINE. A Trial issue for December and January is being launched under a temporary cover (not the Fairlight one as wrongly announced). If we like the idea of a joint magazine, then in time a new design will be chosen.

We are also encouraged by the help which is being given by the Diocese. The REVD JOHN FORD (Adviser for Mission and Renewal) is joining us for our first BENEFICE PCC MEETING on 7 NOVEMBER. He will help us plan the first year of the FOUR YEAR PLAN. It will be a "Listening Year": hearing the views of the community and the church, but most of all "Listening for God". When John met the Standing Committee they were unanimous that he should be invited to help us.

Difference

The interesting thing about the Benefice is how varied and distinct are the various villages and their churches that make up the new grouping. On one Sunday I took four different forms of service in the same day; a 1662 Prayer Book Service, a Rite A Communion, a Rite B Communion and an informal "praise and worship". I admit that the variety is very demanding with eight different settlements around the Benefice. There are, of course, many retired people who enjoy traditional worship and church life, but also an increasing number who are looking for change and more flexibility.

The days ahead are going to be very exciting and challenging. With God's help, I believe we can create a living, vibrant Church in our Benefice, with many new possibilities. Please support the churches with your attendance, prayer and interest.

ST LAURENCE ROTAS NOVEMBER 1996

3 - MATINS - 8th Before Christmas - 4th Before Advent - (Green)

PREACHER - Mr Gatherum
FLOWERS - Mrs Pearson, Mrs Jagger, Mrs Gill
SIDESMEN - Miss Groves, Mrs Smith
READERS - Miss Groves - Isaiah 44:6 - 22
- Mrs Smith - 1 Corinthians 10:1 - 13

10 - PARISH COMMUNION - 7th Before Christmas - 3rd Before Advent

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY (Green)
PRESIDENT/PREACHER - Revd Derek Owen
FLOWERS - Mrs Wicking, Mrs Parks, Mrs D Griffiths
SIDESMEN - Col Parks, Mrs Williams
ELEMENTS - Mr Jury, Mrs Page
READERS - Col Parks - Isaiah 2:1 - 5
- Mr Griffiths - Romans 8:31 to end

17 - FAMILY COMMUNION RITE A - 6th Before Christmas - 2nd Before Advent (Green)

PRESIDENT/PREACHER - Revd Robin & Mrs Eileen Balch
FLOWERS - Lady Ashburnham, Mrs Carpenter, Mrs Coppins
SIDESMEN - Young People
ELEMENTS - Young People

24 - PARISH COMMUNION - 5th Before Christmas - Next Before Advent (Green)

PRESIDENT/PREACHER - Revd Robin Balch
FLOWERS - Mrs Greenwood, Mr Greenwood, Mrs Brooks
SIDESMEN - Mrs Gainsbury, Mrs Betson
ELEMENTS - Mrs Williams, Col Parks
READERS - Mr Greenwood - 1 Kings 19:9 - 18
- Mrs Wicking - Romans 11:13 - 24

PETT AND PETT LEVEL ROTAS NOVEMBER 1996

3 - 9.30 am PARISH COMMUNION (Pett)

PRESIDENT/PREACHER - Canon Michael Townroe

INTERCESSIONS - Miss M Deasy

SIDESPERSONS - Miss M Deasy, Mr J Underwood

SERVER - Mrs A Hawksley

READER - Mr J Underwood - 1 John 3:9 - 18

Pett Level flowers and cleaning - Mrs J Slack

6 - 11.00 am HOLY COMMUNION (Pett Level)

CELEBRANT - Revd Robin Balch

10 - 8.00 am HOLY COMMUNION (Pett Level)

CELEBRANT - Revd Derek Owen

READER/SIDESPERSON - Mrs D Griffiths - Romans 4:13 - 25

Pett Level flowers and cleaning - Mrs D Griffiths

9.30 am REMEMBRANCE SERVICE (Pett)

LEADER/PREACHER - Canon Michael Townroe

SIDESPERSONS - Mr J Hiatt, Mr W Slack

READER - Mrs M Newton - Matthew 5:1 - 12

17 - 9.30 am PARISH COMMUNION (Pett)

PRESIDENT/PREACHER - Revd Robin Balch

INTERCESSIONS - Mrs D Griffiths

SIDESPERSONS - Mrs D Griffiths, Mr or Mrs Coby

SERVER - Mr T Coby

READER - Miss M Deasy - Hebrews 3:1 - 6

Pett Level flowers and cleaning - Mrs J Slack

24 - 8.00 am HOLY COMMUNION (Pett Level)

CELEBRANT - Revd Robin Balch

READER/SIDESPERSON - Miss M Deasy - Romans 11:13 - 24

Pett Level flowers and cleaning - Miss M Deasy

9.30 am MATINS (Pett)

LEADER/PREACHER - Revd Humphrey Newman

SIDESPERSONS - Mr J Greenfield, Mrs K Jury

READERS - Mrs R Taylor, Genesis 18:20 - 33

- Mr J Taylor - Mark 13:14 - 31

PEOPLE PAGE

A little bird has told us that there are noteworthy occasions to be celebrated this month. Congratulations to MURIEL TURNER on a significant birthday this month. Many happy returns of the day, Muriel. We hope it goes very well. We also believe that ROGER and MARGARET BARNETT have a "celebration worthy" wedding anniversary. Well done!! May it be a "Silver lining day".

As we come to REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY once again and the poppy appeal, we announce that after many, many years of organising the appeal in Guestling, CHRISTINE RUGG feels that she cannot continue. At the Legion meeting in October, warmth and appreciation was expressed to Christine and her workers who have continued the house to house collection beyond the achievements of other villages. Thank you so much Christine! Take a well earned rest, with the knowledge that so much good has come from your hard work.

We hear that MARY KEARNS has at last had her hip operation. Brian tells us that the operation lasted 3 hours, but she is making a good recovery. Recuperation will be at least three months, but after that it will be good to see her out and about again. We wish her a speedy recovery. We are very sorry to hear that MAUREEN GRIFFITHS broke her arm on holiday. We hope she too will soon be better.

Best wishes to DARREN LE MAR and TRACY PYE due to be married at St Laurence on 26 October and to JAMIE FOUNTAIN and NICOLA KENT to be married on 7 December also at St Laurence at 2.00 pm. We trust both will be very happy occasions.

EILEEN BALCH is to be the coordinator for the OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD appeal. The idea is to take an empty shoebox and place a specified gift in it, wrap it in Christmas paper with £2.00 for postage. The gift is forwarded to a child in Eastern Europe via the Charity "SAMARITAN'S PURSE". Details from the leaflet in church. It is essential to bring the box to the Rectory by Monday 11 November so that Eileen can get it to the local contact in time.

ST LAURENCE DIARY NOVEMBER 1996

- 1 All Saints
- 2 All Souls
6.00 pm Families Party at Friars Hill (Details from Wendy Hatch)
7.30 pm Three Oaks Village Hall Committee - Bonfire & Fireworks
- 3 11 am Matins Trinity 22, 4th Before Advent - Mr Gatherum
- 6 7.30 pm Quiz Night at Three Oaks Village Hall
- 10 11.00 am Parish Communion Trinity 23, 3rd Before Advent
Remembrance Sunday - Revd Derek Owen
- 14 Three Oaks WI meets at 2.15 pm in Three Oaks Village Hall
- 16 Three Oaks Village Hall Jumble Sale in aid of funds
- 17 11 am Family Communion Rite A 2nd Before Advent - Revd Robin and Mrs Balch
- 18 Deanery Synod at Iden
- 24 11.00 am Parish Communion Next Before Advent - Revd Robin Balch
- 30 St Andrew

DECEMBER

- 1 11.00 am Matins Advent 1 - Revd Derek Owen

THREE OAKS WI - 2.15 pm on Thursday 14 November in Three Oaks Village Hall is a 'Members' meeting' for 'Doing our Thing'.

FIREWORKS AND BONFIRE - at Three Oaks Village Hall on 2 November. All welcome - Adults £2.00 - Children £1.00

BRING AND BUY COFFEE MORNING will be held at Pett Rectory on Saturday 23 November from 10.00 am to 12 noon in aid of Guestling flower fund for next year's flower festival.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - Guestwell Guide and Scout Christmas Bazaar and Coffee Morning on Saturday 30 November in Pett Village Hall from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

PETT HARVEST FESTIVAL AND GIFT WEEKEND - May I be permitted to thank all those who helped make the Harvest Festival and Gift Weekend the success that it was. Due to the fact that many people gave their talent, services and time to the occasion, the weekend was a joyful "Benefice" event. To the flower ladies who filled the church with colour (after overcoming some obstacles!), those who lent the splendid exhibits, the stewards and ladies who supplied us with refreshment, the organists who treated us to some lovely music and to the Treasurer and the two Churchwardens (without whom the weekend could not have been such fun and such a success) - **A BIG THANK YOU.**

Thank you too to our friends at Fairlight and Guestling who joined us at the Songs of Praise on Sunday 22 September. This completed a happy weekend and the warmth and generosity of the folk in and around Pett resulted in a superb total of (approx) £850.00 given towards the urgently needed repairs to the Parish Church at Pett. Once again - thank you.

J Taylor

PETT WI - On Friday 15 November at 2.30 pm in the Village Hall, our guest speaker will be Mr D Ellwood and his subject 'The South Downs'. Members and visitors welcome.

PETT GARDEN CLUB - meets on Tuesday 12 November at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Our guest speaker will be Robert Fovargue from Icklesham Orchards who is always informative and entertaining. Visitors welcome 50p.

JUMBLE SALE - On Saturday 9 November in Pett Village Hall 2 - 4.00 pm. Please bring your donations to the Village Hall between 11.00 am and 12 noon or phone 812443 if collection is required. There will be a cake stall, raffle and tea/coffee etc will be available.

PETT FETE - Once again many thanks to everyone who donated, helped and supported our fete last July. We raised £1,327.83 which will go towards the church restoration fund.

PETT FLOWER ROTA

- 3 November - Mrs Carr, Mrs Ainsworth
- 10 November - Mrs Hickman, Mrs Jackson
- 17 November - Mrs Harris, Miss Turner
- 24 November - Mrs Pruden, Mrs Moir

NATURE NOTES

Have you noticed how, when birds moult, their heads are the last part to grow new feathers? My blackbird has been skulking in corners for some while, obviously feeling rather vulnerable to predators in his less than airworthy state. Every so often he appeared in the kitchen, and a week ago I noticed that his winter plumage was nearly complete; only his head was almost bald. Now he has grown his head feathers, and has recovered his confidence along with his looks.

The fly agaric are back at Colley Cottage. There used to be dozens of them on the front lawn, but they failed to appear during the last few years. Now there is once again a thriving colony of these lovely red and white 'fairy houses' in one corner of the lawn.

Someone was complaining to me recently about the price of bird baths. You can make a perfectly good bird bath simply by sinking an upturned dustbin lid into the ground. Alternatively you could use a big plant pot saucer, but if you get a plastic one make sure the sides are not too steep. The clay saucers usually have nicely sloping edges, and can sometimes be obtained quite cheaply at the Pot Shop.

I am constantly surprised at the strength of spiders' webs, which look so fragile and yet are so durable. Some other things in nature are truly weak, but paradoxically therein lies their strength. I am thinking of that menace known to most gardeners, the little yellow-flowered oxalis. Its stems are so fragile that it's almost impossible to get the plant out intact - and every morsel of root left behind grows into a new plant. Such a tiny, weak little thing, but so difficult to eradicate; I get a mental picture of oxalis when I hear that the meek shall inherit the earth.

Avril Thurley

A CPAS TRAINING EVENT IN HASTINGS FOR WOMEN OF TODAY -

'Learning to Pray' with Anne Wright. The Revd Anne Wright has two roles in CPAS - Consultant for the West Midlands and Ministry and Vocation Adviser. Creche facilities available.

Date Friday 8 November 1996

Time 10.00 am - .45 pm

Venue St Helen's church, The Ridge, Hastings

Cost £5.00

Booking - Please contact Eileen Owen, Church House, Waites Lane, Fairlight - Telephone 813104.

Workshops: Intercessory Prayer led by Eileen Moore
Creative Prayer led by Anne Wright
Meditative Prayer led by Diana Whitwam

KEY DATES IN THE FUTURE

November

- 2 6.00 pm GRAND FIREWORK PARTY for all the family at Applecross, Friar's Hill. Tell Wendy Hatch you are coming - ring 812297. Thanks.
- 3 Robin and Eileen Balch return from their holiday.
- 7 7.30 pm FIRST BENEFICE PCC meeting at St Peter's Church, Fairlight Cove with Revd John Ford.
- 9 2.00 pm JUMBLE SALE - Pett Village Hall
- 10 REMEMBRANCE DAY
9.30 am Pett Remembrance (Parish Church) - no Family Service
10.30 am THE PETT & DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
SERVICE at St Andrew's Church, Fairlight conducted by the local chaplain, Revd Robin Balch.
- 16 DIOCESAN SYNOD (local representative - Robin Balch)
(St Andrew's Christmas Fair at Fairlight Village Hall)
- 17 6.30 pm INFORMAL SERVICE of Praise and Prayer at St Peter's. Open to all from the Benefice, led by members of the Benefice Team. Eileen Balch preaching.
- 18 7.00 for 7.30 pm Deanery Synod at Iden - Parish Contributions for 1997 discussed.
- 19 10.00 am - 12 noon Bring and Buy Coffee Morning for Guestling Flower Festival at the Rectory.
- 27 12 noon Pett Choir singing carols for the Seniors British Legion Lunch at "The Smuggler".

INTO DECEMBER

- 8 10.30 am PETT FAMILY TOY SERVICE (Parish Church)
- 9 7.30 pm Pett PCC at the Rectory
- 19 CAROL SINGING in Pett Parish
- 23 9.30 am CAROL SERVICE at St Mary & St Peter, Pett
6.00 pm CAROL SERVICE at St Laurence, Guestling
- 24 3.00 pm Pett Nativity Service (Parish Church)
11.30 pm Midnight Communion (Guestling)
- 25 8.00 am Holy Communion (Pett Level)
9.30 am Christmas Day at Pett Church
11.00 am Parish Communion at Guestling

THIS AND THAT

FAIRLIGHT'S "VIEWPOINT 2000"

Some from the parishes of Guestling and Pett attended one or two events of the St Andrew's "Viewpoint 2000". Pett Church had a team in the Quiz Night along with the Pett Level Inshore Rescue Boat. A splendid evening with 16 teams and more than 100 people present ended with the Guestling/Bradshaw School Team winning closely followed by the Benefice Staff Team. There was a small number at a meeting at Pett Rectory on Thursday afternoon. Others attended the "Wine Tasting" evening. On Friday "The Smuggler" was used as a venue for the Men's Supper while the ladies met for a "Colour me beautiful" session. The Team from the Church Pastoral Aid Society visited the School on Friday morning and held a Fun Day there on Saturday afternoon. Much interest in the Christian Faith was expressed and a Coffee Evening was held on the Friday after to plan a short session of meetings on Christian Basics for any interested. Robin will be conducting these when he returns from his holiday at the beginning of the month. If you have missed these and would value such an introduction to faith, lasting about six weeks, please ring the RECTOR or DEREK OWEN for details.

THE PETT ALPHA COURSE commences at the Rectory, probably on Friday evenings. Names to Robin or Eileen as soon as possible. An alternative day, evening or afternoon is always a possibility. We would just like to know if any are interested. The Confirmation Service in the Benefice is on 13 APRIL 1997 at 10.30 am at St Andrew's Church.

CANON PETER HARVEY'S BOOK "All Glory, Laud and Honour" is now in its second edition, price £5.99. You may obtain this from a local bookshop (try Pathway's in town) or ring Betty on 813185 for details. Canon Peter's ministry was especially valued in Pett and many may want to buy this book as a fond reminder.

Our thanks to the New Beach Club on receipt of a donation to Pett Church in memory of ELAINE KNIGHT. In acknowledging the gift the Rector expressed the appreciation of the Church and the affectionate memory of Elaine.

Copy for the trial issue of the Benefice Magazine for December/January for Guestling and Three Oaks to Mr Griffiths, Sunnyside, Eight Acre Lane and for Pett to Frances Taylor, Summer Hayes, Pett Road, Pett by 7 November. It is a very early date this month as the edited version of the Guestling/Pett magazine has to be delivered to the Fairlight Editor by 12 November.

Thank you.

Frances Taylor

NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES

GUESTLING (ALL AT 11AM)

1st Sunday - Matins
2nd Sunday - Parish Communion
3rd Sunday - Family Service
4th Sunday - Parish Communion
5th Sunday - H Communion BCP

PETT

9.30am - Parish Communion
10.30am - Family Service
9.30am - Parish Communion
9.30am - Matins & Address
9.30am - H Communion BCP

PETT LEVEL - Holy Communion

8.00am - 2nd and 4th Sunday

11.00am - 1st Wednesday in each month

GUESTLING

CHURCH OFFICERS

PETT

CHURCH-WARDENS

Mrs M Barnett - 754974
Mr K Tytherleigh - 751516

CHURCH-WARDENS

Mrs A Hawksley - 812705
Miss P M Deasy

SECRETARY

Miss J M Groves - 813341

SECRETARY

Mrs K Jury - 812537

TREASURER

Mr K Tytherleigh - 751516

TREASURER

Mrs P J Gerreli - 812699

FREE WILL OFFERING

Mrs K Greenwood - 812790

STEWARDSHIP RECORDER

Mrs P J Gerreli - 812699

ELECTORIAL ROLL

Mrs B Wicking - 438027

ELECTORIAL ROLE

Mr M Plank - 812154

CHOIR MASTER

Mr K Tytherleigh - 751516

ORGANIST & CHOIR

Mrs J Medlock - 812173

JUNIOR CHOIR AND CLUB

Mrs B Greenfield - 813370

ORGANIST

Miss H Gainsbury

DEANERY SYNOD

Mr & Mrs Cooper

DEANERY SYNOD

Mr & Mrs D Greenwood

Rev'd Robin Balch (RECTOR), The Rectory, Pett - 813234

Rev'd Derek Owen (ASSISTANT), Church House, Waites Lane, Fairlight, Hastings - 813104