



February, 1999

GUESTLING

PETT

# PARISH NEWS

Pett Level

CWB



## ROBIN WRITES:

"NEW START"

The Christian Churches in this country are getting themselves ready to begin celebrating a NEW MILLENNIUM of Christianity in our land. The organisation called "CHURCHES TOGETHER in ENGLAND" has launched a programme called "NEW START". The major challenge is that all Christians in a given area should stand together to witness the occasion and the Faith!

The New Start initiative has suggested a Lent Course which has been produced by the MISSION ADVISE of the YORK DIOCESE, John Young. It is called "Attending, Exploring and Engaging" and involves the interviewing of FOUR LEADING CHRISTIAN SPEAKERS, including the Archbishop of York and Revd Steve Chalke, recently popular as a TV presenter as well as being a Baptist Pastor. Fr Gerard Hughes, the Jesuit Roman Catholic priest, who is widely read for his books on prayer, and also Professor Frances Young complete the quartet. We have managed to find SEVEN VENUES in the Benefice, and each church has a list of them. It would be really good if each one was required. There is a list of hosts in this edition, so if you are interested, please find a group.

The NEW START programme has other ideas for the coming year or so. I am meeting with representatives from the three parishes, as well as being in touch with members of other church denominations and we hope to build a worthwhile, but not too demanding programme. The Churches Together have planned the opportunity to deliver to each house in the country a CANDLE and a copy of the MILLENNIUM RESOLUTION. The NEW START idea is that the candles would be lit on New Year's Eve and the resolution said by the household. To actually deliver these to even most of the homes in the Benefice will be a major undertaking for the churches. The cost is 30p for each candle with literature, or £150 for every 500. If any feel moved to make a donation towards this venture, please make contact with myself or make out a cheque to "The Benefice Fund" (this would be returned if we choose not to go ahead!)

There is a list of planned events in this issue. Please make a note of them and help the Benefice to remind the community that this MILLENNIUM is actually about the birth of the LORD JESUS CHRIST. Let us make the best of this opportunity.

GUESTLING ROTAS FOR FEBRUARY 1999

- 7th MATINS - SEXAGESIMA - (Green)  
 PRESIDENT/PREACHER - Revd Frank Rowson  
 FLOWERS - Mrs Jennings, Mrs Griffiths, Mrs Jill Perry  
 SIDESMEN - Miss Groves, Mrs Gainsbury  
 READERS - Mr Greenwood - 2 Kings 4:8-37  
 - Mr Tytherleigh - St Mark 1:21 to end
- 14th PARISH COMMUNION - QUINQUAGESIMA - (Green)  
 PRESIDENT/PREACHER - Revd Humphrey Newman  
 FLOWERS - Mrs Gilbey, Mrs Smith, Mrs Gainsbury  
 SIDESMEN - Col Parks, Mrs Betson  
 ELEMENTS - Miss Groves, Mrs Gainsbury  
 READERS - Col Parks - Hosea 14:1-7  
 - Mrs Wicken - Philemon 1-16
- 21st FAMILY SERVICE - LENT 1 - (Violet)  
 PRESIDENT/PREACHER - Revd Robin Balch  
 CLEANING - Mrs Pearson, Mrs Gill, Miss Jagger
- 28th PARISH COMMUNION - LENT 2 - (Violet)  
 PRESIDENT/PREACHER - Revd Roger Morgan  
 CLEANING - Mrs Wicking, Mrs Hull, Miss Quaife  
 SIDESMEN - Mrs Smith, Mrs Barron  
 ELEMENTS - Mr Jury, Mrs Williams  
 READERS - Mr Griffiths - Genesis 6:11 to end  
 - Mrs Smith - 1 John 4:1-6
- March  
 7th MATINS - LENT 3 - (Violet)  
 PRESIDENT/PREACHER -  
 CLEANING - Mrs Coppins, Mrs Carpenter, Mrs Rugg, Mrs Jean Perry  
 SIDESMEN - Mr Barnett, Mrs Breeds  
 READERS - Mr Barnett - Genesis 22:1-13  
 - Miss Groves - Colossians 1:24 to end



**PETT & PETT LEVEL ROTAS FEBRUARY 1999**

7th 9.30 am PARISH COMMUNION (Pett)  
 PRESIDENT - Revd Michael Townroe  
 PREACHER - Revd Robin Balch  
 INTERCESSIONS - Miss M Deasy  
 SIDESPERSONS - Cdr T Clarkson, Mr W Slack  
 SERVER - Mrs A Hawksley  
 READER - Mrs M Newton - James 5:13-16a  
 Pett Level flowers and cleaning - Mrs J Slack

14th 8.00 am HOLY COMMUNION (Pett Level)  
 PRESIDENT - Revd Robin Balch  
 READER/SIDESPERSON - Mrs A Hawksley - Philemon v1-16  
 Pett Level flowers and cleaning - Mrs R Moon

**10.45am SERVICE AT THE METHODIST CHURCH**

17th 6.00pm ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNION (Pett)  
 CELEBRANT - Canon Michael Townroe  
 READER/SIDESPERSON - Mr W Cooper -

21st 9.30 am PARISH COMMUNION (Pett)  
 PRESIDENT - Canon Michael Townroe  
 /PREACHER - Revd Robin Balch  
 INTERCESSIONS - Mr J Taylor and Mrs R Taylor  
 SIDESPERSONS - Mrs J Coby, Miss M Deasy  
 SERVER - Mr T Coby  
 READER - Mrs J Coby  
 Pett Level cleaning - Mrs A Hawksley

28th 8.00 am HOLY COMMUNION - (Pett Level)  
 PRESIDENT - Revd Frank Rowson  
 READER/SIDESPERSON - Miss M Deasy - 1 John 4:1-6  
 Pett Level cleaning - Miss M Deasy

9.30 am MATINS (Pett)  
 LEADER/PREACHER - Canon Michael Townroe  
 SIDESPERSONS - Miss M Deasy, Mrs D Goodsell  
 READER - Mrs E Greenfield - Genesis 37:1-11  
 - Mrs B Vick - Luke 22:39-53

**PREPARING FOR "WALKING THE WAY"**

During 1999, throughout the EPISCOPAL AREA of LEWES, BISHOP WALLACE and the MISSION ADVISER, JOHN FORD, are to visit every DEANERY AREA in EAST SUSSEX.

RYE DEANERY has been allocated **Thursday 24 June - Friday 27 June**. A planning group, under the direction of Mr David Harwood, lay minister at Northiam Church, has been set up to devise a programme. Our Benefice representative is **Dr Sheila Hornsby of Fairlight**. Plans so far are as follows:

**THURSDAY (24th) "OUTDOOR FUN EVENING"**

Bishop Wallace will launch our 'weekend' and there will be 'live' music, barn dancing and a bumper barbecue

FRIDAY (25th) the clergy meet the Bishop and Canon John for a CHAPTER MEETING at THE OASTS, NORTHIAM

In the evening there will be a YOUTH EVENT, run by a team of both local and visiting youth leaders at THOMAS PEACOCK COLLEGE

**SATURDAY (26th) "HAS CHRISTIANITY FAILED?"**

An OUTREACH EVENT for all ages.  
 This is again held at THOMAS PEACOCK COLLEGE

SUNDAY (27th) All churches have been asked to cancel their normal Sunday services and support the DEANERY (PCC to decide this nearer the time)

**MORNING SERVICE at STAPLECROSS RECREATION GROUND**  
 for an ALL AGE PRAISE SERVICE and PICNIC  
 (With indoor facilities if bad weather)

**EVENING SERVICE will be a CONCLUDING CELEBRATION with BAPTISMS and CONFIRMATIONS**  
 (using new COMMON WORSHIP, 2000 RITES)  
 at ST MARY'S CHURCH, RYE



### MEMBERSHIP REVIEW

This is the time of year when we come to our membership review in time for the ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS in March.

If you are **not** yet on the ELECTORAL ROLL, the Churches would like you to be signed up at least two weeks before the particular APCM. To be on the electoral roll of a church you need to be:

- (a) Baptised
- (b) at least 16 years old
- (c) resident in the parish of the church or an habitual attender for at least six months.

1999 provides a chance to be CONFIRMED as a full adult member of the CHURCH OF ENGLAND. Bishop Wallace will be at St Mary's, Rye in the evening of 27 June 1999. The Rector is having REGISTRATION for classes at the Rectory on **Friday 12 February at 7.00pm**. He hopes to hold classes on Friday evenings (fortnightly) depending on the response, normally 13 years or older. Please ask if under 13 years as permission may be granted in some cases).

### LENT GROUPS 1999

Following the NEW START course "ATTENDING, EXPLORING, ENGAGING", groups are held at the following venues. Please ring the hosts for details.

TUESDAYS	7.30pm "Windswept", Winchelsea Road Hosts: Derek and Kath Greenwood (812790)
WEDNESDAYS	(or as required) morning or afternoon "Pax", Pett Road Host: Canon Michael Townroe (813381)
(at Fairlight)	7.30pm "The Reddings", Broadway Hosts: John and Eve Miles (812913)
	7.30pm 5 The Close, Warren Road Hosts: John and Joan Dallimore (812850)
THURSDAYS	3.00pm "Beaulieu", 8 Meadow Way, Fairlight Host: Dorothy Coggins, led by the Rector (812234)
	7.30pm "Paxstead", Pett Road Hosts: John and Ray Taylor (814674)
(and other days)	

### RECORDED IN THE REGISTERS

#### **Funeral at Hastings Crematorium**

24 December 1998 - Phyllis May Boocks (78 years) of 3 Friars Hill Terrace, Guestling

#### **Funeral at Pett Parish Church followed by burial in the churchyard**

12 January 1999 - Beryl Alice Bilson Bilson (97 years) of Woodmancote, 21 Woodlandvale Road, St Leonards on Sea (previously living at "Horringer", Pett Road

#### **Infant Baptism at St Laurence Church, Guestling**

17 January 1999 - Kate Thalia Fay Vogiatzis of "Stableyard", Guestling Green (daughter of Theodoros and Hannah Vogiatzis)  
We warmly welcome Kate into the fellowship of the Church

### BERYL BILSON BILSON

Beryl is remembered warmly with her sister Eva, by older members of the village. The funeral was a memorable occasion, not least because of the gale that was blowing around the church. Friend, fellow chapel member and neighbour Stan Filtness gave the "eulogy" and the service was conducted by the Rector.

Pat Leach wrote about her Auntie Beryl in these words:

"Beryl Alice Bilson Bilson was the youngest of seven children, in a very close knit, happy, fun loving family where the first priority over everything was loving and serving the Lord. This Beryl has done all her life. She was gentle, kind and loved by all. As someone sincerely said 'She was a lovely lady'. She and her sister, Eva, moved to Pett in 1953 and enjoyed many happy years there, worshipping with their friends in Guestling Chapel. After her sister died, Beryl continued to live at "Horringer" until frailness made her realise it was time to move to a retirement home. She was more than ready to be with the Lord."



**GUESTLING'S CAROL & MIDNIGHT SERVICE** - our grateful thanks once again go to Harborough Nurseries for a lovely Christmas tree and also to Derek Foy. We do appreciate the gifts at this time of the year, they really did help in making our church even more beautiful. A special thank you to Mr & Mrs Brian Apps for the gift of two boxes of candles for use at the Carol and Midnight services, enough to last us for another two or three years. At the Carol Service a different format was very much appreciated by a packed church. We enjoyed having new readers telling us the old and lovely message of our Lord's birth. The service led by the Revd Frank Rowson was simple, set in candlelight it seemed appropriate for the age of our church.

The Midnight Communion taken by Robin and Eileen, once again in candlelight, was reverent and brought us beautifully into Christmas Day. Our thanks to all the decorators under Rosemary's guidance, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Benny & Bill Wickens for decorating the Christmas tree at the back of the church so well, Bill's absailing abilities were useful! Our final note of thanks to Hazel Gainsbury, our old (young) organist who stood in for Nancy Cordery over Christmas, who was in bed with flu. Last but not least to the Barnett family for the many hours of work put in behind the scenes. Thank you Margaret, Roger and Sarah.

**CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY** - thank you to all who supported our coffee morning which raised £174.12. Special thanks to Kathleen & Derek Greenwood for letting us hold the coffee morning in their home.

**CAROL SINGING IN GUESTLING** - it was a wet night and who was about but Guestling Choir and friends carol singing in Three Oaks. We were all rather wet but it didn't detract from the quality of the singing and Robin very kindly came along with his accordion and Eileen sang and held the umbrella and we raised £50.12 for the Red Cross Appeal for the hurricane victims in Honduras. Many thanks to all who came and especially to Ken & Doreen Tytherleigh for the lovely hot supper afterwards.

**A GARAGE IN THREE OAKS** - for the last two or three months there has been much knocking and banging in a certain garage in Three Oaks. It all became clear when at the carol service we saw 30 wonderful candle holders each holding six candles, made by Ken Tytherleigh. A big thank you Ken for your enthusiasm and patience. Thank you also to all those who helped prepare the candles. 'Let us light a candle' will always remind me of you Ken.

**HOOVER NEEDED** - Guestling Church is in need of a hoover. If you have a reliable one which you no longer need, please let Margaret Barnett know.

**THREE OAKS WI** - will be holding their next meeting on 11 February at 2.15pm in the Village Hall. The speaker will be the Trading Standards Officer, Mr Johnson. Visitors and new members will be very welcome.

**THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** are holding a second hand book sale on Saturday 13 February 10.00-12.00 noon. This will include coffee and biscuits with a raffle and bring and buy. Entry 30p

**THE MONTHLY QUIZ** is to be held on 24 February at 7.30pm. £1 per person, maximum 6 to a table.

**KEEP FIT** has restarted on Friday evenings at 7.30pm under the tuition of Sally.

**PETT CHRISTMAS THANK YOUs** to Elizabeth, Catherine, the children and parents who worked so hard preparing for the Nativity Service which had its largest congregation ever; Kay and the flower ladies who made the church look beautiful; John and Ray who organised the carol singers and provided refreshments afterwards; Derek Foy for the Christmas tree; Charlotte, Joan and Phyllis for their help with the tree and the crib; Brian Carvey (Hinkleys Funeral Directors) who donated the oranges for the Christingles; all those who made Christingles. It was, yet again, a very happy and successful Christmas time - thank you to everyone who helped in whatever way.

**PETT PLAYGROUP** would like to wish everybody a very Happy New Year and say a huge thank you for supporting the playgroup events so generously throughout last year. We enjoyed success at all the events and the funding all goes towards our running costs. We welcome any parents with young children, even if they are not yet two and a half, you may come and join in the fun, providing you stay with your child. Opening hours are advertised outside the village hall.

**JUMBLE SALE** - 6 February at Pett Village Hall 1.30pm. For collection please phone 814175.

**FUN QUIZ NIGHT** - 20 March in Pett Village Hall 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Teams of six. Details 814175.

Ali Hudson

**PETT WI** - the New Year started with a well attended meeting to hear Mr Hoad "Roaming the Cuckmere". We always enjoy seeing slides of the Sussex countryside. On Friday 19 February Mrs Gobbett, a frequent visitor to the Naturalists, will join us at 2.30pm to tell us about 'Beauties and Beasts' in her garden.

**PETT LEVEL NATURALISTS SOCIETY** - meet on 19 February to hear Richard Thompson speak on the Natural History of the Dormouse.

**PETT HOUSE GROUP** - next meet on 11 February to discuss Religion in Art.



**ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION** - the exhibition will be held on the weekend of 27-28 March at the Village Hall. Crafts will be on Saturday and Art on Sunday. Full details next month, but please book the dates now. Please let Terry Cox know how much table space, or hanging space, you will need. You can, of course, exhibit several articles if you have more than one hobby. There is no charge to exhibit, but if you sell things we will ask for a donation towards the cost of hiring the hall.

Avril Thurley

**GUESTLING & DISTRICT WELFARE ASSOCIATION** - the draw in aid of the Welfare Association raised the splendid sum of £343. Many thanks to those who gave prizes or made donations, especially the members of the Rescue Boat who provided the contents of the hamper. We are also very grateful to the Beach Club, the Smugglers, the Two Sawyers, the Robin Hood, the Queens Head, Phil at the Butchers Shop and the Royal Oak who had the hamper on display and sold tickets. Most of all we would like to thank Marcie and Maurice Ball who put in a great deal of time and effort organising this very successful fundraising event.

Avril Thurley (Hon Treasurer)

#### PLANS FOR 1999/2000

The Benefice Millennium Group are making the following plans:

FEBRUARY/MARCH - "New Start" LENT GROUPS

HOLY WEEK - "Jerusalem Joy" (Cantata for Holy Week)

APRIL BENEFICE SPRING HARVEST visit to SKEGNESS

JOINT PCCs MEETING

MAY BENEFICE ROGATION SERVICE

29/30 200th Anniversary for the CMS

Display at FAIRLIGHT for BENEFICE SERVICE

JUNE MARRIAGE RENEWAL SERVICE

WALKING THE WAY (27th Confirmation at Rye)

JULY SEA SUNDAY FEATURE

AUGUST HOLIDAY CLUB

Y2000 SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 5th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BENEFICE

OCTOBER PREPARATION FOR BENEFICE MISSIONARY GIFT DAY

(31st at GUESTLING - CMS ANNIVERSARY GIFT DAY)

28 NOVEMBER ADVENT BAPTISM VOW RENEWAL SERVICE

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS SERVICE and MILLENNIUM PREPARATION

DELIVERY OF "NEW START" CANDLES in the BENEFICE

31st MILLENNIUM EVE - 9.00pm Service 10.00pm Bonfire

11.45pm in Church, 12.00 Bells/Fireworks

2000 1 JAN 12.00 noon Bells rung in all Churches

30 UNITED BENEFICE SERVICE with BISHOP (Fairlight)

26-28 MAY ASHBURNHAM HOUSE PARTY - 11 June, PENTECOST

#### THE BENEFICE THROUGH FEBRUARY

10.00-12 noon CHURCH COFFEE MORNING and SALE at FAIRLIGHT VILLAGE HALL.

7 SUNDAY SERVICES (see rotas)

6.30pm HEALING COMMUNION (St Peter's, Fairlight) open to the whole Benefice

10 7.30pm ALPHA FOLLOW-UP "Life worth Living" at the Rectory (and on the 24th)

11 7.30pm PETT CHURCH GROUP at "Paxstead". Canon Michael introducing Christian Themes in paintings. All welcome

12 7.00pm REGISTRATION for CONFIRMATION CLASSES at the Rectory

14 SUNDAY SERVICES

10.45 am Pett congregation join with the Methodists for the ANNUAL COVENANT SERVICES (at Methodist Church)

15 7.00pm for 7.30pm RYE DEANERY SYNOD at St Peter's, Fairlight Cove

17 ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNIONS

10.00AM St Peter's, Fairlight Cove (Frank Rowson)

6.00pm St Nicholas, Pett Level (Canon Michael)

6.00 pm St Laurence, Guestling (Robin Balch)

21 SUNDAY SERVICES

6.30 pm MONTHLY INFORMAL PRAISE & WORSHIP with SPRING HARVEST SONGS and SHARING at St Peter's, Fairlight Cove - all welcome.

22 onwards COMMENCING five weeks of the LENT COURSE

PETT PCC at the Rectory

28 SUNDAY SERVICES



NATURE NOTES

I thoroughly enjoyed watching a squirrel trying to get to the nuts in a friend's garden. He had to climb a narrow metal pole, negotiate an umbrella of netting, climb some more pole, and then do a tightrope act (mainly upside down) along a single wire from which the nut holder was suspended. I thought he really deserved his peanuts when he finally got there. The best thing was his tail, which went round and round in circles like a windmill while he walked the tightrope.

A Sycamore in Rectory Park was cut down recently as it was past praying for, and a lump of shrapnel was found inside it. I wonder whether older parishioners remember a bomb falling on or near what would have been the old Rectory garden?

I was interested to hear of a mouse and a robin feeding together from the same dish. In my garden the birds all fly up at once if a small mammal of any description appears. There is no doubt that birds learn to recognise individual humans and dogs, so perhaps this mouse and robin just knew each other.

When I have a log fire I usually break down the remains into embers before going to bed, but if I have a slow burning log such as elm or bay, I leave it whole in the hope of finding a Ghost Log in the morning. It doesn't always happen, but sometimes I find a perfect log, with the fissures and knots still showing, but made entirely of ash. The slightest touch causes it to disintegrate; ashes to ashes.

Avril Thurley

**PETT SPORTS ASSOCIATION** needs a new Secretary. It's not too onerous a task, only three meetings a year. If anyone is interested please contact Mrs J Stock, Blackthorn House, The Thorns, Guestling or Frances Taylor, Summer Hayes, Pett Road, Pett.

Copy for the March magazine should be sent to Frances Taylor, Summer Hayes, Pett Road, telephone 813437 by 17 February 1999 please.

THE NEW VILLAGE HALL IN PETT

Pett Village Hall is a tired looking building, inadequate for its needs and this is not surprising for a 76 year old wooden construction. This fact is often brought home to me because I am responsible for the hiring of the hall. People ask me if they can hire the hall for a special occasion, but often they change their minds after seeing it. These refusals deprive us of a useful extra source of income. Another problem I get faced with is the very limited accommodation. Only one activity can take place at the same time, so if two of our regular users prefer the same time this is not possible. Nor can an extra booking be taken for a time when the hall will already be in use.

The present hall has very limited facilities for entertainment, sporting facilities and social events and as a result it is sometimes under utilised. Even when empty it still has to be heated during the winter and standing charges for gas and electricity have to be paid. Refurbishing the existing building would be an expensive and on going process which anyway would not solve the problem of lack of space. It is unacceptable that the doctor's surgery has to be held in the ladies cloakroom. Lack of a car park means that cars obstruct the road and, indeed, Pett Parish Council are concerned about this problem.

Looking to the future a new hall has great potential. It will be an attractive venue for social occasions and these would generate an important amount of revenue currently denied to us. Extra rooms would enable two or more groups to use the hall at the same time, and they would allow a modern doctor's surgery to give patients a good service. The large car park will solve the problem of street parking and give safe access for children. The generous donors of the old hall will be remembered because their plaque will be placed in the new hall.

As Tim Jury wrote in the previous *Parish News*, there would be great possibilities for a youth centre. Other ideas include an adequate badminton court, golf nets and basketball. We would also have a very good venue for modern, old time and line dancing. Let the village of Pett "Drive Change Forward".

Terry R Cox

CHURCHWARDEN'S DIARY

**Thursday 26 November** - the Benefice CWs meet to discuss Carols by Candlelight - we are all in agreement and adjourn to a local hostelry for supper. Yet again, pigeon is on the menu and, yet again, I choose this dish. It's a different sauce this time but, nevertheless, excellent!

**Monday 30 November** - it's the PCC meeting - am able to report that mince pie



makers, tree decorators, light bulb fitters, clock winders and Christingle makers are all in hand. Wonder if other CWs have these problems?

**Saturday 12 December** - it has been a suspiciously quiet two weeks. However, it's now "eyes down, look in". The Christmas tree has arrived at the church. It is a superb specimen and Charlotte and Phyllis arrive to decorate it. Joan is practising Christmas Carols on the organ and there is a festive atmosphere about the occasion - we hesitate about our choral contributions and decide against singing along. Angela and Alexander arrive to deal with recalcitrant light bulbs, hotly followed by Wilf who advises that the fuse box be checked! Well done Wilf - only one bulb needed to be replaced. The Christmas tree lights are working and Robin arrives to help put them on. Why is it that the men arrive after the heavy work of getting the tree upright has been done by the ladies!!! Must remember to put the heating on for tomorrow.

**Sunday 13 December** - it's the Toy Service - and a happy service it is to. It is also the Benefice Carols by Candlelight. Lots of people come and it was a lovely service. Everyone stays for coffee and mince pies. Feel a warm glow of togetherness - was it the candles? Some of the candles are beginning to burn low and the greenery that the Flower Ladies have put on the window sill catches fire, along with the oasis in which the candles have been placed. Robin leaps into instant action and puts the fire out with a cup of coffee - surely the coffee couldn't have been that bad! Angela thinks that the fire should have been left to burn as we need the insurance money.

**Tuesday 15 December** - spend the day phoning Flower Ladies to apologise for the burnt greenery, destroyed oasis and cold coffee on the window sills (all enquiries to the Rector!)

**Monday 21 December** - we meet up to go carol singing. Most of us are in good voice, but some regulars have got flu. Joan asks me if I want to join the choir - this is not a good idea as I have only got one note!

**Thursday 24 December** - Christmas Eve - the turkey is stuffed, the sprouts are peeled and a cast of thousands turns up for the Nativity Service. Lots of tinsel, angels and kings! The Christingle makers have 'Christingled' as they have never done before and every child has a 'Tingle to take home. Well, Father Christmas needs to see where the good children are and the Angels need to know where the new baby is to be born. We all go to Guestling for Midnight - church is looking lovely; then it will be up to Fairlight on 27 January - expect that it's looking good as well.

**Saturday 9 January** - it's time to 'undecorate' THE TREE. The Flower Ladies seem to have opted for forgiveness and I'm sure that the PCC will authorise the purchase of new oasis! Am looking forward to the next Benefice CWs meeting

and wonder what will be on the menu at the local hostelry? The pigeons are reported to be happily settled in their new residence

### A BOOK FOR LENT

The Rector recommends the following book which can be ordered by signing the list in each church, as soon as possible. *MESSAGE FOR THE MILLENNIUM* by David Winter. BRF £5.99.

David Winter suggests that an appropriate preparation for the Millennium is to look again at the teaching of Jesus. In six weeks' readings from the synoptic Gospels he examines what Jesus really taught and what is the relevance of that teaching at the end of the 20th century. A book for personal, daily reading or for use with groups. Other books of interest (with a common theme) can be bought from Pathway Books, 34 Robertson Street, Hastings.

*LIVING WELL* by Robert Warren - Hodder £7.99 - the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 1999.

What does Jesus really mean by "Blessed are the poor in spirit"? and who are "the pure in heart"? Taking some of the well-known words of the Beatitudes, Robert Warren writes with his heart set on the Kingdom of God, but his eyes and ears open to the needs of today's world. With reflections, questions and prayers, he grapples with the ways in which Jesus' radical teaching affects our attitude to the whole of life - relationships, community, the environment, world debt. Suggestions for group study make this a thought-provoking resource for shared as well as personal use.

*PRAYING WITH JESUS* by Rob Warner - Hodder £6.99 - Hodder Lent Book

The subtitle sums it up: *Experiencing the spiritual riches of the Lord's Prayer*. Rob Warner explores this classic prayer phrase by phrase, with imaginative and practical freshness. To pray the Lord's Prayer with Rob Warner is to be challenged to a deeper reality and a sometimes painful honesty. The style is similar to the author's '97 Lent Book, with Biblical meditations, quotations from great Christian poets, and suggestions for personal reflection.

*A NEW EARTH* by Margaret Atkins, Sheila Cassidy, Joseph Donders, Kathy Galloway, Sara Maitland and Brendan Walsh - CAFOD/DLT £4.95

Brendan Walsh is the head of communications at CAFOD. In his introduction he writes of the need to use Lent profitably, not only as "a time of inwardness, of renewal in the life of prayer", but also as "a time of outwardness, of seeing family and friends, neighbours and strangers, the poor and suffering, with a compassionate eye". In these Bible readings and reflections for each day in Lent, the six contributors all follow this theme - that true Christianity needs to be lived out in the social and political situations around us, and that discipleship involves caring and compassion. To quote Brendan Walsh again: "What sort of person do I wish to become? What sort of world are we trying to create?"



# NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES

## GUESTLING (ALL AT 11 AM)

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

## PETT

9.30 a.m. - Parish Communion  
 10.30 a.m. - Family Service  
 9.30 a.m. - Parish Communion  
 9.30 a.m. - Matins & Address  
 9.30 a.m. - H. Communion BCP

## PETT LEVEL - Holy Communion

8.00 a.m. - 2nd & 4th Sunday

6.00 p.m. - 1st Wednesday in each month

## GUESTLING

## CHURCH OFFICERS

## PETT

### CHURCHWARDENS

Mrs M Barnett - 754974  
 Mr K Tytherleigh - 751516

### CHURCHWARDENS

Mrs A Hawksley - 812705  
 Miss P M Deasy

### SECRETARY

Miss J M Groves - 813341

### SECRETARY

Canon M Townroe 813381

### TREASURER

Mr K Tytherleigh - 751516

### TREASURER

Mrs A Hawksley - 812705

### FREE WILL OFFERING

Mrs K Greenwood - 812790

### STEWARDSHIP RECORDER

Mrs A Hawksley - 812705

### ELECTORAL ROLL

Mrs B Wicking - 438027

### ELECTORAL ROLL

Mr M Plank - 812154

### CHOIR MASTER

Mr K Tytherleigh - 751516

### ORGANIST & CHOIR

Mrs J Medlock - 812173

### DEPUTY CHURCH WARDEN

Mr J Jury - 812584

### JUNIOR CHOIR AND CLUB

Mrs E Greenfield - 813370

### ORGANIST

Miss N Cordery

### DEANERY SYNOD

Mr & Mrs Cooper

### DEANERY SYNOD

Mr & Mrs D Greenwood

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