

ALL SAINTS', HARTLEY. Parish Magazine.

(Published Quarterly.)

ACTING EDITOR, W. H. CHISHOLM.



THE RECTOR'S LETTER.

Mavis Bank,
Hartley.

12th March, 1936.

MY DEAR PARISHIONERS,

My first message to you all, through the pages of this interesting magazine, is one of sincere thanks for the very kind way in which you have received my wife and myself into your midst. I am sure that this is only an indication of the way in which we shall all work together in the future for the welfare of the parish, with its venerable shrine of worship hallowed by the prayers of others for possibly nearly a thousand

years, and for the advancement of the Kingdom of God in our own corner of the world.

There is much in Hartley for the Rector to do, I know, but you have also your part to play, by your work and by your prayers, for by this means great things will be accomplished.

If religion is to mean anything to us, God will be the centre of our thoughts at all times, when everything goes well and when life appears to be hard, so that we can say "Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength." I trust then that our worship may be real because our religion is real,

and fellowship with other followers of Christ, however weak in faith they or we may be, will become an essential feature in life, and family attendance at the Parish Church become once again characteristic of this land.

May I conclude this letter to you by saying that my ministrations are for all who desire my services, whether you attend the Parish Church or not, the only qualification being that you reside within the Parish of Hartley. If you will tell me of cases of need or sickness, or where a visit would be welcomed, you can help me to be of greater service to you in the name of the Lord.

Yours sincerely,

L. G. W. LENTON.

Church Information.

Rector—THE REV. L. G. W. LENTON, A.L.C.D.,
Mavis Bank, Hartley.
Telephone : Longfield 90.

Churchwardens—

Mr. F. F. TATE, "Brendon," Ash Road (Rector's Warden).
Mr. CHAS. APPLETON, "The Stoep," Fairby Lane (People's Warden).

CHURCH SERVICES.

Matins, 11 a.m. Evensong, 6.30 p.m.

Holy Communion, 8 a.m., every Sunday and 12 noon on the first and third Sundays

Sunday School—At the Church, 3.0 p.m. : Mrs F. W. Tate, Superintendent; Assistant: Miss Peggy Hoyle. At the Church Schools, 3.0 p.m. : Mrs. F. E. Todd, Superintendent; Assistant: Miss Sale.

Hartley Parish Magazine—Acting Editor: Mr. W. H. Chisholm, "Restharrow," Church Road. Hon. Secretary: Mr. F. F. Tate, "Brendon," Ash Road.

Parochial Church Council (elected under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure, 1921)—Council for 1935-36: Mr. B. Alexander, Mrs. Appleton, Mrs. Balchin, Mrs. Ball, Mr. and Mrs. Chisholm, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Cuff, Mr. W. A. Ewbank, Mr. D. T. R. Gray, Miss A. K. Green, Mr. Groom, Mrs. L. Harris, Mrs. Keen, Miss Ling, Mr. and Mrs. Parkins, Miss Sale, Mrs. F. W. Tate, Mrs. Todd, Mr. Wells Thatcher and the Churchwardens. *Acting Hon.*

Secretary—Mr. F. E. Todd. *Joint Hon. Treasurers*—Mr. F. F. Tate and Mr. F. E. Todd. *Sidesmen*—Mr. Alexander, Mr. Appleton, Mr. Blackwell, Mr. L. Harris, Mr. H. Parkins, Mr. Todd. *Organist and Choirmaster*—Mr. W. H. Chisholm. *Churchyard Keeper and Bell Ringer*—Mr. A. Rogers. *Cleaner*—Mrs. Rogers.

THE WORK OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL.

"It shall be the primary duty of the Council of every parish to co-operate with the Incumbent in the initiation, conduct and development of Church work, both within the parish and outside." (Section 2 of the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure, 1921.)

BAPTISMS.

Feb. 16th.—Terence John, son of Oliver and Frances Delf.

Mar. 8th.—[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] of Edward and Winifred Beatrice Hunt.

MARRIAGES.

Dec. 23rd.—Cecil Ferguson Denning to Evelyn Kate Alexander.

,, 24th.—Thomas Alfred Andrews to Hazel Marjorie Jones Barlow.

BURIALS.

Mar. 9th.—Walter John Barnard, aged 69 years.

,, 17th.—Ambrose George Smith, aged 71 years.

Altar Flowers.

March—Miss Barker.

April—Mrs. Hemmings.

May—Mrs. Willes.

June—Mrs. Snow.

THE TOY SERVICE.

On the afternoon of Sunday, December 15th, there was a fine gathering of children and grown-ups to make the annual contribution of happiness for youngsters in other less favoured neighbourhoods than ours. A

splendid assortment of toys was brought by our children, and received on behalf of the Given Wilson Institute, of Plaistow, by Mr. J. Wells Thatcher, who has for so long been interested in that worthy Institution.

Mr. Thatcher talked to the children in his old familiar way, making them feel that their gifts to his East-end protégés were most sincerely appreciated, and that a vivid account of the Toy Service at Hartley would be passed on in due course to Plaistow, along with the substantial parcel of presents which he had received.

CHRISTMAS DAY, 1935.

In the absence of Mr. Stevens, the Service on Christmas morning was taken by the Archdeacon of Rochester, whose kindly presence was gratefully acknowledged by a good congregation, of whom some twenty-five remained for Holy Communion.

The children of the Choir sang as an anthem Harry Farjeon's setting of his sister's lovely poem, "A Child's Carol," and in addition to the familiar Christmas hymns the Choir led the congregation in singing the Hymn of Peace, "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear."

CAROL SERVICE.

At evensong on Sunday, Dec. 29th, 1935, the annual Carol Service was held. It was a cheerless night, but nevertheless a goodly number braved the darkness and heartily joined in the old familiar songs.

The Choir sang several special numbers: "The Shepherds found Thee by Night," "There was a Rosebud bloomed in the Snow," "O Leave Your Sheep," and "O Little Town of Bethlehem." The latter was sung to Walford Davies' music for solo and chorus, the solo part being sung by Basil Keen, whose clear and true treble gave great pleasure to us all.

MEMORIAL SERVICES—

KING GEORGE V.

The special form of service compiled and published by His Majesty's Command was used morning and evening on Sunday,

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January 26th, and our Services were impressively conducted by the Rev. A. B. Thornhill, M.A., of Otford.

At both Services hymns which were special favourites of King George and Queen Mary were sung.

At Morning Service Mr. Thornhill delivered an eloquent panegyric on our late King and the unique place he occupied in our national and social life, and his great influence on both.

In the evening we had an eye witness's account of the unforgettable scene of the lying in state in Westminster Hall, Mr. Thornhill having had the opportunity of being present for an hour while the public was passing through.

NOTES AND NEWS.

We welcome the first pastoral letter from our new Rector, which appears in this issue, and wish for him and Mrs. Lenton a happy and successful ministry in our midst. There was a large and deeply interested congregation at his induction service on February 24th, details of which appear elsewhere.

* * *

We must also express our gratitude to the Rev. A. B. Thornhill, who so acceptably acted as locum tenens for the six weeks prior to the induction.

We feel especially grateful for his deep interest in arranging the Memorial Services for our late King, as it was entirely owing to his advice that we were able to secure the special service forms in time.

The notices concerning the Bancks Memorial Tablet have been distributed, and a good response has already been made. About £20 has been subscribed or promised, but considerably more than this is needed if we are to have a worthy and durable tablet, befitting the occasion. In connection with this memorial, I have received an approving letter from a very old resident and personal friend of Mr. Bancks, Dr. Frederick D. Welch. M.R.C.S., who writes that he has no hesitation in saying that the list of former Rectors will be much the best for a memorial—a long way better than a wall tablet. His approval and that of many others encourages the Committee to expect a wide response to the appeal for funds.

* * *

Hartley's Publicity Agent No. 1 seems to have been active, according to reports which have reached me on my return from a trip abroad. I am afraid there is no time to secure the press cuttings for this issue, but no doubt these will be forthcoming in time for the next, so that all our residents may be aware of our growing fame.

* * *

"Autos Pozon Skoly" is a new road sign in Czechoslovakia, and is a warning notice to motorists that they are approaching a school. As a matter of fact, the road safety regulations are well advanced throughout the Continent, but so far as I could learn the teaching of the young idea in school-time has not yet occurred to them, or, if it has, it is not considered necessary.

April.	May.	June.
5th.—Palm Sunday	3rd.—Third Sunday after Easter	1st.—Whit Monday
9th.—Maundy Thursday	10th.—Fourth Sunday after Easter	7th.—Trinity Sunday
10th.—Good Friday	17th.—Fifth Sunday after Easter	14th.—First Sunday after Trinity
11th.—Easter Even	21st.—Ascension Day	21st.—Second Sunday after Trinity
12th.—Easter Day	24th.—Sunday after Ascension	28th.—Third Sunday after Trinity
13th.—Monday in Easter Week	31st.—Whitsunday	
19th.—First Sunday after Easter		
25th.—S. Mark, E.M.		
26th.—Second Sunday after Easter		

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* * *

A friend who noticed our reference to Church Collections in a recent issue sent me a cutting from a local paper which is worth quoting.

"A penny isn't supposed to be as good as a shilling, but it goes to Church oftener."

And the following from the same source was also worth snipping:

"When you are looking for a helping hand, just glance at the end of your arm."

* * *

The sympathy of all of us goes out to Mrs. Keen and her family in their anxiety about Ida's health. At the time of writing I hear she is a little better, which is encouraging, and our very best wishes are offered for her good recovery.

We also hope for good news of the health of Miss Dorothy Appleton, and send our best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Appleton and her brothers and sisters.

* * *

I will just fill in the last space in these notes with a reference to the activities of Hartley Parish Council. The Czecks are not the only people to look after the amenities of country districts, and our Council of Seven is making a difference already in Hartley.

THE INSTITUTION AND INDUCTION OF THE RECTOR.

Our little centuries-old Church was crowded on Monday evening, the 24th February, when the Rev. Leslie George William Lenton, formerly Curate-in-Charge of St. Paul's, Crofton, in the Parish of Orpington, was instituted to the Rectory of Hartley.

The institution was performed by the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Rochester, and the induction which followed, by the Venerable the Archdeacon,

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HARTLEY.

assisted by the Rural Dean, and the Churchwardens, Mr. C. Appleton and Mr. F. F. Tate.

Other clergy present were Canon Parker (Longfield), the Revs. F. W. Warland (Kingsdown), S. E. Osborne and H. R. Barnard (Orpington), E. G. Pratt (Darenth), J. T. Matchett (Fawkham), C. T. Hogwood (Barnsbury), and H. B. Hennell (Ash). Mr. Johnson, Lay Reader of Farnborough, Kent, was also present.

The congregation included some of Mr. Lenton's friends from Crofton, and several also from St. James', Gravesend, where Mr. Lenton was formerly a curate.

The Bishop spoke of Mr. Lenton's good work in the Parishes in which he had served, and bespoke for him the united and active support of his new parishioners.

The arrangements for the Induction Service and the seating of the unusually large number of people had been carefully planned by the sequestrators, Mr. E. J. Cuff and Mr. Charles Appleton, and a special word of thanks is appropriately given to both these gentlemen.

The entire Service moved smoothly along with its traditional and striking ritual, and all present joined heartily in the familiar hymns: "Praise, my Soul, the King of Heaven," "We Love the Place, oh God," "O Thou Who Makest Souls to Shine," and "Come, Holy Ghost, our Souls Inspire."

The organist for the occasion was Mr. Roy Chisholm, of St. James' Methodist Church, Forest Hill, whose parents are residents here, and his choice of incidental music as well as his accompaniments to the hymns helped much towards the success of the Service.

* * *

On the following Sunday, March 1st, Mr. Lenton "read himself in" at the morning service, according to the requirements of Church Law, and a good congregation was present.

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RECEPTION FOR MR. AND
MRS. LENTON.

The Parochial Church Council organized a Reception for the Rev. Leslie and Mrs. Lenton, at the Women's Institute, on the evening of February 27th.

The hall was charmingly decorated for the occasion, and a large number of those interested in Church work assembled. Each on arrival was introduced to Hartley's new Rector and his wife.

Music and an abundance of excellent refreshments contributed largely towards the production of the very happy atmosphere which prevailed.

Mr. Roy Chisholm's choice of delightful pianoforte music received the appreciation and enthusiastic applause it always merits.

Mrs. H. Day's recitations surpassed even her usual standard, and called forth demands for encores.

Mrs. Ewbank's charming songs and the old favourites Mr. W. H. Chisholm rendered were much applauded.

Mr. F. F. Tate, the Rector's Warden, made the formal speech of introduction and welcome in his own particular friendly and engaging manner.

The Rector's reply was stirring. It was full of ambitions for the Parish, of his desire to be friendly and helpful to all, and of his hopes for the staunch help of all present.

At the close of the evening the National Anthem was sung, and the Rector expressed the wish to see as many as possible there present in Church on the following Sunday.

PREACHERS IN DECEMBER, JANUARY
AND FEBRUARY, PRIOR TO MR. LENTON'S
INDUCTION ON FEBRUARY 24TH.

- Dec. 8th.—The Rev. S. E. L. Skelton.
,, 15th.—The Rev. George Ellis.
,, 22nd.—Mr. E. J. Howcroft.
Christmas Day—The Venerable the Arch-
deacon of Rochester.
Dec. 29th.—The Rev. Geo. Ellis.
Jan. 5th.— Do.
,, 12th.—Mr. C. Gillies.
Jan. 19th. to Feb. 23rd.—The Rev. Arthur
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MR. AND MRS. LENTON.

Our Rector, the Rev. Leslie George William Lenton, is Associate of the London College of Divinity, where he received his training.

He was ordained Deacon in 1930 and Priest in 1931. He has held Curacies at St. Saviour's, Forest Gate; the Parish Church, Hornchurch, and St. James', Gravesend; and finally was Curate-in-Charge of St. Paul's, Crofton, in the Parish of Orpington, whence he came to us.

Mr. and Mrs. Lenton were married on September 24th, 1932, at Christ Church, Leyton.

EASTER.

The Rector wishes to remind all those who are confirmed of the Prayer Book rubric, which states: "And note that every parishioner shall communicate at least three times in the year, at which Easter to be one."

The times of the services for Good Friday and Easter Day will be published later on the Church notice board.

CARE OF THE PARISH CHURCH
SANCTUARY.

The Rector invited the ladies to attend a meeting in the Church on Wednesday, March 18th, to consider forming a band of workers for the care of the Communion Linen and the brass in the Sanctuary. An encouraging number of ladies were present, and it was agreed to form an organisation for this work, that God's House may be kept in the worthiest possible manner.

VESTRY MEETING.

The Annual Vestry Meeting for the election of Churchwardens will be held on Tuesday, March 31st, at 8.15 p.m., in the School.

The Annual Parochial Meeting for the election of Parochial Church Councillors will be held at 8.30 p.m. on the same evening, also in the School.

Only those who have signed the Electoral Roll are entitled to be present and vote at the Annual Parochial Meeting.

WOMEN'S SERVICE.

A Service for Women will be held in the Parish Church every Wednesday in Lent, at 3 p.m.

HARTLEY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
NOTES.

The New Year's Message on Sunday, January 5th, 1936, proclaimed once more the renewal of Life. "If any man is in Christ Jesus he is a new creature." The Gospels are as new and vital to-day as they were some 18 centuries ago. The old natural instincts towards Self-preservation, War, Impurity, Selfishness, are slowly under Christian thought and influence being controlled by the new Spiritual Intuitions of Faith--Altruism, Devotion, Sacrifice.

Mr. F. H. Fry, of Gravesend, conducted the evening service.

* * *

The Church commemorated the 9th anniversary on Sunday, December 1st, 1935. The Rev. Pitt Bonarjee told the young people, in the afternoon, the story of Mary Jones, the Welsh girl, who in four years saved 25/-, and walked twenty miles to buy a Bible, which led in 1804 to the founding of the British and Foreign Bible Society. In the evening he preached on the "Unknown God." The Athenians had 600 gods, and, though masters of the intellectual world, did not know God. India had 33 millions of gods, and in reality no God. Christ alone reveals the Father God. Paul found that the true way to Him was Obedience to the Heavenly Vision, which sometime or other comes to all. Then experience of Spiritual Guidance and practical verification of Christ's teaching, which proves the sure grounds of Faith.

* * *

In response to the Congregational Union's appeal to help the "distressed areas," the Sunday School and many friends made a fine collection of toys on Sunday, December 1st, for poor children at Christmas time. A delightful letter of thanks was received from Dr. Sidney M. Berry, M.A., Secretary, C.U., England and Wales.

New Year's Party of S.S. scholars and parents on Thursday, January 23rd, was a very happy affair. The fifty guests had a first-class tea and a three-hour romp round. Mr. E. Day, a rather frightening ogre, in a magician's cave, distributed gifts to the young people. A surprise presentation of a handsome fountain pen and pencil was made to the Superintendent.

* * *

Our Young People's Club, now called the Congregational Social Club, celebrated its Initiation in a Social Evening on Saturday, February 8th. With Mr. H. Goodwin as M.C., the time passed in a somewhat boisterous, but enjoyable exhibition of youthful energy. Refreshments provided and served by lady friends were exceptionally good.

* * *

A two-manual pipe organ has been purchased, and is now in course of erection. Arrangements are being made with the Rev. E. J. Barson, who with the Organist and members of the Choir of Penge Congregational Church, have very kindly promised to conduct the Dedication Service.

* * *

Our Women's Guild reports good progress, with increasing membership and interesting meetings.

* * *

The Church Delegates—Mrs. K. Gable and the Secretary—attended the Quarterly Meeting of the Kent Congregational Association, Chatham District, on January 15th, at the Rev. Hilton Smith's Church, Gravesend.

The Rev. John Bevan, of Chatham, gave his Presidential Address on "The Things that Really Matter."

This useful Association comprises some twenty Churches in a wide area, including Sheerness, Sittingbourne, Chatham, Dartford, Gravesend, etc. Delegates meet in social and business fellowship to forward the united interests of all the Churches concerned.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.



HARTLEY BRANCH NOTES.

The series of discussions on "The Price of Peace" was continued on January 28th, when Mr. G. B. Davies urged as the ultimate solution, a universal "Change of mind," of such a nature that conscious reason should come to take the place of prejudice and superstition as the motive in the affairs of mankind.

The first annual meeting was held on March 2nd. After the adoption of the report and accounts, the following were re-elected to serve on the Committee: Mr. F. Comont (Chairman), Mr. F. Wise (Hon. Treasurer), Miss Chisholm (Hon. Secretary), Mrs. E. A. Tate, Mrs. Wise, Mrs. Gates, and Mr. F. Goodwin. Two additional members, at present Messrs. F. F. Tate and H. P. Austin, are nominated annually by the Youth Group. The Branch membership numbers 75. A discussion followed on the German demand for restitution of her former colonies.

On March 11th, Hartley and Eynsford Youth Groups held a joint meeting, with Mr. Joe Pettitt, Hon. Secretary, S.E. Regional Youth Group's Council, as the speaker.

HARTLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

An excellent programme has been arranged for the first six months of 1936, and any woman resident in Hartley who has not yet joined the Women's Institute should make a point of doing so at once.

The fifteenth anniversary was celebrated with a tea, complete with iced birthday cake and candles. This is always a social event, and games and recitations from Mrs. Shambrook and Mrs. Harold Day helped to make the afternoon a very jolly one. Certificates were presented to Mrs. Snow and Miss Sale for gaining full marks at the recent County Federation Handicraft

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Exhibition—the first for an excellent cross-stitch rug, and the other for a very beautiful crochet tray cloth.

At the evening meeting in February, Mr. W. H. Chisholm gave an interesting talk on the various places abroad which he had visited. This was illustrated with the aid of the lantern. On March 5th, hints on the bottling of fruit and vegetables and making jam and chutneys were given, and as members from Hartley hope to compete in the Produce Exhibition in October next, this talk proved very useful.

Physical jerks are being eagerly looked forward to by the younger members on March 19th. Other items are Cookery

(Supper Dishes), on April 2nd; a visit from the Choral Society, April 16th; Mrs. Doust, J.P., will speak on her work as a Magistrate, on May 7th; and Mrs. Kathleen Alexander on Gardening, on May 21st.

It is interesting to note that a link has been formed with an Institute in New Zealand, so that Hartley will know at first hand something of the life of women there.

Anyone wishing to join the Women's Institute will be welcomed in the Institute Hall, Ash Road, on any first Thursday, at 2.45 p.m., or at 7.30 p.m. on the third Thursday in the month. The subscription is 2/- yearly.

STOP PRESS

As this issue is in the press, news has come of the tragic death of the Rev. Tom Pearman-Stevens.

We would convey to Mrs. Stevens the very sincere and affectionate sympathy of everyone in the parish.