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No. 58—SEPTEMBER, 1937.

ALL SAINTS' HARTLEY,  
**Parish Magazine**

*(Published Quarterly.)*

EDITOR, THE RECTOR.



THE 14th CENTURY TREBLE BELL  
AT HARTLEY.

Hartley,  
September, 1937

My dear Parishioners,

Harvest is the season of thanksgiving to God for His loving kindness to us in providing for our necessities in this life. The Psalmist said to God ... "Thou preventest him with the Blessings of Goodness" and these are the words that can be echoed by all. The thought is so wonderfully expressed when we recall that the word "prevent" comes from two Latin words meaning "comes out to meet" or "anticipate." God does indeed anticipate us with the blessings of goodness in a way that surprises even the most expectant disciple. And is it not surprising that in an age when so very few give as much as a passing thought to that part of them that will not finish its course at three score and ten years, and yet God in His mercy still asks them to accept eternal life through belief in Jesus Christ.

When I tell strangers of the approximate age of our Church and its centuries of unbroken witness of the Christian faith they are often envious, especially if theirs is a comparatively modern building. "I expect the Parishioners are proud of it" they say, and I am able to give them some good news of the love and care that some have for the Church. What a splendid example of Churchmanship has been set by the Patron, E. J. King, Esq., who has very generously promised £100 towards repairing the Church if the people of Hartley will raise another £100 during 1937. We have accepted the challenge on your behalf and rely on you to give what you can. Just a penny placed in the Repair Box inside the Church will help, but perhaps you owe more than that to God, and can also afford to give more. If you feel you owe nothing to God, then your life has indeed been poor, not in the monetary sense, but you have missed a peace and joy which the world cannot give you.

May God bless you all.

Yours sincerely,  
L. G. W. LENTON.

### The Interior of the Church.

The interior of the Church has once again assumed an air of peace and quietness after a long period in the hands of first the builders and carpenters and then the organ builder.

A crack of somewhat serious nature was found in the abutment on the North side of the chancel arch which has now been repaired. There was also an extensive crack under the East window where the wall had to be rebuilt. This necessitated the removal of the oak reredos, and when this was replaced it was as near possible to the original position when it was erected in 1882. Someone had subsequently altered its position and extended it in a very rough way with some of the deal pews removed from the back of the Church, apparently when the curtain rail was erected there. This curtain rail has now been removed, and pews built once again right back to the West wall on the North side of the Church. The South side of the West end is now occupied by the new organ.

The plaster on the lower part of the interior of the South wall was found to be defective and has been replaced by new plaster, which the Architect assured us will keep the damp out of the Church. In order to replaster the wall, it was found necessary to remove all the pews and replace them within a week so as not to interfere with the Sunday services. Some of the pews were affected by "dry rot," and the defective parts have been made good. It will not be many years before the question of renewing the pews will have to be faced by the Parish.

The general effect of the lowering of the window at the East end, the removal of the curtain from the West end is to give the interior of the Church the appearance of greater length than before and to improve the acoustics.

**Recent discoveries in the Church.**

While workmen were engaged in repairs to the walls of the Church some fragments of stonework from a window were found built in the South wall and in the centre of the East wall, immediately behind the Holy Table, they bear traces of painting similar to that on the stonework of the South window in the Sanctuary, which indicates that it must have been part of a pre Reformation window, but whereabouts in the Church this window was we do not know. It may have been part of an old East window (the present one was erected in 1898), or perhaps a window on the North side of the Sanctuary. It would be interesting to know what Hartley Church was really like before the Reformation 400 years ago.

**The New Organ.**

The new organ has at last materialised after years of hope. The condition of the old organ and the urgent necessity for a new one has been stressed at almost every meeting of the Parochial Church Council since the inception of Councils according to the minute book. At last the old organ itself seemed to get impatient and it behaved in a most erratic way. Mr. Harris, Senr., very willingly, as always, gave us his professional advice and said that it was not worth spending money to repair the old organ. The only thing to be done, therefore, was to find another instrument.

After inquiring at several organ builders, and writing about second hand instruments it was finally decided to purchase a rebuilt organ from John W. Whiteley of Chistlehurst, whose work is quite well known, and with whom Mr. Bancks was in touch with about an organ, the correspondence being cut short by Mr. Bancks' death.

The organ case is of simple design and stands at the south side of the west end of the Church. The organ has one manual and pedals, provision being made for the addition of a second manual when funds permit. The organ however is complete in itself and is entirely adequate for the

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requirements of Hartley Church. Any addition to the present specification would be entirely a luxury.

The cost of the instrument is £98 and this provided a problem for the Church Council who had only about £45 in hand, (£25 from the late Rector's legacy and the remainder raised during the past 15 months). The Rector's warden, Mr. F. E. Todd, very kindly promised to loan us the balance free of interest to enable us to have the new organ right away. The Council accepted Mr. Todd's generous and helpful offer and thus we are able to have an appropriate and dignified accompaniment to the musical portion of our services which Hartley has hitherto been denied.

It is interesting to note that the foreman in charge of the erection was married to a Miss Wansbury, whose father was formerly landlord of the Black Lion, Hartley.

#### **The School Playground.**

Towards the end of last school term Miss Fiddis arranged a Jumble Sale with the help of the Teachers and Scholars. The proceeds of this Sale, which amounted to £8/16/4½, were to provide wire netting to go round the school playground to enable more ball games to be played. The school is often grateful for the help given by Mr. & Mrs. Walker, with whom Miss Fiddis makes her home at Halstead, and now we are indebted to Mr. Walker for kindly erecting the wire netting. It is a great improvement and increases the effective area of the playground.

Some time ago the area of the playground at Hartley School was measured out of curiosity and it was found that each child had 100 square feet of the ground and are all in the ground together.

#### **The Patronal Festival.**

The Patronal Festival of ALL SAINTS will be kept on Sunday, October 31st, and on All Saints' Day, November 1st. There will be services at the usual times on the Sunday with the addition of a Children's Service at 3 p.m. On All Saints' Day, Monday, there will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 7 a.m. and Evensong at 8 p.m.

#### **Hartley Women's Institute**

"Keep me young enough to laugh with little children. Sympathetic enough to be considerate of old age."

The Annual tea party to the old ladies from the Dartford Institutions was given on August 5th, when some sixty old ladies were conveyed from Dartford in two charabancs to the Institute Hall. Home made cakes, scones etc. provided by the Institute members were thoroughly enjoyed, as was the country dancing given by the younger members. The old folks returned to Dartford laden with flowers and bunches of lavender, and in the words of one of the guests "hadn't arf had a good time."

A charming play given by the drama section in the garden of "The Limit" by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Oldrey, attracted a large audience and much applause, as did the Country Dancing display under the direction of Miss Chrisholm. The Country dancers were invited to Longfield to give a repeat performance of their display.

On September 2nd the West Kent Electric Company gave an excellent cookery demonstration on one of their own stoves and on September 16th Miss Evans showed the members how to make soft toys.

Fortnightly whist drives are held on Saturday evenings in the Institute Hall, the proceeds being devoted to social service. The market stall is held at the door of the Institute Hall every Thursday afternoon when members may bring produce etc. for sale.

On Tuesday afternoon the Library is open to all residents in the village.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday in each month at 2-45 p.m. and on the third Thursday at 7-30 p.m.

**Church Information.**

*Rector*—THE REV. L. G. W. LENTON, A L.C.D.  
Lamorna, Hartley,  
Telephone : West Ash 220.

*Churchwardens*—

Rector's Warden : Mr. F. E. Todd, Plympton. Ash Road.  
People's Warden : Mr. H. Parkins, Forge Cottage,  
Ash Road.

*Parochial Church Council*—

The Churchwardens.

Diocesan Conference Representative : Mrs. Lenton.

Ruri-decanal Conference Representatives : Mrs. Balchin.  
Miss Sale.

Parochial Church Councillors ; Mr. & Mrs. C. Appleton,  
Mrs. P. L. Harris, Mrs. Keen, Miss Ling, Mrs F. E. Todd  
Hon. Secretary : Mr. F. E. Todd, Plympton. Ash Road.

*Sidesmen*—

Messrs R. Adams, C. Appleton, W. A. Ewbank,  
P. L. Harris, F. F. Tate.

*Sunday Schools*—At the Church, 3-0 p.m. : Mrs.  
Lenton, Superintendent. At the Church Schools, 3-0 p.m. :  
Mrs. F. E. Todd, Superintendent ; Assistant : Miss Sale.

*Hartley Parish Magazine*—Editor : The Rector ;  
Hon. Secretary : Mr. F. F. Tate, "Brendon," Ash Road.

*Bell Ringer*—  
Mr. E. Hoadley.

*Church Cleaner*—  
Mrs Fish.

**Church Services.**

**Holy Communion**, Every Sunday at 8 a.m  
First Sunday in the month 12 noon.  
On Festival Sundays at 8 a.m. & 12 noon.  
On certain Holy Days as announced at  
7-0 a.m.

Morning Prayer and Sermon 11 a.m. }  
Evening Prayer and Sermon 6-30 } On Sundays.

Children Service : On Festival Sundays 3 p.m.  
Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day 10 a.m.

Baptisms and Churchings are usually held on Sundays at  
4 p.m. by arrangement with the Rector.

Notice of Banns of Marriage to the Rector. Personal  
application is desirable when possible.

Notice of Burial and Burial Service—At least two clear  
working days' notice should be given to the Rector in writing.

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**The Sale of Work.**

Saturday, December 4th is the date fixed for the Sale of Work, when, it is hoped the outstanding sum needed for the Church Repair Fund will be raised. At the moment we require another £55 to reach the sum required for the repairs. Subscriptions and donations may, however, reduce that amount considerably before December 4th, and you, dear reader, can help to make the figure lower. Send your donations to the Treasurer, Mr. F. E. Todd, Plympton, Ash Road, Hartley, or to the Rector.

The Sale will be held as last year in the Women's Institute Hall and will be open from 3 p.m. and throughout the afternoon and evening. Further details will be published nearer the date, but don't forget to come.

**Parish Register.***Baptisms.*

- Aug. 1 [REDACTED] [REDACTED], son of Clive Alexander and Dora Winifred Prime.  
 15 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED], sons of John Thomas and Miriam Lydia Warren.  
 Sept. 19 [REDACTED] [REDACTED], son of Leslie Stuart and Agnes Beatrice Clara Wyness.

*Burials.*

- June 24 Miriam Lydia Warren, aged 42 years.  
 July 6 Eliza Morriss, aged 80 years.  
 July 21 Elizabeth Sarah Bryer, aged 55 years.

**Sanctuary Guild.**

The following ladies will be responsible for providing flowers for the Holy Table.

- October Miss Ling.  
 Mrs. Parkins.  
 November Mrs. Delf.  
 Mrs. Edwards.  
 December [REDACTED] [REDACTED].  
 Mrs. Ball.

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**Parish Register.**

Another chapter in history of Hartley Parish has been closed and a fresh one opened, for the old Baptism Register which has been in use since March 13th, 1814 has been filled and a new one begun on September 19th, 1937, the first entry being that of [REDACTED], the son of Leslie Stuart and Agnes Beatrice Clara Wyness, and grandson of Mrs. Day, Darenth Cottages, Hartley.

The Register completed was the first book at Hartley to be used for Baptisms only, previously all records of Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials were kept in the same book. The oldest Register at Hartley dates from 1712. There must have been earlier books than this one, but they were either lost or destroyed by someone who did not realise their value. How or when it happened it is not known.

The following verses are to be found inside the Church at Great Warley, Essex.

So might I, toiling morn till eve,  
Some purpose in my life fulfil.  
And ere I pass some worth achieve  
To love and move when I am still  
I ask not with that work combined  
My name shall down the ages move;  
But that my toilsome end shall find  
That man may bless and God approve.

**The Bancks' Memorial.**

We are glad to say that a meeting of the Parochial Church Council held in July there was a unanimous approval of the design submitted, and of the site of the memorial in the Church. The design was accordingly sent to the Diocesan Advisory Committee on Faculties who recommended that a Faculty was granted. Application was then made for a Faculty to be granted by the Chancellor of the Diocese, and it has now been obtained. Instructions to the designer to commence work were given at the earliest moment, and as soon as this memorial is completed arrangements are being made by the Rector for the unveiling. Due notice will be sent to all known subscribers and an announcement made in Church of the day and time of the ceremony.

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**Saturday, December 4th.**

**Tell your friends about it.**

**Church Repair Fund.**

		£	s.	d.
1936				
16th Feb.	Donation Mrs. F. C. Delf		5	0
4th July	Proceeds of Strawberry Tea	5	2	6
2nd Aug.	Donation H. A. Webb, Esq.	5	0	0
27th Sept.	Harvest Festival Collections	2	2	10
4th Oct.	Donation J. Baines-Lewis, Esq.		5	0
31st Oct.	Proceeds of Sale of Work	33	14	8
17th Dec.	Donation Mrs. Coney		10	0
25th Dec.	Christmas Day Collections	1	4	6
31st Dec.	Allocation from Holy Com- munion Offertory	3	12	8
31st Dec.	Church Repairs Box, total for the year		1	17
1937				
14th Feb.	Donation E. J. Cuff, Esq.	1	0	0
16th Feb.	Transferred from Reserve	29	18	10
10th Feb.	Ash Wednesday Collection		4	0
21st Feb.	Church Collection		15	3
28th Feb.	Church Repair Box		2	2
28th Feb.	Donation Rev. L. G. W. and Mrs. Lenton		2	2
28th Feb.	Donation Mrs. Fitzroy-Mundy	2	0	0
21st Mar.	Churching Fee, per the Rector	1	0	0
21st Mar.	Church Collection		1	2
21st Mar.	Collected by the Sunday School in Lent		3	7
26th Mar.	Church Repair Box		1	7
18th Apr.	Church Collections		19	1

18th Apr.	Church Repair Box	2	11	
24th Apr.	Donation Mr. & Mrs. F. F. Tate	1	0	
6th May	Ascension Day Collection	3	0	
16th May	Church Collection	14	11	
16th May	Church Repair Box	3	10	
16th May	Anonymous (per the Rector)	10	0	
30th May	Church Collection	1	0	6
7th June	Donation Mr. & Mrs. Ewbank	5	5	0
13th June	Mrs. White	1	1	0
14th June	Mr. and Mrs. Lowe		5	0
20th June	Church Collection		19	11
26th June	Miss Barker	2	2	0
4th July	Mrs. Keen	2	10	0
4th July	Repair Box		3	5
18th July	Repair Box		1	2
18th July	Church Collection		16	4
23rd July	Anonymous	3	3	0
23rd July	Anonymous	5	0	0
23rd July	Brig. General and Mrs. T. A. Andrus	5	0	0
23rd July	Mrs. Lenton		10	0
25th July	Children's Service Collection		2	0
1st Aug.	Repair Box		3	3
8th Aug.	"			6
15th Aug.	"		1	10
22nd Aug.	"		1	3
29th Aug.	"		1	0½
29th Aug.	Church Collection		16	0
12th Sept.	Repair Box		14	4

**A Week-end in Scotland**

To leave London on a Friday evening and return on Sunday morning, does not leave much time for sightseeing. But the amount of beauty encountered in that time, only fills the heart with longing for more. From crossing the Border until Stirling is reached is mostly hilly ground with mines throwing up their unsightly dumps. But at Stirling we get a glimpse of the Castle, the Wallace Memorial, a bit of Bannock burn (if you know where to look!) and the winding Forth. Then the valley of the Linn is indescribable, with the railway winding up and up round glen and lock, over picturesque bridges, seeing the Teith, Callander,

Ben Ledi (remember your Scott!) Balquidder, Glen Ogle, until we turn west at Killin junction, over the Scottish Riviera, passing Lock Awe, Pass of Brander, Ben Cruachan, and reach Oban in its so far unspoiled beauty. Then to board one of the steamers (where you get a jolly fine breakfast) and sail up the Sound of Mull, (made famous by the Spanish Treasure Ship and Harry Lauder) around Mull into the Atlantic and passing islands innumerable, see Staffa with its natural pillars resembling the Giant's Causeway. The boat slows down for us to see its full beauty and almost peeps into Fingal's Cave. Then on we go to Iona the

Continued on page 10

# Out of Summer —

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# To Let

home of Christianity for so long. Here we land via a small Motor-boat and see the spot where St. Columba lived and worked from 563 A.D. out of sight of his native land. Here is the Scot's Westminster Abbey, where 48 Scottish, 2 Irish, 1 French, and 2 Norwegian kings, with Chieftains and Ecclesiastics are buried: the last king was Duncan killed by Macbeth in 1040 A.D. The most ancient structure on the island is the ruins of St. Oran's Chapel, 11th century, built by Queen Margaret, and here Scott's Lord of the Isles (Angus Og) who was the Bruce at Bannockburn, is supposed to be buried. Oran was a disciple of Columba, and is supposed to have been buried alive as a sacrifice to the earth God. The Maclean's Cross is passed on the way to the Street of the Dead and is the oldest cross in Scotland. The Cathedral is the chief one in the Isles, dedicated to St. Mary, and various religious bodies hold service there. It is mainly Norman, and Early Pointed Architecture, 160 x 24 feet. Many of the capitals of the pillars are grotesque, one representing an angel weighing souls, while the devil depresses one scale with his claw. St. Columba's pillow of stone is preserved in a cage. The chief tomb is Macleod of Macleod. St. Columba and his servant are supposed to be buried in a cell at the west entrance, but two other places claim his body, Dunkeld and County Down. The Cross of St. Martin is outside the west door in memory of St. Martin of Tours. This island has about 200 people, and there is an Established and a Free Church for their needs. The hour and a half allowed for exploration is up, and back to the boat and round by the Sound of Mull, seeing old castles, barren rocks, wooded glens, and so to Oban. There we board our train again about 7 p.m. and we reach London about 8 a.m. on Sunday. Tired? Yes, but with such wonderful memories of a glorious 1,150 miles of Britain for 35/-.

M.F.J.

### **The Rectory Site.**

The land for the new Rectory has now been conveyed to the Rector of the parish and his successors. As soon as the sale of the glebe attached to the old Rectory is sold, work will commence on the building of the new house. It will be a house that will compare very favourably with the usual parsonage house and will include many features in its design which is quite often only a dream to many housewives.

The Rector and Church Council are very grateful to Mr. H. Groom of Hartley Manor who very kindly loaned £90 to the Council in order that they could acquire the site until the old house was sold and the new land bought by the benefice. Mr. Groom has very generously accepted £70 in full settlement of this loan, the balance of £20 being given to the funds of the Church.

### **The Churchyard.**

The repairs to the Church has necessitated turning the Churchyard into a store and workshop for the builders. This is of course only a temporary arrangement, and when the repairs are completed in a month or so all trace of the builders will disappear. Great care has been taken not to interfere with any of the graves even though some are perilously near to the Church walls. It is very disappointing to the Rector and Church Council that more interest is not given to the maintenance of the graves. Some of the graves are neglected from one year's end to another and do not give much encouragement to those friends and relatives who regularly tend one or more of the graves. Do help us to help you to keep your Churchyard in a better condition. Do what you can yourself or send a subscription to the Churchwardens so that a fund may be inaugurated for its upkeep.

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### Hartley Congregational Church.

#### Notes.

The Congregational Union of England and Wales has issued further suggestions for revitalizing the spiritual life of Congregational Churches. These take booklet form entitled "A Summons to Action," and can be obtained from the Church Secretary. Price 3d.

In accord with this Appeal of the Union, several of our members commenced a series of Services on Hartley Green on Sunday, August 8th at 8 p.m.

On Saturday, June 12th, a Thanksgiving Festival commemorated the 3rd Anniversary of the Church Stone Laying, and clearance of debt on the Building.

A fine Sermon by the Rev. O. G. Whitfield, M.A., Bromley, and the delightful singing of Miss J. Wilson, A.M.A. Marked off Afternoon Service.

At the public Tea in the W.I. Hall speeches of congratulation were given by Visitors.

Mr. Frank Prout of Brockley presided over the Public Meeting in the Evening, which con-

cluded a memorable occasion with the encouraging addresses of the Rev. A. Haig, R.N. and Rev. O. G. Whitfield.

Many friends from other churches attended, including the Rev. and Mrs. E. J. Barson of Penge. The net financial result was £7/3/6. Our grateful thanks are due to Doctor and Mrs. A. Sleep for a gift of £5, to Mr. E. Pallant for organizing this gathering, and to our Ladies for arranging the Tea.

Wednesday, June 30th, the Church and Sunday School enjoyed a pleasant visit to Herne Bay by coaches. In spite of the non-appearance of the sun, our 76 excursionists had a good time on the beach, and a good tea at Messrs Loaders.

We shall miss the visits of the Rev. Pitt Bonarjee, Rev. R. S. Blackmore, Mr. G. D. Hooper, and Captain Paymaster J. P. Ratcliff, who have removed to other districts. Our ministerial friends are still numerous as 16 Ministers besides 4 Laymen occupied the rostrum during April to July.

H.C.C. Council,

C. Seymour,

Chairman.