

PLUCKLEY
PARISH MAGAZINE *Mm*
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Christmas day falls on a Sunday, which makes it necessary to think out carefully how best to combine the two events. We think it would be a mistake to have the usual Evening Service at 6.30, and that it would be better to leave the evening free for family gatherings. We are planning, instead, a Christmas Service at 3.30 p.m., with carols and solos and other music, to which we invite all parishioners. It will make a pleasant and helpful event between Christmas dinner and tea.

There will be no Service at St. Mary's ¹⁰⁰

The other Services on Christmas Day will be at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

On New Year's Day, at St. Mary's, there will be Holy Communion at 0.30 and in the afternoon, at 3 p.m., a Carol Service for St. Dunstan's.

The news of Mrs. Springett's death came as a shock to us all. We remember how she shared so much of the work with Dr. Springett when they were in Pluckley. We remember her great friendliness to all our people, and we remember, not least, her beautiful playing on the organ. About twenty people went over to the funeral at the Cathedral, and a wreath purchased by subscriptions was sent, besides private wreaths.

A very beautifully worked linen altar cloth, with credence cloth to match, has been presented to the Church by Miss Elsie Bishopp. This completes the furnishing of the Dering Chapel, and gives us great pleasure.

In aid of the Mothers' Union Banner Fund, there will be a Social on Wednesday, January 25th, at 7 p.m., in the Parish Hall. There will be an Entertainment followed by refreshments and a Whist Drive. Tickets, 9d., open to all. Please come and help to make a jolly evening.

The Y.P.F. held their birthday meeting on November 21st, when the following were elected to serve on the Committee: Misses Kilmer, Veysey, Marchant, and Ellis, Messrs. Ballard, Buss, Gore and Brissenden.

The next meeting will be on January 9th.


We have once more kept the Dedication Festival of St. Nicholas' Church with a Children's Lantern Service and distribution of cakes and oranges on December 10th. We have to thank those who sent us gifts of oranges.

On Sunday morning, December 11th, the Rector sketched the story of the Church buildings back to Norman times.


On December 8th the G.F.S. had a very nice Social, to which nineteen members from Ashford came as guests. ³⁰⁰

FUNERAL.—December 0th, William Weeks, aged 79,

HOLY COMMUNION.—St. Mary's: January 1st, at 9.45. St. Nicholas': January 1st, midday; January 8th, at 8 a.m.; January 15th, at midday; January 22nd, at 8 a.m. (G.F.S.); January 29th, midday. ^{43*}




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The Mothers* Union held their monthly meeting on March 16th, when Mrs. Bullen gave a delightful address. It was one of the few wet days, but it was *very* wet. Yet, in spite of this, there was a very good attendance.

On Sunday, March 26th, the Mothers' Union had their great annual Corporate Communion. We also made this Service the first Communion for the newly-confirmed, and G.F.S. members came as well. In all, we had forty-one communicants, and it was a beautiful thing to see so many mothers and children communicating together.

The Parents' Festival took place on Tuesday, March 29th, when there was a large congregation in Ashford Parish Church, and our people were much impressed by Mr. Ritchie's sermon. The Pluckley people numbered 31-

We had three more candidates confirmed at Linton on March 24th by the Bishop of Dover, who gave a most delightful address*

On Good Friday morning we had a good congregation. We also had Services at St. Mary's in the afternoon, and at 6.30 in the Parish Church. The offertories went to the ¹¹Church Missions to the Jews."

Easter Day was a lovely sunny day, and we had very happy Services. Thirty-seven people were in Church at seven in the morning, the same number at eight o'clock. There were also twenty-four communicants at midday. Both Churches were beautifully decorated, and the singing was very good. The anthem was Clark's 44 He is Risen,*' and the settings to the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis were by K. Martins.

The funeral of Mrs. Skeer took place in the sunshine of Easter Eve* when Christian people think with hope of their Lord's burial. Mrs. Skeer was a regular churchgoer and communicant while she was still living in Pluckley, and was a most devout Christian woman. We feel her loss, but are glad to know that her last few years were very contentedly and thankfully spent.

We also much regret the death of John Luckhurst, who was a very regular attendant at the Rector's Boys' Class.

Mrs. Pyper is grateful for all the sympathy she has received in the sad loss of her mother.

FUNERALS.—April 15th, Caroline Skeer, aged 87; April 20th, **John** Luckhurst.

HOLY COMMUNION.—May 7th, at midday; May 14th, at 8 a.m.)
•May 21st, at midday; May 28th, at 8 a.m.

.We remind Church people that Ascension Day falls on May 25th.

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Whit-Sunday falls on June 4th, the day when we remember how the Holy Spirit came to the first Christians. No people were ever so much changed as those people were. There was new life and new power in them. There was a new joy, and a new love for all their neighbours. And all came because they were filled with God's Spirit. And that new life was not only for those old days. The same power has changed the whole history of the world, and is busy in the world still. Let us see that blessing comes to us in answer to prayer, and let us ask God to guide, by the same Spirit, the minds of all men **that**, by this guidance, we may see our way out of the difficulties which surround all nations. Remember, "We believe in the Holy Ghost."*

We hope to see all our communicants at one or other of the Celebrations.

At a Vestry Meeting, which was well attended, on April 22nd, Mr. Evenden and Mr. Green were appointed Churchwardens for the ensuing year. They both attended the Archdeacon's Visitation on May 9th, and were sworn in. They have our best wishes for this year of office*

MOTHERS' UNION.—Mrs. Scott, from Thurham, addressed the members on Tuesday, April 16th, in the Rectory Hut. There was a large attendance, and all present were deeply interested in the talk, which was an illuminating description of customs and habits in Palestine. When these were explained they made the Bible stories live again, and helped one to realise the special significance attached to them. All present listened spellbound to the fresh interpretation the speaker gave of well-known passages, and Mrs. Scott was begged to come again, and give another talk on the same subject.

Y.P.F.—The winter programme ended on April 24th with a Service in Church, followed by a very interesting and amusing demonstration on "Make-up," given by Captain and Mrs. Quinn.

The summer programme has been arranged as follows:—

May 29th, Tennis.

July 3rd, Tennis.

July 21th, Cricket Match, v. G.F.S.C.C.

Each meeting begins with Service in Church at 7 p.m. We shall be very glad to welcome new members at any of the meetings;

Our readers will share with us in our sympathy with the family of Mrs. Pitt, whose body was laid to rest on April 29th, aged 82 years.

HOLY COMMUNION.—Whit-Sunday, 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and midday. Trinity Sunday, St. Mary's, 9.30. May 18th, at midday. May 25th, at 8 a.m. (G.F.S.).



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It is with sorrow we record the death of Sir Herbert Dering, K. C. M. G. which took place with great suddenness at Tonbridge on May 29th.

Sir Herbert had a distinguished career in the diplomatic service abroad* and for that reason was not so well known by people in Pluckley. The older people remember him well as a boy before he left home, and all those memories are exceptionally happy ones, the memories of one who was liked by all.

The funeral was at Pluckley on June 1st., after a Memorial Service at St. Mark's, North Audley Street.

There was a large gathering of parents at the School Empire Day Celebration, which was held in the Recreation Ground at 2-30 on May 24th. Captain Quin and his staff produced a very good programme of song and recitation, and country dance, followed by a march past and salute of the flag. We congratulate both teachers and scholars.

The day after, we were glad to see all the children again. This time it was in Church for the Ascension Day. It was a pleasure to have a Churchful of children and to hear them sing. The other services that day began with a celebration of Holy Communion at 7-30 and ended with Choral Evening Prayer.

The School examination in Religious knowledge was held on May 26th., the examiner being the Rev. F. Perry. The Inspector's report has reached us. In it he speaks most highly of the work of both Teachers and children.

ON WHIT SUNDAY there were 27 Communicants at 7 a.m. 17 at 8 a.m. and 21 at midday. We were glad to see most of our younger Communicants among the number. At St. Mary's, a week later, the Communicants numbered 24. For all this we are very thankful.

THE WORLD ECONOMIC CONFERENCE is now sitting. It is the greatest Conference this earth has ever seen, all possible countries being represented there. The hope of future prosperity in trade and work hang upon what is done there. It is all tremendously important. Our part is to pray every day that the Conference may be guided by the Holy Spirit. The minds of men are not sufficient for such decisions, we need the mind of God* jind we can have it in answer to prayer.

BAPTISMS.

May 2i8t. Leonard Georgie Foreman. May 28th, Norah Rose Stevenson..

FUNERAL. June 1st. Herbert Guy Neville Dering, K. C. M. G.

HOLY COMMUNION.

July 2nd., at Midday. July 9th. at 8 a.m

July 16th., at Midday. July 23rd., at 8 a.m..

July 30th.. at MidJay,



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The last month has been a time of open-air doings. We began with our Sunday School Party, which was held in the Rectory Garden on June 22nd. We assembled in pouring rain, and had to spend the time before tea in the School-room, where, however, we had a very merry hour, with amusing competitions, under Captain Quin's direction. Tea was in the Rectory Hut, where the cakes were all given by members of the Church Council and other friends, and very full justice was done to them. After tea the weather cleared up, and the lawn was dry, and we had a full programme of sports and competitions. The wonderfully skilful skipping by the girls was quite thrilling to watch. The distribution of prizes brought a happy afternoon to an end. We have to thank all who contributed prizes and provisions, so that there was no call on Church funds for any expenses; and we have to thank Captain Quin for his wonderful organising of the sports.

The G.F.S. Van was in Pluckley on June 26th, when a number of people were shown its interior and neat furnishings. There was a Service in Church with admission of new members, at 4 o'clock. Then followed tea at the G.F.S. Hut, and at seven there was an entertainment by the Caravanners in the Parish Hall, concluding with a very good religious play, which showed the aim the G.F.S. has in view.

The Caravanners have a strenuous time, with the care of the motor and all the polishing and cleaning and housekeeping, in addition to the meetings.

The Choir Outing was on St. Swithin's Day. But we fared very well, in spite of that Saint's reputation. There was a slight shower or two in the morning, which did not trouble us, and the afternoon was very nice and sunny. Everybody paddled, a few brought costumes and bathed, and the entertainment enclosures were well patronised.

Nearly a quarter of a ton of goods and £1 13s. 7d. in cash were sent to the Ashford Hospital from Pluckley on "Pound Day." The Matron has written thanking all those who kindly contributed, and the children for their "wonderful collection."

The collectors were: Joan Hayms, Daisy Marchant, Grace Haffenden, Grace Jordan, Eva Pile, Ivy Pannell, Alice Miles, Dorothy Feakins, Wilfred Ellis and Reginald Else.

BAPTISMS.—May 28th, at St. Mary's, Albert John Butler and Ronald Frank Pannell; July 16th, at the Parish Church, Anthony Highwood.

HOLY COMMUNION.—August 6th, at mid-day; August 13th, at 8 a.m.; August 20th, at mid-day; August 27th, 8 a.m. (G.F.S.)

The Services in August will be taken by the Rev. C. W. Weston.



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Lady Herbert Dering has made a generous donation to our church funds, part of which, is being used for the painting of the tower clock—a piece of work which was much needed.

Two candidates from Pluckley were confirmed at Canterbury Cathedral on Saturday, July 22nd. This was a very big confirmation, with two hundred candidates from all over the Diocese, and there were nearly forty clergy in robes to present them. The Bishop of Dover confirmed, and there was a very devotional feeling all through the service.

The Canterbury Diocesan Committee for Youth held a Youth House Party at Elphinsward, Haywards Heath, on Saturday and Sunday, July 10th and 16th. The House Party was arranged to give opportunity to delegates from different parts of the Diocese to meet for conference and devotion.

The Bishop of Croydon led the conference, the general subject being "Worship and Service." The party was divided into groups for discussion, the group findings afterwards being reported at the General Conference. This provided excellent opportunity for interchange of ideas. Devotional services were held in the chapel throughout the session. On Sunday afternoon a poetry ramble was organised and led by the Bishop, and enjoyed by all in spite of several thundery showers.

Each delegate left Elphinsward inspired with courage and new ideas to pass on to others.

The members of the Mothers Union held their monthly meeting in the Rectory Garden on Wednesday, July 19th. It was a lovely sunny day, at the beginning of the heat-wave, and it was very pleasant sitting under the shade of the trees and listening to Miss Nethersole telling us about her visit to her sister's ranch in the Rocky Mountains, in Canada. We all sat quite enthralled as she told us of the hard life out there; hard for the men and doubly hard for the women, and of their pluck and determination. We heard the homely and amusing details of daily life, and also heard of the work of the Church and how so much depends on the efforts of the women to make a Church possible at all. It was such an interesting talk we felt we could have listened for hours. However, tea time came, and was enjoyed on the lawn, and then followed some competitions that were not too strenuous for the hot weather. Miss Evenden won first prize for rolling jam-jars, Mrs. Nicol first prize for tying knots with one hand, and Mrs. Else first prize for bouncing and catching a Googly Ball.

HOLY COMMUNION Sept 3rd mid-day; 10th 8 a.m.; 17th mid-day;
24th, 8 a.m.



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Armistice Sunday was a beautiful and calm day, and very appropriate for our out-door service. Ex-Service men were present in good numbers, and members of the R.A.O.B. also made a good attendance. Buglers from the High School sounded the "Last Post," and the President of the Pluckley Branch of the Legion, Mr. Winter, said Lawrence Binyon's beautiful lines. The Lessons in Church were read by the Legion Secretary, Captain Quin. It is good to find that Armistice-time has lost none of its meaning, and has never been better kept than in the present year.

Mrs. Quin sends us the following report of money collected for Lord Haig's Fund: "The result of sales of poppies on Armistice Day, and of Church Collections on Armistice Sunday was £21 6s. Od. Many thanks are due to all who gave so generously, and to sellers who worked so hard to make Poppy Day a great success."

The Monthly Meeting of the Mothers' Union was held on November 15th, when Mr. Brewer, from Maidstone, gave a most interesting address. It was decided at that meeting to dedicate the Mothers' Union banner on Wednesday evening, December 20th, in the Church. The Rural Dean has consented to conduct the dedication service, and it is hoped that many friends will join the members at this festival.

We have lost two former residents in the last few days. Mr. Richard Buss was buried at Smarden on Monday, November 13th. For many years he was a well-known and much respected figure in Pluckley. He was always most cheerful and genial, and had a wonderful memory for old days. He was also a devout Christian, and though not of our Church, was always interested in our Church affairs.

Mr. Henty was buried the day after, at Egerton, where his wife's body had been laid to rest less than three weeks before. Mr. Henty was a regular church-goer and Communicant when he lived here, and a well-known figure in his front pew. It was a real grief to him when increasing infirmity kept him away from public worship.

This being our December number, we must, in advance, wish our readers a very happy Christmas, and all joy and peace in their family circles.

HOLY COMMUNION.—December 3rd, mid-day; 10th, at 8 a.m.; 17th, at mid-day; 24th, at 8 a.m.; Christmas Day, 8 a.m. and mid-day; 31st, at mid-day.