Reference code: GB165-0552
Title: Laurence Hubbard Collection
Name of creator: Hubbard, Laurence Arthur (b.1936) Reverend
Dates of creation of material: 1990 - 2014
Level of description: Fonds
Extent: 3 boxes

Biographical history: Hubbard, Laurence Arthur (b.1936) Reverend
Born 30th September 1936 in Cusop, Herefordshire and attended Lyndale School St Albans and St George’s School, Harpenden. From 1955 -1957 Laurence Hubbard was in the National Service R.A.S.C Singapore and Malayan Emergency. He next attended Queen’s College, Cambridge from 1957 – 1960 where he read Law and Theology and then went on to train for the ministry at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford from 1960 -1962 and was ordained in 1962. Reverend Hubbard served his first parish as curate in Widcombe, Bath from 1962 -1965 and married Wendy Margaret Garrad, a physiotherapist during this time in 1964. From 1965 – 1966 Reverend Hubbard trained to work as an overseas missionary at the Church Missionary Society Men’s College in Chislehurst Kent. Reverend Hubbard’s parents had both been CMS missionaries in Nigeria and this gave him the strong desire to pursue overseas missionary work. From 1966 – 1970 he became Vicar of St Peter’s, Nyeri for the Mount Kenya Diocese and then assistant Vicar of St Georges, Nanyuki 1970 – 1973. In 1973 Reverend Hubbard became Vicar of St Mary in Pype Hayes, Birmingham until 1979. He then became Priest in Charge in Norwich-over-the-Water at St Georges Colegate and St Augustine until 1985. From 1985 – 1993 Reverend Hubbard was the Area Secretary for CMS in Canterbury and Rochester Dioceses, in Maidstone; during this time he was a short term diocesan Missionary for the Asaba Diocese, Nigeria in 1987. After Reverend Hubbard had completed his work as Area Secretary he considered overseas missionary work again and completed the CMS selection process and was offered three potential posts; either Northern Nigeria, Tripoli or Damascus. Having a great interest in Damascus and the surrounding area after leading Church Travel Pilgrimages and after studying Islamics at Crowther Hall, Selly Oak Colleges in Birmingham; he chose Damascus. In 1993 he was sent to be Chaplain in Damascus and Aleppo, Syria until 1996, where he was then asked by the Missions to Seaman (now Mission to Seafarers) to be the Vicar of SS Peter and Paul and Port Chaplain in Aqaba, Jordan. In 2000 Reverend
Hubbard retired and now lives in Quedgeley, Gloucester with his wife Wendy, they have three married sons.

**Scope and content:** Correspondence relating to Reverend Hubbard’s Missionary work in Damascus and Aleppo, Syria and in Aqaba, Jordan; including Reverend Hubbard’s appointment letter and his background notes on Damascus, monthly link letters for supporters at home and letters from friends and supporters during and after Reverend Hubbard’s overseas missionary work. Also includes photograph albums and slides documenting his missionary work for the Church, including images of the surrounding landscapes, architecture and life in Syria and Jordan, as well as a ‘History of Aqaba’ by Hubbard and slides from the Church Mission Society ‘Palestine – paying the price’ giving a presentation on conditions of the Palestinians in the 1990’s.

**System of arrangement:**

1. Appointment Letter and Licence
2. Damascus Background Notes
3. Link Letters and Artwork
4. Service and Song Book
5. Damascus Photograph Album
6. Slides of Damascus, Syria
7. Photographs
8. Correspondence
9. Aqaba Photograph Album
10. History of Aqaba
11. ‘Palestine - Paying the Price’ slides

**Access conditions:** Open

**Language of material:** English

**Conditions governing reproduction:** No restrictions on copying or quotation other than statutory regulations and preservation concerns.

**Custodial history:** In the possession of Reverend Laurence Hubbard.
Immediate source of acquisition: Received as a gift from Reverend Laurence Hubbard on 23 September 2011 with additional material on 5 December 2011 and 21 July 2015.

Related Units of Description:

In MEC Archive
For other papers relating to missionary work in particular work relating to Chaplaincies please see:

- GB165-0378 Blackburn Collection, Booklets and a note relating to Church history consisting of a ‘Handbook of the Anglican Bishopric in Jerusalem and the East.
- GB165-0080 Dehqani-Tafti Collection, Papers as President-Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East.
- GB165-0194 MacGuffie Collection, Papers relating to his service as Chaplain of the Church of England Diocesan Mission in Aden;
- GB-165-0127 Gurney Collection, Letters, to friends recounting her daily life in Isfahan and later in Cairo as the wife of the Revd. David Gurney, CMS missionary in Iran and Egypt.

For missionary work more generally please see the Guide to Christian Missionary Collection.

Finding aids: In Guide; Handlist

Archivist’s note: Fonds and file item level description created by Kate Rose, June 2012. Revised by Debbie Usher 30 Sept 2016. Biographical history based on information given from Reverend Hubbard and taken from his Background Notes on Damascus, included within the collection.
## SERIES AND ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF
### THE REVEREND LAURENCE HUBBARD COLLECTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Appointment Letter and Licence</strong></td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>2 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>Letter certifying that the Rev Hubbard has been appointed to look after Anglican Community in Damascus by the Rev Samir Kafity.</td>
<td>12 Aug 1993</td>
<td>1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Licence of authority to perform the duty of Priest in Damascus All Saints Parish, granted to Rev Lawrence Hubbard from Bishop Samir Kafity.</td>
<td>5 Sept 1993</td>
<td>1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Damascus Background Notes</strong></td>
<td>1993 – 1996</td>
<td>7 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Background Notes on Damascus by Rev. Hubbard including his history behind wanting to become a missionary, the limitations to working in Syria, history of the All Saints Community Church, as well as giving an account of Hubbard’s living arrangements, their friends in Damascus, (including the Sudanese and other local Christians) and visits to Aleppo and comments on culture of Damascus.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Link Letters and Artwork</strong></td>
<td>1993 - 1997</td>
<td>31 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1</td>
<td><strong>Link Letters</strong></td>
<td>1993-1997</td>
<td>21 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Written by Reverend and Wendy Hubbard while in Damascus connecting them with friends and followers in Britain. The news letters update readers on their missionary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
duties, the Hubbard’s everyday life in Damascus, the places they visited in their free time the people they meet at their services, the struggles they encountered and prayer topics for readers in Britain.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/1/1</td>
<td>Sabbatical in India</td>
<td>May-Jun 1993, 2 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/2</td>
<td>Flight and Arrival into Damascus</td>
<td>Aug 1993, 1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/3</td>
<td>Impressions of Damascus</td>
<td>Sept 1993, 1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/4</td>
<td>Break to Palmyra</td>
<td>Nov 1993, 2 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/5</td>
<td>Happy New Year – Kal’aat (castle) Jandal, Mt Hermon</td>
<td>Jan 1994, 1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/6</td>
<td>End of Ramadhan and Easter Greetings</td>
<td>Mar 1994, 1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/7</td>
<td>Whitsunday Morning and What our services are like</td>
<td>Jun-Jul 1994, 1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/8</td>
<td>Exchange with the Chaplain of Paphos</td>
<td>Oct 1994, 1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/9</td>
<td>A Year in Review</td>
<td>1994, 5 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/10</td>
<td>Trip to Cairo, Struggle with pastoral work</td>
<td>Feb 1995, 1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/11</td>
<td>Bishop Visit, and trip to Kassab</td>
<td>May 1995, 2 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/12</td>
<td>Why we are here, and visit from Bishop Kenneth Cragg</td>
<td>Oct-Nov 1995, 1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/13</td>
<td>New Year, consecration of the next Bishop of the diocese and end of tour</td>
<td>Feb 1996, 1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/14</td>
<td>Appointment of Port Chaplain Aqaba, Jordan with the Missions to Seaman</td>
<td>Oct 1997, 1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/2</td>
<td>Artwork</td>
<td>1993, 10 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/2/1</td>
<td>Original drawings created by Reverend Hubbard of the places he visited while on vacation in India or Egypt or from his parish duties in Damascus. The artwork was used within the Hubbard’s Link Letters.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/2/1</td>
<td>Amber Fort, Jaipur, Rajasthan, cycle and auto-rickshaws and white fronted kingfisher from link letter 3/1/1</td>
<td>May-Jun 1993, 3 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/2/1</td>
<td>Cairo Cathedral, Egypt Pyramids and Mt Hermon with snow in the distance from link letter 3/1/10</td>
<td>Jan-Feb 1995, 4 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/2/3</td>
<td>Vegetables and Fruit for sale from link letter 3/1/12</td>
<td>Oct-Nov 1995, 1 sheet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3/2/4  El Alamein drawings (not used in Link letters)  1990s  2 sheets

4  **Service and Song Book**  1990’s  1 vol
   All Saints Community Church Damascus Service and Song
   Book which includes service sheets choruses and hymns.

5  **Damascus Photograph Album**  1993 - 1996  1 vol
   Containing photos of Damascus Syria, Lebanon, Jordan,
   Palestine and Egypt. Including Bishop consecrations,
   Christmas, Easter and Remembrance Day services. Visits
   to St Sergius Church, St Marks Anglican Church
   Alexandria and a visit of Greek Catholic Bishop to St
   John’s of Damascus. Also there are photographs of
   Damascus surrounding landscape, abandoned hospital and
   Damascus old city.

6  **Slides of Damascus, Syria**  1993 - 1996  77 slides
   77, 35mm colour slides of Damascus and Syria taken by
   Rev Hubbard. The captions are original.
   6/1  View over the Damascus city, climbing up Jebel Kassioun
   6/2  Climbing up Jebel Kassioun
   6/3  Central square with the Omayad Mosque column
   6/4  Omayad Mosque
   6/5  City Street
   6/6  City Park near Barada River
   6/7  Turkish Baths
   6/8  Suleimaniah mosque
   6/9  River Barada looking South West
   6/10 Salah-al-Din and defeated crusader leaders outside the Old
       City
   6/11 Salah-al-Din and Guy de Lusignon
   6/12 Salah-al-Din Mausoleum
   6/13 Suq Hamadiah
   6/14 Suq Hamadiah and Roman Columns
6/15 Roman Columns at the end of the Suq and outside the Mosque
6/16 Omayad Mosque
6/17 Omayad Mosque
6/18 Omayad Mosque showing the St. John the Baptist shrine
6/19 Road scene in Abu Roumaneh with Melon seller
6/20 Pavement in Abu Roumaneh near St. John of Damascus with Wendy Hubbard looking towards the church
6/21 Swedish and Danish flags on the floors rented in the building belonging to the Greek Catholics. Mosque in distance at end of the road
6/22 Laurie Hubbard with Father Jihad
6/23 Laurie Hubbard standing outside our rented end ground floor apartment of the Greek Catholic building, in the church yard area
6/24 Inside our apartment
6/25 St. John of Damascus Greek Catholic church and their apartment block left
6/26 St. John of Damascus above the door of the church entrance
6/27 Inside the church
6/28 Inside the church with Abu Abdo caretaker
6/29 Inside the church showing the small Holy Communion table used by All Saints Community Church, put there during our services. Visitor and out Sudanese voluntary verger Joseph Sebit
6/30 Greek Catholic (Melkite) congregation on Palm Sunday
6/31 Greek Catholic (Melkite) congregation on Palm Sunday
6/32 Father and daughter
6/33 Evening Wedding
6/34 LAH, Bishop Samir Kafity, Syrian Orthodox Bishop at my induction service. Aug 1993
6/35 LAH, Bishop Samir Kafity, Syrian Orthodox Bishop and
Orthodox Priest at my induction service. Aug 1993

6/36 Presiding ECUSA Bishop Edmund Browning, Bishop Kafity, Melkite Patriarch Hakim on official visit

6/37 At a dinner for Bishop Edmund Browning, Bishop Kafity, Daniel Kagya and German girl guest

6/38 LAH at this dinner with Major Gary Hobin (USA) Lay Reader in our congregation

6/39 Sir Andrew Green with Presiding Bishop and Bishop Kafity

6/40 Lady Jane Green

6/41 Meal after service in ground floor rooms of St. J of D, All saints congregation

6/42 Meal after service in ground floor rooms of St. J of D, All saints congregation

6/43 In the Christian Quarter of the Old City overlooking churches

6/44 Wendy Hubbard looking over roof top level of Old City Churches

6/45 Bab Touma (Thomas Gate) west side of Old City leading to Old Jewish now Christian Quarter (Paul would have been led through this gate)

6/46 Syrian Orthodox Chapel

6/47 Roman arch in Straight Street – on the left there is a tea merchant, in this spot was the place where Saul/Paul rested in Judas house

6/48 Syrian Catholic Church Old City, showing Saul on horseback

6/49 Outside Ananias’ house – this building was built over his cave home

6/50 Ananias’ house / Chapel his cave house church

6/51 Ananias’ house / Chapel Baptism of Saul / Paul

6/52 Ananias’ house / Chapel Paul about to be let down in a basket showing the legend that the Roman soldier
concurred
6/53 Ananias’ house / Chapel Paul about to be let down in a basket showing the legend that the Roman soldier concurred
6/54 Greek Catholic, Melkite Church band in the area outside their Cathedral, Christian Quarter, Old City
6/55 Greek Catholic, Melkite Church band in the area outside their Cathedral, Christian Quarter, Old City
6/56 Greek Catholic, Melkite Church band in the area outside their Cathedral, Christian Quarter, Old City
6/57 Wendy Hubbard with Sister Norelle an RC nurse from Australia who ran a home for the poor
6/58 Wendy Hubbard with Sister Norelle an RC nurse from Australia who ran a home for the poor
6/59 Wendy Hubbard with Sister Norelle an RC nurse from Australia who ran a home for the poor
6/60 Christian baker in the Old City Christian Quarter
6/61 Christian baker with Syrian Orthodox Holy Bread with the marks of the Cross
6/62 Syrian Catholic Easter Alter in their Church, Christian Quarter
6/63 St. Joseph with the Christ child in the Syrian Catholic church Christian Quarter
6/64 Barada River outside the Old City Christian Quarter
6/65 Barada River outside the Old City Christian Quarter
6/66 Outside Old City looking north
6/67 Northern Gate into Old City
6/68 Crusader Castle Marqab
6/69 Marqab Castle
6/70 Small Crusader Castle ruin near the coast (in Alawite country area now)
6/71 Looking up to Maaloula and small city with a Christain population speaking Syriac formerly Aramaic
6/72  Aleppo
6/73  Aleppo Gate in the old part of the city
6/74  Aleppo Gate in the old part of the city
6/75  Armenian Evangelical Pastor and his verger at Kassab
       North West Syria in the part inhabited by Armenians. The
       verger had been a driver in the British Army in the Desert
       Campaign North Africa during the Second World War.
6/76  Tartous Orthodox church
6/77  Sunset over Tartous Orthodox church

7  Photographs
Photographs including the voting for a new bishop Ernie
Wilks in 1995, Church services, weddings and Christmas.
Also Damascus and Aleppo remembrance services, the
Aqaba landscape and portraits of Rev and Wendy Hubbard.

8  Correspondence
Letter to Rev L.A Hubbard received while in Damascus
and letters received after the Hubbard’s had left both
Damascus and Aqaba. The letters are from friends and
followers they met during their time in Syria and Jordan.
8/1  Background information regarding letter received from
     Oct 2011  2 sheets
     Reverend Haddad.
8/2  Letter to Reverend and Wendy Hubbard from Reverend
     3 Apr 2000  1 sheet
     George Haddard.
8/3  Background information regarding letters from Richard
     Oct 2011  2 sheets
     Akeri, Martin Pelal Jabi and Peter Elisapa Sebit.
8/4  Letter to Reverend Hubbard from Richard Akeri, a
     15 Jan 2000  1 sheet
     Sudanese Christian who was allowed to go to Holland by
     Dutch Government.
8/5  Letter to Reverend and Wendy Hubbard from Martin Pelal
     31 Aug 2000  1 sheet
     Jabi.
8/6  Letter to Reverend and Wendy Hubbard received while in
     17 Nov 1997  1 sheet
Aqaba from Peter Elisapa Sebit.

8/7 Background information regarding letter received from Olga.

8/8 Letter to Reverend and Wendy Hubbard from Olga who was a Russian member of the All Saints congregation.

8/9 Christmas Card sent from Moscow by Olga attached to letter 8/8

8/10 Background Information regarding two letters received from Ross and Gwin Jones

8/11 Letter to Reverend and Wendy Hubbard received while in Aqaba from Ross and Gwin Jones discussing their future and Reverend Hubbard’s retirement.

8/12 Letter to Reverend and Wendy Hubbard from in reply to a letter Ross and Gwin Jones discussing their stay in Jerusalem, Church politics and their six week return to America.

8/13 Background information regarding a letter received from Elizabeth Qabouq

8/14 Letter to Reverend and Wendy Hubbard from Elizabeth Qabouq discussing a trip to Aqaba near the Hubbard’s former home and her life as a teacher.

8/15 Background information regarding a letter received from Paulino Choul

8/16 Letter to Reverend Hubbard from Paulino relieved while on leave from Damascus, discussing the difficulties Sudanese Christians encountered from the Sudanese government.

8/17 Background information regarding a letter from Reverend Fred Green.

8/18 Letter to Reverend and Wendy Hubbard from Reverend Fred Green, received while in Aqaba.

8/19 Letter to Reverend Hubbard from Zhao Wei, in reply to letter Reverend Hubbard had sent by request of Zhao Wei’s
grandfather whom he met in Aqaba. (Letter originally from the folder named ‘Aqaba’)

9  Aqaba Photograph Album  1997 - 2000  1 vol
Folder named ‘Aqaba’ includes photographs of Church Mission to Seaman, Chaplains house, Christmas in the Hubbard’s Aqaba home, Greek Catholic Church baptism, the Coptic community plays, desert and mountains near Wadi Rum, and Aqaba Castle. Album also includes Rev. Hubbard conducting a wedding, greeting U.S Ships visiting Aqaba, blessing new school foundations in Nazareth and attending international committee for seamen’s welfare at Casablanca and Middle East Provincial Conference, Cyprus.

10  History of Aqaba  1997 - 2014  2 files
10/1  History of Aqaba  1997-2000  1 file
Folder containing the History of Aqaba, ‘from early times to the turn of the millennium’ - written by Reverend Hubbard. Within the folder is the history behind its creation, texts on historical periods in Aqaba history from the stone-bronze age, Ottoman empire, Arab Revolt and Suez crisis. Also included are maps, newspaper articles, illustrations drawn by Reverend Hubbard and colour photographs.

10/2  History of Aqaba  23 Sept 2014  1 file
Palestine - Paying the Price’ Slides

48, 35mm colour Slides from the ‘Palestine - Paying the Price’ Church Mission Society Presentation on Conditions of the Palestinians in the 1990’s. The slides were used in parishes and groups documenting the conditions of Palestinians, originally part of a resource consisting of script, tape recording and slides. Slides 62, 63-68, 69-71, 75-79, 83, 86, 87 not extant.

11/1 Jerusalem – The Dome of the Rock
11/2 Jerusalem – The Dome of the Rock
11/3 Holocaust Memorial
11/8 Map of the present day boundaries
11/9 Burned out Israeli Tank 1948
11/10 Galilee – Horns of Hattin in Distance
11/11 General Allenby entering Jaffa Gate – 11 Dec 1917
11/12 British Army Palestinians in Ottoman Dress 1920
11/13 Canon Naim Ateek
11/14 Church entrance Jerusalem
11/15 Palestinian Women in traditional Dress
11/16 Palestinian wedding
11/17 Map of Palestine under the British Mandate until 1948
11/18 British in Palestine 1920’s
11/20 Palestinians armed 1920’s during troubles
11/22 British Army dealing with the troubles c.1947
11/23 British Army dealing with the troubles c.1947
11/25 Palestinian resistance 1926
11/26 Canon Audeh Rantisi, Mrs Patricia Rantisi (English) and their daughter Ramallah
11/27 Above the door of St. George’s Church, Lydda
11/28 Palestinian refugee 1948
11/29 Map of armistice lines 1948
11/32 Israeli soldiers 1948
11/33 Map of Israel and the occupied territories today
11/37 Palestinian refugees (Gaza?)
11/42 Palestinians with their flag
11/47 Dominus Flevit church Interior, on the Mount of Olives
11/48 Via Dolorosa sign
11/58 Israeli check point West Bank
11/60 Palestinian boys being checked by Israeli soldiers
11/62 Refugee camp
11/68 A bay in the chapel at Shepherd’s Fields Bethlehem showing The Angel coming to the Shepherds
11/72 Respect notice outside temple area
11/73 Jewish Rabbi in Jerusalem
11/74 Outside the Western Wailing Wall, Jerusalem
11/80 Notice: Shepherd’s Fields
11/81 Beit Sahour, by Bethlehem
11/82 Palm Tree
11/84 Holy Table, in a church in Palestine
11/85 Old Palestinian with worry beads, used to count prayers
11/89 Notice: St. George’s Cathedral Jerusalem
11/90 Notice: Syrian Catholic Patriarchate, Jerusalem
11/91 Orthodox priests, Jerusalem
11/92 Palestinian women and child, Bethlehem
11/93 Bishop Samir Kafity greeting the congregation St. George’s Cathedral
11/94 Synagogue in west Jerusalem
11/95 Notice: beginning of Christ’s passion route, Via Dolorosa
11/96 Jewish Children in the Knesset Garden (?) West Jerusalem