

East Grinstead Courier

Tel: EG 323652

Friday, June 17, 1994

30p

QVH snubs Saint Hill

A SUMMER fete has sparked controversy between the Queen Victoria Hospital and the Church of Scientology.

Hospital chiefs are seething over advertisements and flyers handed out to promote the event at the cult's Saint Hill headquarters which say money raised would go to the world-famous burns unit.

But chairman of the hospital's trust, Jeffrey Park, told the Courier: "We would not accept the money."

The hospital, he said, was "extremely an-

By David Thompson

noyed" and "appalled" by the advertisements.

Mr Park added: "We discussed the issue of this particular organisation and we decided that it was one we did not wish to be associated with.

"It does seem to have peculiar habits. We have to do the right thing and we have to be seen to do the right thing.

"We would be delighted to hear from any other organisation raising money for us but we like to know before the event so any conflict of interest can be averted."

Liz Dalrymple, fete organiser for the Church of Scientology, told the Courier: "Last year's fete was a tremendous success and the hospital sent a gracious thank you letter for the proceeds we raised for the hospital.

"I spoke to Lorraine Clifton, the Unit General Manager, two weeks ago on the phone to let her know we had chosen the hospital as one of our charities again this year. I told her about the various activities we had lined up and how much we value the work they do at the hospital.

"The advertising is almost identical to last year's and had there been any change of policy or hint of objection I would have expected Mrs Clifton to mention this."

Promotions for the fete on June 25 say it is also in aid of the Great Ormond Street Hospital and St John Ambulance.

Mrs Clifton was on leave this week.
EDITORS NOTE: On Wednesday afternoon, The Church of Scientology requested that their advert for the fete on page 4 of this issue of the Courier be amended to remove reference to the hospital.

● See letters, page 8.

Scientologists and QVH

Hospital says: We don't want anything to do with them

WE HAVE noted, with some concern, an advertisement by the Church of Scientology for an event purporting to raise money for our hospital.

This advertisement appeared without our knowledge or permission.

We have written to this organisation asking them not to use our name in any way.

Through this letter we would like to make clear that we have no relation-

ship whatsoever with this organisation and will not be associated with them.

Let me assure everyone in East Grinstead that the advertisement appeared without our knowledge and there is no link between ourselves and the Church of Scientology.

J. PARK
Chairman, Queen Victoria
Hospital NHS Trust
Holtye Road
East Grinstead

● See story on Page 1

**COME TO THE
SAINT HILL
CHARITY SUMMER
FETE**

In aid of
Queen Victoria Hospital Burns Unit,
Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital
St. John Ambulance

The Saint Hill fete ad: No link with us, say QVH

High price on this kind of salvation

RECENTLY your paper published a whole page advertisement which informed us that the US government tax agency had declared the cult of Scientology as bona fide. I suppose this was an attempt to make the face of Scientology acceptable.

However, in all the blurb about "benefits to mankind" and the wonders of Scientology teaching there was one word which caught my attention — salvation.

Now I am wondering what is the salvation people experience, and how is that salvation acquired?

Presumably it is through the process of going through several courses, which cost thousands of pounds.

In this very paper we have read of unfortunate people who have been driven to near-suicide because of enormous debts incurred due to the high costs of different "levels". This does not speak of salvation to me.

Indeed, what of the people who have "come out" and tell of their fear and

misery? Is that what salvation is?

Could it be that Ron Hubbard is looked on as the saviour for Scientologists, just because he dreamed up all that they learned?

Heaven forbid! He was just a man with no special power; just a fertile imagination which he used to produce writings to ensnare unsuspecting people.

Salvation as a Christian sees it is the deliverance from the power of sin. In the dictionary, it is described as "the state of being preserved from harm".

Despite all the efforts of Scientologists and other cults and religions to woo the public into accepting their teachings, there is only one true salvation, and that is through God and His Son, Jesus Christ.

He alone is the true Saviour, and time alone will prove that truth. His salvation does bring peace of mind and healing — and it doesn't cost money.

(Mrs) M. WILLCOCKS
Woodpecker Way
Turners Hill

What Is Scientology?

Scientology is an applied religious philosophy. Its goal is to bring an individual to an understanding of himself and his life as a spiritual being and in relationship to the universe as a whole.

Scientology provides mankind the means to attain a comprehensive understanding of the human spirit and to achieve the traditional religious goals of spiritual enlightenment and salvation. This spiritual path is the result of almost 50 years of extensive research by the Founder of the Scientology religion, L. Ron Hubbard. The millions of Scientologists and others who benefit from L. Ron Hubbard's discoveries regard him with great

Detail from the ad: Ron Hubbard's spiritual path