

# **THE CHRONICLE OF All Saint's Church of England, Petersham**

**STANMORE ROAD, PETERSHAM (Opposite Fire Station)**

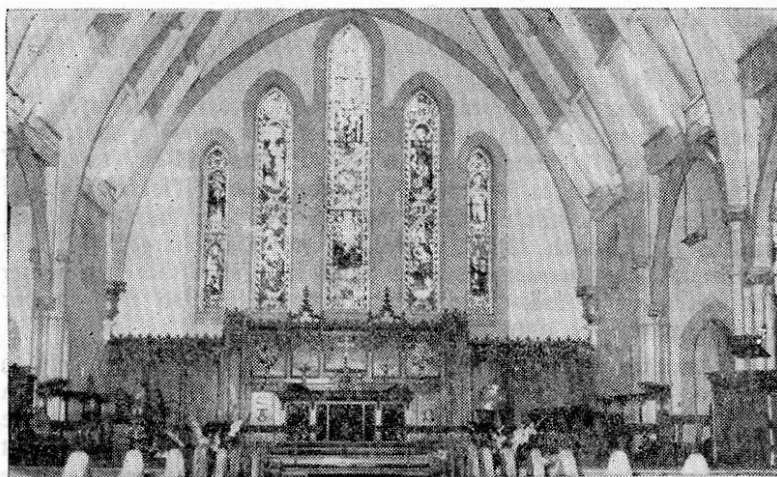
**Two minutes from Petersham Railway Station**

**Rector Rev. S. W. Gissing, Th.L. — Phone: 569-4735**

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**AUGUST, 1980**

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**77th CONSECRATION FESTIVAL OF ALL SAINTS**

**SUNDAY, 17th AUGUST**

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**9.30 a.m.: CONFIRMATION SERVICE**

**Bishop JOHN REID, Assistant Bishop, Diocese of Sydney.**

**Followed by congregational Barbecue Luncheon.**

## From your Minister's Desk



My dear friends,

August is an important month in our calendar. In August we remember the day when some 77 years ago the Church of England in Petersham was Consecrated for the use of worshipping God. Each year we mark that occasion by a special occasion and service.

This year the celebration will take place on Sunday, 17th August. We will hold a Barbeque Luncheon following the morning service. It is hoped that all parishioners will try to attend to make the day a very special one indeed. Tickets for the Luncheon are available from members of the Parish Council and other Church Officers. Adults will be charged \$2 and children \$1 for the meal. It is obviously helpful to those arranging for the meal if folk obtain their tickets early so that proper quantities can be obtained for catering.

Another aspect of the celebration that adds particularly to making the day special is that the morning service will be a **CONFIRMATION SERVICE**. At this service several people (adults and teenagers) will be received into the communicant membership of our church. Confirmation is always seen as the occasion when an individual declares his or her faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, and takes the step publicly of joining the responsible membership of the local worshipping family of Christ. So this is an exciting time for the church and most suitably makes our celebration of the Consecration Festival very special. Bishop John Reid, Assistant Bishop to the Archbishop of Sydney, and the bishop of our zone in our Diocese, will be the confirming bishop. The Service will commence at 9.30 a.m.

Those confirming their commitment to discipleship of Christ are: Mrs. M. Ruhle, Mrs. Cathy Hitchcock, Mr. Bill and Mrs. Sue Ritchie, Elizabeth Granger and Samantha Freeman.

I ask you all to join with me in praying for them in their new responsibilities — and that the Lord may richly bless them and strengthen them in their living for Him.

We look forward to seeing all who value the work and witness of All Saints' joining us on our day of thankful celebration.

The care of the church is always a matter of concern to the church officers. In recent months there has been an increase in the number of children who have been playing in the grounds. This activity has been discussed many times in the Parish Council. We feel that we do not want to discourage local children seeing the church as a place where they can find acceptance and hospitality. So we do not like to ask them to go away. Their problem is made the more severe locally by the fact that inadequate facilities are available to them to play elsewhere. Indeed an officer of the Marrickville Council indicated to me over the phone that Council's policy is to so design parks that they are suitable for passive recreation. This means ball games are discouraged in these "open space" areas. Both kinds of open space are needed, of course — both for passive and also active use. Especially is this so in suburbs as heavily developed as ours. It is good to note that Council is making new active use area available in Brighton Street. However, this will not relieve the pressure on our grounds, I fear. This, and our unwillingness to drive children away from our church, necessitates that we take steps to protect the lovely windows of our building from unintentional damage. New protective screens are needed and are going to be costly. May I make bold to appeal for readers' help in meeting the cost of preserving the windows, which must be of considerable local significance.

Your sincere friend, and Rector,

S. W. GISSING.

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### TAME DUCK

I think my soul is a tame old duck,  
Dabbling around in barnyard muck;  
Fat and lazy, with useless wings.  
But sometimes when the North Wind sings  
And the wild ones hurtle overhead,  
It remembers something lost and dead,  
And cocks a wary, bewildered eye,  
And makes a feeble attempt to fly.  
It's fairly content with the state it's in  
But it isn't the duck it might have been.

—KENNETH KAUFMAN.

—oOo—

"No bacillus has been discovered that can survive the sunlight."  
No evil can survive the sunlight of the love of God aglow in the heart of man.

**THE TOOLS OF GOD**

When we commit our lives to God utterly, we never know what is going to happen. We are born into a new world. We have to learn the laws of that world. The old laws won't work. Many make the mistake of thinking they can have the new life in God on the level of self-directed thinking and planning.

When we give God control of our lives we give Him the right to use us as He chooses. We become His tools, to be used for His purposes in the world. So long as we claim the right to self-determination we thwart God. When we die to self we literally cease to have any right to ourselves apart from God. Our new aim is to discover His purpose for us and with us.

If He chooses to ask us to face a difficult situation or work with awkward people, or bear a heavy burden, we face these things as part of our service to Him. If we complain or feel sorry for ourselves we proclaim that we have not completely lost ourselves. God asks His disciples to have unquestioning faith in His leading.

Can we hold on to His declared Will even when material things suggest we are wrong? That was the triumph of the Cross: Humanly speaking, it seemed absurd that Christ should allow Himself to be crucified. Yet it was in line with the Will of God, and He never wavered.

We can trust God utterly. He never fails. Out of seeming disasters God can bring His most wonderful victories. Trust and obey.

C. T. RAE, M.A., B.D.

**A MAN CAN GROW**

Thank God! A man can grow!  
He is not bound  
With earthward gaze to creep along the ground;  
Though his beginning be but poor and low,  
Thank God! a man can grow!

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**WALTERS & SON****FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

Offices and Chapels:

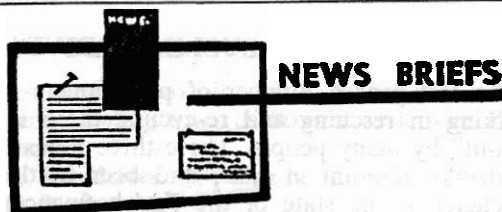
433-35 NEW CANTERBURY ROAD, DULWICH HILL—560-9999

890 CANTERBURY ROAD, LAKEMBA—759-4044

You are invited to enquire about our funeral fund.

People of all ages are accepted without medical examination.

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### **ORGAN REPAIR**

At the July Parish Council meeting it was reported from the Organ Tuner that urgent repairs were needed to the leather work of a section of the bellows in our organ. This would cost something to the order of \$400. It was resolved that the Wardens ask the Organ Tuner to arrange for the necessary work to be proceeded with.

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### **PARISH PICNIC**

Plans were being made for a Parish Picnic to be held in September. We have not held a picnic for some years, and this was attracting quite a lot of interest. However, the arriving at a date acceptable to some of the Parish Council members proved not easy. It has finally been decided to postpone the outing until 18th October. Further details will be published in the next issue of "The Chronicle". Mr. N. Cragg and Mr. S. Sheppard have been asked to plan the occasion.

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### **WOMEN IN FRIENDSHIP**

Following our next meeting on Tuesday, 26th August, at 12.30 p.m., in the meeting room of the Parish Hall, there will be a Tupperware Party, to which all ladies are cordially invited.

The date is not yet set for our next second-hand clothing stall, but please keep us in mind when you are sorting out any goods of any kind that are saleable.

IDA BARRET, Hon. Secretary

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### **C.M.S. WOMEN'S DAY OF THANKSGIVING**

This will be held on Tuesday, 9th September next, in the Bible House Auditorium, 95 Bathurst Street, City. The Day commences with Morning Tea at 10.30 a.m. This is followed at 11 a.m. by the Public Meeting, at which Archdeacon W. Newmarch will be the special speaker. Archdeacon Newmarch has recently returned from Sabah, Malaysia, where he formerly served for some 15 years and recently spent a term relieving the current missionary, who was on furlough.

### PARISH RE-CYCLING DRIVES

In the last year a number of parishioners have been very busy working in rescuing and re-cycling three items which are "thrown out" by many people. These three items are newspapers and magazines, aluminium cans, and beer bottles. It has been very beneficial to the state of the Parish finances—contributing to the cost of repainting of a considerable part of the buildings.

Should any reader wish to assist the workers, a call to Mr. Livingston at 569- 5057 will be much appreciated. Regular calls to pick up the items are carried out on the second Saturday each month early in the morning. All we need is the address, and our "pick-up" service will do the rest! !

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### EDUCATION WEEK

The Principal of the Petersham Primary School approached the Rector to see if it was possible to hold this year's School Service at All Saints'. Mr. Gissing assured Mr. Lockley that we would be very happy for such a service to be hosted in our Church.

The Service will take the place of the usual weekly Scripture Periods at the school. It will be held at 11.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 13th August. Mr. Stephen Millar, of Scripture Union, will address the School.

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### SENIOR PARISHIONERS' CLUB

We are still meeting every Thursday at 1 p.m. in the Parish Hall. You don't need any qualifications at all to join. Age, creed, lady or gent, or anything else does not matter. If you are lonely and want to spend a happy afternoon playing cards or housie, we will be pleased to see you — 50c. covers everything. Free door prize, game prizes, and a lovely cup of tea.

I am sorry to report a number of our members are on the sick list: Marge Garth and Irene Conden are in hospital, Edwina Hansen, Vi Brassington and Phil Lacy are now out of hospital, but still far from well. Mrs. Robertson still pays us a visit occasionally, but now she is living at Loftus it is a long way to come. Mrs. Gill has had a few days in bed at home, but I'm glad to say is back with us. There could be more that I don't know about. But I wish you all God's guidance back to good health.

IDA BARRET,  
Hon. Secretary

### FLORAL MEMORIALS

We are most grateful to all who help beautify our church on Sundays by contributing towards flowers as a way of remembering loved ones.

August 3: Mrs. D. Jones and family in memory of the late Mr. P. Jones.

10: Mrs. M. Willis in memory of Mrs. Shiels.  
Mrs. R. Roberts, Beryl and Gary in memory of Mr. William John Roberts.

24: Mrs. Marv Rowan in memory of her husband, Les Rowan, Snr.  
Mrs. Hillery in memory of her husband, Betram Hillery.

September 21: John and Lindsay in memory of their father, Greville Jack Nance.

27: Mrs. M. Willis in memory of Mrs. Sheriff.

### MISSIONS TO SEAMEN

(11 Macquarie Street, Sydney)

## ANNUAL FETE

FRIDAY, 15th AUGUST, 1980

The Mission cares for seafarers of all races and creeds when they are in the port of Sydney.

### EVANGELICAL CALL TO SIMPLIFY LIFESTYLE FROM "CRUSADE MAGAZINE"

A strong challenge to Christians in affluent circumstances to simplify their lifestyle and take political action to bring about radical change in the present unjust trade and economic structures is contained in **An Evangelical Commitment to Simple Lifestyle**, which has come from the first International Consultation on Simple Lifestyle, held at Hoddesdon in March.

The 2,500 word statement, endorsed by 80 participants from 27 countries, represents the strongest call yet by evangelical Christians to take a stand against economic injustice and in support of a redistribution of wealth.

"Poverty and excessive wealth, militarism and the arms industry, and the unjust distribution of capital, land and resources are issues of power and powerlessness," the statement says. "Without a shift of power through structural change, these problems cannot be solved."

The statement prefaces its call for evangelical involvement in changing international structures with a commitment to responsible stewardship, freedom from "the seduction of riches", a new sense of community among believers, and a personal and corporate lifestyle.

"We intend to re-examine our income and expenditure, in order to manage on less and give away more. We lay down no rules and regulations, for either ourselves or others. Yet we resolve to renounce waste and oppose extravagance in personal living, clothing and housing, travel and church buildings. We also accept the distinction between necessities and luxuries, creative hobbies and empty status symbols, occasional celebrations and normal routine."

The statement goes on to call for a greater commitment to international development. It criticises the governments of affluent nations for failing to meet their targets for official development assistance to maintain emergency foodstocks or to liberalise their trading policy. It also urges that multinational corporations should become more subject to controls and more accountable.

But the statement asserts that "the present situation of social injustice is so abhorrent to God that a large measure of change is necessary. This change will not come however, through commitment to simple lifestyle or human development projects alone."

The statement outlines four areas where action is needed: prayer for peace and justice, education of Christians in the moral and political issues involved; participation in the struggle to create a just and responsible society; and the willingness to suffer.

## WORSHIP ARRANGEMENTS AT ALL SAINTS



### MORNINGS at 9.30 a.m.:—

Holy Communion on 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.

Morning Prayer on 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Family Service is the 3rd Sunday.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is at 9.30 a.m.

KINDERGARTEN is at 9.55 a.m.

### EVENINGS at 5 p.m.:—

(This changes to 7 p.m. during summer months.)

Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Evening Prayer on 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.

Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals by arrangement with the Rector.