

THE CHRONICLE

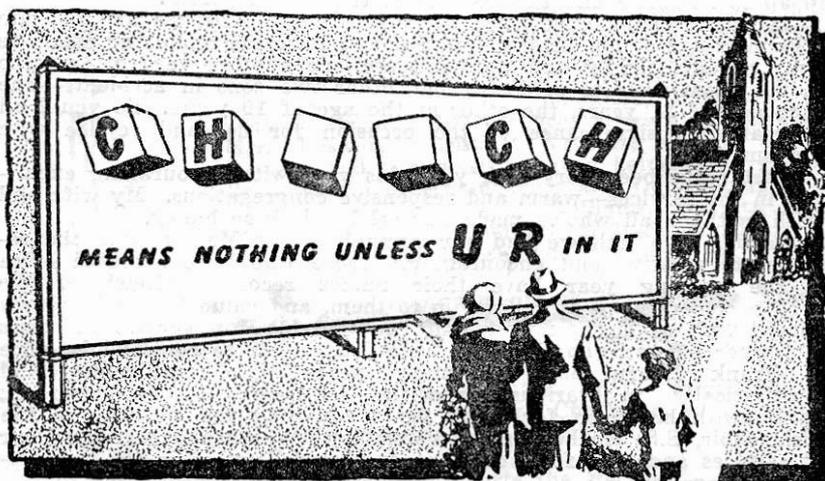
of

ALL SAINTS, PETERSHAM

Rector: Rev. S. W. GISSING, Th. L.

The Rectory, 325 Stanmore Rd., Petersham, 2049—569-4735

APRIL, 1978



SERVICE TIMES:—

8 a.m. — HOLY COMMUNION.

10 a.m. — 1st & 5th Sundays — MORNING PRAYER.
2nd & 4th Sundays — HOLY COMMUNION.

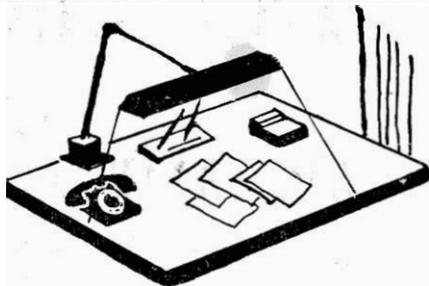
5 p.m. — EVENING PRAYER.

(3rd Sundays — Holy Communion)

10 a.m. — 3rd Sunday — FAMILY SERVICE.

(on other Sundays at 9.55 a.m. Sunday School).

From your Minister's Desk



My dear Friends.

Our issue this month is late because of being caught up in a quick trip up to Brisbane and the 'extras' of the Easter period.

It was a happy experience for me to go to Brisbane and officiate at the marriage of my sister's son. She and I are the remaining members of my parents family and we don't see one another very often. She had the great distress of losing her other two sons in accidents—one at the age of 21 years, the other at the age of 19 years. So you'll all appreciate the significance of the occasion for us—and rejoice with us in our joy.

Easter has been very satisfying this year with encouraging experiences in the services—warm and responsive congregations. My wife and I wish to thank all who've made our celebrations so happy.

Earlier in March we had our Annual Vestry Meeting and the reports were positive and encouraging. Those who have accepted office for the ensuing year have their names recorded elsewhere. We extend a sincere hand of fellowship to them, and value their willingness to stand with us in the ministry of our church. However we will miss two former officers who this year have felt unable to continue in office Mr. Frank Hearn has for many years served diligently and enthusiastically in various capacities, latterly as Churchwarden; Mrs. Sopwith has been for many years active in various roles in the parish, choir, S.S. teacher, parish councillor. We thank them for their past services and look forward to continuing fellowship in the worshipping congregation.

Another recent loss from our ranks is that of Mrs. Bosward. For some 25 years she has been Secretary/Treasurer of the Ladies' Guild. She has rendered sterling service in that position. Advancing years and continuing ill-health finally forced her to move from her home to nursing care in the Mortdale area. She will be missed by many who valued her contributions—we wish her peace and strength in her new location.

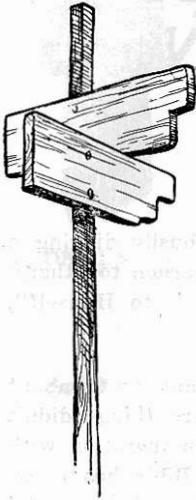
With the change back from Daylight Saving to E.S.T. we find our evening service time coming under review again. Last year we decided that we should try the earlier time of 5 p.m. for the cooler months when the daylight hours became shorter. It proved very acceptable to many people, so that the evening congregation more than doubled. This year we will change to the earlier time as from the last Sunday in April—30th April will see Evening Service at 5 p.m. and it will continue until October.

If you know of anyone—teenage or adult—interested in considering Confirmation, please encourage them to attend the enquirer's meeting on Sunday, 23rd April after the 10 a.m. Family Service.

Your sincere friend and minister in Christ's name,

S.W. GISSING, Rector.

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING NOTES



The Churchwardens financial report revealed that the year ended 31st December, 1977, closed with a slight improvement in the parish's situation. Another satisfying aspect was the increase in Missionary Giving—which surely indicates a growth in the sense of spiritual responsibility in our hearts. Copies of the statements were available to worshippers on the Sunday prior to the Meeting. It was resolved that this practice should be continued, and that full reports would not be printed in the Chronicle.

The Rector's Report drew attention to the debt owed by us all to many who have served faithfully over the twelve months in different ways—and how much we've missed the active labours of Mrs. Ivy Clark. Especially mentioned were the Churchwardens, Parish Councillors, Sidesmen and women, Organisations' Office Bearers (particularly Mrs. Bosward), District Visitors, Church Flower Roster (and the need for new helpers), Organists, Brass Cleaning, Groundsmen and Odd-jobbers (particularly Messrs Hearn, Williams, Barrett, Noel Cragg and Ray Bloomfield), Hall Supervision (Mr. Hearn), and the Parish Auditors.

Mention was made of the improvements to the Rectory Kitchen which was reflected in the financial report. As well other improvements were made privately in floor coverings and to the old inside toilet.

The Rector acknowledged his appreciation of the friendship and helpful co-operation of the Rev. Eric and Mrs. Champion, whose support has been valued by both Mrs. Gissing and himself.

In commenting on the financial reports the Rector drew attention to the matter of Diocesan Assessments. By these the joint ministries of the C. of E. in Sydney (e.g. Television and Radio Ministries, Chaplaincies, Board of Education, Theological College etc.) as well as the Diocesan Organisation, is maintained. Considerable discussion and explanation of the "Special Purposes" Assessment covering the joint ministries, took place. Our parish's arrears in this area was noted, and it was felt that the best way to meet our responsibilities in this direction was to make a contribution out of any surplus at the end of each year.

The elections resulted in the following persons occupying office for 1978:—

Churchwardens—Messrs N. Cragg and H. Spill.

Parish Councillors—Mesdames Livingston, Barrett, Steed, and Reid; and Messrs Swankie and Evans.

The Rector nominated—Churchwarden—Mr. B. Livingston.

Councillors — Mrs. Sue Martin and
Messrs Barrett and Nance.



EVERYDAY RELIGION

by the Rt. Rev. DAVID SHEPPARD

GOD IS WORTH THE EFFORT

A clergyman looked over the fence and saw a man busily digging at flower-bed. "You and God have made a fine job of that garden together," he said. "Well, you should have seen it when He had it to Himself", came back the reply.

Quite a good joke, but it certainly doesn't teach any truth about God, In the beginning He put Adam in a garden where things didn't grow by magic but as a result of man's hard work in co-operation with God. Sloth is one of the Seven Deadly Sins, and the Bible has many warnings against being idle. Over-simplified life stories of successful men often suggest that the secret of their success is a little bit of luck—that they happened simply to meet the right person at the right moment.

When it comes to spiritual things, I know some people who believe in God but do not bother to learn how to follow Him, simply because they are too lazy. I know others who have come to follow Christ but do nothing about helping others, never make time for prayer.

It is a great New Testament truth that Christ searches for those who do not deserve Him, that He gives strength to those who fail him. But this does not mean that we are to sit back and wait for Him to act. We must search if we are to find Him; and when we do find Him there is a fight to be fought, a race to be run.

We shall not grow up as Christians by magic, any more than that garden would grow without hard work. And we are called to make the effort to pray, to worship with others, to learn to be useful to God and to others. As we make the effort we shall find again the truth we can only achieve things in His strength. St. Paul wrote: "You must work out your own salvation in fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you, inspiring both the will and the deed."

(reprinted from "Paulos"—Sydney)

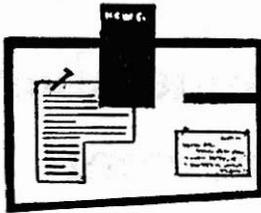


Something to Remember throughout the year when you are . . .

- LONELY** There is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. (Proverbs 18:24). Christ died for us that . . . we should live together with Him. (1 Thessalonians 5:10).
- HAPPY** Rejoice in the Lord always (Philippians 4:4). Give thanks to Him, bless His Name. (Psalm 100:4).
- WORRIED OR TIRED** Jesus said: Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28). Casting all your care upon Him, for He careth for you. (1 Peter 5:7).
- PLANNING THE FUTURE** Commit your way to the Lord. (Psalm 37:5). God says: I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go. (Psalm 32:8).
- NEEDING FORGIVENESS** Whoso confesses and forsakes his sins, shall have mercy. (Proverbs 28:13). Jesus Christ is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9).
- SUCCESSFUL** Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God. (1 Peter 5:6). What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul? (Mark 8:36).
- IN TROUBLE** God is a very present help in trouble. (Psalm 46:1). Ask, and it will be given you, seek, and you will find, knock, and it will be opened to you (Matthew 7:7).
- SEEKING GOD** You will find Him if you seek after Him with all your heart and with all your soul. (Deuteronomy 4:29).

'I love them that love me, and those that seek me early shall find me.'

PROV. 8:7.



NEWS BRIEFS

From Inside the Parish...

CONFIRMATION

Several young people have been mentioned as interested in Confirmation. So a meeting has been called for enquirers on Sunday, 23rd April following the 10 a.m. Family Service. The purpose of the meeting is to discover how a preparation group may best be established. This would apply not only to teenagers, but also to adults interested in pursuing enquiries.

ANNUAL ANZAC SERVICE

The Petersham branch of the R.S.L. have arranged for the Annual March and Anzac Service on Sunday afternoon, 23rd April. The Service will be held in All Saints' Church at 3 p.m., and will be preceded by the March through the Petersham streets to the Church. The ministers of the local churches will be conducting the Service.

EVENING SERVICE TIME

From Sunday, 30th April the Evening Service at All Saints' will be held at 5 p.m., and not 7 p.m. This will remain in force until October next..

CLUB NEWS

Senior Parishioners Club

By the time you read these lines Easter will be over. I do hope you all spent a very Happy Easter, and felt the blessings Easter brings to us all.

We are happy to add yet another name to our new members for this year. Welcome Mr. Andrew Wadsworth we are happy to have you with us.

I am sorry to hear Mrs. Elsie Castensen has broken her arm in several places, but she told me over the phone tonight that she will be back after Easter. Mrs Fields, a very old member who is in a rest home and is 93 years of age has broken her knee-cap and is not at all well. We all send you our love Mrs. Fields.

Mrs. Taylor of Johns Street is still far from well, but I'm glad to say improving. Keep it up Dorris.

Our "Club" is 21 years old this month. We are very proud of this fact, and do hope the club will continue to function happily for another 21 years.

Mr. Swankie told me this morning that Mrs. Swankie had a coronary last Friday, she is in hospital, but I'm glad to report that she is now in the Observation Ward. We all wish you a speedy recovery Dulcie

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

Ladies' Guild

Happiness showed on a hundred faces as we shared in the programme of verse and song presented by "The Joyfuls"—a Group of six dedicated women filled with "the Joy of the Lord"—when they came to our Annual Guild Luncheon recently. It was a warm day—both weatherwise and in fellowship and friendship. And our hall was filled to capacity! We were

happy to welcome guests from many neighbouring churches as well as local folk and some of the residents and staff of Braeside, Eversleigh and Locke-Haven.

Guild members are saddened by the loss of two of our members recently. Mrs. S. Ansell has recently moved to Strathfield to live and we shall miss her presence and her willing support in our Guild activities. Mrs. E. Bosward who, for over 25 years has been Secretary/Treasurer of our Guild, has had to give up living in her home in Petersham and has moved to Mortdale. We have all appreciated Mrs. Bosward's devotion to her task and loyalty to the Guild over the years and thank God for enabling her to cope when her health has not been the best. We pray that the Lord will continue to bless and use both of these members as they move into their new situations.

Our April meeting—on the 18th—will commence at 12.45 p.m. and at 1.30 p.m. we shall welcome any folk who would like to share with us in a "BYRON PARKER" DEMONSTRATION"—You may ask "What's that all about?" I'm sure you'll enjoy yourself so do come. And there'll be a cuppa and lots of chat—would love to see you there—in the Guild Room of the Parish Hall.

BETTY GISSING, President.

W.A.G.

Ladies, please don't forget our "Stanhome Party" on Tuesday, 11th April at 1.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. You don't have to buy anything if you don't want to. Just come and spend a pleasant afternoon with us and of course afternoon tea.

On Friday, 14th April, our Group will hold a Second-hand Clothing Stall Jumble Stall, Jewelry and Wollen Knit-wear Stalls. Come and see if we have anything you need, all goods will be cheap!

If you have anything you no longer need and we could sell it for a few cents please let us know. Leave goods at the Rectory or at Mrs. Barretts', 59 John Street, Petersham, Phone 569-2291 for anything needing to be picked up.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Sunday School Annual Meeting was held on the 12th March, after the Sunday School.

During the meeting we approved the following donations;

H.M.S. \$20; Mission to Seamen \$10; Christian Broadcast Association \$10; Archbishops Winter Appeal \$20; Church of England Homes \$20; Dr. Barnardo's Homes \$20.

On Friday, 16th June, the Sunday School & Kindergarten will be holding a Fancy Dress party for the Sunday School & Kindergarten Pupils and their Friends. The evening will commence at 6.30 p.m. Further details of the judging categories will be announced in the Weekly Notices & by Newsletter.

NOEL CRAGG, Superintendent

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.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FROM BRAESIDE C. of E. HOSPITAL
STANMORE**

Dear Reverend Gissing,

On behalf of The Board of Directors, I wish to thank you for bringing along to the hospital, the gifts which the members of your church had kindly donated to The Harvest Festival.

The hospital and the welfare of the patients derive benefits from all gifts and we are grateful for your kind thoughts.

Yours sincerely,

K. C. ALLERDICE, Chief Executive Officer.

FLOWER ROSTER

- April 2nd — Mrs. Beardow and family in memory of Mr. Beardow.
April 9th — Miss A. Jones in memory of Miss Eva Jones and family.
April 16th — Iris and Colin in memory of their parents, Mr. & Mrs. Walters
— Mrs. Hays and family in memory of Mr. Sydney Hays.
April 23rd — No donation.
April 30th — Mrs. Hansson and family in memory of Mr. Hansson.
May 7th — No donation.
May 14th — Misses Nisbet in memory of Mother and Father.
— Miss Cole in memory of Mother.
May 21st — Mrs. Corcoran in loving memory of Sgt. John Corcoran, R.A.F. and of daughters Rebecca and Charlotte.
May 28th — The Craigie Family in memory of Brother Don.

News from the Parish

HOME MISSION SOCIETY FESTIVAL

This annual celebration will be held in Sydney Town Hall on Friday, 5th May. It commences with a Tea, and the Public Service and Gathering follows. Please note that date now and try to support this Society which serves the social welfare side of the Diocesan ministry.

NEW AUSTRALIAN PRAYER BOOK

News has come that supplies of the new Prayer Book ordered some months back now, are due to be delivered during the week after Easter. Following an official launching at a ceremony on 5th April the Prayer Book will be authorised for use in parish churches throughout Australia. We hope to be putting the Prayer Book into use by the end of April in our own church services—though there will continue some services from the old prayer book for the time being.

UGANDA REFUGEE APPEAL

The first 5 Ugandan refugee students have arrived in Sydney from Kenya to begin courses at Australian Universities. The Australian Immigration authorities have approved in principle of the admission of 50 such students—and places have been found so far for 15 students. They will be supported by funds raised by the Ugandan Refugee Appeal launched by Bishop Festo Kivengere when here last February. The appeal has so far raised some \$135000, and is being administered by the Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Relief Fund. Initial grants totalling \$79,700 have been made. \$USA 10,000 to the Archbishop of Kenya's Ugandan Refugee Relief; \$USA 10,000 to the Anglican Consultative Council for relief in 3 East African Anglican Dioceses; and \$USA 62,000 to African Enterprise for student scholarships for Ugandan Refugees.