

The Chronicle

Of All Saints

Petersham

STANMORE ROAD, PETERSHAM

Rector: BRUCE WOOLCOTT

Phone: 569-4735

SEPTEMBER, 1984

The Rectory,
325 Stanmore Road,
PETERSHAM 2049
25th August, 1984

Dear Friends,

Over the past few days I have been away with the family. Very foolishly we promised our sons to take them to the snow. I have been once or twice before with them, but this time it was different — more snow!

There was so much snow that we had to fit chains to the back wheels. We also found ourselves driving through a snow storm. The boys found it exciting. I found it plain terrifying. I had driven different makes of cars in almost every kind of road and weather, but this first time in a real snow storm, using chains, was a bit much for me. Not my sort of country.

As a family we had a happy few days away. The best fun of all was tobogganing down the snow-covered hills. At first I was happy to let the boys go sliding down the slope, but after a while they were able to kid me on to a toboggan. It was quite an excitnig experience but not for those with weak hearts.

It was great fun watching my sons tobogganing but better fun still joining in and racing down the snow-covered slopes.

It was also hard work walking up the hill again after having enjoyed the slide down. Walking through snow is hard work.

The Christian Life is not unlike being out on the snow.

Many people enjoy hearing of the wonderful things that Jesus did for people in New Testament times — and is still doing today. Many people however are mere bystanders; they see these things but don't experience themselves. Just like myself standing there happy to see my two boys enjoying their tobogganing but

a bit scared to "have a go" — perhaps I might have thought it wasn't dignified for the Rector of All Saints', Petersham to to go racing down the slope at breakneck speed.

Many people are just like that about the Christian faith — afraid of what others would think if they let go themselves and let Jesus take over their lives.

Watching the kids toboggan was enjoyable, but doing it myself was altogether better — experience always is, and this is very true in Christian things.

What about starting now to experience the joy that Christ brings. Experience it yourself and not just see other's lives happier and richer. It is yours just for the asking.

May the love, the forgiveness and the power of the Risen Saviour be yours today.

Yours sincerely,

BRUCE WOOLCOTT Rector

BRASS CLEANING—Mrs. Dulcie Reid will be cleaning the Church Brass during September.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Sunday School and Kindergarten are now in recess to correspond with the school holidays. We will resume on Sunday, 16th September, at the 9.30 a.m. Family Service.

On this day the Kindergarten will not meet in their own hall before the service. Instead, parents are asked to accompany their children into the service.

Joining your children at this service is one of the ways you can help, while we are looking for teachers. Maybe you would like to take a class in either the Kindergarten or the Senior Sunday School.

If any parishioner would like to help in the Sunday School please contact the Rector, Mrs. Essam, or Noel Cragg.

It is intended to hold another Family Picnic on Saturday, 20th October, at Centennial Park. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Further details will be given in the Weekly Bulletin.

NOEL CRAGG, Superintendent

RESTORATION APPEAL

The Parish Council has approved the report presented by the Restoration Sub-committee. This report set out a number of ways to raise funds for the stage one of the restoration.

The recommendation are:-

1. The target amount required for the restoration together with the work to be carried out be made known to the community.

2. The restoration fund should be advertised in the Chronicle and Weekly Bulletin. Also the placing of posters throughout the parish.

a) CHRONICLE and WEEKLY BULLETIN: The target amount and the work together with a coupon be placed in the Chronicle and Weekly Bulletin on a continuing basis.

b) POSTERS: A poster design competition be held through the Sunday School and local Primary and High Schools. The competition to be judged at the Fete. Possibly cash prizes offered. The winning poster is to be reproduced. The other posters are to be used but not reproduced.

3. A Sign to be placed on the notice board facing Stanmore Road.

4. Letters to parishioners—past and present.

5. A walk-a-thon (called WALK-A-CHURCH), be held by walking around the church.

6. Donations could be made — per window or per floor board.

7. Sale of the church history book — recommended price \$2.50. Prior to fixing the price inquiries be made into the cost of reproduction of the book.

8. A Back-to-All Saints' Service and Dinner, with guest speakers.

9. The exhibition of old photographs mentioned at the Parish Council be held, possibly just prior to Education Week.

10. Sale of Art Work and Handicraft.

11. Sale of Restoration Tea Towels.

12. Fashion Parade of men and women's clothes worn to church over the last 100 years.

Some of the recommendations will be acted upon immediately while others will be implemented over the next 12 months. You will find our first step in the fund raising appeal on the back page of the Chronicle. This shows what is to be done, how much it will cost and what you can do to help.

It is our duty to maintain the building as a place of worship in the parish of Petersham.

At present, the Parish Council is obtaining quotations, through an architect, for the replacement of the box gutter above the pulpit. Included in this work is the repair of the timber below the box gutter damaged by the water penetration.

Money is available in the Restoration Fund to carry out this work.

If you can help with a cash donation please fill in the coupon on the back page and forward to the church together with the donation.

WOMEN-IN-FRIENDSHIP

Our next meeting on Tuesday, 4th September in the Guild Room of the Parish Hall at 1 p.m. will be followed at 2 p.m. by a speaker from The Home Mission Society. All are welcome to come and hear our speaker.

The Second Hand Clothing and Jumble Stall on Friday, 21st September is our next effort. Don't forget us with anything you no longer want, that is still saleable. Ring 569-2291 if you need any goods picked up, or the Rectory.

Our last stall netted \$170. Many thanks to all who contributed in any way. IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary

SENIOR PARISHIONERS' CLUB

It's almost Spring and the sunny days should make it easier to attend the club and not worry about cold winds and 'flu.

The same time — 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The same day — Thursday, each week. Come along and visit the club and I'm sure you will come again.

I am sorry to report that Dorrie Chapman has had another fall; she is not in hospital but needs our prayers and love at home. But I am glad to say Sylvia Keeley is back with us.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary

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FLOWER DONATIONS

- SEPTEMBER 2—By Mrs. Hillery, in memory of her husband.
Donation by Miss Perry.
Arrangement by Mrs. A. Steed.
- „ 9—By Miss Esther Humphries in memory of Joan.
Arrangement by Miss Nisbet.
- „ 16—By Mr. and Mrs. Swankie and grandsons
in memory of our Mother and Nanna.
Arrangement by Mrs. A. Steed.

FRESH FLOWERS PTY. LTD.

439 NEW CANTERBURY ROAD, DULWICH HILL, 2203

Phone: 569-1505 — A.H. 349-1427

For all Floral Arrangements at Shortest Notice

Wedding Bouquets a Specialty — Deliveries Anywhere

- „ 23—By Mrs. M. Willis in memory of Mrs. Sheriff.
Arrangement by Miss Nisbet.
- „ 30—By Michele in memory of Don.
By Dot Pullen, Judith and Arthur Payne
and family in loving memory of Ben Pullen
and David Payne.
Arrangement by Michele.



WHERE ARE THE FATHERS IN THE CHURCH?

by Rev. Don Howard, St. Stephen's, Lugarno Anglican Church,
Author of 'The Family—Here Today Gone Tomorrow?', obtain-
able from Scripture Union Book Centre, 129 York St., Sydney.

They've gone — does it matter where?

Their disappearance is simply an indication of what is hap-
pening throughout society. Sydney psychologist Graham Russell
received headlines when he said, "Eighty percent of Australian
fathers do not regularly spend time alone with their children and
sixty percent have no significant contact with their children at
all".

This in itself leads to tragedy. Suicide, aggressive and psy-
chotic behaviour, drug abuse, homosexuality and many other
problems are traced again and again to an unsatisfactory parent-
child relationship, particularly with the father.

This trend in the world has its parallel in the church, other-
wise S.U. would not have given me the subject. Perhaps instead
of asking "Where are the fathers", we should ask, "Why aren't
they here?".

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.

A shrewd guess would be that they no longer feel needed.

There was a time when parents and their children filled the pews; many fathers also instructed their children in the "discipline and instruction of the Lord" (cf. Ephesians 6:4). Happily, there are still such churches and families, but most parents (and I mean Christian parents) see such customs as difficult if not irrelevant . . .

The change coincided with the development of Sunday Schools; attention moved from the family as a whole to children as a separate unit.

The Sunday School movement commenced in the 18th century with aim of teaching "raged children" to read and write. For many, it was the only means of education: one organisation alone distributed over 4½ million spelling books in twenty years. By 1800 there were a quarter of a million scholars in England, and by mid-century 13 per cent of the nation's population attended each Lord's Day.

In his "Sociology of English Religion", David Martin said the success of the movement would have occurred even if teachers "had been mild-mannered Buddhists, provided at least that they were white".

What had started as an educational institution for lower class children gradually underwent a complete metamorphosis. By the 20th century, the movement was moving up the social ladder and away from general education for the poor to purely spiritual instruction for the middle class.

After Sunday School invaded the church (or was it a take-over?), many thought paradise was being established on earth; a few viewed the change with dismay.

Dr. John Kennedy, a 19th century evangelical scholar, wrote " . . . those who as children acquire not the habit of coming to hear the Gospel, will not care to acquire it at any subsequent period of their lives".

He saw the system training children to stay away from church and leaving them unable to understand or appreciate preaching.

As children moved out of the congregation, instruction moved from the home and church to the Sunday School. Most of us today with any sort of church background were brought up to

regard Sunday School as the main feature of the Lord's Day. As one matured (in body, if not in mind and spirit!), teaching a class was the main avenue of Christian service.

In new areas, the norm was to build a hall and concentrate on the young. Adults were generally an afterthought, except if the women were needed to raise money. Apart from an occasional working bee or men's tea, fathers were rarely considered—they were no longer necessary for the spiritual training of the family.

Now the wheel is turning full circle. Throughout the western world, attendance is falling so drastically that many forecast the demise of the Sunday School in this decade.

**ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH, PETERSHAM
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS, 31/7/84**

RECEIPTS		\$	PAYMENTS		\$
RECEIPTS					
Offeratories	1213.49	Rector's Net Stipend		1240.00
RECYCLING:			Rector's Trav. Allow.		386.12
Cans	117.00	Church Flowers	47.50
Papers	234.30	Chronicles	75.20
		351.30	Church Cleaning	150.00
Church Flowers		59.00	Paper towels for hall	3.00
DONATIONS:			Kettle for hall	9.79
Anonymous	200.00		Organ Tuning	75.00
OES-Heating	2.00		Editor's Clip Sheet	21.00
OES-Chrons.	3.00				
		205.00			
....		1860.79			
Deficit for month		146.82			2007.61

BALANCE 30/6/84 \$2945.18
LESS DEFICIT FOR MONTH \$ 146.82

BALANCE 31/7/84 \$2798.36

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT, JULY, 1984

Paper Towels for hall — Cash	3.00
Kettle for hall — Cash	9.79
James & James — July Chronicles	75.20
Editor's Clip Sheets — 12 months Subscription	21.00
Fresh Flowers Pty. Ltd. — June Flowers	47.50
J. W. Walker (A'lia) Pty. Ltd. — Organ Tuning	75.00

STAGE ONE — RESTORATION APPEAL

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

- A — Restoration of Window Frames and repair of Stone Guards.
- B — Installation of Sub-Floor Ventilation to rectify dampness under the floor.
- C — Replace flooring — due to dampness.

WHAT WILL IT COST?

- A — A conservative estimate for Stage One: \$20,000.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

You can support Stage One fund raising — with a cash donation.

AND ALSO —

Support future fund raising activities.

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH
STAGE ONE RESTORATION APPEAL
325 Stanmore Road,
PETERSHAM 2049

Mr., Mrs., Miss

Address

.....

.....

Phone

DONATION: \$.....

James & James, 188 Liverpool Road, Ashfield, 2181



ANGLICAN CHURCH
OF AUSTRALIA

PARISH OF ALL SAINTS' PETERSHAM

BARGAINS

SECONDHAND CLOTHING
GOODS OF ALL KINDS

AT

ALL SAINTS' PARISH HALL
325 STANMORE ROAD, PETERSHAM
(opposite Fire Station.

FRIDAY 21st. SEPTEMBER, 1984

OPEN 9AM