

# The Chronicle Of All Saints Petersham

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

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

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OCTOBER, 1978

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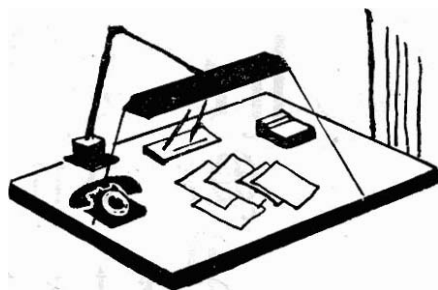
## TAKE TIME

- Take time to think  
—It is the source of power
- Take time to play  
—It is the source of perpetual youth
- Take time to read  
—It is the foundation of wisdom
- Take time to love and be loved  
—It is a God-given privilege
- Take time to laugh  
—It is the music of the soul
- Take time to give  
—It is too short a day to be selfish
- Take time to work  
—It is the price of success

## 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).
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- 10 a.m. — 3rd Sunday — FAMILY SERVICE.  
(on other Sundays at 9.55 a.m. Sunday School).

# From your Minister's Desk



## RECTOR'S LETTER

My dear friends,

I have gleaned some interesting items of information about some of our Church officers which call for a word of congratulations. Mr. Vic Barrett (John St.) this month celebrates his 79th birthday—and on the same date (9th October) Mr. and Mrs. Ray Swankie celebrate their 39th Wedding Anniversary. In the name of our church I extend to these people and their families our warmest of best wishes as they rejoice together. May they be granted many more anniversaries to celebrate.

Some time ago now Mrs. Lyttle passed away. She used to help by playing the piano at the monthly Communion Service at Braeside C. of E. Hospital, and is sadly missed—both by the residents and myself. She related to the folk there in a warm and loving way, and her bright contribution was always much appreciated. We are seeking someone who could take up where she left off. Anyone who could help could contact me at 569-4735—it's the first Friday morning each month and transport is provided.

I do so much appreciate having Mr. John Martin as Editor of the Chronicle. He has carried this task for some months now. He comes to the job with considerable experience. He has been Assistant Editor, and at present is the Acting Editor of our Diocesan Magazine, 'The Southern Cross'. He is so gracious with me when I do not have my copy ready too!

We are entering a busy period for the women of our church. On Friday, 20th October, we will be holding our **Annual Dinner**—this year for the first time at this later date. Preparations are well in hand and a very happy occasion is assured as it has always been in the past. Tickets are available from any member of the congregation and we warmly invite readers to share with us—6.30 p.m. is the planned time to start. Then on Saturday, 18th November, we'll 'fete' you all at the **Annual Fair**. The women have been working hard in preparing for this and only the final details of organising have to be dealt with now. Mr. Harry Spill (one of our churchwardens) is this year's Organising Chairman. Any offers or enquiries can be directed to him on Phone No. 787-1319 in the evenings. But we trust you'll all mark the date and plan to support those who've worked so hard.

This is a lovely time in the year. The days are warming up and obviously as we come out to enjoy the sun we see the evidence of all nature doing the same. The trees in our yard are literally bursting forth with new growth. My wife had a pot plant that she's been carefully watching for some time. The 'thing' looked as if it had 'gone home'!! We were seriously thinking of tipping it out—all the parts were brown

and dried out. But suddenly it has been transformed and is now a lovely new green, and the little fir looks just lovely.

Sometimes I guess life feels pretty dried up and dead—but the message of this time of year always to me is that no situation is ever so far 'gone' as to be hopeless. As God is allowed to breathe His renewing Spirit into us, we find a new and transforming movement within beautifying all of life again. It was this experience that led St. Paul to proclaim "If any man be in Christ Jesus he is a new creation—old things are past away—behold all things are become new."

We were reminded of this fact of Christian experience in our Bible Studies the other week. That fellowship and sharing over God's Word on Friday mornings is proving a great encouragement. We'd be so glad to have any new folk join us—10.30 a.m. to 12 noon—in the Rectory—and over a "cuppa"—How about you?

Your friend in Christ Jesus,

S. W. GISSING.

### CARING AND SHARING

"Pastoral Care, Isn't that the job of the Rector?"

That certainly is a common enough response. Most Parishes tend to leave it to the Rector . . . or to chance.

Parishioners at Stanmore-Enmore, one of our neighbouring Parishes, believe that if Pastoral Care is to be effective it needs to be planned for. And it can't just be left to the Rector. He needs it himself as much as everyone else.

Recently the Parish launched a Pastoral Care Programme which involves all regular worshippers. Based on 1 John, 4, verse 21: "He who loves God must love his brother also," the programme aims to break down barriers and create an atmosphere of care within the Parish.

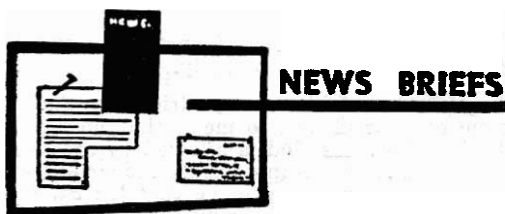
To that end a Pastoral Care Team was formed. Three to five individuals or families is allocated to each team member who contacts them in their own home or invites them to share a meal. Even the Rector is on the list.

Already the Parish is experiencing growth as people discover the meaning of faith in the context of closer relationships in the life of the Parish.

Coordinator of the Pastoral Care Programme, Greg Mossop said that the first step is to simply offer friendship.

Stanmore-Enmore is one of the smallest parochial areas in the Anglican Diocese of Sydney. Two suburbs have a distinctly different character. Stanmore a once highly fashionable area still retains much of its quiet suburban atmosphere. Enmore is industrialised and an acknowledged "high risk" area.

Rector of Stanmore-Enmore, Father Donald Moffat recently moved his residence from Stanmore to Enmore in order to be more available to locals who are in need.



### ARCHBISHOP'S OVERSEAS RELIEF APPEAL

The recent disastrous floods in India's Gangian Basin which left over 13 million people homeless are yet another demonstration of how vulnerable many of the world's peoples are to natural disasters.

Situations like this provide an opportunity to share Christian love through The Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Relief Appeal which is to be launched in Anglican Parishes throughout the Diocese of Sydney on Sunday, October 8, 1978.

Through his Overseas Relief Fund the Archbishop is able to send immediate help to people around the world who are suffering as a result of earthquake, fire, flood and famine.

As soon as the dimensions of the recent Indian flood became apparent the Overseas Relief Fund sent money for immediate relief programmes through the Evangelical Church of India. More money will be needed for the gigantic task of rebuilding.

A four page Information Bulletin—which tells of the work of The Archbishops Overseas Relief Fund will be available on Sunday, October 8th.

### SENIOR PARISHIONERS CLUB

Our club still continues to be a happy gathering every Thursday afternoon between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Now that the warmer weather is around the corner, we hope to see a still greater attendance, although our numbers even on cold and wet days always manage to be in the thirties.

Please come and join us if you want to fill in a pleasant afternoon. there is always room for one more.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

#### Grocery Stall.

Now that the Mulberry picking is getting under way the Sunday School is asking for Donations of tinned or packet groceries. Donations may be left in the Marked box near the Bookstall.

#### Family Service:

At each Family Service the Rector's address is taken from the trowel teaching book. As the address is based on one of the lessons for the Sunday School, I appeal to the parents to see that, on the third Sunday, their children attend this service.

In fact we invite the parents to attend Family Service with their children.

NOEL CRAGG, Superintendent.

### GILBULLA APPEAL

An appeal was launched last month to raise funds for an extensive rebuilding programme at Gilbulla Anglican Conference Centre, Menangle.

Situated in a delightful rural setting 65 kilometers from the G.P.O., Gilbulla was until 1943 a homestead for the Macarthur-Onslow family. It was purchased as a Diocesan Conference Centre and dedicated as a memorial to the wartime work of clergy especially the Service Chaplains.

\$30,000 is needed towards furnishing and equipping the new accommodation block with conference room facilities.

## OF INTEREST TO OUR WOMEN READERS

**"Tomorrow Begins Today!"**

How does that grab you?? Come and hear what Mrs. A. Chambers has to say about it at the **"Westside Christian Women's Convention"**. Mrs. Chambers brings with her a maturity of years in walking with a living companionable God, a dynamic personality, a rich knowledge of the treasures the Bible holds, a marvellous sense of humour and the ability to talk to "everyday women like us" in a 'down-to-earth' way. You'll love her as I do. And I'd be so thrilled if you'd take this as a personal invitation from me to join with us on that day.

**What Day?** Tuesday, 17th October. One Session—9.45 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.  
2nd Session—1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m.

**Where's it all happening?** At Haberfield Baptist Church, Dalhousie Street, Haberfield.

**Special Singing** will be provided by the Christian Women's Convention Choir—and this Choir is really special.

Cups of Tea or Coffee will be provided but bring your own lunch.

Creche provided for pre-school children, yes, even babies!

**How to get there?** If you haven't your own transport, Bus 472 runs from Ashfield Railway Station, right past the church.

If you can't make it for the whole day, you are welcome to attend one session. Do hope we'll see you there. I've had the joy of sharing in these Women's Conventions over the past 17 years and the blessing I've received in my life through them has been tremendous. Praise the Lord!!

**Guild Notes:**

As our October Guild Meeting falls on the 17th, the day of the Women's Convention—we plan not to have our usual meeting in our Parish Hall but instead attend the Convention at Haberfield. Enquiries re transport—please phone me at the Rectory—569-4735. We may be able to arrange transport for a number of folk.

BETTY GISSING.

**WOMEN'S AFTERNOON GROUP**

The next meeting of our Group will be held on Tuesday, 3rd October at 1.30 p.m. After a brief meeting a speaker from Moore College Auxiliary with Audio-Visual will address us. We cordially invite all ladies of the Parish and their friends to join us. Afternoon tea will be provided.

On Tuesday, 10th October at 7.45 p.m. at the Rectory Mrs. Pat Yewdall will entertain us with a Beauty Demonstration, "Making the most of ourselves". Please come and join us for some good laughs and good hints.

Our club will again be holding the "Cakes and Sweets" stall at the fete on 18th November. Donations of cakes, sweets or any ingredients for the making of same will be greatly appreciated.

Friday, 1st December will be our next Second-hand Clothing and Jumble stall. Please keep us in mind.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

**FETE PLANT STALL**

Mrs. Willis would appreciate your help. Please start potting a few bits and pieces now, so that they will be well rooted when fete day comes around.

# Know Your God

## God in the Twentieth Century

'God is very kind and good and handsome too. God has given me and some people what we want. He is good. I think He has a white coat and black hair.'

'God is the Father of Jesus. I like God because He puts ideas into my head when I am in trouble with my sums. Jesus is kind because He helps people who are sick.'

'I think that God is a very nice man and is very kind to everyone.

Even when you or I do something wrong God will forgive us. He punishes people when they do something very bad. He invented schools.'

'I think God is like us. He is very kind to animals.'

These are some accounts by nine-year-old children of the God they believe in. Adults would not have been so frank, and might have been more sophisticated. But is it not true that man, left to himself, makes God in his own image, in terms of his own tastes and desires and needs? Is not this the sort of God most modern men worship, if they have a God at all?

It is a question whether such a God, a mere projection of human wishes and ideals into infinity, is worth preserving. How much practical difference does He make to His devotees? He is no doubt a convenient adjunct to the stiff upper lip as a sanction for the 'British way of life'. In the armed forces church parade on Sundays was once, if it is no longer, a valuable buttress for discipline and morale. But would it make a lot of difference if an atheistic ideology took the place of the kind old man of heaven? The Roman gods seem to have served the army of their day equally well until the politicians found the ideal prescription in the worship of the emperor.

The name of God is still alive, of course; but what does it mean? It is not too often simply a name added to give a dimension of seriousness and solemnity, perhaps of mystery as well, to what we are saying; or perhaps a convenient way of shelving an awkward question? But what of the Person to whom the name belongs? How many of us know Him, and think in terms of His acting in a discernible way above and beyond the normal process of human life?

Yet some of us do still want to speak of a God 'out there', or even 'up there'. Of course we do not mean these terms to be taken literally, nor do we imagine that anyone with even an inkling of true religion ever did mean them literally. This, like so much of our vocabulary, is picture language, and none the worse for that. (Try taking any paragraph of a daily paper and eliminating all the metaphors, and you will soon be convinced that, tidy as it might be to speak only in dead literal terms, it would make conversation very tedious—and probably impossible!) What we mean by it is that God is transcendent (an equally spatial metaphor!), that He is not man, that He exists independently of the universe He has made, and is not to be identified with it, of with any part of it, or even with any principle of its working. He is a distinct, real, living Person, who may be known personally, and who acts in a practical, discernible way in the universe.

**FROM THE PARISH BOOKSTALL**

**Know Why You Believe by Paul E. Little (Anzea Publishers).**

Have you ever got into a conversation at a party or with a neighbour and suddenly the topic has turned to religion?

Sooner or later, if the person isn't a committed Christian, you'll be likely to find yourself trying to answer one or other of the curly questions that non-believers regularly ask.

Doesn't Science prove that religion is wrong and outdated? What happens to those people who follow other religions? If God is loving why does he allow suffering and death?

Know Why You Believe gives helpful and down-to-earth answers to these questions and many more.

Now is the time to get to work on a book like this so that when Billy Graham is in Sydney and religion and Christianity becomes a popular topic of conversation, we will have ready-made answers for those who are genuinely hindered from becoming believers because of one or other of the problems which they see with Christianity.

There is also a companion volume Know What You Believe which provides summaries of the main aspects of Christian beliefs. Worth trying after you have tackled Know Why You Believe.

**FLOWER ROSTER**

The floral tributes for October and November at present confirmed—

October 1 — Mrs. Pullen in memory of her parents and her loving husband, Ben.

Mrs. Beaty (Melbourne) in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Jones and brother, Colin.

October 15—Iris and Colin in memory of parents Mr. and Mrs. Walters.

No tributes for November as yet confirmed. Intention to make donations for floral tributes are needed at least six weeks in advance to be acknowledged in The Chronicle.

ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO THE FACT THAT MRS. BOSWARD IS NO LONGER LOOKING AFTER THIS ARRANGEMENT SINCE HER REMOVAL FROM THE PARISH. Donations should now be sent to the Rectory.

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**ALL SAINT'S**

**ANNUAL DINNER**

6.30 p.m.

**Friday, 20th October, 1978**

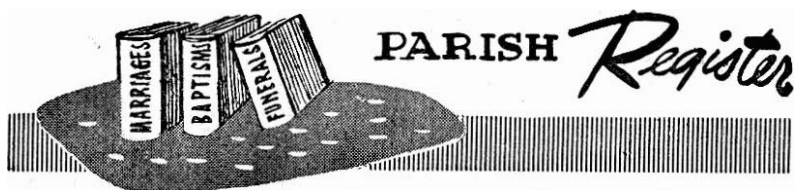
in the Parish Hall

**PROGRAMME  
WITH FILM**

**ADULTS—\$2.00  
SCHOOL ATTENDERS—\$1.00**

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## QUARTERLY PARISH REGISTER


**Baptisms:**  
**1978**

- July 2 — Narelle Elizabeth Smith of The Boulevard, Dulwich Hill.  
 Daniel Conan Arena of Cardigan Street, Stanmore.
- August 13 — Steven James Brown of Morgan Street, Petersham.
- September 3 — Steven Jeffrey Bernhardt of Livingston Road Petersham.  
 John Peter Prygonski of Middleton Street, Petersham.  
 Kristy Michelle Stoddart of Hay Street, Leichhardt.

**Marriages:**  
**1978**

- August 5 — Douglas Marvyn Calderwood (Riverwood) and Joan  
 Winifred Gilchrist (Petersham).
- September 23—Graeme George Richards (Punchbowl) and Jennifer  
 Anne Reus (Punchbowl).

**Funerals:**
**1978**

- July 4 — Susannah Field of Otama Nursing Home, Petersham.
- July 7 — Thelma Irene Lyttle of 11a Audley Street, Petersham.
- July 10—Edward Taylor of Albany Street, Petersham.
- July 20—Phyllis Alexandra Bower of Wenyss Street, Marrickville.

## 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.