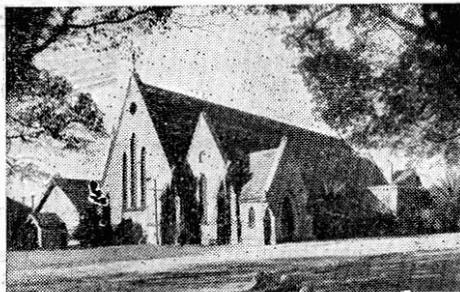


The Chronicle Of All Saints Petersham



SEPTEMBER, 1979

“ . . . we were pressed out of measure, above strength,
insomuch that we despaired even of life . . . ’

(2 Corinthians 1:8)

Pressed out of measure
And burdened with care,
At the end of one's tether —
Who hasn't been there!
Exhausted, bewildered,
Unable to cope,
What is the meaning?
Where is the hope?

Our hope lies within
God's encircling Arms,
Just waiting to take
All our fears and alarms.
What Arms to enfold us!
What quietness and rest
As we lean like a child
On His welcoming breast.

He will help us react
With assurance, and say
To the difficult things
That we face day by day,
“I trust not in myself
But in GOD, Who has said .
The same power works for me
That raised Christ from the dead!”

—HELEN WILLMOTT.

From your
Minister's
Desk



My dear friends,

The steak was just right — the company was first class — the music most satisfying. Yes, I'm referring to the Consecration Festival. Everyone had a very happy time of fellowship. As I said to my wife when I collected my dinner and went to sit at the large table, "My! how our family has grown today, eh?"

Mr. Flatau, who was our visiting preacher, Mrs. Quilty, our visiting soloist, and Mrs. Randall, who gave us a recital on our organ, all were the messengers of the Lord to help challenge and encourage us on our day of thankful remembrance. It was altogether a great day — Praise the Lord!

In his message Mr. Flatau challenged us to dedicate ourselves to serve God and our fellow-man. In the media of recent weeks there have been a number of issues that present us with the opportunity to respond to that challenge.

When a situation arises in the community which causes the police to take a full-page advertisement in the paper to sound a public warning, surely it warrants concern. We should investigate very closely such a warning. If there is substance we who serve God must resist the changing of laws that bring about such unhappy and dangerous possibilities. Surely our streets and public places must be kept as fit and safe for all citizens — and not as hunting grounds for minorities or the strong only.

Another issue that has grave possibilities is the proposal to extend hotel trading hours. Elsewhere in this Chronicle you'll read some extracts giving some facts that should weigh heavily in forming our opinion on this issue. We have also invited a speaker to inform us further. He will be with us at the morning service on Sunday, 16th September. At the informal "Coffee Hour" following the service we'll be able to have our questions answered. There may not be much time in which to examine the aspects of this important social issue — it is so much harder to turn back a flow once it has begun!

May we be strong to serve God and our fellows by "standing up and being counted" for those things which bring true freedom to men.

Your friend in Christ Jesus,

S. W. GISSING.

POINTS RELATED TO THE PROPOSAL TO EXTEND HOTEL TRADING HOURS

The Traffic Accident Research Unit in New South Wales has released the comparative figures for accidents where injury was sustained and/or where vehicles were towed away for 1977:

Saturdays — 12,958; Sundays — 9,165.

In Western Australia before Sunday trading was introduced 11% of the people killed in traffic accidents in Perth were killed on Sundays. After Sunday trading commenced, the figure rose to 16.9%.

A similar pattern was noticed in drink-driving offences in Queensland, where they rose by 23% in 1975/76. This sharp rise in alcohol-related driving offences coincided with the legalising of Sunday hotel trading in 1975/76.

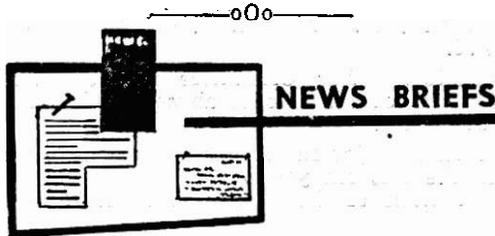
The 1977 Senate Standing Committee on Social Welfare said that the extent and nature of the alcohol abuse problem in Australia was reflected in the following:

- ★ Alcohol has been a major factor causing the deaths of over 30,000 Australians in the last ten years.
- ★ Deaths from cirrhosis of the liver have risen 75% in the last ten years.
- ★ From 1965 to 1976 the per capita increase in the consumption of beer has been 27%, of wine 122% and of spirits 50%. (HARDLY APPEARS TO BE DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING SUPPLIES — Editor's note).
- ★ One million two hundred thousand Australians are affected personally or in their family situations by abuse of alcohol.
- ★ One in every five of our hospital beds is occupied by a person suffering from the adverse effects of alcohol. (WHAT A STRAIN THIS MUST PLACE ON THE NATIONAL HEALTH BUDGET — Editor's note.)
- ★ Two in every five divorces or judicial separations result from alcohol-induced problems. (WHAT PART DOES THIS PLAY IN CHILD AND YOUTH SOCIAL MALADJUSTMENT — DRUG ABUSE — DELINQUENCY — PSYCHIATRIC PROBLEMS — Editor's note).
- ★ In 1972/73 problems directly related to alcohol, including industrial accidents and absenteeism, cost the national economy more than \$500 million.
- ★ Alcohol is associated with half the serious crime in Australia.

Dr. James Rankin, who appeared for the N.S.W. Health Commission before the N.S.W. Parliamentary Select Committee on Liquor Trading, stressed it was the medical problems caused by drinking habits of Australians that had prompted the Health Commission to oppose any extension of licensing hours. (Quoted from "The Australian" of 7/2/79.)

When given the opportunity to decide, the people of N.S.W. overwhelmingly rejected Sunday trading in the 1969 referendum. Only 7 out of the 94 electorates voted in favour of Sunday trading. Despite the findings of objective and scientific enquiries such as the Senate Standing Committee on Social Welfare, the community continues to ignore the reality that the nation's alcohol consumption rate is the prime cause of deaths on the road. It is also a major health cost and a significant cause of industrial accidents. Brutality in the home and crime on the streets are also linked with abuse of alcohol.

The Senate Committee Report states that "Alcohol is the major drug of abuse in Australia. It now constitutes a problem of epidemic proportions. Faced with the above summary of the extent of the alcohol problem in Australia today, any failure by governments or individuals to acknowledge that a major problem — and potential national disaster — is upon us would constitute gross irresponsibility. The Senate Committee, at the outset, calls for the immediate development of a national response to the challenge of alcohol abuse in Australia. Such a response will need to involve all governments at all levels, the health and legal professions, law enforcement agencies, industry, trade unions, business and community groups, the liquor industry itself, social welfare groups and agencies, and every member of the Australian community at large".



SENIOR PARISHIONERS' CLUB

Now that the days are beginning to be brighter, our club is again increasing in numbers, but we still have a big hall and we would like to see it filled more and more each Thursday, so please come along and join us in Cards or Housie from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. A donation of 40c. covers the afternoon's games and a lovely afternoon tea.

I would like to thank Mrs. Champion and Mrs. Pullen for home-made cakes each Thursday, Mrs. Smith for scones, Mrs. Robertson for fruit and vegetables for prizes, Miss Chapman for all the jam for sale. I could go on and on — thank you all for various donations and help in so many ways. It's always fun cutting the sandwiches and getting the room ready with Mrs. Beardow and Mrs. Hillery.

Please come and be part of this happy club.

—IDA BARRETT,

—oOo—

BACKYARD WHITE ELEPHANT STALL

On 7th and 8th September from 9 a.m., a "White Elephant Sale" will be held at 29 Chester Street, Petersham.

—Mrs. M. HUMPHREYS.

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.

FETE NEWS

The next meeting of the FETE STALLHOLDERS will be held on Saturday, 8th September, commencing at 11.15 a.m.

The BOOK STALL this year is to be run by Mr. and Mrs. S. Sheppard, and they are asking for donations of second-hand books. If you have books to donate, please leave them at the back of the Church or phone 569-7307 for collection.

The SUNDAY SCHOOL is again asking for bottles for jam and honey. The most suitable bottles are the small coffee bottles, jam jars and honey bottles. If you have any to donate bring them to the Church or phone 560-9972 for collection.

Mrs. Willis is asking for donations of potted plants for her stall. If you pot them NOW they will be established by the time of the fete.

DO YOU HAVE A LAVENDER BUSH? Mrs. Rühle is seeking lavender to make lavender bags for the FETE.

The Women-in-Friendship and the Sunday School are seeking donations of SUGAR for the home made SWEETS and MULBERRY JAM. Donations may be left with the Church officer on duty.

—H. SPILL, Fete Chairman.



FLORAL MEMORIALS

September 23rd: John and Lindsay in memory of their father, Greville Jack Nance.

Mrs. Willis and Mrs. Garland in memory of Mrs. Sheriff.

October 7th: Mrs. Beatty (Merimbula, N.S.W.) in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Jones and brother Colin.

21st: Miss Glanville in memory of her parents, William and Mary Glanville.

Those who would like to remember their loved ones by contributing towards flowers in our Church are asked to contact Rector about six (6) weeks or more ahead of the desired date.



YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

On Sunday, 2nd September, a new Group had its first meeting in the Rectory following the Evening Service. Plans are that the Group will meet each Sunday at 6.45 p.m. in the Rectory. Any young adults who would like to join are warmly welcome. We will be sharing together in fellowship and seeking to grow in our understanding of God's revealed Will.



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 & 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.

WOMEN-IN-FRIENDSHIP

Our next meeting, on Tuesday, 11th September, at 1 p.m., should be interesting to all ages. A demonstration from The Women's Christian Temperance Union will show us how to mix non-alcoholic drinks for parties. Do come and share this afternoon with us.

The big "Consecration Church Service", "Organ Recital" and "Barbeque Luncheon" is over. It was a lovely, busy day enjoyed by all who attended.

A Jumble Stall is the next thing to think about on Friday and Saturday morning, 5th and 6th October. Please save any unwanted clothing or anything saleable for us. Goods could be left at the Rectory or 59 John Street, Petersham — 569-2291.

The fete is coming closer, and we are starting to think about the Cake and Sweets Stall. Donations of any kind of ingredients, cakes or sweets at the fete time would be very much appreciated.

—IDA BARRETT,
Hon. Secretary.

CHESALON NURSING HOME

FETE

SATURDAY, 15th SEPTEMBER, 1979

from 1.00 p.m.

at 63 Prospect Road, Summer Hill

STALLS: Residents' Craft; Home-made Jam, Cakes, Sweets;
Garden; Fancy Goods; White Elephant; Afternoon Tea.

MORE THAN THE SUM OF ITS PARTS

A long-standing and much-loved friend who died victoriously a few weeks ago was pleasantly eccentric in some of his attitudes. I remember him pouring affectionate scorn on the game of football, dismissing it as "22 grown men chasing a piece of inflated leather round a field".

I don't imagine that description would commend itself to members of the Kop at Anfield or the supporters of Manchester United and Arsenal descending on Wembley Stadium for this month's cup final. But is it accurate? Only if one describes Shakespeare's "HAMLET" as so many black marks on white paper or Yehudi Menuhin's music as horsehair being dragged across stretched cat-gut. Sport, like literature and music, is very much more than the sum of its constituent parts.

Does this truism throw any light upon the failure of so much of our worship to satisfy? For just as a game of football is much more than the pitch, the ball and the players, so worship falls far short of its potential when seen as merely a succession of unrelated items, whether it be the hymn sandwich of popular parody (a hymn and a thing and a thing and a hymn and a thing and a hymn) or the accustomed liturgy of the established church.

Too often our worship fails to "lift-off", to take us out of the ordinary, everyday routine. It becomes merely a series of perfunctory religious exercises — a sort of spiritual jogging — in which we engage to stave off the effects of sedentary Christianity.

Football, they say, is the new religion, complete with chants, songs, (hero) worship, tradition and almost sacramental dimension. The analogy with the church is not complete, by any means, and it would be wrong—not to say impossible—to attempt to engender a cup-tie atmosphere at morning worship,, but should not our gratitude to God for His goodness and love provoke a reaction which has more in common with the scoring of the winning goal than the receipt of an unwelcome letter from our bank manager?

—JOHN CAPON, Editor "Crusade"
(English Christian News Magazine).

—oOo—

READERS CONTRIBUTIONS

Mrs. Cathy Hitchcock (Station Street) has passed on the following, which she found in a magazine, on the topic of the current industrial unrest in our country:

"It's a good thing that God above has never gone on strike.
Because He wasn't treated fair on things He didn't like.
If He had once sat down and said 'That's it, I'm through
I've had enough of those on earth, so this is what I'll do.
I'll give My orders to the sun, cut off your heat supply
And to the moon give no more light and run the ocean dry.
Then just to make it really tough and put the pressure on—
Turn off the oxygen till every breath is gone.'
Men say they want a better deal and so on strike they go.
But what a deal we've given God, to whom the world we owe:
We don't much care whom we hurt to gain the things we like,
But what a mess we'd all be in if God should go on strike.
Amen."

—oOo—

WHY WORSHIP? SOMETHING TO PONDER OVER

From the Rev. Brian E. Heawood.

IN ALL OUR CHRISTIAN ACTIVITIES we rightly give first priority to Worship, the assembling of ourselves together in fellowship so that we may enter more closely into fellowship with God. But why should we go to Church? There are those who say, "I can worship anywhere and everywhere!" and that is perfectly true; we can worship anywhere, in the open air, in the bush, on the beach, in our homes — anywhere. But there is an old saying, "Anybody's business is nobody's business" and this matter of worship "anywhere" only too often means "Nowhere"! We need to worship Somewhere and at some definite times. And it is worth remembering that Jesus went to Church "as His custom was, He went to the Synagogue on the Sabbath Day". If anybody could have done without worship it would have been Jesus: if He felt the need for worship how much more do we?

A SENSE OF DIRECTION

A party of explorers making their way through a trackless forest might find it hard to see where they were going, but by climbing a hill to a "look-out" they would get a "bird's eye view" of the country and so be able to find their way. Worship lifts us above the jungle of everyday events, and gives us what we might call a "God's-eye-view" of life, so that we may see more clearly the way we have to go.

A SENSE OF PROPORTION

The story is told of a small boy who lived in Cairo, and who was greatly intrigued by the statue of General Gordon, whom the sculptor had depicted riding on a camel. He was always asking to be taken to see "Gordon". One day, as he was admiring the statue he said to his father, "Dad, who's the man sitting on Gordon?" His sense of proportion was at fault! He thought the camel was the important thing about the statue. Worship reminds us of the things that are really important in life: it gives us a true scale of values.

A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY

In the old Cobb & Co. coaching days a man who had bought a first-class ticket on the coach was disgusted to find that all the seats were exactly the same. However, when the coach came to a steep hill he discovered the difference. The driver called, "First-class passengers, keep your seats; second-class passengers, get out and walk; third-class passengers, get out and push!" But Christian worship reverses the order: the first-class Christian is the one who is always ready to "get out and push" — to accept the responsibility of service.

EQUIPMENT FOR SERVICE

Periodically a ship needs to go into dry dock for a refit; an aeroplane into the hangar for an overhaul; a motor car into the garage to be serviced. The Christian needs the renewal and refreshment, pardon and re-inspiration, which only worship can give. Without the periodical re-conditioning which worship affords the quality of his service soon deteriorates. For a time he may carry on under the momentum of past inspiration, but sooner or later the impetus fades, and he runs down like a clock which is not rewound. Worship renews his contact with the Source of Power, which is the Spirit of God. Week by week "the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers may worship the Father in spirit and in truth: and the Father seeketh such to worship Him".

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CONVENTIONS INTERNATIONAL

Westside Committee

invite you to

A MINI CONVENTION

at

WEST KINGSTON UNITING CHURCH

Cnr. Salisbury Road and Cardigan Street, Camperdown

on

Monday, 10th September, 1979, at 7.30 p.m.

Speaker: Mrs. A. Chambers

Soloist: Mrs. Peg Archibald

Enquiries: Mrs. Gissing. Phone 569-4735