

All Saint's Anglican Church, of Australia Petersham

STANMORE ROAD, PETERSHAM

Rector: BRUCE WOOLCOTT

Phone: 569-4735

NOVEMBER, 1985

The Rectory,
P.O. Box 241,
PETERSHAM 2049
22nd October, 1985

Dear Friends,

Spring is one of the busy times of the year. The warmer weather, the longer days, and in the Southern Hemisphere, the quickening approach of Christmas and the end of another year—all these cause us to speed up; perhaps to do all those things which we have somehow failed to complete in the earlier part of the year.

This is true in the life of the Church as well as in everyday family and business affairs. We have just completed our yearly Synod meetings. Such meetings bring members from parishes as far afield as Lithgow, Ulladulla, Bundanoon and the Hawkesbury River. The meetings are held for a week and presided over by the Archbishop of Sydney. This is the parliament of the Anglican Church. It makes the rules, or lays, by which we are governed and it budgets for the various bodies that carry out the various functions of the Church which are wider than mere parish work.

This year, three major issues were before Synod—one, the Ordination of Women; two, the Re-marriage of Divorcees; and three, Homosexuality.

The Synod decided that it is possible to ordain women to the diaconate but not the priesthood. Possibly, workers we now call Deaconesses will be ordained Deacons. There is really little change outwardly. We certainly will not come to church and find a lady taking the Communion Service. We certainly won't have to call a mother—Father!

But, having passed that law, or rule, it is open to challenge as our Church at present does not envisage a deacon failing one day to become a priest and possibly even a bishop. We still are walking an uncertain path.

In the area of the Re-marriage of Divorcees the question being raised is rather one of procedure, "Who will decide whether the marriage can be performed in church?"

It is hoped that by bringing the decision into the Rector's

domain, a better pastoral ministry to divorcees might be exercised. At the moment, papers and documents need to be sent to the Archbishop, or his appointee.

The grounds for Re-marriage, however, remain the same, or very similar. Firstly, the couple wishing to marry are to be attending members of the parish church; secondly, the role they played in the marriage break-up needs to be considered.

On the question of Homosexuals, a report was presented and accepted by the Synod with few dissenters, and very little change to the original. The report decided that persons openly living in a homosexual relationship and unwilling to change their life-style cannot hold office in the Church. Such people are living openly in sin; like others living immoral and evil lives they cannot share in the ministrations of the Church until they repent and seek to follow the teachings of Christ. Relationships between people of the same sex are plainly spoken against in Holy Scripture, just as murder, theft, lying and adultery are condemned.

The report adopted by the Synod brings homosexual practices into the same category as all unrepentant sin. The ministrations of the Church and the Blessings of God cannot be shared by unrepentant sinners, and so they are to be considered as disobedient to God's laws. In this the Church is supported by God's Word.

Yours sincerely, BRUCE WOODCOTT

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

The Annual Fete is now one month away. This year some of the Sunday School pupils will be running a Toy Stall. Donations of unwanted toys would be appreciated. Mrs. Essam is overseeing the organisation of this stall.

The Grocery Stall is again to be run by the Sunday School.

Letters seeking donations have been sent to some grocery companies. At present one offer of a donation and three offers sale of products at reduced prices have been received.

This year we are asking for your help in making the Grocery Stall a success. Firstly to help stock the stall we are asking for donations of grocery items. Secondly, we are desperate for help on the stall on Fete day. If you could spare about one hour between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. please indicate the time that you can help on the form below.

On Saturday following the Fete (23rd November), the Sunday School is holding a Family Picnic at Centennial Park. The Picnic will be held in the same location in the park as last year. Arrangements are also similar to last picnic. We ask you

to provide your own lunch and the Sunday School will bring along tea, coffee and cordial drinks.

If you have your own transport we will meet at the park at 10.30 a.m. If you require transport to the park please be at the church no later than 10 a.m.

We may need help with transport. If you have any space available in your car and are willing to take somebody else, please indicate it on the form below.

To help finalise arrangements for both the Fete and the Picnic please fill in the form and return by Sunday, 10th November.

The Sunday School Christmas Party will be held on Friday, 13th December, commencing at 5.30 p.m.

The end-of-year recess will commence following the Family Service on Sunday, 15th December. The Sunday School will present a special item during the service. We will resume on Sunday, 2nd February, 1986.

NOEL CRAGG, Superintendent

PICNIC AND FETE FORM

FETE:

I will be able to help on the Stall.

NAME..... Time..... to

PICNIC:

NAME.....

Number of people attending.....

I can provide transport for my family.....

I can provide transport for..... parishioners

I will need transport for..... people.

WOMEN-IN-FRIENDSHIP

Our October meeting, with the main subject, "A Herbal Encounter" was most interesting, and thankfully, well attended. We do appreciate the extra effort made to have a good attendance.

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.

ance and so contribute to the success of the day.

Our speaker, Mrs. Margaret Nyle, spoke with the authority of an expert and kept her audience interested all the time. We have to thank her for coming and for the donation of a potted English Lavender, which was sold at the meeting.

We are now gearing up for the Fete Day and will be pleased to receive donations of sugar and will be overjoyed to receive home-made cakes on Fete Day. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 12th November at 1.30 p.m. After the Fete, members can take it easy until we get down to the Second Hand Clothing Sale in the new year.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Sec.

SENIOR PARISHIONERS' CLUB

We are still enjoying the Thursday afternoon club meetings although bad weather and a lot of winter ails have made our numbers smaller than usual.

The time is still 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and the donation is still 60 cents.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Sec.

FLOWER DONATIONS

- November 5—Donation by Miss Perry.
Donation by Senior Parishioneres' Club in memory of Elsie Hillery.
Arrangement by Mrs. A. Steed.
- November 10—Donation by Mrs M. Willis in memory of Mrs. G. Garland.
From Mrs. Rhodes in memory of her husband. Cecil, Mother, Father, Sister Phyllis and Brothers Freddy, Barney and Jackie.
Arrangement by Mrs. E. Hearn.
- November 17—Donation by Mrs. Heap for her Mother and Daughter Betty Duggan.
Arrangement by Mrs. A. Steed.
- November 24—No donation.
Arranged by Mrs. E. Hearn.
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QUICK CUTS

"I WAS IN CHARGE . . ."

A few weeks ago a man I met in church told me the story of how he had become a Christian. He was about 24 or 25 at the time, and had been living very much for himself since leaving school. It was a story of moderate business success and personal fulfilment; in many ways an ordinary Australian story. And yet, he was unhappy with himself because he did not match up to the sort of person he knew he could be, especially morally. "I had taken charge of my own life," he said, "and when I was a failure, it meant that there was no one else to blame."

It was, I think, a mature piece of self-analysis. Most of us never achieve this level of honesty with ourselves. I notice in children, for example, an inherent tendency to ladle out the blame on other persons and even other things. When a child trips down the stairs, for example, he is perfectly capable of kicking the stairs and shouting out angrily that they are stupid. We know, however, that this is childish behaviour, it is decidedly immature. Yet many adults hardly grow past it . . . they blame everyone but themselves for the mess they make out of things. They cannot face the truth.

This man did, and it was the best thing he ever did, because, seeing himself as he really was enabled him to recognise his need for God. He could see that in a profound way he had erred in taking charge of his own life. To be responsible is a good thing; to be accountable only to yourself is hopeless. You are either too hard on yourself and never forgive yourself, or too easy and forgive yourself all too readily.

You see, it is part of the human condition to be responsible and accountable. To whom are we accountable? To God, of course. His will is not inscrutable, mysterious, far off—he has taught us what He wants in the Bible. Why not be responsible? Why not be accountable? Read the Bible ;live by its teaching; give God charge of your life. Then you will find what being a human is all about.

— Peter Jensen

PAPER RECYCLING

LOST OR STRAYED

From paper collected on we have recovered the following:

1 Child's Rain Hat marked "Anna Mak"

1 Towel

1 Piece of unfinished Knitting with Needles

To recover these please ring 569-1852 or 569-5057

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH, PETERSHAM
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS, SEPTEMBER, 1985

RECEIPTS	\$	PAYMENTS	\$
Offerteries	1,118.87	Rector's Net Stipend ..	1,331.80
RECYCLING—		Rector's Trav. Allow. ..	348.08
Cans	65.50	Organist	7.50
Papers	409.76	Church Flowers	40.00
	474.26	Chronicles	75.20
Church Flowers	61.00	Church Cleaning	150.00
District Visitors	34.00	Elect. Maintenance in	
1984 FETE—		Church and Hall	32.28
White Elephant Stall	100.00	Repairs to Mem. Cross	20.00
Hall Rent	283.00	Elect. Adjustment in	
DONATIONS—		Re-erection of Cross	17.00
OES Members for		Flick Annual Maint. &	
Floodlighting	11.00	Cockroaches	386.00
OES Members Heating	2.00	Renewal of Guttering to	
Anonymous for Chronicles	5.00	Garage and Repair of	
Rectors Phone Contrib.		damaged water pipe	
August '85	9.75	near vestry	286.80
Transfer of funds from		General Assessment	739.50
Capital Reserve	2,626.19	Special Assessment	218.00
		Sec. Asses. Arrears	100.00
		Rector's Super Contrib.	206.10
		Parish Super Contrib.	206.10
			4,145.86
		Surplus for month	579.21
	4,725.07		4,725.07

BALANCE 1/9/85	\$542.03
PLUS SURPLUS FOR MONTH	579.21
BALANCE 30/9/85	1121.24

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT — SEPTEMBER, 1985

JAMES & JAMES—September Chronicles	75.20
L. DALTON—Renewal of Garage Guttering and Repair	
of damaged water pipe outside vestry	268.80
FLICK PEST CONTROL—Cockroaches	246.00
FLICK PEST CONTROL—Annual Maintenance	140.00
FRESH FLOWERS PTY. LTD.—August Flowers	40.00
STANMORE ELECTRICS—Electrical Maint'nce in Church	
and Hall	32.28
REPAIRS TO MEMORIAL CROSS—Cash	20.00
STANMORE ELECTRICS—Electrical work on Memorial	
Cross	17.00

BALANCE OF ALL ACCOUNTS AS AT 30/9/85

	Last Month	This Month
GENERAL ACCOUNT	542.03	1,121.24
CAPITAL RESERVE	2,840.67	Nil
		Transferred to
		General A/c
ENDOWMENT A/C No. 1	6,948.83	3,948.83
ENDOWMENT A/C No. 2	30,444.88	30,740.20
YOUTH WORKER A/C	4,743.12	4,771.56
GENERAL MISSIONS	687.96	738.78
COLUMBARIUM TRUST A/C	3,025.64	3,039.32
RESTORATION FUND	3,733.47	3,898.38
SPECIAL PURPOSE A/C	381.51	389.71
(for Organ restoration)		
ORGAN FUND	1,526.10	1,526.10
SUNDAY SCHOOL A/C	826.64	877.58
BUILD. MAINTENANCE A/C	1,000.10	1,000.10
	53,703.95	52,051.80

MINISTERS PROMISE A PIE CRUST?

Wilderness project draining Mission of funds

The slowness of the N.S.W. Government to provide funds for the Sydney City Mission Australia's new Wilderness Centre for troubled kids is draining the Mission's financial resources.

In September of last year Mr. Frank Walker, M.P., the Minister for Youth and Commonwealth Services, promised financial support for the project, yet so far, no funds have been forthcoming.

So far, the Mission has raised almost \$1 million from the community, corporations, churches and clubs towards building the first stage of the project.

Named after Merel Hurcomb, the Mission's Director, it consists of a series of log cabins situated on 80 acres of bushland at Tallong (near Goulburn), where young offenders are committed by magistrates as a "tough-love" alternative to institutions or prison.

Mrs. Hurcomb said today, "The cost of having this Centre is draining the Mission dry."

"We are seeing tremendous positive changes in the young people at the Wilderness Centre.

"These wild youngsters are being tamed and are being given a hope for the future.

"The Wilderness Project, which has gained enormous support from magistrates and community leaders, unfortunately so far has not met with the State Government's approval," said Mrs. Hurcomb

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: \$.....