

The Chronicle

Of All Saints

Petersham

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

The Rectory, 325 Stanmore Road, Petersham, 2049—56-4735

Hon Assistant: Rev. A. E. C. GARDNER, B.A., Th.L.

APRIL, 1975



FROM THE RECTOR

My Dear Friends,

On Monday, 10th March, our Parish Vestry Meeting was held. As parishioners know, this is the occasion for reviewing the activities of the year past and of electing those who as Wardens or Parish Councillors will guide the destiny of the parish in the coming twelve months. Our notice was drawn to the loss of three men who were Councillors in 1974—Messrs. D. Sayers, C. Sillence and P. Gray—and thanks were expressed for their help and support. The meeting also expressed the hope that they would find happiness in the future in their various avocations.

It was a pleasure to give voice to thanks for many who had served in different ways. I will not do more than mention names here for brevity sake. However, we do value highly the contributions made by the following, together with others who have assisted them:—

The Wardens (E. Quelch, W. Williams and F. Hearn); H. Quelch (Editor Parish Paper and Secretary to Parish Council); the Organists (C. Sillence and J. Nance) and Choir especially the Sunday morning juniors; the church decorators (Misses Nisbett, Mrs. I. Clark and Mrs. Bosward); the Brass cleaners (Mesdames Shaw and Mangan); the leaders of Parish Organisations (Mesdames E. Hearn, B. Sayers, Rhyder, Messrs. F. Hearn, G. Gorman, J. Arrowsmith, N. Cragg, Miss J. Evans); Mr. G. Clark in preparing Hall for use; Mrs. I. Clark, cleaning; Mr. H. Shaw—notices; Mr. N. Cragg—parish duplicating; the ladies who do District Visiting.

I was happy to draw attention to the offer of help from Misses G. Bassell and H. Wessell in extending the activities for the Youth Group. A note from this group appears elsewhere in this issue and will indicate the impact this is making on two age levels.

At the same time I was led to draw attention to several points that I feel parishioners should be aware of.

The first point was the Financial Situation. The year just concluded had been weathered satisfactorily due to care, the very great help of the result of the Fete and the restricting of maintenance expenditure. However, the challenge facing parishioners and the Parish Council lies in the coming year for Synod has increased the stipend and travelling level by approximately \$1,000 per year in an endeavour to keep pace with the inflationary spiral. Really it would be impossible to keep going in today's economic situation if my wife were not employed part-time. It's interesting to note that such problems would not confront God's Church if His people all adopted the New Testament principle of proportionate giving. If we all accepted a percentage of income as the basis of our giving, the contributions would keep pace with inflationary influences for as our incomes rose so would our giving in proportion. May I commend the common sense of the New Testament's method to all our supporters. If we were all willing to obey the Lord in this, it would not be necessary to depend so drastically on the financial results of the Annual Fete. That function could then become a more relaxed and enjoyable occasion, and more energies could be devoted to the real function of the Church—that of the spiritual welfare of our community and nation.

Another matter that has given some concern to me and about which I had spoken to the Parish Council was that of Special Purposes Assessments. To understand this point it is necessary to realise that Diocesan Church Affairs are maintained by Assessments levied on all the parishes

comprising the Diocese. These are levied under two categories—General Purpose (these specifically maintain the Diocesan Establishment) and Special Purposes (these enable our church to minister on a Diocesan Scale in various areas e.g. Court, Gaol and Hospital Chaplains; Clergy Training; Youth Leadership and Activities; Religious Education; Superannuation and Long Service Leave; Television; Immigration; Marriage Guidance; Social Welfare Activities and so on). I had noted that our parish had not paid its Special Purposes Assessment for many years. This struck me as pushing our share of these corporate responsibilities on to the shoulders of others. At this point of time it would be impossible for us to make up past ground, but it would seem desirable to make some attempt to meet our share of responsibility in this area. It comes, after all, really in the area of missionary concern, and reflects, a live spiritual sense and vitality—the desire to contribute to the making known of the Gospel of God's Love in Jesus Christ in our day and society.

Then, also, I drew attention to the situation in which I sensed All Saints' Parish was finding itself. As Anglicans we share what is basically an Anglo-Saxon heritage. However, we are in an area where a majority are from other backgrounds. This means our worship and practice are alien to the greater section of our environment. This is increasingly so. It must force us to re-examine our purposes in being here. We can see our purpose as ministering to a diminishing constituency and accept the ultimate prospect in the foreseeable future of closing our doors. We can, on the other hand, see our purpose as witnessing to the Gospel of our Saviour to all men of all races and cultures with the prospect of a revival of life and usefulness of our beloved parish. The danger that faces us is that of being an Anglo-Saxon Ghetto and I believe we must avoid that if we are going to put the claims and calling of our Master and Saviour above personal ones. Therefore, we need to look very seriously at ways in which we can adjust our programmes and practice so that we will make it possible for many local people to find their way to God together with us in the fellowship of our church.

It's a challenging prospect that faces us—and rather daunting in some ways. But it is also exciting for anyone who, by faith and experience, know that "nothing is too hard for the Lord". To quote Jesus Himself "with man it is impossible, but with God all things are possible". My call to us all is to see that our personal relationship with God is right, and then to call upon Him unitedly for His Guidance and Enabling in earnest prayer.

Will you join me in accepting His call to be His people in 1975 here at Petersham.

Your friend in Christ Jesus,
S. W. GISSING.

—oOo—

INTERNATIONAL WOMENS YEAR

This year marks the United Nation International Womens Year and throughout the world women will meet to consider what they can do to aid the achievement of peace in various parts of the world.

Such a meeting was held on Saturday, 22nd March, in Sydney, and various speakers stressed the continuing importance of the family as the vital unit in the quest for peace.

The following is a brief statement from that afternoon:

WHAT CAN YOU AS A WOMAN DO FOR PEACE?

First and foremost — be a peaceable person. But if this means having an argument, then peace is a goal beyond the reach of ordinary people. This thought is one we just cannot countenance, in an age where the atom bomb constantly threatens our very existence. Peace is within our reach and it is something that every woman can meaningfully and constructively work towards.

If every man and woman in a society goes calmly about their work each day with conflicts within the family resolved; if there is a pattern of always choosing to resolve conflicts rather than bottle them up or continue them, then the total society is one that will not countenance war. It will seek and find other means to sort out inter-nation difficulties. Each person influences the whole.

A shopping expedition can sound the trumpets of peace — simply by pleasant and friendly interaction. A business transaction which forms a friendship consolidates the world. If women do not want war there will be no war.

If you as a woman each day make a determined effort to clear the air at home of conflict talking it out where possible, compromising where possible while maintaining an inner integrity, never letting the sun set on any anger with your children — you will have done your bit for peace today. If your children learn from you values of peace, of the importance of conflict resolution, of a realistic horror of war, you have done your bit for peace in the future.

The skills that women learn in handling family relationships are of tremendous benefit to the community. In this International Women's Year, women should feel particularly encouraged to use these skills to strengthen world peace, to help in the settlement of conflicts within our society — industrial, racial, religious and inter-group.

Women must accept the responsibilities that go with the developing freedom that allows them to achieve their full potential. They must find ways of extending their area of affirmative action into the whole of society.

To focus your attention into this area and help you direct your activities meaningfully, joining a Peace Group can be extremely worthwhile. Peace is women's business. LET PEACE START WITH YOU.

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SANCTUARY FLOWER ROSTER

- April 6th: Donated by Mrs. Beardow and family in memory of Mr. Beardow and by the Hird family in memory of their Parents; arranged by Mrs. Clark.
- April 13th: Donated by Iris and Colin in memory of their Parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter; arranged by Miss Nisbet.
- April 20th: Donated by Mrs. Hayes and family in memory of Mr. Hayes; arranged by Mrs. Clark.
- April 27th: Donated by Mrs. Hannson and family in memory of Mr. Hannson; arranged by Miss Nisbet.
- May 4th: Donated by Mrs. J. Dark in memory of her husband, Mr. Eddie Dark; arranged by Mrs. Clark.

We gratefully acknowledge flowers from Mrs. Wallis in memory of her Husband and Brother on 9th March, on 23rd March from Mrs. Grainger in memory of her Sisters, Misses Vi and Doris Dobson. We also appreciate the gift of flowers for Easter Day from Mrs. D. Reid, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Cook and Mr. and Mrs. R. Halliday in memory of Miss Edie Baskin.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT FOR THE VESTRY MEETING

In 1974 the total number of pupils in the Sunday School was 32 with an average attendance of 22. The Kindergarten in 1974 had a total of 24 pupils on the roll, with an average attendance of 19.

The Kindergarten has 3 classes of girls and 3 classes of boys. The Sunday School in 1974 had 4 classes and at a teachers meeting in December we decided to split the age groups further. **The result:—**

Class one 8 and 9 years olds, class two 10 year olds, class three 11 year olds, class four 12 year olds, class 5 thirteen year old, extension group 14 year olds and over. The classes were then grouped in the following manner:—

Class one—by itself.

Classes two and three together.

Classes four and five together.

Extension Group by itself.

With the classes grouped together the pupils will not progress from group 2, 3 to 4, 5, but from 2 to 3, to 4 to 5. In this way their progress through the Sunday School will be slower.

An Overhead Projector was purchased in December at a cost of \$109.00. We are using it for the opening and closing services. It is also used by the teachers during the lessons.

I would like to thank Mrs. Jones for her help with the jam making, Mrs. Williams for organising the Christmas Parties and all the other folk who have helped us throughout the year, also our thanks to Mrs. Clark for arranging the flowers for the Sunday School.

This year we made the following donations from the Sunday School Funds:—

H.M.S.	\$20.00
Church of England Homes	\$20.00
Archbishop's Winter Appeal	\$20.00
Bush Church Aid	\$20.00

and

\$34.00 was collected through the lenten boxes for the C.M.S.

The Grocery stall at the annual fete was very successful as we raised \$330. I would like to thank the Sunday School Pupils for the soft drinks, lucky dips, and sweets.

NOEL CRAGG, Superintendent.

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CLUB NEWS

Indoor Bowls Club:

This year we are not able to enter a team in the Church Competition but are looking forward to entertaining members of other clubs whenever possible. We all enjoy our evenings and would welcome any visitor who wanted to come and watch some of our games.

B. SEE, Honorary Secretary.

Senior Parishioners' Club:

Our Club continues to be a very happy outing for all members. We do wish that more ladies and gentlemen, of any denomination, would come and share the happy afternoons with us. We only ask a donation of 20c, which covers afternoon tea. Our meetings are held every Thursday between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

IDA BARRETT, Honorary Secretary.

Womens Evening Group:

The first meeting of the Womens Evening Group will be a special effort to gather together the ladies of the parish. We have sent invitations

to the ladies whose names have been given to me, however, we would like as many ladies as possible to be present. This meeting will be held on the second Tuesday in April, when we hope to have Mrs. J. Hansen as guest speaker. The meeting will commence at 8 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Mrs. Hansen has visited the Buma River Mission in New Guinea.

Our group will hold a "jumble sale" in the Parish Hall on Friday, 2nd May, commencing at 10 a.m. Donations of anything saleable, particularly second hand clothing would be greatly appreciated. Please leave any donations at 59 John Street, Petersham, or at the Rectory before Tuesday, 29th April.

IDA BARRETT, Honorary Secretary.

Ladies Guild:

We hope for a full attendance of members at our meeting on Tuesday, 15th April, at 1 p.m., when we will be arranging final details for our annual luncheon which will be held on Tuesday, 29th April, at 12.30 p.m. The speaker on that occasion will be Mrs. Florence Garrett and the donation towards the cost of the afternoon will be \$1.

We extend a warm welcome to all parishioners to join in fellowship with us on that day.

E. M. BOSWARD, Honorary Secretary.

NEWS IN BRIEF

● **Youth Club:** The Club on Friday nights has been going for 5 weeks now and has a junior and senior membership of about 45. The junior club meets from 7 - 8.30 p.m. and senior club from 7.30 - 10.30 p.m. New members are most welcome. A camp at Camden Research Farm is planned for Senior Club on 18 - 20th April, any teenager is welcome to attend.

We would like to thank members of the Congregation for their prayers and support and hope that you will continue to support us as we seek to tell children more about the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

● The annual Anzac Commemoration Service will be held on Sunday, 20th April at 3 p.m. at All Saints', Petersham. The service will be held in conjunction with the Petersham R.S.L. Sub-branch.

● The Parish Family Picnic will be held on Saturday, 12th April, and further information may be obtained from Mr. N. Cragg.

● The Christian Women's Convention International will hold a mini-convention on Tuesday, 15th April, 1975, in the Fivedock Methodist Hall, commencing at 8 p.m.

● Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Geoff Gorman on the birth of their son.

● Miss G. Norman has now moved to Cessnock. We wish her well and look forward to seeing her whenever possible.

● Articles for the May Chronicle are due no later than 20th April, 1975.

CHRONICLE DONATIONS

Mrs. Dingle \$2.00; Anonymous \$2.00; Anonymous 41c.

WINNING FRIENDS AND INFLUENCING PEOPLE

A Meditation by the Right Reverend I. Shevill, Bishop of North Queensland.

"Feed them . . . fascinate them . . . force them"
these are the techniques we humans have devised
to win friends and influence people.

THE CHRONICLE

it all starts in the playground,
where the grubby boy, seeking an ally—
 offers to share his play lunch
 or to lend his puzzle,
 or simply sits on his mate pounding him,
 until he says "Yes" to the proposition.
And then in his teens, the same boy in his sharp rig,
wanting to impress his girl,
takes her to lunch . . . with all the trimmings
or takes her to the pictures,
or simply takes her by storm.
Whilst in maturity, the same game goes on,
as the tycoon clinches his deal
by dining and wining his customer
by taking him to the strip joint,
and if necessary by forcing him to the wall,
by every twist of the economic screw.
And so by food, fascination and force—we seek to influence each other
and we are all at it in different ways,
the teacher, the manager, the advertiser,
the professor, the politician and the parson.
Forgetting always
that the only things this technique fails to produce
are the only things really worth while in life,
things like love and loyalty, devotion and dedication.
 You knew all about this Lord
 when you were tempted in the wilderness,
 during those forty days and nights we now call Lent.
As you meditated on that million dollar enigma,
which today entralls the brains of Madison Avenue,
as they seek an answer to the question
"How best to get the message across?"
It was at this time the Devil suggested to you
the old human techniques.
Feed them . . . fascinate them . . . force them,

PARISH INFORMATION

HOLY COMMUNION—Each Sunday at 8 a.m., 2nd and 4th Sundays at 11 a.m.
3rd Sundays after Evensong.
MATINS—1st and 5th Sundays at 11 a.m. **LITANY**—5th Sundays at 11 a.m.
EVENSONG—Each Sunday at 7 p.m.
FAMILY SERVICE—3rd Sundays at 10 a.m. Sunday School and Kindergarten
on other Sundays at 9.45 a.m.
**BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES AND FUNERALS BY ARRANGEMENT WITH
THE RECTOR.**
CHURCHWARDENS: Messrs. E. Quelch (Rector's), F. G. Hearn, W.
Williams.
PARISH COUNCIL: The Churchwardens and Messrs. J. Arrowsmith, J. H.
Brotherton, N. Cragg, Mrs. Gorman, Messrs. B. Livingston, H. E. Quelch,
Mrs. W. Sopwith, Mr. H. Swankie, J. Williams.
SIDESMEN: Messrs. V. Barrett, G. Clarke and H. J. Shaw.
HON. TREASURER: Mr. E. Quelch. **HON. SECRETARY:** Mr. H. E. QUELCH.
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. N. Cragg.
KINDERGARTEN LEADER: Miss J. Evans.
EXTENSION GROUP LEADER: Miss K. Cheetham.
PUBLICITY OFFICER: Mr. H. J. Shaw (797-6967).
ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER:
CHRONICLE EDITOR: Mr. H. E. Quelch.

but each time you gave the same answer—

“Get thee behind me Satan”.

“If thou be the Son of God”, he whispered, “command this stone that it be bread”

“If the stomachs are full, men will listen to spiritual truths”.

But it doesn't work out that way.

The more affluent the society, the less concerned it appears about the soul,

as is seen in affluent Scandinavia, where the suicide rate spirals.

And then it came again,

“If thou be the Son of God”, said Satan,

“Cast thyself down from the top of the temple”

and “He shall give his angels charge over thee”.

Fascinate the people by being the first flying man,

then they will listen to your gospel.

But it doesn't work out that way.

You had seen them Lord, those conjurers and mountebanks in the market place,

holding the minds of the multitude until the miracle was past then they went home and forgot.

And then it came the third time,

“If thou wilt worship me”, came the whisper

“I shall give thee power over all the kingdom of the world”.

In other words “Become a national hero, force them to believe”.

But it doesn't work out that way.

For you had seen the Roman Legions compelling obedience, whilst they were there.

It was a short lived obedience,

which evaporated as the sound of marching feet died away.

And so to each temptation, Lord, you replied

“Get thee behind me Satan”,

for the techniques of man seldom fulfil the purposes of God.

It was not by feeding them, fascinating them or forcing them

that you chose to bring the Kingdom of God on earth,

but . . . by loving them . . . even to an end which was brutally bitter.

And that is why, Lord . . . 2000 years later,

we still attempt to believe your words and to do your will.

Because you loved us.

Help me Lord to see, that it is only love

which will win friends and influence people,

for causes which are either temporal or eternal.

Amen.

—ABM Review, April, 1969

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.