

The Chronicle

Of All Saints

Petersham

STANMORE ROAD, PETERSHAM

Rector: BRUCE WOOLCOTT

Phone: 569-4735

JULY, 1984



WIPPELL MEMORIAL GATES

These Memorial Gates are featured in Parish Council Notes.

The Rectory,
Petersham 2049
June 21, 1984

Dear Friends,

Half the year over already! And what of those plans and good intentions with which you began the year?

Perhaps you are thinking, "Oh, I am half way to being a year older." Rather negative thinking!

Most of us have goals in life. All of us have tasks we need to do every day. Some of those tasks are not spectacular, or mind boggling, but there is a sense of fulfilment or satisfaction when they are completed.

The Christian church has a task. It is a task that has been given it by the Lord Jesus Himself. It is a task or a goal which none of us will see completed in our day or generation, but there is tremendous satisfaction in being part of that on going work.

The goal of the Christian church is to win the world for Christ—to free all mankind from the slavery of sin and self. That is a tremendous task, but we are not without help. God the Holy Spirit is the power of God to help us complete this work.

When Jesus was taken up to heaven the command was given to the disciples, "Go ye into all the world and make disciples of all men."

Each Christian church congregation must have that before them. We have not been given the command to build great edifices or establish big organisations — we have been given the command to bring men to Christ. Once having introduced a man or a woman to the Saviour then the church seeks to help that person in faith and service.

Goals, task, priorities — all these words should make us question how we are progressing towards achieving what our aim in life is.

Too often Church congregations and even ministers themselves lose sight of the goal which our Lord set. Too often we spend time and energy on other matters and are too tired or too involved to spend time pursuing the aim of the Christian church — to win the world for Christ.

In a few months time Dr. Leighton Ford will be conducting an evangelist outreach in Sydney. Dr. Ford is Billy Graham's brother-in-law and they often work together. This may well be the time for us as a parish to seek to emphasise the need of men and women to come to Christ as Saviour and Lord. Think and pray about it.

We need men and women in Petersham to find salvation in Jesus Christ, and we need many more believers to join with us at All Saints so that their congregation might continue to play

its part in God's plan for mankind.

We are warned, "If the people have no vision, they perish." The church that lost its first love of the Lord is the church which makes God sick — "I will spew out of my mouth" (Rev. 3:16). Strong words, but necessary lest we lose our direction.

Yours sincerely, BRUCE WOOLCOTT

P.S.: "Winning Australia for Christ" is the motto of the Bush Church Aid Society. Rev. Brian Roberts has recently returned to Sydney from Zeehan on the west coast of Tasmania. He will be our guest preacher at All Saints on Sunday, 15th July at 9.30 a.m.

He is worth hearing — a Real Australian!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School staff will be seriously reduced in the near future because Ian McClare has taken up a position in Canberra and his wife, Felicity, will be joining him there. We will miss them both. Ian's musical accompaniment to the singing of the Kindergarten children was a great joy to them and added a touch of excitement to the Sunday morning classes.

We are very fortunate to have a growing number of children attending Sunday School. Also we have two faithful and hard working leaders in Mrs. Essam and Noel Cragg. We need, however, folk who will assist them in teaching the increasing number of children.

It would be pity if we have to turn children away because we have insufficient teachers. This is the problem we are now about to face. We need at least one—better, two—teachers NOW!

Proverbs 2:6 says: "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it."

We cannot complain of today's youth unless we have taken up the opportunities to teach and lead them on the right paths.

SENIOR PARISHIONERS' CLUB

We are still ready to welcome new members of our Thursday afternoon Club, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

There is always a variety of small useful gifts on our "Housie tables". If you haven't played "Housie" before, we will be happy to show you how.

Over the lovely afternoon tea one can always hear plenty of stories and many laughs.

We have had a lot of illness amongst our members since the cold wintry weather has arrived. I don't know of any new hospital cases but there has been a number in bed at home on different occasions. Please pray for each other that our members will soon be restored to full health and strength.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Sec.

WOMEN-IN-FRIENDSHIP

The next meeting of the Women-in-Friendship on Tuesday, 3rd July at 1 p.m. will be followed at 2 p.m. by Pauline McCann from the Church Missionary Society speaking to us and showing us slides of the work of that Society. All welcome. Please come and join us.

The last meeting was followed by Betty Byron presenting a variety of goods obtainable at our present-day markets. She was so popular, we have booked her again for June next year.

Two more dates have been set for Second Hand Clothing and Jumble Stalls — Friday, 20th July and Friday, 21st September commencing at 9 a.m. Thanks to Mrs. Sue Ritchie for printing another large sign and to Mrs. May Ruhle for the sheet to print it on, advertising our Clothing Stalls.

It was very nice to see Mrs. Champion at our last meeting, looking her old self after her hospitalisation. There has also been a lot of winter ills amongst our members. We pray this is all in the past and that good health will again be with us all.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Sec.

FLOWER DONATIONS

- July 1 — In memory of their Grandmother Susan Field from Iris and Colin Walter.
From Barbara and Stella in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Barker, Sister Ena and Friends Dorrie and Sallie.
Arrangement by Mrs. Steed.
- July 8 — The Misses Nisbet, in memory of their parents.
Arrangement by Miss Nisbet.
- July 15 — In loving memory of Aileen Williams by Bill and family.
Arrangement by Mrs. A. Steed.
- July 22 — In loving memory of Emily Farrar from daughter Margaret, Fred and family.
Arrangement by Miss Nisbet.
- July 29 — By Michele in memory of Don.
Arrangement by Michele.

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OP SHOP OPENS IN PENRITH

The latest HMS Op Shop opened on May 3 at 563 High Street, Penrith — a convenient location two doors down from Riley Street and close to Grace Bros.

One of the most attractive Op Shops yet, it sports the distinctive red, white and blue striped decor now standard on all Op Shops. Again like its sister shops, it is fully carpeted and air conditioned and has ample fitting rooms.

Commenting on the decor upgrading, Op Shop manager, John Dring, said that the aim was to show people that there was no stigma attached to buying excellent quality articles at very low prices.

"The new decor really has changed the attitudes of shoppers, who no longer feel that others will think they are down on their luck if they buy from an Op Shop," he said.

In December, 1958, the first Op Shop was opened at Petersham. Sales for the first day were 88 dresses at 2/5d each!

"Besides, they have the satisfaction of knowing that the proceeds of all sales go to fund Care Force services, which alleviate suffering and hardship among many thousands of Australians, including hundreds in the Penrith area."

The shop sales supervisor is Mrs. Robin Nunn, a resident of Springwood.

OP SHOP CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF SERVICE**QUICK CUTS**

— SIR KENNETH CLARK

The great English Art critic and Historian, Sir Kenneth Clark, has written in his autobiography of the following curious incident:

"I had a religious experience. It took place in the Church of San Lorenzo, but did not seem to be connected with the harmonious beauty of the architecture. I can only say that for a few minutes my whole being was irradiated by a kind of heavenly joy, far more intense than anything I had known before. This state of mind lasted for several months, and, wonderful though it was, it posed an awkward problem in terms of action. My life was far from blameless; I would have to reform. My family

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would think I was going mad, and perhaps after all, it was a delusion, for I was in every way unworthy of receiving such a flood of grace. Gradually, the effect wore off, and I made no effort to retain it. I think I was right; I was too deeply embedded in the world to change course. But that I had felt the finger of God' I am quite sure, and, although the memory of this experience has faded, it still helps me to understand the joys of the saints."

There are several points of this interesting story which cry out for comment. Notice, for example, that it leaves Clark sure that there is a God, even though he is not himself personally in touch with God. Notice, too, the reasons he gave for not seeking to continue the experience. There are three:

First, that the moral reform which would be required is too great. At least this is a frank recognition that God is holy and requires from each person a life of holiness and obedience. Clark counted the cost and decided against going on. His decision was moral not intellectual. I suspect that most intellectual objections to the Gospel arise from people whose quarrel with God is moral and spiritual.

Second, that his family would think he was mad. Once again, like many of us, Clark admits that the opinion of others guided his negative response to God.

Third, that his unworthiness to receive such a flood of grace made it likely that he was self-deluded. But this is the saddest difficulty of all, because it shows a complete ignorance of the Christian God. No person is ever a Christian because they deserve grace. The very point of grace is that we do **not** deserve God's' favour. Grace means forgiveness, not achievement. That is why we speak of amazing grace! What a pity that Sir Kenneth did not at this point respond to the grace of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

— PETER JENSEN

SEVEN MINUTES TO TWELVE

As I look at my watch it is 7 minutes to 12.

I wonder how close we are to the end of the world. Is it 7 to 12, or 10 o'clock or 7 o'clock on God's time scale?

I really don't know. In fact, Jesus has told us not to try and predict the time when He will return again.

But this I do know—Jesus will return again as King and Judge of the world. He will bring in the new Heavens and the new earth.

This I know, He wants all people to be ready when He comes again. How can I be ready? By living now with Jesus as our King and Master. If his terms of peace have been received then we are ready.

The main reason why Jesus has not returned as King is

because God the Father is having mercy on all people. Each day is another for people to turn to the King and receive his offer of peace and pardon.

There is a children's game which has the cry "coming ready or not," Jesus will return again—it will be the Day of Judgement. Will you be ready? He wants you to be because He has told us to be ready for Him.

In that same children's game there is usually a place designated as "bar" — a safe place where you can't be caught.

Trusting Jesus now as our Saviour and Master is the place of "bar." If we are with Him now, He will deliver us from judgement.

God is very kind indeed — He says "be prepared"! and then tells us how to prepare.

— Australian Church Record

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

PARISH SURVEY: The Rector referred to the recent survey of people attending services which resulted in 85 names being handed in. He suggested that a follow-up letter of welcome should be sent to reinforce our need and pleasure in new faces and that this should be continuous in conjunction with the visitors' book.

MEMORIAL GATE: The Wippell Memorial Gate has been very much in our thoughts over the past three months. When this gate was installed as a memorial in 1915 there was very little traffic on Stanmore Road. Under present conditions, with Stanmore Road a very busy thoroughfare, it is almost impossible to leave the church grounds. The local Traffic Planning Committee has adopted a recommendation that the "No Standing" restrictions be extended to the nearest power pole. This will assist by increasing the field of vision towards Crystal Street. We have recently had to stand upright one of the gate pillars which had suffered a hard knock and we now are considering the removal of the iron gates. This will improve entrance and exit, and is a recommendation of the Traffic Planning Committee. However, before anything is done, the Rector will try to locate relatives of the Wippell family for discussion of the matter. If the iron gates are removed they will be stored in the Parish Hall, and the stone pillars and memorial plaque left intact.

BOX GUTTER, southern side of the church. The Parish Council is still awaiting technical advice on this matter.

CHURCH RESTORATION SUB-COMMITTEE. The sub-committee, comprising Noel Cragg, Robert Bembrick and June Hadley have produced a comprehensive list of activities that could be used to raise money for this purpose. However, it is not prepared to air these suggestions until they have been

discussed in more detail by the sub-committee.

COMING UP, NEXT MEETING. A suggestion that the church be open for prayer on week days.

FLEA MARKET. There was some discussion on this matter and it was agreed that more detailed information is needed.

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH, PETERSHAM
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS, MAY 31, 1984

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
Offeratories	943.61	Rector's Net Stipend	1186.16
RECYCLING:		Rector's Trav. Allow.	233.33
Papers	846.30	Organist	60.00
Cans	117.00	Church Flowers	55.00
	963.30	Chronicles	65.20
Church Flowers	30.00	Church Cleaning	150.00
DONATIONS:		S.C.C. Hall Electy.	39.98
Estate of Late I		A.G.L.—Hall A/c	21.53
Crittenden	7.77	General Assessment ..	644.00
OES Members/		Special Assessment ..	189.75
Heaters	2.00	Telephone A/c	149.90
OES Members/		Flick Annual Maint. ..	129.00
Chronicles	2.00		
1984 Fete			
Groceries	6.00		
White Elephant Stall	100.00		
	2,054.68		
Deficit for month	869.17		
	\$2,923.85		2,923.85

Balance 1st May, 1984	\$4,132.51	
LESS Deficit for month	869.17	
Balance 31st May, 1984	—3,263.34	
Balance 31st May, 1984	\$3,263.34	

BALANCE OF ALL ACCOUNTS AS AT 31st MAY, 1984

General Account	4,132.51	3,263.24
Capital Reserve	1,735.17	1,675.17
Endowment A/c No. 1	3,948.83	3,948.83
Endowment A/c No. 2	25,596.94	25,801.09
Bus Fund	4,132.54	4,157.24
General Missions	166.27	161.32
Columbarium Trust A/c	2,237.49	2,249.06
Restoration Fund	1,984.72	1,992.59
Organ Fund	1,351.88	1,366.88
Special Purpose A/c	1.48	1.48
Sunday School A/c	1,714.37	1,685.36
Build. Maintenance A5c	1,000.10	1,000.10
(use interest only)		
	48,005.30	47,302.46
(use interest only)		