

The Chronicle Of All Saints Petersham

The Friendly Church

Rector: Rev. T. E. CHAMPION, Th.L.
The Rectory, 325 Stanmore Road, Petersham, 2049—56-4735
Hon. Assistant: Rev. A. E. C. GARDNER, B.A., Th.L.

JUNE, 1968



"BRING YOUR CHILDREN TO OUR KINDERGARTEN"

THE RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Presented at the Easter Vestry Meeting, 16th May, 1968

I present this my twelfth Annual Report, of work done in the parish during the financial year ended 31st March, 1968.

The past year was still one of consolidation and urgent repairs to property as finances permitted. We are naturally looking forward to the centenary of the present Church in 1971 and continue to restore parts of the building which are showing signs of deterioration. As I write this report, I thank God for what we have been able to do despite shrinking Anglican population and the fact that most of our good workers are not as young as they used to be!

The growing tendency is for young people to leave this area upon marriage and look for homes in less expensive places. Perhaps the main problem here is for young marrieds to raise loans to purchase older properties in this area. The banks and building societies prefer to lend on new houses which are often fifteen or more miles from Sydney. The New Australians seem to be better catered for financially, in purchasing houses of the older type nearer the City.

HOME UNITS IN TEN YEARS

This means that parishes, nearer Sydney, are changing very much and Petersham for one, has been greatly affected. On account of the increase in the value of land and rates, many of the smaller homes will be demolished for three story blocks of flats or home units. It is difficult to visualise how things will go in the next ten years. Already some Protestant Churches have been sold to New Australians as places of worship or in some cases for demolition.

Undoubtedly there are some gains by this reshuffle of population and some congregations are uniting with others to maintain a place of worship, as in Marrickville. This is certainly an age of change in many ways and maybe the Holy Spirit is endeavouring to show us that the important thing in this life is to worship GOD, not denominationalism.

LANGUAGE OF OUR SERVICES

In time of crisis, man is often forced to study the things he has in common with his neighbour, rather than dwell upon his differences. Many are openly saying the Church must learn to adapt itself and its message to the world in which we live. In other words there is no time to be negative in such a period of challenge.

The other night I listened in to a most challenging message by Billy Graham, who though a Baptist, is concerned with changing lives by the power of God's Holy Spirit. On another station I listened to a preacher who was laying all the emphasis on the importance of the quantity of water used in baptism. His message was flat and unimpressive compared with Billy Graham's soul stirring message. I have often said at Baptism services if the quantity of water will wash away sin, let us go out to Long Bay Gaol and do them all again!

Many of us as Anglicans love the liturgies of the Church, but again I admit the wording is often not understood by many to-day. We must worship in sincerity and with our understanding. Three hundred years ago we changed from Latin to the English language, but even the English language has undergone changes in that period and we have to be prepared to bring our liturgies up-to-date to be appreciated in these days.

Jesus called His disciples to be fishers of men. No successful fisherman uses the same bait all the time. I have observed that our best service each month is the Family Service when we use the abridged form of

Morning Prayer on cards easy to follow. Undoubtedly, it is true that, "the family which prays together, stays together."

SELF-SUFFICIENT WITHOUT GOD ?

There are many disturbing elements in life to-day and the fact that we all have our problems to face means we all need to lean heavily on divine grace or help. People who seldom darken the door of the Church for worship, are by their actions saying, "I am self-sufficient and have no need of God's help." God has His own way of teaching man that he needs Him, by force of circumstances. Sometimes ill health, or a business failure, or some big catastrophe is necessary to teach man to recognise the claims of God upon his life.

To me, God is a God of love, and I do not think that He sends these things, but the selfishness of man or the disregard of certain principles or rules, often creates these troubles. God uses the selfishness and the stupidity of man to teach him the lesson of dependence upon Himself. What a different world it would be if everyone loved and served God faithfully !

I thank God for the recent visit of Billy Graham but may I remind the new converts that they have only joined Christ's Army by making a public testimony. Now they must be practical soldiers and servants of Christ and show by their life that they are His. The Christian life is not all hymn singing and thrilling testimony meetings such as they attended at the Showground, anymore than married life is not all dressing up and eating as on one's wedding day. You have to come down to earth and think of the practical application of "loving, honouring and obeying."

GOD HERE EACH SUNDAY

Bishop Hilliard, as most of you know, was a great preacher. When he was Bishop of Nelson he visited many small country churches where struggling ministers tried to preach and do the many things asked of Country Clergymen. In one parish, after the service, a young man said to the Bishop "I would come every Sunday if you were preaching." The Bishop replied, "I will not be here next Sunday, but GOD will." When you come to Church please remember you come to worship God and He will be sure to be there. I once read a weekly notice outside a Church which is worthwhile remembering, "A hearse is a poor thing to come to Church in—why wait ?" After all, the Church seeks to minister to the living, so come in the prime of life and enjoy the fellowship.

All Saint's Church caters for all ages from Kindergarten to old age. One wishes that more parents were aware of the need to give their children the best spiritual training and send them to Sunday School or brought them to Church. It is easy to criticise youth of today but frequently they are what their parents want them to be. As a general rule, children follow the example set by their parents. It is not sufficient to have children baptised and make that the finish of their spiritual contact with the Church as is the case so often.

NEW IMPROVEMENTS

During the year we had the brass lectern in the Church lacquered to reduce further the amount of brass cleaning. It looks beautiful and I hope other brassware will be treated to save the labour of polishing. Two more sections of the Church floor have been replaced with new boards on the north side of the Church. I hope by the Centenary, we shall have the whole of the floor in light lacquered boards. It is so attractive and easier to clean.

The back fence of the Rectory has been renewed using iron posts to prevent the ravages of white ants. We are grateful to Mr. Arthur Cook for the gifts of the posts. Several floors in the Rectory have been

given attention. The hall-way upstairs was covered with hardboard before laying new covering of "Rosella". The main bedroom has had new lino. Our thanks go to the Ladies' Guild, the Mother's Club and Miss I. Street for meeting the cost of this work. Another bedroom was painted, the cost of which was met from a Social Afternoon arranged by Mrs. Clark.

Water pipe from the Rectory meter to the front door of the Church was renewed in copper and an additional tap placed in front of the Parish Hall. Many of the yellow bricks on the outside of the Church were showing signs of deterioration, and were given a coating of a preservative material; later the red bricks will be given a coating of a clear solution of silicone to prevent fretting. Attention given at the right time can save hundreds of dollars later on. Two much needed power points were placed in the Church Sanctuary and an additional strip heater, to meet the problem of changing weather.

ANNUAL FETE

The Annual Fete was again most successful, the gross proceeds being \$2960.00. I take this opportunity of thanking all who work for the Fete and help make it such a success. Some work very hard throughout the year to help the Church in this practical way. As I have often said previously, it would be difficult for us to carry on with the work of the Church without the Fete. May God bless you for your faithfulness.

Mrs. Millarey works throughout the year mending and repairing art jewellery and is always prepared to sell any of her goods to aid the funds. Mr. Giddings was in charge of the stall at the Fete in the absence of Mrs. Millarey and we are grateful to him for his interest and help.

Mrs. Reid again took charge of the Book Stall and did an excellent job with second-hand books. Mrs. Humphreys was in charge of the White Elephant Stall and like others broke all previous records. To one and all I again record my deep appreciation of the combined efforts of those who worked for the Fete.

SOCIAL LIFE

The Ladies' Guild, the Young Marrieds and Friends' Club, the Mothers' Club, the Senior Parishioners' Club, the Youth Fellowship and the Indoor Bowls Club all play an active part in helping the social and financial life of the Church. I offer my thanks to all who help, either as members of these clubs or as individuals who work and give to the Church in any practical way.

Recently the Senior Parishioners had their Tenth Anniversary and in addition to having a party to celebrate the occasion, bore the cost of having a microphone placed on the Altar of the Church. We appreciate this very much.

We all enjoyed the two visits of the Royal Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra. In December they came and gave us "The Messiah" and on 9th April "Olivet to Calvary". Both cantatas were impressive and brought home to us the importance of each festive season. We hope we shall have another visit from these talented people in the future.

PERSONAL LOSSES

During the year we have lost some who served God and His Church faithfully in their day and generation. We offer our sympathy to the relatives who mourn their loss. Mrs. Augusta Ruby Craigie and Mrs. Alva May Slee were faithful Guild Members for many years and passed away in November 1967. Mrs. Craigie gave many years of service to the Home Mission Society and the Home of Peace and as a District Visitor in this parish. Mrs. Edna May Bryce, also a District Visitor passed away in January this year, after much suffering. She lived a most selfless life,

always thinking of others. Mrs. Mary Ann Plowman also passed away in January; she lived in this parish for many years and rendered faithful service and was a most regular worshipper at All Saints'. Mrs. Lois Sharp, another who had been a generous supporter of the Church all her life and also a member of the Guild, passed away in February. She was decorated in the First Great War with the Royal Red Cross for her work as a nurse.

ANNUAL STATISTICS

The Parish Register shows the following figures for the past two years:

	1967-68	1966-67
Baptisms	77	60
Marriages	37	37
Confirmees	22	15
Funerals	50	78
Acts of Communion	4298	4943

THE FAITHFUL WHO LABOUR

Finally, I want to thank all who belong to the various Church Clubs and Societies, who continue to labour faithfully for the cause of Christ and His Church. My thanks seem to be the same year by year, but it is hard to vary it. I would like to record my sincere appreciation of the work of the Lay Readers, the Church Wardens, the Parish Councillors, the Sidesmen, Mr. Jones the Sunday School Superintendent and Sunday School Teachers, Mrs. Carroll and her helpers in the Kindergarten, the Extension Group Leader, Mr. K. Dingle, the District Visitors, Mrs. Bosward who organises the distribution of the Weekly Freewill Envelopes and those who deliver them, the Organists, Miss K. O'Neill, Miss B. Dobell, and Mr. J. Nance, the Choristers and the Carillionists, Miss R. Champion and Messrs. H. Quelch and L. Nance.

Thanks to Miss N. Street, who cares for the Communion Linen and polishes the brass, to those who give flowers in memory of loved ones and to those who arrange them, to Mrs. Humphreys for keeping the Freewill Envelope Register, to Mr. Alan Jones for the work he does in editing the "Chronicle" each month and printing the Weekly Notices, to Mr. Shaw for all the artistic signs, and to both Mr. Shaw and Mr. Jones our Publicity Officers for interesting news in the local newspapers, to Messrs. H. Brodie, W. Williams, L. Carroll and H. J. Shaw for providing transport to Church for elderly parishioners, and to Mrs. Ivy Clark for her work tending the Church gardens. For assistance in the Public Schools, I thank Mrs. B. Sayers for taking a class at Lewisham, Miss Speight for taking a class at West Street Infants' and the Rev. E. T. Montgomery for his help with school classes. Miss N. Atkinson left us this year after teaching Scripture at both Petersham and Stanmore Infants' Schools for many years. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson and Miss Atkinson a happy retirement at Katoomba.

Again, I say thank you to members of the Guild, Young Marrieds and Friends Club, Mothers' Union, Senior Parishioners' Club, Y.C.I., Sunday School Mothers' Club, St. Luke's Centre, Fellowship and the Indoor Bowls Club for the part they have played.

If I have missed anyone, please accept my apology and at the same time my sincere thanks for everything that has been done to help the work of the Church here at All Saints'.

May God bless you all in the coming year.

Yours sincerely,

ERIC CHAMPION

ALL SAINTS' NEWS

● **Earlier Evensong:** Once again this year, Evensong will start at the earlier time of 6.30 p.m. during the winter months of June, July and August. We will revert to the 7 p.m. time in September. The first service at 6.30 p.m. will be held on Sunday, 2nd June.

● **Parish Tea:** We give you advance notice of the 1968 Parish Festival Tea on Wednesday, 7th August. The Right Rev. A. J. Dain will be guest speaker at the Social following the tea. Bishop Dain has been an ordained minister since 1959, before which he had many years' of interesting experiences in the merchant marine and on the Mission fields of India. We therefore advise that you make an advance note of what will be a most interesting evening.

● **Parish Council Meeting:** The normal meeting date being the Queen's Birthday, and as no meeting was held last month, this month's Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday, 3rd June (the first Monday in the month).

● **Appreciation:** Although the Rector's Annual Report lists a lot of folk who have done work for All Saints', one not mentioned was the subject of a special vote of thanks at the recent Vestry Meeting. This was Mrs. Champion, whose work for many Church activities and whose generous hospitality at the Rectory came in for special mention during discussion on the Rector's report.

● **Columbarium Dedications:** At Morning Prayer on Sunday, 7th May, the Rector dedicated the ashes of two former parishioners, Mrs. Edna May Bryce and Mrs. Sarah Ann Yarrington, which had recently been placed in the Columbarium.

● **New Council Member:** There was only change in the membership of the Parish Council as a result of the Vestry Meeting on 16th May, Mr. A. Osborne being the new member. Mr. Osborne fills the place of Mr. F. Evans, who stood down after several years' valuable service. Mr. Evans will continue as a Church Officer, having been appointed as one of our Sidesmen.

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SATURDAY AFTERNOON SOCIAL



All parishioners wishing to join in a happy social afternoon are invited to the Parish Hall on Saturday, 29th June, when Mrs. Ivy Clark will be presenting her next social in aid of Church funds.

The programme gets under way at 1 p.m., and there will be cards and games, plus door prizes and afternoon tea, with an inclusive charge of

30 cents. Ladies and gentlemen are welcome, so come along and spend an enjoyable afternoon with us.

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Lord, keep my mind on things above,
On things of good report;
Give thoughts of purity and love,
Thoughts of divine import,
But, all disturbing, evil things
Which would my soul destroy,
Help me to firmly drive away,
And noble thoughts employ.

PERSONAL

We very much regret to record the passing of Mrs. Edith May Nisbet, for many years a regular worshipper at All Saints' and a loyal member of our Guild. The sincere sympathy of all parishioners is extended to the Misses Nisbet in their sad loss.

We also express our sympathy to Mrs. Jones of Middleton Street in the passing of her Sister, Mrs. Alice McFarlane, of Annandale, and to Mrs. Foster of Margaret Street in the Loss of her Husband, Walter George Foster. Mr. Foster was Secretary of the Choir and Sunday School of St. Paul's Redfern for many years before moving to Petersham.

FETE MEETING

The Fete Committee wishes to notify all stallholders and intending stallholders that a meeting has been arranged for Tuesday, 4th June at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please treat this as important.

H. J. SHAW, Chairman, Fete Committee

LATEST CLUB NEWS**Special Events This Month****Ladies' Guild:**

Owing to very bad weather, our afternoon on 14th May was disappointing in numbers, but the "Girl Talk" was most interesting and helpful. We hope for increased numbers for "Shopping Around '68" on Tuesday, 9th July at 2 p.m. A donation of 20c. includes afternoon tea. All ladies will be welcome.

E. M. BOSWARD, Hon. Secretary

Fellowship:

Our thanks must go to all who answered our appeal for Fete items, but we are still in need of items for the Hoopla, and objects suitable for our Stall. Our thanks also go to all who donated ice-cream tins, of which we now have sufficient.

We extend our appreciation to Ruth Champion who was hostess at our Tupperware Party held in the Parish Hall on Saturday, 11th May. It was an enjoyable afternoon, well attended, and a financial success.

CHRISTINE McPHERSON, Hon. Secretary

Sunday School Mothers' Club:

We invite the ladies of the parish and their friends to our Stanhome Party Night in the Parish Hall on Thursday, 6th June. There will be a bright programme, commencing at 7.45 p.m., plus demonstrations of the latest products in the Stanhome range of brushes, polishes, and toiletries.

Donation of 30c. includes supper, and all the proceeds will be used by the Club in our work for the Church. Please accept this as your invitation to join us.

J. FAGG, Hon. Secretary

Young Churchmen's Institute:

Bucks' Motor Picnic: Our Bucks' Motor Picnic was held at Kurnell on Saturday, 20th April. The weather for the outing was very pleasant, and it was rather disappointing that only 12 members attended. The reason, it was later discovered, was mainly due to the fact that there had been no Friday night meeting directly before the picnic to act as a final reminder of the outing. However, although attendance was small, this did not stop the Annual Cricket Test from being played, and later in the afternoon members adjourned for afternoon tea.

Manuscript Journal: The 226th issue of the Journal was our subject of the evening on Friday, 26th April. The number of articles submitted was nine, being lower than is usual. The articles contributed were all of a high standard and interesting to listen to.

Theatre Party: On Thursday night, 2nd May, we held a Theatre

Party to "Camelot" at the Century Theatre. Thirty members and friends attended the show, and to all appearances were all very pleased with the night. Again, the Theatre Party seemed to be a pleasant change from the usual Y.C.I. meeting.

General Quiz: The General Quiz on Friday, 10th May was divided into parts. Firstly, all members were divided into four teams, and secondly, the Y.C.I. Quiz Champion was found by a series of knock-out contests. The programme was most interesting, and seemed to be more enjoyable than the old "two team" system.

G. W. GORMAN, Hon Secretary

Senior Parishioners' Club:

At the present time, we have a record number of members at our popular Social Club held in the Parish Hall every Thursday at 1 p.m. Nevertheless, we are always happy to welcome new members, especially the lonely folk who may find it hard to make friends; come along and have afternoon tea with us any Thursday afternoon.

We were glad to welcome Mrs. Harrison back after her spell in Hospital. We are sorry that Miss Ronald is indisposed and trust that she will be back with us in the near future.

The late Miss Nell Fry, whose death was announced in the May "Chronicle", was a well loved member of our Club and she will be sadly missed.

DOT SHAW, Hon. Secretary

Y.M. and Friends' Club:

Please accept this as your invitation to the "Kangaroo Skin" Demonstration that we shall be holding in the Hall on Saturday, 22nd June, commencing 1.30 p.m.

Donation will be 30c. and afternoon tea will be provided.

Indoor Bowls Club:

The members of the Club wish to express their deepest sympathy to Mr. Bernie Sayers on the loss of his brother, Ken, in April.

The Club has donated \$80 towards the cost of the church floor still to be renewed. It is the policy of the Club to make further grants to the Sunday School and other worthwhile projects.

In our last competition match, our "home" team won an exciting game by one, 17-16, but our "away" side was decisively beaten. Our teams still need members for our keen and happy Club, which meets every Wednesday night at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Concert: The Sunday School presented "Saints Alive" on the 24th of last month. The show was a great success.

I would like to thank the following people for their help: The Rector for publicity, Mr. B. Sayers, for compering, Mr. B. Osborne and Mr. C. Whiting for preparing the stage, Mr. R. Boots for printing the tickets, Mr. H. Shaw for the signs and the Mothers' Club for the sweets and drinks at interval. Also our thanks to Miss B. Dobell, the Choir, Fellowship, Y.C.I., the girls of Miss Cowie's Ballet School, Burwood and other guest artists, and the parents and parishioners for coming. Everyone who attended had an enjoyable evening.

Attendance: Once again I must appeal to the parents to send their children to Sunday School regularly as the attendance over the past couple of months has been very low, especially at Family Service.

NOEL CRAGG, Hon. Secretary

LETTER TO THE ROMANS



Of all the Letters of the New Testament it is perhaps the Letter to the Romans that may seem to have the greatest doctrinal emphasis, yet this rather frightening statement must never dissuade the reader from drawing all the strength and encouragement that lies in this great Epistle. For its theology is not that of a cold or formal kind but is a living testimony to the love and graciousness of God, His generous reconciling of men and their restoration into His family. Born of the personal experience of the author it speaks to the deepest levels of man's need of

God and pulsates with a warm human response to God's goodness and love.

The book was written by the Apostle Paul, and in the judgement of most Biblical scholars, in the City of Corinth about the time when Paul spent some months there after a two year stay in Ephesus. There is no common agreement as to why the Church of Rome was to be the recipient of this letter. It was not provoked by particular needs within the Church and could perhaps have been as easily written to other groups of Christians in other places.

Its central theme is that of God's goodness, in dealing with man in his sin and estrangement from God. In an almost remorseless way St. Paul analyses the society of his own time and shows how the non-Jewish world of the first century had failed terribly in living up even to its own standards. He goes on to demonstrate the failure of the Jew in following the law which God had given him and concludes his initial argument in Chapter 3, v 23 with the words "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God".

In the following chapters Paul then proceeds to write the answer to this charge and sets out the way of entry into God's presence and the membership of His family. He takes as his example Abraham, who was justified, or accepted as sinless by God by reason of his faith in God's promises and by that alone. On this doctrine of "justification by faith" the Epistle is then built. Paul defends his position from the charge that this approach may lead to a lawless life and sets out in the 6th, 7th and 8th chapters the manner, the struggles and the triumph of a life directed and empowered by the Spirit of God. In chapters 9, 10, and 11 he appears to make a digression.

In closing, no greater tribute can be offered to this book than to remind ourselves how often it has been the means of a great spiritual renewal in the Church of God. It was Dean Colet's lectures on the Epistle to the Romans in St. Paul's Cathedral that began to crack the packed ice of scholastic understanding of the Bible in the tradition of the middle age. It was Luther's discovery of the doctrine of justification by faith in this Epistle that was the beginning of the continental reformation. It was John Wesley's discovery in the same message several hundreds of years later which strangely warmed his heart and saw the beginnings of great renewal in the Church in England.

For every Christian to understand and lay upon his heart the message of this book is to enter in to all the strength and security that the faith of the New Testament offers to us,

PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

"Born Again"



April 27th	Karen Anne Treble
April 28th	Craig William Lambert
May 5th	Gary John Lucas
May 5th	Tania Piontak
May 5th	David James Pender
May 5th	Todd Michael Coleman
May 12th	Stephen Michael Francis Elliott
May 12th	Anthony Phillip Arthur Elliott
May 12th	Natalie Anne Miller

MARRIAGES

"Whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder"

April 27th	Paul Jeffrey Petersen to Christine Olwyn Lowell-Davis
May 3rd	Robert James Hyde to Jennefer Anne Dicks
May 17th	Francis John Bucksath to Judith Margaret Gibb.

FUNERALS

"In the midst of life we are in death; of whom may we seek for succor
but of Thee, O Lord".

May 1st	Lillie Mabel Smith
May 3rd	Edith May Nisbet
May 17th	Alice Frances McFarlane
May 18th	Walter George Foster

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SANCTUARY FLOWER ROSTER

June 2nd	Donated by Mrs. Cleary and Miss Nancy King in memory of their Parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. King, by Miss Slocombe in memory of her Parents, Sisters, and Brothers, by the Craigie family in memory of their Brother Don, and by Mrs. Rohr and family in memory of Mr. Pat Rohr; arranged by Mrs. Malone.
June 9th	Donated by the Sisters and Brothers of the late Martha Quin and by Mrs. Marjorie McKnight in memory of her Brother John; arranged by Miss Nisbet.
June 16th	Donated by Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Maxwell, Nonie and John in memory of Mr. Ted Maxwell, and an anonymous donation for the War Memorial; arranged by Mrs. Clark.
June 23rd	A donation of appreciation from a former parishioner, and in memory of Mrs. V. Breaden from her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Craven of Columbus, Ohio; arranged by Miss Speight.
June 30th	Donated by Mrs. Gordon in memory of her Brother, Mr. J. H. Oliver, and by Mr. Bryce and Mrs. Quine in memory of Mrs. Bryce Senior; arranged by Mrs. Bosward.
July 7th	Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Boots in memory of Richard's Grandmother, Mrs. Fowler; arranged by Mrs. Malone.

We also wish to acknowledge donations on 28th April from Mrs. Carroll and on Mother's Day from Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Shaw, the Misses Nisbet, and Mrs. G. Sharp. On May 5th, a donation should have read, in memory of Mum and Dad Baxter from their daughters, Stella, Ena and Barb.

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NEWS BRIEFS

● **Fete Committee:** At the Vestry Meeting, the Rector announced the names of the Fete Committee selected by the Parish Council for the 1968 Fete. Those appointed are Messrs. H. J. Shaw (Chairman), J. Gorman, C. Whiting, W. R. Williams, L. Carroll, and B. Osborne. The Rector appealed to all stall holders and helpers to give the committee their fullest support and co-operation.

● **For the Ladies:** Please make a special note of the two programmes arranged for you at All Saints' this month. First, there will be the "Stanhome" demonstration party on Thursday, 6th June, presented by the Sunday School Mothers' Club; it will be held in the Parish Hall, starting at 7.45 p.m. This will be followed by the "Kangaroo Skin" Demonstration on Saturday afternoon, 22nd June, at 1.30 p.m. and arranged by the Y.M. and Friends' Club. In both cases, an informative and enjoyable programme is assured, so come along.

● We don't usually reveal ladies' ages in "The Chronicle" but rules are made to be broken. So we record that our Rector's daughter, Miss Ruth Champion attains her majority on 8th June, and extend to her the congratulations of the parishioners of All Saints' and their best wishes for the future.

● **Huge Maintenance Expenses:** Over \$20,000 has been spent in maintenance and repairs at All Saints' during the last seven years. This was revealed at the Easter Vestry Meeting by Parish Secretary Mr. E. Quelch, who gave detailed figures from past financial statements. He drew attention to the fact that these payments were only possible because of the success of our Annual Fetes. Without the proceeds from the latter, our property would be in a sorry state. The meeting asked Mr. Quelch to prepare a statement giving more details of this work for a coming issue of "The Chronicle."

● **More to be done:** Despite what we have already accomplished, there is always maintenance to be done when you have a large church, two halls, and a two-storey rectory to keep in order. The Church will shortly be 100 years old, and its bricks are fretting, water is seeping in through the stonework and the bricks, and half of the floor of the main body of the church still has to be replaced. So we still need Fetes, and remind you that its now only **five months** to this year's effort on Saturday, 16th November.

● Items for the July "Chronicle" will be due by Sunday, 23rd June. All Secretaries are asked to contribute.

● **District Visitors' lists:** "Thank you" to the Visitors who have left us the names of the streets in their areas. Because of shortage of space this month, we shall print the lists in next month's "Chronicle".

● Philip Dingle was transferred on 27th May to take charge of the Heatherdale Primary School, 11 miles out of Gloucester on the lower North Coast. Philip hopes to come home every few weeks to keep in touch with us, and has promised to correspond with the Y.C.I. on his activities at Heatherdale.

GOD IN THE CHURCH

A group of Papuan ordination candidates who recently visited Australia marvelled at many things; among them, the fact that we seldom go to church on weekdays. It is only on very rare occasions that attendances at our mid-week Lenten services would equal an average Sunday congregation.

Is it that we try to lock God away, and only bring Him out on Sunday? That won't work: He's not a tame God. Or is it that we think He is so pleased at the way we treat Him on Sunday that He doesn't worry the rest of the time? Or is it thoughtlessness?

Whatever it is, we are the losers. It is true that we can meet God, on the land, in business, in school, at home, and on the playing fields, or anywhere else. But most of the time in those places we are too busy to recognise Him or pay much attention to Him.

"Be still, and know that I am God", He says. How often can we be still in our hectic lives these days? Where can we find peace and quiet today?

There is one place in the community set aside for that very purpose: the parish church. The Rector will always be pleased to let you have the use of its facilities. Where can we be closer to Him than at His House, in the immediate presence of His dear Son?

If we have needs or problems to lift up to Him, if we have joys for Him to share, if we have sorrows for Him to assuage, if we want to show Him our love and devotion, He awaits us in the House of Prayer.

The Psalmist said "I was glad when they said unto me, 'We will go into the House of the Lord'". One of our well-known hymns is a paraphrase of these words, "We love the place, O God, wherein thine honour dwells".

Why then do we make so little use of it? Are we really too busy for Him? Are our interests too much centred in the things of this world, which will pass away?

"Come unto Me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Have you found that to be true by your experience? If not, a wonderful treasure awaits you.

WALTERS & SON

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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