

# All Saint's Church of England, Petersham

STANMORE ROAD, PETERSHAM (Opposite Fire Station)

Two minutes from Petersham Railway Station

Rector Rev. S. W. Gissing, Th.L. — Phone: 569-4735

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MAY, 1981

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# TEMPLE DAY APPEAL



**FOR URGENT CHURCH  
REPAIR**

**10th MAY, 1981**

# From your Minister's Desk



My dear Friends,

There's a hesitation as I set my pen to paper this time—it's the last time I shall do so in this fashion as your Rector. I nearly wrote "as your Minister"—but I hope that by the grace of God I shall never lose that privilege, though of course I shall not be Rector of Petersham after 20th May.

Severing of associations always is a traumatic experience for one—and I am finding this departure no easier than the ones that have preceeded it. My wife and I are hoping that it will have the same happy consequences. Each parish has supplied us with a further group of very wonderful friendships whose continuing contacts have enriched our lives tremendously. The Lord has been very gracious in the way He has given us a growing list of truly loyal and encouraging prayer partners in the ongoing ministry that has fallen to us to exercise. We look forward to adding the "All Saints Petersham" section to that list.

My wife wants to join me in expressing sincere gratitude to you for receiving us—putting up with us—"educating" us—and encouraging us. I'm sure that each place we've been in has added its distinctive "note" to our characters. I hope ministers contribute to the lives of their congregations—I'm sure each congregation has left it's distinctive mark on our lives and personalities. There's no doubt but there are loyal disciples of our Saviour here with out whose upholding we could not have "survived" or exercised any ministry at all. It would be easy to pick out all manner of inadequacies if we were to look for them. However that seems negative and purposeless—so instead let us thank God for the things that are "of Him" and for which we can be jointly grateful. Our prayer is that you will back your Parish nominators in prayer as they seek the Lord's will in inviting a man to lead this congregation in the future. We also pray that the one of God's choice will be led to find in you a fruitful

field of ministry, and will bring the gifts that will lead you deeper ever deeper, into a real and rich knowledge of the length and breadth and depth and height of the saving love of the Lord Jesus Christ,

Your sincere friends in Christ Jesus  
S.W. and Betty Gissing

—oOo—

**ALL SAINTS' TEMPLE DAY**  
**SUNDAY, 10th MAY, 1981**  
**APPEAL FOR FUNDS TO ASSIST WITH MAINTENANCE**  
**OF CHURCH BUILDINGS**

All Saints' Church requires maintenance during 1981 and the following matters require urgent attention:—

Replacement of Northern box gutter and necessary additional repairs to the roof	\$ 900
Repair of window sills to protect the stained glass windows	400
Removal and repair of stone guards and painting of woodwork around stained glass windows	900
Electrical repairs in Church building	700
Painting exterior of Church	3000

This is the first appeal from the Churchwardens for additional funds and a plain envelope will be included in the May Chronicle for receipt of contributions.

The balance remaining in the account for all the above work is \$197-84.

Your earnest consideration is requested to this worthy appeal

CHURCHWARDENS

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**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.

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### PARISH HALL ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Since the writing of the above Temple Day article, a letter has been received from the Department of Services referring to the kerosene panic and exit lights in the Parish Hall. The Department asked to be advised as to our intentions in replacing the existing system to comply with the new regulations.

To cover the Parish Hall, toilets, kitchen, corridors, stairs and wash room, 20 panic and 12 exit lights will be required. These light fittings are of a special type and cost approximately \$150 each, plus installation.

This work will have to be urgently considered in our 1981 maintenance programme.

S. YEWDALL  
N. CRAGG  
B. LIVINGSTON

Churchwardens

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### CHURCH FLOWERS

We are grateful to all who help beautify our church on Sundays by contributing towards flowers as a way of remembering loved ones or to mark some cause of thanksgiving.

May—10th **MOTHERS' DAY:**—

Misses Nisbet in memory of their mother.

June—16th **Stone of Remembrance**—Anonymous.

Friends who would value an opportunity to make such a memorial in All Saints' are asked to contact the "Wardens" as early as possible — say by six weeks before the date. This helps in organising the details and recording it in the Chronicle concerned.

Thank You.

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### SENIOR PARISHIONERS CLUB

Easter is over for another year. I hope you were all able to have a Happy Easter with your families or friends.

We look forward now to the second half of the year and hope the attendances of our Club-members will increase now the walk to the Hall won't be in such hot sun. I am glad to report Ellice Rhyder is home again (after her two eye operations), and looking forward to coming back to the club.

We still have plenty of room for new members. Any Thursday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., 50 cents covers prizes for the games, door prizes and afternoon tea. Please come and join us if you can spare Thursday afternoons.

IDA BARRETT—Hon. Secretary

## WOMEN-IN-FRIENDSHIP

When you read this our Annual Luncheon will be over. I would like to thank all who helped in any way, by help in preparation, donations of money or goods and by just coming along to make our attendance so good. I would also like to sincerely thank the Ladies of the Petersham Salvation Army for their help in our entertainment.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 26th May, at 12.30 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Parish Hall. We will all miss Mrs. Gissing very much, as she has been our President for so long, but we wish her and her family all the Best and much Happiness in the Parish of Oatley West.

The next second hand clothing and jumble sale will be held in the Parish Hall on Friday, 5th June. This time we are combining with the Petersham New Mums Playgroup of All Saints. This will add a greater variety to our goods on sale, Childrens clothes especially. We have undertaken with this group of young Mothers to sponsor a child through World Vision in Bogota, Colombia, South America. This stall is our first joint effort to help raise money for this purpose.

IDA BARRETT—Hon. Secretary

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### 1981 FETE NEWS

At the April Parish Council, Mr. F. Hearn, accepted appointment as the Fete Chairman for 1981. We are grateful for his ability to accept this responsibility once again.

It was also reported that one of the longest standing Stall holders, Mrs. D. Jones, would not be able to act in that capacity this year owing to failing health of both herself and her daughters who have been two of her stalwarts for many years. We want here to express regret at her bad news, and also the warmest appreciation for her magnificent contribution over so many years. We do hope that we'll be able to enjoy continued fellowship with her even though to a more limited extent. Mrs. Jones has been closely associated with All Saints ever since she arrived from England as a young 21 year old bride. She has many friends here and they all send her the warmest of greetings.

## The Christian family

### THERE'S NO SUBSTITUTE

says General Arnold Brown, World leader of the Salvation Army

The Salvation Army has viewed with grave concern those developments of recent years which appear to undermine the stability of the family as an institution. We note in particular the worldwide increase in divorce rates coupled in many countries with a reduction in marriage rates.

While many statesmen and politicians honour the concept of the family, political and economic programmes often result in the break-up of family units and the growth of transient relationships.

In the Army's view, this is part of a fateful trend towards social disruption, of which the increase in deviant behaviour, unrest and terrorism are other manifestations. A disparity of wealth, hunger, malnutrition and oppression contribute to the malaise. Nevertheless, we are convinced that the underlying cause is not political or economic, but spiritual.

The tide of unrest affecting developed and developing countries alike is related more closely to the abandonment of spiritual values than to a shortage of resources or disparity of incomes.

The inevitable end of a materialistic society is a world scramble for a share in the diminishing resources of the earth. Legislation cannot abolish selfishness, intolerance or waywardness which in our view contribute more to the breakdown of marriages than poverty or poor housing.

The Salvation Army's experience suggests that a great many of the marriages that now break down could be saved and the parties find fulfilment for themselves and security for their children, given a willingness to persevere and a measure of social support at times of crisis. There are countless couples living contentedly together who have weathered the storms and succeeded in their marriages, despite problems.

Unfortunately, temporary housing, separate incomes and reception of children into care, all too often are easier options than the challenge of frank discussion and the difficult task of reconciliation.

Where marriage has ceased to be sacred, and the family unrespected as a God-given institution, there is much less incentive to preserve them. We are convinced that the family is essential to the stability and continuity of society. We do not be-

lieve that any substitutes can provide the same cohesive power as the Christian family.

Some human societies have existed, and still exist, on a different basis, but we think it worth noting that those communities that have survived, made progress, and exhibited the traits which we regard as virtues, have all required marital discipline and a secure environment for their young. Our views on marriage and the family are held as aspects of our Christian faith, but we have every reason to believe that they are justified also in terms of their practical value for the long-term good of society.

We say to our fellow-countrymen that to abandon the traditional family will be a disruption of the social structure from which we will never recover. Let our legislators, our administrators, and our judiciary bear these facts in mind, for history will hold them responsible.

May the Spirit of God so move in the hearts of all men that our response to the challenges of today will ensure a better world tomorrow.

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## 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 is at 9.30 a.m.

KINDERGARTEN is at 9.55 a.m.

### EVENINGS at 5.00 p.m.:—

(This changes to 7.00 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.

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**ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
325 STANMORE RD.,  
PETERSHAM 2049