

The Chronicle

Of All Saints

Petersham

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

The Rectory, 325 Stanmore Rd., Petersham, 2049—569-4735

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

DECEMBER, 1977



RECTORS LETTER

There is no Rector's Letter this month. The Rector has written to me as follows. 'I do not intend to write any letter again this month, so please do not wait for any material from me'. S. W. GISSING, Rector.

As I do not feel competent to write an inspiring Christmas and New Year Message, and my brief as Editor does not cover substituting for the Rector, I will restrict myself to some notes on the Fete. This Fete produced the highest ever nett profit and our thanks go to the Ladies who worked all the year to produce it. Editor.



FETE 1977

In 1971 995 people signed the Door Book, but this year and last year only 575 signed it. Of this 575, approximately 25 came from outside a 5-mile circle round All Saint's, whereas in 1971 approximately 150 people came from outside the 5-mile circle.

Over the last few years the newspaper advertising has been reduced from 3 papers to one with consequent reduction in cost.

At the moment we do not know how much of the money paid in is taken prior to the Fete and therefore cannot assess the actual yield from Fete Day. I would appreciate it if stallholders would inform me of any money they had on hand before Fete Day so that the situation can be assessed.

We were fortunate this year that the Ponies did arrive, because they they are an attraction for the small children and if we keep the children —we also keep the parents.

An innovation this year was the display of Folk Dancing by the Portuguese group. The program fell a long way short of the promised half hour but from the comments I have heard the dancing was much appreciated. Unfortunately the afternoon attendance was very poor and I had great difficulty in collecting an audience.

It now appears that the Fete closing times could be brought forward to 5.00 p.m. or even 4.00 p.m. At 5.00 p.m. people were very scarce and many stalls had sold out. We should also consider dispensing with entertainment except for a Band during the morning.

I will be pleased to receive any other suggestions for change or improvement whilst they are still fresh in people's minds.

My personal thanks to the men who helped with erection of stalls and the dismantling of the same. Our appeal for more help fell on deaf ears and the burden was carried by the usual band of stalwarts. Those who were there know it and I therefore refrain to mention names.

As a grand finale we had to re-pack all the rubbish that we put out on Saturday night. The local children spread it all over the area fronting Frederick Street. In all it amounted to 18 bags full and a mountain of cartons.

F. HEARN, Fete Chairman.

P.S. Details of monies received will be found on page 4.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

GROCERY STALL: The Sunday School Grocery Stall takings at this years Fete was the best to date. We raised \$450. I would like to thank all who helped on the stall on the day and all who made donations to the stall and those who made jam. We would like to thank the following companies for helping us in stocking the stall:—

Samuel Taylor, Fielders Foods and Bakeries, Peek Freans, Sanitarium Health Foods, G. J. Coles, Colgate-Palmolive, Bushells, Commonwealth Bank, Traders and Weston Biscuit Company.

N. Cragg

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SUNDAY SCHOOL PARTY

Because of unforeseen circumstances a Barbecue which was to have been held on 10th December has been postponed.. The kindergarten party will be held as planned at 2.00 p.m. on 10th December.

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LADIES' GUILD

December 13 will be our final meeting for this year and will be our Christmas Party, commencing at 1.30 p.m. Members are requested to come at 11.30 a.m. to prepare tables.

Meetings will resume on Tuesday, 21st February at 1 p.m. and will be our Annual Meeting.

To Mr. and Mrs. Gissing and family our greetings and Best Wishes for Christmas and 1978.

E. M. BOSWARD, Secretary.

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WOMEN'S EVENING GROUP

The members of the Evening Group had a lot of fun making sweets for our stall at the Fete, at our two sweet-making "bees" at the Rectory.

The Fete now being over, we were very proud to hand in \$388 at the end of the day. We all finished very tired but happy with our success. Thank you one and all for the wonderful help we received from all our friends too numerous to mention and a big thanks to all our members.

Our final effort for the year will be our Jumble Sale on Friday, 2nd December, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This year our break-up Christmas Party is to be combined with the Guild on Tuesday afternoon, 13th December, at 1.30 p.m. We then go into recess until Tuesday, 14th February. This meeting will be our Annual Meeting, and we ask all members to make an effort to attend.

The members of our Club take this opportunity to wish all a very Happy, Holy Christmas.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

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SENIOR PARISHIONERS' CLUB

Our year is almost over and we hope the break-up party on Thursday, 15th December, at 1 p.m. will be attended by all our members. The Club will then go into recess until Thursday, 26th January.

We wish all the Blessings of a very Happy Christmas.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

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BOWLS CLUB

The Bowls Club will go into recess from December 7th until the first Wednesday in February. Our best wishes for Christmas and New Year to all at All Saints.

CHURCH FETE

GUILD STALL: Mrs. Swankie wishes to thank very sincerely all who helped her on Fete day and to all who gave gifts or donations during the year, or helped in any way.

MRS. IVY CLARK wishes to thank all who contributed to the success of her stall by way of gifts, sewing, donation and time spent at the stall, which was capably managed by Mrs. Champion.

Due to ill-health, this is the last year Mrs. Clark will be running her stall, but trusts all her friends will continue with their good work for the stall, which in future will be run by Mrs. Champion. To all her friends and parishioners, Ivy extends her sincere thanks and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

MRS. WILLIS wishes to thank all those who helped on the Plant Stall or supplied plants on Fete day.

WHITE ELEPHANT (Mrs. Humphreys): Mrs. Humphreys is very appreciative of all goods she has received during the past year and the assistance she received on Fete day. The takings this year were the biggest ever.

JEWELLERY (Miss Hunt): Miss Hunt celebrated her return from a long absence by an increased profit. She thanks all who assisted in any way.

GROCERIES (Mr. Cragg): Grocery returns increased this year and Noel wishes to thank his helpers, both young and old.

POTTERY (Mrs. Essam): Michele thanks all who donated pottery and china.

CAKES AND SWEETS: See Women's Evening Group Notes.

WORK STALL (Mrs. Jones and Misses Nesbit): These ladies are most appreciative of work done for the stall and help on Fete day.

MRS. RUMBLE'S STALL: May wishes to thank her helpers on Fete day.

BOOK STALL (Mrs. See): Bobbie wishes to thank her helpers, both young and old, for coming to her assistance on Fete day.

REFRESHMENT ROOM: The Rector and Mrs. Gissing wish to record their appreciation of assistance in material, cash donations and labour in running the Refreshment Room.

Our thanks go to the Rector's friends from Oatley for the supply of vegetables and fruit and to others from North Ryde who organised the Hamburger Stall.



THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS

During the month eight panes of glass have been replaced in the Parish Hall and two in the Kindergarten. It is not proposed to repair cracked panes at this time, but the remaining broken panes will be replaced as soon as possible. Fresh putty has been put into a number of panes on the northern side where deterioration is very great. Vic has continued his function of tidying up the leaves and general rubbish and for a short while afterwards the grounds look very attractive. The grass was cut just prior to the Fete and credit for this goes I think to Bruce and Joan Livingston.

F. HEARN.

1977 FETE RECEIPTS

	\$	1976
White Elephant (Mrs. Humphreys)	948.72	509.06
Jewellery (Miss Hunt)	542.00	340.50
Fruit and Vegetables (Mr. Spill)	61.90	60.00
Plants (Mrs. Willis)	84.00	126.90
Groceries (Mr. Cragg)	450.77	324.06
Pottery (Mrs. Esam)	241.88	273.10
Gifts for Special Occasions (Mrs. Clark)	745.74	600.00
Cakes and Sweets (Women's Evening Group)	388.20	381.32
Dry Decorations (Mrs. Sopwith)	68.10	125.60
Work Stall (Mrs. Jones and Misses Nisbet)	1,290.00	1,124.45
Mrs. Rhule's Stall	650.45	568.29
Guild Stall (Mrs. Swankie)	280.83	232.97
Book Stall (Mrs. See)	86.00	116.20
Train (Mr. Barrett)	150.16	125.00
Ponies (.....	58.82	—
Hot Dogs (Mr. Miniter)	64.30	48.43
Hamburgers	61.70	—
Refreshments	213.03	131.79
Guides	37.82	43.21
Donations	93.00	103.00
	<hr/> \$6,517.42	<hr/> \$5,233.88

This should provide a Net Profit of \$6,000.

FETE DONATIONS

	\$
Mrs. M. Frost	8.00
Miss Crittenden	10.00
Mr. W. J. McCarthy	20.00
Petersham R.S.L. Sub-Branch	50.00
Mr. Alan Jones	5.00
	<hr/> \$93.00

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FLOWER ROSTER

- December 4th: Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Swankie and family in memory of mother and grandmother.
- December 11th: Donated by Mr. R. Miniter, John and Margaret in memory of Mrs. Miniter.
- December 18th: No donation.
- December 25th: Christmas Day. Donated by Mrs. Willis in memory of Mrs. Willis Snr, by Barbara and Stella in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Baxter, Sister Ena and friends Dorrie and Sally, by Mrs. Cragg and Noel in memory of Mr. H. Cragg, and by Mrs. Cheetham and family in memory of Mr. C. Cheetham.
- Extra flowers or money to purchase flowers for Christmas would be greatly appreciated.
- January 1st: No donation.
- January 8th: Donated by Mrs. D. Jones in memory of her sister.
- January 15th: Donated by Jack, John and Lindsay Nance in memory of Mrs. Emily McKinnon.
- January 22nd: No donation.
- January 29th: No donation.

Attention is drawn to the lack of flower donations for the 18th December and 1st, 22nd, 29th of January.

More from Coal and Cattle Country

By The Rev. Stephen Rigby

Blackwater is one of those instant towns with social problems unique to a society which has been used to having big stores to shop in, extensive recreational facilities, and now find themselves stuck in the middle of a rural area with nothing of the old life about them. Most people come with the money motive and on the surface there is no declared friendship need, no desire to put down roots in the community. In this setting the Church finds it not easy to relate to these transient people. There are, however, hopeful signs of more young families becoming involved in parish life and for this thank God.

This year we are experiencing a remarkable growth of a genuine ecumenical spirit in Blackwater. Born in need it developed quite naturally as clergy and people have grown together in Christ. In February the high school principal challenged us to draw up a programme of seminars to operate right through the school. We agreed, moving on in faith and now the seminar team includes people from the Anglican, Roman Catholic, Uniting, Baptist, and Lutheran Churches. Comments from school so far have been very favourable and even some of our songs used in the audio visuals have been heard sung around the school. The last seminar challenged the students to look for a "purpose in living". We hope in the long term that we can really turn these kids on for God and bring them into a warm, loving relationship with Him and their brothers and sisters. Next year we are hoping to move together into the primary school where we have over 1,000 children. To meet this challenge we will need a team of 35 teachers. Can the churches of Blackwater cope with this? I believe they can. Recently 25 R.E. teachers attended an in-service training course over five days which encouraged the faint-hearted no end. It's remarkable what effort Christians have on one another. Is all this effort worth it? B.C.A. priests are human too. We like to see returns for our labour. After the third seminar one senior girl remarked, "We've never had R. E. like this before. It has given me a new perspective on life."

Our parish is one of contrast, boom in the coal industry and slump in beef. Many young families on cattle properties are struggling to make ends meet and one or two have decided to quit the land. Despite

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.

the demonstrations and speeches of the past three years, there is no end in sight yet. In spite of gloom our services at May Downs have been delightful experiences. The great gift in having a church service on property is that the Church follows the local custom of meeting to celebrate an event, share experiences of the last few months, and have a good feed into the bargain. R.C.A. ministry here is greatly appreciated by Anglican folk and others who recognise the need for Christian solidarity. Later this year five adults from the properties will be confirmed by our Bishop.

Bluff is a sleepy little railway town to the east of Blackwater but the town really comes alive when the Church celebrates a Folk Mass. Last Easter was no exception, when the little Church of Melanesian Martyrs was jammed with people, townsfolk, cattle people, and visitors. The pews formed a square with rugs on the floor for the children, some of whom went to sleep halfway through the service. There is something in the Psalms about praising God from the bed although the snores of one little body raised a few smiles. You can imagine the problems with communicating the faithful as the celebrant walked around or over slumbering little people, but that did not matter, our joy was in the Lord and in each other.

People of our parish find it difficult to obtain good Christian books so one of our tasks here is to provide helpful books for people to buy. For example, in our Baptism classes we encourage parents to buy good books for their children so we keep on hand Arch Books (on Biblical themes) and many others too. In case anyone is wondering how they might be able to help a B.C.A. parish, a carton of Arch Books would be most welcome.

P.S.—Blackwater is in Queensland — Editor.

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CRUSADE AT RACECOURSE

Randwick Racecourse has been chosen as the venue for the Billy Graham 1979 Sydney Crusade. The Crusade will run for three weeks from April, 28th to May 20th, 1979.

The decision was announced by the Anglican Archbishop of Sydney, The Most Rev. Sir Marcus Loane, K.B.E., who is President of the Crusade Committee, following discussion with Dr. Walter Smyth and members of the Crusade Executive.

Dr. Smyth, who is Vice-President, International Relations for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, said: "I believe the facilities of Randwick Racecourse would be most suitable for the requirements of the Crusade." The other venues which were considered could not guarantee a full period of three weeks.

23rd November, 1977

ALL SAINT'S FETE PRIZE WINNERS

HAMPERS — N. Emery 2/2 Salisbury Road, Stanmore, D. Williams
41 Frederick Street, Campsie.
SHAWL — M. Rowan — 560-8772.
BRIDE DOLL — Farinha — 560-7278.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

December 18th Carols by Candle Light. — 7.00 pm.
December 10th Kindergarten Christmas Party — 2.00 p.m.

December 25th **CHRISTMAS DAY:**

Holy Communion — 7.30 a.m.

Holy Communion — 9.30 a.m.

December 31st Watchnight Communion — 11.30 p.m.

January 1st Holy Scommunion — 8.00 a.m.

Morning Prayer — 10 a.m.

Evensong — 7.00 p.m.

APOLOGY

We regret the late delivery of the Church Chronicle paper owing to the illness of our operator.

JAMES & JAMES

PARISH INFORMATION

Holy Communion— Each Sunday at 8 p.m., 2nd and 4th Sundays at 10 a.m., 3rd Sunday at 7 p.m.

Morning Prayer—1st and 5th Sundays at 10 a.m.

Family Service— 3rd Sunday at 10 a.m. Sunday School and Kindergarten on other Sundays at 9.55 a.m.

Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals by arrangement with the Rector.
Church Wardens—Messrs. B. Livingston (Rectors and Treasurer),
F. G. Hearn, N. Cragg.

Parish Council—The Church Wardens and Messrs. F. Evans, R. Swankie, H. Spill, Mesdames I Barrett, E. Sopwith and J. Livingston.

Hon. Treasurer—Mr. B. Livingston.

Hon. Secretary— Mrs. J. Livingston.

Sunday School Superintendent—Mr. N. Cragg.

Kindergarten Leader—Mrs. Freeman.

Organist—Miss I. Dupre.

Chronicle Editor—Mr. F. Hearn.

Publicity Officer—Mr. H. J. Shaw.