

The Chronicle

Of All Saints

Petersham

STANMORE ROAD, PETERSHAM (Opposite Fire Station)

Rector: BRUCE WOOLCOTT

Phone: 569-4735

JUNE, 1983

The Rectory,
325 Stanmore Road,
Petersham, 2049
19th May, 1983

Dear Friends,

We often refer to Australia as the Lucky Country. Materially speaking, this is true. Australia has vast resources. Australia has a wonderful climate—rather, range of climates. Australia is sufficiently isolated from other countries to avoid being tangled in their disputes and petty fights. Australia is still sufficiently unified for all to enjoy the natural wealth that abounds.

We live in a Lucky Country, but many now call us an immoral society. True, our land still abounds in Nature's gifts which are both "rich and rare" but as a nation we have become immoral.

When I use the term "immoral society" I am not solely referring to sexual immorality. Such immorality is rife within all sections of our community, but it is only a part of the total breakdown within the nation.

Sexual harassment in the work place, at school or in social contact is a fact of life for both sexes. Affairs, separations and divorces touch everyone and no one seems to be immune. The God-given gifts of love and family life instead of being used for the benefit of mankind are being twisted in such a way as to cause sorrow, pain and misery.

But such things are a mere outward and physical display of a far deeper condition which has afflicted all Australians. We have become an Immoral Society.

Gambling, or the desire to accumulate other goods without work or payment has reached plague proportions. From the "two bob" raffle to \$1,000,000 lottery; from the lucky numbers on your loaf of bread to a Mercedes-Benz on the TV show. Not one

section of society or commerce is unaffected. It is good sometimes to realise that you and I pay for that "lucky ticket," or that Mercedes-Benz which costs "nothing" to try to win. The producer, or the seller, does not dip his hand into his pocket—no, we pay for that advertising stunt when we buy that item.

Australians have come to believe they can get something for nothing—and that isn't true.

Much has been heard of the big "bottom of the harbour" tax avoidance schemes, but often have you or I sold or bought for cash, paid a tradesman cash with no receipt and the fairly accurate guess it's not being accounted for in his tax return

The size of the transaction is immaterial. What matters is the ethics or the morality of it.

Truth is also a casualty from this cancerous growth in our society.

It is easy for individuals and governments to attempt to correct these abuses but blind men cannot see clearly and bent men don't stand straight or tall. We therefore are placed in the situation of having to admit that man cannot either reform himself; nor can the standards he sets for others eliminate the moral distortions around him.

We are faced with the need for an outsider—someone who is not capable of being perverted by human frailties—to set standards of morality within our community. There is only one such person—God. He sets pure standards—but more than that He also gives men who seek, the power to attain these standards.

Morality is a personal problem not corrected by the laws of men but by the loving mercy of God.

It is not "they" it is "me", but praise God He can change me.

Yours sincerely,
BRUCE WOOLCOTT, Rector.

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CHURCH DIARY FOR JUNE

Thurs. 2—1.00 p.m.—Senior Parishioners' Club, Church Hall.

Fri. 3—9.30 a.m.—Care and Share Group, Guild Room,
Church Hall.

Sun. 5—9.30 a.m.—Morning Prayer.

7.00 a.m.—Holy Communion.

Tues. 7—1.00 p.m.—Women-in-Friendship, Guild Room,
Church Hall.

Guest Speaker: Rev. Jim Humphries, Bible Society.

Thurs. 9—1.00 p.m.—Senior Parishioners' Club, Church Hall.

Fri. 10—9.30 a.m. Care and Share Group, Guild Room, Church Hall.

7.30 p.m.—Hi-Fri. Group, Y.C.I. Room, Church Hall.

Sun. 12—9.30 a.m.—Holy Communion.

Guest Preacher,; Mr. O'Connor, Bible Society.

7.00 p.m.—Evening Prayer.

Mon. 13— **QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY**

7.30 p.m.—Parish Council Meeting, Church Vestry.

Thurs. 16—1.00 p.m.—Senior Parishioners Club Church Hall.

Fri. 17—8.30 a.m.—Care and Share Group, Guild Rm., Church Hall.

Sun. 19—9.30 a.m.—Family Service.

7.00 p.m.—Holy Communion.

Thurs. 23—1.00 p.m.—Senior Parishioners Club, Church Hall.

Fri. 24—9.30 a.m.—Care and Share Group, Guild Room, Church Hall.

7.30 p.m.—Hi-Fri Group, Y.C.I. Room, Church Hall.

Sun. 26—9.30 a.m.—Holy Communion.

7.00 p.m. Evening Prayer.

Thurs. 30—1.00 p.m.—Senior Parishioners Club, Church Hall.

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CHURCH REGISTER

WEDDINGS

May 7—Kerry Anne Downie to Brad Jon Tweeddale.

Matilda Josephine Lorca to Peter Rinker.

FUNERALS

May 13—Millicent Maude Eggleton.

May 18—Elsie Forrest. —————oOo—————

HI-FRI CLUB

This is not an advert for a new cooking implement, or some new brand of cooking fat. It is a group designed for young people of high school age which meets on two Friday evenings a month, usually in the Y.C.I. Room in the Church Hall. It is small numbers and is not intended to grow large because of its special character.

It has one object: to foster Christian Fellowship and life amongst young high school students. Its activities are both social and spiritual. Every member is expected to play an active part in both aspects of the group's activities.

Parents who wish their teenage children to share socially and spiritually with others from Christian homes are urged to consider this type of activity.

Hi-Fri aims to win and keep teenagers for Christ—hopefully this may keep them within the life of their parish church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Sunday School has recommenced for the second term of 1983.

The Primary section of the Sunday School starts at 9.30 a.m. in the Church, then moving to the Parish Hall for the lesson.

The Kindergarten Sunday School also starts at 9.30 a.m., meeting in their own building adjacent to the Parish Hall.

NOEL CRAGG, Superintendent.

—oOo—

SENIOR PARISHIONERS CLUB

Our Senior Parishioners Club is happily meeting every Thursday in the Parish Hall at 1 p.m. Do come along and join in the fun.

We are very glad to have Dulcie Swankie back with us again after her long illness. Keep it up, Dulcie, you're improving every day. Also glad to hear Edwina Hanson is out of hospital and with her daughter. We hope you will be back with us soon too, Edwina.

We are all very sad to have lost one of our loved members, Irene Condon, and extend our sincere sympathy to all her family.

We are all very happy to welcome Joyce Perry as a new member and hope she will spend many happy years with us.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary

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WOMEN-IN-FRIENDSHIP

The next meeting of Women-in-Friendship will be held in the Guild Room of the Parish Hall on Tuesday, 7th June, at 1 p.m. followed at 2 p.m. by Mr. Jim Humphreys of the Bible Society showing us a film and speaking to us of their work. Please come and join us at 2 p.m.

The meeting on Tuesday, 5th July at 1 p.m. will be followed by a Byron Parker Presentation, when we will be shown new products on the market and how best to use them. Free samples will be distributed.

Many thanks to all who donated goods or helped in any way towards our second-hand clothing and jumble stall on Friday, 20th May. The proceeds of this effort was \$176. To all, thanks once again. We hope to hold another stall in a couple of months time, so please remember to save anything saleable for us.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

—oOo—

LET US GIVE THANKS . . .

For the ladies of Women-in-friendship who continue to labour willingly and faithfully at raising money by means of the Jumble Sales. The unsold clothing eventually goes to H.M.S.

For the ladies and gentlemen who work regularly and

steadily on newspaper re-cycling and loading which is now an important part of our income.

For the ladies and gentlemen who do other important but unacknowledged jobs in and around the Church and grounds.

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Editor.

H.M.S.

The Home Mission Society's annual budget tops the nine million dollar mark and has a paid staff of 600 with over 800 voluntary staff plus the support of many auxiliary and parish groups.

Care Force programmes include residential youth care; family support services for families in crisis; migrant and refugee services with a special emphasis on Indo-Chinese people and in Wollongong with Spanish speaking people; family refugees; counselling services; drug and alcohol services and other services including adoptions; parish liaison; handicapped persons; respite care programmes; unemployed services and community development.

It is impossible in this space to provide detailed examples of every service provided by the Home Mission Society. However, to take one example, in the counselling field, various types of counselling are offered by most Care Force staff but specific counselling services are offered by teams working in Newtown, Blacktown, Wollongong, Campbelltown, Charlton Youth and Liverpool in the areas of financial counselling; family counselling; parole counselling employment/unemployment counselling and crisis counselling. These are huge tasks taxing both the economic resources of the Diocese and the emotional resources of the workers.

In a different area, there are 10 Chesalon Nursing Homes—at Beecroft, Eastwood, Harris Park, Jannali, Malabar, North Manly, Nowra, Summer Hill, Westmead and Woonona. The Home Nursing Services alone have a total cost of \$201,700. Chesalons provide 443 nursing beds and an active day patient programme which is being extended in 1983. In 1982 there were

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.

13,529 Home Nursing visits, 7037 day patient attendances and 3660 inquiries for admission to Chesalons.

The Home Mission Society work extends to opportunity shops selling quality second hand clothing through outlets where the emphasis is on dignity, style and quality of presentation; parish grants, and chaplaincies in hospitals, goals and other holding centres for juveniles. These are essentially crisis ministries to people in traumatic circumstances, the majority of whom have little depth of christian understanding and some not at all.

The work does not stop there. Church of England Homes operate nine permanent establishments. Kingsdene Hostel and School provides five days a week residential schooling for 39 children. Three Home of Peace Hospitals provide rehabilitation, specialised treatment and general hospital care. On top of that, the retirement villages have over 2200 residents and a staff of 956 full and part-time workers.

Obviously the scope of caring work provided by the church is huge, and it continues to grow and meet the changing needs of society.

At the beginning of this article the growing numbers of unemployed people and desperate families in Sydney was discussed. The new, hidden poor need our help in a most practical way, because they are hungry. Many people in Sydney in 1983 do not have enough to eat.



SPECIAL WINTER APPEAL PROJECT

With your help, with the help of organised volunteer groups from your parish and with your financial support, it is planned to establish dining rooms in needy areas where people may come for a good meal at no cost. A name for the scheme is yet to be decided but in these planning stages, pledges of support would be welcomed. This is a special project for the 1983 Archbishop's Winter Appeal and will be administered by H.M.S. For further information and to register your support please contact the Rev. Alan Whitham, director of the Anglican Home Mission Society.

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With continuing dependence on the gospel and with the practical support of christian people, who give throughout the year and through the Archbishop's Winter Appeal, the work of the church's caring agencies can continue to provide the spiritual and practical help necessary for survival in an increasingly difficult world.

MARGIE COOK

HAPPY FAMILIES by Janet Wood

One of the most used and abused words in our language has six, not four letters to it. It describes an instruction allegedly capable of saving society—or of destroying it. The word is family.

Like beauty, its significance has more in the eye of the beholder than in sociological definitions. It may bring to mind a whistle-clean, whitetoothed glowing foursome occasionally visited by comfortable plump, never irritable granny. It may mean for others a disintegrating, quarrelling couple with a sad-eyed child grieving for harmony.

We know it ought to mean more than simply a legalised system for orderly reproduction—that it ought to involve caring nurturing and belonging. We are anxious that it is under siege from the consumer society. TV, the pill, drugs, divorce. We may fear that it cannot survive the sort of solutions handed out in newspaper advice columns.

Certainly alterations to the family are taking place (as they have done throughout history) and it is not yet clear what their effects will be. Effective means of control have freed a marriage from a constant round of reproduction, but have also reduced the number of people within a family to a vulnerable level. One child often now has to bear parental anxieties and expectations which would once have been spread over five or six.

One of the less obvious influences on the role of the family in society is the increasing years of survival of older people. As the number of couples with children at home proportionately decrease, the proportion of community interest and support might also decline.

Do Christians demonstrate any special insight into the nature and needs of the family? We use the term frequently. Each picnic is now a family picnic, and concert a family concert. We give a church a tick of approval if it provides family worship. Unfortunately there are both gains and losses from this latter activity. It may encourage the labelling of those who attend family worship as open and innovative and others as immobile pew sitters, (though given that most family worship services are early, they may be simply—late risers!).

The pattern of Christ's ministry clearly de-emphasises fam-

ily inits as objects of one's first loyalty. Jesus himself was a family drop-out. When his mother and brothers tried to keep him from being an embarrassment to them, it was necessary for him to shrug off their restrictions.

The fluidity of human relationships is illustrated succinctly at the time on the cross when Jesus commends his mother to the protection of John, but also presents Mary to the disciple as his "mother".

Christ does not eliminate the family. He enlarges it to encompass all.

**ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH, PETERSHAM
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS, APRIL, 1983**

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
	\$2,834.95	Rectors Net Stipend ..	1126.25
Offertories	1,126.53	Rector's Trav. Allow ..	238.75
RECYCLING:		Organist	82.50
Cans	99.45	Church Flowers	35.00
Bottles	69.56	Chronicles	65.20
Papers	275.75	Church Cleaning	100.00
	444.76	Cleaning Material	4.17
Church Flowers	43.00	Fire Extinguisher for	
District Visitors	1.00	Hall, Kitchen	157.00
DONATIONS:		M' Tenance P.A.	
Women-in-friendship	200.00	System	70.19
O.E.S. Floodlighting	2.00	General Assessment June	
Rector's Telephone		quarter	558.25
Contrib. 3/ 83	6.25	Special Assessment arrears	
Fete Groceries	3.10	June Quarter	37.50
Advertisement in Chronicle		Special Assessment	
Walters and Son	100.00	June quarter	164.50
	1926.95	Organ Maintenance	34.46
Deficit for month	908.31	Stationery	44.18
		W. A. Flick Annual	
		Contract	117.00
	2834.95		2834.95

Balance 1/4/83

Less Deficit for Month

Balance 30/4/83

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT APRIL 1983

J. W. Walker & Sons — Organ Maintenance	30.00
James and James — April Chronicles	65.20
Church Cleaning Material Cash (J. Brannan)	4.17
J. W. Thornton — Organ Maintenance	4.46
Pink Panther Instant Printing — 1000 Letterheads	44.18
A.W.A. Ltd. — Maintenance to Public Address System	70.19
Wormald International (Aust) Pty Ltd. Fire Extinguisher	
for Hall, Kitchen	157.00
Fresh Flowers — April Flowers	35.00
W. A. Flick & Co. Pty. Ltd. — Annual Contract	117.00

James & James, 188 Liverpool Road, Ashfield, 2181