

*The Chronicle
Of All Saints
Petersham*

The Friendly Church

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

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

MARCH 1979

New Service Times

As from 1st March, 1979, the services on Sunday will be:—

9.30 a.m. ONE COMBINED MORNING SERVICE.

Holy Communion—Second, Fourth and Fifth.
Morning Prayer—First and Third.

(Morning Prayer is shortened on
Third Sunday for the Family
Service.)

7.00 p.m. Holy Communion—First and Third.

Evening Prayer—Second, Fourth and Fifth.

BAPTISM IS ADMINISTERED ON THE FIRST SUNDAY BY
APPOINTMENT.

—oOo—

Sunday School will meet at 9.55 a.m. each Sunday except the
Third. On that Sunday the Family Service commences at 9.30 a.m.

From your Minister's Desk



My dear Friends,

Which one of us doesn't value being able to "get together" with our families. I know that these are the times each week or so that I look forward to. Our children have grown up and moved out—except our youngest. There is very real encouragement and enjoyment when they all come together to meet and share.

March, 1979 marks the point when our church has decided to provide an opportunity for this sort of thing to apply to our parish family. From 4th March it has been decided to have one combined morning service in place of the two services formerly held. The time chosen is 9.30 a.m. As Sunday School will continue at 9.55 a.m. it will really be possible for the whole "family" to unite in the Lord's House for an act of worship. Then the younger members can move out to the Hall for their activities and lessons. The adults will continue in the Church for the rest of the Service and share a "coffee time" together. So we hope to strengthen our fellowship and encourage one another — but above all offer to our Heavenly Father a more inspiring act of worship as a whole family.

We invite all parishioners to share more fully with us and to join in praying that our hopes and aims may be realised.

On the front of this issue is an outline of the arrangements of the new service times.

No doubt one of the outstanding events for the churches of Sydney in 1979 will be the Graham Crusade between April 29th and May 20th at the Randwick Racecourse. Part of the preparation for the Crusade is a series called "Christian Life and Witness Classes". These will be held during March in various locations—details are provided elsewhere in this issue.

Every Christian will consider these opportunities as a "must" whether one plans to offer as a Counsellor or not during the actual Crusade. We each have a responsibility to witness to others about our personal faith in Christ Jesus. These classes offer an opportunity over four weeks to learn or clarify some of how this can be done—a very worthwhile Lenten Course of Personal Spiritual development. Too often we feel inadequate for such witness—What do I say? Where do I begin? What Scriptures do I use? and so on. Resolve now to take this opportunity to clarify your own faith and learn more of how to live the Christian life and share that faith with others.

The prospects and possibilities ahead of us are inviting. Will you stand with us in seeking to glorify Him Who said "I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me."

Your sincere friend in Christ Jesus,

S. W. GISSING.

'79 GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Randwick racecourse is to be the scene for one of the greatest happenings Sydney has ever had.

A team led by veteran evangelist Dr. Billy Graham is to conduct a Crusade there for three weeks commencing Sunday, April 29. Hundreds of thousands of people are expected to attend and thousands more will watch by landline relays in country centres throughout N.S.W.

What's a Crusade?

It's a joint effort by Sydney churches to present the gospel of Jesus Christ to the people of our city. It will aim to show people the relevance of the Word of God to today's problems and where they may begin to find answers. It will strengthen the Christian believer in his faith and help the unbeliever to find one.

Why do we need it?

The 1979 Crusade comes at a time when our nation and more specifically, our city, is in dire need of the gospel of Jesus Christ. As we view world events and declining community standards, many alert observers think this could be the final opportunity for many people to hear the gospel and commit their lives to Christ. In any event, the message of Dr. Graham—the Bible message—is one which changes lives, outlooks and communities for the better.

But why Billy Graham?

Why indeed? There are tens of thousands of others proclaiming the same message. Nevertheless in Billy Graham God has raised up a man with a remarkable gift of communication. He has the ability, equalled by very few and surpassed by none, to express the gospel in a plain and straightforward way to ordinary people. He makes sense to people in a way few others can. For this reason he has been asked to preach all over the world and has preached to more people directly or indirectly than any other person living or dead. In non-English speaking countries he preaches through an interpreter.

Whose idea was it?

Archbishop Loane invited Billy Graham to come. Although Dr. Graham has not conducted Crusades of more than a week or ten days' duration for many years he readily accepted the invitation. Leaders of other churches immediately supported the Archbishop and so the Crusade goes forward as a truly interdenominational outreach to the people of Sydney.

How much does he make out of it?

Nothing. Billy Graham is paid a regular salary by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association whether he comes to Australia or not. The B.G.E.A., which is supported mainly by American Christians, also pays air fares and travel expenses of Dr. Graham and his team. Australian Christians will meet local expenses only, such as the hire of Randwick Racecourse, publicity, administration costs and so on.

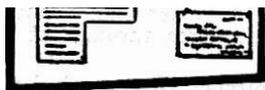
Why should I go?

Well, if for no other reason, to see and hear one of the most interesting men of this generation and a highly respected world figure. But much more important, you should go because of the message he preaches. You will never be quite the same again, and you may find it a life changing experience of the very best possible kind.

Attending meetings of this Crusade could prove to be the most important investment in time you have ever made.

(This month feature on the 1979 Crusade is reprinted from "Crossroads" Parish Paper of St. Stephen's Willoughby.)

NEWS BRIEFS



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING of All Saints', Petersham will be held on MONDAY, 12th MARCH, 1979 at 7.30 p.m., in the Parish Hall.

Parishioners aged 18 years and over are invited to attend.

The primary purpose of the meeting is to receive the Churchwardens' Report and Statements of Account, and then to elect officers for the ensuing year.

Churchwardens, Parish Councillors and Parish Representatives for the Presentation Board will be elected.

S. W. GISSING,
Rector.

B. Livingston,
H. Spill, N. Cragg,
Churchwardens.



EASTER VISIT TO NURSING HOMES

Each Easter some of our women visit the patients in our local Nursing Homes to bring a reminder of God's Love and the promises of His Victory. They take each person a small gift! Help in providing these would be most appreciated.

Mrs. Willis kindly organises the gifts—soap, tissues washers, powder etc. If you can help please leave the gifts or cash (to purchase some) at the Rectory as early as you can. They will then be gift-wrapped with a greeting ready for the visits during the week leading up to Easter.



BILLY GRAHAM SYDNEY CRUSADE

Randwick Racecourse
29 April to 20 May '79

One of the most vital aspects of preparation for the Sydney Billy Graham Crusade will be the Christian Life and Witness Classes to be held from 5-31 March. They will be held in various suburbs and will be taught by Mr. Charles Riggs and Mr. Jack Humphreys.

Two classes will be held every evening from Monday to Friday; weekday morning classes will be held at Bankstown and Chatswood, and

classes will be held on Saturday mornings at Penrith. Classes will be at 5.45 p.m. in the city for the convenience of workers

Here are the location and times of the classes most convenient for us. Should you wish details of other meeting classes contact the Rector or phone St. Andrew's House, 233-1711.

Ashfield Baptist Church, 19 Holden Street.

Mondays 5, 12, 19, 26th March at 7.30 p.m.

Teacher: J. Humphreys.

Bankstown Baptist Church, Cnr. Stanley & Leonard Streets.

Thursdays 8, 15, 22, 29th March at 10 a.m.

Teacher: J. Humphreys.

Sydney Chapter House, St. Andrew's Cathedral, Cnr. George & Bathurst Streets.

Fridays, 9, 16, 23, 30th March at 5.45 p.m.

Teacher: C. Riggs.

SENIOR PARISHIONERS CLUB

The Club is now back in full swing for 1979. I am pleased to see so many of our members who have been away ill back with us—a big welcome back to each one of you.

I am sorry to report we have lost one member in the passing away of Betty Johnson, Sincere Sympathy is extended to her family from the Club.

Mrs. Hilda Young has entered Lewisham Hospital for an operation. We all wish you a speedy recovery Hilda and look forward to seeing you back with us.

The Club fees have had to be raised to 40 cents, but I can assure you all, your afternoon tea is worth more than the 40 cents.

We would like to have the pleasure of enrolling new members any Thursday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. If you are lonely and want to fill in a happy afternoon each week just come. There is a warm welcome waiting for you. Games and afternoon tea all for 40 cents.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

WOMENS AFTERNOON GROUP

The Annual meeting and an Americana Party were held on the 1st Tuesday in February. I am sure all who attended spent a very interesting afternoon. We still urgently need new members. If you can spare a few hours on the 1st Tuesday afternoon each month you will be very welcome. Our fee is only 20 cents a month. Mrs. Cathy Hitchcock will tell us of life in New Guinea and other interesting places after our next meeting on 6th March. Cathy is a member of our Club, and I'm sure most of you would know her by sight if not personally. The April meeting is to be followed by a Stanhome Party and the June meeting by a Floral Art Demonstration. Come and learn how to make artificial flowers which are really life-like.

Our next Jumble Stall will be held on Friday, 30th March, at 9.30 a.m. Members please come to the hall on Wednesday, 28th at 7 p.m. to set the Stall up. Any second hand clothing or saleable goods of any kind would be greatly appreciated. Please leave them at the Rectory or Mrs. Barrett's home, 59 John Street, Petersham.

Don't forget our meetings are the first Tuesday each month at 1.30 p.m. The next is Tuesday, 6th March. Please come and join us.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

CHURCH FLORAL MEMORIALS

The anniversary of the loss of one very dear to us is a special time which we recall with deep significance. There are many who express this quietly and beautifully by making a contribution to the Floral Decoration in Church. The following are those in our church during March and April.

March 18—War Memorial—Anonymous.

April 22 — Miss A. Jones in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. Jones, sister Eva and brother Walter.

Anyone wishing to make such a memorial should contact the Rector. It would assist greatly if the intention was indicated at least 6 to 7 weeks in advance.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

How long is it since you joined in a "Singalong" of some of the very old favourites like "Way Down upon the Swanee River" and "John Brown's Body ? ? ! ! It was a long time for me—and the women who joined me—when recently we visited the residents at "Ardrossan Nursing Home" in Audley Street. The temperature was high but so were our spirits and those of our friends at Ardrossan as we sang and clapped our way through so many of the old songs.

We're hoping to visit the different nursing homes in our parish on a regular basis. On Tuesday afternoon, 13th March we plan to visit "Braeside" Hospital. Maybe, as you read this, you think "Now, that's something I'd like to do—visit, along with others, one of the local nursing homes." If you do feel you'd like to do this, please contact me at the Rectory (Phone 569-4735)—we'd appreciate your company.

Mrs. Catherine Wheatley will be the Guest Speaker at our local Service in connection with the Women's World Day of Prayer on Friday, 2nd March—to be held in the Uniting Church, Constitution Road, Dulwich Hill at 10.00 a.m. Do hope you'll take this as a personal invitation to join us. If you require transport please phone me.

Are you interested in hearing first-hand news of what life is like in Russia? Then come with us to "A Coffee Evening" at Haberfield Baptist Church on Tuesday, 6th March at 8 p.m. where Mrs. Mary Fewchuck will speak on "With love to Russia". This evening is arranged by West-side Committee of C.W.C.I. and promises to be an enjoyable time. If you'd like transport just let me know.

Another date to keep—in fact, you'll have to book for this. Its the "Opera House Rally" in the concert Hall on Thursday, 26th April at 10.15 a.m. where Mrs. Ruth Graham, wife of Dr. Billy Graham, will be the Special Guest Speaker. Most of us have seen and heard Dr. Graham—either in person or on television—but not many of us have had the privilege of seeing and hearing Mrs. Graham. So here's the opportunity!

Tickets are \$4.00 and \$2.50. Mail bookings (six weeks in advance) to:
THE BOX OFFICE MANAGER,
 Sydney Opera House,
 P.O. Box R239, Royal Exchange,
 Sydney 2000.

All bookings to be accompanied by a self-addressed envelope. Counter Sales available at City and Suburban agencies.

Betty Gissing.

**Lenten
Mid-Week
Communion**
each
Wednesday
at 7.15 a.m.
from
Ash Wednesday
28th February



A PAR ON GOLF

Ever since this incident I have lived in expectation of hitting a par round in golf.

I had only been on the golf course once before. My partner was acting like a real pro. "I play every week", he was saying. "Got \$400 worth of me own clubs. Pity Dad's got them today."

We teed off with our hired drivers. I went first. Not an enormous hit but—straight enough.

His first shot was a hook — or was it a slice. Out of bounds in the centre of fairway number two. "Rotten club", he muttered. I wanted to say something about bad workmen blaming their tools.

I took a slender lead and kept it until the final hole.

From his second shot he produced a beautiful lofted stroke that stopped dead only a metre from the pin. His eyes gleamed. I was in the bunker.

"It looks like its curtains for me," I said to myself. I took a deep breath. He stood on the green and watched.

I somehow got comfortable having selected a club with a head which jutted out almost at right angles to the handle. "If I can get the head under the ball, maybe I can get out of this trap," I reasoned.

I swung. It felt good. Then I heard a voice above. "I bet you can't do that again!"

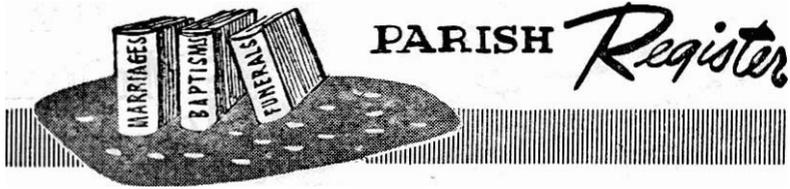
I had holed it!

Having humbled my confident opponent I began to take stock of my game. "I seem to have most of the rudiments of a good golfer. Now all I need to do is put it all together".

And so I live in expectation.

The Bible has a lot to say about the theme of expectation. It says that we can't expect things to go on as they are forever and ever.. One day, the God who brought this world into being is going to say "Enough!" And everyone, past and present will have to render and account of what they have done.

Now that is an expectation that everyone needs to have in mind.



ALUMINIUM CAN AND NEWSPAPER DRIVES

The Parish Council is initiating two drives—one for aluminium cans, the other for newspapers. If you could crush the cans and deliver to the church porch on Sundays we'd be grateful.

The newspapers (and only newspapers!) should be saved at home and then at the end of the month delivered to the Church Hall on the Saturday or Sunday. Pick-up can be arranged if you are unable to bring them up. It helps to have the papers tied in bundles with a strong cord.

In these two ways it is hoped to be able to augment Parish Funds so that we can cope better with the growing costs. Our Parish Secretary, Mrs. Livingston, is organising the drives and further information can be gained from her—569-5057.

PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms:

1978

December 3—Andrew Phillip James Greenway, of 5/1 Yule Street, Dulwich Hill.

1979

February 4—James William Ritchie, of 24 Railway Street Petersham.

Marriages:

1978

December 23—Jami Patrik Lehtonen (Dulwich Hill) and Karen Ann Purton (Dulwich Hill).

1979

January 6—John Allan Nance (Stanmore) and Pamela Edith Kidd (Petersham).

January 12—Gregory Nicholas Mackay (Brighton le Sands) and Julie Margaret Edmonds (Petersham).

Burials:

1978

September 27—Greville Jack Nance of Bruce Street, Stanmore.

October 23—Dulcie Pearl Weston of 42 Croydon Street, Petersham.

December 6—John Richard Fitzsimmons of 23 Allan Avenue, Petersham.

1979

February 5—William John Smith of 9A/83 Homer Street, Earlwood.

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.

James & James, Printers, Liverpool Road, Ashfield — 798 8326