

The Chronicle Of All Saints Petersham

The Friendly Church

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

The Rectory, 325 Stanmore Road, Petersham, 2049—56-4735

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

SEPTEMBER, 1975



THE RECTOR'S NOTES

My dear Friends,

There would not be many parishes where the people are better provided for in material terms than they are here at Petersham. The parish "plant" is such that there are few activities which could not be readily accommodated. The past has endowed us plenteously both in our Church and our Halls.

The Wardens and Parish Council join me in expressing gratitude to the family of the late Miss Edith Alice Baskin for a gift which will add further to our fortunate condition. On Sunday, 28th September we hope to have a Flood-Light dedicated as a memorial to Miss Baskin which will commemorate her long and valued association with All Saints. The Light will illuminate the western grassed area and the southern bitumen area of our property. It is a most acceptable and valued addition to our property.

While mentioning our own fortunate situation which reflects our individual and community affluence, may I draw attention to a coming event. On Sunday, 28th September the annual Door Knock on behalf of the Freedom From Hunger will give us an opportunity to contribute to the relieving of need among the less fortunate. There are wide areas where starvation is a growing problem in the world. As a Christian Church we are invited to supply volunteers who'll call on houses in our district to collect contributions—and also, by our very appearing on door-steps, stimulate sympathetic response to the appeal! WILL YOU HELP ME PLEASE to be practical in applying the Gospel of Love and Mercy entrusted to us by our Lord? I would be very pleased to have a note of all who would do some calling during that last week of September.

Returning again to our parish "plant". It is very gratifying to note that our main hall is proving useful to members of the community. On Wednesday mornings a number of families make use of it as a Play-group Centre. This means that MUMS and their Pre-School children meet there for a time of sharing and supervised play. Quite a number of the Mums have expressed their personal appreciation that our church has made the opportunity available. There must be others too who would value the chance to "get out" with the kids and meet with other mothers and just mingle informally for a while each week. The being "cut off" is a problem of quite a lot of folk in our suburbs these days—and not only in this middle age group!

It's good to know that our buildings are serving a really useful purpose—and to know that they are respected by those who use them. To see big properties and buildings, which cost considerably to be maintained, only being used occasionally during a week is a sad thing. Churches, because of their very nature, fall into this situation more understandably. Yet it would seem to me a pity our churches are not left open and made more use of by individuals. Our Church is open for a considerable time during the week. This is in spite of the fear of mis-use—and due to the loving care and attention given by Mrs. I. Clark, our almost full-time Verger and Cleaner! Mrs. Clark spends many hours around our buildings and so makes it possible for folk to use the Church for quiet and prayer should they wish to. This provides a much needed spiritual therapy in these days of noise, rush and pressure. Should the church door be found closed, a knock at the Rectory may solve the problem! Surely we must thank God for the tools we've

been provided with and by which we are in a position to do much to serve our community.

Yours in the service of the Gospel,
S. W. GISSING, Rector.

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SANCTUARY FLOWER ROSTER

- September 7: No donation; arranged by Mrs. Clark.
September 14: Donated by Mrs. Humphreys in memory of Mr. Jack Humphreys, and by Mrs. Ditchburn in memory of Mr. Ditchburn; arranged by Miss Nisbet.
September 21: Donated by Mrs. Quelch in memory of her Parents and by Mr. and Mrs. Swankie and Family in memory of Mother and Grandmother;! arranged by Mrs. Clark.
September 28: Donated by Mrs. Pullen in memory of her Parents and by Mrs. Willis in memory of Mrs. Sheriff; arranged by Mrs. Clark.
October 5: Donated by Mrs. Cook in memory of her Parents and E. Bosward and family in memory of Tom; arranged by Mrs. Clark.

We gratefully acknowledge flowers on August 17th from Miss Butt.

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THE DAY JOSHUA HELPED THE SPACE PROGRAM

A computer used in the American space program has provided proof that what has been called myth in the Bible is truth.

Mr. Harold Hill, President of the Curtis Engine Company in Baltimore, Maryland, and a consultant in the space program relates the following development:

I think one of the most amazing things that God has for us today happened recently to our astronauts and space scientists at Green Belt, Maryland.

They were checking the position of the sun, moon and plants out in the space where they would be 100 years and 1000 years from now.

We have to know this so we don't send a satellite up and have it bump into something later on in its orbits. We have to lay out the orbits in terms of the life of the satellite and where the planets will be so the whole thing will not bog down.

They ran the computer measurements back and forth over the centuries and it came to a halt.

The computer stopped and put up a red signal, which meant there was something wrong either with the information fed into it or with the results as compared with the standards.

They called in the service department to check it out and they said, "It's perfect." The head of operations said, "What's wrong?". "Well, they have found there is a day missing in space in elapsed time."

They scratched their heads and tore their hair. There was no answer.

One religious fellow on the team said, "You know, one time I was in Sunday School and they talked about the sun standing still".

They didn't believe him, but they didn't have any other answer so they said, "Show us". He got a Bible and went to the book of Joshua where they found a pretty ridiculous statement for anybody who has "common sense".

There they found the Lord saying to Joshua, "Fear them not, for I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee."

Joshua was concerned for he was surrounded by the enemy and if darkness fell they would overpower them. So Joshua asked the Lord to make the sun to stand still!

That's right—"the sun stood still and the moon stayed—and hasted not to go down about a whole day."

The space men said, "There is the missing day."

They checked the computer, going back into the time it was written and found it was close but not close enough. The elapsed time that was missing back in Joshua's day was 23 hours and 20 minutes—not a whole day.

They read the Bible and there it was—"about a day".

These little words in the Bible are important. But they were still in trouble because if you cannot account for 40 minutes you'll still be in trouble 1000 years from now. Forty minutes had to be found because it can be multiplied many times over in orbit.

This religious fellow also remembered somewhere in the Bible where it said the sun went backwards. The spacemen told him he was out of his mind.

But they got the Book and read these words in 11 Kings (20:8-10). Hezekiah, on his death-bed was visited by the prophet Isaiah who told him that he was going to die.

Hezekiah asked for a sign as proof. Isaiah said, "Do you want the sun to go ahead 10 degrees?"

Hezekiah said, "It's nothing for the sun to go ahead 10 degrees, but let the shadow return backwards 10 degrees." Isiah spoke to the Lord and the Lord brought the shadow 10 degrees backward!

Ten degrees is exactly 40 minutes! Twenty-three hours and 20 minutes in Joshua, plus 40 minutes in 11 Kings make the missing 24 hours the space travellers had to log in the logbook as being the missing day in the universe."

—From the Evening Star, Spencer, Indiana, U.S.A.

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CLUB NEWS

Ladies' Guild:

Please note that our meeting on 16th September will commence at 12.40 p.m. and will be followed by a "Public Relations Shopping Spree" demonstration which will illustrate new products on the market. Visitors will be very welcome and a donation of 30 cents will include afternoon tea.

E. M. BOSWARD, Honorary Secretary.

Women's Evening Group:

The next meeting of the Women's Evening group will be held on Tuesday, 9th September in the Parish Hall at 8 p.m. It is hoped that we will see all our new and old members.

The fete is only two months away and suggestions and new ideas for our Cake and Sweet stall would be welcome, as would donations of cakes and sweets.

IDA BARRETT, Honorary Secretary.

Senior Parishioners' Club:

A hearty welcome is extended to all our new members. We hope they will find many afternoons of happiness in the fellowship of our

club. We extend a further invitation to ladies and gentlemen to join us any Thursday between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. The afternoons comprise "Cards and Housie" and 25 cents covers afternoon tea as well.

IDA BARRETT, Honorary Secretary.

Indoor Bowls Club:

We are enjoying our games each Wednesday and are happy to welcome a new member, Mrs. Emery. We have missed Mrs. Jenny Wilson the last few weeks but hope she will soon be well enough to come regularly again.

New members are always welcome and should any parishioner know of someone who may be interested in joining us please do not hesitate to contact any club member.

B. SEE, Honorary Secretary.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Mulberry Jam:

The Sunday School has started an appeal for donations of sugar and bottles for the home made jam. This year we are asking for the 2 ounce or 57 gramme coffee bottles. Donations of sugar or bottles may be left in the special box in the Church Porch or given to the Sunday School staff or pupils. Details of our "JAM BEES" will be given on the weekly notices.

Family Services:

The number of Sunday School pupils attending Family Service has been very disappointing, over the last couple of months.

Family service has been designed to bring the whole family together to worship. It has apparently been a signal to have a holiday. This month we hope to see full attendance at Family Service.

NOEL CRAGG, Superintendent.



THE BIBLE

Thomas S. Grimke

There is a classic, the best the world has ever seen, the noblest that has ever honored and dignified the language of mortals. If we look into its antiquity, we discover a title to our veneration unrivaled in the history of literature. If we have respect to its evidences, they are found in the testimony of miracle and prophecy; in the ministry of man, of nature, and of angels, yea, even of "God, manifest in the flesh," of "God blessed forever."

If we consider its authenticity, no other pages have survived the lapse of time that can be compared with it. If we examine its authority, for it speaks as never man spake, we discover that it came from heaven in vision and prophecy under the sanction of Him who is Creator of all things, and the Giver of every good and perfect gift.

If we reflect on its truths, they are lovely and spotless, sublime and holy as God himself, unchangeable as his nature, durable as his righteous dominion, and versatile as the moral condition of mankind. If we regard the value of its treasures, we must estimate them, not like the relics of classic antiquity, by the perishable glory and beauty, virtue and happiness, of this world, but by the enduring perfection and supreme felicity of an eternal kingdom.

If we inquire who are the men that have recorded its truths, vindicated its rights, and illustrated the excellence of its scheme, from the depth of ages and from the living world, from the populous con-

continent and the isles of the sea, comes forth the answer: "The patriarch and the prophet, the evangelist and the martyr."

If we look abroad through the world of men, the victims of folly or vice, the prey of cruelty, of injustice, and inquire what are its benefits, even in this temporal state, the great and the humble, the rich and the poor, the powerful and the weak, the learned and the ignorant reply, as with one voice, that humility and resignation, purity, order, and peace, faith, hope, and charity are its blessings upon earth.

And if, raising our eyes from time to eternity; from the world of mortals to the world of just men made perfect; from the visible creation, marvelous, beautiful, and glorious as it is, to the invisible creation of angels and seraphs; from the footstool of God to the throne of God himself, we ask, what are the blessings that flow from this single volume, let the question be answered by the pen of the evangelist, the harp of the prophet, and the records of the book of life.

Such is the best of classics the world has ever admired: such the noblest that man has ever adopted as a guide.

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LANGUAGE LIST STILL GROWING

Books of the Bible have been published in 1549 languages, according to the American Bible Society's annual updating of its official Scripture language count.

The new figure represents, as at the end of 1974, the total number of languages and dialects in which at least one book of the Bible has been published since the invention of printing. Twenty-three new languages were added last year.

The publication of the New Testament in Yapese brings that South Pacific language to the list for the first time.

The other 22 new entries represent publication of individual Biblical books in languages ranging from Abua (Nigeria) to Tsumkwe, a dialect of the !kung language of South-West Africa. (The ! represents a click).

The total of 1549 includes the publication of the complete Bible in 257 languages, the New Testament in 368 more, and one or more individual books in an additional 924. The report also lists many new publications in languages previously counted.

"Today's" versions in several languages—Danish, Bengali, Hindi, and three Philippine languages, Cebuano, Ilokano and Tagalog—indicate widespread interest in modern translations. Good News for Modern Man, the New Testament in Today's English Version, has now reached a distribution figure of 47 million.

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STUDIES CHANGED STUDENT

A secondary school student in Uruguay has had his life changed because the Bible was a set text in his literature course.

The student, Franklin Miranda, tells the story:

In June, 1965, I was preparing for an examination in my literature course. I had studied Shakespeare and other important works and now I was required to study this mysterious book called the Bible, which up until now I had never read.

Although I believed in God, I had never considered myself a religious person. As for the Bible, I realised it formed the basis for many religions of the world, but I didn't really like the idea of having to read it.

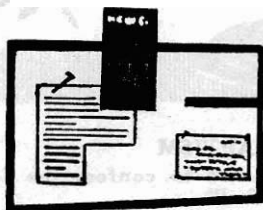
The passages which I had to read and comment upon during the year were chapters five through seven of Matthew, some parables and Psalms 51 and 54.

After reviewing the notes I had made on these passages, I took my Bible and began to re-read these same passages.

As I read again the Sermon on the Mount, a strange feeling gripped me. The passages which heretofore had seemed purely academic, pricked my conscience and caused a genuine revolution within me.

Even though I fought and resisted the change which was taking place in me I finally had to recognise my sinful condition.

Some time later in one of the local churches I accepted the pardon that Christ offered for my sin and received Him as my personal Saviour and Lord.



NEWS BRIEFS

Seating in the Church:

The Rector would like worshipers to sit closer together in the centre section of the Church at each of the services. While bringing us closer in fellowship in worship it will assist the Rector during the services.

Fete Signs:

Stallholders are reminded if they require signs for their stalls, the information must be given to Mr. Shaw as soon as possible. Phone 797-6967.

PARISH INFORMATION

HOLY COMMUNION—Each Sunday at 8 a.m., 2nd and 4th Sundays at 11 a.m.
3rd Sundays after Evensong.

MATINS—1st and 5th Sundays at 11 a.m. **LITANY**—5th Sundays at 11 a.m.

EVENSONG—Each Sunday at 7 p.m.

FAMILY SERVICE—3rd Sundays at 10 a.m. Sunday School and Kindergarten on other Sundays at 9.45 a.m.

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES AND FUNERALS BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE RECTOR.

CHURCHWARDENS: Messrs. E. Quelch (Rector's), F. G. Hearn, W. Williams.

PARISH COUNCIL: The Churchwardens and Messrs. J. Arrowsmith, J. H. Bretherton, N. Cragg, B. Dryden, Mrs. Gorman, Messrs. B. Livingston, H. E. Quelch, Mrs. W. Sopwith, Mr. H. Swankie, J. Williams.

SIDESMEN: Messrs. V. Barrett, G. Clarke and H. J. Shaw.

HON. TREASURER: Mr. E. Quelch. **HON. SECRETARY:** Mr. H. E. QUELCH.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. N. Cragg.

KINDERGARTEN LEADER: Miss J. Evans.

EXTENSION GROUP LEADER: Miss K. Cheetham.

PUBLICITY OFFICER: Mr. H. J. Shaw (797-6967).

ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER:

CHRONICLE EDITOR: Mr. H. E. Quelch.

Book Stall:

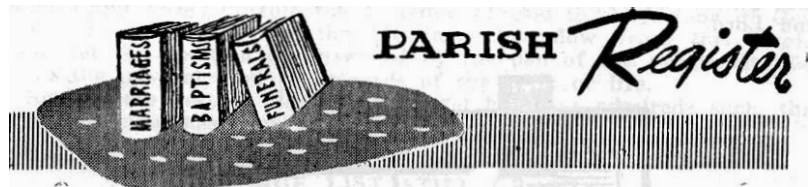
The Boy's Club, this year are running the Book Stall. They are asking for donations of second-hand books. If a message is left at the Rectory for John Arrowsmith collection will be arranged.

Pottery Stall:

Mrs. Hearn is asking for your support with a donation of pottery or china for her stall. Collection will be arranged by 'phoning 56-1852.

October "Chronicle":

Articles for the October "Chronicle" are due no later than Sunday, 21st September, 1975.

**HOLY BAPTISM**

"In token that he shall not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ Crucified".

July 6th—Karli Ann Hunter of 301/16 Maloney Street, Roseberry.

July 17th—Kylie Anne and Michelle Joy Leimanis of 3 Regent Street, Petersham.

HOLY MATRIMONY

"Till death do us part, according to God's holy law, thereto I give thee my troth".

June 21st—Gregory Claude Walker (Petersham) and Margaret Anne Rich (Petersham).

July 26th—Robert Douglas McEvoy (West Ryde) and Lindsey Elizabeth Ross (West Ryde).

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all be made alive".

June 23rd—Roy Frederick Clayfield Atkinson of 44A Merriwa Street, Katoomba.

August 12th—Hannah Rebecca Sutherland of 96 The Boulevard, Dulwich Hill.

August 22nd—Rose Ann Dunnett of 37 Wardell Road, Petersham.

August 23rd—Baby Philip Wibrow of 8 Hopetoun Street, Petersham.

"CHRONICLE" DONATION

Miss M. Glanville \$2.00.

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.