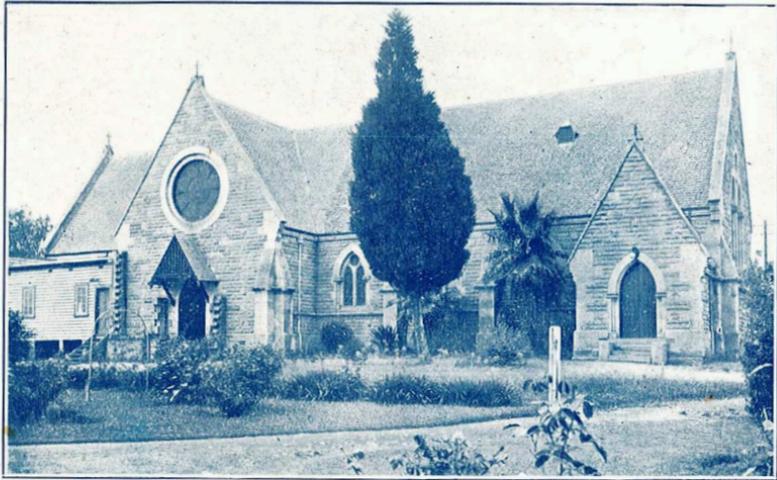


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THE JUBILEE BOOKLET

A BRIEF OUTLINE
OF THE HISTORY OF

ST. MARK'S CHURCH
GRANVILLE



1882 — 1932

Compiled by Rev. G. S. RICHMOND, L.Th., Rector.

Price - - - Sixpence

THE JUBILEE and "BACK TO ST. MARK'S" PROGRAMME

SUNDAY, APRIL 24th—

Patronal Festival, 7.15 p.m. Preacher, Bishop Wilton.

SUNDAY, MAY 1—

8 a.m.: Holy Communion.

11 a.m.: Matins and Corporate Communion of Past and Present Parishioners. Preacher, Rev. N. Fox, Rector of Nowra (formerly Catechist).

7.15 p.m.: Festal Evensong. Preacher, Rev. A. G. Rix, Rector of Balmain North (a former Choir member).

TUESDAY, MAY 3rd—**The Day of Jubilee and Reunion.**

7.15 p.m.: Jubilee Service. Preacher, the Very Rev. the Dean of Sydney.

8.15 p.m.: Jubilee Conversazione in Town Hall, and Cutting of the Jubilee Cake by the Parishioner of longest connection, Mrs. J. Rayner.

SUNDAY, MAY 8th—

8 a.m.: Holy Communion.

11 a.m.: Matins. Preacher, Rev. A. P. Wade, of St. Thomas' Church, Enfield (previously Sunday School Superintendent).

3 p.m.: Children's Special Service.

7.15 p.m.: Back to Mother Church of late Sunday School scholars. Preacher, Rev. H. W. Barder, M.A. (Rector of Rose Bay), who acted as "locum tenens" for a year, 1921-1922.

A JUBILEE FREE WILL OFFERING OF £50

will be taken up during the
"Back to St. Mark's" Jubilee Week

JUBILEE DANCE

Thursday, 12th May, 8 p.m. - - - In the Town Hall

JUBILEE OF ST. MARK'S CHURCH, GRANVILLE.

The tremendous pride which we who are present or past parishioners feel in our beautiful church, which is truly a poem in stone, wood, and glass, will find deepest expression of gratitude as we gaze on the fruits of devotion and enterprise around us, fifty years after the foundation stone was laid, on 3rd May, 1882. To that worthy, zealous band who took their part then, and of whom, we thank God, many are with us to-day, we offer our gratitude, and honour them that they would only be satisfied with the best. We are deeply indebted to one of them, Mr. John Rayner, in whose home many of the early meetings were held, not only for the active part he has always taken—and still takes—in church matters, but for gathering together excellently the history of our church, which appears in shortened form in this volume.

But let us begin at the beginning. The church of to-day is the growing vision of that which then was but a seed of faith.

The first step in faith was the building at Parramatta Junction (on Sydney Road) what was called the "Iron Church." The first meeting was called by Rev. W. J. Gunther, on 13th February, 1877. There were present: Rev. W. J. Gunther, Messrs. Fuller, Castner, Merritt, Lea, Nicholls, Hughes, Higgs, Carter, Hawker, Smith, and Rayner. Later, Messrs. Maxted, Elliott, Taylor, Stone, Tye, and Thornwaite were added. It was decided to at once build a church. Some delay was caused in deciding between a site on Dog Trap Road (promised by Mr. Bent), and a site on Sydney Road (promised by Mr. John Taylor). Finally, the site on Sydney Road was decided on. On 13th October, 1877, Canon Gunther explained at a meeting that, as the tenders for a brick building were so high, and the subscriptions slow in coming in, that a temporary iron building had been approved by some of the committee. This was agreed to. The tender of Mr. Camper, for £155 for the building, was accepted, and, together with seating, organ, and bell, the church was completed at a cost of £260 6s. 11d.

Canon Gunther had been away on a trip to England, and Rev. S. H. Childs, M.A., had been taking his place. There is a homely touch in his statement of affairs on his return. He said "he had hoped the church would be filled, but the attendance was very small, and little interest seemed to be taken in the services." About this time there were added to the committee Messrs. Bellingham, Nobbs, and Scarborough, who was Sunday School Superintendent.

On 30th May, 1879, at a meeting, Canon Gunther explained how St. John's Church, Parramatta, was responsible for Rookwood,

Smithfield, Guildford, and The Junction. If the districts would give £150, the Church Society would give £100 towards the salary of a curate.

On 4th July, 1879, Rev. W. A. Phillips, curate of St. John's, presided at a Council meeting. The Iron Church proved very hot, and also the noise of the railway adjoining when a goods train would pull up outside the Sydney Road railway crossing, during a service, made it very objectionable. Granville, as it was then called, at this time began to extend southward, and progressed rapidly. Land was being subdivided. It was felt that a better site on the Drainwell Estate, and a better building, had become a necessity.

The first meeting to select a site on the Drainwell Estate was held in the house of Mr. John Nobbs, on 12th August, 1879. Mr. Nobbs stated that he had interviewed several men with regard to the advisability of building a church, and he knew that they would gladly contribute towards a decent church if erected on an elevated position of the Drainwell Estate, and he believed the money would soon be forthcoming. The meeting decided to: (1) Call a public meeting; (2) That Canon Gunther be asked to assist the people in their desire; (3) That Messrs. J. Nobbs, H. Richardson, G. J. Lackey, L. J. Olson, Meeke, W. J. Baker, J. Rayner, and later Messrs. Owen, A. S. Love, R. Richardson, Baker, Harrison, and Docker, act as a provisional committee to carry out the object of the meeting. Canon Gunther, in reply, stated that he would be happy to comply with their request.

On 29th September, 1879, the public meeting was held in the Iron Church. It was decided that: (1) In the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that a Church be erected on an elevated position of the Drainwell Estate; (2) That the present committee make enquiries and gather information as to a suitable site. It was arranged to advertise, and at the meeting on October 20th, 1879, it was decided that the site offered by Mrs. Sheaves—165 feet frontage to Jamieson Street, and a depth of 264 feet, at a price of £130—be recommended to the public meeting. This was duly done, and the purchase decided upon.

Without delay, by collecting cards, concerts, etc., the obtaining of money was set in hand. As trustees of the land, Canon Gunther and Messrs. H. Richardson, L. J. Olson, and J. Scarborough, were appointed.

At a meeting on the 9th April, 1880, it was decided that the church be erected wholly of stone.

On 26th May, 1880, at a public meeting, it was decided to purchase the land fronting 250 feet to Mary Street, with a depth of 18 feet to Jamieson Street, from Mr. Knowles, at a cost of £61, so as to give the church a frontage to Mary Street.

20th December, 1880: At this meeting a plan of portion of the church was presented. It was arranged that Mr. Brackett be asked to prepare a plan, so that the committee could decide on its future structure.

On 17th January, 1881, a committee was appointed to meet Mr. Brackett. On 25th February, 1881, plans of the new church were presented for inspection, and approved. At a public meeting at the Iron Church, the plans were submitted and accepted.

On 18th August, 1881, it was decided to ask Mr. Brackett to prepare specifications and call for tenders for the first portion of the church, which was to accommodate 150 persons. (The plan of the completed church was for accommodation for 400 persons.)

On November 10th, 1881, Messrs. H. Richardson, J. Rayner, Rev. W. A. Phillips, and Canon Gunther acted as guarantors for a loan of £150 from the Loan Fund, and the Church Society made a grant of £100. A canvass of the district was arranged.

On December 8th, 1881, the sum of £66 2s. was received and £50 promised.

On 19th January, 1882, the tender of Mr. W. Thackray, for £1500, was accepted for the first portion of the Church. Messrs. Rayner, Olson, Baker, Richardson, Nobbs, Harrison, Canon Gunther and Rev. W. A. Phillips, signified their willingness to sign the bond if necessary. It was decided that the name of the church be St. Mark's, and that the foundation stone be laid on 3rd May, 1882. Canon Gunther later reported that the Dean of Sydney would lay the stone.

We now carry our minds to the great day, 3rd May, 1882, when the foundation stone of our wonderful monument of devotion, St. Mark's Church, Granville, was laid. The account of the day is briefly contained in the "Sydney Morning Herald" of 4th May, 1882, and is so interesting that we will reproduce it in full.

The foundation stone of St. Mark's Church, Granville, was laid by the Very Rev. Dean Cowper, yesterday afternoon. At present it is only intended to proceed with the erection of portion of the building, at a cost of about £2000. Towards this, a sum of £645 has been subscribed, and a further sum of £345—promised before the stone was laid—reducing the amount immediately required to £1040. The offerings upon the stone and the proceeds of the tea meeting, which was held yesterday, resulted in a further addition to the funds of about £250. As, however, the completion of the building in accordance with the original design will necessitate an expenditure of £6000 or £7000, it will be seen that great liberality will have to continue to be exercised by those persons who are anxious to get a very handsome church erected at Granville.

On December 6th, 1882, at a meeting, it was decided to erect a font at a cost of about £11, and gifts of an altar cloth by Mr. Olson, and a Communion service by Mr. Rayner, were promised. The bell from the "Iron Church," and the reading desk, were transferred. Mr. Thackray offered to erect the bell.

On January 13th, 1883, the Dean of Sydney arranged to open the Church, and the appended account from the "Cumberland Mercury" of the 17th January, 1883, will be of interest:—

On Saturday afternoon, the opening service in connection with St. Mark's, Granville, was conducted. Several useful and valuable articles were presented to the Church. The children of the district raised sufficient to purchase an ornamental font, while the parishioners, among other gifts, contributed a window, a Communion service, an altar cloth, and offertory plates. The service was conducted by Rev. Canon Gunther, Rev. J. F. Bloomfield, and Rev. W. A. Phillips was preceded by the Rev. Canon Gunther reading the license of the Church. The Very Rev. Dean Cowper preached the sermon from the text, "Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste." (Is. 28, 16.) The collection was £153 14s. 6d. The interior of the church is of most pleasing appearance, the proportions being of exceptional beauty. The walls show the excellencies of the sandstone used in the construction. The light is admitted through large and handsome Gothic windows. The portion of the building that has been completed will seat 250 persons, and the cost has been about £2000. About half this sum has been raised, so that there is a balance of £1000 due on the building. This edifice is a lasting tribute to the zeal and energy of the Anglican portion of the Granville community, and the Rev. W. A. Phillips.

On 17th January, 1885, the treasurer stated that, as a result of contributions on the opening day and the Sunday following, the overdraft would be reduced to the sum of £625.

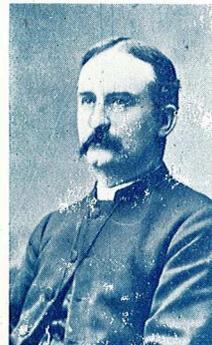
On 13th February, 1883, Canon Gunther spoke of the proposed separation from the parish of St. John's. It was arranged to meet Dean Cowper in Granville on 9th April, 1883. It was also considered that £350 should be paid as stipend to the Rector, who would provide his own residence. The outlying districts of Rookwood, Auburn, Smithfield, and Guildford, it was thought, would help; but it was felt that to serve all those districts, together with Smithfield and Fairfield, would be very hard.

On August 23rd, 1885, the parish of Granville was formed, as a separate parish, and Rev. W. A. Phillips inducted as Rector.

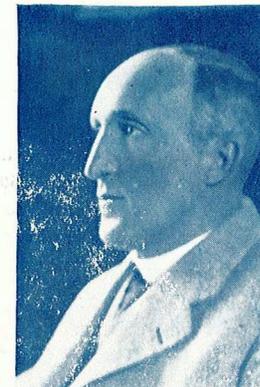
The extension of the Church was begun when the foundation stone was laid by His Excellency Sir Walter Davidson, K.C.M.G., on July 31st, 1920, during the rectorship of the Rev. A. E. J. Ross, M.A., in memory of the late Mrs. Frances Margaret Ross.

At the completion of the beautiful stone work, by Messrs. Garnett and Whiteoak, operations, for financial reasons, ceased, and the building stood unfinished for some time.

Rev. W. A. PHILLIPS
1885-1886



Rev. D. E. EVANS-JONES
1886-1901



Rev. G. S. RICHMOND
Th.L.
1931



Rev. H. W. MULLEN
1922-1931

Rev. A. E. J. ROSS, M.A.
1901-1922

During the locum tenency of the Rev. H. W. A. Barder, M.A., during 1921, by a special effort the sum of £400 was raised, and the debt was removed.

Upon the arrival of the Rev. H. W. Mullens, the whole matter was reviewed. A meeting of parishioners, called to consider the situation, decided to proceed at once with the roofing and furnishing of the structure. The meeting promised £800 in loans and donations. The architect, Mr. R. G. Rutledge, F.I.A., was instructed to call tenders, and the wardens accepted Mr. J. T. Fielding's price for £1340. The completed building was dedicated on 4th November, 1922, by the Archbishop.

BIOGRAPHIES

Rev. W. A. Phillips: 1885—1886.

He was curate of St. John's, Parramatta, from 1879, until he was inducted as Rector of St. Mark's, on 23rd August, 1885. On separation from St. John's, Granville and Guildford became the charge of the Rector of St. Mark's. Mr. Phillips was a great worker for St. Mark's, and through his own personal efforts was responsible for raising a large proportion of the funds obtained. It was fitting that after his excellent work he should be appointed Rector. His actual period as Rector was for only five months, as he resigned on 24th January, 1886.

Rev. D. E. Evans-Jones: 1886—1901.

When Mr. Evans-Jones became Rector, he found the church heavily burdened by debt. Very shortly after his coming, the Sunday School in Mary Street was erected. He was responsible for the development of work among the children, and for the more settled social and religious life of the parish. He died after a short illness, on 9th June, 1901. A memorial window, with a brass tablet, was erected to his memory by the parishioners, in St. Mark's Church.

Rev. A. E. J. Ross, M.A.: 1901—1922.

During the years Mr. Ross was Rector, considerable progress was made with building. The Rectory foundation stone was laid on 29th November, 1903. The Memorial Gates were erected in 1910. The Church of St. Alban, Clyde, was built. A class-room was built, and the foundation stone laid by Miss Bellinger on 31st July, 1909. The stone work of the transept and chancel was completed in memory of Frances Margaret Ross, and a Peace Memorial

Chapel in memory of Thomas Irons, in 1920. The dedication of the new Memorial Church by the Archbishop took place on 4th November, 1922. During the incumbency of Mr. Ross, Guildford was separated, and became a parochial district.

Rev. H. W. Mullens: 1922—1931.

The work of completing the roofing of the Church and Vestries was done during the period in which Mr. Mullens was Rector, at a cost of £2000. Also the Kindergarten Hall, a gift from the Catholic Apostolic Church, was erected in the grounds. The Communion table in the side chapel was also given by them. St. Thomas' Church, Woodville Road, was erected during his ministry.

Rev. G. S. Richmond, L.Th.: 1931—

During the term of the present Rector, the activities of the parish have been fruitful in placing the finances on a sound footing, and in beautifying the Church by the addition of the Baptistry and Side Chapel. There has also been much work done in caring for the grounds and church buildings.

CHURCH MEMORIALS

The Chancel: A most handsome Holy Table in carved oak, and retable, is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. J. Rayner, in memory of their daughter, who was organist at St. Mark's.

Two chancel chairs, in keeping with the Holy Table, are given in the same memory by Misses E. and M. Richardson; and the Litany Deck was given by Mr. Oswald Rayner, in memory of his sister.

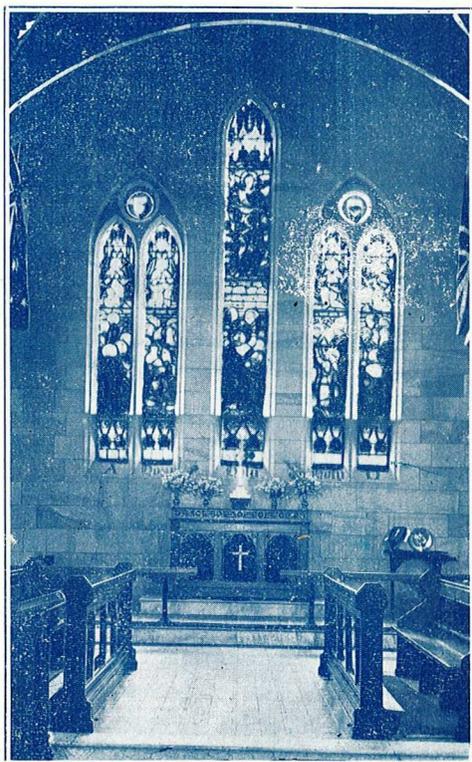
The Communion Rails of oak bear testimony to Fallen Soldiers, being given by Misses T. Ford and E. Hasemer.

The east end windows are those of the "Te Deum" design. There are five in number. The large centre light is: Christ in Ascension: "Thou art the King of Glory," and is placed in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Bellinger by their daughters, the Misses Bellinger. The other lights are in memory of "Fallen Soldiers." The first, by St. Mark's Branch of the Girls' Friendly Society: "The Goodly Fellowship of the Prophets"; the second by the Parishioners: "The Glorious Company of the Apostles"; and the fourth and fifth: "The Noble Army of Martyrs" and "The Holy Church throughout all the World"—by Mr. and Mrs. Haigh and family for their lieutenant son and brother.

In conception, design, and colouring, this east end window will always form a feature of St. Mark's. Its message is seen in eyes uplifted to the King of Glory.

The south transept stands in memory of Thomas Irons, late trustee of St. Mark's, and is styled a Peace Chancel.

The four noteworthy windows are placed in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Benyon by Mr. and Mrs. Milne. The north transept was



erected as St. Mark's Soldiers' Memorial. The beautiful circular window is in memory of Mrs. W. A. Terry.

A fine reading desk and clergy seat in carved oak were given by Mr. Percival in memory of his late wife.

The Cross and Vases in the Peace Chapel were given by Mr. and Mrs. Wright, in memory of Ernest Rowley.

The two-light window to the memory of Lieutenant Francis Ellison Dare, who was killed on 3rd May, picturing the Rich Young Ruler, is of striking conception.

Opposite is the parishioners' appropriate memorial window to Rev. David Evans-Jones, of "Suffer the little children to come unto Me." Then follow the two "Barlow" windows between this and the window placed in the Baptistry, in memory of Eliza Harding Ross, by her son, Rev. A. E. J. Ross.

St. Mark's, in her four west end windows, has a war memorial which is unique, and seldom surpassed among the many memorials of the Great War. The four lights portray the four Evangelists. Above is the emblem of the A.I.F., "the rising sun." The names of the soldiers are written on the glass of each light.

The brasses on the walls commemorate the gift of the bell in 1925 by Mr. and Mrs. E. Williams, in memory of Mrs. S. J. Goodyer, and the belfry by the parishioners.

St. Mark's Sunday School, in 1904, placed a memorial to three scholars—Louisa Maud Benson, Florence Louisa Stevens, and Annie Hermia Dawes, who died in the month of January.

Miss Bellinger in 1931 placed a memorial in memory of her sister, Bessy Bellinger, who was so linked with all St. Mark's activities.

In 1926, the comrades of Gunner Leslie Walter Atchinson, of 21st Brigade, A.F.A., placed a memorial to his memory.



My Dear Friends,

In presenting to you this short booklet of St. Mark's Jubilee, I hope it will, despite its faults, be a parable to you of great faith and undaunted progress in face of difficulty. But how splendid and inspiring to us is the result, in our heritage. May we in the spirit of gratitude look back, and rejoice, and strive to be more worthy of all the goodness and love of God in the years to come.

Yours in His service,

GEO. S. RICHMOND,

Rector.

Laying of Tile from the Altar of the Original Church of St. Augustine.

In the year 597, Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, sent St. Augustine to England to convert the English, some of whom he had seen in the market as slaves. King Ethelbert gave St. Augustine a site outside Canterbury, in the year 597 A.D. By the year 613, the Abbey Church of St. Peter and St. Paul was built. The College of St. Augustine is there to-day, training clergy for ordination. Your Rector, while a student there, obtained from the floor of the ruins of the old Church, before one of the altars, a flooring tile. This link with St. Augustine, who converted the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity, will be laid by The Dean within St. Mark's Chancel, on 3rd May, 1932, so linking our Church of to-day to the great Missionary romance of England.

Diocesan Church House,
George Street,
Sydney, 4th April, 1932.

To the Rector and Parishioners of
St. Mark's, Granville.

I am pleased to know that you are to keep your Jubilee on May 3rd, and I desire to express my earnest wishes that God will give you rich blessing in the next fifty years. I have watched with interest the courageous struggle you have made in recent years to meet your heavy obligations, and I pray that your efforts may continue to be blessed, and that the work of the Church will build up the Kingdom of Christ.

Yours very faithfully,

JOHN CHARLES SYDNEY.