

The Chronicle

Of All Saints

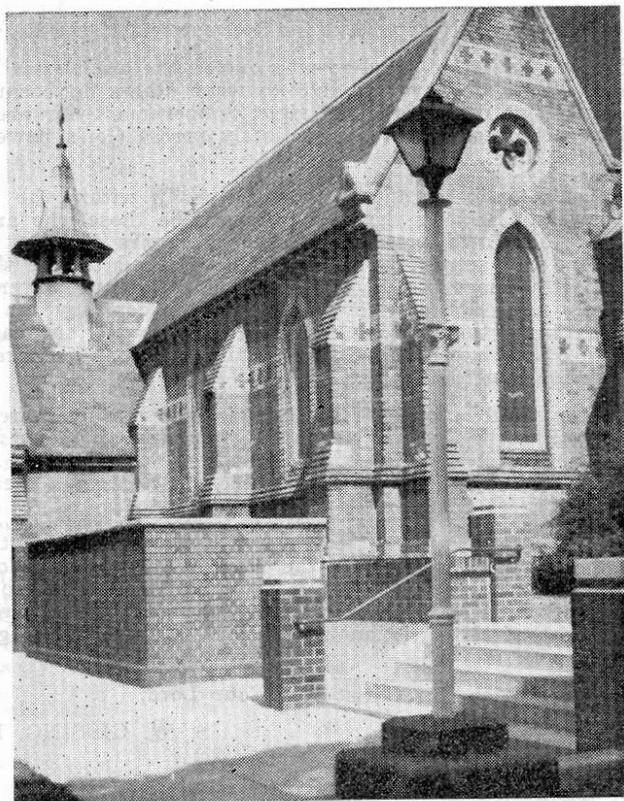
Petersham

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

The Rectory, 325 Stanmore Road, Petersham, 2049—56-4785

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

MARCH, 1976



“Come unto me all ye that labour and I will give you rest”

THE RECTOR'S NOTES

My dear Friends,

Well here we are again in the period the Church knows as Lent. It's a time that, for many if not most, has become over-laden with solemnity and not a little gloom. So I'm afraid it is not very attractive to today's pleasure loving people. That to me is a very sorry thing.

We are reminded of Temptation and its Awful Threat—we talk of Self-Denial—we dress our churches in the sombre colour of Purple.

Yet on the other hand we are told that it is a time to prepare for Easter and the Resurrection!

It sounds as if we are to prepare for Joy and Triumph by means of Gloom and Giving-up! Actually it's meant to be an exciting period of experimentation—and growing—and proving for ourselves in experience just what God can do for us if we'll let Him.

Now that really will prepare us for the message of the Resurrection.

So often we limit God—and so miss out on the discoveries He wants us to make. When we say we can't do what others do because we're built differently—or don't have the right temperament—or are not cut out for that sort of work—we immediately arrest God's power in our lives along that line.

God doesn't want servants who work easily within the range of their own powers. He asks that His followers be those who are always going beyond their own powers, so as to require that extra power which He alone can supply. The Christian is called to live the supernatural life. If we merely live within the limits of our powers we are living a purely natural life. However, if on the contrary, we are constantly facing tasks that are making demands beyond our capacity to achieve, we are driven back on God for **daily** supplies—and are thereby compelled to live supernaturally.

One of the troubles with most of us is that our lives are planned on such a small scale that we are able to manage without God—and so miss out on a real experience of His power—of Him!

We have to learn William Carey's secret—"Attempt great things for God, expect great things from God."

The Christian is always face to face with the impossible—the Christian dares the impossible. That is the mark of the follower of Christ. Faith in the eternal resources of God makes us more than conquerors.

So this Lent let's make it an exciting time—and a real preparation for that greatest of all Christian celebrations, Easter. Let's go adventuring with God!

Your sincere friend in Christ Jesus our Lord,

S. W. GISSING, Rector.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

For the occasion: The decoration of the Church was slanted towards Harvest time by the use of corn stalks and fruit whilst the altar was decorated by specially moulded bread, and grapes. Other produce and tinned goods were spread on tables below the pulpit and the overall effect was generally agreed to be most pleasing.

Our thanks go to the volunteers who organised the decorative effects.

—oOo—

CHURCH GROUNDS ROSTER

It has been suggested that a meeting be called to discuss arrangements for rostering volunteers and the rector has this matter in hand.

EDITORS NOTE

In the previous issue your editor sought comment on the content of the Chronicle and asked for suggestions. So far only one parishioner has felt strongly enough about the Chronicle to contact me and discuss it.

Does this mean:

1. Nobody reads it?
2. Nobody cares?
3. Nobody has any ideas?

—oOo—

WOMENS EVENING GROUP

Our Annual meeting in February was well attended. This year the office bearers are:

- Mrs. B. Gissing, President.
- Mrs. B. Sayers, Vice-President.
- Mrs. J. Barrett, Hon. Secretary.
- Mrs. A. Steed, Hon. Treasurer.
- Mr. Hugh Quelch, Hon. Auditor.

Mrs. Sayer and Mrs. Quelch were both sincerely thanked for their long terms of office in this club.

Advance notice is given for our April meeting, 2nd Tuesday, 13th April, Mrs. Trixie Drury will be our guest speaker.

The 2nd Tuesday, 10th May, will be a Stanhome Party, so ladies please don't forget us with orders if you can't come, and still come if you don't want to buy anything. We will appreciate your company.

We are still seeking new members. The 2nd Tuesday every month at 8 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Thanks to all who donated in any way to our Second-hand and Jumble Stall.

To date the Jumble Stall has netted \$80, and is being continued on Thursday, Friday and Saturday 19, 20 and 21st of February.

The result so far is so encouraging that another sale is planned for later in the year.

Ida Barrett, Hon. Secretary.

CLUB NEWS

SENIOR PARISHIONERS CLUB

Our Thursday afternoon club is now back in full swing. I am glad to report we already have six new members this year, but there is still room for more. Please come and join in our happy afternoon of "Cards" and "Housie". 25c covers afternoon tea and door prizes too.

Ida Barrett, Hon. Secretary.

Ladies Guild:

March 16th, at 1 p.m. will be our next meeting, at which we will arrange menu etc, for our Annual Luncheon on April 27th at 12.30 p.m.

On Tuesday, 18th May, a "Food for Thought" demonstration at 1.30 p.m. when we will see various dishes prepared and cooked and the opportunity to taste.

Visitors may be sure of a very warm welcome.

A donation of 30c will include afternoon tea.

A report on the Annual Meeting will be included in next months issue.

E. M. BOSWARD, Secretary.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

I would like to welcome to the Sunday School teaching staff, David Barclay and Philip Gissing.

This Year the Rector is conducting the Extension Group which will become the confirmation class. If you know of any boy or girl who wish to be confirmed this year, please ask them to come along to the Parish Hall at 9.45 a.m. next Sunday.

The attendance in the Sunday School and Kindergarten during the past month has been low. Now that the holidays are well over, we hope to see the attendance increase.

Sunday School Prize Giving was held at the 10 a.m. Family Service on Sunday, 15th February.

NOEL CRAGG, Superintendent.



BOWLS CLUB

The Bowls Club has been saddened by the loss of George Clarke a foundation member who has been called to higher service after 89 years on earth. George will be sadly missed but we are thankful that he was taken without suffering, whilst still able to recognise visitors at Lewisham Hospital.

Only last Sunday I was able to tell George that the Club had just

had its most successful and pleasing evening for years, in that we had fourteen players and were able to use three mats.

F. HEARN, President.

—oOo—

FLOWER ROSTER

- March 7: Donated by Bowls Club in memory of G. Clarke; arranged by Mrs. Clark.
- March 14: Donated by Ladies Guild in memory of G. Clarke; arranged by Miss Nisbet.
- March 21: Donated by Mrs. Willis and an anonymous donation for the War Memorial; arranged by Mrs. Clark.
- March 28: Donated by the Craigie family in memory of their Father; arranged by Miss Nisbet.
- April 4: Donated by Mrs. Beardow and family in memory of Mr. Beardow; arranged by Mrs. Clark.
- April 11: Donated by Michele in memory of Don; arranged by Miss Nisbet.
- April 18: Donated by Iris and Colin in memory of their Parents Mr. and Mrs. Walter; arranged by Mrs. Clark.
- April 25: Donated by Mrs. Hayes and family in memory of Mr. Hayes; arranged by Miss Nisbet.

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FLOWER ROSTER

In last months "Chronicle" your editor indicated that it was proposed to publish the Flower Roster a month in advance. Thanks to the co-operation of Mrs. Bossward this is now an accomplished fact and we this month are able to print both March and April Rosters. In the April issue we will print only the May Roster so that from here on the Roster will be one month in advance.

The Bowls Club is donating flowers on March 7th in memory of our friend and helper George Clarke.

The Ladies Guild donated the flowers decorating the Church for his Funeral Service.

—oOo—

GEORGE CLARKE

Below we give the Rector's appreciation of George, spoken at his Funeral Service.

George Clarke was 89 years—next 25th July he'd have turned 90.

His greatness was his simplicity—his earthiness—and his sense of humour. I've only known him a little over 18 months, but I'd say that one could clearly see the marks of a character that was a good one to have shared with. The respect his step-family held him in speaks volumes. His daughter, Mrs. Lamb, has lovingly related incidents of early years—the fun, the honest and down-to-earth fulfilment of responsibilities—of his interest in and involvement in music and band work. Probably things that struck me about him were—

The tenderness with which he pointed out his mother's portrait—the only one that hung on his wall—a mother who died when he was very young.

His sense of fun—in the friendly atmosphere of the groups he belonged to in the parish—the Senior Parishioners, Women's Guild and Bowls' Club. The members may not always have agreed—but they loved him and enjoyed his company. Last Friday he enjoyed the visit of 9 ladies to his hospital bed—he told me about this with a smile and twinkle in his eye!

His generosity. For many years he's been a pensioner—yet, on the occasion of his birthday at the Bowls' Club supper to mark that occasion, I remember how he wanted to give to each of us a dollar note to show his happiness—he'd come prepared to do so!

He was a welcome visitor at the Rectory and we and our children enjoyed the shared meals and visits. He was very kind and good to our children. He became a real "Grandpa substitute" to them.

I don't know if he was like it throughout his life, but certainly he'd attained a gift which I would covet—he had the ability to tell you what he felt was right without offending—yet plainly and clearly. I think, if I am honest, he has been the one at All Saints who most made my family and myself feel welcome and at home. We've given our hearts to him and share very personally in Mrs. Lamb's sense of loss.



1976 LENTEN CONFERENCE SERIES

Our Rural Deanery has arranged for this year's Conference Series to be as follows:—

MARCH 17th:

"The Ministry of Jesus"—Rev. M. Hill—at St. Oswald's, Haberfield.

MARCH 24th:

"The Fulfilment of Prophecy"—Rev. W. Lawton—at St. Alban's, Five Dock.

MARCH 31st:

"The Final Week"—Bishop J. R. Reid—at St. Andrew's, Summer Hill.

APRIL 7th:

"The Resurrection Tradition"—Prof. E. A. Judge—at St. Bede's, Drummoyne.

It is hoped that parishioners will try to attend this series as part of their Lenten observance for 1976. The evenings will start at 8 p.m. and there will be provision for informal fellowship following first part of the night. Those wishing to be transported and those with spare seats in their cars are asked to contact the Rector.

PARISH INFORMATION

HOLY COMMUNION—Each Sunday at 8 a.m., 2nd and 4th Sundays at 11 a.m.
3rd Sundays at 7 p.m.

MORNING PRAYER—1st and 5th Sundays at 11 a.m.

EVENING PRAYER—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, E. 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:

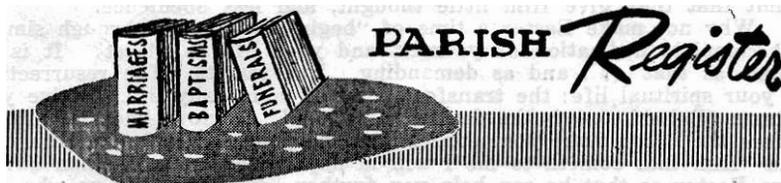
PUBLICITY OFFICER: Mr. H. J. Shaw (797-6967).

ORGANIST: Mr. J. Birkett.

CHRONICLE EDITOR: Mr. F. G. Hearn.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF SPECIAL SERVICE

On **PALM SUNDAY**, 11th April, we will have the pleasure of a visit from the **Petersham Girls' High School Choir**. They will provide special music for our Palm Sunday Service. Further details will be noted in our next issue. However we ask parishioners to make a note of the occasion and plan to invite friends to share with us on this pre-Easter Festival.



CHRISTIAN BURIAL

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

1975

December, 17th—Martin Bedkober of 170 New Canterbury Road, Petersham.

1976

January, 30th—Phyllis Amy Hawksford Newton of 7 England Avenue, Marrickville.

February 18th—George Albert H. Clarke of 253 Trafalgar Street, Petersham.

PARISH CLUB NEWS

No news available.

THINK THIS OVER . . .

Some fishermen in the highlands of Scotland gathered in a little inn for tea and swapped stories. As one of them was describing the day's exploits, a waitress set down a cup of tea. His hand flew out and hit the tea cup, knocking its contents against the whitewashed wall. An ugly brown stain appeared marring the beautiful wall.

One of the other guests rose to his feet and said "Never mind." Taking from his pocket a crayon he began to sketch around the stain. There emerged a magnificent Royal Stag with antler spread. The man was Sir Edwin Landseer, England's foremost painter of animals.

If an artist can do that with an ugly stain, what cannot God do with my past mistakes if only I'll turn them over to Him! The main thing is to come as we are. You remember that Bartimaeus came to Jesus with his blindness, Zaccaeus with his crookedness, Mary Magdalene with her seven devils. Lazarus didn't even come at all. He was dead. Jesus went to him.



EASTER — HOLY DAYS OR HOLIDAYS ?

You have read the heading above. Well then, what will it be?

Two acquaintances on a train journey got around eventually in their discussion to the matter of religion, as people so often do except when there is a Minister around! One was a Jew of the old Hebrew Faith; the other a very nominal Australian Christian.

"The Jews were guilty," charged the Aussie. "They had Christ put to death. They framed Him."

"No doubt they did," replied the Jew . . . "and the rest of you have seized upon it as a wonderful excuse for a holiday!"

How much does Easter mean to you? More would have to much does the Christ of Easter mean to you? Many would have to admit that they give Him little thought, and less obedience.

Why not make Easter a time of "beginning again," through simple but complete dedication of yourself and your life to Christ? It is as simple as that . . . and as demanding. The result? The resurrection of your spiritual life: the transformation of your daily life. I give you a text: "Behold now is the day of salvation." Go now, kneel in prayer before the Lord: make your confessions and your dedication to Him who said "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." Then advise your Rector so that he can help you further. May those of us who are already committed to Him look again at our lives and our dedication, for such an examination may be well overdue.

May yours be a Christ-centered Easter . . . and life.

WALTERS & SON

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890 CANTERBURY ROAD, LAKEMBA—759-4044

You are invited to enquire about our funeral fund.

People of all ages are accepted without medical examination.

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