

ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

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MAY 1989

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Vicar:

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Bus Timetable for 6.30 p.m. Evening Service

Ansley Village turn 6.00 p.m.

Birchley Heath Post Office 6.10 p.m.

Ansley Common St. John's 6.20 p.m.

Return Journey from Parish Church 7.45 p.m.

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Ansley Vicarage,

May 1st, 1989

Our Dear Friends,

You will remember my letter in the January and March magazine told something of the experience of Maurice and his Christian conversion whilst in Strangeways prison; and of how his father, formerly a complete outsider concerning Christianity, began to go to Church resulting in both parents handing their lives over to Jesus Christ. Maurice now completes his story.

"I had not heard from my wife for six months when I was transferred to the hostel at Preston Prison. On the prison hostel scheme I was allowed to go out of prison to work. This meant that I had to find a job. I was asked to go for an interview for the first job I applied for, so I asked some Christians to pray for me and claimed Luke Chapter 11 verse 9, "Ask and you shall receive." In the interview room, before I had a chance to say anything I was told, 'I know that you are in prison, but I am going to start you on Monday!'

"A few days later, God spoke to me as I read Hosea Chapter 3 Verse 1 that I was to go and show my love for a woman who had been unfaithful. The verse says, "Go, and get your wife again and bring her back to you and love her, even though she loves adultery." (Living Bible version). So my wife and I met for the first time for months and had a tearful, and joyful reunion, although she told me she would never become a Christian.

"In June Ian Ferguson of the Church Army invited us both to a Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship international convention meeting at the same Norbeck Castle Hotel in Blackpool where I had been arrested. That night, after the dinner, Tracey asked Jesus to be her Saviour. I praise God for what He is doing in our lives and the lives of countless others."

Maurice was discharged from prison and he, Tracey and the children were provided with a house in the Manchester area. Christians filled the house with gifts of furniture and other necessities.

Maurice and Tracey, rather than just renewing their marriage vows, decided to have a complete Christian marriage service to signify their allegiance as a couple to the Lord.

The Holy Spirit is moving in tremendous ways in Britain's penal institution. Maurice's story is an example of what is happening to very many at Strangeways Prison. The reason? "Prayer is the secret of blessing here in Manchester," according to the prison's Senior Chaplain.

We can all experience this same power of prayer,

God grant it,

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

DIARY FOR MAY 1989

Monday, May 1st

10.00—12 noon Coffee Morning at Henry and Edith Truelove's
"Merrybrook" Cottage.

Thursday, May 4th — Ascension Day

7.30 p.m. United Service at Arley Methodist Church.

Friday, May 5th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, May 7th — Ascension 1

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer — "Ascended!"

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer — "Expectation."

Wednesday, May 10th

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship at 3 Izons Croft.

Thursday, May 11th

7.30 p.m. Cake Competition.

7.45 p.m. Ley Group Council.

Friday, May 12th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Saturday, May 13th

Ley Group outing to Windsor leaving at 9.30 a.m.

Sunday, May 14th — Pentecost

11.00 a.m. Family Communion, — "All together in one place."

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer — "Tongues of Fire."

Friday, May 19th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Saturday, May 20th

7.30 p.m. Barbecue in Vicarage Garden.

Sunday, May 21st — Trinity

11.00 a.m. Pathfinder Birthday Service.

Guest Speaker: Mrs. Penny Frank.

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion — "The Trinity."

Wednesday, May 24th

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship at 34 Nuthurst Crescent.

Friday, May 26th

6.30 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

7.30 p.m. Renewal Service at St. James, Tile Hill.

Speaker: Anne Long.

Sunday, May 28th — Trinity 1

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer — "Jehoshaphat."

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

"Teach a child to choose the right path and when he is older he will remain upon it," Proverbs 22 6.

April 16—Peter Thomas Allton of Hood Lane Farm,
James Alexander Scott of Stockingford,
Annie Marie Green of Springfield Farm.

Funerals

"All who are in the graves shall hear MY voice" John 5 26.

March 29—Gladys May Harper, 87 years of Ansley Common.

April 13—Elsie Mary Lea, 78 years (formerly of Over Whitacre).

April 17—Lily Sherriff, 73 years of Ansley Village.

Ley Group trip to Windsor on Saturday, May 13th, Bus leaves at 9.30 a.m. and returns at 8.30 p.m. A conducted tour of Windsor Castle is concluded by a service in the Chapel. Price of bus seat is £5.50. If you would like to go please telephone 9440320.

Cake Competition. This is on Thursday, May 11th in the hall for hall funds and is being organised for us by Pat Matthews.

MOTHERS' UNION

At our meeting on the 4th April we had Mrs. Harris and her Ladies' Choir, a very interesting musical afternoon. Although a very wintry afternoon we felt we were in the middle of spring. For this we do say thank you.

Our next meet will be a discussion meeting to talk over information received at my training day at Ratford.

W. M. Ponder

ANSLEY LADIES' ASSOCIATION

On May 3rd we will be going Bowling at Barwell Sports and Social Club.

May 17th—Bring and Buy; May 31st—Ramble.

W. M. Ponder.

HELP US BUY SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

Save BP Lifestyle vouchers when you buy your petrol; bring them to Church and put them in the envelope in the porch; before the end of the year. The more we save the better. We need at least 1150 to obtain an item for the Church worth £75. The more who help the easier it will be. We hope to be able to replace various items of fabric which are wearing thin.

Margaret Antill.

Barbecue in the Vicarage garden on Saturday, May 20th at 7.30 p.m., is for the Church Army.

If the weather is unsuitable it will be held in the hall.

THREE ADVANCE NOTICES

Thursday, June 15th—a bus is booked to leave the parish at 2.30 p.m., for the Billy Graham Crusade meeting in London at West

Ham football stadium, if there are sufficient customers to fill the bus. The cost will be £5 per bus seat. The plan is to arrive back at midnight. Let the Vicar know as soon as possible if you want to go. Payment with the booking please.

Saturday, July 1st—is the date chosen for the Garden Party. Offers of help will be appreciated and gifts of items for our varied stalls. Thank you.

Monday, June 26th nightly to Saturday, July 1st—the Billy Graham livelink by Satellite direct from Earls Court to Manor Court Baptist Church each evening at 7.45 p.m. Plan to go and take a friend.

MEMORIES OF THE EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB

Four days of organised chaos! That is how some of us will remember Holiday Club. But for the children it was a golden opportunity to throw off the mind rotting themes of 'children's' television: Robots, space people, ghost hunting and killing machines and to let a breath of fresh air blow through their minds. The message of Easter brings something new each time we hear it, imagine what it holds for a new listener!

The theme was presented with a sound/filmstrip and an illustrated story supported by teaching on the Lord's Prayer. Allied to this was a workbook based on John's Gospel along with activities such as painting, collage, Easter garden creation, drama and model making. The hall was a human anthill of children and helpers experiencing new things about our Saviour. The entire party sang their heads off (almost!) and learned a great deal via the teaching and activities. Roll on next year!

Ian Milton

Several groups of three people are meeting regularly for 15 minutes or so to pray for friends in the parish. If you would like to join a group to pray or if you would like to be included in the people to be prayed for, then do please let the Vicar know. This is particularly in respect of the Billy Graham relay meetings from June 26th to July 1st. Don't forget the words of Dwight Moody of the last century "Every experience of God can be traced to a kneeling figure."

Confirmation takes place this year in our Church on Sunday, November 12th at 6.30 p.m., by the Bishop of Coventry, The Rt. Rev. Simon Barrington Ward.

If you are considering confirmation, please come to the Vicarage on Wednesday, May 17th at 8.00 p.m. We can then arrange the Autumn programme for the preparation course. To come to the course does **not** commit you to being confirmed; you may choose not to be in the end, but at least you will know what it is all about. If you cannot come on the 17th please see me about it as soon as is convenient.

STOP PRESS NEWS !

The Church has just received £106.00 to the memory of Mrs. Harper of Ansley Common from her family and friends.