

Church of St. Laurence Magazine

Parish including Birchley Heath, Ansley Common,
Ansley Village, Church End

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JUNE NEWSLETTER 2002

If you were out and about at the end of April/beginning of May, nature's colours had created a wonderful tapestry, with fields of golden rape, green shoots in other fields and the trees budding into numerous shades of green. Then there were the amazing blankets of bluebells, which were unreal, more like something created by an artist. With all these very English wonders of nature, imagine our surprise when, after just admiring a beautiful horse with her leggy foal, just a few yards on there was a field full of ostriches, some adults and some very young. It was unbelievable. Not quite what you would expect to find in an English village.

Did you wonder what had happened to some of the old brand names. Did you know Jif is now Cif. Years ago I used to love Marathon bars and wondered where they had disappeared to. Well, now they are called Snickers and Opal Fruits are now Starburst. This got me thinking about some of the old brand names which never seem to alter—Bisto, McDougalls Flour, Pears Soap although the packaging may sometimes seem unfamiliar.

Present day 'recycling' is looked upon as a modern idea, but many years ago we all took 'pop' bottles back to collect the 2d. deposit. Chemists accepted empty medicine bottles; we had ginger beer in stone bottles which were returnable or used as hot water bottles. We had our sandwiches wrapped in greaseproof paper or a paper bag, which we would carefully fold up and take home to use again; the pig man collected all our potato peelings and any green vegetable leaves were given to the rabbit. Newspapers were used to line drawers or taken to be used at the Chip Shop. With no sellotape, bits of string and brown paper were saved for wrapping parcels; buttons, press studs, hooks and eyes and zips were carefully removed from old garments to use again, and many knitted garments were undone, put into skeins and washed for re-use. In fact there was a lot less waste and a lot more saving, and make-do and mend, so you see recycling may be a newish word, but it's a very old idea.

As we look forward to the Golden Jubilee celebrations, I remember 50 years ago when we had a television set just so that we could watch the Coronation. To us children it was very boring as we had to sit all day and watch it instead of going out to play, but my Dad said it would probably be the only Coronation we would watch. Did he know something we don't?

Just a thought: 'Man is like a postage stamp—he gets licked, depressed, stuck in the corner, sent from pillar to post, but he gets there in the end, if he sticks to it.'

Marie Cove.

SERVICES IN MAY

ST. JOHN'S HALL, ANSLEY COMMON. Services 10.30 a.m.

June 9th—Family Service and Sunday School.

June 23rd—Holy Communion by Extension and Sunday School.

ST. LAURENCE CHURCH—Services 10.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

June 2—a.m. All Age Worship, Worship Team,
p.m. Holy Communion, Rev. Nick Clarke.

June 9—a.m. Holy Communion, Rev. David Tilley.
p.m. Evening Service, Thelma Burns.

June 16—a.m. All Age Worship, Worship Team.
p.m. Holy Communion, Rev. Paul Simmonds.

June 23—a.m. Holy Communion, Rev. Gary Schofield.
p.m. Evening Service, Donald Parr.

June 30—a.m. All Age Worship, Worship Team,
p.m. Holy Communion, Rev. David Jameson.

If you require the services of a vicar please have a word with Moreen who is dealing with baptisms and Margaret weddings. Funerals can be arranged with either.

Services see chart.

But Sunday 30th a.m. now Derek Jupe is a Baptism.

At the services on June 2nd we will have special hymns and prayers for the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

Senior Citizens monthly service on the 18th will be led by Donald and will commence at 9.30.

Ansley Common Fellowship: Mondays 10th and 24th June.

Wednesday Fellowship: Will meet on 12th and 26th at 34 Nuthurst Crescent.

Links meet at 7.00 on Monday's but not the holiday week.

Visiting team meet at Diana's house on 13th June, at 7.30.

June 20th: Gill and Geoff will be talking about their new work and where they are going to give a talk at Attleborough. Everyone is welcome.

Plant Sale: Many thanks to all those who gave time, plants or came and supported this annual and enjoyable event. A total of £350 was raised for the hall.

The Church will be open on the following Saturdays, June 1st, 15th and 29th from 2.00 till 5.00 p.m.

FROM THE REGISTERS

The funeral of Mr. Bernard Wyatt took place on Friday, 10th May. His family and many friends filled the church for the service. We are grateful to David Goadby for the use of his yard to park some of the many cars.

On May 18th we had the marriage of Darren Oxford and Susan Grubb. We wish them well in their new life together, and pray they will be as happy as their guardians, Peter and Mary Buckler.

THE FUTURE

As mentioned last month on June 5th the P.C.C. will have a meeting with all the people concerned with appointing a new vicar. The meeting is important for the future of our parish. Please remember the members of the P.C.C. and all those attending the meeting in your prayers.

Gill and Geoff have sent an invitation for any one who would like to go to the training centre they are attending, for an open day on 15th June. There are to be displays and presentations, etc., if any one wishes to go please have a word with Margaret Antill as soon as possible.

TWO SORRY TAILS

In the middle of April several times 'Mother Duck' was seen sitting on a nest of ten eggs. We all had dreams of watching a line of fluffy ducklings making their way to the brook. After a week however, all the eggs were gone! Just the remains of one shell on the grass by the path. Our dream will not happen this year.

One week day morning while several people were in Church cleaning one of the cars in the car park had an attempted break in. The car was not entered, but 3-400 pounds worth of damage was done to the central locking mechanism. Please take care and do not leave valuables in your car. If any one sees anything suspicious please let it be known to enable appropriate action to be taken.

At the P.C.C. meeting on 16th May the P.C.C. agreed to apply for some funding for the new Church Annex, with a view to start building later this Autumn. We will also need to do some more fundraising ourselves if this is to happen. You could say we are doing what the Rev. D. Jupe said, when he was talking about faith, and that is "Put all our eggs into God's basket and count our blessings before they are hatched!" If you agreed to do something to raise money or make a donation at our Gift Day last year it would be very helpful if this could be completed as soon as possible. If you have any ideas about fundraising please let us know and if you can carry them out then please do so. Remembering that the building fund jar is in Church each week and every penny counts. Also that if you pay income tax in any form remember the Gift Aid envelopes.

We have been talking about this building for so many years it would be so good to actually see something for our efforts. The P.C.C. are also aware that the toilet, as it is, will not meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, and if we wish to provide a toilet in the Churchyard something must be done by 2004.

FORTHCOMING FUND RAISING EVENTS FOR ST. JOHN'S HALL

Coffee Morning—12th June, 10.00-12 noon at St. John's Hall,
Bring and Buy. Raffle. Everyone welcome.

Coffee Morning—20th June, 10.00-12 noon at 28 Nuthurst Crescent,
Ansley Village. Bring and Buy. Raffle. Everyone welcome.

Line Dance/Old Thyme Dance: Friday. 28th June at St. John's Hall
7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Bring your own refreshment.

HOME MADE CAKE SALE

Our annual sale of home made cakes will be on Saturday, 22nd
June at 3.00 p.m., in Ansley Village Hall. All donations of cakes for
the sale will be greatly appreciated. Please come along and join
us for light refreshments. All proceeds will go to help the valuable
work of Spurgeon Child Care who support less fortunate children
in our country. Margaret Oliver. Tel: 7639 5674.

The Bishop's Appeal for Lent—The Bethlehem School and Kateri
Hospital—£68,61 has gone to International Ministry for the above.
Thank you to all for their support.

CHURCH HALL REPAIRS: The current position is that the work
has now been completed, and the total cost of the roof, new ceiling
in the games room, extra radiator, power points and toilet for the
disabled, amounted to £16,819.39 and to date we have collected
£10,486.89 by means of fund raising, personal donations, local
charities and the Diocese—so far we have been very successful, both
in getting the work done and raising so much money and we are
hopeful that the balance of money required will be forthcoming. The
Youth Club members are currently painting the hall. My personal
thanks to all who have contributed in any way. Moreen Freestone.

Thanks to all who contributed towards the Senior Citizens Bring
and Buy Sale on 23rd April—a total of £132.60 was raised towards
the Church Hall Roof. Moreen Freestone.

Many thanks to all who have contributed or supported events to
raise money for new Hymn Books at St. John's, especially Sandra
Norwood and her husband who gave to celebrate their Ruby Wedding
Anniversary at the end of the year. Marie Cove.