

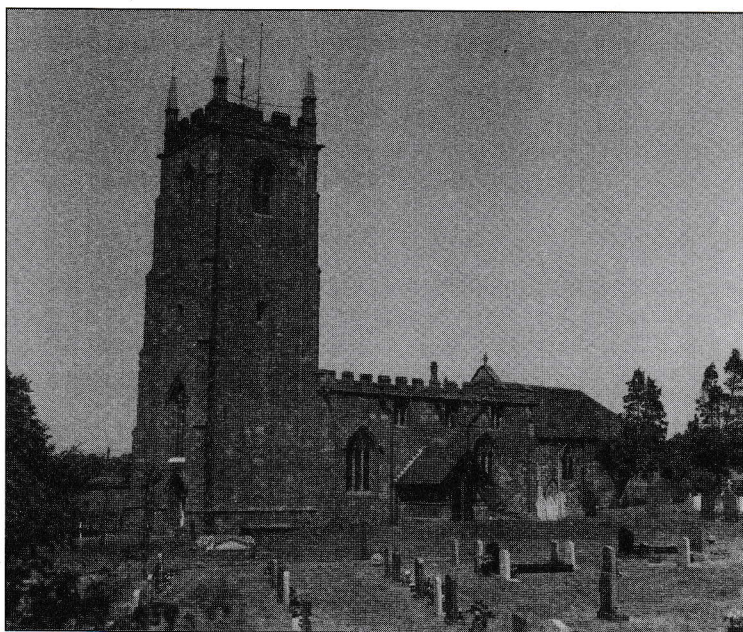
Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

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Price 25p



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Listening to someone on T.V. talking about the 23rd London Marathon, I was amazed to learn that 35,000 take part. Can you imagine the organisation, the security needed, not to mention the amount of drinks along the route? It really must be a mammoth task and it shows a British event at it's best. So far 134 Million Pounds has been raised for Charities. This event attracts not only world class, high profile athletes, but disabled athletes and ordinary people, who train to do their best for their favourite charity. As you probably know, this was the brain child of Chris Brasher, who himself was a first class runner for England. Long may the Marathon go on and continue to grow.

The Pound Coin was 20 years old on April 21st this year, and since then hundreds of thousands have gone missing. It seems it is as easy to lose a Pound Coin as it is to lose a ball point pen. Where could they all be?

I was looking recently at some of the gravestones in our Churchyard - some had lovely words and some were so worn they couldn't be read. There were even some that gave a brief resume of the person's life. You would think a graveyard would be a miserable grey place, but Ansley Churchyard is more like a haven of peace and tranquillity, and then I found in a book the following epitaph from a Bushey Churchyard before 1860, which apparently has now been destroyed:

'Here lies a poor woman who always was tired, for she lived in a place where help wasn't hired. Her last words on earth were "Dear friends I am going where washing ain't done, nor sweeping, nor sewing. And everything there is exact to my wishes, for there they don't eat and there's no washing of dishes. Don't mourn for me now. Don't mourn for me never. For I'm going to do nothing for ever and ever"'.
For I'm going to do nothing for ever and ever''.

What a sense of humour that lady must have had.

To close I would like to share with you some words from an old Cherokee Indian proverb - When you were born you cried and the world rejoiced. Live your life so that when you die, the world will cry and you will rejoice.

Marie Cove

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.

St John's Hall Ansley Common Services 10.30 a.m.

June 8 th	Whit Sun.	Family service.
June 22 nd	Trinity 1	Holy Communion.

St. Laurence's Church services 10.30 a.m. & 6.30. p.m.

June 1 st	Ascension	a.m. Baptism Rev. D. Jupe p.m. BCP Holy Communion Rev. L. Beard.
June 8 th	Whit Sun.	a.m. Holy Communion by extension and Junior Church D. Parr. p.m. Evensong. D. Parr.
June 15 th	Trinity	a.m. All Age Worship with the Worship Team. p.m. Holy Communion Rev. N. Clarke.
June 22 nd	Trinity 1	a.m. The Lord is Here Communion Rev. R. Prantling. p.m. Evensong. P. Wright.
June 29 th	Trinity 2	a.m. All Age Worship with the Worship Team. p.m. Evensong. M Watts. Both services to be followed by a sponsored sing

Mondays (each) at 7 p.m. The Links youth club meet. in the Village Church Hall.

Tuesday 17th at 9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer In the Village Church Hall. The Senior Citizens meeting follows, everyone is welcome to this service.

Monday 9 th & 23 rd	Ansley Common Fellowship meets
Wednesday 4 th & 18 th	The Wednesday Fellowship group meet
Wednesday 11 th & 25 th	The Prayer group meets at 10 Nuthurst Cres. at 2.p.m.
Saturday 14 th & 28 th	Open Church
Saturday 14 th	Home Made Cake Sale. 3 p.m.
Tuesday 10 th	Worship Team meet
Thursday 19 th	PCC meeting.
Tuesday 24 th	Visiting Team meet.

Thanks.

It has certainly been a busy time this Spring and the Church Wardens would like to thank everyone who has helped in any way. The Holy Week and Easter celebrations were very much appreciated and the wardens would like to say a special thank you to everyone who contributed in any way.

We wish to thank Joanne Humpage and Marie Cove for leading the line and old time dance at St. John's on the 9th May It was a very enjoyable evening even if you have two left feet. A total of £47.50 was raised for St. John's hall funds.

St. John's hall.

St. John's hall needs to have, among other things, a new kitchen floor and a disabled toilet. It is hoped that some of the work can be funded from grants etc. However it is much easier to obtain these funds if the hall is used extensively by the community. At the moment there is the Youth club and the Mums and Toddlers on a Thursday, but very little else. If anyone or group wish to use the facilities of the hall for the good of the community please have a word with Marie Cove. The hall was built by the Colliery Company for the use of the Church and the community.

From the Registers.

On Thursday 24th April Mrs Joyce Beddows aged 73 was laid to rest with her husband Joseph at Hartshill. She had lived for many years in Ansley.

New Room.

The workmen arrived at the beginning of April and it is wonderful to see a start. Work is almost on schedule at the time of writing. There have been a lot of comments about the articles in the paper, we shall be keeping a copy of them and perhaps produce a scrap book with other photographs that are being taken showing the progress. The fund has been steadily increasing, but as always there is still a way to go. If you wish to make a donation please do so or if you have any fund-raising ideas with which you can help please have a word.

It is planned that it will be completed by 16th August and it will be wonderful if it could be completed and ready for use for the Flower Festival, which commences on the 22nd and paid for by the end of the Festival. Please continue to remember this project in your prayers.

Home Made Cake Sale

The annual sale of home made cakes and biscuits will take place on Saturday 14th June at 3 p.m. in the Village Church Hall. Please come along and enjoy a cup of tea and cake and help support Spurgeon Child Care, and organisation which helps children and their families in this country. All donations of cakes for the sale gratefully accepted. Thank you for your continued support.
Margaret Oliver 33 Nuthurst Crescent tel. 7639 5674

Sponsored Hymn Sing

After both services on 29th June we will be having a 20 minutes sponsored hymn sing in aid of the building fund. Margaret Kimberly will lead this event on the day, However it is up to everyone to obtain as many sponsors as possible so that it will be a financial success. These are usually fun occasions. If you wish to have your favourite

hymn put in the hat on the day please make sure it is on the list for the appropriate service in good time. If you are unable to attend and wish a special hymn to be put on the list, for whatever reason, please let it be known.

Open Church

Over the last few years we have had the Church open on alternate Summer Saturday afternoons, with light refreshments available. It has been decided that we will continue this again this Summer and the Church will be open on Saturday 14th and 28th June from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Church de cobweb

On Thursday 3rd July we will be getting the cobwebs off the clearstory windowsills. We would appreciate help on Friday 4th July from 9.30 a.m. to come and clean up the dust. Any help will be much appreciated.

New Vicar.

At last the news we have all been waiting for. The announcement was made on Sunday 11th that the Rev. Peter Allan from Mundesley in Norwich will be our new vicar. He will be licensed Priest in Charge for both Arley and Ansley on 31st August at 3 p.m. We all look forward to welcoming Peter, his wife Pauline and their sons to our parish. May we ask for your prayers on this new ministry,

COFFEE MORNING: Wednesday, 18th June. 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m at 28 Nuthurst Crescent. Bring and Buy, Bric A Brac Stall, Sale of Garden Tubs, Raffle. Please come along and support us. All proceeds towards a new kitchen floor at St. John's Hall.

ANSLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS: Chairman's Report for 2002/2003.

Birchley Heath Common: Improvements over year including new boundary post and rail fencing, two off set bays and gates, metal kissing gate to improve footpath access, new surfacing to improve parking along boundary line. Also new dog litter bin and additional refuse bin. Royal Mail moved post box near to existing telephone call box.

Noticeboards: New noticeboards installed last year have been subject to vandalism attacks, incurring repair costs, but benefit of noticeboards considered extremely worthwhile.

Bus shelters: Bus shelter in Ansley Common continued to be a target for vandalism and theft of sheets, no trace of which can be found. Residents have requested new bus shelters in Parish, but in view of current situation and costs involved Council carefully considering the appropriate course of action.

Grass Cutting at Recreation Ground: WCC have completed another year of grass cutting and associated works to a very high standard, being cheapest quote received and been awarded the contract for 2003 season.

Ansley Village Recreation Ground: General repairs undertaken over past year. Goal mouths have been resurfaced and permission granted to Arley Hurricanes Junior FC to play their matches on the pitch area. After considerable efforts to secure funding 4813 pounds has been awarded by Waste Recycling Environment Ltd., 529.43 by Heart of England Community Foundation, for project to improve drainage and surface. Balance from parish precept. Work scheduled end of April/early May 2003.

Surveys of Public Rights of Way: WCC recently commenced surveys of the public footpaths in Parish with view to necessary improvements being implemented.

Precept: Precept figure for year 2003/2004 has once again been set at 11000 pounds, the same figure as last year.

Queen's Jubilee Tree Planting: As part of celebrations the Council agreed to planting of an English Oak Tree at suitable location at Ansley Village Recreation Ground. Tree is now available and planting can take place shortly.

Police Issues in Parish: Council has had discussions with local police regarding behaviour of youngsters and nuisance residents, and it is hoped these problems can be alleviated. Warwickshire Police are considering purchase of a mobile police station enabling local officers to visit their beat areas on a widely advertised and strict timetable basis, thus enable local community easier access in contacting the Police about matters of concern. Parish Council are considering a one off grant to assist the Police in achieving this aim.

Fly Tipping in Parish: Parish Council have forwarded various letters to relevant organisations relating to dumping of rubbish and requesting efforts be made to ensure this practice does not continue.

Model Code of Conduct: Adopted by Ansley Parish Council and all relevant Declarations signed.

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Publication Scheme: Ansley Parish Council adopted the Model Publication Scheme for Parish Council (Core Glasses only) and duly advertised the information as necessary.

New Audit Arrangements: Audit Commission no longer do yearly audit; now through Association firm of accountants in Birmingham and new internal auditor (local resident) appointed by Parish Council in respect of necessary paperwork for yearly audit to be submitted. Expected to incur less audit fee expenditure than previously.

Standing Orders/Financial Regulations & Clerks Contract of Employment Review: Parish Council reviewed these items to that they were updated to meet new legislation and parish requirements.

WCC Periodic Electoral Review: Following this Ansley Parish now in Arley & Whitacre Ward rather than Mancetter. Purley Chase Golf Club: Landscaping continued resulting in poor and often dangerous road conditions. Application for proposed hotel and leisure Complex at this site recently submitted, a decision by Secretary of State to be made following inquiry to be held in July 2003.

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