

Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

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Vicar:

REV. PETER ALLAN

Tel: 024 7639 9070

Wardens:

MARGARET ANTILL
MOREEN FREESTONE

Tel: 01827 874520
Tel: 024 7638 1833

St. Johns Leaders

DAVID & MARIE COVE

Tel: 024 7639 4114

Lay Reader:

MANDY WATTS
GWYNETH HICKMAN

Tel: 024 7639 7654
Tel: 024 7639 8901

www.ansleychurch.org

Print Centre 0800 389 4089

June Editorial

Summer is here!

The days are long the nights are shorter.

And for me?

My sabbatical is drawing to its close.

Pray that I will use these last few weeks wisely and well.

Continue in prayer for the life of our churches for all in leadership- and what a wonderful and varied team we have!

Pray that God will guide us as we praise Him for his wonderful work, as we seek to know Him better, as we share with others the Good News of Jesus.

We have a wonderful God. It is so easy in the busy-ness and frustrations of life to forget that we have the most wonderful news ever.

Pray that God will reveal himself not only in the moments of unalloyed joy, nor only in times of great sadness but also in the ordinary things of life.

We are ordinary people with an extraordinary God!

Give thanks!

Your friend and Vicar ,

Peter

St. Laurence's Church - Services

Sunday 1st	Trinity 2	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		4.00 p.m.	Family Service in Village Church Hall
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 8th	Trinity 3	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 15th	Trinity 4	10.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 22nd	Trinity 5	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 29th	Trinity 6	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

St John's Church Hall Ansley Common Services

Sunday 1st	Trinity 2	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Wednesday 4th		9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Sunday 8th	Trinity 3	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 15th	Trinity 4	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Wednesday 18th		9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 22nd	Trinity 5	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 29th	Trinity 6	10.30 a.m.	Marriage Blessing & Holy communion

Other regular activities

Full details on the notice boards

From the Registers

Funerals

George Ponder RIP

Sadly George died on 22nd April and his funeral took place at Ansley Church on 1st May.

George died at the age of 85 years and left three children Vicky, Philip and Clive.

He was married to Winifred whom many of you will remember and they were married for 55 years. They were a quiet couple enjoying the simple things in life. They had 8 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

George worked as an electrical engineer in the Mining Industry for 47 years before retiring for 23 years. We all know him as a previous Church Warden at Ansley and regular church attender. He worked hard for the church and even replaced the boiler. He will be sadly missed by all.

Dennis Arthur Blower who was born in Victoria Cottages, Ansley Common, in 1918, and has lived on the Bretts Hall Estate since 1955, has died at the age of 89. Apart from serving in the Army in the second World War, Dennis worked as a miner at Ansley Hall pit. He had a great love of gardening and the outdoors. His beloved wife Mary died in 2000 and following Dennis' funeral service on Friday 2nd May, he has been reunited with her in the Churchyard at St Laurence's.

Annual General Meeting

At the Annual General Meeting held on 17th April as the serving P.C.C. members were willing to stand again and there being no new nominations they were re-elected for the next term of office.

Marie's Coffee Morning

Dave & Marie will be holding their annual coffee morning on 11th June from 10 a.m. everyone is invited to come and have a cup of tea or coffee and enjoy cakes, sausage rolls etc. There will be a Bring and Buy as well as a raffle. Weather permitting we will be sitting in their lovely garden and enjoying the beautiful flowers. The proceeds will be in aid of The Acorn Children's Hospice.

"Fizzy Flutes"

During part of the Easter holidays fourteen of Jane Kimberley's pupils went on an intensive flute course to the home of Atarah Ben-Tovin in France.

They are presenting another concert in church on Friday 27th June at 7.30 p.m. to which all are welcome.

Ararah – who is due to be at the Barbican Centre in London on Sunday 29th for another of her acclaimed classical concerts for children of all ages – is Also hoping to be with us at the Ansley concert.

Margaret Kimberley

St John's B.B.Q.

On Saturday 5th July (Independence Day) and a good theme for a good old fashion BBQ. Lots to eat, games and just a good old get together for all the family. There will be hot dogs, burgers, rolls, salad etc with tea, coffee and squash to drink, Weather permitting outside at the front of the hall. Please get your tickets early they are £3 each and available from any member of the hall committee.

Rummage Sale

The Jumble sale on 26th April at St. John's Hall was a very busy affair with masses of things to sell and lots of people coming to find a bargain. Over £150 was raised for the hall improvements and when it is considered that most items were only a few pence this was a wonderful success. It was however very surprising that the freshly baked cakes were not all sold.

There will be another jumble sale on Saturday 13th September.

The Vicars Sabbatical

Please remember the Vicar returns from his Sabbatical on Monday 23rd June. He will then again be taking all calls etc. on his usual telephone number 024 7639 9070

Prayer Requests

If you would like someone or a particular situation remembered in prayer at our Sunday Services both at St. Laurence and St. John's please hand the slip below to a member of the Church Congregation or contact Barry Jacques on 024 7635 3400 until 22nd June then the Vicar on 024 7639 9070. Please remember the vicar would be pleased to visit anyone who is sick, but he does need to know again please ring.

Please pray forwho is

June 2008

Have you ever bought a gadget, or as the Americans call it a 'gizmo', which at the time seems very useful and you wonder how you ever managed without it, but as time goes by it remains in the box and is eventually sent to a Rummage Sale or Charity Shop? Do you remember when lots of people bought Fondue sets and I wonder how many of these were never used, or even the Teas maid. I did, however, see someone the other day using a shoe horn but the handle had been extended to avoid bending low. This certainly looked very useful.

There are also outlandish presents and especially I remember when we were bought a Cocktail Shaker for Christmas. Not a bad present you might think, but we are both teetotal. I can't think what happened to it, but needless to say we never used it. Well, how would we know even how to make a cocktail?

When I saw how many dolls were sent to our recent Rummage Sale, it reminded me of when we were young and dolls were very expensive and scarce. We did, however, have cardboard dolls and we were given the out of date pattern books from J.C. Smiths (now Debenhams) and we would cut out dresses and other clothes to dress and re-dress our cardboard dolls. We also loved colouring in the patterns and personalizing them and imagining ourselves in such fine clothes. It was great fun on a rainy or wintry day.

Every week when I look at the Sunday magazine in our newspaper, I am amazed that at least three quarters of it is for teenagers or very young women. Then when I was in the Dentist I waited a long time (as usual) and I read a 'Good Housekeeping' magazine and the article I read was really amusing. A woman was writing on 'Being 60' and although she said she had nothing to look forward to but death, she was so humorous and I really enjoyed it. The downside is the magazine would cost £3.30, but I just wonder how many young people ever read the Sunday magazine from a broadsheet newspaper.

Why will your mind for ever go to meads in sunny Greece?
Our song birds have as fine a flow, our sheep as fair a fleece.
Among our hills the honey-bee and in the leaning pear -
I tell you there is Arcady in leafy Warwickshire. Norman Gale.

Marie Cove