

ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

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Dear Friends,

Time for an annual review of buildings, state of repair, etc.

BUILDING MATTERS AND MONEY

If the LORD does not build the house,
the work of the builders is useless

Psalm 127 verse 1

Anyone who has been into St. Laurence's lately will have noticed that preparatory work has started on the walls. It has been interesting to see what is behind all that plaster—a stone wall probably 700 to 800 years old. Some fragments of timber were found that might possibly have been part of the original window dating from before the addition of the clerestory to the nave over 400 years ago.

We have inherited in St. Laurence's a building from the distant past. The remedial work, together with the internal redecoration will cost £1550. We have to ask ourselves some unpleasant questions and go on asking them until we come up with a realistic and Christian answer. For one—is this building to become a millstone round our necks or an asset to us and to succeeding generations of Ansley folk?

MILLSTONES ?

A few weeks ago a rural vicar in the Diocese of Peterborough wrote to the 'Church Times' to ask if the Church of England had taken leave of its senses. He had a parish church in a hamlet of ten houses. The church building needed £20,000 spent on it just to remedy roof problems. Just now in Coventry there is a church built in the 1960's which needs £20,000 spending on it—already!! Have we a millstone too?

WHO PAYS FOR WHAT ?

Church finance can be split into two areas. First, there is the heating, lighting, routine expenses and maintenance of the worship. This is the responsibility of the worshippers. There is a sum which adds up to the following conclusion . . .

Few worshipping members + poor giving = Cold church and fewer services !

Secondly there is the maintenance of the building. No village congregation can be expected to undertake this immense expense. In any case there are many folk who sadly see no need to worship regularly but are interested in the church building and its surroundings. This may be for family reasons or historical interest. The conclusion here is that if Ansley wants the church to remain in good repair then we, the community, must be prepared to take responsibility for the church building.

BEGGING

We want to kill the begging mentality. Many clergy and congregations get obsessive about money. This is not the work

of Christian ministry and has little to do with believing and behaving as a Christian. The quotation from Psalm 127 shows the right priorities—not in the buildings or in the work on them but in the Lord they are supposed to serve. King Solomon is supposed to have written this Psalm. Look what happened to him—his temple building projects became recklessly expensive, a mere show without thought of God or man (he used forced labour!) He and his people ended in personal and economic ruin. He forgot :

If the LORD does not build the house,
the work of the builders is useless !

Christian greetings,

TIM GOULDSTONE

LINE OF COINS

In order to help with fabric expense there will be a line of coins on Saturday, July 10th starting simultaneously at 'The Boot' and the 'Lord Nelson' and working towards each other—and hopefully meeting ! The world record for coin lines is 3½ miles (worth £3,216)

HEAT FOR ALL IN THE HALL

The boiler in the Village Church Hall which was installed by the late Mr. Len Priest has done good service but now needs replacing. A calor gas installation using the existing radiators will cost about £1100 and we hope to install this in the autumn. We want to do this before next winter if possible.

NOTES AND NEWS

GFS CONCERT

A concert organised by the GFS branch will take place on Monday, July 12th at 7.00 p.m., in the Village Church Hall—admission 10p. On June 14th Frances Roberts and Jane Smith were admitted as members.

TREASURE HUNT

Good weather (again) for this event, won by the Whitworth family. Much counting of M6 bridge supports (under the motorway, not on it, I might add) and finding of two-foot thistles.

FETE

Despite the changeable afternoon the sum of £232 was raised by this sale. Many thanks to all who manned the stalls and provided refreshments, took things down, put them up, etc., etc.

MANCETTER VICARAGE

After a gap of nearly two years Mancetter is getting a Priest-in-Charge. The Revd. Adrian Mairs, at present Curate of St. Matthew's, Rugby, is to be Commissioned on July 24th at 3.00 p.m.

'SONGS OF PRAISE'

There is to be a 'Songs of Praise' at Fillongley on Sunday, July 25th at 6.30 p.m. There will be **no service** at Ansley on that date at 6.30 p.m. Family Services at St. John's, July 25th at 10.00 a.m.

BARN DANCE

This was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Sutton on Saturday, June 19th and inspite of the rather wet day, about 160 people turned up to spend a most enjoyable evening under the expert guidance of Brenda Garnham and the Kurley Kale Group. The thanks of the Village Church Hall Committee go out to Mr. and Mrs. Sutton and their staff for the preparation they did and for the loan of their barns for this splendid social occasion. Another special thanks to all others who helped in any way and to those who bought tickets and came. At the time of going to press the financial result is not available.

There will be another Barn Dance at Sutton's Farm on Saturday, June 11th, 1983, and again we shall have Brenda Garnham and the Kurley Kale Group. Keep this date free ! !

DIARY FOR JULY 1982

- 4— 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion. Revd. G. Humphries.
- 11.00 a.m. Parish Communion. Revd. G. Humphries.
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. Revd. G. Humphries.
- 5— 7.30 p.m. Eleven Plus at the Vicarage.
- 6— 3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union, Village Church Hall. The Vicar.
- 10— 2.00 p.m. Line of coins, Nelson-Boot !
- 11—**5th Sunday after Trinity.**
- 11.00 a.m. Parish Communion.
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.
- 12— 7.00 p.m. GFS Concert, Village Church Hall.
- 14— 7.00 p.m. St. John's Mothers' Union, Business Meeting.
Note change — 2nd Wednesday.
- 18—**6th Sunday after Trinity.**
- 11.00 a.m. Family Service.
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.
- 19— 7.30 p.m. Eleven Plus at the Vicarage.
- 24— 3.00 p.m. Commissioning of The Revd. Adrian Mairs as
Priest-in-Charge of Mancetter.
- 25—**7th Sunday after Trinity.**
- 10.00 a.m. Family Service, St. John's Hall, Ansley Common.
- 11.00 a.m. Parish Communion.
- 6.30 p.m. SONGS OF PRAISE AT FILLONGLEY.
NO SERVICE AT ANSLEY.

FUNERAL

June 18—Edith Annie Biggs, aged 76, formerly of Ansley Village.

WEDDING

June 12—Henry Davison and Jayne Lang.