

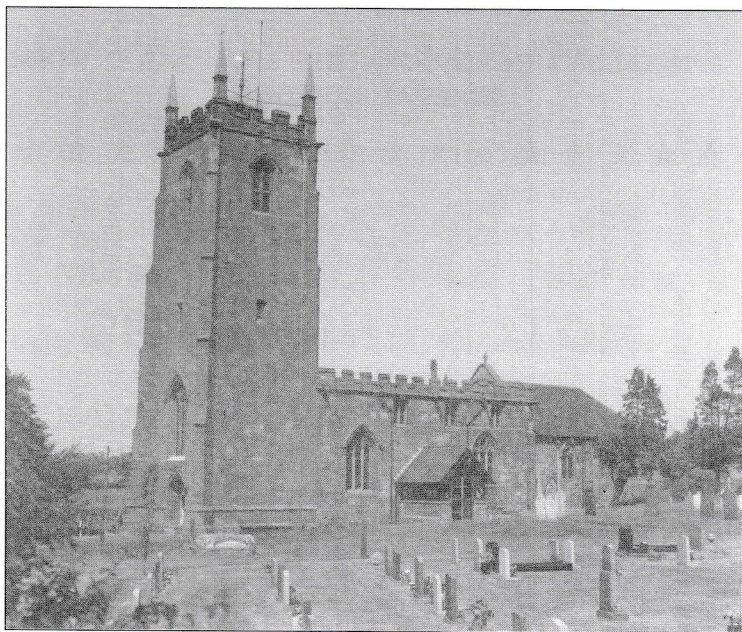
Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No: 961

JULY 2005

Price 25p



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HEAVEN

Have you enjoyed the remarkable sunshine that we have been having? Leaving aside for one moment the problems it may have caused (such as the dryness and lack of water) and the possibility that it is a sign of global warming, we can thoroughly enjoy the sunshine. The trouble is when in the midst of it all we have to keep on working. Why can't we have a public holiday every time the temperature exceeds 85F.? Totally impracticable, of course, but nice thought all the same!

What we say of the sunshine is also true of the warmth of God's love. We need to take time to bask in it (and you don't even need sun cream!) Totally impracticable? No. We can set aside time for private prayer and public worship and feed the improvement in our daily lives. And we can look forward to a time when we can simply enjoy the warmth of God's love and don't have to do anything! That'll be Heaven!

Your friend and vicar,

Peter

July What's On

St. Laurence's Church

Sunday 3 rd	Trinity 6	10.30 a.m.	All Age Worship & Godley Play
		6.30 p.m.	B.C.P. Holy Communion
Sunday 10 th	Trinity 7	10.30 a.m.	Baptism & Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 17 th	Trinity 8	10.30 a.m.	All Age Worship & Godley Play
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 24 th	Trinity 9	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 31 st	Trinity 10	10.30 a.m.	All Age Worship
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion

St John's Hall Ansley Common Services

Sunday 3 rd	Trinity 6	10.30 a.m.	Family Worship & Sunday School
Wednesday 6 th		9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Sunday 10 th	Trinity 7	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion & Sunday School
Sunday 17 th	Trinity 8	10.30 a.m.	Family Worship
Wednesday 20 th		9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Sunday 26 th	Trinity 9	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion & Sunday School
Sunday 31 st	Trinity 10	10.30 a.m.	Songs of Praise

Other Activities at St. John's Church Hall

Monday 16 th	7.00 p.m.	Indoor Bowls.
Tuesdays	9.00 – 12.00 a.m.	Krazy Kettle Kafé
Tuesdays	7.30 p.m.	Line Dancing
Wednesdays	6.00 p.m.	A.C.Y.C.
Thursday 7 th & 14 th	7.00 p.m.	Youth Club

Activities at Village Church Hall

Monday 4 th & 11 th	7.00 p.m.	Links - Youth Club
Tuesdays	10.00 a.m.	Senior Citizens
Wednesdays	10.30 – 12.30 p.m.	Community Café
Wednesday 13 th & 27 th	7.30 p.m.	Bingo
Thursday 14 th	7.30 p.m.	Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 21 st	7.30 p.m.	P.C.C. Meeting

Other Parish activities

Thursday 7 th & 21 st	7.30 p.m.	Ansley Common Fellowship.
Saturday 2 nd	6.00 p.m.	American Buffet
Saturday 2 nd 16 th & 30 th	2.-5. p.m.	Open Church with light refreshments.
Sunday 3 rd & 31 st		Quiz Night for Air Ambulance at The Boot

From the Registers

Baptisms.

On 12th June we had the baptisms of Emily Smyth and Skye Dawson. Skye the younger of the two, lay happily in the vicars arms, while Emily was not so sure of strangers, but happily looked around from the security of her family.

Wedding

On 11th June, which was dry but with a cool wind, Gareth Bright and Ann Roberts were married. We wish them every happiness in their married life together.

Funerals

George Jackson's funeral took place at the Heart of England Crematorium on 17th May, followed by interment in St. Wilfrid's Churchyard Arley. He was 83. A man of great wisdom and much love for his family and friends, he spent his life in and around Arley and Ansley. His great love continued to shine through despite the illness of his final years. He was a keen footballer and played for Arley Bible Class League, Nuneaton Borough, Bedworth and Atherstone. He is greatly missed by his wife Jenny and all his family.

The ashes of Eva MARY Mercer who died 15th May aged 76 were brought back to Ansley to be buried in the grave with her father and paternal grandparents. Although Mary had never lived in Ansley there are many family connections with the parish.

Tear Fund Coffee Evening.

Many thanks to Bill and Mandy for holding a coffee and box opening evening on May 18th in aid of Tear Fund - Children at Risk. It was an enjoyable evening and total of £125.50 was raised. Thank you to all who supported this event and have boxes for this charity.

Celebrations - V.E. Day Dance.

Last month we were only able to announce the raffle results, now all the figures have been completed a total surplus of £234.97 was made, and this has been credited to St. John's Hall account.

Continued.

The V.E. Day B.B.Q., funded by 'Home Front Recall (Lottery)', on 18th June was an incredible success, with approx. 50 adults, 60 children together with 10 performers and their families attending, the circus came to St. John's with a show followed by a children's workshop. The only sound to be heard was the sound of clapping. There was a copious amount of sausages, burgers and crisps consumed together with gallons of pop. The man from the circus hopes to run circus workshops for children in the locality. Thank you to everyone who helped with this wonderful event on such a hot day.

Marie's Coffee Morning

Dave and Marie are having a very busy time, they have been organising the two VE Day events at Ansley Common, and were having work done to their home which was finished just in time for the Coffee Morning. It was on Thursday 16th June. The day dawned bright but at 9 a.m. it was raining, however by 10 it was dry and we were able to sit outside and enjoy their beautiful display of flowers. It was a lovely morning and £82.70 was raised for St. John's.

American Buffet

As mentioned last month Ansley Village Community Café are holding an American Buffet at Merry Brook Cottage on Saturday 2nd July. Tickets are £2 50 and are obtainable from Pauline Gaskin 024 7639 2086, Margaret Antill 01827 874520, and Jean Martin 024 7639 3489. At an American Buffet, for those who have not heard,

everyone brings a dish of food of their choice. Live music by Pete Mc.Parland and other entertainment's.

Village Church Hall

We are very pleased to let you all know that we have received a further grant of £1500 for the refurbishment project. This brings the total raised to £21 000. We still need to keep going as we have to reach the full cost of £37 700 before the work commences.

The Church Tower

Earlier in the year it was mentioned in the magazine that work will have to be done to the top of the tower, the weather and ravages of time are taking their toll. The architect has been and looked at the situation and has drawn up a 'schedule of works'. This has now been submitted to the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the issue of a faculty ("planning permission for churches"). We now await this permission, it could take a while, in the mean time the architect has sent out schedules to different businesses to obtain quotations for the work.

Cake Bake

On a very hot Friday and Saturday 17th & 18th June many people must have spent many hours slaving over a hot stove to make the wonderful array of cakes that went on sale in the Village Church Hall. A total of £120 was raised for Spurgeon Child Care. Many thanks to all those who supported this event in any way.

We are also grateful to Margaret Oliver for carrying our Portable Electrical Appliances Tests (PAT). This has to be carried out annually on all electrical equipment that plugs into the mains supply. It is a legal requirement in all public buildings. This is a considerable task as there are over 60 items in the Church buildings (including the equipment that the different youth clubs use etc.) Please remember no electrical equipment is supposed to be used on the Church property until it has been tested. This testing is part of Margaret's work for which she has to have annual training

Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance

On the 1st June the County Air Ambulance launched its year long Golden Hour Appeal. The aim is to raise £1.4 million to purchase the Helicopter, which is currently leased. This would enable the service to offer us 24 hour cover.

Since its inception 20 months ago it has covered over 2000 incidents, two in Ansley. This makes it the busiest in the country. The helicopter is the fastest doing this type of work and can reach anywhere in Warwickshire in 8 minutes or less.

The service does not receive any funds from the N.H.S. and does not fit the criteria for any lottery grants, so its existence relies totally on us.

If every man, woman and child in the County donated a £1 the sum would be achieved today, unfortunately life is not that easy.

Fundraiser are needed. I am currently running 4 weekly Quiz nights at the Boot Inn (thanks to Alan and Margaret), the next are on 3rd and 31st July. A recent Cryptic Car Quiz raised £178.78. Thanks to everyone who supported that. The total raise so far runs to £318.

If you can help please do, by a one off donation or by organising an event. I will be happy to help if I can.

Sue Ricketts

W,N,A.A. Volunteer.

ANSLEY PARISH COUNCIL; **BYE ELECTION:** Welcome Councillor Derek Greedy as newly elected Parish Councillor. The Bye-election was called for by 10+ residents from Nuthurst Crescent who supported the nomination of Mr. Richard Hancox who unfortunately withdrew but we were then already committed to the election and subsequently costs to the Parish of approximately £1500. It is disappointing this unnecessary expense was incurred especially since it will affect what the Parish can provide for in the way of traffic calming and other improvements.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH are struggling for members and general support from the community. If you feel that you have time to help with this worthwhile cause, please contact the Clerk for details. The neighbourhood watch is not just involved in crime related issues, but is intended to be more of a help to the community in general. A litter pick was organised recently and we extend our thanks to the volunteers who turned up on the day to help. Councillors will be calling door to door in the next couple of months and request that all residents join the neighbourhood watch scheme, thus enabling the Parish to qualify for Neighbourhood Watch signage.

If anyone needs the police other than an emergency please telephone 02476 641111

Next meetings: 14th July. No meeting in August. 8th September.

Clerk: Mrs. J. Sands. 02476 394670.

July 2005.

I can't tell you how many times I have been told "Don't cast a clout till May be out" but all the time I thought it meant until May was over, but what it really means is until the May blossom is out. Well this is according to Bill Oddie, and this year the May Blossom has been glorious.

Ways to know when you are getting old - You can remember the words to Pop Songs which have been re-released after 40 years: Your dance style is more Victor Silvester than Hip Hop: Your children put your age down because they don't want others to know how old they are.

I saw an article in another Parish's magazine entitled 'God created children (and in the process grandchildren) and I'd like to share with you a few snippets from this. 'You spend the first 2 years teaching children to walk and talk. Then you spend the next 16 telling them to sit down and shut up.' 'The main purpose of holding children's parties is to remind ourselves that there are children more awful than ours'. 'If you have a lot of tension and get a headache, do what it says on the Aspirin bottle 'Take 2 tablets and keep away from children'. Only joking kids really! We love you to bits and wouldn't be without you.

Hope you all have some of the glorious weather we are enjoying as I write this for your annual holidays.

Marie Cove.