

ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

No. 795

SEPTEMBER 1991

Price 13p



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Sunday Bus Timetable for 6.30 p.m. Evening Service

Ansley Village turn 6.00 p.m.

Birchley Heath Post Office 6.10 p.m.

Ansley Common St, John's 6.20 p.m.

Return Journey from Parish Church 7.45 p.m.

Newdegate Printers, Nuneaton — Tel.: (0203) 382902

Ansley Vicarage,
September 1st, 1991

Our Dear Friends,

During the past four years our son Mark has done a considerable amount of travelling up and down our land from Scotland to Cornwall and many places in between without spending a penny! It has all been done by hitch hiking. Earlier this year he had a lift with a couple who had just returned from Russia where they had been with about 30 members of their Church for an unusual type of holiday. They had taken 9000 Russian Bibles and 3000 Children's books with them.

They wrote an interesting account of their visit. It was of a Moscow with dusty potholed roads and crumbling masonry. Of unfinished building projects long since abandoned and of a people whose faces spoke of sadness and depression. Of a city, as indeed, the whole country, emerging from years of decadence. Where costs and wages are still in the 1920's. For instance, a train journey anywhere in the city costs one third of a penny, and a typical bus drivers wage is £5 per month. While old buildings crumble and new projects lie half-finished, modern amenities like telephones stand in only partly erected unfinished booths. The people meanwhile are in comparative poverty with food and other essentials risen in price along with a general scarcity of all things, leaving most wondering where the next meal is coming from and just how to survive. Since April 1st this year, food has gone up 300% and other goods by 600%.

We all know of course that since the 1917 Revolution, Russian Churches have suffered mercilessly, experiencing repression and enforced atheism with wholesale destruction, leaving the people without hope. No wonder when change has finally come that the hunger for the Word is almost insatiable.

These holiday makers had a multitude of opportunities to give out their Bibles to just everyone they saw. Men and women, also young men, street traders—all accepted with obvious eagerness and thanks. Two women painting the park benches took off their painting gloves and were left engrossed in their newly acquired Bibles. An old man sitting some yards away on his own, abandoned his paper in preference for a Bible. In Red Square Bibles and Children's books were snapped up wherever they were given; and even two military policemen smiled and accepted gladly and were left reading studiously. As one Russian expressed it, "Seventy three years of nothing, now we need to know God."

One day the group of visitors gathered together outside a supermarket to sing hymns with guitar accompaniment. Within minutes they had a message from the manager of a nearby cinema, "Please come." They were shown into a large foyer where about a hundred of his customers were waiting. They were to listen to the English visitors!

More of this next month.

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 1st — Trinity 14

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer.
- 2.30 p.m. Ley Group picnic in Arbury Hall grounds.
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer 1662.

Tuesday, September 3rd

- 3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union.
- Speaker from "The Gideons."

Wednesday, September 4th

- 8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship.

Friday, September 6th

- 7.15 for 7.30 p.m. Supper Evening with Marilyn Baker at Ansley Village Social Club.

Sunday, September 8th — Trinity 15

- 11.00 a.m. Family Communion.
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Service.

Wednesday, September 11th

- 7.30 p.m. Ramble with the Ansley Ladies' Association.

Friday, September 13th

- 6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, September 15th — Trinity 16

- 11.00 a.m. Family Service.
- 6.30 p.m. Holy Communion.

Monday, September 16th

- 7.45 p.m. Parochial Church Council meets in Ansley Village Church Hall.

Wednesday, September 18th

- 8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship.

Friday, September 20th

- 6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Saturday, September 21st

- 10.00 a.m. Children's Meeting at Birchley Farm.
- 7.00 p.m. Barbecue at Birchley Heath.

Sunday, September 22nd — Trinity 17

- 11.00 a.m. Family Communion.
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. A.S.B.

Wednesday, September 25th

- 8.00 p.m. Ansley Ladies.

Friday, September 27th

- 6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, September 29th — Trinity 18

- 11.00 a.m. Family Communion.
- 6.30 p.m. Guest Night Service.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptism "We welcome you into the Lord's Family"

Aug. 18—Edward Milos Nisevic of Ansley Common,
Rhoda Dorothy Pauline Smith of Ansley Common.
Laurel Emily Brindley of Ansley Common.

Funerals "What is seen is temporal, what is unseen is eternal"

July 24—Georgina Ada Unite, aged 72 years of Ansley Village.
Aug. 1—Jack Newman, aged 76 years of Ansley Village.
Aug. 2—Ken Norwood, aged 69 years of Ansley Village.
Aug. 2—John Robert Shilton, aged 78 years of Birchley Heath.
Aug. 21—Nora Bates, aged 76 years of Long Shoot formerly of Ansley Village.

Focus on Renewal is the name of the Service at St. Mary's Church, Atherstone on Friday, 27th September at 7.30 p.m. The speaker is The Rev. Bob Dunnett, Vice-Principle of Birmingham Bible Institute. Ask for a lift if you would like to go, or if you have a car please offer any spare seats.

On September 21st there will be a Children's Morning at Dr. John and Sue Harris's home, Birchley Farm from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon and at 7.00 p.m., a Barbecue, hopefully in Birchley Heath itself, together with Paul Norton's Music Group, Details will be finalised and circulated around the homes.

There are five Sundays in September and on the fifth Sunday evening there will be an informal service in which we shall sing old and new favourite hymns.

The Ley Group of Parishes join together for a picnic on Sunday afternoon September 1st from 2.30 p.m., in Arbury Hall grounds. There is a charge for admission. This should be a very enjoyable occasion if the weather is fine. Members of the parishes of Arley and Fillongley are invited to join us for the evening service to conclude the day.

We are very grateful to all those who are being so busy preparing for our 27th Flower Festival. The caterers, under the leadership of Mrs. Berridge. The stewards, the cleaners, and so many other odd jobs are being undertaken. The flower arrangers will give a great deal of pleasure to many, as well as receiving a considerable joy themselves in actually doing the arrangements. A great amount of work has been done in the Churchyard these past weeks. Mention must be made of three men, Henry and Anthony Truelove, and Alf Toon. Not only regularly cutting the grass but also getting it especially looking good for now, and the trimming of the hawthorne hedges too. All looks very well, thank you.

March for Jesus began in 1986, with 15,000 marching on the streets of a very wet City of London in 1987. In 1988 that figure increased to 55,000 marching through Westminster. In 1989 over 200,000 believers marched in 45 different towns and cities throughout the country—Coventry and Birmingham being where most of us participated. In 1990 there were 607 marches (from large city marches to

small village marches) with again over 200,000 people taking part. This year the national organisers are believing for an even greater witness.

We are invited to join in the march on September 14th, 10.45 a.m., at Nuneaton starting at the Bandstand, Riversley Park or 11.00 a.m., at Atherstone Market Place.

St. Laurence and St. John's Mothers' Union had a Coffee Morning at Mrs. Varden's home on July 25th. Although not very well attended owing to holidays, we were able to send a donation of £28 to Arley Stroke Club. Thank you to everyone concerned. Our next meeting of the Mothers' Union is on Tuesday, September 3rd at 3.00 p.m., at the Church Hall. A member of the Gideon Society will speak and everyone is welcome.

Winnie Ponder.

The Ansley Ladies meet on September 11th; weather permitting we shall go on a Ramble starting at 7.30 p.m., from Ansley Village Church Hall.

Winnie Ponder.

Tickets are now on sale for the Supper Evening with Marilyn Baker singing, price £3, for Friday, September 6th, 7.15 for 7.30 p.m. The event takes place at Ansley Social Club by kind permission of the Committee. The programme is arranged so that Marilyn sings 7.30 to 8.15 p.m. Then the supper from 8.15 to 9.15 p.m. The evening concludes with Marilyn from 9.15 to 10.00 p.m. The three course menu is printed on the ticket. As well as singing at many major events in this country Marilyn has toured various parts of the world. She has made many record albums and her tapes and books will be on sale during the evening.

On Sunday afternoon September 8th we shall be sharing tea together as a Church Family in the Village Church Hall following a short thanksgiving service in Church at 3.00 p.m., in celebration of our 25 years marriage. Please regard this as your invitation and join with us for the occasion.

A music and drama club is being formed at Fillongley. Anyone and everyone is welcome. No special talent is needed only enthusiasm and commitment with a view to entertaining at the Ley Group of Churches. The initial meeting for any persons interested will be at Fillongley meeting room on Monday, September 9th at 7.30 p.m. For further information please telephone 0676 40770. Leslie Scowen and Gwen Harris.

In memory of Mrs. Betty Limik, a further £85 has been received by the Church from friends who gave gifts instead of flowers. We express our warm appreciation.

We were all sorry to learn of the passing of Ada Unite after a long and weakening illness. Ada came, with Tom her husband, from London where they spent most of their married life; but quickly settled here amongst us. Ada joined the Mothers' Union and the Good Companions and was regular at Evening Worship. In June this year Ada was confirmed. She had a very genuine and uncomplicated faith that gave her the Lord's peace and assurance. We shall miss this gentle lady and pray that Tom and the family will be comforted in the knowledge that for Ada it is "absent from the body, present with the Lord."