

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

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No. 929

NOVEMBER 2002

Price 25p

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Newdegate Printers, Nuneaton — Tel: (024) 7638 2902

## EDITORIAL

1st November, 2002

The trees and hedgerows are laden with berries this Autumn, but it would seem that the birds are developing a taste for nuts and seed—perhaps we are breeding Gourmet wild birds. Despite the availability of berries, the containers in our garden are consumed at a rate of knots. Not only the Blue Tits, Great Tits and Green Finches clamour for the nuts, but also numerous House Sparrows but they turn up their noses (or should I say beaks) at bread. It seems we are spoiling them, but they are worth it. However, all is not lost—the Robin is back and he and the Starlings love bread.

We were looking at toys for our latest Grandchild and also wondering what to buy for the other 4 for Christmas. The choice is vast and expensive but not what I would call 'toys', as they can be very high tech or involve very loud music, as the older ones ask for Computer Games, C.D's or clothes — not things to stir the imagination.

I was reminded of toys and pastimes of years ago when watching Michael Palin in the Sahara. In one town he looked out over an enormous open air place for dyeing leather hides, so ancient it couldn't be dated. It was like looking at huge paint pots, and I remembered how we used to treasure the gift of a paintbox. Although I don't know why they were called boxes, as they were small very thin tins. We had great enjoyment from them until we had used every bit of paint, the red, blue and green giving out first. but then we also had the Magic Painting Books where all you needed was a brush and water. The colours appeared magically filling in the pictures. These were great but only lasted a very short time. Oh that youngsters of today found pleasure in such simple pastimes!

As we pass into November I thought we would have another verse from 'The Months of the Year': Dull November brings the blast, then the leaves are falling fast.

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.

### SERVICES IN NOVEMBER 2002

#### ST. JOHN'S HALL, ANSLEY COMMON. Services 10.30 a.m.

Nov. 10—Remembrance Day Service and Sunday School.

Nov. 24—Communion by extension and Sunday School.

#### ST. LAURENCE CHURCH. Services 10.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

Nov. 3—a.m. All Age Worship, Worship Team.

Nov. 3—p.m. BCP Holy Communion. Rev. Nick Clarke.

Nov. 10—a.m. Remembrance. Colin Udall.

Nov. 10—p.m. Evensong. Lay Reader.

Nov. 17—a.m. All Age Worship. Worship Team.

Nov. 17—p.m. Holy Communion. To be arranged.

Nov. 24—a.m. The Lord is Here, Holy Communion, Rev. Derek Jupe.

Nov. 24—p.m. Confirmation at Corley.



There will be Junior Church on the 17th and 24th at St. Laurence.  
Senior Citizens: Monthly Service on Tuesday 19th at 9.30 a.m.  
The Ansley Common Fellowship meets on Mondays 4th and 18th.  
The Wednesday Fellowship group meet on 6th and 20th.  
The PCC meet on Thursday 28th in the Village Church Hall at 7.45 p.m.  
The St. John's Hall Committee meets on Monday 25th at 2.00 p.m.  
The Worship team meets on Tuesday 19th at 7.30 p.m.

#### **Remembrance Sunday**

On 10th November as usual the wreaths of poppies in memory of the men and women who have lost their lives in the service of our country will be placed at the War Memorial just after the morning service. This will be a special service for the occasion and the two minutes silence at 11.00 a.m. will be observed. The two minutes silence will also be observed at St. John's service.

**Plant Night.** Wednesday, 6th November, 7.00 till 8.30 p.m. Bring along a plant and exchange it for one you haven't got. If you haven't got one to exchange, there will be a lot of spare plants. Admission 50p including tea and biscuits. All proceeds to St. John's Upkeep.

**Wine and Cheese Evening plus Entertainment.** Friday, 15th November, 7.30 p.m. £5.00 (1st glass of wine included).

Spurgeon Child Care Evening. Please come along on Thursday, 21st November at 7.30 p.m. to 33 Nuthurst Crescent. Collecting boxes will be emptied and there will be a Bring and Buy. Everyone is very welcome for coffee and cakes and all proceeds will go to Spurgeon Child Care. Thank you for your continued support.

Margaret Oliver, Tel: 7639 5674.

#### **Confirmation**

The confirmation for the Ley Group for this year will take place on the 24th November. Barbara Payne from Ansley will be confirmed.

#### **From the Registers**

**Funerals:** Mrs. Phyllis Locksley (nee Moore) aged 84. Born in Ansley Village, she was the oldest sister of the Moore Tribe—Sydney, Bill, Phyll, Blanche, Eddie, Horace and Dorothy. Blanche and Dorothy are still alive. She worked in service but eventually found her way into nursing, starting at the T.B. hospital at Hertford Hill, then at High View, Exhall. While bringing up two of her three boys she supported her husband Tom, to enable him to go to college to become a teacher. Specialising in Geriatric nursing she later became Warden of Sunnyside Complex, Croft Road, Nuneaton. In retirement she developed her many artistic craft skills, sometimes exhibited at Nuneaton Art Gallery. While Sid, her brother, was in Richmond Lodge Nursing Home, she managed to visit him almost every week for four years travelling by bus. Always cheerful and interested in many things, a joy to visit. We shall miss her very much.

Anne Moore.

Lillian May Bailey died 13th October, aged 93 and was laid to rest in the Churchyard on the 17th. May moved to Ansley when she married Walter over 70 years ago. May who was Welsh, worked very hard supporting her husband and bringing up her family.

**Harvest:** The Church as usual looked lovely for the usual festivities thank you to all who helped or gave in any way. Although the

weather decided to break that weekend, everyone was able to give thanks to God for his bounty and enjoy the community spirit of the different events and services. It was at the Evening service that the presentation of half of the Flower Festival proceeds was made. £430 to both the Nuneaton Hospital League of Friends and the Acorn Children's Hospice.

It was this same weekend that we learnt that our application for a grant towards the New room has passed the next stage in the process and all being well in due time we hope to receive £14,500 for the toilets.

**Tear Fund.** A total of £183.37 has been raised in the retiring collections and with the 29th September Tear Fund Sunday collection. This sum has now been forwarded to the Tear Fund Children at Risk.

**Arley Fire.** Following the fire in which Arley families suffered damage to their homes and loss of their possessions, it was decided that for three weeks in September there was a special retiring collection for their benefit. A total of £260 was raised and forwarded to the Arley Churchwardens who have distributed the money and the Church has received very grateful letters of thanks.

On Saturday, 5th October at 2.30 Mandy Watts was licensed and admitted as a Lay Reader at the Cathedral and Bishop Anthony and the Dean conducting the service. This was a wonderful day for Mandy and those who attended the Cathedral to support her were able to witness her happiness. Now that Mandy has her robes she can conduct Family Services and Evening Prayer. We all congratulate Mandy on this wonderful achievement. We also pray that her health will not fail her and that God will bless her ministry.

**Health and Safety.** In September four members of the P.C.C. attended a presentation on Health and Safety given by our insurers. This is a very important issue and we ask that if everyone is aware of any risks, that it be reported to the Churchwardens or P.C.C. members. The P.C.C. will now have Health and Safety on each agenda. One thing of which we are increasingly conscious is the state of many gravestones in the Churchyard some of which are only a few years old. If you, a relative or friend is responsible for any stone in the Churchyard it would be helpful if you could please check that it is firm and there is no risk of an injury being attributable to it. There will, no doubt, be more on this subject as we work our way through the different requirements of our insurers.

The Christmas Fayre is to be on Friday, 6th December in the Village Church Hall. Everyone is welcome for a good evening. There will be the usual stalls, tombola, gifts, games, food, entertainment and carols.

Many thanks to those who have given bulbs for the churchyard and a special thank you to the person who not only gave bulbs, but came and planted them as well.

We have been asked to put the following in the magazine, and although this may not affect us personally, this is a nationwide concern.

**THE FACTS ABOUT DRUGS.** It isn't just knowing the buzz different drugs can give! It's also about being aware of the effects they can have on your mind, your body and even the way you live your life. There are **SERIOUS** risks linked to drug taking, so it's **VITAL** to get your hands on information you can **TRUST**. Help is always out there—it's just a question of asking . . . **NATIONAL DRUG HELP LINE** 0800 77 6600 offers free and confidential advice about any drugs issue, whether it is info you are after, counselling or just a chat. You can also find out about the service available in your area. Lines are open 24 hours a day.

**ADFAM NATIONAL** 020 7928 8900. The national helpline for the friends and families of drug users, provides confidential support and information to anyone who is worried about someone close to them, using drugs. Open Monday-Friday 10.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m. at present. They will ring you back if you are worried about the cost of the call, or the number appearing on the phone bill.

**RELEASE** 020 7609 8654: A 24 hour confidential helpline providing advice on drug use, and legal issues surrounding the subject.

If there are any other concerns on other subjects, we would be pleased to research these for you and provide information in further issues of the Magazine,

#### **ANSLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS:**

Boundary fencing to Birchley Heath Common completed — local residents expressed their satisfaction.

P.C. Helen Cook has recently implemented a regular 'Police Post' in Hartshill and Chapel End where local residents can approach her to discuss any problems and she intends to set up a similar post in Ansley Village in the near future.

Review of standing orders and financial regulations—duly approved and adopted. Play areas: Improvements to goal mouths in Ansley Village Recreation ground were completed just in time for the first game of the Arley Hurricanes Junior F.C. The Parish Council wish them well for the year.

Funding: WREN allocated a grant up to £4813 towards drainage and surface improvements at Ansley Village Recreation Ground, 11% Third Party Funding also achieved. Heart of England Community Foundation authorised a grant through the Coalfields Regeneration Trust Small Grants Programme for the £529.43. However, as registration of the programme with WRENS may take until the end of September, too late in the year to undertake groundworks, it may be necessary to delay until early Spring 2003. Next meeting dates: 14th November, 2002; 12th December, 2002.