

All Saints Magazine



March 2015

Free

Letter from our Vicar

Dear Friends

This Lent I am asking once again to think on our finances at All Saints, to look at your earnings and your giving and to see whether you could increase what you give.

As a church we do need to be able to increase what we have available to give to our diocese and also to enable us to continue with all our mission activities and maintain our building and our community.

If we focus on our lack of funds and think only of how to get more, are we not missing the point. We are all called to be Missionaries in our own ways. We need to grow our church and continue to grow our numbers, and if we can ALL BE SERIOUS about spreading the word of God and getting those who are on our fringes to move closer to God and be committed, then the money should take care of itself.

If we look to those parts of the church where they do not seem to struggle to make the money last, then you find, almost without exception, that Mission is their focus, and reaching out into the community around them is where their energy, time and resources are concentrated.

So let's think about mission.

How can we grow our church, really grow it and get those who come to join in and belong.

It's not just about what we do when we get them through the doors but actually getting them to step inside in the first place.

Our Church Hall is a really busy and successful place to be, there are activities every day of the week and people coming and going all the time.

Our Church needs to be the same.

We need to be open and available when people come.

We need to be a place of prayer and worship that draws people to God.

We need to build on those who do come to us, for weddings, for baptisms and for funerals.

We need to think about our Bishop's call to be a community of faith, hope and love. Sharing our faith with each other and then reaching out and sharing it with those around us.

Doing things which build us up and strengthen our faith.

Giving hope to all we meet and feeling and truly believing in the hope that God gives us. And loving all we meet, whoever they are and however hard that might be.

We all have a responsibility for this church community and each and every one of us has a part to play. So think on this. Get involved, suggest ideas, and let's grow Gods church.

If we can get the mission of our church right then the finances will be ok. Trust God. I do.

Amen

Annette



Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Our APCM is on **Sunday 19th April** after the Service. Those members of the PCC/congregation/representatives of local organisations who write annual reports of their activities for the APCM should be thinking about them now, as our new PCC Secretary will doubtless be contacting you shortly for your reports, in order to produce the Annual Reports booklets in advance of the meeting.

Penny's ex-Peruvian pilgrims Progress.

This month will mark the 30th anniversary of Penny's departure from the UK when, after a service of blessing at All Saints led by the recently installed Rev. Chris Pullin (now Canon Theologian at Hereford Cathedral) she set off to embark on her missionary work in the shanty towns of Lima, Peru.

(Penny, a Queen's Guide, Sunday School teacher, long-serving All Saints' chorister and Durham University graduate and prizewinner, had earlier taught A level maths before training at All Nations Christian College under the aegis of what was then BCMS).

Those who follow her progress by reading her regular newsletters will know that in May 1990 she married, in Lima, one of her theological students, Juan Carlos, who has since become an ordained (unpaid) Anglican priest. Those who have managed to retain a soupçon of arithmetical skill will swiftly calculate that the pair will be celebrating their silver wedding anniversary in a couple of months time.

They and the Marces-Everness family generally owe a very warm "thank you" to all who contributed a sum of £217 towards their work at and after the service they jointly led at All Saints' on Sunday 1st February. Many hours of preparation went into the selection of photos and material for their post-service presentation in the hall, a well attended and intently absorbed event. Much the same carefully considered approach will characterise the many meetings still to take place in their visits to their link churches in, *inter alios*, Birmingham, Derby and Nottingham. During their time in the UK they remain in constant touch with those who are temporarily coping with the multitude of duties and concerns which they would normally be undertaking in distant Lima. How small the world has grown in recent years!

Penny and Juan Carlos will be back in New Eltham for a renewal of acquaintance at Easter. Meanwhile, please keep a place for them and their work in your prayers, as they consistently do for us, God bless

Brian Everness.

At the end of the 1st February service the Sunday School produced a poster to send greetings to Penny and Juan Carlos' parish in Peru. (see below)





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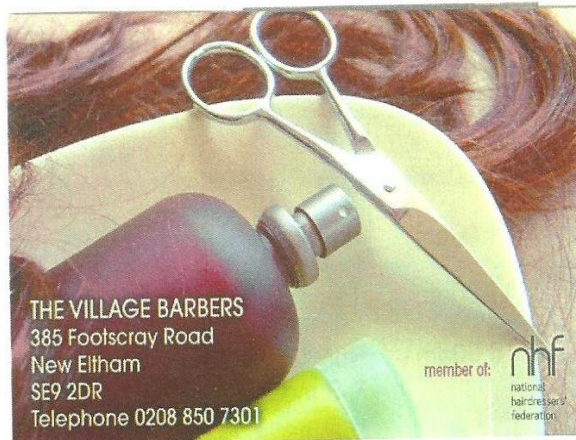
All mothers, particularly those with grown-up children, will recognise the sentiments expressed in this charming poem:

It only seems like yesterday I heard you first weak cry,
You gave me many busy days — no time to sit and sigh,
And then the thrill to see you stand and slowly walk to me,
The enchanting sound of baby talk as I nursed you on my knee.

It only seems like yesterday that you went off to school,
I sat all day and worried so — but you appeared so cool;
Remembering all the sports days, the pride when you had won
They really were such happy days of laughter, love and fun.

This morning you are starting work, the years pass like a dream,
My little boy no longer — a youth of seventeen,
Another chapter in your life is just about to start,
I wish for you contentment and peace within your heart,
I Pray the Lord will guide you and keep you safe each day,
And thank Him now with gratitude as you go on life's way.

Maralyn I. Fawcett-Smith



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Diary Dates for March 2015

Sunday 1st	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 3rd	7.30 pm	Lent Course-Praise Him
Wednesday 4th	2.30 pm	Lent Course-Praise Him, at Methodist Church
Thursday 5th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Saturday 7th	10.00-12.00	Parish office
Sunday 8th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 10th	12.00 pm 7.30 pm	Funeral of John Barcoleskin Lent Course-Praise Him
Wednesday 11th	10.30 -12.00 2.30 pm 8.00 pm	Fair Trade Café Lent Course-Praise Him, at Methodist Church PCC Meeting
Thursday 12th	11.00 am	Holy communion
Sunday 15th		MOTHERING SUNDAY
	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 17th	7.30 pm	Lent Course-Praise Him
Wednesday 18th	2.30 pm	Lent Course-Praise Him, at Methodist Church
Thursday 19th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 22nd	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 24th	7.30 pm	Lent Course-Praise Him
Wednesday 25th	10.30 -12.00 2.30 pm	Fair Trade Café Lent Course-Praise Him, at Methodist Church
Thursday 26th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 29th		PALM SUNDAY
	10.00 am	Holy Communion

Please check the weekly news sheet for any changes.

Parish Pump

The 100 Club in January was won by Sam and Harry Cockburn (Bob and Barbara's grandchildren).

Funerals

13th February, Carole Ann Whybrow

It is with sadness that we announce the death of John Barcoleskin after a long illness. Our thoughts and prayers are with Brenda, Ruth, and Clare, Darren, Edward, George, Maisie and James. His funeral will be here at All Saints on Tuesday 10th March at 12.00 noon.



Congratulations to Victoria Ellis and Steve Wainwright who have recently become engaged. We wish them every happiness for the future

The February edition of SENINE featured the interesting story of a member of our congregation - Joan Hooper. Joan found office work uninteresting, so trained as a nurse and midwife during the second world war, where she also treated bomb victims. Towards the end of the war, Joan and a friend decided to go to Australia, but there were no more places, but set on travel, joined the Colonial Nursing Service. Joan was posted to Singapore, but her friend Peggy was posted to Malaya. Luckily they were able to keep in touch, and a year later Peggy asked Joan to be her bridesmaid. Joan met her husband in Singapore and they were married there at St. Andrew's Cathedral. They were in Singapore for 9 years where they had a son and a daughter, then came to New Eltham. Joan's second daughter was born here. Joan's husband died 17 years ago. She has four grand-children and one great grand-child, and still sees her friend Peggy.

Future Events

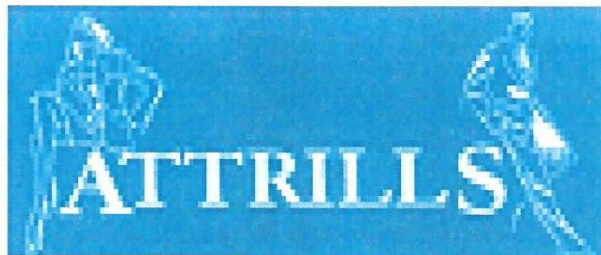
In the spring (date TBA) we hope to have a Nearly New Sale. If you might be interested in buying a table please speak to Sheila Cooper or Barbara Avery.

Simnel Cakes

Simnel cakes—those rich fruit cakes with thick almond paste—are still a popular delicacy in many places on Mothering Sunday, and round about Easter time.

Probably the name comes from the Latin word *simila*, the fine wheaten flour from which the cakes are made. Still, I like the ancient, though quite unlikely, story that a husband and wife, Simon and Nell, disagreed as to whether the cake ought to be boiled or baked, so they compromised by boiling it first and then baking it, and giving it a combination of their own names!

Unlikely, as I say. Yet I can't help feeling that many of our quarrels might be resolved in much the same sort of way.



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Emily remembers a poem her mother recited to her at bedtime and I'd like to share it with you today:

*If I could, I would gather up the brightest stars
And hold them in my hand to light your way.*

*If I could, I would pull down from the sky the softest, whitest clouds
To feather your sweet bed.*

*If I could, I'd sail the seas for silken pearls
To string around your neck.*

*If I could, I'd tell the wind to catch and bring to you
Every song that birds have ever sung.*

*If I could, I'd circle earth and pick the finest flowers
To scatter on your path.*

*I would, If I could, Give you all the world,
But the best that I can give
Is all my heart.*

Irony!



Waiting for the bus

The man with the glasses
Doesn't he look cool
The boy with an iPhone
Shouldn't he be at school?
The mum with a pram
That's laden with shopping
A granny and grandson
Jumping and hopping
A girl dressed in pink
With a huge bag of sweets
A youth in an overall
Work boots on his feet
A gent in a suit
He looks very smart
And so does his friend
They're off to play darts
These are some of the people
I've seen in the queue
Next time I'm there
Maybe I'll see you.

That is the Question?

Does your head rule your heart, or does your heart rule your head?

It's one of the important questions when it comes to deciding what kind of person you are and what kind of life you lead.

But does it have to be strictly one or the other? Why not find the good in each and put them both to use? That's exactly what's recommended in these lines of advice:

When dealing with yourself, always use your head.

When dealing with others, always use your heart.

From the Archives – snippets from the March magazine of 1935, price twopence.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING

Words fail me! I will not attempt to write all I thought about this meeting. We have 580 names on our Electoral Roll and we had an attendance of about 70. I began by wondering what had happened to at least half of the other 500. Optimist that I am, I couldn't think in terms of 500—or even 250, but 70!! Well, as I said “words fail me.” Perhaps some of the absent 500 can supply the necessary words! I have already commented on the accounts in the January magazine, so will spare you, except to say they show a very satisfactory year's work. Perhaps that is why the odd 500 didn't bother to come.

The six elected representatives to the Ruri-Decanal Conference are Mrs. Scales, Miss Beckett, Messrs. Pond, Stride, Webb and Salinger.

Mr. Field and Mr. Hemmings are *ex-officio* members of the Conference.

The following nineteen ladies and gentlemen were elected to complete the Church Council: Mrs. Lawson, Mrs. Gellan, Misses Riddles, Macdonald, Stampton and Chalk, and Messrs. Harding, Lettington, Deeley, Bahn, Allnutt, Mousley, Hardwell, Peck, Bolton, G. Prior, Strong, Fisher and Dr. Wood.

The Vicar nominated four sidesmen: Messrs. Scates, G. Prior, A. Steer and Webb.

The meeting elected Messrs. Peck, Devonshire, Lawson and Miller.

Mr. Pond proposed and Mr. Mousley seconded that from next 1936, the meeting elect only 14 to complete the Council. This was carried. This takes us back to our old arrangement, as it was felt that a Council consisting as it may of 31 members is too big.

This year we have four members *ex-officio*, *i.e.*, Vicar, Rev. H. J. Davis, Mr. A. H. Field and Mr. Harold Hemmings as

members of the Diocesan Conference; six members *ex-officio* as members of Ruri Decanal Conference, to which they are elected by the Annual Parochial Meeting; and 19 elected members of the Council—total 29.

If the Churchwardens had gone *ex-officio* as they are entitled to do, the number would have been 31. As the Wardens may be changed at Easter they were elected to the Council this year. Reverting to the old arrangement will we hope, mean more healthy competition for seats next year, especially if the odd 500 electors who didn't come this year all turn up!

Nothing specific is recorded in the "Church Logbook" for March 1975.

Historical Notes: Ruri Decanal Conference is the forerunner of and equivalent to the current Deanery Synod.

We hope to provide "snippets" from the relevant month of 80 and 40 years ago.

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