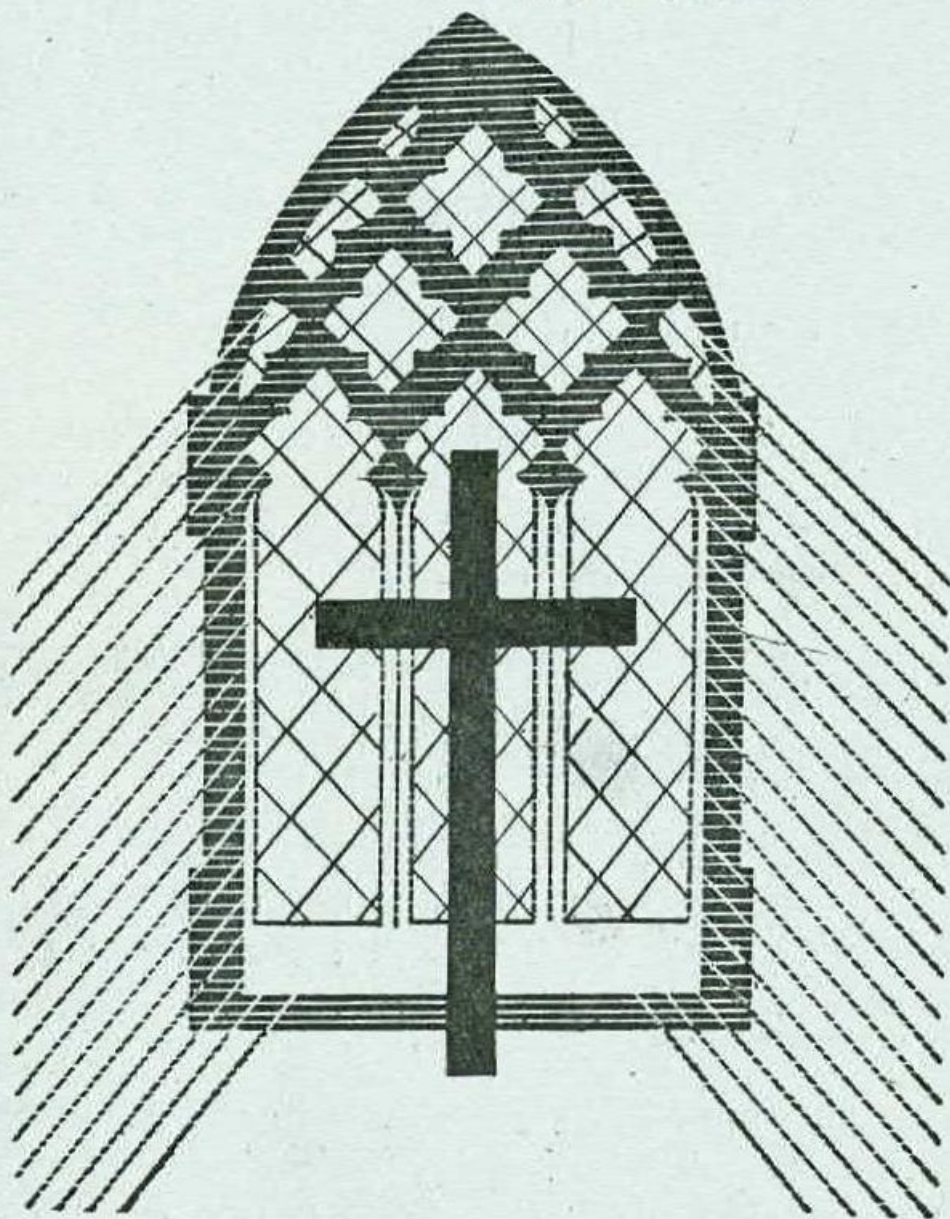


# ST. PAUL'S CHURCH NEWS

NORTHUMBERLAND HEATH.



*Vicar*—REV. PETER SWINBANK, M.A., The Vicarage,  
Colyer's Lane. Tel.—Erith 2809

*Curate*—REV. J. C. P. BARTON, B.A., 29 Nurstead Road,  
Erith.

Vol. 6. No. 71.

AUGUST, 1954

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## CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

- Aug. 1 **7th Sunday after Trinity.**  
Holy Communion, 8 a.m.  
Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, 11 a.m.  
Evening Prayer, 6.30 p.m.
- 5 Thursday.  
Prayers for Year of Advance, 8.30 p.m.
- 8 **8th Sunday after Trinity.**  
Holy Communion, 8 a.m.  
Morning Prayer, 11 a.m.  
Evening Prayer, 6.30 p.m.
- 12 Thursday,  
Prayers for Year of Advance, 8.30 p.m.
- 15 **9th Sunday after Trinity.**  
Holy Communion, 8 a.m.  
Morning Prayer, 11 a.m.  
Evening Prayer, 6.30 p.m.
- 19 Thursday.  
Prayers for Year of Advance, 8.30 p.m.
- 22 **10th Sunday after Trinity.**  
Holy Communion, 8 a.m.  
Morning Prayer, 11 a.m.  
Evening Prayer and Family Communion, 6.30 p.m.
- 26 Thursday.  
Holy Communion (St. Bartholomew), 10 a.m.  
Prayers for Year of Advance, 8.30 p.m.
- 29 **11th Sunday after Trinity.**  
Holy Communion, 8 a.m.  
Morning Prayer, 11 a.m.  
Baptisms, 4.15 p.m.  
Evening Prayer, 6.30 p.m.

Requests for Baptisms and for the Calling of Banns of Marriage should be made to the Vicar, and at least 7 days' notice given.

Material for inclusion in the September issue of the Magazine should be handed to the Vicar or Curate not later than Wednesday, August 18th.

## THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

I am writing this letter on the fourth anniversary of my institution as Vicar of St. Paul's, and so I may be pardoned if I use the occasion for one or two reflections.

It was on July 20th, 1950, that I became your Vicar. It was a big day in my life, for it was the start of my first incumbency, and I remember entering upon it with considerable fear and trembling, aroused not by your fearsomeness (for you really are not fearsome!), but by the challenge of taking on such a responsible task with so few natural resources. However, it was with a real sense of God's call that I came, and that sense of vocation sustained me then and still sustains me now. I am reminded of a verse in Exodus: "**If thou shalt do this thing, and God command thee so, then thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go to their place in peace.**" (18, 23). If God command thee so, then thou shalt be able . . . ! That is a thought for us all to take to heart. What God calls us to, we can do, however inadequate we may feel in ourselves. I would ask you to remember this particularly in the days that lie ahead, when, as I believe, God is calling us all to a special task of witness in this parish.

The awareness of God calling me to this parish was met in the event by much kindness and patience on your part, and the result now is that initial fears have given way to genuine hopes. I think the outlook in our church and parish is hopeful. Only a tiny fraction of the parish meet for worship at St. Paul's (a very tiny fraction), but there is the stirring of new life amongst our church membership which is the promise of greater things to come. What is required is that each of you should be **faithful** (not least in the matter of regular worship in church Sunday by Sunday without fail), and **zealous** in your desire and determination that God's work shall go forward in our parish. Together and united we can, under God, go forward to great things; divided, indifferent, going our own ways, each one being a law unto himself, and without any bond of common loyalty and obligation, we shall fail and our hopes will be unrealised. The possibility of failure is always with us, but the greater possibility (if I read the present situation in our church aright) is that we shall make real and permanent progress in the days ahead. I am full of hope.

After four years in the parish and with three of our children born during our time here, I think we can perhaps claim to be, as a family, genuine North Heathens now (using that term in a local and not an irreligious sense!). I would like to end by saying how much kindness and helpfulness my wife and I have received from you in our home and family life, for which we are most grateful.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER SWINBANK.

## WEDDING BELLS

On September 11th our Assistant Curate, Mr. Barton, is to be married to Miss Barker, who has already become well known to most of us during her frequent visits. They have, happily, been able to obtain a house in the Parish, at the corner of Rydal Drive and Heversham Road. We know that you will all join us in wishing them every joy and happiness. Please remember them in your prayers.

Meanwhile we are opening a subscription list, anticipating that you will wish to present them with a tangible token of your good wishes to mark the occasion. Please send or hand your donations to the Vicar, one of us, or to any of the Church Officers as soon as possible, so that we may make the necessary arrangements.

B. J. GODDING

A. W. POWELL

Churchwardens.

### NEW CHURCH PORCH FUND

#### RECEIPTS for JUNE/JULY

	£	s.	d.
1/- Receipt Booklets.....	60	0	0
Donations .....	19	1	0
Women's Fellowship .....	15	9	6
Girls' Fellowship .....	4	6	0
1st Erith Brownies .....	10	6	
Porch Box .....	5	1	2
	£104	8	2

Please note that we need at least £200, apart from the money raised from the recent Garden Party, which was allowed for in arriving at our estimated target for the Porch Fund.

If you have a Receipt Booklet, continue to sell and purchase the receipts until the book is exhausted, even if it takes some time. We would ask you to bring such money as you have collected to church on Sunday, August 29th, in an envelope with your name and the amount enclosed written on it, and to hand it to Mr. Diwell or the Vicar. In this way we shall be able to see how the Fund is progressing.

Donations will be gratefully received and acknowledged by the Vicar and Wardens.

### MEN'S ASSOCIATION: HORTICULTURAL SHOW

SEPTEMBER 18TH

Please note the date. Schedules and entry forms will be available by the time you read these notes. We hope to beat last year's number of entries. Every class is covered by an additional award over and above the usual money prizes. The Committee have worked hard during the past year in planning this show, and now it is up to you to do your part. Proceeds will go to the Church Buildings and Repair Fund.—A.G.M.

### YEAR OF ADVANCE, 1954—55

Another date to note is the opening week-end of October, Saturday and Sunday, October 2nd and 3rd, for this will inaugurate our Year of Advance.

There will be an opening meeting giving details of plans and arrangements on the Saturday at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Every church member, keep this Saturday evening free. We have given you due notice, and we want a full muster of our strength at that meeting.

On the Sunday evening there will be a special Service of Dedication, when the preacher will be the Rev. T. G. Mohan, the Secretary of the

Church Pastoral-Aid Society. It is suggested that those members of the congregation who are also members of one of the church organisations should attend this service with their organisation. Mothers' Union, Women's Fellowship, Young Wives' Group, Sidesmen and Men's Association, Sunday School Teachers, Youth Fellowship, Boys' Club, and Girls' Fellowship: let all attend as component parts of the greater Church fellowship. Would leaders of the organisations make arrangements to this end? Seating will be reserved for the organisations if the leaders will let the Vicar know how many seats are required.

## PARISH ORGANISATIONS

**Mothers' Union.** Mrs. Meinertzhagen carried our banner, supported by Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Ward, at the Deanery Festival at Dartford Parish Church on June 29th. The address was given by the Archdeacon of Rochester. Afterwards the visitors were entertained to tea by the Dartford branch.

We were sorry that the weather prevented us from holding our meeting on July 8th in the Vicarage Garden. Those who came along to the Community Centre enjoyed the social afternoon and helped our bring-and-buy stall to raise the sum of £3/5/0, which is part of our collection for the Bishop's Penny Offering.—L.R.

**Women's Fellowship.** Whilst wishing all holiday-makers a very happy time and much sunshine, we have decided to carry on our meetings during August for the benefit of those who are not going away. So for any who would like to join us, there is always a welcome to be found on Wednesdays and a pleasant afternoon to be spent with the Fellowship.

We would particularly ask for God's blessing and protection on the children during their holidays, which are days of such joy and excitement for them.—M.F.

**Young Wives' Group.** There will be no meeting in August, when I hope it will be possible for many members to take a holiday.

September 7th is the date when we shall recommence; we shall meet in the Iron Room at 3 p.m. prompt. The Vicar will be coming to speak to us. Please try to interest your friends and neighbours.

Kindly note that there will be a business meeting on September 14th at 3 p.m., also in the Iron Room. At our evening meeting on September 21st we hope to have Miss D. Manning as our speaker. This will take place at the Vicarage at 7.45 p.m.—B.M.S.

**Youth Fellowship.** The Friday evening meetings will be suspended during August, but tennis will continue at Russell Park on Wednesdays at 6.30. We may find it more convenient to meet at Erith Recreation Ground if it gets too crowded at Russell Park. Swimming on Fridays at 6.45 will continue until August 27th.

At the General Meeting of the Club on July 2nd the Committee was elected for the 1954/5 season. The Officers are as follows: Malcolm Brenchley, Club Leader; Marion Wibrow, Secretary and Treasurer; Tony Ward, Sports Secretary; Barbara Lunn, i/c Canteen; Jim Douglass, i/c Equipment; and John Appleton, under 16 representative. The Committee has already met to plan a varied winter programme, but there are plenty of gaps left so far, so if you have any new ideas, please let me or one of the Committee know, and we will see what we can do to meet with your requests.

The Opening Meeting will be on Friday, September 3rd, from 7 p.m. at the Community Centre. The Evening will be partly organised, details will be sent round nearer the date.—J.C.P.B.

**Boys' Club.** There will be no Club at the Community Centre during August, but if there is enough demand, we may try to play cricket on Mondays instead of, or as well as, on Wednesdays; we might then be able to get a team up to play another club one afternoon or evening. Swimming, the Bible Study Groups and the Sunday afternoon meetings will continue throughout August.—J.C.P.B.

**Girls' Fellowship.** Our Jumble Sale for the Porch Fund brought in £4/6/0. I would like to thank all of you who sent articles, and my special thanks to two or three of the girls who always rally round to do the hard work. I would like to see all of the Fellowship give a helping hand; it gives such joy to accomplish a task, particularly in the service of God.

We look forward to our ramble on August Bank Holiday. It looks very much as though we shall end up with a tramps' supper again.

The Club will close during August, meeting only on Sunday afternoons.—E.C.

## PARISH PRAYER BULLETIN

The following districts of the parish will be remembered in prayer at church during the weeks commencing on the dates given below. It is suggested that church members might make a point of coming to the 8 a.m. Communion Service on the Sunday of the week allotted to their district.

- Aug. 1 **Heathway**, Northumberland Way, Fairford Avenue, Barnehurst Avenue, Coniston Road, Erith Road.  
 8 **Rydal Drive**, Alberta Road, Swanbridge Road, The Green, Hever-sham Road.  
 15 **Belmont Road**, Dalmeny Road, Langdale Crescent, Nurstead Road, Swanton Road, Bedonwell Road.  
 22 **Ightham Road**, Shinglewell Road, Luddesdon Road, Eastry Road, Plaxtol Road, Parsonage Manor Way.  
 29 **Brook Street**, Lochmere Close, The Drive, Sussex Road, University Place, Becton Place.

## PARISH REGISTER

### In Welcome

- June 27 Pauline May Eves.  
 Denise Lipscombe.  
 Mark Edmund Leek.  
 Brenda Jean Leek.  
 Mandy Shrubsall.  
 Ian William Cowell.  
 Rosemary Joyce Pentreath.  
 Sandra Lesley Beadle.  
 Ann Lorraine Easterby.  
 Thomas Alexander Lowe.  
 Patricia Marion McMillan.  
 Robert Merrall McMillan.  
 Alan Dennis Kent.  
 Yvonne Dawn Higgs.  
 Stephen Brian Dudley.

- July 4 Denise Elizabeth Clary.

### Baptisms

### In Congratulation

- July 10 Brian Rock to Barbara Mary Brown.

### Wedding

### In Sympathy

- July 21 Frank Wells James, 79 years, 2 Coronation Court.

**Sunday Offertories.** June 20: £9/16/5; June 27: £14/15/3 (Sunday School Fund); July 4: £8/5/6; July 11: £8/0/8; July 18: £8/3/1.

**Flower Guild.** Aug. 7: Mrs. Diwell; Aug. 14: Miss Hilder; Aug. 21: Mrs. Godding; Aug. 28: Mrs. Hitchcock; Sept. 4: Mrs. Manning.

### Sidesmen's Rota

Aug. 1	8.0 J. New; 11.0 G. H. Simmonds; 6.30 J. Waddup, L. Weeks.
8	8.0 N. Weeks; 11.0 J. Williams; 6.30 D. Alcock, R. Baker.
15	8.0 W. Barrett; 11.0 J. Bailey; 6.30 F. Collihole, B. Cotter.
22	8.0 T. Douglass; 11.0 R. Downes; 6.30 C. Giles, J. Loveley.
29	8.0 H. McCabe; 11.0 A. Manning; 6.30 D. Mathews, J. New.
Sept. 5	8.0 G. Simmonds; 11.0 J. Waddup; 6.30 L. Weeks, N. Weeks.

## MISSIONARY NOTES

### READY TO HEAR

All over the world there are people ready to hear and receive the Gospel.

A C.M.S. missionary in Hong Kong tells of a recent experience: "I was asked to speak to the whole of the senior section and staff of a local school during the Chinese New Year holiday. I gave two talks of some 45 minutes each. Later I was amazed and thrilled to hear that after the talks some sixty students asked for further instruction in the Christian faith, and some sixteen others, including members of the staff, asked definitely for preparation for baptism. One can only say that it was due to the work of the Holy Spirit."

### THE BIBLE IN KASHMIR

A C.M.S. missionary in Kashmir has reported a growing interest in the Christian faith and in the Bible: "Day by day," she writes, "we see more and more men sitting reading by our bookstall. One or two have asked to borrow copies of the Bible so that they may read them at home."

Will you pray for these people who are beginning to take an interest in the Word of God?

### LAY LEADERSHIP IN AFRICA

1. An African accountant holding a very responsible position with a large industrial undertaking in East Africa has just tendered his resignation in order to train as an evangelist. In a recent letter he said: "God has been speaking to me and showing me the senior catechists and layreaders who have been in the work for many years; and the question has been haunting me: what will happen to the work when these faithful men go?"

The maintenance and extension of Christian work at home and overseas depends on a steady flow of dedicated, qualified young recruits for such service.

2. Two African employees in the brick-making section of the Kilembe copper mines in Uganda, with the help of the local pastor, have prepared seven boys for confirmation and one man for baptism during their own spare time in the evenings.

3. The head cook at the National Park Lodge, Uganda, takes Services for the waiters and porters every Sunday in the workshop.

4. "I visited the great cotton mill at Nzara," said the C.M.S. Africa Secretary, who recently returned from the Sudan. "Here I found several true Christians who were working there—Zande, Coptic and European—holding lunch-time study circles and Bible readings in a corner of that factory, and taking non-Christian friends across the road to the Church where they were welcomed by the pastor."



### STAFF :

*Vicar*—Rev. Peter Swinbank, The Vicarage, Colyers Lane.

Tel.: Erith 2809.

*Curate*—Rev. J. C. P. Barton, 29 Nurstead Road, Erith.

*Hon. Lay Readers*—Mr. S. G. Diwell, 1 Brantwood Avenue, Erith,  
Mr. B. Cotter, 29 Carlton Road, Sidecup.

### OFFICERS :

*Churchwardens*—Mr. B. J. Godding, 59 Langdale Crescent. Tel.: Erith 2334.  
Mr. A. W. Powell, 31 Horsa Road.

*Hon. Secretary*—Mr. J. H. Williams, 25 Lower Road, Erith.

*Hon. Treasurer*—Mr. Chas. Giles, 31 Heathway.

*Hon. Sec. Freewill Offering Scheme*—Miss A. L. Russell, 18 Heathway.

*Sunday School Council*—The Vicar, Miss Hilder, Mrs. Diwell, Miss E. Codd,  
Rev. J. C. P. Barton.

*Church Hall Secretay*—Mr. L. Weeks, 24 Hengist Road.

*Community Centre Secretary*—Mr. S. G. Diwell, 1 Brantwood Avenue.

*Sidesmen*—Messrs. J. Bayley, P. Brown, B. Cotter, R. Downes, C. Giles,  
J. Waddup, L. Weeks, N. Weeks, J. Williams, F. Collihole, J. New  
A. Lovely, R. Baker, W. Barrett, D. Matthews, D. Alcock and  
G. Simmonds, A. Manning, H. McCabe.

*Caretaker*—Mrs. Webster, 34 Mill Road.

*Organist and Choirmaster*—Mr. S. G. Ducker, 6 Cheshunt Road, Belvedere.

*Organist Emeritus*—Mr. J. Crane.

*Editor*—The Vicar.

*Magazine Secretary*—Mr. J. Waddup, 95 Edendale Road.

Notices of Churchings, Baptisms and Weddings should be sent to the Vicar

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### Services

<b>Sundays</b>	Holy Communion	8.0 a.m.	
		11.0 a.m.	first Sunday in month
		6.30 p.m.	third Sunday in month
	Morning Prayer	11.0 a.m.	
	Evening Prayer	6.30 p.m.	
	Sunday Schools	3.0 p.m.	
	Fellowships	3.0 p.m.	
<b>Weekdays</b>	Holy Communion : Bible and Prayer Fellowship,	4.15 p.m.	
			on the last Sunday in month Previous notice must be given
			Thursdays 10.0 a.m., for Saints' Day in the week
		Thursdays, 8.15 p.m.	

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## CHURCH ORGANISATIONS.

Sunday Schools	...	...	...	3.0	p.m.
Boys' Bible Class	...	...	...	3.0	p.m.
Children's Service once a month	...	...	...	3.0	p.m.
Choir Practice—Tuesday and Thursday	...	...	...	7.0	p.m.
Bible Study—Thursday	...	...	...	8.15	p.m.
Women's Fellowship—Wednesday	...	...	...	2.45	p.m.
Men's Association—Wednesday	...	...	...	8.0	p.m.
Discoverers of the Way—Friday	...	...	...	5.30	p.m.
Mothers' Union—Second Thursday in the Month	...	...	...	3.0	p.m.
Young Wives' Fellowship—1st Tuesday in the month	...	...	...	3.0	p.m.
Cubs—Monday	...	...	...	6.30	p.m.
Brownies—Tuesday and Wednesday	...	...	...	4.0	p.m.
Guides—Wednesday	...	...	...	6.30	p.m.
Scouts—Friday	...	...	...	7.0	p.m.

### COMMUNITY CENTRE, Bexley Road—

Kindergarten Sunday School	...	...	...	3.0	p.m.
Youth Fellowship—Friday	...	...	...	7.0	p.m.
Girls' Fellowship—Sunday	...	...	...	3.0	p.m.
"    "    Tuesday	...	...	...	8.0	p.m.
Boys' Club—Monday	...	...	...	7.0	p.m.

Societies supported by the Church—

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