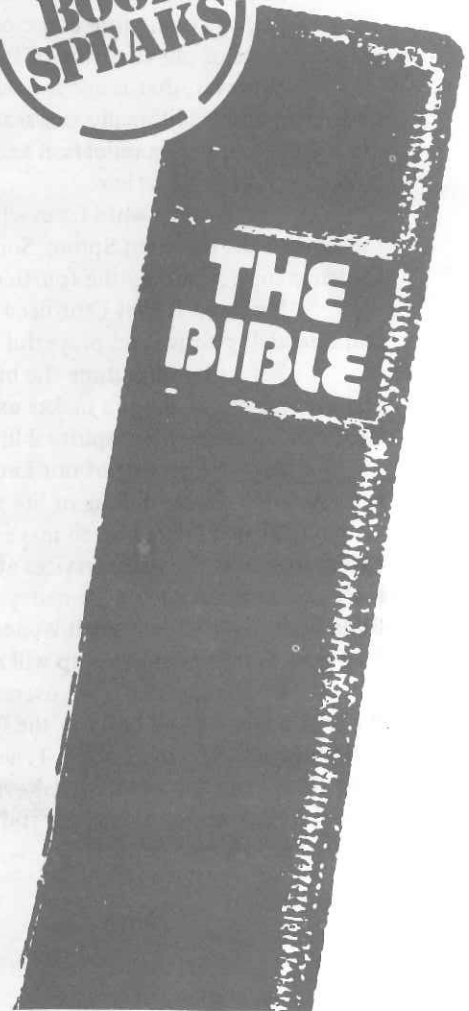


PARISH MESSENGER

THIS
BOOK
SPEAKS



THE BIBLE SOCIETY

serves

people everywhere

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN □ LAUNCESTON

SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion: 8.00 a.m. Every Sunday; 10.00 a.m. First, Third and Fifth Sundays.

Family Service: 10.00 a.m. Second Sunday. Morning Prayer: 10.00 a.m. Fourth Sunday.

Evening Service: 7.00 p.m. (7.30 p.m. during daylight saving months).

WEEKDAY SERVICES: (In the Chapel)

Morning Prayer, daily at 8.00 a.m.; Holy Communion, Wednesdays at 10.30 a.m.

Rector:
The Revd. Ian Booth Th.L.
Tel: 31 5218

Assistants:
The Revd. David le Rossignal, Th.L.
Telephone: 31 4896
The Revd. Harry Ikin, L.Th.

THE RECTOR WRITES,

Dear Parishioners,

In the Northern Hemisphere, winter is ending and spring is near,

Perhaps I am more conscious of this fact in 1976 than ever before because my family and I are at the heavy planning stage of our first visit to England and the Continent where we will enjoy the late Spring and Summer seasons.

However, that is not the reason for my opening sentence in this month's letter. We are about to keep Lent once more and traditionally this season of the Christian year has been regarded as a rather dull and difficult one associated with self-examination and self-denial. Our churches are often pruned of their adornments and violet is the colour chosen for this time.

Yet the very word from which the title "Lent" comes is "Lencten" which means "Spring" because it falls in the time of the northern Spring. Some form of the keeping of Lent before Easter existed from the earliest times of Christian history and by the fourth century the observing of a forty days fast seems to have been widely accepted.

My point is that Lent need not be a dull and difficult few weeks of the year. If the time is used for deliberate and directed, positive and prayerful ends it must result in an enriching and life-giving renewal of our life in Christ.

Just as in Springtime the buds break out into beautiful blossom and fresh leaves, the bulbs come to life again and the warmth of the sun makes us feel free to move out into the open air for outings and barbecues so the season of Lent can be a time when spiritual life breaks out as we are filled with all the fullness of Christ.

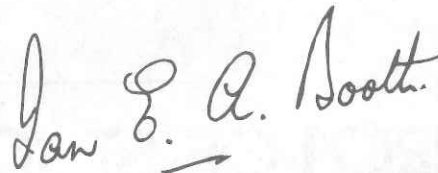
All the directing of our Lenten activities should be towards the renewing of our hearts and minds in Jesus and not towards a dismal dulling of life simply to gain some kind of spiritual credit balance.

Might I invite you to make a very special point of centering your life in worship and prayer during this Lent. Try to join us at the daily services at 8 a.m. in the Chapel. Of these services the Wednesday and Friday ones will be Holy Communion and on Thursdays we always have special prayer for our parish and its work. Try also to join us for Bible Study at 7.15 p.m. each Wednesday evening during Lent; this will also be held in the Chapel and will conclude at 7.45 p.m. Our Sunday worship will also be helpful for an effective keeping of Lent.

My long-service leave overseas visit will commence shortly after Easter — we leave on April 30. For three of the four months I will be away the Revd. Dick and Mrs Pethybridge of Melbourne will move into the Rectory and Mr Pethybridge will be my Locum Tenens. Please remember them in your prayers as they prepare for this time of ministry at St John's and for Mrs Booth, Kevin, Michael and myself as we continue to plan for our tour which will include the United Kingdom, the Continent and Hong Kong.

God bless you all.

Yours sincerely,



G.F.S. TOWNSEND

Members will meet in Parish Centre on Tuesday,
March 23 for the Annual Meeting at 7.45 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Several new volunteers would be appreciated for the
Meals-on-Wheels Roster.



HAPPENINGS

I meant to mention last month how tremendous it was to have the Australian Boys' Choir to present a programme of music and song in St John's during their Training Camp held at Scotch College. It is worth noting that this choir has been invited to the U.S.A. to take part in the Independence Day Bi-Centenary Celebrations. Congratulations!

A wonderful success. These are the only words I can use to describe the luncheon held for the Clarendon Children's Homes, Project Cottage Care Appeal. What an ideal setting the Parish Centre provides for such occasions. My good friend, Bishop Henry Jerrim, made an heartening comment on how far we have progressed in our child care programmes in recent generations.

Yet another improvement to our Church property! The Frederick Street bank in the car park has been graded for sealing. No more fire hazard nor onion weed and a few more spaces to let. I have heard a whisper that the paling fences at the Rectory are to be replaced. I won't need to erect the sign I was busy preparing - "Gone With The Wind."

The 1976 title for our Parish might well be "St John's Abroad". During the English summer the Rectory family will be on long service leave in England and on the Continent, several folk from the parish will be joining the Mothers' Union Centenary Year Tour also to England and the Continent. With my old 39'er, the Revd. David Lewis, in England too and Debbie Cassidy nursing in Yorkshire they could make up a good St John's congregation.

The plot thickens; a branch of the Launceston Ministers Fraternal may also meet in England this year as the President, the Revd. Ken Ogier, Vice President, the Rector and the immediate past-President, the Revd. Joe Atkinson, will all be there at the same time. I wonder if Elizabeth Street will get there too?

Elizabeth Street

ST JOHN'S AUXILIARY TO ST LUKE'S HOSPITAL

The next meeting will be on Monday, March 8 at 2.45 p.m. in the Parish Centre, the afternoon tea hostesses will be Mesdames Holyman and Palliser.

New members would always be welcome to help in this most worthwhile work of support for our Church hospital.

1976 PARISH CHILDREN'S CAMP: May 14 to 16 at C.Y.C. Ulverstone. Leader will be Mr David Reeve of Scripture Union.

FLOWER GUILD APPEAL

The Flower Guild proposed to plant White Agapanthus, Arum Lilies Plants in the Church grounds. Donations of cuttings would be appreciated and could be left at the Church or collected by phoning 31 1403 or 2 4130.

MEALS ON WHEELS ROSTER

The following parishioners are rostered for Sunday, March 14, 1976:

Ian Routley, duty driver	P. Backen
R. Cleary	M. Easther
B. Proverbs	M. Perkins
D. Standaloft	D. Sutton
T. White	M. Wilson

If you are unable to attend would you please phone Ian Routley, 44 4936.

GROUNDS ROSTER

March 6	R. Cartledge	Church
	J. Stevenson	Rectory
March 20	M. Perkins	Church
	I. Routley	Rectory
April 3	G. Lillico	Church
	J. Stevenson	Rectory
April 10	R. Dewis	Church
	M. Perkins	Rectory

The above have been rostered for mowing of lawns and general cleaning of Church grounds. If you are unable to attend would you please arrange for a substitute.

MOTHERS' UNION

Seventeen members were present for our first meeting for 1976 on February 17.

March 5, Women's World Day of Prayer, St John's Church, 2.30 and 7 p.m.

March 9, M.U. Choir practice, 10.30 a.m. in the Centre.

March 25, Lady Day. Holy Communion at 10.30 a.m. in St John's Church. Centenary Luncheon and Social to follow in Parish Centre at 12 noon. Tickets \$3.00 available from the Secretary, phone 31 1173. R.S.V.P. by March 12 for catering purposes please.

M.U. Admission Service, March 28 at 10 a.m.

Annual General Meeting, March 16 at 8 p.m., Holy Communion. Supper hostesses: Mesdames Waddingham and Watson (Sen.).

KINDERGARTEN & SUB PRIMARY

We are pleased to report a very good attendance for the first morning of 1976. We need more teachers or helpers in this department, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

Kindly let us know, if you can help, or ring the Rector.

CALENDAR FOR MARCH

- 1 Monday 7.30 p.m. O.S.L. Prayer Meeting
- 3 **ASH WEDNESDAY** 8 a.m. & 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
6 p.m. G.F.S.
7.15 p.m. Holy Communion and short introduction to Lenten Bible Studies
- 4 Thursday 6 p.m. C.E.B.S.
8 p.m. Choir Practice
- 5 Friday 8 a.m. Holy Communion
2.30 p.m. Women's World Day of Prayer (St John's)
4.30 p.m. Choir Practice
7.30 p.m. Women's World Day of Prayer (St John's)
- LENT 1**
PARISH FAMILY DAY
8 a.m. Holy Communion
10 a.m. Holy Communion
Those attending Family Day leave at 10 a.m. for Kelso where Holy Communion will be celebrated at 11 a.m.
7 p.m. Evensong
- 9 Tuesday 6 p.m. Men's Tea
- 10 Wednesday 8 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
6 p.m. G.F.S.
7.15 p.m. Lenten Bible Study in Chapel
7.45 p.m. Vestry
- 11 Thursday 6 p.m. C.E.B.S.
7.45 p.m. Guild
8 p.m. Choir Practice
- 12 Friday 8 a.m. Holy Communion
4.30 p.m. Junior Choir Practice
- 14 **LENT 2** 8 a.m. Holy Communion
10 a.m. Mattins
7 p.m. Evensong
- 15 Monday 8 p.m. O.S.L. Chapter Meeting in Parish Centre
- 16 Tuesday 8 p.m. Mothers' Union
- 17 Wednesday 8 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
6 p.m. G.F.S.
7.15 p.m. Lenten Bible Study
- 18 Thursday 6 p.m. C.E.B.S.
8 p.m. Choir Practice
- 19 Friday 8 a.m. Holy Communion
4.30 p.m. Junior Choir Practice
- 21 **LENT 3** 8 a.m. Holy Communion
10 a.m. Holy Communion
7 p.m. Evensong
- 23 Tuesday 7.45 p.m. G.F.S. Townsend Annual Meeting
- 24 Wednesday 8 and 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
6 p.m. G.F.S.
7.15 p.m. Lenten Bible Study

- 25 **THE ANNUNCIATION** 8 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Mothers' Union Centenary Festival (Holy Communion)
6 p.m. C.E.B.S.
8 p.m. Choir Practice
- 26 Friday 8 a.m. Holy Communion
4.30 p.m. Junior Choir Practice
- 27 Saturday O.S.L. State Conference at Campbell Town, 10 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.
- 28 **LENT 4** 8 a.m. Holy Communion
10 a.m. Mothering Sunday Family Service and admission of Mothers' Union members.
2 p.m. An Ecumenical Liturgical Service presented by the "Little Mission Sisters" of the U.S.A.
7 p.m. Evensong

GUILD NOTES

The 1976 Guild year opened with 13 members present at our first meeting. A busy year is expected beginning with a function for Clarendon Children's Home on February 20, Church of England Women's Guild Conference on February 26. The Women's World Day of Prayer at St John's on March 5.

It was decided to forward \$50 donation to the Clarendon Appeal and \$50 to the 1975 Guild Project.

A speaker from Life Link will be our guest at our next meeting on March 11.



There is a place for YOU in the Bible Society.

More members mean more Scriptures for more people.

If you aren't a member someone, somewhere is missing out on the Word of God that your membership would provide.

Why not join us? We provide love — God's love to mankind.

Membership costs just \$5 a year. Life Membership is \$50 and you can be a Life Governor for \$250 given either in a single donation or over five years.

Contact your State office.

LAUNCESTON, 7250: PO Box 971.