

The Parish Messenger

of St John's Anglican Church, Launceston

THE INDUCTION OF THE REVEREND GREG CLIFTON

as Rector of this Parish

by the

Right Reverend Ron Stone,

the Assistant Bishop,

will take place on

Thursday 11th February

at 7.30 pm.

This will be followed by our welcome in the
Parish Centre to Clifton family.

The Women's Guild will be in charge of supper,
those who can please bring a plate.

February 1993

Greetings from the Mainland,

We have been asked to provide a brief history to help you get to know us.

The week after his Induction Greg celebrates the 20th anniversary of his ordination as deacon. Following four years of curacy, he has been in charge of three parishes in the Western region of Sydney Diocese. As Clerical Secretary of Diocesan Synod, he has been a member of the Diocesan Standing Committee for some years. Greg has also served on the Parramatta Anglican Regional Council and the Chapter of St John's Cathedral, Parramatta. Before ordination he was an accountant.

Prior to our marriage, twenty-two years ago, Diana was a high school teacher, and taught Geography and Economics. Following our marriage, Diana studied for a year at Deaconess House. Among other things (like looking after Greg and the family) she has led a bible study group in the parish.

We have four children - Rosemary (20), Sharon (17), Heather (14) and Jenny (12). Unfortunately Rosemary has had to defer her University studies due to suffering Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (M.E.) for the past fifteen months. Sharon, Heather and Jenny will be attending the Launceston Church Grammar School, and we are grateful for the courtesy and help given by the school in all their

contact with us.

We are thankful to God for the honour and privilege of being invited to St John's and we look forward to living in such a lovely and spacious Rectory. It will be a new experience for us to make our home in Tasmania, having lived all our lives in Sydney. Like every family we have our strengths and weaknesses and we pray that we may be a godly example of Christian family life.

Already we have been encouraged by the care and concern of the people we have met from St John's. The efficiency in attending to the many details of our appointment and move has been much appreciated.

In the Bible we see that leadership is carried out by service and Jesus is the supreme example. As we come among you we paraphrase the words of the well known 'Servant Song'; may this be true of both you and us -

"Brothers and Sisters, let us be your servants

Let us be as Christ to you

Pray that we might have the grace

To let you be our servants to."

In anticipation of our partnership in the gospel,

*Greg, Diane, Rosemary, Sharon,
Heather and Jenny.*

MOTHERS' UNION

At our first meeting on Wednesday 10th February we will welcome the Reverend and Mrs Tom Croft as our guest speakers. Sincere thanks to all in the congregation who knitted booties for our Q.V.H. distribution. They are always appreciated.

Trust

The Bible Says...

One of life's great blessings
is to have someone
you can trust.
Completely!
With everything!

Between you and
the one you trust
There is total openness,
complete confidence.
The one you trust
will never fail you
or leave you
No matter what happens.

God is Someone like that,
Someone you can trust.
He has promised
never to forget you
or to fail you.
He will not get weary
of listening to you.
He will not leave you
when your trials increase.

God wants to be your Friend.
He wants you to trust Him.
Completely!
With everything!

*"Call upon me
in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you,
and you will honor me."*
Psalm 50:15

*When I am afraid,
I will trust in you.
In God, whose word I praise,
in God I trust;
I will not be afraid.
What can mortal man do
to me?*
Psalm 56:3, 4

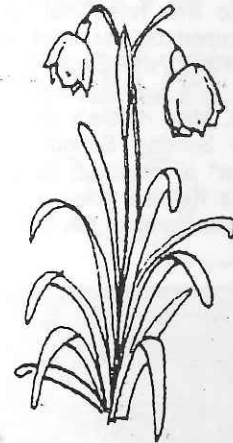
*The Lord is my light
and my salvation—
Whom shall I fear?*
Psalm 27:1

*The Lord is a refuge
for the oppressed,
A stronghold
in times of trouble.
Those who know your name
will trust in you,
For you, Lord,
have never forsaken
those who seek you.*
Psalm 9:9,10

SNOWDROP

Pushing up thru frost and snow
Defying all as cold winds blow
Brave snowdrops, have you come
to say
That Spring is really on its way?

Your bright green shoot points up
to God
His gift of New Life to declare
And then your bell like little flower
Bows its head in silent prayer.



**ACCESS FOR THE
HEARING IMPAIRED
IS PROVIDED**

VIA AN

AUDIO LOOP SYSTEM

USE YOUR HEARING AID ON 'T' SWITCH SETTING

ANOTHER NEW DAY

God will be there
In His Heaven tomorrow
The same as He was
Today
The sun will arise
The flowers will bloom
The rivers will flow on their way.

No matter what happens
Whatever your sorrow
Whatever the hurt
be assured
There's another new day
for living
rejoicing
Another new day
that is yours.

Karen Rene

ELEANOR JANE ELIZABETH KIDDLE

born at Launceston, 11th June 1900

passed to the Lord at Legana 26th November 1992

Of those who have had anything to do with St. John's Church for the greater part of this century, few would be unaware of the enormous contribution made by Elizabeth Kiddle, known to most as Miss Kiddle, and to her closer family and friends as Bessie. This article can only give some of her story. The greater part will be written in the hearts and memories of those who knew her, who were taught or helped by her, and with whom she shared the love of God.

To a great extent, Miss Kiddle's story is also that of the Sunday School, and "Parish Messenger" is indebted to Mrs. Elsie Jessop, Miss Kiddle's younger sister, for most of the contents of this article.



Miss Kiddle in one of her familiar roles - as a uniformed officer of St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Her grandparents emigrated from England about 1870. Their voyage was delayed because of the impending birth of Frederick Kiddle, Miss Kiddle's father, one of seven children, who was six weeks old when they set out on a six month voyage by sailing ship. The ship they should have sailed on was lost without trace. Miss Kiddle's parents married at St. John's shortly before the turn of the century. Her father was a groom in the stables of one of Launceston's wealthier families, and later curator of the bowls club at Windmill Hill.

Bessie and her next sister, Elsie both attended Sunday School from a young age. Elsie recalls that they were like two peas in a pod... what one did, the other did. The Sunday School consisted of three divisions, senior, intermediate and kindergarten, which was in the back section of the building. Sybil Brownrigg's mother took the intermediate section in the middle part of the building. Sunday School was quite strict. Examinations were held to measure progress, and the Sunday School hall was set out with tables, under strict supervision, just as the Albert Hall was set out with desks for matriculation exams. Bessie's younger sister, Mary, once won the Bishop's Prize, awarded statewide. Sunday School was "school" in the full sense of the word. Of course, the kindergarten section had a different program to the older ones! Bessie always made the most of what was taught to her, and after school or Sunday School she would go back over what she had learned with Elsie.

Sunday school picnics were grand occasions. Four or five open horse drawn buses would line up in St. John St., and all the children would go on them and away they would go, along Elphin Rd. cheering and yelling, on the way to the showgrounds. At the showgrounds, flags would mark the place for each class, and each child would be given a bun and a cup of ginger beer when they first arrived. Activities would continue until lunch time, and then the Sunday School bell would be rung. Children would then sit down, and boxes of sandwiches and meat pies would be brought around, with more ginger beer and a bag of lollies. Sports and other interesting activities would fill the afternoon, with the teachers entering fully into the races and other amusements. Parents would be invited to attend afternoon tea, and the children would return to the church in the horse-drawn buses. These picnics took place on Saturdays. Later, train excursions took the picnics to Rocherlea, then completely out of town, and at Evandale showgrounds. Other picnics were held at the Mowbray racecourse.

Children spent much more time at church in the early years of the century than they spend now. The children would not normally go into the church at the 11.00am service, instead they would have a service in the Sunday School building, inclu-

ding a sermon. When the Sunday School children did go into the church, they would go upstairs to the old "convict" gallery and sit on the narrow, uncomfortable benches built originally for the convicts who would attend church up there. The children would lean on the railing and look down at the "grand" people below, ladies in bonnets and with curls. When the "new" part of the church (the dome and chancel) was completed about 1910, there was no Sunday School because of the huge amount of dirt and rubble during the demolition of the wall dividing it from the old nave (not the present nave completed in the late 1930's). Services were temporarily held in the big Sunday School hall.

Social divisions were evident in the earlier days. Looking down from the gallery, the Sunday School children could see the beautifully dressed children of the very "well-to-do" families, who would attend church with their parents but were not allowed to attend Sunday School, which was held twice a day. 60 or more children attended in the afternoon, and about 30 in the mornings. By about 1930, the two sessions were amalgamated into the one morning session.

Mrs. Jessop became a teacher in the Sunday School, and rose to superintendent of the kindergarten section, and held that position for many years until her marriage in 1935, at which point Miss Kiddle, whom Mrs Jessop had recruited as a teacher working with the older boys in the kindergarten, took over the leadership, a post she continued with until the mid 1980s! Miss Sybil Brownrigg, too, was a teacher in the kindergarten section in those early years. The activities included use of sand trays to build up the lessons, singing and other activities. The hour always seemed too short. Mrs. Jessop set up the roll book, which was still in use at the time of Miss Kiddle's retirement. Younger members of the Kiddle family were also recruited as assistants or teachers. Geoffrey Kiddle was the secretary and librarian of the Sunday School during the earlier period. He took his responsibilities very seriously. The Kiddle children were actively encouraged to take on Sunday School responsibilities by their mother, who had a strong sense of duty towards the church.

The rectors were always very pleasant, and their children in the rectory added to the life of the parish. Miss Kiddle became a close friend of Mrs. Greenwood, wife of a former rector. Curates too, have memories of Miss Kiddle indelibly etched in their minds! It was a great blessing to the family last year when Revd. Alf Chipman twice visited Miss Kiddle during his leave from Kenya. Theirs had been a special relationship of mutual support.

Miss Kiddle lived all her life in the neighbourhood of St. George's Square in East Launceston. She went to work in McKinlays sewing room as soon as she had finished at East Launceston Primary School, at about 14 years of age. This was before the Launceston High School opened. She remained with McKinlays all her working life. There was no money for anybody (except the rich) to receive extra education, even if they had the aptitude. Just a few years later, when the next Kiddles (after Elsie and Geoffrey there was a gap of a few years) finished primary school, children went on to high school. Less well off families went through considerable hardship because of World War I and the Great Depression of the 1930s. Their mother took hardship in her stride, once saying, "I might have a big family, but I don't consider myself poor! Not with all these lovely children around me! No woman would be poor. You're my riches!" The two older girls contributed from their wages towards the cost of the piano for the younger members of the family to learn music. Miss Kiddle sewed for the family, and Mrs. Jessop mended the family's boots when they were damaged or worn out.

In the early 1950's, Miss Kiddle purchased the ubiquitous Morris Minor, which she continued driving until the late 1980's. Even relatively young parishioners would remember it parked outside the rector's vestry or under the pepper tree. It was the workhorse of countless family, church and St. John Ambulance activities and excursions, including many over the Sideling to Bridport. Miss Kiddle would say that it "knew the way" and almost drove itself to Bridport.

Miss Kiddle's involvement in St. John Ambulance began in 1939, and she continued as an active member until the mid 1980s, rising to the rank of Serving Officer. She was twice decorated by the Governor of Tasmania in recognition of her service to St. John Ambulance. Her duties included hospital assistance during World War II and first aid at football matches and at the Launceston Show for many years. She conscientiously worked to support the organisation, and was active in organising the Button Days and the Doorknock Appeal. The high esteem in which she was held by her fellow officers was demonstrated in the guard of honour of uniformed St. John Ambulance officers at her funeral.

Miss Kiddle was always very faithful and devoted to her work for the church and St. John Ambulance, and if she knew of somebody that was seriously ill or dying, she would make a point of sitting with them to make sure they were not alone in their hour of need. Her life was the church and her sewing. She sewed for her whole family, including the younger children. Even as the children grew up, she made wedding dresses and other clothes for their special occasions. Nieces and nephews also benefited from her skills, as did the church and Sunday School. At the time of the birth of her youngest sister, her mother was seriously ill, and Miss Kiddle took over four months off work to nurse her mother and care for the new baby.

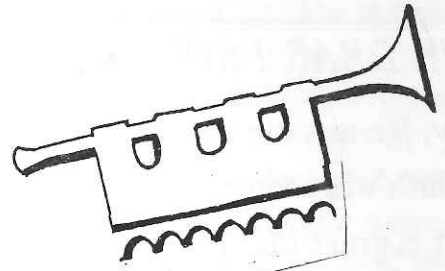
Miss Kiddle and Mrs. Jessop were members from their teenage years (the joining age was 14), and continued later as Townsend group members. By the 1930s, Miss Kiddle was GFS secretary. Later, she took charge for many years. GFS concerts would be held in the old Mechanics' Institute (site of the Northern Regional Library), to raise money for the carpet fund and other worthy causes. In those days, there was an active connection between GFS as a girls' organisation at the church, and the GFS hostel which provided for the needs of working girls unable to live at home. In more recent years, the Townsend group were instrumental in providing for the fine carpet now to be seen in the church. Many will recall the fundraising stalls, slide shows, outings and "beetle evenings" of this latter period.

Health problems, including a serious illness in 1991, meant she was no longer able to live independently. The last part of her life was spent at Tamar Park Nursing Home at Legana. She adapted well to the change, and was well cared for, and much loved. She appreciated the continued ministry of St. John's through clergy visits and visits by other parishioners, and enjoyed a number of outings with those she herself had ministered to over the years. She will be remembered with affection by the countless children, most of whom are now grown up, that she taught in Sunday School. For many years, it was commonplace for adults to come up to her in the street and greet her by name because they remembered her from Sunday School.

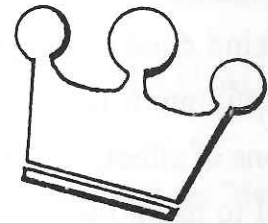
"Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'" Matthew 25: 34-36



KLOMP 21



THE KING'S COURT



8th
FEBRUARY
TO
12th
FEBRUARY



OUR DEAR FRIENDS,

Sadly, for me, my period as locum tenens of St John's will soon come to an end, but for you it is great that this will co-incide with the induction of Greg Clifton and meeting his wife Diana and their four daughters.

It is not easy to express in mere words the gratitude Barbara and I have for your friendship and support since my arrival in mid-December. So many encouraging words, so many kind deeds; and gifts and loans of needed equipment; the invitations and expressions of affection - these have meant a great deal to us and will leave us with many happy memories of the parish and its members.

This has always been a church renowned for its adherence to Biblical truth and Anglican tradition, and has enjoyed faithful ministries for very many years. But after two months here, I can confidently say that there is still more ground to win and more opportunities to be taken in the future. With God's grace and the Holy Spirit's blessing the future for St John's has no limit.

In addition to being in the Parish, Barbara and I have delighted in what we have seen of Tasmania on quick trips to the Lavender Farm, to Hobart and to Dove Lake and Cradle Mountain. This is a State of enormous natural beauty and great historic interest

with graceful buildings and unspoiled towns.

We would love to spend more time in Tasmania and we hope the opportunity to do so will occur some time in the future. Meanwhile we ask for your prayers as we go to the Parish of Harbord in Sydney and I assure you we will pray for you all with thankfulness for the happy time you have given us here.

TOM & BARBARA CROFT.

GLENN CLARK

Glenn will be leaving St John's on 14th February, having been appointed the Children's Ministry Co-ordinator in the Parish of Hagley, Westbury and Carrick. Glenn will be missed at St John's; for his presence and for his work among the young people in and around the parish.

He started his christian life as one of 'Miss Kiddle's little ones' and has risen through the grades and ranks of choir member, server, crucifer, sacristan and lay-reader and goes to his appointment as a member of the SOCIETY of St Francis. St John's can be justly proud of this good friend of ours.

We know God will be with him always.



FEBRUARY/MARCH

DIARY NOTES

Monday 8th - Friday 12th

KLOMP CLUB 21

Tuesday 9th Men's Fellowship Tea
6 pm.

Thursday 11th Induction of the
Revd G.k. Clifton as Rector 7.30
pm.

Sunday 14th - Meals on Wheels

Wednesday 17th Ladies Alone

Luncheon 12 noon

Wednesday 17th Vestry Meeting 7.
30 pm.

Thursday 18th Women's Guild 2 pm.

Thursday 4th Play-Group 9.30 am. -
12 noon

Thursday 4th GFS Townsend 12
noon - 2 pm.

Monday 8th St John's Welfare
Auxiliary 2.15 pm.

Wednesday 10th Mothers' Union
Annual General Meeting 1.30 pm.

Sunday 14th - Meals on Wheels

FEBRUARY ORGAN

RECITALS

Wednesday 3rd at 1 pm. John
Leggett BMus. Organist and
Choirmaster of Holy Trinity
Church, Launceston.

Wednesday 10th at 1 pm. William
Pierce BA(Syd), FRCO, FTCL,
LMusA, Organist and Choirmaster
at St John's Church, Launceston.

FROM THE REGISTERS

November, December & January
MARRIAGES - Kevin Brooks &
Joy Cabalzar, Andrew Doyle &
Amanda Ruffin, Luigi Apangaro &
Debora Billing, Phillip Kitto &

WOMEN'S GUILD

The Guild has been asked to direct the supper arrangements to follow the induction of our new Rector on 11th February. Please help with a plate. Afternoon Tea hostesses for our first meeting on 18th February at 2 pm. will be Misses D. Butler and B. Parramore Celia Hill, (Sec.)

AUSTRALIAN BOARD OF MISSIONS

The A.B.M. 1993 Calenders are available from the Parish Office at \$3.50 each.

Deanne McGlone, Gregory Le
Fevre & Alison Chapman, Rajeev
Soni & Margaret Layton, Francis
Kelloway & Jennifer Green, Milton
Darryl Chant & Tania Maree
Cooper.

BAPTISMS- Luke John Tepper,
Ryan Weech Goodman, Maxine
Denice Jackson Shannon, William
Peter Richardson, Henry William
Cox, Jessica Marie King, Grace
Claire Roberts.

FUNERALS - Eleanor Jane
Elizabeth Kiddle, Rex Arnold
Larner, John Desmond Godfrey,
James Charles Stuart Sanderson.

MEALS ON WHEELS 1993

Sunday 14 February

J. Ball, H. Griffiths, M. McNair,
A. Neale, J. Preece, J. Roberts,
J. Smith, D. Sheldrick, M. Wing,
B. Whitney/B. Seaton.

Sunday 14 March

J. Ball, W. Cowell, W. Donaldson,
D. Holmes, M. Jansson, M.
McNair,
R. Mansfield, P. Phelps, D.
Plumridge,
J. Stevenson.

NAME TAGS AGAIN!!!

It would be most helpful for our
locum tenens and our new Rector,
who arrives soon, if everyone put
on their name tags again. If you
don't have a name tag why not
purchase one from the 'Key Man'
at Fitzgerald's. They are very smart
and a plain one with just your
name may be worn at events and
occasions other than church. It is
a most important part of our
ministry to our parish leaders.

CHOIR ROBES

Twenty-one new robes have been
purchased for the choir in response
to a request put forward at an
Annual Meeting a couple of years
ago when the old robes were
deemed to have done good service
after 30 years. The new design is
one approved by the official church
robe-makers, Whippell's of England.
A number of donations have been
received towards this significant
cost. If you would like to
contribute to this cost, please mark
your envelope 'Choir Robes' and
leave in the offertory plate or take
it to the Parish Office during the
week.

BUSH CHURCH AID SOCIETY

\$200 was sent to the Melbourne
office from our contributors at the
end of December; see the letter on
the Parish Centre notice board.
Thank you to all box holders for
your continued support. Celia Hill,
Secretary.

JUNIOR CHOIR

Young people aged from 8 years
onwards who have singing ability
are invited to consider auditioning
for the church choir. Making music
is a most enjoyable thing, especially
in praise of God. Please contact the
choirmaster Mr William Pierce
telephone 31 1676 as soon as school
starts.

GFS TOWNSEND

We will resume our meetings in
March. Celia Hill, Secretary.

CASSETTE MINISTRY

Positions Vacant

In recent years a small but dedicated group of volunteers has provided a vital service for our parishioners who through illness etc., have been unable to join us in worship on Sundays. This involves the recording of both 10 am. and 7 pm. services each Sunday.

This ministry is now under threat due to a severe shortage of recording staff. This has been brought about by several of our team moving away or taking up other aspects of ministry at St John's.

If we are to continue this pastoral service to our parishioners, we urgently need your assistance in this matter.

We are asking for parishioners to give a little of their time once a month for recording one of the Sunday services. *No technical experience required.*

If you are able to assist in this matter and would like more details, please contact Richard Mansfield, after 6 pm. 'phone 44 4886 or the parish office 'phone 31 4896

PETER AND NICKI STUART PREPARE TO LEAVE

On Sunday February 14 at the 7pm service we will say farewell to Peter and Nicki Stuart. Peter will be instituted as Priest in Charge of the Parish of Penguin and Castra on February 15 at 7.30pm. St John's parishioners will be most welcome at the service.

Peter has been Assistant Priest with us for fourteen months, coming to us from the Parish of Launceston South.

Peter describes 1992 as one of his hardest, "At a Diocesan level and at a Parish level there has been a lot going on. It has been a pleasure to be involved with so many things and to see God transforming lives."

Both Peter and Nicki are looking forward to their future ministry in Penguin. Peter said, "I have learnt many things about ministry while at St. John's. In particular I am grateful to John Brook for sharing so much. I have no doubt that my experience here will shape the way I minister in Penguin." Nicki will continue to work as a physiotherapist when they move.

Commenting on the future for St. John's, Peter said, "Greg Clifton brings some important gifts to the parish and under his leadership it will continue to have a significant and strategic role to play in the Diocese. I do hope there will be a renewal of evangelical zeal within the congregation and that from here the Decade of Evangelism will be taken seriously throughout the state."

Peter and Nicki would appreciate your continued prayers as they embark on this significant stage of their married life and shared ministry.



PARISH DIRECTORY	Miss Valerie MURGATROYD	Thursday 4.45 - 5.30 pm, 31 1676	2nd Tuesday 6 pm, 31 4566
RECTOR-	OFFICE hours - 9 am to 2 pm	CHOIR PRACTICE-	MOTHERS' UNION
Rev'd Greg K. CLIFTON, 31 5218	- telephone - 31 4896	Thursday 7.30 pm, 31 1676	2nd Wednesday 1.30 pm, 44 7163
ASSISTANT-	ADDRESS: 157 St John Street,	GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY-	WOMEN'S GUILD-
Rev'd Peter STUART, 31 4566	LAUNCESTON. 7250.	Wednesday 6 pm, 27 3883	3rd Thursday 2 pm 44 2827
UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN-	WEEKLY MEETINGS	PARISH PRAYER GROUP-	GFS TOWNSEND-
Rev'd Dr Philip BLAKE, 30 1663	SUNDAY SCHOOL-	Saturday 8 am, 31 1520	1st Thursday 12 noon 26 1877
ORGANIST-	10 am, 1st, 3rd,	THURSDAY PLAY CENTRE-	EDITORIAL NOTE
Mr William PIERCE, 31 1676	4th, 5th Sunday, 39 1771	10.30 am - 12 noon, 31 6173	Parishioners are reminded that
ASSISTANT ORGANIST-	FAITH & FELLOWSHIP- 31	MONTHLY MEETINGS	the <u>deadline for all issues</u> is the
Miss Gaylene COHEN, 44 8456	4896	MEALS ON WHEELS-	<u>third Sunday every month.</u> Please
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Check your weekly Pew Bulletin.	2nd Sunday 10.30 am, 31 4896	items for publication at the Parish
SUPERINTENDENT-	CEBS BOYS' SOCIETY-	WELFARE AUXILIARY-	Office <u>before</u> that day.
Mr Tony CLAYTON, 39 1771	Thursday 6 pm, 31 8996	2nd Monday 2.30 pm, 44 2827	SUPPLEMENT TO
OFFICE SECRETARY-	CHILDREN'S CHOIR-	MEN'S FELLOWSHIP TEA-	'CHURCH NEWS'