

CHAPTER 10

The fourth 20 years

The first meeting in 1950 was the Annual Vestry Meeting of 26th April, 1950. Only the Rector Mr. Coleman and seven parishioners were present. Messrs. E. Wilde and Mr. S. Hills were elected churchwardens and Messrs. G. Wallace and B. Lemeasurier were appointed Honorary Auditors once again.

It was decided the Church Treasurer should collect the rents from the shops, thereby saving the paying of commission to the collecting agent. It was also decided to approach the Fair Rents Court to obtain a ruling on the appropriate rental to be charged for the two shops.

The Treasurer said the bank balance at that date was £15/16/6.

The meeting following was held on 1st December, 1950, the Rector and two churchwardens being present. At that meeting the Rector's salary was increased to £360 p.a. from 1st November, 1950 with a further £20 p.a. to be paid, if funds allowed it.

It was announced at the meeting that the Fair Rents Court had ruled the shop rents could be increased 2/6 per week each.

There was a meeting in May, 1951 but this was to choose members of the Church to represent St. George's at the meeting of Synod. Synod is the governing body of the Anglican Church. All churches are invited to send up to three representatives to attend the meeting and to take part in the discussions, if they wish. These representatives are elected by the Council of the individual churches for a three year term. At the end of that term other representatives or some or all of the same can be elected for a further three year term. The Synod meetings last about a week or more, according to the number of matters to be discussed. Every four years General Synod is held to discuss matters of greater

significance to the Church as a whole, rather than individual church affairs dealt with at the ordinary Synod meetings.

Special Synods are also convened on occasions to deal with specific matters affecting the church worldwide, as the recent one called to consider the ordination of women.

Another meeting was not held until 20th April, 1953. It was an Annual Vestry Meeting and on this occasion the Rev. R.N. Langshaw was in the chair. Apparently the Rev. E.C. Coleman had resigned on 1st December, 1952 and various ministers had held the services between then and the arrival of Mr. Langshaw and Mr. Robey, who were acting Rector and Curate respectively until a permanent Rector was installed. There is no reference to the Rev. Coleman's resignation or the arrangement about the visiting clergy for the interim period in the Minute Book and the information about the various ministers who had held the services during that time was gleaned from the Register of Services.

The meeting of 20th April was a very unusual one because, for the first time in the 64 years of St. George's history it was decided there should be nine Council members and the six ladies who attended the meeting were elected to the Council. Mr. R.S. Chapple was elected People's Warden and Mr. Langshaw chose Mr. Robey as Rector's Warden.

The Bank balance at this time was £100/5/9 in the ordinary fund and £17/4/3 in the Repair Fund, whilst accounts to be paid totalled £66/12/3.

No doubt in view of the financial situation, the sale of the shops was discussed and it was moved and seconded that a special meeting be held on 20th October to take steps to dispose of them. However, at that meeting it was decided, after much discussion, to leave the matter for a further six months.

A quotation for £88/15/- had been received for the replacement of the roof guttering around the church and it was thought a special appeal should be made for repairs in connection with the anniversary of the church later in the year.

At the meeting of 25th November, 1953 it was suggested the proceeds from the Sale of Work organized by the ladies should be used to buy paint for the painting of the church by voluntary labour and for materials to repair the electrical installation in the Parish Hall.

During the meeting of 27th January, 1954 Mr. Langshaw said nothing had been done about the electrical work and no answer had been received from the Archbishop about the possible sale of the shops.

The Curate, Mr. Robey, took charge of the meeting on 24th March, 1954 and he spoke of holding an 8 a.m. Communion Service each Sunday. Members of the church apparently approved, for there was an 8 a.m. service for the 20 years thereafter.

At the Annual Vestry Meeting of 27th April, 1954 the income for the year was shown as:-

Offertories	£221/ 3/7
Shop rents	£169/--/-
Hall rent	£210/--/-
Sale of Work	£116/16/-

The next meeting was on 8th July, 1954 and Mr. Robey's stipend was increased by £10/10/- per annum. It was also proposed the rent of the large hall should be increased from £3/5/- to £5/-/- per week. This was agreed to by the rentor, Mrs. Brand who used the hall for a Kindergarten and Day Nursery.

The meeting of 14th September, 1954 shows the Archbishop was not in favour of the shops being sold. He suggested raising the rents and asking the tenants if they would agree to the increase, before taking the matter to the Fair Rents Court.

At the same meeting the death of Mr. Chapple was reported. Mr. Chapple had been actively associated with the Church since being selected as Rector's Warden in 1940, so he had had 14 years of active service in the Parish Council. He had been elected as Rector's Warden once again at the Annual Vestry Meeting of 24th April, 1954. Mr. Thurgood was elected as Rector's Warden in Mr. Chapple's place.

On 5th November, 1954 a visitor to the parish outlined a proposition for the use of the small hall for a pensioners' club, for which he had the promise of support of men, materials and finance. Permission was granted to the proposed organisation, subject to agreement on details.

At this stage the Church owed £400 to Synod and it was proposed a letter be written to the Archbishop regarding the financial position.

A special meeting was held on 20th December, 1954 to discuss the stipend that could be paid to a permanent Rector. It was decided £624, plus travelling allowance could be offered.

The Rev. J.A. Dahl presided at the meeting of 4th January, 1955 and he suggested the church should pay Mr. Robey for the kitchen sink and cupboards, plus the Rotary Hoist he had installed at the Rectory. Mr. Gardner moved that the Church pay Mr. Robey £56/14/2, which was seconded by Mr. Murray. However, Mr. Robey would not accept more than £40/-/-.

At the conclusion of that meeting it was decided the churchwardens should arrange the details of the induction service for the Rev. Norman Woodhart who would be installed as Rector on 3rd February, 1955. Those who attended the installation service were:-

Induction by Archdeacon the Venerable R.B. Robinson
Rev. A Patrick
Rev. R.L. Langshaw
Rev. N.J. Chynoweth
Archdeacon J. Bidwell (former Rector at St. George's then
Archdeacon of Parramatta)
H.W. Robey (Curate)
and eight members of the Church.



Rev Woodhart with Mr & Mrs Hitchings

It shows the high regard in which Norman Woodhart was held by his peers that so many men of the clergy supported him at the induction.

At the first meeting at which the Rev. Woodhart presided, it was decided the church should pay half the removal expenses of the Woodhart family, namely £11/15/-. The Woodhart family consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Woodhart, two daughters and one son, the son being five years of age at that time.

Actually before the appointment of Mr. Woodhart, the Rev Dahl and Mr. Robey had decided a deaconess would be very helpful at St. George's and enquiries had been made about a Miss Valerie Moore working part time, her salary to be £78 per annum for two half days and one evening during the week and all day Sunday. She would also be entitled to annual leave. The Parish Council decided that the Sunday School should pay 10/-, Mr. and Mrs. Woodhart should pay 10/- and the church would pay the difference - approximately 10/-. It was agreed to accept the services of the deaconess on these terms.

At the meeting of 8th March, 1955 it was announced the shop rents were to be increased and the Camera Club was to pay an extra 5/- per week as from 6th April, 1955 for the hire of the hall.

Mr. Woodhart announced at the meeting of 5th April, 1955 the materials for the replacement of the roof guttering and the repairs to the ceiling of the bathroom at the Rectory were to be supplied by Mr. Albert Tamblin. This is the second mention of Albert Tamblin's name in the church records, but his name will appear quite frequently in future.

It was decided to write to the Special Assessment for New Housing Areas Church Building Fund paying that year's assessment for Clergy Widows and Children's Fund and explaining our difficulty in meeting the arrears. Also it was decided to pay that year's amount to the Assessment of Diocesan Registry which was £25/8/6 and a letter was to be forwarded regarding the arrears.

At the Annual Vestry Meeting of 19th April, 1955 Mr. Tamblin offered to lend the church £100, interest free, to be repaid at £1 per week, he would donate £10, leaving the Church to pay £90.

The Financial Report showed for the 12 months 1st April, 1954 - 31st March, 1955:-

Offertories	£260/ 5/9
Shop rents	170/ 7/6
Hall rent	271/ -/-
Sale of Work	105/11/7

There had been £87/11/8 interest paid on the Rectory and Shops. £59/11/4 Rates and Insurance and the bank balance for that period was £229/10/11.

At the meeting of 7th June, 1955 Mr. Thurgood's resignation was received with regret and a vote of thanks was expressed for his work for the church, especially as churchwarden.

Rent on the shops had been raised to 17/- per week and it was decided this money should be used to pay off the £90 lent by Mr. Tamblin.

Not long after, Mr. Tamblin said he would lend the church £65 interest free to reduce the loan on the Shops, £5 to be regarded as a donation and the church to pay £15, so that with his £65, £80 would be paid off the debt. All were in favour. Mr. Tamblin then paid £12/6/- to the Clergy and Widows Fund, which had been outstanding for six years. He also paid £20/-/- to the New Housing Building Fund on behalf of the Church. At the meeting of 6th September, 1955 it was moved that £16 to be paid to Mr. Tamblin which would leave an amount of £134 outstanding.

At the meeting of 4th October, 1955 it was announced that Mrs. Jones, a member of the Council had died very suddenly and she left the church £182/12/3. Later members of her family sent £2 so that something could be bought for the Church in her memory. Mrs. Wrigley seconded Miss Stretton's suggestion that a brass plate suitably inscribed be purchased.

It was decided at the same meeting that the Rector's stipend should be increased by £14 per annum from October and that £15 be

given to Mrs. Woodhart as a Christmas gift in appreciation of her services as organist and a letter was to be sent to her expressing the appreciation of the Council and also one to Mr. Wearne thanking him for his services in repairing the organ.

An announcement was made at the meeting of 6th December, 1955 to the effect that a cheque for £101 had been received from the estate of the late Mr. R.S. Chapple and the secretary was requested to forward a letter of thanks for this, also a letter to Mr. Dear to thank him for painting the Church signboard.

The Treasurer stated there was £525/8/7 in the bank and it was then decided two new doors should be purchased for the entrance to the large hall.

A Special Meeting was called for 28th December, 1955 to discuss the repairs necessary for the Church roof. Quotations received were:-

Wilson & Sons	£286 plus £60 if copper nails used
S.O.S. Fixers Ltd.	£620/-/- or £180/-/-
	(depending upon the type of material used.)

It was decided to accept Wilson & Sons' quotation with copper nails being used on the weather side of the church roof, which was to be done first and then the Church would decide whether copper or galvanised nails should be used on the other side.

The Rector announced at the meeting of 7th February, 1956 the Special Christmas Appeal to reduce the debts on the shops and the rectory had raised £35/12/11. Mr. Tamblin generously donated £6/-/- towards the outstanding amount for the New Housing Settlement Areas which left a balance of £45/-/- still outstanding.

At the same meeting the Secretary was asked to write a letter to Mrs. Mowll, wife of Archbishop Mowll, congratulating her on being awarded the O.B.E. by the Queen in the New Year's Honour List. This order was bestowed on Mrs. Mowll in recognition of her outstanding service during and after the war. She had also the vision to suggest comfortable retirement homes be made available to retired missionaries so that, after years of service overseas, often in pitiful circumstances, they could return to Australia

assured of comfortable accommodation and living conditions in delightful surroundings for the rest of their lives.

The idea of course was then expanded to cover all elderly retired men and women and today there must be many thousands who should feel grateful to Mrs. Mowll.

At the September meeting it was decided a cheque for £158/8/- should be sent to Mr. Hutchison. Mr. Tamblin kindly offered to lend £40 interest free, which was accepted, but this amount was returned to him on 3rd December, 1957.

At the meeting it was announced literature costing up to £10 was to be purchased, the literature relating to the "Church Attendance Movement". Unfortunately there is nothing in the records to show that this literature had a good effect.

On 11th February, 1958 a further £30 was sent to Mr. Hutchison for the roof repairs and £30 was also paid to Mr. Tamblin. The bank balance was then £127/4/7.

Mr. Woodhart suggested at the meeting of 3rd March, 1958 that the side porch be converted into a Wayside Chapel which would be open to all times for anyone wishing to come in for prayer and there would be a notice clearly visible saying the Rector was always available if anyone wanted to see him. It was moved by Mrs. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Hitchings that the Chapel be constructed and all were in agreement.

At the Annual Vestry Meeting of 6th May, 1958 Mr. R.R. Ledwidge and Mr. A.L. Hitchings were elected churchwardens and Mr. Wallace proposed that F.M. Foster & Co., Chartered Accounts, be elected as our Hon. Auditors. The eight lady members of the church who were present were proposed to be members of Council and as they were willing to act in this capacity, they were automatically elected.

A request was made by the Rector at the Meeting of 1st July, 1958 that a letter be sent to Canon Arrowsmith thanking him for negotiating the construction of a driveway into the Church grounds. This entailed quite a lot of work as the kerbing of the footpath had to be removed, the footpath graded and quite a large quantity

of soil excavated between the front gates and the side porch, as this driveway was about 50 cm below the level of the front lawn and a stone wall had to be made so that the earth would not fall into the driveway. Also a telegraph pole which would have been in the middle of the driveway had to be moved. Cars could then be driven right up to the side door. At the meeting of 8th October, 1958 it was proposed that a contractor be engaged to construct a concrete path from the gate to the side porch and also to the Vestry (which was then at the rear of the church building, now the kitchen), there already being a pathway from the front gates to the front porch. The double front gates were then about 50 cm to the right of the steps into the front porch.

At the meeting of 11th November, 1958 the Rector reported he had attended a meeting on a Saturday night conducted by members of the Community Arts Centre. He found that "children were allowed to behave unseemly in the small church hall. People on the stage and in the audience in the large hall were allowed to smoke (such was not permitted at functions of this nature). The evening show was one half vaudeville, the other half a picture scene from "The Sentimental Bloke". The vaudeville was obscene and the picture disapproved by some church people who were present". Mr. Woodhart said he had also found electric wires had been installed without permission of the Council or the Church wardens. The installation of same made the church subject to a penalty of a £50 fine. Also a seating structure had been attached to a beam which in itself was dangerous and without permission of the Church Council or Churchwardens." A motion was moved by Mrs. Nolan and seconded by Mr. Hitchings that the matter be left in the hands of Mr. Woodhart to deal with as he desired. This motion was carried. Subsequently Mr. Woodhart told the members of the Community Arts Centre they were not to continue using the Church Hall for their functions after 20th December, 1958.

Mr. C. Handley was accepted as Catechist for the next twelve months, but the Home Mission Society was asked to pay his stipend.

A Special Meeting was called on 24th March, 1959 to discuss what was to be done in regard to the Billy Graham Crusade. An amount of £4/18/3 was passed for payment for literature in connection with the Crusade. (Although nothing further about the Crusade appears in the Church records, the writer remembers groups from St. George's did attend the meetings. One evening about an hour after the programme had begun there was a particularly violent thunderstorm with torrential rain and those without shelter started to run to the gates and kept going, in spite of Billy Graham's exhortations that they stay. "No one has ever walked out on me!" he called out, but I am afraid that thousands did that night. Church attendance did improve as a result of the Crusade.)

The Wayside Chapel: On 24th May, 1959 the Wayside Chapel was officially opened by Archbishop M.L. Loane D.D. as a memorial to the late Rev. John Thomas Phair and his wife. The Rev. Phair had been Rector at St. George's from 1937 to 1940 and he died in 1953.

There is a newspaper cutting among the records which tells of a dispute as to whether the "Paddington Journal" or the "King's Cross Whisper" was the first local newspaper to be delivered by volunteers to residents in the respective suburbs. The article goes on to say:-

"But the competition doesn't stop there. Far from it. It goes deeper than mere newspapers ... Both Paddington and the Cross have Wayside Chapels. The Chapel at the Cross is the more experimental and better known of the two. Nevertheless the Wayside Chapel which announces itself in Gothic lettering at the St. George's Church of England, Glenmore Road, Paddington is the elder by five years. We asked Mr. Noffs whether his Wayside Chapel, started in 1964, was copied from the Paddington one. He was under the impression that his was the first to open. "But I don't want to make any invidious comparisons," he said magnanimously."

St. George's Chapel was not a very elaborate one, but nevertheless it was very suitable for its purpose. The doors of the side porch were closed, but never locked. When one entered

there was a rail on the right starting from the rear wall to the wall on the right of the doors and the rail was about 40 cms away from the side wall of the church with the 2 stained glass windows. Between the rail and that wall was a small wooden table, on which there was a Bible. On the floor just in front of the rail was a long kneeler covered with red carpet and the floor itself was covered with small coloured tiles. On the wall facing the doors was a brass tablet stating the chapel was dedicated to the memory of the Rev. J.T. Phair and his wife. The Rev. Phair was rector at St. George's from 1937 - 1940. This brass plate is now on the wall in the vestry.

The only item of interest in the minutes of 4th August, 1959 is that a Mr. Gordon Graham had offered to supply a new style Parish Paper, the Church to receive 10% of the profits (if any). This offer was accepted for a trial period of 12 months, but there is no evidence in the minutes of meetings that any money was received.

Early in 1950 Council agreed to a proposal that Mr. Whittington had offered to paint the Vestry and the Fellowship members to paint the inside of the large hall, if the church paid for the paint. These offers were also accepted.

The Annual Vestry Meeting was held on 3rd May, 1960 and Mr. Woodhart in his report thanked all members of the Church for their help during the past year. The amount received in the Boxes for the Church for the half year had been £54/5/- which was encouraging and donation of £70 had hastened payment of the debt on the church roof. Both this debt and the £650 Shop debt had been cleared. Improvements to the church has cost about £228/-/-.

It was decided the proposed "Soldiers' Corner" would be left to Mr. Woodhart to arrange, he to report progress from time to time.

The cash in the bank at this time was £282/15/2.

At the July meeting the increase in insurance cover for the church property was shown as:-

	Formerly	Now
Rectory	£1,000	£2,000
Church	6,205	9,205
Shops	870	2,000

whilst at the September meeting it was stated the Paddington-Woollahra Ladies' Pipe Band had hired both halls on Tuesday nights at 14/- per night and the Northern Suburbs Scottish Association Pipe Band had hired both halls for Thursday evenings at the same figure. (The neighbours must have been awfully pleased about this arrangement).

It was also mentioned in the September minutes that a letter of sympathy was to be sent to Misses C. and E. Wallace as their brother George Wallace had died. Mr. Wallace had been closely associated with the church since the death of his brother Frank. He had been a bondsman for loans the church had arranged from the bank and the Diocese, a churchwarden in 1938, co-auditor for 10 years and the sole auditor for 4 years and he had also been the church's Synod representative ever since 1952.

On 4th October Mr. Woodhart advised the Council Mr. Tamblin had offered to pay the amount still owing on the Rectory, which was £520, without receiving any interest. Mr. Tamblin had specified that the deeds be left in the hands of a solicitor and the church was to pay something off this debt each quarter. Naturally the Council was delighted to take up this generous offer.

The minutes of 7th February, 1961 said £100 had been repaid to Mr. Tamblin, leaving an amount of £420 owing. On 2nd May, 1961 it was moved and seconded that the sum of £200 plus £100 received from the estate of the late George Wallace be paid to Albert Tamblin and then the debt would be only £120. However, the minutes of 1st August, 1961 say Mr. Tamblin was still owed £230, so apparently he received only £190 instead of the £300.

During September it was decided the Rector's stipend be increased to the *full* stipend of £1,000 p.a., plus travelling

expenses £24 per annum, which indicates that the Rector had not been previously been paid the amount he was entitled to, as the Diocese sets the minimum amount to be paid to clergy.

At the meeting of 10th April, 1962 it was moved and seconded that a brass plate be erected in the Church in memory of Mrs. Dorothy Oldroyd who had acted as secretary of the Church Council for many years. This plate is also in the Vestry now.

Printed on the back of the Financial Statement associated with the Annual Vestry Meeting for the year ending 31st March, 1962 was a notice to say the Garden Party had been a success and £100 was in hand to pay the last amount owing to the Rectory debt. Soon after that Mr. Tamblin was paid and the deeds for the Rectory were received from the solicitor and delivered to the Diocesan Registry for permanent custody.

A few months later the Rector spoke of the necessity of rebuilding the floor in the front porch and some minor repairs. He also advised that the Governor, Sir Eric Woodward would be visiting St. George's on Sunday, 25th November, to unveil a memorial to the 157 members of the parish or in some way associated with the parish who had served during the war, seven of whom had died: Five died of wounds, one was drowned and one died of illness.

In all the years the writer has been attending St. George's, she can remember only two occasions when the church (the old church, that is, before it was altered) was absolutely full and the church held 500 seated. The first time was the one mentioned above when the Governor of N.S.W., Lieut. General Sir Eric Woodward K.C.M.G., C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. and Lady Woodward came to St. George's.

The memorial was in the form of a book in which Mr. Dear, a signwriter, whose father lived opposite the church had beautifully printed the 157 names. The book was enclosed in a glass case which stood on a wooden stand and the case was covered with a flag for the unveiling ceremony. The R.S.L. had provided a set of miniature medals which stood at the back of the glass case.

The Rev. Woodhart was assisted in the service by the Reverend E.J. Seatree M.C. Th.L (2nd A.I.F.), and Reverend G.L. Morris Th.L. (ex-Army Chaplain) and the Rev. G. Polain (1st and 2nd A.I.F.). The Rev. Seatree read the first lesson, the Governor the second lesson and whilst the Governor was unveiling the memorial the Rev. G. Polain recited the Returned Soldiers' League Creed:

"They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn;
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them. LEST WE FORGET!"

The Last Post and Reveille were sounded by a trumpeter and the address was given by the Reverend G.J. Morris. The Choirmistress and Organist on this occasion was Mrs. Woodhart and it is interesting to note that the Rev. G. Polain who read the R.S.L. creed was the former Rector of St. George's for four months in 1933.

The writer was shocked by Mr. Woodhart's appearance during the service so, as soon as the occasion arose, she asked Mrs. Woodhart whatever was the matter with him. Mrs. Woodhart answered: "He spent nearly all of yesterday at his mother's bedside until she died in the evening".

On 5th January, 1963 several new names were added to those of the "old faithfuls" that had been attending the meetings for years and two of them were to become churchwardens at the following Annual Vestry Meeting held on 13th May, 1963 namely Keith Airth and Ian Hamilton. They were both young men and had been members of the Men's Fellowship for some years.

It was decided a parish paper to be known as "The Church Review" was to be produced at least quarterly and all copies posted to addresses of members or contributors. The cost would be 2/- each and the money from this source was to be recorded separately in the Annual Returns. As the writer was unable to find any references to this paper in the annual returns, it could not have been very successful.

Some really good news was announced at the meeting of 8th November, 1963. The Standing Committee of the Diocese had decided to wipe off all St. George's arrears of assessments totalling £484/10/-!

Certain material costing £42/4/6 was purchased for a curtain on the Hall Stage and on the back of the Financial Statement for the year issued at the Annual Vestry Meeting of 4th June, 1963 was written this announcement:-

"The Stage in the Church Hall. This has been rebuilt and is now 4 ft. high. It is best appreciated by coming to see the improved change. The outstanding debt on this is up to £33 or £40 and a little more timber has still to be bought. £200 must have been saved through voluntary help - thank you, Workers."

The story about the raising of the stage is: The church acquired a large number of secondhand theatre seats - 8 or 10 joined together in a row and there were almost enough of them to fill the large hall, but the hall was also required for occasions not requiring seats, so the Rev. Woodhart (who had been trained as a builder) decided to raise the stage so that the rows of seats could be pushed under the stage when not required. There is no mention anywhere about these seats being purchased, so they were probably a donation from some hall or theatre which was being refurnished. Mr. Woodhart thanked "All the workers", but he and Albert Tamblin probably did most of the work.

Early in 1964 there is a note in the Minute Book that £300 had been received from the Sydney County Council "for repairs to the church hall which was being used to promote youth activity".

In 1965 there was a new tenant in the shop at 241A Glenmore Road (the one nearest the church) and she rented the shop to sell baby wear, Manchester and haberdashery on a three year lease. The other shop at 241B Glenmore Road was let on a renewed lease for three years.

Upon the death of Helen Christine Wallace the church was advised of a bequest of £200 left by her to pay off any debt (1)

owing on the Rectory or if that had been paid (2) any other church property.

During the Annual Vestry meeting of 2nd May, 1967 Mr. Woodhart thanked the firms who had donated the paint for the painting of the outside of the large hall and Mr. A. Bashar and Miss Eve Cohen who had done the painting.

The Rector then advised the late Albert Tamblin had left a bequest to the church of £4,000 to be invested and the income to be used for the upkeep of the Rectory.

The Rector in his annual report stated the Parish had been experiencing a transition period. As property was becoming more valuable, people were moving out with their children. Older people or newly married couples were moving into Paddington to take up residence, the result being the number attending Sunday School was greatly depleted and fewer were being presented for confirmation.

He said each month private communion was ministered to a number of aged and invalid people who could not attend worship in church. The objective to contribute £200 each year to the Church Mission Society was being maintained. Interesting and good speakers promoted profitable evenings at the Men's Fellowship which met at the end of each month. The inauguration of the "Coffee Club" after service each Sunday evening and the Bus Outings contributed to strengthening the fellowship amongst the members of the congregation. Pleasant Sunday afternoons were held in the church each month and the offertory was to be used for the restoration of the church organ. The old organ was being dismantled and will be restored by Mr. Raymond Holland at no expense to the church, except the purchase of a new motor.

He said the church had already obtained \$2,600 from the Tamblin Estate. More would be received at a later date and all money received would be invested and the interest held in the account for the repair and maintenance of the Rectory.

At the meeting of 4th July, 1967 a statement of the Organ Fund was given. This showed: Amount on Fixed Deposit \$460.00, amount in

the bank \$217.34. The fixed deposit was to be renewed for another 12 - 18 months.

Nothing worth reporting seemed to have happened during the following twelve months, but then the church seemed to be in financial trouble again. The bank balance as at 27th August, 1968 was \$220.77, but the bills to be paid added up to \$139.89, without the Rector's stipend, so it was decided to pay the stipend only and leave the other accounts until the next meeting. It was also decided that boxes should be sent out, as usual, and a quarterly appeal be made by letter with an envelope enclosed.

With regard to the bus at that time being used by the Youth Fellowship for outings, the question was asked at the meeting why the letter to the Transport Department which the Rector's Warden at the last meeting had promised to send had not been sent. The Rector's Warden stated that, although he had said he would prepare the letter for the signatures of the three wardens, he had subsequently decided it would be inadvisable for such a letter to be sent without every precaution being taken to ensure that it would not involve any responsibility upon the Church. He therefore referred the matter to the Rector who agreed to seek the advice of the Church Legal Officer the following morning. This he did and was advised that, if the Church's name appeared on any form in connection with the registration of the bus, even to the extent of the Rectory address being given, it would in fact involve the Church's responsibility in the use of the bus. Consequently it was decided to defer the matter until the next meeting of the Council so that it could be further discussed by the whole Council. This explanation was accepted by the meeting and it was unanimously agreed that the bus be registered and that no reference whatsoever be made to St. George's Church of England appear on the new registration form.

It was moved by Mr. Hunter-Kerr and seconded by Mr. Levy that the Rector publish in the Parish Paper from time to time details of outings, giving the exact site for joining the bus, the time of

departure and approximate time of return. It was further resolved that the Fellowship Leaders use every possible discretion in selecting the place for such outings when the bus is used.

These bus trips had been greatly enjoyed not only by members of the Youth Fellowship, but by older members of the congregation also. The most ambitious trip was to Hayman Island and it was during the return trip that one of the older passengers, who was a Diabetes sufferer could not resist the temptation of eating ice cream and other forbidden food. She was rushed to a hospital somewhere near the Queensland border where she subsequently died. In view of this, it will be understood why the Rector and the Churchwardens wanted the church to be free of any responsibility for anything that might happen during these bus trips.

During the meeting of 4th March, 1969 the Treasurer was asked to supply a record of the amount of stipend owing to the Rector. At the following month's meeting she asked for further time to supply these details, as it required quite a bit of research.

At the Annual Vestry Meeting of 5th May, 1969 the Rector said the receipts earlier in the year had been slightly more than the previous year, which he regarded as a sign the Parish was not falling back, but rather striving forward. This was evident also in the slight increase in communicants at Easter compared with the previous year and also in the greater interest by a wider percentage of parishioners in Missions and good attendances at services at which Missionary Speakers had preached.

In conclusion the Rector stated that, after conferring with his Churchwardens, it had been decided that a plan which had been prepared some little time earlier for the possible development of the Church Property should be placed on display at this Annual Vestry Meeting so that all present may study it. It is hoped, he said, that the Churchwardens and members of the Parish Council would be able to give some consideration to this matter during the next year and possibly produce some further suggestions in this regard at some future date.

At the Parish Council Meeting of 2nd September, 1969 the Treasurer stated that the arrears in the Rector's stipend were \$2,783.20. The following announcement followed this announcement in the Minutes: "It was moved by Mr. Hunter-Kerr and Mr. Cowling that the amount owing to the Rector was not to be discussed outside the Council". The writer feels the members of the Council should bear some blame for accepting such a ruling from the churchwardens, as if the Ladies' Guild had known how much was owing to the Woodhart family, it would have arranged a Fete, a Concert, Special Market Days or all of these to raise the money.

The writer had no idea that the Rector's stipend had not been fully paid until a few months ago when she was reading through the Minute Books to write this book.

The 2nd November, 1969 was the 80th Anniversary of the church building being consecrated and a special commemorative service was held in the church at 10.30 a.m. The Lieutenant-Governor of N.S.W., the Honourable Sir Kenneth Street K.C.M.G., K.St.J., read the second lesson of the service and the Venerable C.A. Goodwin M.B.E., Archdeacon of Sydney, was the preacher. There must have been quite a number present in church that day as the offertories for the three services totalled \$133.12. Nevertheless at the meeting of 4th November it was obvious the church was in financial difficulties again. The cash available was \$786.70 and amounts to be paid totalled \$995.54.

At the meeting of 2nd December, 1969 it was announced the Lands Department had offered \$100 for a very small triangular piece of land which was actually on Glenmore Road at the corner of Gurner Street. The solicitors Harvey, Glanville & Axtens stated the Church Property Trust had suggested that this offer be accepted. It was resolved that the solicitors be instructed to accept the offer and seek payment at the earliest possible date.

It was noted that General Synod had granted Long Service Leave to Clergy as from 1st January, 1969 and the annual contribution in

respect of the Rector of St. George's Church was \$72, of which \$36 was payable by the Parish.

The amounts to be paid in December totalled \$442.17 and the cash in hand was only \$396.14, so the year ended with the church a little in debt.

FROM 1950 TO 1969 INCLUSIVE

Number of Marriages	77
Number of Baptisms	624