

One Hundred Years
1887 - 1987

One Hundred Years

1887-1987



St. John the Baptist



Cobble Hill, B.C.

Centennial Pictures June 21st, 1987



PARISH COUNCIL

Back Row: Glen Jones, Charles Phillips, Allan Pollard, Rev. Barry Wyckham Middle Row: Dick Lewington, Peter Holmes, Mary Moore Front Row: Peter Waldin, Stan Harnan, Nancy Laidlaw, Joanna Weston, Robert Weston
Missing: Paul Baal, Wes Marshall, Bill McCracken

ALTAR GUILD

Back Row: Patricia Patterson, Marion Holmes, Nancy Laidlaw, Flo Love less, Jessie Barber
Front Row: Marjorie Davies, Doris Soulsby, Winnie Horton, Janet Farris, Margaret
Dillabaugh



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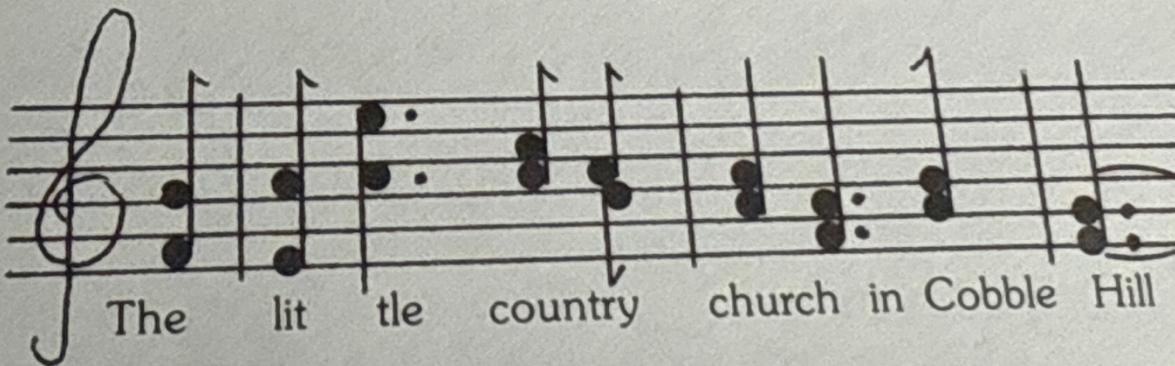
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COVER: St. John the Baptist Church. Cobble Hill, B.C.
as it appears today.

St. John the Baptist
Cobble Hill, B.C.

INTRODUCTION



"Where is St. John the Baptist Church?" asked the middle-aged lady, who was driving along a country road in South Cowichan.

"Well," answered her companion, "according to the directions we were given, it is situated on the right hand side of this road."

"I haven't noticed a church along this road, and it looks like we are coming to the end of it," said the first lady.

"We've been to each end of it," responded the second lady, "and it is surprising that we didn't see lights, and cars parked near it."

"Maybe we should turn around and travel along it once more, I really do want to see the show put on by the Good Companions," said the driver as she turned the car around. Two or three minutes later they saw an oncoming car turn off the road.

"Do you suppose that car is going to the performance?" said the passenger lady. "I'll take a really good look, so slow down. Slow down, there it is!" Over the century of progress, with ups and downs, St. John the Baptist Anglican Church has known similar episodes being enacted many times, and we the parishioners smile and think to ourselves - 'How could one miss it?'

The century of the existence of our Parish that we are celebrating begins before we had a church building, and is ending with three buildings: a church, a hall and a rectory; as well as a lovely country cemetery. Interspersed with all these tangible assets is the one hundred years of Christian activity that has been lived and acted upon by the many parishioners who have worked so diligently over the years.

It would be an inspiring experience if we could all have met one another, and exchanged experiences that we have been involved in. As it is our turn now, we are fortunate to be the heirs of the one hundred years of love's labour for Christ. We hope that the efforts that we have put forth this year will be looked on as a good foundation for the next century of the Parish of St. John's.

The record that the church historical committee has researched and put together is divided into four time periods: - eg. 1887-1912; 1912-1937; 1937-1962 and 1962-1987. Unfortunately, due to a fire which destroyed most of the records for the first twenty-five years, only a sketchy account of those most significant years is available. We have made a diligent effort to fill in pertinent information that we have sought out. Also, some newspaper clippings and old minutes, reports and letters have been enlightening. We are celebrating with other churches' one-hundred-year anniversaries: a church in England, one in Alberta, and the Roman Catholic parish of St. Francis Xavier, Mill Bay.

Photo page 5



MAY 2, 1971

Consecration of the West Side of St. John the Baptist Cemetery. The procession was led by Bishop Gartrell, Rev. Horace McClelland and Rev. Harry Howson, followed by the Confirmation group and members of the congregation.

St. John the Baptist Church

1887-1912

THE PARISH BEGINNING

During the eighteenth century, Christian missions were being established along the southwest of North America by missionaries who accompanied the Spanish explorers as they sailed along the Mexican and Californian coasts. Further exploration northwards brought missionaries to the Canadian west coast and resulted in the earliest missions amongst the Indian coastal villages.

It seems that the early nineteenth century was the beginning of the Anglican Church's history on Vancouver Island. By 1864, progress was such that the need for smaller areas became apparent and the Cowichan Missionary Society was established. It ministered to an area that began north and west of Victoria, including the east and west sides of Shawnigan Lake and the east coast of the Island as far as Chemainus.

Some of the clergy that served the area in these early years were the Reverends Mr. Garrett, Mr. Holmes and Mr. Owen; as well there was a Canon by the name of Mr. Reece. Immediately before St. John the Baptist parish was formed in 1887, the area was served by Canon Leakey. The newly-created parish of St. John the Baptist, Cobble Hill, and All Saints, Shawnigan Lake, extended from the seashore as the eastern boundary, the west being the west side of Shawnigan Lake, the south Cousins Hill and the northern extremity being bounded by Bench Road.

Mr. John Nightingale, an early pioneer in this area, was the motivating force in the efforts to have a church building in the new parish. He donated the land on which to place it and hauled the lumber from the sawmill by ox team. As he was a carpenter, he helped with the erection of the new building.

The "Quote" feature in the Daily Colonist of fifty years ago quoted the following: -

"Fifty years ago the first Anglican Church was being constructed beside the Island Highway one mile south of Cobble Hill"

Also the same year, 1899, the eighth Synod of the Diocese of British Columbia was held with Bishop Perrin presiding. One of the motions which was made and moved by a Mr. Hayward and seconded by a Mr. W.G.H. Ellison, was that women be allowed to become members of the vestry. The motion was lost.

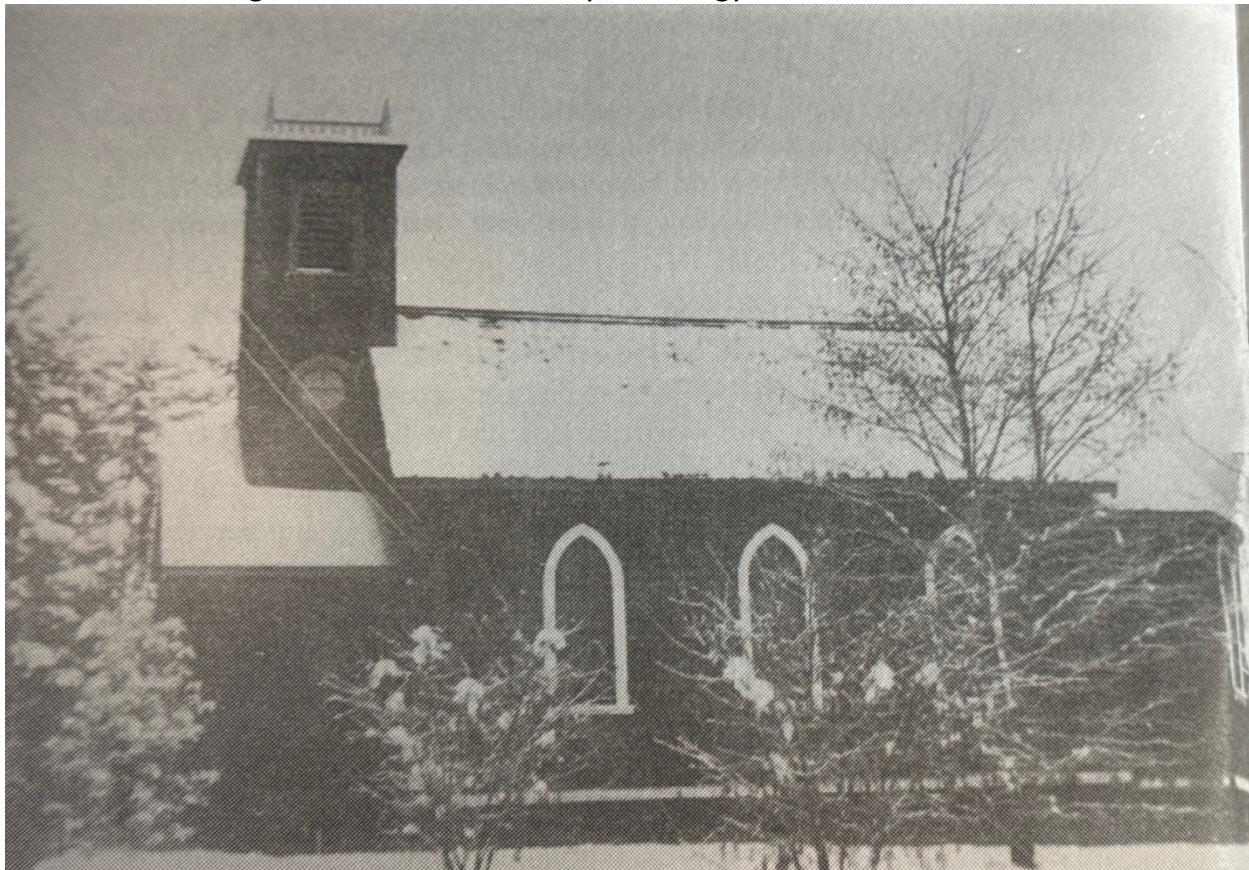
The Church was dedicated for worship in 1889, and Mr. John Nightingale was the lay reader. He served for twenty years in this capacity. He and some of his family, whose plaques appear in the church, were devoted to the church, and worked diligently to keep the parish active.

Some of the oldest and very fragile records that there are for St. John's Church in the archives show that individual collections at a service from the earliest times ranged from about ten cents to thirty-five cents. The total collections ranged from just over one dollar to three or four dollars. It would be interesting to compare income and expenses of today. Sometimes the services were cancelled due to bad weather and occasionally for other reasons. For twenty years, Mr. Nightingale faithfully served the parish of St. John the Baptist. After his death in 1909, his son Arthur, with the help of two other parishioners — a Mr. G. Cheeke and a Miss Davidson - carried on.

The Diocesan Synod was asked to supply clergy on a full-time basis.

The Reverend Mr. Christmas was appointed first, with whom Arthur Nightingale, Mr. Cheeke and Miss Davidson worked closely. This arrangement of clergy was not very satisfactory because the priests were not resident, or they resided temporarily and had to travel some distances in order to get to the church. Unfortunately, the early records of St. John's were lost in a fire on the Nightingale farm in 1909 or 1910.

There was a church called St. Mary's that was built beside Hutchinson Road near the corner formed by Watson Avenue. This church was built before the first World War. We heard a rumour that was related to us about the position of the two churches. "The farmers attended Saint John's Church and the others went to Saint Mary's." All Saints Church in Shawnigan Lake was serviced by the clergy that came to Saint John's.



Photos page 8 The first St. John's in 1887 (above) and the 'new' St. John's as it appeared upon completion in 1938.



St. John the Baptist Church 1912 - 1937

THE PARISH THROUGH WORLD WAR I AND THE DEPRESSION

The Parish experienced difficult times in the years after Mr. Nightingale's death and through the First World War. There were times when it was closed. The church in Shawnigan Lake was consecrated by Bishop Ropee on February 28, 1913. Mr. Nightingale's sons, Arthur and Clifford, along with some faithful families such as these few names - Mr. R.B. Moulton, Mr. & Mrs. G. Cheeke, Miss Davidson, Mrs. McPherson and Frank and James Porter - seem to be families that were mentioned frequently in the records dealing with vestry meetings and events that took place at this time.

After the First World War the church was eventually reopened. In 1920 a meeting was held to consider the matter of a resident priest. The arrangement that had been made before the war for the supply of clergy was now most undesirable. The parishioners present at this meeting were Mrs. Bon-ner, Mr. G.A. Cheeke, Mrs. McPherson, A. Nightingale, A. Porter and G. Wilder. By 1921 a request was made to Synod for the appointment of a resident priest. In June, 1921, the Bishop decided that this could be considered if St. Mary's would assume the responsibilities of one half of the Parish of Cobble Hill. Each would be asked to pay \$240.00 per year to the stipend and fifty percent of parish apportionment.

Mr. Crewe became the first resident vicar in December, 1921, and he lived in Cobble Hill village.

However, it is to be assumed that the individual churches could not get along and matters seemed to get out of hand. The Archdeacon attended a meeting in November, 1924, to try to solve the problems. The minutes of five previous meetings were read. The Archdeacon mentioned that due to financial problems there was the threat of other parishes in the diocese being closed. He did affirm that Cobble Hill was a missionary parish. (Probably put it in a different category from the others.) One of the parishioners made the statement that the scarcity of money was due to lack of unity and class distinction. In January, 1925, at the annual meeting, at which the Bishop was in attendance, a motion was passed stating that because of existing conditions, the ministrations of the church would be discontinued after the departure of Mr. Crewe. Mr. Crewe had resigned.

The following January (1926) with the Bishop once more in attendance, a church committee was elected. Services were then arranged with the Reverend Mr. Cockshutt as the new incumbent.

The parish now seems to be off on the straight and narrow and the next big effort was the purchase of an organ. The W.A. under Mrs. Tooker was asked in 1927 to help the church committee purchase an organ from the Methodist Church in Mill Bay. The organ was subsequently purchased and installed. A pump organ, it made the floor in the church vibrate when it was being played.

From the 1933 annual minutes comes the information that a central window had been installed in the chancel; the gift of Mrs. Glossop in memory of her husband. In 1934, Mr. Parker of Mill Bay built the brick gate posts.

General maintenance and improvements were carried out, and it seemed to be that the congregation had reached a time of few worries, and that the life of the parish was peaceful.

A heavy snowfall came along in the winter of 1937. It damaged the roof of the church, which threatened the building with collapse. The following investigation revealed that the structure as a whole was most unsafe. The weight of snow on the roof had forced

one wall to break away from the foundation. As well, it was found that there was severe carpenter ant damage, and that the bell tower could have collapsed in a severe wind. The congregation realized that they were faced with erecting a new church building. However, in retrospect it seems that the snow storm was timely, as it may have saved harm coming to unsuspecting parishioners.

In the early part of this period, a church building was constructed at Shawnigan Lake under the incumbency of the Rev. G. Aitkens.

St. Mary's does not seem to be mentioned after this period. The buildings were sold and moved away, but there does not seem to be any written record of it. The Reverend Mr. Willis was the incumbent vicar at the end of this period and well into the next era.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

1938 - 1962

THE PARISH: EXPANSION OF ASSETS

How inspiring to see the progress that had been achieved in the first half century, during which the Parish of St. John the Baptist had been firmly established in Cobble Hill by the dedication and unity of its parishioners and clergy. Undaunted by the disastrous damage caused by the heavy snowfall, the parishioners addressed the first order of business for the second half-century, which was to replace the whole church building.

The parish devised a variety of money-raising events to acquire the funds needed for building a new edifice. For instance, Mrs. Fairclough, a member of the Alexander family, belonged to the Orion Club in Victoria, and was instrumental in having them hold a recital in the Cobble Hill Hall. Donations were collected from parishioners as well as numerous bake sales and bazaars.

The actual amount of the cost of the church in funds that had to be raised was three thousand five hundred and thirty-three dollars (\$3,533.00). The parish had to borrow seventeen hundred dollars of this amount. The finished building, of course, was worth much more, due to so much voluntary work given by the parishioners. One prime example, mentioned by Mr. R.B. Moulton, Vicar's Warden at the time, was a gentleman by the name of Mr. Herbert Collison, of whom Mr. Moulton said, "I do not think there was anyone who gave more free time to the work."

Mr. Donald Alexander was the contractor. When looking through the invoices, it seems that he was forever buying hardware and other supplies that were needed - and what a difference from today's prices:

1 keg 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " nails @ \$4.60 per keg.

50 lbs. 2" finishing nails, \$6.35

Also, a Mr. A. Byrne, who transported lumber supplies from Hillcrest Lumber Company with such low costs in comparison to today. Mrs. Frances Newton relates a story about her father, Mr. Knight, who, on May 30th, 1938, took his team of heavy horses to the church to pull the foundation timbers out from under the old building at the start of the "rebuilding project," as they called it. The team was hooked on to the first timber, the horses gave a good heave, and almost fell on their knees. There was nothing but a shell left of the timber by the ants.

We thought the following report would be of interest and vividly illustrate what damage can occur in so short a time:

St. John's Church
Cobble Hill, V.I.
June 30th, 1938.

REPORT OF BUILDING COMMITTEE

The demolition of the old Church, (built in 1889 by John Nightingale) was begun on May 30th, 1938, and, being now completed, the Building Committee desires to make known the facts concerning the condition of the old building.

Sills. Of the three sills, hewn logs 12x12 inches, two were mere shells of wood full of powder, and the third broke in half when moved from its bed.

Floor and joists. The south wall was bulging eight inches out of perpendicular, dry-rot was evident everywhere, even in the lining, which it had been hoped to save and to incorporate in the new building.

Tower. This was distinctly dangerous, the top cornice might have come down any time in a high wind.

Roof. Many of the rafters were badly cracked and there was dry-rot in them all, making the whole roof unsafe. The shingles were mere shells of wood.

Vestry. (Of more recent construction than the rest of the building.) The Committee had hoped that it might be possible to save this but, as it has been found to be seriously damaged by ants in the sills and walls, the Committee is faced with further and unexpected expense in rebuilding this also.

THE NEW BUILDING

The new building is now in process of construction, the cement foundations have been completed and the framework is now well advanced.

Financial Statement

EXPENDITURE	RECEIPTS (Including loan)
To Labour \$379.40	\$1908.30
Material <u>\$246.86</u>	
\$626.26	Balance <u> </u> \$1282.04

The Committee wishes to express the thanks of the Parisioners to all who have subscribed to the Building Fund, to those who have helped by their generosity and by labour voluntarily given, and to those who have given encouragement by their sympathetic interest, and to the following: - The B.C. Cement Co., Mrs. E.M. Alexander, Mr. A. Byrne, Mr. H.T. Collisson, Mr. H. Flinn, Mr. R.J. Horton, Mr. C. Knight, Mr. R.B. Moulton, Mr. E.C. Nightingale, Mr. W. Parker, Mr. J.F. Reason, Capt. G.D. Sprott, Mr. H.P. Wolfe, Mr. W. Taggart, Mr. J. Briscoe, Mr. A.O. Price, and to Mrs.

Fairclough, Mrs. Maslen, and Mrs. Nightingale who have provided tea daily for the workers.

In conclusion the Committee desires to state that it would be glad to receive further donations to the Fund, and that any voluntary work would be welcome.

"C. Wace" — Chairman

"E.C. Nightingale"

"R.B. Moulton" — Wardens.

Mr. Meredith had the electrical wiring contract for the church. Mr. Alexander subsequently made and donated all the pews, the altar and the reading desk.

The new church of St. John was dedicated for services on September 11th, 1938, just about three and a half months from the beginning of the demolition of the old building. During the time that no services could be held in St. John's, the United Church in Mill Bay kindly allowed the use of its facilities to St. John's parishioners. The new church of St. John the Baptist was consecrated by Bishop Sexton on October 8th, 1944. There were 153 people who attended the first service; sixty-three of them were communicants.

1987

The Parish of St. John the Baptist, Cobble Hill, B.C.

Rector: Rev Barry Wyckham 743-3095

Rector's Warden: Peter Holmes 743-4274

People's Warden: Charles Phillips 743-9086

Treasurer: Robert Weston 748-3698

Parish Council

Secretary - Stan Harnan - LORRAINE MOORE.

Paul Baal	Bill McCracken
Glen Jones	Wes Marshall
Nancy Laidlaw	Mary Moore
Dick Lewington	Alan Pollard
Peter Waldin	

Lay Delegates to Synod Alternate Delegate
Joanna Weston 748-3698 Betty Marshall 743-3457
Barbara Smith 743-2185

Delegates to Youth Synod Organist
John Weston Connie Lewington 748-1068
Paul Smith

ACW President Mothers Union President
Nancy Laidlaw 743-4423 Ivy Uzzell 743-2115

Altar Guild and P.W.R.F. Rep. Sunday School
Janet Ferris 743-2133 Elaine Nessman 743-5237

Envelope Secretary Hall Bookings
Glen Jones 743-8564 Geoff/Marion Ovans 743-2980

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Janet Ferris 743-2133 **Sunday School**

Elaine Nessman 743-5237

Envelope Secretary

Glen Jones 743-8564 **Hall Bookings**

Geoff/Marion Ovans 743-2980

During the tenure of Mr. Willis' incumbency, the parish accomplished amazing achievement for its size and financial capacity. Another of Mr.

Willis' legacies is the fine layout of the cemetery, where the graves were numbered and charted so they would be easy to locate. This is an invaluable legacy for those who have come afterwards.

It is not known whether the full church loan was paid off before the need for a rectory became a necessity to the parish.

The following essay by the late Mrs. Jerry Caesar tells the tale most vividly. This big effort was tackled during the Second World War. There does not seem to be any reference to this time that we have come across in researching this history. Don't forget that the vicarage project was worked on during these hard times that Jerry Caesar refers to - so the more admiration goes to them for their efforts.

PARISH STRUGGLE

The achievement of the present vicarage property, in our parish of St. John's, represents a struggle which will never be forgotten by those people who were chiefly responsible for pushing through a project which took 11 years, in all, to accomplish.

In 1941 the parish was small and poor, but it had a core of dedicated people of strong faith, who were determined and willing to work very hard. Of these, Mr. Bob Moulton was perhaps the outstanding figure in this remarkable story; his labours, as church warden for 21 years, did much to root church life in this district.

The Vicar, in 1941, was the Rev. Eric Willis, who had been living for some time in his own house in Mill Bay, and the church committee had come to the conclusion that the parish must set about providing a vicarage.

With this in view, Mr. Moulton and Dr. Wace, who was secretary-treasurer at the time, negotiated the purchase of the present property, which comprised at least 5 acres and a very old log building, which stood on the site of the present vicarage. This old building was at least 70 years old, built by a Mr. Jack Verdi; its owner at the time was a Mrs.

Mr. Willis moved in, and here he lived for 9 long years, although this was far from the intention of the church committee, who planned to replace the old house as soon as possible. But times were hard, and the parish had, first, to deal with a debt on the \$4,000 price of the property.

Mr Willis, and his housekeeper, were patient and understanding, although the roof of the old house leaked like a sieve; in a heavy rain storm, one might find 14 tin cans arranged round the floors to catch the drips. It was, besides, an awkward old house, with small kitchen and ramshackle lean-to at the back; there was no furnace, and it was a serious problem to keep warm in winter, or cool in summer;

there was a shortage of water to add to discomfort. But the parish was proud of its acquisition even so; the people jammed the place for W.A. sales and Little Helpers' parties, when the heat and congestion were apt to be suffocating. All parish meetings took place in the one living room, and with no real study and almost no privacy, the situation finally became intolerable to the long-suffering vicar.

In 1946, in a generous effort to help the parish, Mr. Willis bought a house in Cobble Hill, with a view to using it, and allowing the parish to purchase it from him, gradually, for a vicarage. This plan was voted down at a parish meeting, and it was this event which led, early in 1947, to the election of a vicarage committee, within the church committee, made up of Mr. Moulton and Mr. Bamber, Miss Joyce and Mrs. Caesar. These 4 set to work to plan for a new vicarage on the old site, and though 5 years were to pass before it materialized, the whole parish rallied in support of the project.

The building fund was augmented by every conceivable scheme, such as the Wayside stall and the rummage sales; and the W.A. laboured unceasingly. A parish-wide drive in the summer of 1949 brought up the figure to \$4,000.00 and at this point the parish voted to ask synod for a loan, up to \$4,500.00.

A plan of the proposed building had to be submitted, with the request for the loan, and the committee worked hard and long to devise the best means of providing comfort for the incumbent at a cost the parish could meet; in this effort, they travelled round the district inspecting recently-built vicarages and rectories, to get opinions and enquire about costs. Mr. George White gave valuable assistance at this time; he saved the parish any architect's fee, and subsequently acted as voluntary building inspector.

The final plan submitted was approved by synod, the loan granted, and tenders were called. The lowest bid was \$11,000.00 and the committee felt it was not yet time to make a start. The drive went forward with sustained effort, and by the fall of 1950 there was \$5,000.00 in hand. The parish was contributing about \$1,000.00 per year to the building fund so with the loan in view from synod, the parish voted to go forward.

Mr. Willis now moved out of the old building and operated the parish from a home of his own in Duncan.

Tenders were called for the demolition and clearance of the building but the only bids were on the debit side - the lowest, \$200.00. The committee was loath to pay out any of the hard-earned cash and finally Mr. Moulton came to the rescue by offering \$75.00 to purchase the building. So, the devoted church warden wrecked the old log house with his own hands, and told, later, of the horrifying conditions he found; there was no shiplap over the logs, and great air spaces

between the building and the back room. He trucked away usable material, some of which is in evidence in his present home, and he arranged with Mr. Bell to haul away the logs for firewood.

By the fall of 1951, tenders were called again for the erection of the present vicarage, and a contract signed with Messrs. Mills and Whittaker; prices had gone up again, and the figure was \$12,500.00. The building went ahead without delay, under the careful scrutiny of Mr. George White, who checked every detail of construction. Spring of 1952 saw the completion of the undertaking, and Mr. Willis took part in the opening ceremony of the vicarage in which Canon Sampson took up residence as vicar.

The basement of the building had been planned for use as a parish hall, until such time as the debt to synod was cleared; but this was finished by voluntary labour. Canon Sampson bargained for ship's canvas to cover the floor, from the Capital Iron Works, and 6 coats of paint on this, and partitions made of plywood screens, providing accommodation for Sunday School and other parish activities. The vicar was good at scrounging help and other materials, such as loads of wood; for the furnaces of both church and vicarage were not burning oil till some time later. Often, he was found up a ladder with hammer and nails, at work on the basement project.

Canon and Mrs. Sampson went forward with a wonderful joy and zest; their faith and fortitude, under circumstances which were far from easy, did much to develop and nurture the parish.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. J. Caesar

The time is now 1952 and Mr. Willis has gone to Duncan, the vicarage is completed and Canon Sampson has become the new incumbent of the parish, and the first resident of the vicarage. Those of us who have come to the parish after his incumbency here have heard nothing but the most genuine praise for he and his wife.

Now that the parish had accomplished getting a rectory, they turned themselves to the third big project in this twenty-five-year span. This time it was to build a church hall.

Volunteer labour once more became a real asset to completing a successful project. Mr. Elmer Wolfe was the chief carpenter, while Ed Whittaker, Gordon Mortimer and Fred Mills did the concrete work. Harold Newton and Axel Hansen did the electrical work.

The kitchen cabinets were built by Mr. J. Teasdale who also executed the interior finishing.

St. John's Parish Hall

Some reflections regarding St. John's Hall might be of interest, such as when it was built and how it came into being.

It all happened during Canon R.K. Sampson's ministry in the Parish; he saw the need for a hall and set about putting his idea into effect.

A building committee was formed, plans obtained and estimates figured out. This was all quite straightforward and parishioners who were called upon gave freely of their time and knowledge; eventually the all important question arose, "What are we going to use for money?" This was no problem in Canon Sampson's view - due to his personality and knowledge of such things, funds were soon forthcoming from parishioners in gifts and loans. A loan from Synod Office was arranged, our Church envelope had a section marked "Hall Loan" and the project was on its way, partially financed and the rest of it on Faith which our leader had in abundance and radiated to others who might have had doubts.

One of the parishioners, Elmer Wolfe, undertook to do the carpentry work at a very reasonable rate, making use of all available voluntary help.

It was not long before the Canon had hustled cement, gravel was delivered and excavating was done, so footings were poured promptly all at negligible cost. Soon the basement forms were ready and with two mixers working, concrete was poured in quick time, there being over 25 volunteers on the job.

From then on the building advanced steadily; an extra man was employed to assist with such items as rafters, but construction was almost entirely done by one paid carpenter. A lot of material was donated, also free use of equipment, discounts were allowed by businessmen, likewise time and talents were freely given, all these services of goodwill having been tactfully tapped and co-ordinated by our Vicar, who despite his disabilities was in there doing whatever he could, especially interior painting.

Finally the whole undertaking was completed and long since all financial commitments in connection with it have been discharged. The hall, which is in regular use, fully justifies the effort that went into its construction, and while parishioners may look upon it with some pride, let us not forget that the late Canon Sampson was the leader to whom we owe the success of the project which was officially opened December 6th, 1956.

The W.A. made the curtains for the windows. A dinner was held in the New Year to celebrate the opening of the hall.

St. John's Communion Rail

The Altar Rail of St. John's Church which blends so nicely with the other appointments was not part of the original construction, as many of our parishioners will recollect. A small plaque mounted on it which reads, "This Communion Rail and Reredos was

erected to the Glory of God and in memory of Violet Rachel Sampson, called to higher service December 15, 1955", explains how it is that we have this attractive piece of church furnishing.

At a Vestry meeting in February, 1956, a desire to do something in memory of the late Mrs. Sampson was expressed, and after several successive meetings, a fund for this purpose was started.

Under Canon Sampson's guidance, a decision was made to have the memorial in the form of a new Communion Rail, the next consideration being that of design and material; meanwhile parishioners were stanchly supporting the Memorial Fund. Oak lumber, although expensive, was favoured as the most suitable material, so what else but a visit to "Capital Iron" in Victoria? It happened that this firm had on hand sundry items from one of the C.P.R. vessels that had undergone re-furnishing and alterations. Included in their stock was a quantity of oak which our late Vicar astutely appraised and grabbed with gusto on the "lay away basis". This was to give him time to arrange for transporting the material and to acquire the services of Mr. T. Morgan of Shawnigan district to do the work. With a craftsman assured, he enlisted the services of Bob Marrs who was then still a school-boy, and on a Saturday they went to Victoria where Bob sawed the lumber into suitable lengths and loaded it on, round and about "the Canon's trusty old Plymouth" and they transported it home (without any observance of today's "Wide Load" regulations).

Then with this well-seasoned oak lumber on hand, an accomplished tradesman produced the nicely-designed Altar Rail, so much a part of our Church and so fittingly dedicated.

Fortunately, there was some surplus lumber, and amazingly, some surplus funds, so rebuilding the pulpit was suggested. Mr. Morgan agreed to do this and even supplied some oak lumber to augment what we had and accordingly we acquired a new pulpit. At a later date, the present Lectern was added as a private memorial to James Gordon Forrest: the same builder was commissioned to do this so similar material and decor was maintained in all these pieces.

The next six years leading up to the seventy-fifth anniversary saw Canon Sampson leave.

The new incumbent was the Reverend Mr. S.H.F. Jarvis, who took over in 1957. Maintenance and finishing projects seemed to be the work that had to be looked after when the funds and time could be spared. The bedroom upstairs in the rectory was one of these; the church spire was also painted

The honour roll at the back of the church was painted with gold paint by two ladies called the "Miss F's" (Miss H.V. Foster and Miss Fraser).

In 1959, three-year fire insurance policies could be purchased. The three buildings now owned by the church cost \$365.00 for coverage of \$8,500.00 on the church, \$12,500.00

on the hall and \$13,500.00 on the vicarage. Contents and public liability were not covered by this insurance.

The Christmas Eve services were begun in 1959. The Boy Scouts met at the church hall. A church choir under Mr. Snape was active at this time.

A church notice board made a first appearance, this one being painted by Mr. W. Hart. The church property boundaries were surveyed and marked and a piece of property in front was given by Mr. & Mrs. Scrivner. Mr. & Mrs. Snape gave a Bible with large print to the church. It had been brought from England.

The old pump organ was replaced by the present Hammond electric organ. Its price was \$1,785.00, costing the church a little less as they were able to trade the old organ.

STATEMENT

Sept 12th 1938

At St. John's church.

In ap with D.H. ALEXANDER

COBBLE LIFE

TERMS

B.C.

100 lin ft	2 x 4.		95
10 lin ft	2 x 8		30
32 "	2 x 10		50
45 lin ft	water table		75
38 ft.	2 x 8 jamb		2 00
38 ft	2 x 6 jamb		1 50
10 ft	2 x 6 door sill		70
28 ft.	2 x 5 window stool		85
68 ft.	1 x 6 DD		1 15
machine sawing.	42 ft 2 x 6		50
"	frame for lights		1 00
"	battens for ceiling		75
"	2 x 2 for shingles on walls		50
"	capping collar ties		75
outside casings	10 ft		50
inside casings	10 ft		1 25
building up window frames			2 00
		\$	17 95

This quarter was a busy and fruitful one for St. John's, and there was an enormous amount of volunteer labour that went into it. The physical plant as it generally stands today was now in place. Maybe it is a lesson for those of us who have come after, and we appreciate the tremendous effort that is our legacy.

Photo page 22



OCTOBER 29, 1987

Rev. Barry Wyckham presents Certificates of Service to Ivy Alexander, 64 years, and Molly Blake, 63 years. Peggy Oke, Diocesan President, witnesses the event. Submitted by W. Horton

St. John the Baptist Church

1963-1987

THE PARISH - TO THE ONE HUNDREDTH

This twenty-five year era in the history of St. John the Baptist Church foresaw the parish putting in many refinements and instituting some changes. They began in the seventy-fifth anniversary year, when Mr. Jarvis asked Mr. Snape to replan the St. John's Cemetery to conform to the legal requirements governing church cemeteries.

New names started to appear in accounts of the various activities that took place. Along with these new parishioners, some second generation families were carrying on the legacy of their parents. Mr. I.A.V. Tremblay, a hard worker for the church, was first mentioned when he, with the help of Mr. Fred Tomlinson, built the present cupboards in the vestry. The second generation Hortons are referred to as well, by their contributions to projects that required heavy equipment to get the jobs done. Mr. Bill Clarke also gave a hand with some carpentry, and his wife Amy was a longtime member of the Women's Auxiliary as it was then known.

It is interesting to see that the activities that we parishioners are carrying out at this time were also the same ones performed by our forebears.

There are two more parishioners that are noted as having given faithful service to their God: one being Mrs. C. Fitt, who lived in the Rosebank cottages, Mill Bay, and who had produced the pew leaflets, newsletters and notices for many years; the other being Mr. R.C. Naylor, who audited the books for a long time. Their congregations extended grateful thanks to them for their services.

In 1964 the incumbent Mr. Jarvis was appointed Chaplain to Brentwood College Chapel in Mill Bay. The boys' school, which had burned down at Brentwood Bay, had relocated to the Queen Alexandra Solarium, which had been vacated. The Brentwood College management felt that it offered a suitable alternate site. The succeeding rectors at St. John's continued with this chaplaincy into the 1970's.

In 1965 Mr. Jarvis left and was succeeded by the Reverend Mr. Peter Harris. Mr. & Mrs. Harris had a good background of music and drama, having been on the professional stage. During Mr. Harris' incumbency, the Sunday School and youth groups flourished. Mrs. Goldie Yasinski was an active leader for the Junior Auxiliary for quite a few years, and was also envelope secretary. Most unfortunately for St. John's, Mr. Harris died suddenly in 1968. The stained glass window at the back of the church was given in his memory by his family.

During his incumbency, an evening W.A. was formed under the presidency of Mrs. Vivian Fraser. Some of the accomplishments credited to this group were covered kneelers, carpet in the chancel, stove in the kitchen and kitchen equipment. They sponsored the G.A.'s from 1962 on.

They helped the afternoon W.A. with the Christmas Bazaar. They gave financial help for gowns for Junior Choir, trained by Mrs. Jeffrey. Some years before, there had been an adult choir. In 1968, too, that part of the cemetery that had not been dedicated and was not incorporated within the cemetery was dedicated in a service by Bishop Sexton.

For a while, the parish was without a rector until the position was filled by the Reverend Cecil Day, who was very good with the boys of the congregation. When he arrived he had one adopted son, Ivor, and was able to adopt Ivor's brother, Will, while at St. John's. Mr. Day was with us for only a short time, leaving to go to Cliffside Preparatory School. From there, he became a boys' counselor with the Burnaby School District until he died of a heart attack.

Once more without a rector, we were supplied from Victoria with a Mr.

Edmonds, a dedicated lay reader, and Canon Howell. In September, 1969, the Reverend R.H. Howson came to stay with us for ten years. He and Mrs. Howson lived in their travel trailer until the rectory was repainted. They lived in the rectory for a few years, and then they bought their own home in the area.

In this year a memorial fund was established at St. John's. Funds from memorials are used to make purchases for the needs of the church. For instance, the first purchase made was the candle snuffer now being used.

As far as we can ascertain, 1970 saw the publishing of the first paper. It was called "The Gazette" and was published about ten times a year. Mrs.

Margaret Haley was in charge of the publishing of the material gathered from the news of the parish. Mrs. Haley was the organist at this time and she directed the Junior Choir.

St. John's Junior Choir

The Junior Choir of St. John's, Cobble Hill (under the direction of Mrs. M. Haley) consists of twelve to fourteen members from ages nine to fifteen. The Choir meets in the Church every Monday for practice. As well as Church music, the choir is learning modern music. Anthems have been sung at the morning service and during the communion.

Each member of the choir has his or her own fitted choir gown. The Junior Auxiliary bought the material and the parents paid for making the robes. During the communion, and after the choir has received a blessing, two of the boys act as sidesmen when the communicants approach the Alter. Some of the senior members, that is with two years' service, wear choir crosses. After three years' service, the blue ribbon will be changed for red. The behaviour of choir members is expected to be of a high standard at church and also at home.

(Contributed by Cicely Ovans, a senior member)

A big maintenance program was carried out at St. John's parish hall in 1972. It was all repainted, some tables and chairs were purchased. Two other refinements were carried out at this time. The first was the repositioning of the Altar, from the traditional place against the wall to a position far enough out to enable the clergy to walk behind the altar.

The second project was the water supply at the church and the rectory, to this time provided by rain from the roof. It was directed into a large concrete tank in the hall basement. As it was an open-topped tank, it was subject to pollution. A fund-raising effort was begun and a graph in the form of a thermometer was placed on the back wall of the church, so that the congregation could see how the fund was progressing. By 1973 the project was able to begin, a location was decided upon, and the drilling commenced. The well is one hundred and sixty feet in depth.

The Well

It is expected that drilling for water will be done in the very near future. A family of the congregation has made five hundred dollars available for this purpose, and contributions have been made by many of the church family. If you have not given your contribution, will you do so soon. We will lay water to the hall and to the Church vestry, and later to the Rectory. As you are aware, drinking water must be carried for all parish functions, and this responsibility is left to a few. There is no doubt if the cistern below the hall came under inspection, it would be the end of all parish hall activities.

The good news is that the well is now in operation. It is hooked up to the parish Hall. There is good pressure. Also



A.C.W. TEA AND BAKE SALE

Isabelle Flower, Sandra Buchanan, Marion Ovans, Jessie Barber, Pat Boyle, Marjorie Davies, Judy Bailey, Marjorie Gillingham, Nancy Laidlaw Missing: Marion Holmes, Pat Thornton; Jean Haddow (Below) In Background: Dick Lewington, Mavis Jackson, Betty Thomas



Photo page 26

the pipe is laid to the Church and as soon as it can be done, a tap and sink will be installed in the vestry. This will be of infinite value to the Altar Guild in the cleansing of the Eucharistic vessels, and the availability of water for flowers, etc. A stand pipe and tap is provided for the cemetery. Also a stand pipe at the well head which can be used for watering the garden, etc. at the Rectory. Installation of water in the Rectory will be done before long.

It is wonderful to have water laid on' and this relieves the faithful few from carrying drinking water to the hall and church for parish functions.

The well project was made possible by the gift of \$500 by a family of the Church, which was followed up by the contributions of so many of the parishioners, and some very liberally indeed. All that remains to be said is 'thank you' to all who have given money, time and interest.

AND NOW

Good support of the AUCTION to be held on April 27th will see the renovations made to the hall kitchen. When this project is completed, we will think of something else.

(Taken from the Parish Gazette)

As usual, we get finished with one project and the first thing that we know, there is another one presenting itself. This time - what are we going to do about the hall kitchen? The old kitchen was located where the nursery is now, and had become too small for us to adequately cater to our needs. As well, there was the problem of congestion around entrances and also disposal problems. Many plans were made, discarded, changed, before a set were finally approved. The women of the parish were very vocal in these planning sessions, making known their needs and concerns in order to have an adequate and working facility.

While all this was taking place, the parish was busy with money-raising events of many varieties, which helped the kitchen fund to grow. The most spectacular of these events was a big well-planned auction sale. Antiques appeared out of the woodwork, as this was in the days before the boom in auctions and garage sales. The A.C.W. and parishioners were generous in their gifts by donations throughout the period.

After five years, now 1978, the order - "Proceed with the Kitchen!"

- was given. The men of the parish gave generously of their time, and the cupboards and counters were constructed by John Andrist of Cobble Hill. At this time too, we were fortunate in being able to purchase a second-



SEEN HERE with their instructor, Vince Brookbank, are, left to right: Leslie Lord, Barbara Horton, Clara Dunbar and Sheila Bell who each received 95 per cent in the junior first aid course for 10 and 11-year-olds sponsored by the Junior Auxiliary to St. John's Church, Cobble Hill. Nine other girls also took part in the course, their

marks ranging from 88 to 93 per cent for the six-week course that totalled nine hours of instruction. J.A. first aid badges were received by all the girls. Others taking the course were Jeannie Bennett, Cheryl Crothers, Jennie Lord, Gail Withkinson, Leslie Pears, Mary Jean Wilson, Allaine Mackenzie and Lorna Sanderson.—Leader photo.

SEEN HERE with their instructor, Vince Brookbank, are, left to right: Leslie Lord, Barbara Horton, Clara Dunbar and Sheila Bell who each received 95 percent in the junior first aid course for 10 and 11-year-olds sponsored by the Junior Auxiliary to St. John's Church, Cobble Hill. Nine other girls also took part in the course, their marks ranging from 88 to 93 percent for the six-week course that totaled nine hours of instruction. J.A. first aid badges were received by all the girls. Others taking the course were Jeannie Bennett, Cheryl Crothers, Jennie Lord, Gail Withkinson; Leslie Pears, Mary Jean Wilson, Allaine Mackenzie and Lorna Sanderson. —Leader photo.

PROGRAMME

VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT

COBBLE HILL HALL FRIDAY APRIL 22nd 1938
IN AID OF ST'JOHNS CHURCH BUILDING FUND

(1) Piano Duet: "Selections" Mrs, Van Der Heyden and
Mrs. Holden

(2) Banjo Selections " Dixie Melody " Mr, M, Bruce

(3) "Recitations" Mrs, F. Oldham

A. - What the Chimney Sang--Bret Harts

B. - The Raggedy Man -- J. M. Riley

(4) Vocal Solos, - Mrs, MacIntosh

A. - " Selected " G. Puccinni }
B. - " Love Came in at the Door" } By Liebling from
Madame Butterfly

(5) Recitations - A. de C. Denny

INTERVAL

(6) Duologue - " A Game for Two " - Mr, and
Mrs, H. G. Grainger.

(7) Three Dance Numbers

1 - Tap -- Mary, Pollock

2 - Tap -- Miss, P. Carr - Hilton

3 - Tap -- Billy, Best

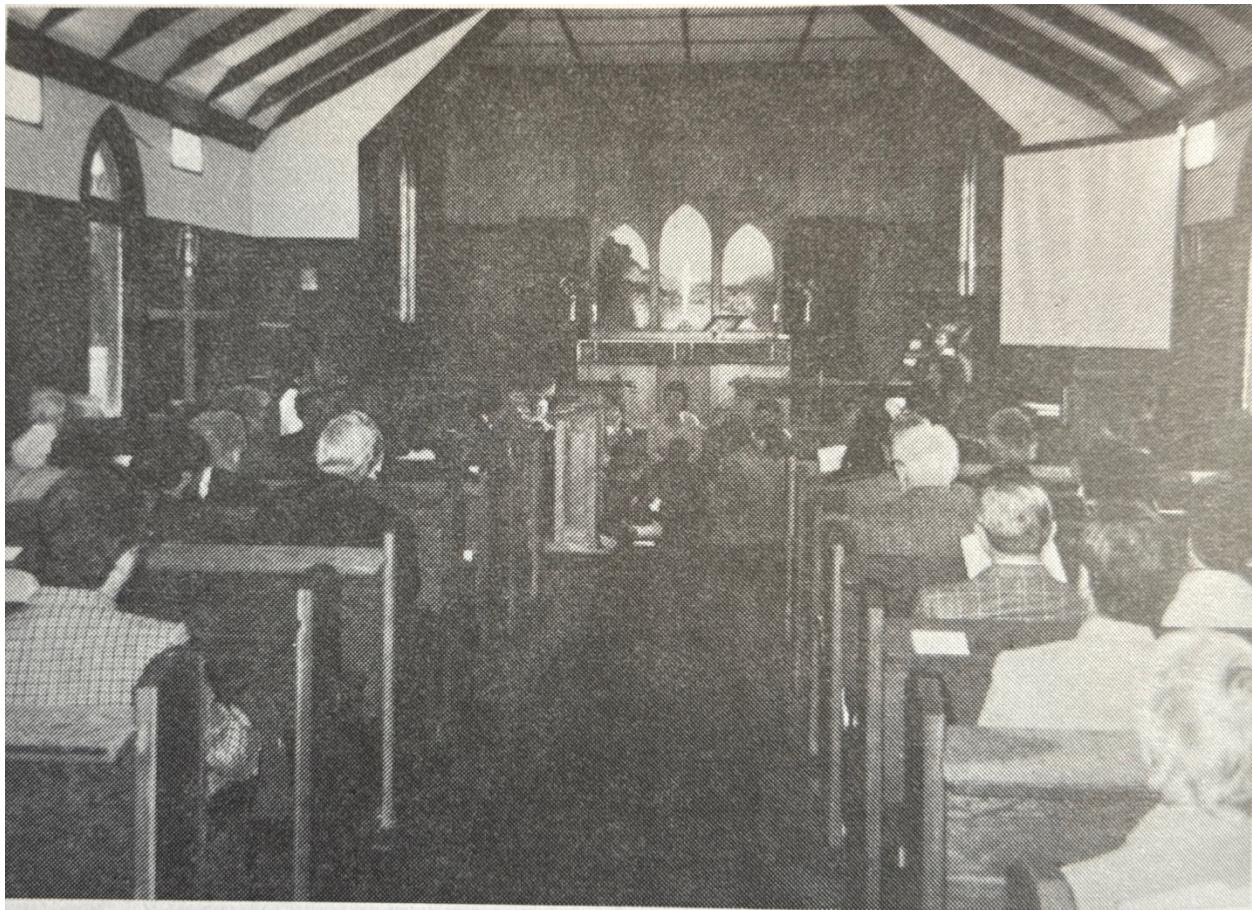
(8) Banjo Solo -- Mr. Roy. Tucker

(9) Conjuring -- Mr. L. Hamilton

(10)

GOD SAVE THE KING

Photo page 30



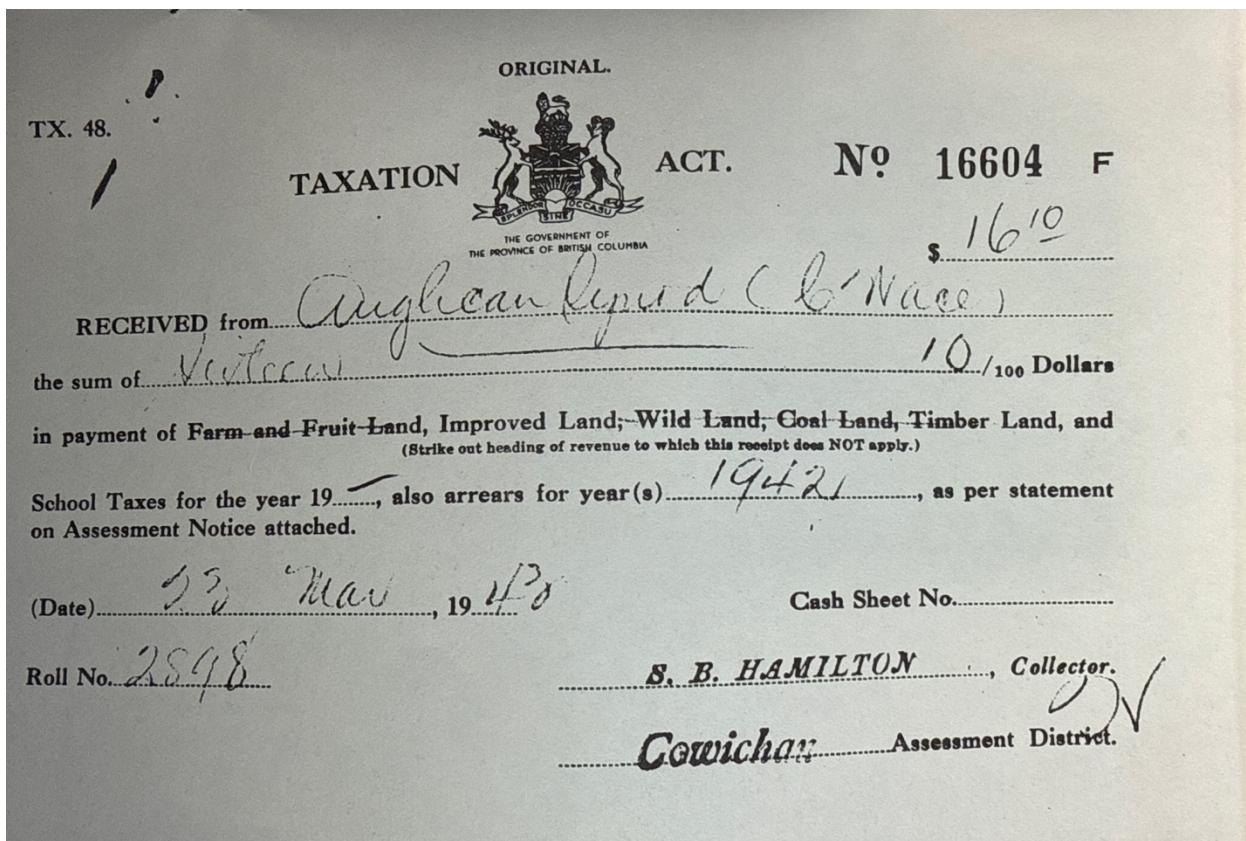
Children's Focus with Joanna Weston

(below) "POT LUCK" LUNCHEON

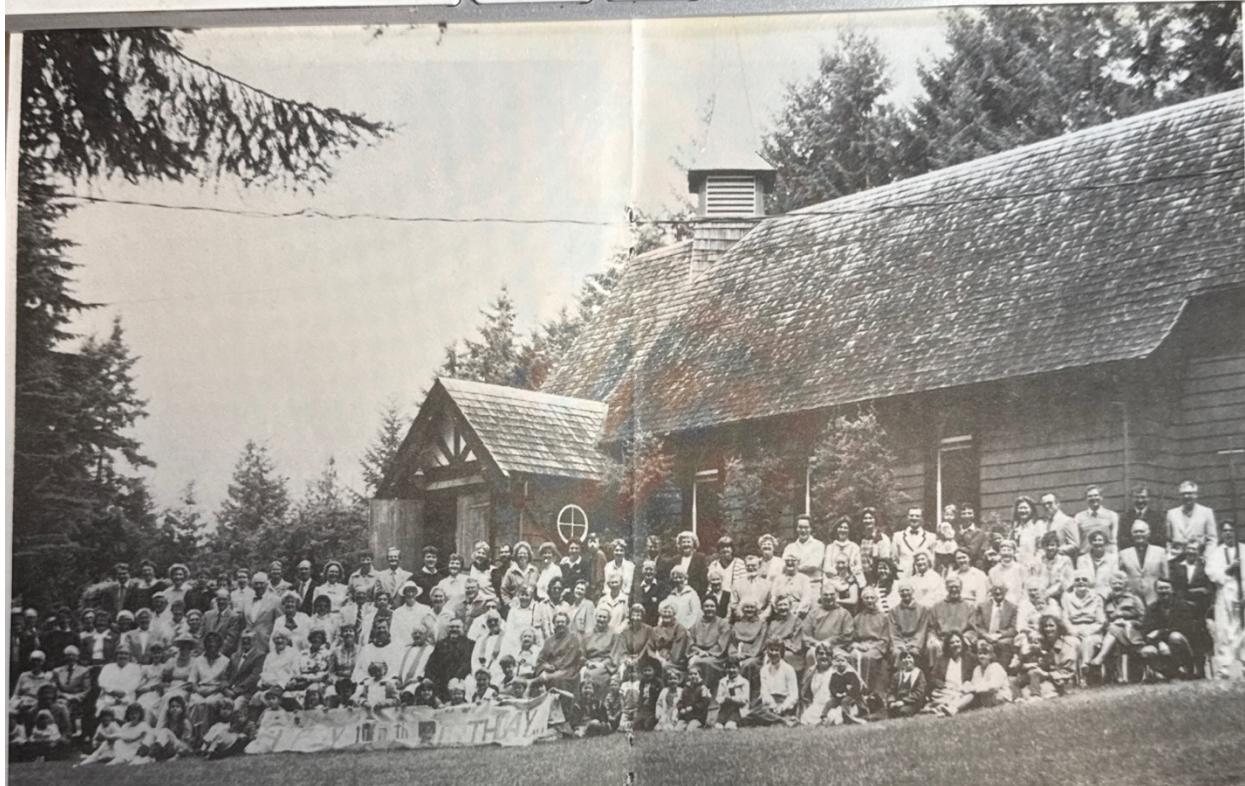


Photo page 30

Photo page 31



Photos pages 32-33



SUNDAY, JUNE 21st, 1987

Congregation at Centennial Service. Bishop Tom Frame, celebrant, Reverends Barry Wyckham, Lou Thornton and Harry Howson,

Photo page 34

D24V-50M-4-38-11339

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2		Only Gels. Tan Brown #472~			3.60	gal	7.20	
1		Only Gal. Turpentine			.79	ea	.79	
1		Only Gal. boiled Linseed oil			1.33	gal	1.33	
1		Only Paint Brush 3" Teal			9.81	dz	.82	
								17.74

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Photo page 35



11:00 A.M. SERVICE - CHOIR

Back Row: Peter Waldin, Charles Phillips, Sam Smith, Bill Steele
Middle Row: Romey Pringle, Christine Tanner, Carol Smith, Jessie Barber
Front Row: Ethel Heans, Connie Lewington (Organist), Janet Farris



9:15 A.M. SERVICE, CHORAL MUSICIANS

Janice Young, Irene Buck, Robert Weston, Mary Moore

Photo page 35



Photo page 36

The Rev. Harry Howson presenting a silver tray to Don and Mabel Marrs, oldtime parishioners, on the occasion of their leaving St. John's Parish.
February 11, 1977.

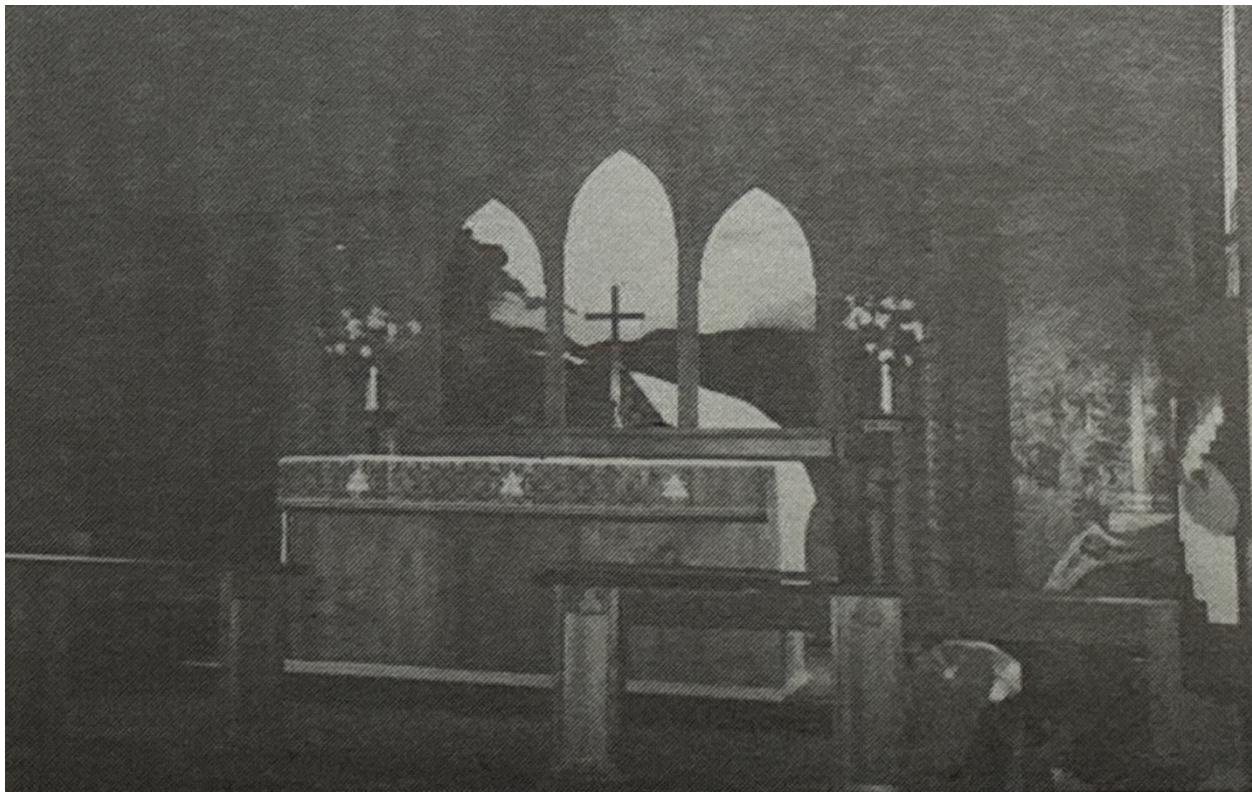
Photo page 37



CONFIRMATION GROUP - MAY 2nd, 1971

Rev. Horace McClelland, Bishop Gartrell, Rev. Harry Howson, Three Shawnigan Lake School Boys, Robert Hutchins, Eric Knoll, Ken Horton, Janet Knoll, Barbara Bradbury, Kathryn Knowles, Sharon Sakowsky, ?

Photo page 37



The church altar with reredos painted by Mary Moore during centennial year
Photo page 38



ALL STEAMED UP about new kitchen facilities building committee members Gooff Ovans, Jen missing from photo Is Winifred Horton. St. John's Anglican Church In Cobble

Hill are Farris and Marion Ovans. Committee member celebration dinner was held Friday to mark completion.

Photo page 39



"STRAWBERRY TEA" AT MRS. NAYLOR'S HOME

Molly Blake, Connie Lewington, Alice Naylor

Photo page 39



MOTHERS' UNION MEETING AT MRS. NAYLOR'S, JUNE 1987 Shirley Thompson, Win Horton, Vivian Fraser, Liezel Marza, Molly Blake, Ivy Uzzell, Connie Lewington, Jean Gorgensen, Alice Naylor

39

Page 40 carries on from page 27

hand steam table. That item has been a very useful addition to the kitchen equipment, along with a commercial type cookstove. The project was completed to the point of being able to put the kitchen to good use, and we did so early in 1979 when we had a big opening dinner to celebrate.

The women of the parish were very excited about the advantages of the new facility. Other needs of the parish were not neglected during the previous five-year period. Things like repainting the rectory and the church, re-roofing the church; a new septic field was installed for the hall as were gutters, insulation and fluorescent lights. New rugs were installed in the church.

The cemetery also was being given a long-term updating. Mr. Cyril Giesen headed a cemetery committee, which had many meetings and they put in many hours of work on

the cemetery. It took a long time to accomplish all that they had to do, but the results of their efforts show.

After the major kitchen project was completed, 1979 became another turning point for the parish. The Reverend Harry Howson, who had been the rector for ten years, retired and moved to Victoria. Under the prodding of the Diocese, St. John's parish was amalgamated with the parish of St. Andrew's, Cowichan Station. It had been part of the two-church parish of St. Peter's, Quamichan. This became one very large (area parish which was to be self-supporting. The Reverend L. Thornton became the new rector, with the responsibility of making a coherent parish. This was an uphill task at which Lou worked very hard for two years, and then became the chaplain of Brentwood College in Mill Bay. During this time, there were some changes made for Sunday services in order to accommodate both congregations. The Reverend George Rogers became our new rector after Lou left. After some years of being rented, the rectory needed renovating in order to house George, his wife Bonnie and their son Sean. At this time, the enlarged parish planned the first September Festival, which was planned to be an annual affair. All the parish organizations were asked to participate in this one, big money-raising event. One of the highlights of the festival is a dinner that is served on the night before the Festival opens, and again on the next night after the outdoor activities are finished. The dinner is as stylish as we can appropriately make it in a church hall and we have an entertainment after the meal. It is advertised as a dinner and cabaret, and judging by the way our tickets disappear without any advertising, we feel it is a successful event. The parish has been very co-operative and we have found lots of fun and good fellowship in putting on our 'September Festival'. In this period of time a group formed, calling themselves the 'Good Companions'. Their double goal was to put on entertainments for the parish and also to raise money when they could. They do the cabaret at the 'September Festival' and have also given us some memorable spring concerts; the tickets for these never go begging.

At this time our hard-working cemetery chairman, Mr. Cyril Giesen, after years of painstaking work to get the cemetery in order, passed his duties along to Mr. Alan Soulsby, who also rendered his duties in a dedicated way during his time with the cemetery work.

George Rogers and family left us in January 1986 to go to a parish in South Vancouver. Once again the parish was without a regular appointed rector for a period of five months whilst the Selection Committee held meetings with Bishop Ronald Sheppard to appoint a successor. The Reverend Dick Stephenson was appointed by the Bishop as interregnum rector, and with the capable assistance of the Reverend Vic Mann who had assisted George Rogers during 1985, the Reverend Lou Thornton and the Reverend Horace McClelland of Shawnigan Lake School, the care of the parish was well administered. By early summer, the replacement for George had arrived. The Reverend

Barry Wyckham and his wife Kay and their children came to live among us. Barry, not a complete stranger, had just finished his theological training. One summer between university sessions, Barry had worked in our parish in the Shawnigan Lake area doing a survey for the church.

We've had two services pertaining to Barry that were gratifying for us.

First was his induction service with many clergy and representatives from without the parish. A few months later, there was another service, this time ordaining Barry as a priest, when once more the church was bulging at the seams and it was very nice to have the service in the church in which Barry is serving, and where many more of his parishioners were able to be present. Our services have become more attuned to the times—one course that has been taken is to begin a family service which is held between the 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. It did not take very long before it was filling the church, and there were a lot of children being brought to church with their parents. It is proving to be a very popular service; parishioners attending it vary in age from very young to senior citizens.

This service uses the Book of Alternative Services.

The year of 1986 saw Mr. Read Salmon give up his envelope secretary position, which he had handled for over ten years. Mr. Salmon had refined the work of keeping the records for the envelope secretary. Mr. Glen

Jones is the new envelope secretary.

The year of our one hundredth anniversary witnessed the division of the congregations of St. John's together with Shawnigan Lake area; and St. Andrew's, Cowichan Station becoming a separate self-supporting congregation. St. John's is still a large parish in numbers as well as in area.

After one hundred years of spiritual activities in and outside the walls of the churches, the congregations have been making contributions to their friends and neighbours whatever the need. At this time the congregation has grown dramatically, to the point where we have three services every Sunday. Each one of these congregations has grown in number in themselves.

Mary Moore painted the three panels that were installed in the reredos behind the altar. A beautiful new wedding kneeler was given by the A.C.W.; and the hours of petit point work on its cover was executed by Mrs. Anne Buburuz. Another complete coat of paint was given to the church and the hall. The renovations in the cemetery completed two years previously have given the whole plant a loved and cared-for look.

So much for all the physical history of our church, which always seems to be recorded much better than the spiritual history.

LUKE 4:18

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach

deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.

In the past few years there has been progress in this category as well.

A few years ago the Diocese instituted an educational program; that is, two years of study, that may be taken in more years if need be. Some of our parishioners have taken this course. There have been study groups and workshops on church history and Christian living, etc., to promote our knowledge of the church's mission. Lately there has been an active and helpful worship committee.

The workload that our rectors have been called upon to do has been increasing every year. This centennial year has seen us become more aware of the people around us. It is physically seen in the baskets for food hampers at each service. The last two years have seen a thriving Sunday School become part of our worship service. It is with thanks that some of these young people are in the age where one seldom sees that much participation. There is an increase in the young people who have become servers.

Late in 1986 a choir was established with about ten members, and it is being directed by our organist, Connie Lewington. The choir has performed a few times around the district — at Acacia Lodge and in the carol concert in Cobble Hill for two Christmases now.

In June we had a parish dinner and celebration services to commemorate our one hundred years. September found us at our September Festival in a centennial celebration mood. Our Christmas services, all of them, were well attended, and there was a joint service two days later on Christmas I, a suitable crowning touch to a busy year.

On New Year's Eve, the annual party was held, where we said good. bye to the Centennial Year and then looked forward to our next one hundred years and, down the road, a bicentennial.

We have had our times, since becoming a self-supporting parish, to make ends meet, but somehow we all get our shoulders to the wheel and make an extra effort - all with God's help and the knowledge that all the parishioners that have come before us, also had to do the same.

CENTENARY HYMN

This day, O Lord, we gratefully share Our thankfulness and praise;
For all Thy guidance through the years, Joined voices now we raise.
Within these walls so firm and strong
Our worthy forbears came, To offer gratitude and prayer And sanctify Thy name.
Of time a century has passed
Since this Thine house took shape;
To welcome one and all herein;
'Mid this serene landscape.

And as we gather in Thy sight, Past thoughts we recollect Of treasured memories
so dear In pensive retrospect.
So let us each and every one
Assembled here today,
Find inspiration, grace and love
As we journey on life's way.

(Presented to our organist by Margaret Dillabaugh, who brought it back from a
little country church on the Yorkshire/Derbyshire border in England.)
(The Hymn is sung to the tune of O God Our Help In Ages Past.)

ST. JOHN'S RECTORS

1887 - 1907 J. Nightingale - Lay Reader

Donor of land for church, etc.

Rev. Winchester

1907 - 1911 Rev. F. G. Christmas

1911 - 1917 Rev. G. Aitken

1917 - 1919 Rev. J. S. A. Bastin

1919 - 1920 Rev. J. H. Holman

1921 Rev. A. L. Nixon

1921 - 1925 Rev. W. J. Crewe

1925 - 1928 Mr. R. E. Walford - Groswold

1928 - 1936 Rev. W. E. Cockshutt

1936 - 1951 Rev. E. M. Ellis

1952 - 1957 Canon R. K. Sampson

1957 - 1965 Rev. S. F. Jarvis

1965 - 1968 Rev. P. J. Harris

1968 - 1969 Rev. C. R. Day

1969 - 1979 Rev. R. H. Howson

1979 - 1981 Rev. L. C. Thornton

1981 - 1986 Rev. G. H. Rogers — Assistant: Rev. V. Mann – 1985-1986

1986 Rev. R. B. Wyckham

Photo page 45



MOTHERS' UNION - 1959

Molly Blake, rear row second from right; Les Horton's mother, wearing hat, seated on left. Sitting on floor with children, centre, are: Vivian Fraser, Ivy Uzzell, Winnie Horton, Winnie's mother.

Photo page 45



ST. JOHN'S SERVERS

Rev. Barry Wyckham

Sarah Buck, Christopher Wyckham, Paul Smith, Jon Weston, (left to right).

Absent: Elizabeth Hargreaves

SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS

No records before 1965.

1965 - 1967 Mrs. Harris

1967 - 1971

Mrs. W. Horton

1971 - 1972

W. Horton, Mrs. Leister, Marion Knoll, Mrs. Kirk, Mrs. McAlpine

1973 - 1974

Mrs. Kirk and Helpers

1975 - 1977

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Walker and Marion Knoll

1978

Joan Doran, Louise McAlpine, Jan Ovans

1980

Peter Holmes took over with Martin & Irene Buck

1981 - 1982

Dennis and Susan Bell

1983

Liz Cowlard

1984 - 1987 Elaine Nessman

ORGANISTS

Circa 1930's and onward:

Mrs. Dora Wilkinson, Mrs. Fawdrey, Mrs. Wace, Paul Michelin, Reg Pearson, J. Snape, Mrs. Goode.

Since 1966:

Mrs. C. Blake, Mrs. M. Haley, Mrs. D. Dash, Miss Clunas, Connie Lewington, Hugh Davies.

CHOIRS

Mrs. Jeffrey (1962), Margaret Haley (circa 1968), Connie Lewington (1987)

MEMORIALS AT ST. JOHN'S

Communion Rail

This Communion Rail and Reredos Was Erected

To the Glory of God And In Loving Memory Of Violet Rachel Sampson

Called to Higher Service December 16th, 1955

Credence Table

Erected by Members of All Saints W. A.

In Grateful Memory of Violet Rachel Sampson

Called to Higher Service December 16th, 1955

Bishop's Chair

In Memory Of

Norman H. Johnston

Mill Bay, B.C.

From His Wife Olive & Son Donald 1979

Tablet

This Tablet in St. John's Church

In Memory Of

Clare LeMarchant Wace

Formerly of Winchester England

A Resident of the Parish for 27 Years

Born March 24th 1878, Died Nov. 27th, 1950

In Memory Of Cyril Wace F.R.C.S.
Founder of the Queen Alexandra Solarium
With The Help Of The Women's Institute Of B.C.
Born July 1887, Died April 3rd, 1966

Plaque

In Appreciation For The Dedicated and Devoted Service by
REV. R. H. HOWSON
To The Church of St. John's
1969 - 1979

Plaque

In Appreciation for The Dedicated and Devoted Service by
REV. R. H. HOWSON
To the Church of St. John's
1969 - 1979

Plaque

To the Memory of John Nightingale
Born 25th of December 1851. Died 1st April, 1909
Who erected this Church to the Glory of God and served it as lay reader for 20 years. In
recognition of a noble example of a Christian life devoted to the Service of God and his
fellow men.

This tablet is placed here by the Synod of the Diocese of British Columbia.

Window in Chancel

To the Glory of God and In Memory Of Dora F. Wilkinson
This Window Has Been Placed by Some Of Her Friends

Bible

This Bible Is Presented to
The Church of St. John the Baptist Cobble Hill, British Columbia by the Good Companions
in Loving Memory of
WALTER HARRY JACKSON
It is Dedicated to The Glory of God and The Use Of This Congregation

Plaque

In Memory Of
Eustie Clifford Nightingale
A Good and Faithful Servant
Born October 30th, 1876. Died January 28th, 1940

Reading Desk

In Memory Of
James Gordon Forrest
Plaque
In Loving Memory Of
Minna Gildea
Founder and Head of
Strathcona Lodge School 1927-50
Daughter of Canon and Mrs. Gildea, Upwey, Dorset
Vincit Qui Patitur

Brass Communion Plate

In Memory Of
A. E. Harrison

Amplifier

To the Glory of God And In Loving Memory Of
Lavonne Phillips, Harry Mincher, Jessie M. Marshall

Prayer Desk

In Memory Of
Katherine Booth Aldham
1881 -1950

Plaque

In Memory Of Arthur Nightingale
Who Gave So Many Years Of Faithful Service To This Church
To The Glory Of God And In Loving Memory Of
Hope W. Wilkinson
A. C. W.
1894 - 1985

Plaque

To the Glory of God and In Dear Memory Of
Major Francis Edward Glossop
The Leicestershire Regiment Died December 11th, 1931
Aged 65 Years Thy Will Be Done
This Window Is Placed Here by His Wife

Window

To the Glory Of God In Loving Memory Of
Reverend Peter Gabel Harris

Book of Alternate Services

These books are presented to The Anglican Church of
St. John the Baptist, Cobble Hill by parishioners who purchased a book.

Brass Lectern

To the Glory Of God and in memory of
Dora Frances Wilkinson
Ob. Nov. 20th 1929



LITTLE HELPERS GROUP – 1953 Photo page 51

Showing: Cannon Sampson, Mrs. Jean Nicks - Leader, Mrs. Gerry Caesar - Former Leader, Mrs. Askham - Women's Auxiliary President, Muriel Newell
In the Pews: Doris Soulsby, Doris Liggett, Dorothy Waldin, Edith Larsen, Everlyn Parry, Winnifred Horton, Vivian Fraser

Gerry Caesar Memorial

Lord let me feed your lambs
Upon your hillsides good grass.
M. Caesar

This quiet place is in loving memory of Gerry (Mrs. Margery) Caesar
1897 - 1986. Faithful servant of this Church for more than sixty years.

Book

Book of Holy Communion, Canada
(Altar Book)
In Memory of a Beloved Soldier
Brother A.W., April 10, 1963

Siborum

To the Glory of God in memory of
Robert B. Moulton, Obiit. 16 Sept. 1971
Given by his sister Gertrude & Family

Bread Box

To the Glory of God in memory of
Dora Wilkinson, Ob. March 20th, 1929

Concrete Font

To the Glory of God in memory of All Saints Day, 1903
From A. & E.R., Feb. 28th, 1913

Baptismal Water Jug

Let the Little Children Come Unto Me
To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
J. Normal T. Parry, 1903-1964

Plaque

In Memory Of Alfred E. Wheelton
Organist from 1919 to 1939



The Reverend Barry Wyckham with wife Kaye, Christopher and Kimberley.
Photo page 53

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN - A.C.W.

We have no records before September, 1945, of the old Women's Auxiliary — W.A. — which was founded in Canada on April 17th, 1885, and in the Yukon on December 7th, 1904 - but there is no doubt that the ladies were organized at St. John's long before 1945. In 1945 there were many activities. There were G.A. & J.A.s - Little Helpers. Dorcas consisted of actual sewing, whereas nowadays we send money so items can be bought in bulk. The Roadside Stall was a popular and moneymaking affair, everyone taking their turn at working it, and everyone donated garden produce and baking. (It is interesting to note that the meetings opened with bible readings and prayers and closed with the singing of God Save the King and the Doxology.) World Day of Prayer was an annual event, and from 1946 St. John's hosted it every year. Later other churches took it in turns. (In 1946 Mrs. Price resigned after eight years of being secret-ary.)

During those years money was raised by bazaars, rummage sales, talent money, teas, card parties, as well as individual donations. Money was spent on church projects in the Arctic and Korea. Parcels to Britain, local necessities such as paint and linoleum in vicarage, paint for church, weather vane on church, and adding to the fund for the building of the parish hall.

At this time teas, sales, bazaars, etc. had to be held in other halls in the district. Later on the W.A. became the A.C.W. Its methods of raising money didn't change very much. Spending much the same type - the hall needed furnishing, and years later the A.C.W. helped pay for new plumbing in the vicarage, the new kitchen, the stove and fridge in the new kitchen. Other commitments are to the Diocesan A.C.W., Columbia Coast Mission, Caroline Macklen Home. Presently the A.C.W. have a foster child through the Foster Parent Plan and have had the satisfaction of being informed that he has now become independent of our help. We now have another one to help.

MOTHERS' UNION 1923 - 1987

The first Mothers' Union branch in the Cobble Hill area dates back to 1923. Mrs. Ivy Alexander, now of Rose Manor, Victoria, was one of its original members, and for years held the office of enrolling member. Mrs. Alexander tells of attending the meetings on her bicycle.

The earliest record books in our possession are for 1944 when fifteen members, many from Shawnigan Lake, met quarterly in members' homes.

Of names familiar to the Cobble Hill, Mill Bay area are, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Cockshutt, Mrs. S. Gibson, Mrs. Horton Sr., Mrs. Musgrave, Mrs. French, Mrs. May, Mrs. Hollings and Mrs. Wolfe. Members from Shawnigan Lake included Mrs. Page, Mrs. E. Gibson, Mrs. Sutton, Mrs. Maitland, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Williams.

During the war the Mothers' Union answered a call for help from the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, and we started sending children's clothing parcels to the Liverpool Welfare Association. These hand-knitted garments and other articles continued for years until postage made the shipments too expensive, so then cash donations were sent. During the days of rationing and food shortages, we put together a parcel of jellies, spreads, cake mixes, etc., which were used for their Children's Christmas party. It is only within the last ten years that we have relinquished our ties with the Association, as now they are taken care of by the Government.

In 1947 Margaret Bamber arrived in Cobble Hill from Ontario and became enrolling member (president) followed by Mollie Blake.

Every Mothers' Union has a Link - ours with Bognor Regis, West Sussex, and through Mollie Blake's holidays in England and her visits with them, we have enjoyed a very close relationship. Gifts have been exchanged and their members put together a most interesting book called

"Friendship File" telling about themselves and their parish. On one of her visits, Mrs. Blake took a similar booklet to Bognor Regis, with photos and clippings telling of our group and our church.

In the '60s we showed care and concern for the handicapped folk at the Sheltered Workshop, now the Opportunity Centre. We held picnics at the beach and an afternoon of games and party food at our church hall. In latter years, around Christmas, we took sandwiches and cakes to the centre and we all had a party together.

We have supported Camp Columbia with a kitchen shower and an apron and pot-holder "bee" for use at their summer camps.

Looking back - in 1976 Mollie Blake attended the Mothers' Union Centenary Conference in England, and she was chosen as Canada's representative to meet Queen Elizabeth at a reception at St. James Palace.

Ivy Uzzell has been a delegate at three conferences:

July, 1979 in Halifax;
Sept., 1982 in Halifax;
Oct., 1984 in Winnipeg.

Over the years we have been honoured by visits from five Dominion Presidents.

Alice Naylor, Thain Road, a member since 1947, always treats us to a luscious strawberry tea in June, complete with thick cream, sponge cake and other goodies.

We've just had a very special occasion (October 29, 1987) in St. John's Church, when Mollie Blake and Ivy Alexander each received certificates to honour their 63 and 64 years' membership in the Mothers' Union. Mrs. Blake became a member in Hampshire, England, and twenty years later on her arrival in the district joined our branch, and has since held numerous offices. Ivy Alexander is one of our branch's original members, dating back to 1923.

There are four Mothers' Union groups on the Island: Sooke, Courtenay, Quamichan and Cobble Hill. Each year on March 25th, we come together at St. John's Church for Our Lady Day Service. Our Chaplain, the Rev. Barry Wyckham, and the last two years the Right Rev. Ronald Shepherd have celebrated the Eucharist for over fifty members and friends.

During the summer we join with these branches for picnics at Rathetrevor and Sooke. Under Barry's leadership we have taken on visiting and the support to the families of newly-baptized children.

**Submitted by
W. Horton**

Photo page 57



"BANNERS AND THE BISHOP"

A photo taken after the Mother's Union Lady Day Service held recently at St. John's, Cobble Hill. The Rev. Barry Wyckham, Mothers' Union Chaplain, assisted the Rt. Rev. R. Shepherd at the service. Banners presented were from Cobble Hill, Qualicum, the Cathedral, Sooke and Courtenay. Holding the cross is Christopher Wyckham, "server".

We of the Mothers' Union have begun to realize that many parishioners and indeed Anglicans in general don't know much about us, and as that is our fault, we are trying to rectify it.

The Mothers' Union is a loving, caring, sharing organization within the Anglican communion (although any baptized person is welcome), which is specially concerned with all that strengthens and preserves marriage and Christian family life.

Mothers Union was started in England in 1876 by Mary Sumner, a clergy wife who saw a grievous need for support for families and children. It now flourishes in at least 35 countries with close to 500,000 members.

Normal families and the business of living, of worshipping and caring for children are our concern for which we have guidelines, which are the 5 objects of the Mothers' Union.

They are:

1. To uphold Christ's teaching on the nature of marriage and to promote its wider understanding;
2. To encourage parents to bring up their children in the life and faith of the Church;
3. To maintain a world-wide fellowship of Christians, united in prayer, worship and service;
4. To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children;
5. To help those whose family life has met with adversity.

At the personal level of their own marriages, members can draw strengths from the support they gain from their fellowship with each other. While in a world beset by destructive elements, members can offer the positive faith and practical efforts of a Christian organization.

The Central Council of the world-wide Mothers' Union is in England, with an autonomous council in each country and a Diocesan council in each diocese. Where Mothers Union exists. No branch may be formed without the support of the Parish Priest but we generally find that when there is a Mothers' Union the incumbent is enthusiastic about it. In our diocese, there are presently four branches – Courtenay, Cobble Hill, Qualicum and Sooke. A general meeting is traditionally held at Cobble Hill in March, preceded by a service conducted by our Chaplain.

Mothers' Union is not primarily a money-making fellowship but for various purposes such as travel funds to conferences, to help the Sunday School and to make up layettes for disadvantaged babies, we do raise some funds. In age, we range from the 20's up with much to offer each other.

We strive to make our programs interesting and informative as well as pertaining to our objects. We like others to realize that we are not just a group of grey-haired ladies serving tea at weddings, baptism, funerals. Some of our many duties are keeping in

touch with children after baptism and welcoming confirmces. usually with the gift of a prayer book, and supporting our church wherever possible.

Submitted by the Diocesan Council of the Mothers' Union with branches at Sooke, Cobble Hill, Courtenay and Quamichan.

SUMMARY

It has been a labour of love to have participated in putting together this history of St. John the Baptist Anglican Church in Cobble Hill.

We have made a diligent effort to fill in all pertinent information that we have been able to find. The information has come from newspaper clip-pings, from former parishioners, from sources that have been followed and from material in the archives. Our thanks go to our fellow committee members, who helped us in finding material for this work.

Elizabeth Hyde from the Archives in Victoria has been most helpful.

We wish to thank as well all former parishioners who so kindly gave us help. We spent a very enjoyable afternoon listening to Katie McKelvie, Mabel Marrs, Frances Newton and Bea McCallum while they remembered bygone days for us. Another pleasurable time was spent with an elderly lady, Mrs. Alexander, who now lives in the Rose Manor in Victoria, and who was the wife of Mr. Donald Alexander, the building supervisor for the present church.

We also wish to thank all those unnamed people who passed along help, information and pictures. It is impossible to name all the people who have given us help, but there are some names that have come up which were mentioned in the early part of the history, and which are of particular interest to some of the senior members of the congregation and their families.

Thanks also go to the many that passed along information, help and encouragement. There are probably incidents and projects that we have left out or missed, for which we apologize.

Finally, our thanks also go to Margaret Dillabaugh for her time spent typing this manuscript.

It is strange how conservatively staid we are in our ways. The thread runs through the whole history; and yet after a few years "keeping up with pro-gress" becomes a very acceptable phrase. For instance, before we can get this history printed the energies, needs and projects are being put forth beginning THE NEXT CENTURY.

Centennial Committee,

Marion Ovans

Janet Farris

Peter Waldin

Charles Phillips

**The Parish List of St. John the Baptist
(Cobble Hill) - 1987**

**THE PARISH LIST OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
(COBBLE HILL) - 1987**

Last Name	First Name	Spouse	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Child 4
ACHURCH	David	Marion	Adrian	Remington	Darian	
ACHURCH	Mavis					
ACKHURST	Frances					
ACKHURST	Ronald	Susan	Damian	Lindsay	Drayson	
ARMSTRONG	Stewart	Betty				
ASKHAM	Margaret					
BAAL	Paul					
BAILEY	Grant	Angela				
BAILEY	Judy					
BAIRD	Roland	Margaret				
BARBER	Wally	Jessie				
BENNETT	Kathleen					
BIRCH	Norm	Iris				
BOYLE	Alec	Pat				
BOYLES	Dot					
BRADSHAW	Anne					
BRINACOMB	Peter	Denise	Bradley			
BROUGHTON	Diana					
BROWN	Nelson	Doreen				
BRUCE	Noreen					
BUBURUZ	Peter	Ann				
BUCHANAN	John	Sandra				
BUCK	Martin	Irene	Sarah	Joshua		
BURKE	Doug	Violet				
BURKMAR	David	Jane	Christopher	Kate		
BURR	Betsey					
CAHOON	Doug	Elaine				
CAREY	Phil	Laurie	Bryan	Stephen	Dylan	
CASLER	Samuel					
CHANDLER	Derek	Ann				

Last Name	First Name	Spouse	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Child 4
COLLINS	Jim	Pamela	Jason			
COOK	John	Betty	Adam	Ryan		
CORBY	Michael	Colleen	Crystol	Brittany		
COWARD	Karen		Michael	Ashley		
CROWCROFT	Isabelle					
DAVIES	Gwenda		Travis	Shannon		
DAVIES	Hugh	Marjorie				
DAVIES	John	Martha				
DILLABAUGH	Jack	Margaret	Jody			
DODGE	Richard	Linda				
DORAN	Greg	Cheryl	Geoffrey	Nicole	Bradley	Ben
DREwnIAK	Anne					
EDWARDS	Fred	Mabel				
EDWARDS	Ralph	Wendy				
ELVINS	Marie					
FARRIS	George	Joanne	Beverly	Katherine	Christopher	
FARRIS	Jan					
FEDUN	William	Janis	Erin	Kimberly	David	
FENTON	Steven					
FOWLER	Raymond	Hilary	Natalie	Clark		
FRASER	Harry	Isobel				
FRASER	Lewis	Lesley	Mark	Shawn		
GIESEN	Vivian		Heather (Grandchild)			
GILLINGHAM	Cyril					
GORDON	P. (Gill)	Marjorie				
GRIFFITHS	G.	Gladys				
GROGAN	Alan					
HADDOW	Joan					
HALL	William	Jean				
HARGREAVES	D.					
HARNAN	Nancy		Elizabeth			
HEALEY	Stan	Marjorie				
HEANS	Gordon					
HENSMAN	Bob	Ethel				
HEWITT	Sam	Hilda				
HOLMES	Jonathan					
HOPKINSON	Peter	Marion				
HORTON	Miles	Barbara				
HORTON	Carolyn					
HORTON	Colin	Kathleen				
HORTON	Ken					
HORTON	Les	Win				

Last Name	First Name	Spouse	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Child 4
HUGHES	James	Margaret	Hamish	Arien		
HUTCHINS	Raimond					
JACKSON	Mavis					
JARVIS	Philip	Heather	Megan	Caitlin		
JONES	Bill	Shirley	Valerie			
JONES	Glenn	Anne	Michael	Matthew	Cameron	
KNIGHT	Fred	Joan	Kerrie	Tanya		
KNIGHT	Joyce					
KONGUS	Lenore		Bryan			
LABAN	Larry	Sue	Caleb			
LAIDLAW	Nancy					
LAWRANCE	Phyllis					
LEWINGTON	Dick	Connie				
LEWIS	Dale	Louise				
LIGGETT	Doris					
LOVE	A. (Tony)	Kathy	Neil	Nona		
LOVELESS	Ernest	Florence				
MacDONALD	Helen					
MARSHALL	Henry	Muriel				
MARSHALL	H. Wesley	Betty				
MARZA	Liezel					
McALPINE	Vera					
McCLELLAND	Horace	Sheila				
McCRACKEN	Bill	Beth	Shannon	James		
McKELVIE	B.A.	(Katie)				
MEADE	Edward	Winnifred				
MELL	Robert	Alleyne				
MOORE	Mary					
MOORE	Peter	Lorraine				
MURPHY	Susan					
MURRAY	Allan	Susan	Pamela	Grant		
NAYLOR	Alice					
NESSMAN	Dennis	Elaine	Andrea	Graham		
NEWEL	Muriel					
NEWTON	Frances					
NISBET	George	Priscilla				
NORRIS	Jan	Brian	Damien	Jodie		
OVANS	Bruce	Jan	Robin	Jason		
OVANS	Geoff	Marion				
OWEN	Peter	Gertrude				
O'DELL	R.					

Name	Name	Spouse	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Child 4
PATTERSON	Gerald	Pat				
PAYNE	Gordon	Heather	James	Cathy	Marnie	
PENNIKETT	John					
PHELPS	Stan					
PHILLIPS	Charles					
PIERCE	Frank	Helen				
PITE	John D.	Nonah				
POLLARD	Allan		Jeremy	Michael		
POLLOCK	E.					
PRENEVOST	R.J.					
PRICE	George	Ruth				
PRINGLE	Romey					
RAZZO	Eileen					
READ	Wayland	Mary				
REED	Gerry	Linda	Ben	Haley		
RODD	Hugh					
SALMON	Read	Betty				
SCHEUNHAGE	Vivian	Jason	Jeremy			
SENKPIEL	Robert	Heather	Jeffery	Benjamin	Sheri	
SHAW	Edward	Joyce				
SMITH	G. (Digby)	Peggy				
SMITH	Roger	Barbara	Kevin	Paul		
SMITH	Samuel	Carol				
SOULSBY	A. (Doris)					
SPARHAM	John					
STEELE	Bill	Anne	Michelle	Sherilyn		
STEPHANOY	Pantelis	Correy	Angelica	Stephan	Nicolas	Dimitri
STEPHENSON	R. (Dick)	Ruth				
TANNER	David	Christine				
TAYLOR	Maureen					
THOMAS	Ernest	Mary				
THORNTON	Lou	Pat				
THORPE	Muriel					
TRELEAVEN	Gerald	Joyce				
TURNER	Thomas	Mavis				
UZZELL	Jack	Ivy				
UZZELL	Nellie					
WALDIN	Peter	Dorothy				
WASS	Florence					
WATKINS	Ruth		Justin	Jason	Meghan	
WEBB	Douglas	Audrey				

Last Name	First Name	Spouse	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Child 4
WELCH	Kathleen					
WESTON	Robert	Joanna	Andrew	John	Mark	
WHITE	Eleanor					
WILSON	Edward		Leighton	Kyle		
WILTON	David	Serena				
WINTER	William	Trudy	Jesse	Rachel		
WORSLEY	Bev					
WORSLEY	Ralph	Dorothy				
WYCKHAM	Barry	Kaye	Christopher	Kimberley		
WYNNE	Raymond	Angie	Sheri	Brad		
YOLE	Dean	Wendy	Christine	Danielle		
YOLE	Henry	Mary				
YONGE	Keith	Jane				
YOUNG	Roland	Janice	Chris	Ben		



Photo page 63

PARISHIONERS IN CENTENNIAL DRESS

Back Row: David Tanner, Kaye Wyckham, Ruth Watkins, Les Horton
Middle Row: Peter Waldin, Nancy Hargreaves, Stan Harnan, Janet Farris, Winnie Horton, Mavis Achurch
Front Row: Elizabeth Hargreaves, Kimberley Wyckham