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# Bushveld Messenger

## WATERBERG PARISH MAGAZINE.

No. 10.

**AUGUST, 1945.** 

Rector: THE REVD. H. M. GAYLARD. Lay Reader: Mr. E. A. DAVIDSON.

#### THE RECTOR'S LETTER.

My Dear Friends,

A priest, when writing for his parish magazine, ought to keep strictly to spiritual matters and matters concerning the Parish, and not write about himself. You must forgive me if I break that rule just this once. My excuse is that it is the last letter that I shall write for the "Bushveld Messenger" and my thoughts go back over the past seven years, which have meant much to me personally and during which I have tried (I hope not altogether without success) to mean something to the Parish and the people in it.

First of all, I want to say a word of thanks. In the course of these seven years I have received hospitality in many houses. I have also had a great deal of help and encouragement from various people in both Parishes of the Waterberg and Potgietersrust — Churchwardens, Secretaries and other people whose help has meant more than they ever realised. And above all I want to thank you all for your patience in many shortcomings on my part. If I were to write down the names of all the Church-members in my

Parish and next to each name put the date of each visit I have paid, it would be sorry reading indeed. I will not go into all the reasons for this; I think you have understood them and for that understanding I thank you. Then I want to thank you all for the way in which you have supported the Parish financially. No special appeal, whether it has been for the parish car or for any other purpose, has been unsuccessful. The response has always been splendid and I want you to know that it has been appreciated. Lastly, for very many acts of personal kindness to my wife and myself, I thank you.

My successor, for a time, will be Mr. Ronald Park. He is coming to a difficult parish, but the people make up for the difficulties and I know he will be happy here as I have been.

I have written in the first person singular, as I have been dwelling on the past seven years, during more than half of which I was a bachelor. I cannot end this letter without saying a word about some-one who, while I have been more in the limelight — conducting services, presiding over meetings etc. — has been working behind the scenes. Only I know the long hours of work my wife has put

in and the sacrifices she has made for the parish. I do not want to dwell on the difficulties of my work, but there have been some which, without her help and support, would have seemed well night insurmountable.

We go from here to the Parish of St. Saviour's, Pretoria West. But the Water-berg will always be our real home.

May God bless and keep you all.

Your friend and Padre,

HORACE GAYLARD.

#### PARISH NOTES AND NEWS.

At a meeting of the Warmbaths Ladies' Guild held on August the 9th, Mrs. Gaylard resigned from the chairmanship and Mrs. Retief was unanimously elected as her successor. No better appointment could have been made and we feel sure that under Mrs. Retief's energetic leadership the Guild will go from strength to strength. The membership has more than doubled since they held their first meeting at the beginning of last year, and they are doing great work. Last month a morning market and a dance were held, which brought in a total of £134 for the Church Building Fund.

During July two functions were held at Settlers in order to raise funds for a new car. The first was a bioscope at the School, which realised £9. Very many thanks to Mr. Anderson and the School staff. The second function was a card evening at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Trev Hall, where everybody had a thoroughly enjoyable time and the large sum of £18 was raised. Then, on the 24th August, there is to be a dance at the Settlers Hall, which we hope will be well patronised and as successful as the other two evenings have been. Bravo Settlers!

On Friday the 7th September, there is to be a bazaar in Potgietersrust, also to raise funds for the new car. It is being organised by the Ladies' Guild and we wish them every success.

Mrs. Mooney has very kindly agreed to become Secretary of the Nylstroom Church and the Parish Council. She was not at all eager, but as nobody else would take it on she eventually agreed. Magistrates' wives are very busy people, and by taking on this extra work Mrs. Mooney has earned our gratitude.

Since the last issue of the "Bushveld Messenger" Mr. Gilbert Kirkman has passed to his rest. Though not actually a member of the Anglican Church, he was a regular attendant at the services and he will be sadly missed. The Kirkmans are one of the pioneer families of the Waterberg and are held in high esteem

by all sections of the community. Mr. and Mrs. Kirkman came to live near Nylstroom at the beginning of last year, and during most of that time he has been in failing health, which he bore with great patience and fortitude. Our very deep sympathy goes out to Mrs. Kirkman and Rufus and to all his relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Gaylard leave at the end of September for their new home in Pretoria. Mr. Meggitt, who was to have come to the Waterberg, is now unable to come, but Mr. Ronald Park will arrive at the end of October to take temporary charge of the Parish till another priest can be found.

An African nurse has been appointed to the new Clinic at Twenty-four Rivers and is now in residence. The Clinic is in the process of being equipped and will soon be in full swing.

#### BAPTISMS.

Neil James McWilliam; 22nd April, 1945. Elizabeth Mary Gaylard; 15th May, 1945.

Marilyn Kay Wilson; 27th May, 1945. Peter Triscott Starling; 24th June, 1945. John Vernon Mitchell; 17 July, 1945.

## Prayer for the Parish.

Almighty and everlasting God, Who dost govern all things in Heaven and earth; mercifully hear our prayers, and grant unto this parish all things necessary for its spiritual welfare. Strengthen and confirm the faithful; protect and guide the children; visit and relieve the sick and afflicted; turn and soften the wicked; rouse the careless; recover the fallen; restore the penitent; and bring all to be of one heart and mind in the fold of Thy Holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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