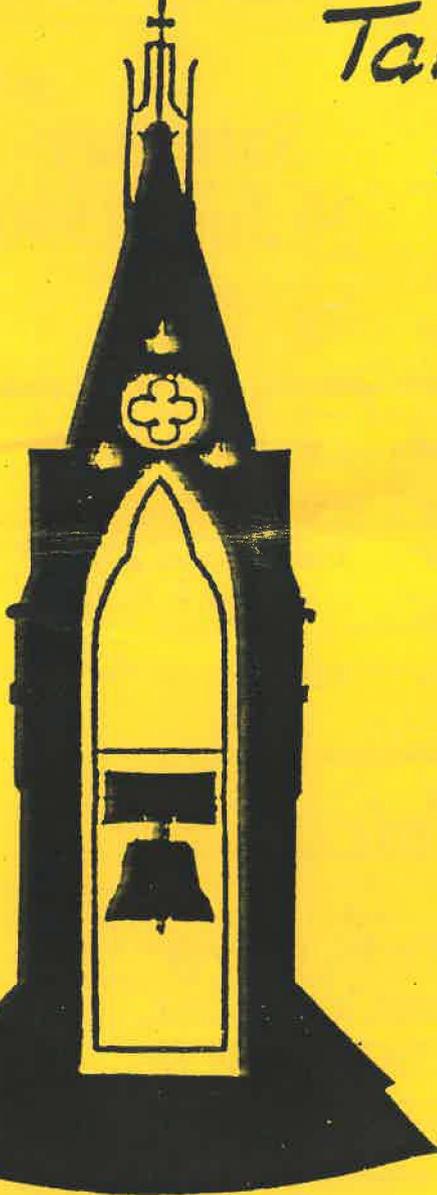




*All Saints Church
Talbot Road
Highgate*



JUNE SUTOR

1929 - 1990

JULY

20p.

1990

(SATURDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER 1990)
CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ENGLAND.

There will be an inauguration service for this at St. George's Roman Catholic Cathedral, St. George's Road, London, SE1. (nearest underground - Lambeth North); take a picnic lunch, and eat it in Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park. At 3.30 p.m. there will be Worship Celebration in St. George's; and in the North Lambeth area, throughout the day, events and activities at various local churches.

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IN MEMORIAM.

J U N E S U T O R .

June Sutor majored in Chemistry in her first degree, being awarded her BSc from Auckland University College in 1951, with four scholarships for her work. The following year she took her Master's degree (MSc) with first class honours, for further work in chemistry and research in X-ray crystallography - with two further scholarships and fellowships. Her PhD (1954) was concerned with determining the effects of electrophilic substituents in nitro compounds on the dimensions of the nitro group.

In 1954 she came to England, taking up her Travelling Scholarship and Bathurst Studentship at Newnham College, Cambridge. There she worked for a second PhD, this time researching into the structures of purines and nucleosides, taking this doctorate in 1958.

A year as Research Officer at Melbourne was followed by the award of an ICI Fellowship by the University

of London; and from 1960-62 she worked on nucleosides and C-H...O hydrogen bonds, under Professor Bernal, at Birkbeck College, London. Declining a number of tutorships she returned to New Zealand, returning to London in 1966 after the death of her father, where she accepted Dame Kathleen Lonsdale's invitation to study urinary stones by X-ray diffraction at University College, London; and from 1968 she took charge of this project, and enlarged it. In 1973 she was appointed a Senior Research Fellow there.

She became severely visually handicapped in 1979, but was able to move to Birkbeck in 1982 to continue her work on the composition of pathological crystals by X-ray powder diffraction. At Birkbeck she was Head of Stone Unit and Research Fellow; Honorary Research Fellow at University College; and Honorary Senior Lecturer, Institute of Urology in the University of London.

In the funeral sermon, on June 4th, I began by referring to June's career - for the above had been printed out on the service leaflet. It was an incomplete account, for space prevented the mention of the many details of her lectureships and tutorships, and her lectures at international scientific gatherings. For many of us at All Saints, it was a side of June of which we were only partially aware.

The sermon continued:

" The more I have read of her many interests during this past week, the more I have come to realise what a very full life she led, and how bitter the blow must have been when her eyesight began to fail some eleven years ago.

Born in Auckland in 1929 - she would have celebrated her 61st Birthday on Wednesday. -

she was educated at St. Cuthbert's Upper School,
and was a Sunday School teacher and pianist at
St. Mary's Cathedral.

Her School reports foreshadowed the brilliant career
that was ahead of her;
and yet she still found time to achieve a very high
standard as a pianist,
and to go fishing with her father.

The details of her career from what was then
Auckland University College
are there for you to read -

but perhaps the most important aspect of her life's
work was the research she carried out
into how and why urinary stones, gallstones,
and other pathological crystals
are formed inside the human body.

The qualities which were needed for this research,
and for her other work
were not qualities which were confined to her
laboratory, but qualities which she demonstrated
in the other parts of her life -

her sense of discipline and routine,
her straightforwardness,
her kindness,
her ability to understand,
and to share in and rejoice in the achievements
of others
and her supportiveness.

What was also apparent
was her great strength of character:

her determination to succeed
in what is often regarded - or used to be -
as a man's world -
the world of physics and chemistry,
and scientific research.

In her profession she upheld the dignity of Woman
and it should perhaps not come as a surprise to us
to remember
that it is the land of her birth
which has been the first to elect a woman as a Diocesan
Bishop.

She upheld the dignity of the animal world also,
not only in her love of animals, but also in her
dislike of animal-experimentation.

How hard that was for her
when her eyesight failed in the late 70s:
sometimes the world - and life - seem very cruel;
and it is not always easy to hold on to one's faith
in the face of such a terrible tragedy -
but yet she did;
and she often said how helpful my predecessor, Robert
Ellis, was,
at this time of her life.

This experience led her to become Chairman of the Centre
for the Visually Handicapped in Haringey in 1981.

But more was still to come:
her mother was growing increasingly frail,
and died just over five years ago in her 90th year;
and the death of one's surviving parent is always
a watershed,
an end of a generation,
bringing with it feelings and emotions
which go far beyond those of simple mourning.

Her next battle was against dependency on medication;
and so tragically soon after that was won
came the sad news of her cancer.

Again she fought -
and how hard -
trying wherever possible to preserve her way of life.

Those things which were important and possible for her,
she continued,
though mornings were never easy, and she drew strength
from worship at home, rather than Sunday morning here
in church.

There were her Bridge parties,
her friendships,
her evening meetings,
her visits to Birkbeck,
her trips out with friends and relatives.

And I'm sure that June would want me to express her
thanks to two groups of people:

Firstly, that band of relatives, friends and neighbours,
who have been such a tower of strength to her over
these past years -
a great team effort,
reflecting not only a caring community,
but the divine love itself.

And then, secondly, there are those who have looked after
her medically -
the Group Practice, Edenhall, North London Hospice,
and her resident nurse.

So, after much suffering,
the end came quietly;
and in this service we shall want to remember her
with thanksgiving,
to commend her to God,
and to thank God that although she often felt her
faith was sorely tried and tested,
yet she held fast to Him,
just as He also held her fast.

The lesson from I Corinthians 13 contained that verse
which we all trust and hope will find a special
fulfilment in June's life with God:

"For now we see through a glass, darkly;
but then, face to face";

and the hymns also have reminded us of that home above,
that life with God,
to whom now we humbly commend our much loved
friend, June.

DAVID HUBBARD.