

Swan Upping on the Thames in Caversham

On a damp and dreary morning in July the Swan- Uppers arrived at Caversham lock. Although I have lived in Caversham for many years this was the first time I had witnessed the event. I was surprised to see that most of them were not dressed in red but in blue. Red is worn by the Crown company and blue by the Dyers' and Vintners' companies. The purpose of the event is to count the Swans and to count and mark the cygnets.



On arriving at the Prom by Caversham Bridge the Uppers boarded a boat for some refreshment before rowing on to Mapledurham and further up the river. There were many swans around but I did not see any cygnets and so did not see any Upping. Perhaps I will be luckier next year.

Reading reports of the Upping in other areas it seems that there are more cygnets around than last year, sadly not on the stretch of the Thames in Caversham.

Pat Williams

Wonderful times for the young and young at heart

All aboard with a chuff and puff for a great day out.

See where some of our excited pensioners vanished to on the 7th August - page 7



It's Fun, It's Cool, It's the Holiday Club

See what all the excitement was about at St Anne's School during the first week in August - Page 5



Caversham Clergy

ANGLICAN
St Barnabas
Revd Derek Chandler, 20 St Barnabas Road.
Tel: 947 8239.
www.saintbarnabas.org.uk

St Andrews
Revd Nigel Jones, St Andrews Vicarage,
Harrogate Road. Tel: 947 2788
www.standrewscaversham.org

St Peter, St Margaret, St John
Revd Mike Smith, The Rectory, 20 Church Road,
Caversham RG4 7AD Tel: 9479505
rector@ctmparish.org.uk

Revd Marion Pyke
Tel: 947 5834
Revd John Dudley Tel: 9470265
Revd Penny Cuthbert Tel: 07825 331810
Revd Judith Ryder Tel: 9473783

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(Anglican, Methodist, Baptist and URC)
Contact: Dr Alison Johnston
Tel: 0118 947 5152. www.cpvc.org.uk

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Tel: 947 2223
Revd D Jenkins Tel: 0118 327 1592

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Transitional Minister Revd Jonathan Edwards
Church office tel 954 5353
Email Secretary: sue.cantwell@cavershambaptist
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2 South View Avenue.
Tel: 947 1787.
Deacon: Hugh Anscombe
Fr Paul Rowan

NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD
Revd H R Gayle Tel: 946 3009

The newspaper produced by the members of the Anglican, Methodist, Roman Catholic and Free Churches of Caversham and Mapledurham for the local community.

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The Editors wish to make it clear that the views expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the board.

The Editors also would like to bring to readers' notice that the inclusion of advertisements in this paper does not mean an endorsement of the products or of the services offered.

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TALKING POINT

by Mike Smith

Who is my neighbour?

Do you know your neighbours? Apparently 50% of us in this country don't know the names of their neighbours, let alone anything else about them.

Knowing someone's name is the first step in getting to know them. We find it very hard to have a conversation with someone when we don't know their name. I wonder if you've had one of those conversations when you cannot remember a person's name and, being embarrassed, you do all that you can to skirt around the issue and pretend you know who you are talking to? (Or perhaps that is just me?!)

But knowing someone's name is not enough. Living in a complex and varied society it is all too easy to pass by our neighbours without knowing anything about them. To 'know' someone is to allow them into your lives, to help people for their own sake rather than for reward, to journey with them through the ups and down of life.

In answer to the question 'Who is my neighbour', Jesus told a story about a good Samaritan. But in doing so, he was pointing out to his Jewish audience that they should look to find their neighbours outside of their own community, among the despised geographical neighbours in Samaria. The point of the Good Samaritan story is that it is the most unexpected, and perhaps disliked or hated, person we can think of that does the neighbourly task in looking after the sick man. Jesus ends the story by saying "Go and do likewise" to those following him.

So, we too are commissioned to find our neighbours in those who come at the bottom of our 'favourites' list. Think about who among those you know, that you think of least, and who in our society are the most berated. They are our neighbours whom we need to seek out, befriend and journey with as common humanity.

In a world that is increasingly quick to categorise and marginalise people, to blame others for our ills, to encourage 'us' to not be like 'them', the challenge to know our neighbours is as relevant now as it was in Jesus' time. The risk of the changes in UK and USA politics is that we are encouraged to focus on our nation, our own needs, and not look further.

Being a good neighbour asks each one of us to be broader than that. So as summer begins to turn to autumn, now might be a good time to seek out that person we don't know and to commit to getting to know them.

My Good Neighbour Recipe

Ingredients

- a sprinkling of happiness
- a pinch of kindness
- a teaspoonful of understanding
- 2 spoonfuls of sharing
- 50g of smiles
- 1 handful of helpfulness
- 3 heaped tablespoons of love
- 1 litre of cheerfulness
- 100g of respect
- a dusting of good listening

Method

- Mix all of the ingredients together and you will have a good neighbour.



Mike Smith is the rector of the Parish
of Caversham Thameside and Mapledurham

SUNDAY SERVICES

ANGLICAN

St Peter's, St Peter's Hill

8.00am Holy Communion – BCP (first, second and fourth Sundays)
Matins – BCP (Third Sunday)
9.30am Holy Communion (second, third and fourth Sundays)
Service of the Word (First Sunday)
6.30pm Evensong (usually Choral on second Sunday)
Fifth Sunday – Parish wide service (check website for details)

St John's, Gosbrook Road

9.30am Holy Communion (first, third and fourth Sundays)
9.30am All Age Worship (second Sunday)
Fifth Sunday – Parish wide service (check website for details)

St Margaret's, Mapledurham

11.15am Holy Communion (first, second and fourth Sundays)
Morning Worship (third Sunday)
Fifth Sunday – Parish wide service (check website for details)

St Andrew's, Harrogate Road

8.00am The Eucharist
10.00am Parish Eucharist (Sung)
First Sunday, Family Eucharist
11.30am The Eucharist first and third Sundays only, first Sunday BCP
6.30pm Evening Prayer (as announced)

St Barnabas, Grove Road, Emmer Green

8.00am Said Communion (BCP)
9.30am Parish Communion
9.30am COGS for all ages (1st Sunday of Month)

RIVERSIDE CHURCH(READING)

Meeting at Hemdean House School, Hemdean Road, Caversham
10.00am Morning Worship & Teaching

CAVERSHAM PARK ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP

Meeting at Caversham Park School

11.00am Holy Communion (1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays)
Morning Worship (2nd and 4th Sundays)
All Age Worship (at Festival Times)

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH South Street

10.30am Morning Worship each Sunday
8.00pm House of Prayer (praise and prayer) –
2nd Sunday each month
3.45pm Messy Church – for all the family
Fourth Sunday of the month

GRACE CHURCH Old Peppard Road

10.30am Worship and Ministry, Children's Church

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN CAVERSHAM

Caversham Heights, Highmoor Road

9.00am (first Sunday), 10.30am
6.30pm (second and fourth Sundays)

Gosbrook Road

10.30am
Woodcote Parish Church
9.45am (second Sunday)

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Our Lady and St Anne's, Southview Avenue

Saturday 5.30pm,
Sunday 10.00am and 6.30pm
Mapledurham House 6.00pm Mass (last Sunday of the month)

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers)

Church Street, Reading

10.30am
(House study groups Sept-June Tel: 9475783)

NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD

Church Street, Caversham

9.30am Sunday School
11.00am Divine Worship
6.00pm Evening Service

Caversham Bridge

Contributions for the October 2017 issue should be sent to Caversham Thameside and Mapledurham Parish Office by **Monday 4th September**. The date for the November 2017 issue is **Monday 2nd October**. Email address is secretary@ctmparish.org.uk

Advertising copy for the October 2017 issue should be sent to Mr A Wright, Twigmoor, Upper Warren Avenue, Caversham by **Friday 1st September**. The date for the November 2017 issue is **Friday 29th September**.

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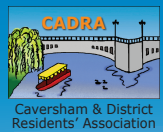
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CHURCHES

From Cambridge to Caversham - September 9th at St Andrew's

The fine pipe organ at St Andrew's Church, Caversham was built at the same time as the church. It has just been refurbished and rebuilt after more than 100 years. For three months, the congregation and organist have valiantly done their best with a portable organ, while looking forward to getting the splendid St Andrew's instrument reinstated. St Andrew's PCC wishes to thank the Betty Stevens Trust for funding the work on the organ.

To celebrate, a concert will be given by Edward Reeve, former organist at St Andrew's, on Saturday 9th September at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 (conc £8, under-

16s free) and are available from Waltons Jewellers in Caversham (cash only, closed Mondays), or on the door. A buffet and glass of wine after the concert are included in your ticket price. All profits from the concert will go to St Andrew's Charity of the Year, the Duchess of Kent Sue Ryder hospice in Reading.

Edward graduated in June 2017 with a double starred First in Music from Queens' College, Cambridge, where he was organ scholar for three years. Edward now holds the Aliko Vatikioti Studentship at Queens', studying for an MPhil and PhD in late nineteenth-century music.



Organist Edward Reeve

Caversham Horticultural Society

Gardeners residing within the Reading RG postal district were invited to submit entries for our autumn show in the last issue. September has now come and all readers are warmly invited to the show on Saturday 9th September, held at Emmer Green Primary School between 2pm and 4.30pm. Entrance and playground parking is via St Barnabas Road and not the Grove Road main entrance. Reading bus no. 24 stops outside the school.

In addition to exhibits of fruit & vegetables, ornamental plants and flower arrangements, there are exhibits in domestic categories and handicrafts. Exhibitors are not limited to adults, so come and view examples of vegetable monsters, seed tray gardens and photographs submitted by children.

Refreshments will be available on the day. In addition, gardeners have the chance to purchase plants and bulbs at extremely competitive prices. A further opportunity to purchase plants occurs on October 7th when we have our autumn plant sale at the Oakley Road allotments, Caversham between 10 and 11.30am

**CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS
 METHODIST CHURCH
 NETWORK FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME**

Thursday 7th September

Annual General Meeting led by Rev'd Jenny Dowling

Thursday 21st September

Speaker: Peter Holman
 'The Thames from Oxford to Windsor'

Thursday 5th October

Speaker: Ann Smith
 'Shopping history throughout the ages : 100 years of Reading shops'

Thursday 19th October

Speaker: John Brierley
 'The Foundling Hospital'

Thursday 2nd November

Members Afternoon

Thursday 16th November

Games with Val Keating

Thursday 30th November

Thames Valley Air Ambulance
 Speaker: Selina

Thursday 14th December

Music and Readings
 Speaker/Musician: Rev'd David Jenkins

Bible Friends

A beautiful pearl

"In the market, a man looked for pearls to buy..." Jesus began.
 "A story!" said his friends. "We love Jesus' stories."
 "He found many small, white, beautiful pearls to make into necklaces, bracelets and brooches," Jesus went on.
 "'These are beautiful,' thought the man, holding a few in his hands, 'but I've seen many just as good.'
 "Then he saw something that made him gasp – a pearl so fine, so perfectly round, so smooth and shiny, that he dropped all the others. He asked how much money it cost. Then he felt sad. He did not have enough money to buy the beautiful pearl – unless he sold his home, his clothes and everything he owned.
 "Quickly, he went home. He sold everything and ran back to the market with the money. The pearl was still on the market stall. He picked it up and gave the money to pay for it.
 "The beautiful pearl was his!"

Matthew 13:45-46



From The Big Bible Storybook © 2006 Scripture Union Illustration © 2006 Mark & Anna Carpenter

The Crown Air Rifle Club

A batch of old postcards I received earlier in the year contained one showing Caversham Mill, which I used in my article for July, and this one. It shows 21 members of the Caversham Crown Air Rifle Club in 1910.



Air rifles were commonly used by farmers to shoot at crows, rabbits and other pests. The clubs proliferated during the Edwardian period: during the course of the Boer War, various inadequacies in the British Army were shown up. The Boers were adept marksmen, able to target our troops with apparent ease. The British were not so adept.

The National Rifle Association had been formed in 1859, but the rifles were of large calibre, the ammunition was expensive, and the firing ranges were out in the country, beyond the reach of most men. By contrast, the Society of Working Men's Rifle Clubs, founded in 1899, used small-bore rifles, and the ammunition was much more affordable. They soon had over 4,000 affiliated clubs, often attached to pubs and large firms. It was thought by the military at the time that practice in shooting at targets

would be 'a certain and positive assistance in case men were called upon in defence of their country.'

An Internet search has brought up an interesting photograph of a shooting competition run by the Reading Post Office Rifle Club, from around the same time as the postcard. Their shooting range was in a yard between tall buildings, and the targets can be seen. Rule books state that the bull's eye should be five feet from the ground, and the length of the range should be between six and eight yards. The spot at which contestants fired was painted white, and in the photograph, a pot of flake white paint and a brush can be seen, kept handy so that it could be repainted. Presumably this had to be done after each splash of pellets. Each contestant had five shots, starting with a preliminary "sighter" which did not count towards the score. The rules did not allow the prizes for the winning side to be bought out of club funds – they had to be paid for by the losers. The rule-books I've seen don't seem to mention the little medals that the men in the picture are wearing.

Local papers show the formation of the Reading Temperance Air Rifle League in 1910, and the existence of an air rifle shooting section of the Biscuit Factory Recreation Club.

The men in the club from the Crown look ultra-respectable – all wearing suits, collars and ties. One of them is a clergyman. Where we can see their shoes, they are highly polished. Most of the men have at least one medal, and some have as many as 12, most of them pinned directly onto their jackets, rather than hanging from a ribbon.

The River Thames is in the background of the picture. Around 1910 the area around the pub would not have been so built up, so there should

have been plenty of room for the shooting range.

I hope the picture has intrigued you as much as it intrigued me – it's a subject I've not come across before.

Happy Wanderer

Caversham and Chiltern Flower Club

We are a local flower club who have meetings most months with a demonstrator who shows us how to do floral arrangements, so if you love flowers come and try the club. We also have workshops and organise outings. On a wet day in August members and friends enjoyed a day out at the RHS gardens at Wisley.

On Wednesday 13th September, we have the fabulous florist Lee Berrill, who comes from Northampton, with his demonstration entitled 'let's dance'.

For this special event, we are welcoming ALL VISITORS FREE OF CHARGE so please come along and bring a friend to Caversham Heights Methodist Church, Highmoor Road, Caversham for 7.30pm start.

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CTC Children's Summer Holiday Club 2017

One hundred and fifty Caversham children gathered at St. Anne's School in the first week of August for the annual summer holiday club. This year, volunteers from 13 different Caversham churches were involved. The ecumenical holiday club is now in its sixth year, having started in the 2012 Olympic year.

The Scripture Union 'Guardians of Ancora' programme started with a service at Gosbrook Road Methodist Church, five days of holiday club, then a final service at Caversham Baptist Church as a celebration. Through seven stories starting with the announcement of the birth of a Saviour as told in Micah, through two stories about Angels visiting, firstly, Mary and Joseph and, secondly, the shepherds, we moved thirty years forward to hearing about how Jesus taught his disciples to pray, then onto Good Friday and lastly to Easter Sunday.



There is a Bible verse, which is used each day that the children are encouraged to learn: (John 3:16) 'God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life'.

The club has a structured day: after registration in year groups, everyone gathers in the main hall for singing, listening to the Bible story for the day told by a story-teller. Then it's back to our rooms for snack time and a review of the Bible story, craft activities and puzzles/colouring in a Scripture Union booklet. After lunch and playtime, the afternoons are spent in two sessions of other activities ranging from archery and dance through fencing, French and football to community craft and cookery. This year the children had the opportunity of seeing and holding many types of reptiles, including a bearded dragon.

The tree frog gave great entertainment and some consternation to the adults accompanying the children!



Wednesday afternoon traditionally is 'Wet Wednesday' and this year it really was wet! The outdoor water-based activities included a competition to carry as much water as you can in a cap or a newspaper, an obstacle course where the children were bombarded by super soakers, as if they needed to get wetter! A halt was called earlier than usual so everyone could dry off and warm up inside watching a film together. The week ends with a family fun afternoon; younger siblings and parents join the children to enjoy bouncy castles, face painting, hotdogs, cakes, including those made by the children during the week, and ice lollies outside in the playground and then come into the hall for singing and showing the parents some of the wonderful creations made during the week.



We all go home very tired but encouraged and uplifted by the spirit of teamwork between the Caversham Churches.

Sue Jenkins

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CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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Caversham Thameside Parish Office Church Street,
Caversham Library and from Woodcote Way News

Thursday* is
Fisherman day!

*every Thursday 2pm - 6pm

The café in Caversham Heights- named after Saint Andrew the fisherman.
St Andrew's Church Hall, Albert Road, Caversham, RG4 7PL



CAVERSHAM COMMUNITY CAFÉ

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Probus

At the July meeting of the Reading and District Probus club, the speaker was Francis Brown, a member of the club, who gave a talk entitled 'Internet insecurity'.

The talk included many aspects of on-line crime, and how perpetrators go about accessing sensitive data.

Hundreds of millions of records containing private information have been stolen and then made public. Use the free service to see if you have been a victim (known as pwned). The stolen information MAY include the password used for the site(s) that have been compromised. Change the password for that site. If the password has been used elsewhere (a very bad idea) change the password for those sites too. See <https://haveibeenpwned.com/>

Francis's talk included many tips on how to keep computers and data safe when using the internet. Tips included:

Keep Windows version 7, 8, 10 up to date; do not share passwords between sites; use 2 Factor Authentication whenever possible; use strong passwords, at least eight characters, with a mixture of numbers, lower and upper case letters, and even other symbols (examples of useless passwords were listed); if you have to use a public PC, log out of everything before you get up and avoid free wi-fi with no password; to close a suspect Window use the close button (X) in top right corner, not any of the other buttons (Criminals do not play by our rules); if PC behaviour is

strange and you suspect a security problem hold down the on-off button until all the PC lights go out; email from addresses are easily faked, if in doubt do not open the email just delete it; do not click on links in unexpected emails from strangers.



If you suspect cybercrime, call 0330 123 2040, or to report on line, use the website www.actioninfraud.police.uk

Probus is a club for retired men, who enjoy a meal once a month in the congenial company of like-minded men. Lunch is followed by a talk, which may be on a variety of interesting subjects. The club meets at the Caversham

Heath Golf Club. For further information visit the club's website www.probusclub-reading.org.uk If you are interested in joining, please contact the secretary David Laird on 0118 947 0709.

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ALL JAZZED UP
SWING DANCE

Plaque to honour Lennon and McCartney



A plaque has been installed on the wall of the Fox and Hounds pub in Gosbrook Road to honour John Lennon and Paul McCartney of the Beatles.

The pub, which hosted the duo's only appearance as The Nerk Twins, has been awarded a commemorative plaque from BBC Radio Berkshire.

The pair hitchhiked from Liverpool to appear in Caversham in April 1960, before the formation of the Beatles.



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Pent-up power of the Iron Beast

'A great day out'

On Sunday 7th August, a small group of excited pensioners were privileged to join with Probus in being invited to a Steam day at Fawley Hill estate courtesy of Sir William McAlpine recalling memories of the age of Steam Locomotives. To stand near a locomotive as it builds up steam to move the massive mechanism is to appreciate the pent-up power of these iron beasts.

Fawley Museum and the railway is one of South



mature trees. There were a number of structures and memorabilia salvaged from various railway locations including wrought iron fencing, stone arches and railway signs along the track.

A large number of deer played in the parkland some very close to the railway line. On the return journey, the steam locomotive worked hard making a thrilling sound as it pulled the wagons loaded with visitors back up the steepest non-rack and pinion railway slope in the UK to the station.



Oxfordshire's hidden treasures and on this sunny day children of all ages were able to enjoy everything from a ride on a real 1900 fairground roundabout with wonderfully coloured horses or ride in a real steam train to browsing the amazing museum's collection of railway memorabilia.

The steam train ride was very enjoyable taking us through a beautiful green valley with lovely

There seemed to be something for everyone even a line-up of beautifully turned out MG sports cars from the MG Veterans Club and when wanting a rest viewing alpacas and deer whilst taking tea and cake or an ice cream. This turned out to be an experience that was not to be missed.

Rev Keith Knee-Robinson

A focus on Local talent

Audrey Preston has been a member of Caversham Park Church from the church's early days and that of the Village. In her spare time Audrey writes poems about all kind of events and life's ups and downs. In this edition of the Caversham Bridge Audrey has kindly shared a couple of pieces of her work specially for you.

Harvest

I remember August days when I discovered Harvest – not those harvests that nestled yearly in corners of the church or struggled through our London garden, with runner beans on the wall, tomato plants growing tall.

This was my romantic harvest, where workers toiled, and built their stooks in countryside that breathed of Constable, laughed at the likes of us town girls straight from school, supping cider, breaking rules, believing we would win the war filling up a score of sacks below the rattling thresher, finding first seeds of harvests bound to come.

We reaped so much in passing years; now sometimes find a sadder world, seeing a young man ply alone expansive plains of yielding corn, riding a monster that will spawn the regimented rollers from its back, companions flown - no harvest home. But need for a harvest yearly blest still meets with raptured thankfulness.

We thank Audrey for these wonderful poems. Do you have a talent you would like to share with others and appear in the paper, then why not write to the Editors as we would like to hear from you.

The Editors secretary@ctmparish.org.uk



Audrey with Rocky

My Upside-down Therapy

Chutney, pickle, tomato ketchup
All are standing on their heads.
Someone thought I'll innovate
a way of getting out of bed
those old frustrating lumps of glue
that simply would not hasten through
and took for ages sliding down
to reach the point of utmost crown'

Now I need's get out of bed
when all the world defies me,
I think I'll stand me on my head
and hope my brains inspired be
to add a little spice to life,
sauce the world with ingenuity.
Upturn my words before they're read
and you may call it 'poetry'.

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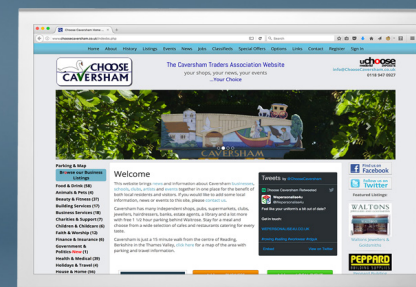
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TRIBUTE TO MYRA EMERSON

At Caversham Heights Methodist Church we have lost one of our dearest friends – Myra Emerson – who has, with husband Viv, been at the heart of our church for 16 years.

Myra was born in Southampton, but the family lost their home during one of the bombing raids and so they moved to the country. Several more moves ensued during her childhood and she attended school in Liverpool where she excelled in English – but not maths! She played cricket and lacrosse.

Myra went back to Southampton to study English at the university from 1958 where she joined the student Methodist society – METHSOC – and where she met Viv. They married in 1961 and had three children and seven grandchildren. Myra worked as a private tutor and teacher of English. In 2001 Viv retired and they celebrated their Ruby Wedding and 10 years later their Golden.

Following various moves around the country they finally settled in Henley, joined Caversham Heights Methodist Church and became very active members, often working together as Church Stewards, Pastoral Visitors and caterers – to name just a few. Myra tended the church gardens for many years and helped launch the Monday morning coffee service which meets at the rear of our church, helping with the Stay-awhile lunch club and was a member of a house group.

She wrote and produced two pantomimes at the church, raising money for charity amidst much fun and laughter.

Myra and Viv were keen travellers and gave various talks about the countries they had visited together.

An excellent hostess, Myra enjoyed many family gatherings and university reunions in their home in Henley.

As a former teacher of English, Myra was a welcome addition to the editorial team of this newspaper where her command of spelling and grammar were invaluable and her sense of humour was much appreciated. Myra was also a member of the Henley Ladies Probus Club.

Myra suffered many illnesses and operations during her lifetime, always looking on the positive side and 'bouncing back' to carry on with her life. However, during the last few months of her life Myra suffered several strokes and passed away in the John Radcliffe at Oxford in the early hours of Sunday 15th July.

The funeral was held at Reading Crematorium, followed by a Thanksgiving service at Caversham Heights Methodist church which was 'full to bursting' with people who had known and loved her. Moving tributes were given by her sons Guy and Carl and a Bible reading from 1 Corinthians chapter 13 *'Though I speak with the tongues of angels ...'* was read by her daughter Kim.

The hymns at the service: *'In Christ alone, my hope is found.....'*, *'One more step along the world I go....'* and *'You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace...'* are typical of the way Myra lived her life.

Many people have said things about Myra – her kindness, understanding, generosity, helpfulness, compassion and encouragement. One friend summed it all up *'I never thought of Myra as being old – she was always so full of life'*

We will remember her with love and affection.



Janet Offord

Editor Caversham Bridge

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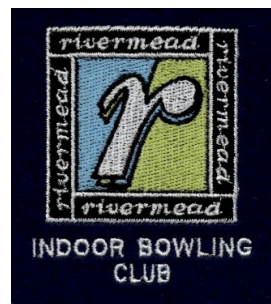


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Rivermead Indoor Bowls Club

Rivermead Indoor Bowls Club are holding two 'taster' sessions at the start of their indoor bowling season. The first session is on Saturday 30th September (1 pm to 4 pm) and the second session on the morning of Sunday 15th October between the hours of 10am and 1pm.

Indoor bowls at Rivermead is played between the end of September and the beginning of April, ideal for keeping you busy through the autumn and winter months. All you need to do, be you young or 'a bit older' male or female, is turn up at the stated times and have a go. Equipment will be provided and people, including qualified coaches, will be on hand to guide you.



Why not give it a go? Bowls has a lot of positives; it provides a gentle exercise and it is very social. Rivermead caters for all ranges of ability from beginners through to competitive bowlers, offering a range of leagues both mixed and single sex, social bowling and competitions at various levels. There really is something for everyone.

Do give it a go - 30th September between 1 pm and 4 pm, or Sunday 15th October between 10 am and 1 pm. The venue is Rivermead Bowls Club, Rivermead Leisure Centre, Richfield Avenue – bowls entrance.

Look forward to seeing you there.



Caversham Park Church

We are to hold another prayer walk around the village again on Saturday 16th September. This time we will walk around the South West corner of the village. Meeting outside the Milestone centre (Car Park), we will begin at 9.30am heading up the Milestone Way and stopping at various points along the way. Arriving at the top-shops around 10am, we will then return to the Milestone centre via Lowfield Avenue again stopping at various points along the way. Please feel free to come and join us.

Dr Alison Johnston
Caversham Park Church
0118 947 5152

The Caversham Heights Society

The 2017-18 season of the Caversham Heights Society begins on Wednesday 20th September in the Caversham Heights Methodist church hall on Highmoor Road. As this will be the first meeting of the season the doors will open early at 6.45pm for coffee and biscuits. These will be followed by the Annual General Meeting at 7pm. The talk on 'The History of Thames Water', to be given by Rob Casey, will follow at 8pm. This should prove to be very informative.

Subsequent talks will be on 'Trooper Potts VC', highly topical given the recent interest in the Battle of Passendale and the First World War generally, [4th October] and 'The Serengeti Experience' on 18th October [not 19th as it appears on the programme].

There will also be an outing to Canons Ashby, an 18th century manor house built on the remains of a medieval monastery, now run by the National Trust, near Daventry on Wednesday 27th September.

Society meetings are generally held on every alternate Wednesday evening at 8pm in the Methodist church hall and new or interested members are always welcome.

Further information and details about the Society can be found on our website www.cavershamheights.org or by email to contact@cavershamheights.org

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Stay-a-while Lunch Club

The club, which meets on
Mondays at the Caversham Heights
Methodist church, is in urgent
need of volunteers. Hot meals are
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each week. Cooks and helpers are
urgently needed to work on a rota
basis.

If you can help and for more
information please call Kathy
Munns on 0118 954 6680.

Churches Together in Caversham

At the recent AGM of Churches Together in Reading held in July for the year 2016-2017, the following details have been extracted detailing the wonderful work being carried out by Churches Together in Caversham.

A precis of what has happened in Caversham over the last year:

- Summer picnic - many of the churches came together in Caversham Court for a picnic and quiz to help raise money for CTC's chosen charity Hope Asia, and we raised nearly £200.00 for the charity.
- An Easter Walk of Witness with over 100 people starting at the Baptist church with a stop in the precinct for a reading and a song, then on to Caversham Court for a short word and song. A great witness on Good Friday.
- Nativity Live, not necessarily a CTC event but three Churches in Caversham, the Baptists, Methodists and St. John's tell the Nativity story through the streets of Caversham, stopping at a local Inn where there is no room, collecting the Shepherds from the local Park, and the Wisemen this year from the Methodist church (insert your own joke here). We estimated over 500 people joined us for the walk with about 300 packed into St. John's for a short talk, song and refreshments.
- RE-inspired - CTC continues to support our two part-time project managers taking the RE syllabus into the

Caversham schools. They have now visited all of the schools in Caversham and continue to take a day per year group.

- Holiday Club - Another successful holiday club last year at Thameside School reaching over 250 under 11 year olds with the gospel.

This coming year

- We continue to support RE-Inspired and one of the project managers has now gone on maternity leave and so we have appointed maternity cover and will continue to support our project managers as they take RE classes to all the schools in Caversham.
- We have geared up for this year's holiday club which is based in St. Anne's School this year. By the time this is printed all of the places are expected to have been taken and the team have been enjoying preparing backdrops, dramas, crafts and activities for the week.
- Nativity Live plans for this year are well underway, we are tweaking the route this year mostly for safety, but it will still have the same elements on Christmas Eve.

Churches Together in Caversham have planned for another picnic in Caversham Court and we'd love to have more churches represented. This was held on the 20th August and will be reported in the Caversham Bridge shortly.

Original detail by Martyn Strong

Seventieth Anniversary of the Reading-Düsseldorf Partnership

In August 1947, the then Mayor of Reading, Phoebe Cusden, went to see the situation in Düsseldorf for herself. The previous winter, the commanding officer of the Berkshire regiment, stationed with the occupying forces there, had appealed to Berkshire towns to help German families who were cold and hungry.

Reading responded with a £200 donation and half a ton of clothing - not popular with everyone but very generous. From that, a friendship was born which lasts to this day.

In July, various actors and artists came from Düsseldorf to take part in the University Area Arts Trail and the Reading Fringe Festival to help celebrate the seventieth anniversary of our link. Even the Oberbürgermeister, Thomas Geisel brought over a Civic party to visit the Mayor of Reading.



Cutting of celebration cake at Reaffirmation Meeting: front row Dimmick, Williams, Geisel, Sonja Weyers (Town twinning officer of Düsseldorf City Council), Chief Executive; back row Jessica Breittkopf (Head of International Affairs, Düsseldorf City Council), Richard Thom (grandson of Phoebe Cusden) Picture by Christopher Forsey (cforsey3009@gmail.com)

As part of the Reading -Düsseldorf exchange groups, the Reading Churches Interchange were hosting a visit from our partners from Düsseldorf churches at the end of August. We hope to tell you more about that in the next issue.

Do look at the website at www.reading-dusseldorf.org.uk for more information. Our membership secretary at sylviaclarke10@btinternet.com and for RDCI, Laurie. hasler@btinternet.com.



Geisel and Williams with children from Thameside School in the Mayor's Parlour.

Picture by Robert Dimmick taken during the public photo shoot.

Rev Margaret Dimmick

CLUBS

Rosehill WI

President Margaret Pyle welcomed all members and visitors to our July meeting on a rather hot and humid afternoon. Christine Waters was thanked for the table flowers (later raffle prize). She went on to say that the record of the June 2017 meeting was available for all to see.

Our speaker, Barbara Hatley, gave a very interesting talk with slides about the making of the three Red Cross quilts by women in Changi Prison in Singapore during WW2. They were made up of squares of material with different designs on them (for example: flowers, patriotic, gardens and crinolines) which were then sewn together to make up the quilts. We also heard about the conditions in the prison and how people coped. After several questions had been answered, Margaret then gave a vote of thanks.

We had tea and biscuits before the meeting continued with Margaret Pyle telling us about the different groups. Scrabble continues to run on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. The Book Club met on Monday 10th July at Barbara Wood's house. The Cinema Group had been to the cinema on Tuesday 4th July, when seven members saw 'Hampstead' which they all enjoyed. So far no-one has come forward to organise a walking group. On Wednesday 12th July, the newly formed 'Ladies That Lunch' Club had their first gathering with eleven members going to The Griffin for lunch.

Margaret then drew our attention to three items in Berkshire WI News; being 'Nepal - a Constant Backdrop of Mountains' which will take place on Thursday 26th October at Grazeley Village Hall at 10.30 am, the second is a 'Paper Craft Taster Day' on Saturday 16th September at WI House, Mortimer Common, from 10.00 am to 3.30 pm, and the third 'Autumn Art Day' to be held on Friday 13th October at Mortimer Methodist Church Hall, from 10.30 am to 3.30 pm. Please see Berkshire WI News for further information about these days, plus the cost and contact details.

The birthday buttonholes were then distributed. Margaret then told us that Caversham WI are collecting clean bras which will be sent to a charity in Kenya to be distributed to ladies in the area. She also announced that NFWI Raffle tickets, £1 per ticket, will be on sale during the September meetings.

Just one other item to report and that is that a group of 26 members attended The Mill at Sonning, to see a comedy entitled 'Don't Dress for Dinner' which was a huge success with everyone saying how much they enjoyed both the lunch and the performance. Next year, please?

The meeting finally closed after the raffle had been drawn.

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at St Barnabas Village Hall, Emmer Green, at 2.00 pm.

Caversham WI

At the July meeting of the Caversham Women's Institute, we welcomed Mr Kevin Little from the Smelly Alley Fish Company in Union Street, Reading. Mr Little entertained us with his

experiences as a fishmonger; he told us how Smelly Alley got its name, the history of his shop and other traders, and judged our competition 'your favourite fish recipe'.

After taking our usual August break, we will be at Caversham Court Gardens to open up the Kiosk with fresh cake and refreshments from Thursday 31st August to Sunday 3rd September. If you haven't been over before, it is a beautiful setting for a relaxing cuppa. If you have the time, we look forward to seeing you there!

Ladies are very welcome to visit our friendly group. We hold meetings on the third Thursday of the month, at 7.30 in the evenings - which helps avoid child-care issues. There is usually easy parking and a lift to the first-floor meeting room at Church House, (some building works may temporarily affect this). More details can be found online at <https://tinyurl.com/hwzj6zy> or search for "Caversham WI programme".

For enquiries please contact our Secretary, on 947 5176.

Chazey WI

The speaker for our June meeting was Fiona Barker, a very enthusiastic lady talking about children's picture books. On every table was a selection of picture books some of which Fiona discussed with us. She has had one book published and is to have her second published soon. Some members brought along their favourite book from their own childhood which was very interesting.

Tea and coffee were available on arrival for members and after the talk the business of the meeting was dealt with.

So, to our July meeting, refreshments again ready for members on arrival, our speaker was introduced, Richard Warren, currently a Justice of the Peace, to talk about 'Women in prison'. A very thought-provoking talk with some surprising statistics. Valerie Holden gave a vote of thanks.

Richard Warren judged the home made biscuit competition won by Valerie Wing. Dates were given for the coffee and lunch meetings. There was a trip on the river from Caversham to Henley and back, with time for lunch or a picnic in Henley. The Book Club continues to meet at the Caversham Rose once a month. Give Valerie Wing a call if any member wants to join in.

We welcome ladies who would like to join us. We meet on the first Tuesday evening every month in the hall of the Caversham Heights Methodist Church at 7.30pm. Come along and join us, contact us on email: chazeywi@gmail.com

Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild

We were introduced to 'Pilates' by Christine Brook in July. We joined in gentle but effective exercises whilst sitting in our chairs.

Still sitting in chairs, a coffee, cake and chat evening took place at our chairman, Hazel New's house in August.

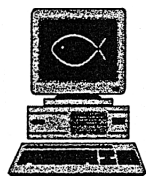
The film about the evacuation of Dunkirk was watched by the cinema club from comfy chairs at the Vue cinema.

An enjoyable lunch took place at the Caversham Rose.

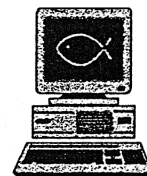
The ambling club continues for those wishing to recover from eating and sitting.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 21st September at the Methodist Church Hall, 74 Highmoor Road at 7.30pm. Any ladies wishing to visit or join our group will be most welcome.

Finally, an advance notice of change. As from 2018 our meetings will be on Wednesday afternoons. Venue to remain the same.



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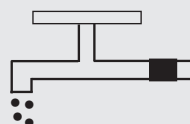
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