

A new Bishop of Reading

Since the Rt Revd Andrew Proud announced his retirement in May this year, there has naturally been much interest in his successor. Bishop Andrew has been a familiar name (and picture) in the columns of *Caversham Bridge*, so it is right and proper that we should publish in full the announcement made by the Diocese of Oxford on Monday 15th July about the new Diocesan Bishop. Nicely in time for a page one feature and one that we are pleased to carry for the benefit of all the faith congregations in our 'reader territory'. We republish

the primary press release here.

The Bishop of Oxford announced the news during a visit to Ranelagh School in Bracknell, where students had an opportunity to ask Olivia questions. Their visit was followed by a reception at Reading Minster.

Responding to today's announcement, Olivia

said; "I am delighted and energised to have been called to an episcopal role. It is a tremendous opportunity to bring together my passions for the Church and the wider world – for example to be able to encourage greater engagement between our church communities and secondary schools. The young people I encounter in our schools are serious and engaged with the world. We need to see how we can offer the resources of faith at a crucial time in their lives."

Olivia's early career was spent in teaching and international development, including a period working for Oxfam in Somalia. Ordained in 1997, she has served all of her ministry in the Diocese of Oxford, becoming Archdeacon of Berkshire in 2013.

The Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft said; "One of the things that was apparent when we were listening and consulting about the new bishop was that people wanted somebody who really knew what it is like to be in ministry in this part of the world. Someone who knew what the pressures and challenges are. In this and many other areas, Olivia brings just what we need at this time. I am very excited about what Olivia's appointment means for the Diocese."

Olivia will succeed the Rt Revd Andrew Proud who retired from the role at the start of May this year. She will be consecrated in a service at St Paul's Cathedral on 19th November and her welcoming service in Berkshire will be at the Minster on 23rd November.

Diocese of Oxford

- The Diocese of Oxford is divided into four 'Episcopal Areas', each overseen by their own Area Bishop.
- The Reading Episcopal Area is larger than many dioceses in the Church of England. It extends from west Berkshire along the M4 corridor to Windsor encompassing very rural areas and large centres of population.
- There are 170 churches in the Area, 70% of which are involved in social action. The Church is also the largest provider of out of school support for children and young people in Berkshire.



About Olivia

- Olivia is married to Keith and they have three adult children. She is passionate about social justice and the interface the church has with the wider world.
- In June this year she accompanied other faith leaders calling for government action on climate change and participated in the Mass Lobby of Parliament.
- Olivia has also led the work on Flourishing in Ministry, a set of resources and a leadership approach that supports clergy to develop a healthy rhythm of prayer, work and rest.
- 1974-1981 Volunteer teacher and schools worker, Kenya
- 1984-1993 Overseas relief and development worker
- 1997 Ordained Deacon
- 1997-1998 Non-stipendiary minister, GARSINGTON
- 1998-2001 Curate, PRINCES RISBOROUGH
- 2001-2007 Team Vicar, BURNHAM (St Peter)
- 2007-2013 Parish Development Adviser
- 2012- Hon Canon, Christ Church Cathedral

Caversham Bridge, and our readers representing all local faith congregations, wish Bishop Olivia a very warm welcome to her new role. Hopefully, time will bring a visit to Caversham and our columns will always be open to her and her team to sustain and propagate the messages of the Christian faith.



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'The Greatest Knight'
 William Marshal
 died in Caversham
 on 14 May 1219

Caversham Clergy

ANGLICAN

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St Andrew
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Harrogate Road. Tel: 947 2788
www.standrewscaversham.org

Caversham Thameside Ministry -
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rector@ctmparish.org.uk

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

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Rev'd D Jenkins Tel: 0118 327 1592

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Email: secretary@cavershambaptistchurch.org.uk

RIVERSIDE CHURCH (Reading)
www.riversidechurchreading.co.uk

GRACE CHURCH
(formerly Caversham Hill Chapel)
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NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD
Rev'd H R Gayle Tel: 946 3009

TALKING POINT

by Michael Penny



The Pursuit of Contentment

It has been said that the British are a nation of malcontents ... but I am not sure such a statement is fair. It is true that we tend to moan and groan, and complain a lot ... but is that a British disease, or a human condition? We may not be the Number One nation in the world any longer, and are not the richest, but we are certainly far better off than the majority of people on this planet. So why are so many discontent with their lot?

It is interesting to go back to the New Testament and the person who wrote most about contentment was Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles. He was born and raised in the city of Tarsus, second only to Athens as a centre for learning, and was clearly educated there in the philosophy of his age before moving to Jerusalem to be taught Judaism by the top rabbi, Gamaliel. Thus, in his discussions with the philosophers in Athens Paul did not quote the Scriptures, as they would not have seen them as authoritative, but other philosophers – Epimenides and Aratus.

Paul lived from about AD 5 – 65 and around at that time was the stoic philosopher Zeno (4 BC – AD 65). He wrote much on the subject of contentment for it seems the Gentile society of that time was also full of malcontents. His view was that the path to contentment is found in accepting the present (the here and now) and not letting ourselves be controlled by the pursuit of pleasure and the fear of the future. And that message seems as relevant today as it was 2,000 years ago, and so does much in the New Testament.

- *"Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have" (Hebrews 13:5).*
- *The soldiers were told "Be content with your wages" (Luke 3:14).*
- *"If we have food and clothing, with these we will be content" (1 Timothy 6:8).*

However, it is most salutary to read that Paul also wrote *"I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content"* (Philippians 4:11). For me, the significant word there is *"learned"*. Contentment was something Paul had to *"learn"*, and it was something I have had to *"learn"* also.

In modern society it seems discontentment is bred by advertising and the news. In Zeno's words, advertising stimulates *"the pursuit of pleasure"* and the news breeds *"the fear of the future"* for it no longer reports what *'has'* just happened, but has comment from *'experts'* on what they think *'will'* happen. I am learning to discount these comments and the more I do so, the more my level on contentment rises.

However, I have something else I need to work on. Paul also wrote *"godliness with contentment is great gain"*. I am making headway on the *'contentment'* but I seem to have further to go on the *'godliness'*. How about you?

Michael Penny
Chair, Churches Together in Reading

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Matins – BCP (Third Sunday)
9.30am Holy Communion (second, third and fourth Sundays)
Service of the Word (First Sunday)
6.30pm Holy Communion with Healing Prayers usually 1st Sunday, Evensong (usually Choral on second Sunday)

St John, 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, 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, Harrogate Road
8.00am The Eucharist
10.00am Parish Eucharist (Sung)
First Sunday, Family Eucharist
11.30am The Eucharist first Sunday BCP

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
6.30pm 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

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Caversham Heights, Highmoor Road
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6.30pm (second and fourth Sundays)
Gosbrook Road
10.30am

ROMAN CATHOLIC
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Mapledurham House 6.00pm Mass (last Sunday of the month)

St Michael, Sonning Common
5.30pm Saturday
9.00 and 10.30am Monday

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers)
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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 2019: Copy price and subscription price

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Caversham Bridge

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Email address is: editors@cavershambridge.org
Advertising copy for the September 2019 issue should be sent Friday 26th July. The date for the October issue Friday 30th August. Email address is: advertising@cavershambridge.org

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ST BARNABAS
St Barnabas Centre
Tuesday and Thursday 8.30am-10.30am
Tel: 947 6310 Website: www.saintbarnabas.org.uk

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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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Caversham Church Fête: another successful event!

The Caversham Church Fête took place on Saturday 13th July at its traditional venue of Caversham Court Gardens. Many were already enjoying the event well before the 'official' start time of 1.00pm. No matter, the early visitors were joined by a continuous stream throughout the afternoon. The Caversham Bridge stall was strategically located to cover arrivals and departures! As a reward for our vigilance and tenacity, a goodly number of new subscribers were recruited. The Fête is a joint enterprise of the Churches of St Peter, St John and St Margaret which make up the CTM parish (www.ctmparish.org.uk). This year the Fête was again sponsored by local estate agents Walmsley, alongside further generous contributions from local companies and organizations. The Reverend Mike Smith wrote the introduction to the official programme (which served as a prize draw ticket). If you have the programme then read /re-read Mike's message: it is a very cogent statement of purpose as to why these events are positive in every way!

Caversham Court Gardens allows plenty of room to space out and move around, but

somehow the space appeared bustling, busy and full of the sounds and aromas of summer fairs. There were all the traditional stall attractions as well as 'acts'. Guests were entertained by Kidmore End School Choir, the Tadley band, dancers from the Joanna White School of Dance, and the entertainer 'Fred the Shed'. Furthermore, the sun shone brightly, the greenery glistened and the scene was a colourful kaleidoscope of Caversham people (and indeed some from further afield who have this date in their calendar or have friends and family in our vicinity). The organizers should be gratified by the event they have once again created. Well done to all – providers and patrons alike!

[Contributed by Stephen Roberts who provided the pictures]



Floral kingdom: inspiration for gardeners!



Caversham Bridge stand with 'Fudge and Crafts'



Riverside ambience



Upper level: Gardens, books and bric-a-brac



Mission Control or Parish Office?



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How do you avoid being scammed?

Sharing the expertise

[We are indebted to David Goldsworthy for sharing his expertise with CB readers]

For the past 12 years I have been providing computer support in Caversham and the surrounding area. During this time I have had quite a number of customers call me to put right problems that have been caused by scam calls and emails. This may be checking over a computer and removing any software that has been installed by the scammers, or it may be repairing damage that has been caused by the scammers out of spite when their victim refuses to pay.

It is a sad fact that we all receive scam calls and phishing emails. In fact most of the calls I get on my land-line are either trying to sell me something I do not want or trying to scam me. Registering for the Telephone Preference Service may help, but it does not seem to stop the calls (often they are from overseas). I was both irritated and amused by one cold caller who was trying to sell me an enhanced type of telephone preference service.

So how do you avoid being caught out?

Try to avoid getting into a conversation with anyone that phones you out of the blue. Although what you are told may be frightening, refuse to engage with them and instead get the opinion of a trusted friend or family member even if the caller insists you need to act immediately. Their aim is to unsettle you and not give you time to think, so make yourself time.

Be suspicious!

Microsoft do not phone people up and you won't get phone calls from Windows support. Your bank or ISP may possibly call you, but be extremely suspicious. They certainly won't instruct you over the phone to move your money around or ask for your password. The police are not going to phone you up and ask you to help them catch a criminal by buying an expensive item or transferring money to someone. The Inland Revenue honestly do not phone people up and tell them they are going to be taken to court unless they take immediate action. And they certainly do not suggest you pay your tax in iTunes vouchers. **My customers have experienced all of the above.**

Some remedies

Even if the caller's number, displayed by your phone's caller ID, looks genuine be careful as this can be faked. If you want to phone your bank/ISP/whoever to check if a call is genuine make sure the scammer really has hung up before you call them. If you do not the scammer may stay on line and pretend to be the person you are trying to call. Perhaps call 123 (speaking clock), a friend or even your own mobile phone to make sure the scammer has really disconnected their call before phoning your bank.

Consider a call blocking telephone that intercepts calls and makes callers say who they are before passing you the call. Do be careful though; one customer accidentally blocked my number and wondered why I was not replying to their messages.

To escape from persistent scammers you may need to change your telephone number, but please don't give them your mobile number.

Typically the scam caller will persuade you to type different things into your computer in an attempt to demonstrate that there is a problem and to get you used to following instructions. They will then get you to download software that will allow them to take over control of your computer. You must not let anyone who has phoned you out of the blue take remote control of your computer. You would not let a stranger drive your car; so do not let a stranger be in control of your computer. It is a great tool to allow someone to remotely fix computer issues, but it should only be someone that you have contacted for the express purpose of solving a problem, not someone who has phoned you up out of the blue. If you have allowed this to happen and you start to feel uncomfortable turn off your computer and or router and get help.

If an email suggests you need to reconfirm any details do not click on any links in the email. Instead log in to your bank, email program or similar as you would normally and see if you get a message from them as you log in. The name of the email sender may appear to be genuine, even though the actual sending address is not. You can often see the real email address by hovering the cursor over the incoming email address. Not many genuine businesses use random looking Gmail or Hotmail email addresses

If a friend emails you to say they are in hospital in the Philippines, have been pick-pocketed in Rome or have had some other mishap befall them, try calling or texting them rather than replying to their email. They are probably still at home and if you are close enough to them for them to genuinely contact you for help you almost certainly have their phone number.

Keep away from the dodgier side of the Internet. The film or software you are downloading may include dangerous content.

Make sure your computer security software is up to date. Windows Defender, as supplied built-in to Windows 10, is an excellent grade antivirus program used by businesses and government organizations. Other antivirus software is good as long as you subscribe – free versions give limited protection. Your Internet service provider or bank may also provide you with free or discounted security software. Do check that your security software is active and up to date. The free security software that comes with a new computer often only includes a few months' cover.

Keep your operating system software and programs up to date with updates and patches. If you are still using Windows XP or Vista you won't be getting any more security updates and may struggle to find anti-virus/anti-malware software. This leaves you exposed. Windows 7 won't be supported by Microsoft for much longer.

Why have I left this until last?

In my experience most of my customers who have been scammed have been scammed by social engineering, via an email or phone call, rather than by a clever hacker. In other words they have been tricked by a phone call or email into giving away their account details and passwords or have been persuaded to allow the scammer to take over their computer.

If you have been scammed please try not to be embarrassed about seeking advice. These people are professionals; it is their

job to extract money from you and they are good at it. All sorts of people young and old fall victim to them.

One final thought. Think carefully before you click unsubscribe on a spam email. If it genuinely is a message from a reputable company then this is fine. If it isn't you may have just confirmed to the spammer that this is a live email account. This may cause you to get even more spam!

If you think you have been hacked or scammed feel free call or email me for free advice.

David Goldsworthy, Computer Frustrations: Tel. 07980 129364; Email: help@computerfrustrations.co.uk

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Report on visit to the Grow Hope project in the Eastern Highlands of Zimbabwe: a mission link with St Andrew's, Caversham

[Linda Christmas provides a personal account of a mission link project]

Background: I have known the Mbanga family for 25 years. I am a journalist. Matt's Mbanga's father, Wilf, was a newspaper owner and I was asked by the Commonwealth Press Union, based in London, to visit Harare and help improve the skills of the reporters. The friendship with the Mbangas continued from that moment. Wilf Mbanga had to leave Zimbabwe 15 years ago, after his opposition supporting newspaper fell foul of the Mugabe regime. He and his wife moved to Southampton. Matt, at that time was at a university in Texas. He could have stayed in America and enjoyed the 'good life', but he chose to return to Zimbabwe. I admire him for this and that is why I became financially involved with the project to build an 'outward bound' facility on his father's property in the Eastern Highlands.

Visit: I visited the site in May 2019. It was my first opportunity to see the site and to experience the 'Leadership' courses that Matt runs there in conjunction with team-building physical exercise. The site, comprising permanent tents on stilts plus a central eating area and showers, etc., was much as I expected: basic but ideal for courses that generally lasts four days and three nights.

On my visit in May the course lasted three days and two nights because Matt had to return to Harare to undertake the oral review of his Doctorate in Leadership which he was about to complete with a Christian University in Texas. The highlight of this two-hour review was the Deputy Headmaster of St. John's school in Harare, saying that many of the boys at the school had been on Matt's courses and as a result, the ethos in the school had changed. Prefects behaved in a civilised way towards younger pupils. The

days of dictatorial leadership and even cruelty, prevalent through the years, were numbered.

Participants: There were seven participants, four girls and three boys, aged around 17 years. Twelve had been invited but there were last minute cancellations. The reasons for the cancellations are unclear. The participants were all part of a programme to help gifted children from under-privileged backgrounds. The most gifted were sent to private boarding schools. The group I saw were left in non-boarding state schools.

There were two additional tutors, and the tutors and the students drove from Harare in a mini-bus. I travelled with Wilf Mbanga, now able to visit Zimbabwe without fear of arrest, Matt and his family in a separate car.

The course:

I mostly watched from the sidelines, but participated when Matt invited me to do so.

The course began immediately on arrival with a series of physical exercises/games to build a team spirit: to inculcate into the young people that they had to make decisions selflessly that improved the team. Those on the first day were designed to be fun, but got more difficult as the course continued. I do not propose to go into details about the physical side. Some tasks to move objects from A to B required preparatory discussion and some sophisticated strategic thinking. Once the task started they were not allowed to talk to one another! The group managed most of the tasks, but the final task eluded them. These tasks were well thought out and presented a real challenge to the group.

The most strenuous task required them to climb a nearby mountain! I did not accompany them! One of the group had a fear of heights and managed to get to the top with other participants holding each hand. It was a major achievement for her and for the entire group. At the end of the camp the participants voted the mountain climbing as the most memorable experience. None had done anything remotely comparable!

During the tasks outlined above it was easy to see 'leaders' emerging, and one in particular was a quick thinker and a strong personality. He needed silencing towards the end so that the others did not wait for him to speak first, but were forced to think for themselves.

Aside from the physical, there were exercises in problem solving. The most complicated revolved around a planning inquiry to decide whether a piece of land could be given to a hotel owner to



expand his empire, and the consequences of this on the surrounding area. Each of the participants was assigned a role in the community and each had to argue their case for or against. The aim of the exercise was to ensure that when the final decision was made it was for the benefit of the community and not merely of benefit to some of the community. When I first read the brief I thought it was too difficult for a group of 17 year olds. I was wrong. They came to a reasonable conclusion.

One night we had a big bonfire and ate supper huddled around the fire (it tended to be cool at night). After which we played games such as charades. There was an excellent atmosphere and everyone participated.

At the end of each exercise, physical or mental, Matt Mbanga highlighted the main 'learning points'. These emphasised that team work was essential and that decision making should not be dictatorial, but should be based on consensus and everyone thinking and working for the good of the group, rather than battling for independent victory or glory. All seven of the participants told us that they felt they had benefitted from the course.

[Contributed by Linda Christmas, London, May 20, 2019]

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Churches Together in Caversham (CTC): annual report

The community of Churches in Caversham have had a very busy year through 2018.

The clergy of all the churches involved meet on the first Tuesday of each month for lunch and to pray with each other and to share anything that is on their mind. This also informs their annual retreat where the clergy can find space with each other and God to discuss further any issues that may have come up through the year.

The churches have enjoyed coming together for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, hosted this year by Father Patrick Daly at Our Lady and St. Anne Church. Most churches were represented and also most had a part to play including a talk from Rev. David Jenkins. As part of this many of the churches had a 'Pulpit swap' where the clergy swapped churches to talk to their congregations.

The annual Good Friday Walk of Witness from the Baptist Church, through St. Martin's Precinct took place and concluded with prayer and a song in Caversham Court. We have seen this event steadily grow over the years and become a great Witness of believers through the centre of Caversham.

Prior to Easter, we hosted various Lent groups around Caversham and made them open to all, a truly ecumenical event as most Lent groups showed inter-denominational participation.

The 'Nativity live' event, telling the story of Christmas through the streets of Caversham has grown and grown and has become a fixture in the community's calendar, reaching to a peak of over 500 people attending.

St. Andrews, in association with CTC, invited John Bell (Minister of the Church of Scotland and Member of the Lona community) to perform and it was a thoroughly enjoyable and ecumenical event; John enabling the attendees to get singing unaccompanied within minutes of arriving.

We have also continued our support for 'REInspired Caversham' which takes the RE Syllabus into predominantly primary schools. They have visited most of the primary schools in Caversham, teaching approximately 1,800 children about the Christian faith.

Our annual 'Holiday club' attracts 175 – 180 children each year, with singing, craft, theatre and sports activities each day through the first week of the school summer holidays.

Finally we continue to support the 'Champions to End Loneliness', a group established to make links into the community to befriend those who feel isolated. The group has established a coffee companions group on Thursday mornings in Emmer Green at 'The Bite' from 10.30am to 11.30am, and another at the '3C's café' at St John's on Tuesday from 10.30 to 2.00pm (lunches available). They are now supporting the street party's initiative and also they have been invited to join the Reading Borough Council, Loneliness and Social Isolation Steering Group.

We praise God we are working together for the greater good of the Kingdom.

Fond Farewell to Caversham doctors



On 30th June, Drs. Harold and Janet Chadwick closed their popular GP practice on the Peppard Road after 28 years of service to the people of Caversham. They took over Dr Conrad Latto's practice in The Mount, Caversham, in 1991 following Dr Latto's retirement. Most of the 2,600 patients will be automatically transferred to Emmer Green surgery or Sonning Common Health Centre. On behalf of the many people of Caversham who benefitted from this very special practice, *Caversham Bridge* would like to extend their great appreciation and thanks to both Drs Janet and Harold Chadwick, and wish them both well.

Churches Together in Caversham (CTC) Church Leaders Retreat

In late June up to nine of our Church Leaders representing a wide range of traditions came together for what has now become an annual retreat at Stanton St John, a Queen Anne house in peaceful rural surroundings run by a Christian trust.

As well as having personal space, praying together, laughing with each other and growing in mutual respect and affection (which are all of considerable value), we studied and discussed some of the passages in the Acts of the Apostles which continue to have central significance in our understanding of God and God's mission. This opportunity of being away together is one which we deeply cherish.

David Jenkins



Back row – Left to Right: Mike Smith, Colin Baker, David Jenkins, Patrick Daly, John Dudley, Keith Saynor, Nigel Jones

Front row – Left to Right: Sarah Jonas, Judith Ryder, Derek Chandler, Jenny Dowding.

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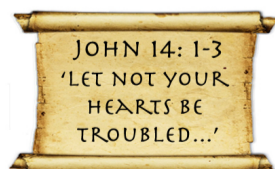
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News round up from Highdown School

Rugby

We took a group of 18 girls to the Berkshire Girls Touch Rugby Tournament. Highdown has recently introduced a girls' rugby team, and only had one session of touch rugby, but we were keen to attend



the tournament. We entered two teams. Both teams did extremely well on a very wet pitch. We finished the tournament second and third which is a fantastic achievement. Considering it was a Year 8/9 tournament and we played Year 7/8 (and one year 9), we are proud of how we performed. We

are really looking forward to future fixtures. This was a great stepping stone. The future of girls' rugby at Highdown looks bright.

RSPCA Great Animal Welfare Debate

A group of Year 8 students from Highdown qualified for the national final of the RSPCA Great Animal Welfare Debate, which was held at Church House just across from the Palace of Westminster. The team consisted of four Key Note Speakers: Harriet Ranson, Clemmie Thorpe, Emily Larsen and Mo Cook, as well as two Media Officers, Maddie Shand and Ellie Hayden and an Observer, Ella Tripathi. Highdown debated against other schools who had qualified as regional champions from Birmingham and Leeds on the topic of 'Whose responsibility is animal welfare?' Each school had been given a group to represent and our team eloquently argued that vets should have the most responsibility when it comes to animal welfare. A special congratulations goes to Clemmie Thorpe, who won an individual award for Best Speaker in the category of Animal Welfare Champion. A massive well done to the Highdown team.



Photographer Matt Emmett comes to talk to Year 10

Last term our Year 10 photographers were lucky enough to have professional photographer Matt Emmett come in to talk to them. Mr Emmett is an accomplished photographer and won the Historic Photographer of the Year Award 2017 and Architectural Photographer of the Year 2016. He also has a book published; 'Forgotten heritage'.

It was very inspiring for the students to hear all about his work, to see his exciting photographs, hear all about his career, and to get some great tips. Students have contacted Mr Emmett with further questions since and Mr Emmett has been great with helping them.

"I think it is hugely important for young people to be exposed to as many potential careers,

experiences and hobbies as possible. I also think it is very important to find a career path that will sustain and excite you and not just pay the bills. I am lucky enough to have found something I love doing and sharing my passion with others is an extension of the experience. I really enjoyed coming in to talk about photography with the year 10 students."



National Rowing

Year 10 student Eleanor Webb rows with Reading Rowing Club and at the end of May competed in a coxed four at the National Schools Rowing Regatta. The competition was strong with 68 competitors in their class. The girls had an excellent time trial making it to the semi-finals (top 12). From here they could not make the A Final (top 6), but came a very close second in the B final.

Horse-Riding Success

On Wednesday 19th June, August competed in a horse-riding competition for Wyfold RDA at the Wellington Equestrian Centre. She competed in two events on the pony 'Lulu': 'Dressage' which she won for her category and 'Handy Pony' which she came third in for her category. Well done August!



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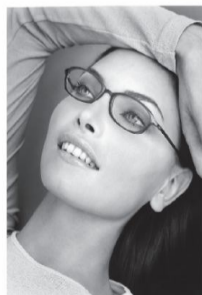
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Caversham and District Residents Association (CADRA) AGM

The hall at Thameside School was full on 11th June for the CADRA AGM, preceding the eagerly anticipated talk from Dr Thomas Asbridge on the life of William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke. In addition to the formal business of the AGM, it was an opportunity to catch up on the local issues of the moment and over the past year.

A photograph of the Caversham Sign was displayed. The sign has been returned to Woodcarver Stuart King for restoration and repainting. <https://stuartking.co.uk/the-caversham-village-sign-carved-by-stuart-king/>.

Just a few days after the commemoration of D Day, a photograph was shown, which had been posted by Reading Museum, of a landing craft being tested on the Thames. Many of the landing craft used at Normandy in June 1944 were built by Elliotts (Joiners) at Caversham in

Reading. Elliotts diversified from joinery and shop-fitting during WWII to support the war effort. Thornycroft Boat Builders took over the Herbert Engineering facilities on Wolsey Road to develop marine engines. They worked with Elliotts and manufactured the engines for the landing craft.

Appointments were made to the CADRA Committee but there is still space for anyone interested to join the team.

Email info@cadra.org.uk for more information.

Stewart Bolton stood down as CADRA Treasurer after a remarkable 25 years. He was presented with an engraved decanter and 'something to put in it' and his wife Pat received a bouquet of flowers.



Stuart King with sign – c 2002 (Image by Stuart King)



Stuart King with sign 2019 (Image by Stuart King)



Photo of landing craft – (Image by permission of Reading Museum from the collection <https://www.readingmuseum.org.uk/our-collections>)



Stewart Bolton CADRA Treasurer with Helen Lambert, CADRA Chair (Image by Rachel Paton)

William Marshal 'brought to life'

Dr Thomas Asbridge of Queen Mary University of London, an internationally renowned expert on the history of the Middle Ages, was the guest speaker at the CADRA open meeting following the AGM on 11th June 2019. He brought to life the extraordinary story of William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke, who died in Caversham 800 years ago. He described the essential attributes of 'England's Greatest Knight' – good fortune, resilience and mental strength, martial prowess, military skill, cunning and loyalty to the Angevin line.

Dr Asbridge is a prestigious author and speaker, and we were delighted to welcome him for what he said may be his last talk on William Marshal as his research interests move to new areas. How very appropriate to be in at the end, since William Marshal ended his days

in Caversham! If you missed the talk, you may catch a glimpse in a video at <https://www.knightayton.co.uk/male-presenters/thomas-asbridge>.

Dr Asbridge is advising on the information panel being developed by CADRA. The latest version of the text and design was on display at the meeting and many people donated towards the cost of the project. A planning application for the panel to be installed on the viewing point of Caversham Bridge is awaiting a decision. The initial fundraising target has now been reached, but additional costs now seem likely and further donations would be very welcome. <https://www.cadra.org.uk/> [All images by Rachel Paton]



Thomas Asbridge with Mike Eggleton, a local supporter of CADRA



Thomas Asbridge replying to questions from audience



Thomas Asbridge, with CADRA Chair, Helen Lambert, advising on the information panel

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ENVIRONMENT

YELLOW TOADFLAX

By the time you read this, the Yellow, or Common Toadflax, will already be in bloom, and it should continue flowering into October, or even November.

It is like a miniature Antirrhinum, or Snapdragon, and like them, you can cause the mouths of the flowers to open by squeezing them gently on the sides. I have read that the flowers, rich in nectar, are pleasant to suck. Whilst I have often sucked clover, I have not tried Toadflax, and think it would be advisable to make sure there were no insects inside the flowers before I did!



There seem to have been two practical uses to which the plant was put. One was as a fly-trap. You somehow pressed the juice out of the plant, then mixed it with milk, and it would attract any flies in the room, and poison them when they drank the liquid. And the other was a cure for quartan fever, or malaria. To effect this, you had to rub the juice of the plant on the soles of your feet, and between your toes.

The name of the plant is intriguing. The flowers certainly are a very bright yellow, with a more orange patch on the lower lip, to show the pollinating bees where to land. Among insects, only bees are strong enough to open the flowers, and have tongues long enough to reach the nectar in the spurs behind the flowers. In fact there is a groove along the bottom of the flower-tube to direct their tongues, while they are carrying out the pollination. The two-tone flowers have given rise to one of the old country names for the plant, 'bacon and eggs'.

When it comes to the 'flax' part of the name, the leaves are like those of flax, though the flowers certainly are not. It is some years since I saw a field of flax, but our ancestors must have been more familiar with it. It is easy to forget that before we had cotton, we

grew flax in order to make linen, for clothes and for the sails of ships. When the clothes wore out, they could be used to make paper.

There are two schools of thought on the 'toad' part of the name. One of them is that, unlike flax, Toadflax is an insignificant, worthless plant, which seems a little unkind to toads. The other theory is that the opening of the flower is suggestive of the mouth of a toad. Some of the other country names for the plant are dog's mouth, mouse's mouth, pig's chops, and rabbit's chops.

There are other wild species of Toadflax around, with the same kind of flowers, but smaller and less noticeable than the yellow variety. Pale Toadflax, not a common plant, can be found on the chalky soils above Caversham, often in the same kind of places as its yellow cousin. It has very pale lilac flowers, with purple veins. And then there is the Ivy-leaved Toadflax, which is a weed in many a Caversham garden. The flowers are even smaller than those of Pale Toadflax, and in my garden it likes to get its roots into the old mortar of a garden wall, and then to trail down the wall. I think it is nicer than a bare wall, and tend to leave it alone.

Happy Wanderer

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Errata for July, 2019 issue

Page 13: 'Happy Wanderer'. In setting out the piece the last line was inadvertently removed. The full last paragraph should read: 'In the 1980s there was a rather less notable incident. An acquaintance of mine remembers going with a friend to 'The Duke' on a night when an 'exotic' dancer was advertised. They found themselves the only people in the bar, apart from the landlady. She had decided that the show must go on, and operated a small record player on the bar. On cue, the dancer, a student from London, duly performed. According to his story, the two young men, still the only customers, took pity on her, bought her a drink, and took her to the station for her train back to London!'

In the second item on Page 13 Supporting Wateraid in Caversham: The name 'Wateraid' was not typographically correct. The correct form is 'WaterAid'.

Our apologies to writers and readers in both cases [Editors]

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St Anne's School 120th Anniversary

St Anne's Roman Catholic Primary School will be familiar to many *Caversham Bridge* readers. The school premises are located in Washington Road, Lower Caversham, and adjoin the Church of Our Lady and St Anne situated in Southview Avenue. Between these two sites 'on the corner' was the former Convent of the Visitation, which played an important part in the founding years of what is today Caversham's primary focus for Roman Catholic worship. The same former convent was closely associated with the St Anne's School. In many ways a 'classic' denominational and educational combination, characteristic of the Roman Catholic tradition. In the last decade the convent building ceased its religious purpose and has been converted into residential apartments. The Visitation order still has houses elsewhere and the 'mother house' is in Belgium.

In a later issue of *Caversham Bridge* we look forward to presenting a historical memoir about St Anne's School as a way to commemorate the anniversary and to pay tribute to its presence in the community. We can also note that the Hemdean House School is celebrating its 160th year of foundation as well in 2019 (*Caversham Bridge*, July, 2019, p.7). Continuity in places and institutions of education is a quality to cherish as widely as possible.

The celebration of St Anne's school 120th anniversary

commenced in June and will continue to be marked until the end of the year. On Friday 21st June a special celebration day started with a 'Family Breakfast' hosted by Liz Banks of St Anne's PSA. More than 40 families from the school, with some second and third generation pupils, joined together for a wonderful community breakfast. The children and staff wore historical dress to commemorate the school's Victorian beginnings and enjoyed breakfast treats which were kindly donated by Tesco (Napier Road).

After the breakfast the whole school celebrated mass and the regular weekday congregation was swelled by a number of alumni. Refreshments were then served in the school hall where historic documents and photographs were available to look through. Some old pupils brought their own photographs and other items to show round. After lunch a concert was performed and then on a beautiful sunny afternoon there was opportunity for a picnic on the school field.



Daisy and Isabella in Victorian dress (by Liz Banks who gave clearance for publication)



Older alumni (by Jane Shaw)



Some of the alumni in the school hall (by Jane Shaw)

News from St Anne's School: June 2019

Douai Abbey

On 12th June, Year 6 children attended the Leavers Mass at Douai Abbey. Alongside other Year 6 children from across Reading, they celebrated their time at Primary School and spoke of the confidence that they enjoy through faith and the knowledge of God's love and protection. This was the first Mass to be held at Douai since the renovations and was both moving and joyous. Mrs Houghton gave an inspiring and innovative post-communion reflection.

During the week commencing 24th June the children researched a variety of other cultures including Hinduism, Sikhism, Islam and Judaism. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the beauty in difference that we have because of the work of our Father in heaven. Year 2 enjoyed a fascinating visit to the Reading Temple. Earlier in the week, Year 3 visited the Victorian Classroom, a cultural surprise indeed.

Sports Days

Foundation Stage and KS1 events took place on the morning of 18th June but the afternoon's KS2 had to be cancelled because of rain

KS2 Sports Day took place on 25th June despite some showers and the cancellation of a number of races due to the risk of slipping. This was a wonderful afternoon and it was great to see so many parents assisting and cheering the children on.

The Summer Fayre

On the hottest day of the year to date we had a fantastic turnout to the St Anne's Summer Fair, organised by the PSA. As well as games and stalls, visitors were entertained by the school's talented musicians along with guest entertainment Emmer Green Gymnastics and Dancercise who each put on a lively show. We were overwhelmed by the generosity from our parent community who once again put together some incredible dishes from around the world. The teachers got stuck into the fun, taking turns in the "Soak the Teacher" stocks! There was lots of fun in the sun for all involved and we are very grateful to everyone who helped and to all the local businesses that supported through sponsorship and prize donations. [Contributed by Liz Banks]

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Our heritage is at risk: help save Reading gaol

Matt Rodda MP (the Member of Parliament for Reading East) has written to constituency residents about supporting a petition to save Reading gaol from a default sale to the highest bidder for conversion into luxury flats.

His letter communicates the following: 'I am concerned that Reading's historic gaol is at risk of



Reading Gaol from the Abbey Ruins

being redeveloped as luxury flats, after the Government announced it would sell the site to the highest bidder. I believe that our precious heritage should be preserved and that the prison should be used to promote the arts and history of our town and the country as a whole.

Reading gaol is known internationally as the place where Oscar Wilde was incarcerated. It is also the burial place of King Henry 1st and the site includes parts of Reading Abbey, once one of the largest monastic complexes in Medieval Europe. It is a vital part of our heritage and it needs to be protected. That is why I am calling on the Government to rethink its mistaken approach, as to recognize the enormous value of this unique historic site.

I hope you will support this campaign by signing the petition calling for the prison to be protected and for it to become an arts and heritage hub. I am working with a wide range of local people and organizations and together I hope that we can press for a change in Government policy.

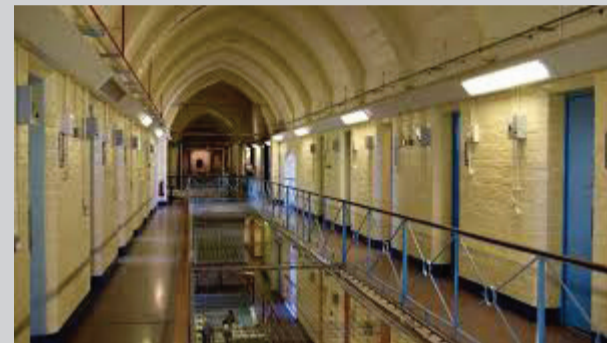
To sign the petition online please click on this link <https://mattroddamp.com/>

stopreadinggaolselfoff

[If you have received the letter version of the petition (printed on the back of the letter) please sign it and return via post or by emailing a photo of the completed form to matroddamcasework@parliament.uk Thank you for your help and support on this important issue. Matt Rodda MP].

Caversham Bridge carried a history themed piece on page 1 of the May 2019 issue. So, Matt Rodda's lead on a campaign and petition to save Reading gaol is a relevant and timely reminder of the value of history and heritage 'past, present and future'. Readers and residents have an opportunity to express their support. Caversham has been making a very good case for William Marshal (d.1219) and 800 years later it is fitting that we do the same for another historic neighbour and short term-resident across the River. The support (perhaps even the continued conversion) of the Borough of Reading to heritage and history is a now visibly evident in the town and in the Abbey Quarter. This is commendable and excellent, but needs continued vigilance and effort. If you need to reinforce your

view just go for a stroll around the Abbey and the peripheral riverside walk: see, look, think and act. We have the materials for history on our doorsteps. Historic sites converted to luxury apartments serve no cause or planning gain: they merely devalue heritage and corrupt legacy, Stand up Reading and stand up for the right cause!



The inside of Reading Gaol

Spanish Circle

The Spanish Circle ('El Circulo Español de Reading') was the first of the language circles to be established to complement the Reading Adult Education foreign language provision. The Spanish Circle has been in existence for over 40 years and for much of that time met in the Caversham Centre. It was initially established for those learning the language through the Adult Education programme and has always benefitted from the input of native-speakers. The group was the idea of Jordi Pertegas, a Catalan who taught Spanish in the Reading Adult Education classes some 40 years ago!

The Spanish Circle was always very successful in Caversham, but the link with the adult education programme fell away once the organisation of the Reading classes was altered in recent years. This break led to a decline in new members. The Caversham-based group experienced problems with the venue after the closure of the Caversham Adult Education Centre, and as more of our members were travelling in from the Wokingham and Bracknell direction,

it was decided to move to the present venue! So, a few years ago we moved to the Social Club premises of the Church of Our Lady of Peace on the Wokingham Road which is better located for both Wokingham, Bracknell and Reading members. It continues as a Hispanic Society for speakers and students of Spanish (Intermediate to Advanced level)

The group meets from 7.45pm to 9.45pm on the third Friday evening of the month from September to June inclusive at Our Lady of Peace (OLOP Social Club - Carl Barton room) 338, Wokingham Road, Reading RG6 7DA (Entry in Aldbourne Avenue). Parking and access facilities are good and it is on the no. 17 bus-route from Reading.

Newcomers are always welcome. Admission £4.00 includes a welcome drink. Our programme includes a mixture of presentations, films, discussion on a range of topics and Fiesta evenings. If interested just come along or to find out more contact: readingspanishcircle@gmail.com [Contributed by Anna Morris]

[Editorial note: French and German classes are offered in Caversham, and the French Circle meets at Church House in Caversham on a regular basis. CB hopes to explore language learning topics in future issues]



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WHAT'S ON IN AND AROUND CAVERSHAM: AUGUST 2019

DATE	EVENT
3rd	One Day Life Class Crowne Plaza Caversham Bridge 12.00 – 3.00pm Theme 'Rebuilding your Life'.
4th	Farmers Market 10.00am – 3.00pm Caversham Precinct Car Park
4th	Open Garden 'King's Copse House' Bradfield Gate RG7 6JR. Homemade teas Open 2.00pm – 5.00pm
7th	Open Garden 'Danesfield House' Marlow SL7 2EY 10.am – 400pm. Gardens of Robert Hudson (Sunlight Soap Magnate) Pre –book for lunch and afternoon tea 01628 891010
8th	Caversham Red Tent at Caversham Court. 12.00 – 2.00pm Womens' support group.
9th–11th	'Prosecco in the Park' Christchurch meadows + Huge LED screen www.proseccointhepark .
10th	A Different World Festival featuring 'Hana Piranha' for adults and young people with additional needs. Reading Abbey Rugby Club Peppard Rd RG4 9AL. 11.00 – 11.30pm. Carers go free.
12th	'Understanding your Benefits Rights' for adults by Autism Berkshire 40 Caversham Road.
18th	Farmers Market 10.00am – 3.00pm Caversham Precinct Car Park.
18th	Open Garden 'Manor House' Dorchester OX10 7HZ. 2.00pm – 4.30pm Homemade teas in Abbey
21st	'A Star is Born' Abbey Ruins Seating available/BYO summerscreens.co.uk
22nd	'Green Book' Abbey Ruins Seating available/BYO summerscreens.co.uk
23rd	'Forrest Gump' Abbey Ruins Seating available/BYO summerscreens.co.uk
23rd –25th	READING FESTIVAL

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Caversham Horticultural Society annual autumn show

The Caversham Horticultural Society holds its annual show at Emmer Green Primary School in September every year, with different categories for produce and crafts, some of which are open classes for anyone who lives in the RG4 area. This year the show takes place on Saturday 14th September from 2.00pm to 4.00pm at Emmer Green Primary School, RG4 8LN.

We are always looking for new ways to encourage people to come along and try exhibiting, or just to come along and see the show. Last year we introduced no fees for exhibitors and we gained a few new people willing to have a go. Here's hoping they will be back this year, as again class entries are free. There is a chance to buy plants and bulbs, refurbished garden tools and naturally refreshments are available.

We are always looking for volunteers to come and assist the show and the Society in general, as without them we couldn't survive.

If anyone is interested in either the show or the society please either send me an email on gmr113@hotmail.co.uk or check the society's web site for details. www.caversham-horticultural.org.uk. Full entry details and show schedule are available on the website.

Practical information: Entrance to off-road parking via St. Barnabas Rd. Bus routes 24 and 25 run nearby. There is a bulb and plant stall. If you are a non-member resident of RG4 why not enter open categories? These are domestic, handicrafts and floral art,



Caversham Horticultural Society
AUTUMN SHOW
 Sat 14th Sept 2019 @
 2.00 - 4.30 pm at Emmer
 Green Pr Sch. RG4 8LN.



Reducing your carbon footprint

There is plenty of advice on reducing home energy use (and the resulting bills). One less obvious way of reducing our carbon footprint is to look carefully at the food we eat. Meat and dairy products use a lot of land and energy in their production. Reduce the amount of these in your diet and with the money you save buy local, better quality meat for special meals. It's easy to find great recipes for alternative, plant based meals.

Also avoid food that's been flown in and seek out locally produced food. Plan ahead when shopping and don't make a special journey just to buy a few items. If you have space, growing your own tomatoes and lettuce is easy to do (and nothing tastes like a freshly picked tomato!)

The True Food Co-operative in Emmer Green sells a wide range of organic food and makes a point of sourcing locally grown fruit and vegetables. Local suppliers include the Ways and Means Trust in Rotherfield Peppard and Tolhurst Organic near Whitchurch. For more information, see their web site at <https://www.truefood.coop/>

[Contributed by Phil Chatfield and based on an article in Pathways, Spring, 2019 – The Diocese of Oxford magazine]

The Craft and Chat Club

The Craft and Chat Club has been meeting on Thursday afternoons at the Weller Centre in Amersham Road. Friendships have been made and new skills learnt. We have two sewing machines (one can be used by wheelchair users) and there is plenty of space to cut out patterns. We are improving our crochet and knitting skills and we would love to have a try at macramé: are there any Caversham Bridge readers who could spare some time to get us started? We are now meeting from 1.00pm to 3.00pm so people can get away to collect children from school. All are welcome.

Please contact Pam Chatfield: pamch32@gmail.com if you would like to get involved



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From Lawyer to Priest



God is doing in Caversham and how he can serve the community.

Welcome to Andy Storch, the new curate in the Ministry team in Caversham Thameside and Mapledurham Parish. He is an established criminal defence solicitor in Reading and has spent the last six years training to be a vicar. Andy will continue on both career paths. On June 29th this year he was ordained as a deacon in Christchurch Cathedral, Oxford. He will be working at St John's first and then across the other churches in the CTM parish, learning what

New Minister for Caversham Methodist Churches

The Methodist Churches in Caversham will be saying farewell shortly to the Revd. Jenny Dowding after ten years of service. Many thanks indeed, Jenny, for all you have accomplished. The Methodist Churches in Caversham are now looking forward to welcoming their new Minister, the Rev. Martin Beukes (pronounced 'Beercus') and his wife, Nicole. They commence their ministry from 1st September, 2019.

CLUBS

Caversham WI

For our June Meeting, we welcomed Lucy Bowley who showed us many different exercises which can be done easily at home to maintain or build strength and stability. She gave an informative talk and the group enjoyed trying them out. The following day, we enjoyed our annual invitation to join a boat cruise along the Thames from Henley. Accompanied by husbands and friends, we enjoyed a cream tea and some (rare) sunshine.

At the July's meeting we will welcome Marlene Voke, our Berkshire Federation Chair! She has been kind enough to agree to come and talk to us, and we look forward to hearing about her career and experiences within the WI. More details can be found online at <https://tinyurl.com/hwzj6zy> or search for 'Caversham WI'. For enquiries please contact our Secretary, on 0118 947 5176.

Rosehill WI – Birthday Meeting

Vice President Margaret Pyle welcomed all those present to our June birthday meeting, including representatives from Caversham WI, Chazey WI and Sonning Glebe WI and other visitors. Secretary, Ryszarda, gave us information about

the Berkshire Village Book which can be purchased from WI House at a cost of £9.95. Ryszarda mentioned that a proposed visit to Kew Gardens in late September was being arranged (details to follow). A letter of thanks had been received from Smart Works for donation from May meeting. Money from the raffle which was £39.00 was being donated towards the RBH emergency packs. The sales table made £22.25.

Margaret Seal was thanked for all the colourful buttonholes she had made over the years, but was now unable to continue. A presentation was made to Margaret. Instead of buttonholes, cards will now be given to members for their birthdays.

Jane Stubbs gave a very interesting talk about 'Women's Progress from Victorian Times'. This included undressing a mannequin showing the various layers of clothing that were worn, followed by slides that depicted how women's lives had changed over the years. An invitation for two members of Rosehill WI had been received to attend the Berkshire Federation Centenary afternoon tea on Wednesday, 14th August at Easthampstead Park. Rosehill WI meet on the first Wednesday of the month at St Barnabas Village Hall, Emmer Green at 2.00 pm.

First Holy Communions at Our Lady and St Anne

On 16th June, Trinity Sunday, children from Year 3 at St Anne's school celebrated their First Holy Communion. The girls in their long white dresses and the boys in suits or other best outfits, sat with their families in reserved benches. The children went up before anyone else to receive Holy Communion. They gathered at the back of church to collect their communion candles and then processed together back to their places.

Father Patrick celebrated the Mass and, during his homily, spoke about the Holy Trinity saying that the prayer we say as we make the Sign of the Cross confirms our belief in the Three in One of the Trinity. He also said that implicit in the word First is the understanding that there will be a Second Holy Communion and a third and so on. He asked the parents to encourage and support the new communicants to continue to receive the Body and Blood of Christ as often as they could. Later in the Mass, he presented the children with their Communion certificates. He also thanked the staff of St Anne's school who had prepared the children for this special day.

After Mass, there was an opportunity for a group photograph of all the children together and then numerous other individual photos were taken by family and friends.

On 23rd June, eleven children who did not attend St Anne's school made their First Holy Communion and were later presented with their Communion certificates.

During this Mass Fr Patrick said it was appropriate that it was on the feast of Corpus Christi, the Body and Blood of Christ, that they received Holy Communion for the first time. He talked about how the devotion to Corpus Christi developed in the 13th century. In modern times, when it is possible to receive Holy Communion more frequently we can celebrate Corpus Christi with even more devotion.

He finished again by asking parents to bring their children to Mass so that the new communicants will receive their second Holy Communion and their third and so on and continue their devotion to The Body and Blood of Christ for the rest of their lives.

[Contributed by Jane who wrote report and provided photographs]



Children from St Anne's school



Children from other schools

Christian Community Action (CCA): activities and appeal

Christian Community Action (CCA) is an established local charitable organization. Many know of its activities in collecting, selling and redistributing furniture and other household items. Yet, CCA supports many other activities. The charity has set itself the task of raising £25,000 by the end of July to help maintain its support centres and to deliver material support (including food parcels, bedding, blankets and furniture items) to

those in need. In January 2018 'End Child Poverty' (www.endchildpoverty.org.uk) published data that showed that in the Reading East and Reading West Parliamentary constituencies some 22% of children in those areas experienced levels of child poverty: that is 10,319 children affected!

CCA has physical presence in the community: there are Support Centres at 369, Oxford Road, RG30 1HA; 526/528, Northumberland Avenue, Whitley,

RG2 8NY; 38, Coronation Square, Southcote, RG30 3QN, and 62, Wood Lane, Sonning Common, RG4 9SL. In Caversham, the Baptist Church hosts a free hot meal service on Wednesday's. Please feel free to visit these centres and make contact with our charity workers and volunteers.

Please make a donation to the current appeal by visiting the CCA website (www.ccam.org.uk). Donations can be gift-aided.

A trip to Kenya

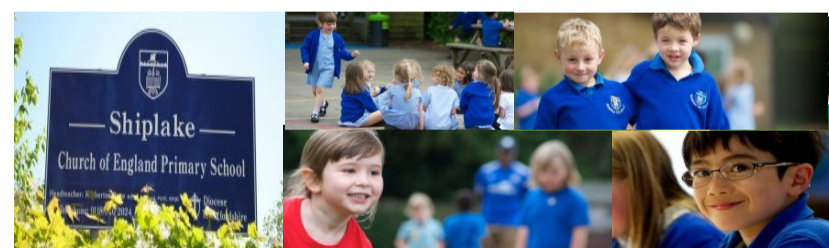


Nturmeti is a remote village in Kenya about 70 km west of Nairobi. The area has no medical facilities except for a small maternity unit built last year by volunteers. The vision is to develop this unit, which is on a large site owned by ACK (Anglican Church Kenya), into a mission hospital.

The first step is to build nurses accommodation so that the maternity unit can operate 24/7. At present the midwife Anne lives in the Pastor's house and it is not safe for her to travel to the maternity unit after dark, so tragically many babies do not survive. The phases to follow will be an outpatient unit and then the first hospital ward - but this is entirely dependent on donations.

In August, one of our editors, Carol Moloney will be travelling to Nturmeti with the group 'Mission Direct' to help build the accommodation for two nurses and also to deliver some medical supplies. Please consider supporting Carol's work on the project by making a donation. Every penny received will be spent on buying building materials.

If you would like to help, please donate through 'wonderful.org' and the address is, <https://wonderful.org/fundraiser/atriptokenya-12c0915f> or, you can leave a donation with 'Waltons Jewellers' in Prospect Street, Caversham. Thank You. Progress in the project will be reported on in the October edition of the *Caversham Bridge*.



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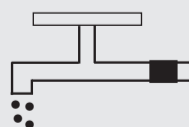
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