

NEW CLERGY FOR CAVERSHAM

New minister at Caversham Heights Methodist Church

A WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED to Keith Sanders and his wife Monica. Keith is to be the new Methodist Minister at Caversham Heights.

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Monica and Keith Sanders are both natives of the West Country. Monica's home was at Plymouth and Keith's at Wellington, Somerset. After working for six years with a West of England textile firm, Keith entered the ministry in 1959 at Didsbury College, Bristol. His probation was spent at Ashby-de-la Zouch, and was followed by two five-year spells at Doncaster and Bolton, during this time being chaplain at a colliery and a teacher training college. Then followed six years at Exeter, which included chaplain at Exeter Prison, and the past six years at Harrow.

Monica and Keith

have three children: Dawn is 22, a staff nurse who has just begun a midwifery course at Ascot Hospital; Martin, 21, is a design draughtsman with London Transport; and Stephen, aged 16, will probably be attending a sixth form college in the area. There is also Toby, the retriever, who is the ripe old age of 14.

The Sanders family are very much looking forward to coming to share in the life of Caversham Heights. They see their ministry as complementary to the ministry of all God's People — serving and loving each other — and ministering to the needs of the community and the world for whom Christ died.

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The induction service for Keith Sanders will be held on August 30 at 7.30pm at Wesley Church, Queen's Road, Reading.

Associate Minister for Caversham Baptist Free Church

AT a Church Members Meeting in May a unanimous invitation was sent to Dr Philip Egglestone, a student in his final year at Regent's Park College, Oxford, to join the Baptist Team in Caversham as Associate Minister to assist Rev Dennis Weller in the growing work and influence of the Baptist Church. His acceptance of the call was received with delight by the members. His service of Ordination takes place at Oxford on July 27, and his Induction to the work in Caversham on Saturday, September 6.

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Philip was born in Newcastle upon Tyne.

He studied at Sheffield University for six years, obtaining a BSc degree in Plant Biology, and completing a programme of research for which he was awarded a PhD (1973-79).

Philip was converted within a few hours of arriving at University, through the witness of

his next-door neighbour Andy Cole. Although Philip's family is not religious, through other means he considers that God had been preparing him to encounter Him through Andy's witness for about a year.

He was baptised and received into membership at Cemetery Road Baptist Church, Sheffield, where he grew as a Christian and was privileged also, for four years, to be part of the Navigator ministry in Sheffield University, where he received a good grounding in "things Christian".

The response which was made at his conversion was one to the Bible, and the message that it contained, and this belief in the dynamic message of the Bible is still the cornerstone of his own pilgrimage with God.

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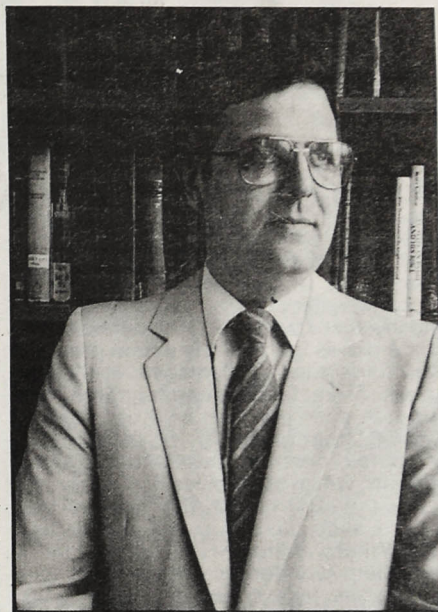
For about 10 years of the particular service which he offered to God was in the area of

youth work... first in Sheffield in the South Yorkshire District; and then in Jamaica, where he worked for some time before entering Regent's Park College, Oxford, to receive training for the pastoral ministry.

□ □

In Jamaica Philip lectured in Plant Biology, Biology and Microbiology at the University of the West Indies. It was during his time there that, as he put it, "I worked through what I felt was a 'call' from God, to train for and enter a wider ministry."

When I eventually plucked up courage to share this with friends, their response was positive, and with their encouragement I have proceeded to the position in which I now find myself. I entered college in Oxford, praying for a deeper understanding of 'pastoral ministry', and am thankful to God for the measure in which he



DR PHILIP EGGLESTONE, Associate Minister at Caversham Baptist Free Church

has answered my prayer and those of many others.

□ □

"Caversham Baptist Free Church is the first pastorate in which I have served, and it is with a sense of humility and adventure that I have accepted their invitation to be their associate pastor. I come

with no preconceived notions regarding the type of ministry I shall exercise in Caversham, but shall look to God for direction as I get to know the members there, and the area in which I shall be living. I believe that my 'call' to the Christian ministry is a call to leadership, but a leadership that is one of function and not authority."

CAVERSHAM DOWN UNDER



TWO photographs which may interest readers of the Caversham Bridge. They were taken earlier this year in New Zealand.

The suburb of Caversham (part of

Dunedin) was named after a homestead which once occupied the area. It appears that a member of the Benwell family of Deans farm, Caversham, mar-

ried into the Valpy family of Reading and a son emigrated to New Zealand in the first half of the eighteenth century. There he acquired several acres and built a

home naming it Caversham because his mother so loved her birth place.

How the New Zealand fruit farm near Nelson got the name Mapledurham is a mystery.



TALKING POINT

By Paul Kenchington
Priest-in-charge, Caversham Park Village

OF NO FIXED ABODE

FROM the moment the rock festival at Stonehenge was banned and the hippy convoy set off to wander through various parts of the South of England, it was hardly out of the news. Reactions to these travellers of the road were mixed; mostly there was fear and suspicion, in some places, particularly where property was threatened or damaged, there was anger. From some quarters there was support, even practical help of food and clothing from one vicar — who thereby, of course, opened himself to the same criticism which the hippies had received.

What was it about the hippies that caused such general upset and ill-feeling? Where damage was done (and I can't help wondering whether that was somewhat less than the impression given by the Press), the feelings had some foundation. But I suspect the real threat posed by the hippies was actually because "normality" was being questioned. If we can tie someone down by labelling them with their job and their address, we feel relatively secure in relation to them. "Joan? Oh yes, she's a tea-lady. Lives in Birmingham, actually. And Jonathan, well, he's a doctor from Guildford. They're normal; we know where they fit in. But Bob, he's unemployed — has been for ages, and hasn't settled anywhere in years. 'OF NO FIXED ABODE'. Hmm, well, I'm not sure how far to trust him..." An alternative lifestyle (willingly chosen or, as in the case of those made redundant, unwillingly thrust upon a person) is a threat to normality. It simply doesn't fit in with what everyone else expects and accepts as normal.

But for the Christian, what is "normal"? The Normal Christian Life, as Watchman Nee wrote in his spiritual classic of the same title, is quite simply: I live no longer, but Christ lives his life in me. This is not supposed to be a high level of Christianity but God's normal for every Christian. Normality for the Christian must be judged only according to the standards of Jesus, and he was hardly a staid upholder of the status quo and the don't-rock-the-boat mentality.

Jesus was himself a wanderer. We wouldn't want to call him a hippy, perhaps, but his alternative life-style was just as disconcerting. Look at the company he kept! — prostitutes, tax-collectors and sinners... Look at the way he hung so loose to religious laws! Where was his respect for human authority? He refused to be tied down. He would, and did, come and go as he pleased. No one was really sure where he had come from. They were suspicious of this rootless existence, a man of no fixed abode. And therefore a threat.

He talked of love, peace and joy — and actually lived with these as realities not ideals. With Jesus there was (and is!) always the possibility of things changing, whether attitudes, situations, sinful life-styles or physical conditions. There was always the possibility of something happening that was new and unheard of (and for that very reason disconcerting?) If you were part of Jesus' alternative way of looking at and living life, it was (and is!) exhilarating. If you were outside, he posed an immense threat.

The followers of Jesus are called to be like him — of no fixed abode. Like our Lord we are to be wanderers, a pilgrim people. God's people in the Old Testament began by having a tent rather than a temple. In the New Testament they worshipped in homes and from temples of the heart. Through a radically alternative life-style they witnessed to the world that Jesus was alive, risen from death, and changing lives. They lived the normal Christian life as, under the powerful impulse of the Spirit, they rocked not only the boat but the whole world. Dr Tozer wrote: "The church began in power, moved in power, and moved just as long as she had power. When she no longer had power, she dug in for safety and sought to conserve her gains. But her blessings were like the manna; when they tried to keep it overnight, it bred worms and stank."

How sad it seems to me, that from those radical beginnings, the Church of Jesus Christ "fixed its abode", and became so often the upholder of the status quo, the one solid (monolithic?), unchanging (unchangeable? — God forbid!) rock in a changing world. Yes, the world is changing and desperately uncertain as it swings wildly from one opinion to another, one fad, one fashion, one fancy to another. People undoubtedly need a sure rock. Yet that Rock is not the Church but Jesus himself, who, while open to all that's new and growing, is dependably the same yesterday, today and forever. The Church may let us down; Jesus won't.

Summer seems to be the pilgrimage season. It's also the time for those other "pilgrimages", our holidays, when we journey perhaps to distant lands or to exotic new experiences; when we value for a while being of no fixed abode, getting away from it all and from the restrictions that otherwise hem us in.

This summer may therefore also be a time for re-considering as Christians whether we are living as Jesus did, or whether "our abode" has in some parts become fixed and immovable.

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

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All contributions for the October issue should be sent to Church House by noon on Wednesday, August 27.

All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham by Friday, August 22.

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

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Postbag

Royal Berks Hospital 150th Anniversary

Dear Sirs,

MANY of you will have read the letters in the Chronicle and the Post from Dr Bunting, Consultant Radiotherapist at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. If you missed them let me tell you that, as one way of marking the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the hospital, we have launched an appeal for funds which will enable us to rebuild the Radiotherapy department, in which cancer patients from all West Berkshire and some parts of East Berkshire are treated.

We need £1,500,000, a massive target but one which we can surely achieve! Our present treatment machines are completely efficient and satisfactory, but everyone would agree that the accommodation (examination rooms, waiting rooms, toilets and reception)

is cramped, overcrowded and uncomfortable, with little provision for privacy.

We need space. We need space for updated treatment equipment, for counselling those who need extra help and for wheel-chairs and stretchers. We need a rest room for some patients, better and more efficient office accommodation and brighter and more pleasant surroundings for all.

Architects have supplied practical and attractive plans. We are going ahead confidently. So you will guess that we need help... all kinds of help. If you can assist with fund-raising in any way or if you can spare a donation, please contact Dr Jeanette Kremer, 10 Albert Road, Caversham, Reading RG4 7JQ.

JEANETTE KREMER

10 Albert Road
Caversham

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

A tantalising literary/word power quiz has been produced by Lindsay Mullaney. Copies are available at the Caversham Bookshop at no charge, but she hopes to have back many entries, with a £1 minimum donation to SCF. There are several prizes to be won. The closing date for the competition is September 27, so here is a good opportunity to keep your wits alive in a soporific summer! Caversham Bookshop is at 18 Prospect Street.

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By Watchdog

A FUTURE FOR THE PAST

CHANGES on the Borough Council bring about changes of policy. Back in the list of recommendations comes the restoration of the Caversham Court Stable Block. This is a welcome move regardless of whether it has any bearing on the planned new church hall nearby, as the stable block has all the interest that must be attached to a building going back to Tudor times. Was it there when Queen Elizabeth I came to Caversham? Were Royalist or Cromwellian horses stabled there during the battle for Caversham Bridge? Apart from its historical associations, it has a useful sized room in it, used in the past by various organisations until the fire officer put down his foot, alarmed that although it may have survived for centuries with hay and straw in it, and lit by candles or oil lamps, it might burst into flames at any minute.

It would be a useful amenity to the life of Caversham. Back in 1978, when interest in the history of Caversham was stimulated by the exhibition held to commemorate St Peter's Victorian centenary, it was suggested that it might become a museum of local life and crafts. This is now not likely to happen with the opening of Blake's Lock Museum. Instead of looking back to the past it could play a part in the present. Let us hope this recommendation is translated into reality.

CAR PARK CHARGES DROPPED

Another welcome reversal of policy came in the announcement that the scheme for charging a minimum of 20p for use of the Chester Street car park, rising to £2.50 for leaving the car there all day, with no concessions to anyone, is to be dropped. The proposal engendered a wave of opposition even though the existing situation is unacceptable. It is still not clear exactly what is proposed, whether we are to go back to square one or whether a lower rate (£1 has been mentioned) will be applied to day-long parkers together with a minimum of 20p for short-term shoppers. It should not be beyond the wit of man to devise a scheme whereby long-term users pay a reasonable charge and short-term users drop in for free.

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE

Caversham Residents' Association has now carried out its survey into crossing times, for what is sometimes quaintly referred to as the Church Street "pedestrian facility". Their first finding was that the crossing times do in fact comply with Department of Transport requirements, and there are 5.1 seconds to allow for pedestrians to get across while the light is steady and the signal sounds. Someone sitting in Whitehall and out of touch with life as lived on the

ground must have worked out this one, for out of a sample of thirty young to slightly elderly users without any kind of encumbrance and another thirty encumbered by age, shopping, prams or young children to guide, it was found that only four in the first group made it in either the permitted time or less and only one in the second group.

In every case too, the pedestrian timed was the one who stepped off the pavement first. As everyone cannot do that, particularly if a large group is waiting, as often happens, the position is even worse.

A change in national legislation is clearly required, for this problem cannot be confined to this one crossing.

To that end, Caversham Residents' Association has enlisted the help of Sir Gerard Vaughan MP, Simon Coombs MP for Swindon and a former borough councillor of Reading who has already raised the matter in Parliament, particularly about elderly persons using crossings and with the Pedestrians' Association, who represent that vast number of road users who walk, ie just about all of us at some time. Results cannot be expected soon, so it will still be a case of rushing as fast as you can.

RESHUFFLE

The Residents' Association has had a change of officers.

Peter Wise, formerly Vice-Chairman is now the Chairman. Peter comes from an old Caversham family so knows the place well. The former Chairman, Garth Thorne, has had to resign because of pressure of work, but will continue his connection with the Association as President and a committee member. His skilful handling of committee and public meetings has been much appreciated.

ENGLISH OAK

The long-promised English oak tree is now installed at St Martin's Precinct and let us hope it survives, for its leaves were all dead as soon as it was put in. June is not tree-planting time but the bitter winter and cold spring meant that young trees were not ready to be moved at the normal time. Oaks are certainly planted for the future, so if it lives this one has centuries ahead of itself.

SLOW JOB

At last the pavements of Caversham Bridge are finished, three quarters of the way through June. When we were told May it seemed to be a very long time, but May came and went with work still spasmodically in progress. There seemed little sense of urgency. Sometimes only two men were in evidence, sometimes none, and then there was the occasional burst of frenzied activity followed by a period of torpor. It's nice to have it level again

apart from some rather inferior joins and it should last, provided no one tries to drive on it.

Vandals managed to knock two lengths of the balustrade into the river as well as breaking other parts of it. This must have required some heavy instrument to do it and presumably gave some warped minds some satisfaction. The cost of repairing it comes out of the road budget, money simply wasted.

NEW LIBRARY OPENED

A warm summer evening in July saw the culmination of many months of hard work when Caversham Primary School's library was opened. The Parents' Association, supported by voluntary efforts on part of the children (a spelling bee was particularly successful) made the whole thing possible and now what was once a classroom has been transformed into an attractively furnished and fitted library. The beautifully produced and informative books that are now available to children are still being added to and will bring benefit and pleasure to their young readers.

In performing the opening ceremony, Mrs Molly Casey, secretary of the local residents' association, reviewed the history of Caversham from its earliest days, when a thousand years ago Domesday records it as having a handful of people who scraped a living from the soil until the present time when it supports eight primary schools of which Caversham Primary was the first purpose-built one. For many Caversham people it was their first school and they can thank it for having laid the foundations of a sound education.

Congratulations

CONGRATULATIONS to Ian Cleare, 3rd Reading (St Peter's Caversham) Venture Scout Unit, on receiving his Queen's Scout Award on Wednesday, June 18 at the Thames-side District Annual General Meeting. It was presented by the County Commissioner, Mr Bill Vincent, who said it was the end of twelve years as Cub, Scout and Venture Scout, and the beginning. Ends are always followed by beginnings.

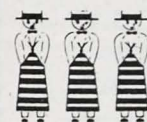
Among the activities needed to obtain the Queen's Scout

Award Ian led a four-day walking expedition on Exmoor, a very wet four days. He played football for a local Sunday team and fractured his leg! For service, he enjoyed helping with the 22nd Reading (St John's, Caversham) Scouts.

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The Rev Richard Kingsbury, Caversham Rectory, Church Road. Tel: 479130.
(Parish Office: Monday - Thursday 9.30 - 12.30. Tel: 471703).

The Rev Alan Wilson, St John's House, 9 South View Avenue. Tel: 471814.

The Rev Adrian Dorber, 33 Grove Road, Emmer Green. Tel: 473095.

The Rev Paul Kenchington, 51 Galsworthy Drive. Tel: 475152.

The Rev Tony Dalton, St Andrew's House, Harrogate Road. Tel: 472788.

The Rev Peter Mullins, 25 Ilkley Road, Caversham. Tel: 472070.

BAPTIST
The Rev Dennis Weller, 80 Balmore Drive. Tel: 478668.

METHODIST
The Rev Ralph Rogerson, 72 Highmoor Road. Tel: 472223.
The Rev Brian Skinner, 48 Allhallows Road, Caversham. Tel: 482530.

UNITED REFORMED
The Rev Philip Lee-Bapty, 41 Highmoor Road. Tel: 471909.

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL
The Rev Chris Justice, 119 Peppard Road. Tel: 474529.

ROMAN CATHOLIC
The Rev Thomas Meagher, The Presbytery, 2 South View Avenue. Tel: 471787.

(For Caversham Park Village)
The Rev Cecil Keane, 18 Peppard Road, Sonning Common. Tel: 723418.

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'AS WELL AS CAN BE EXPECTED'

(Impressions of July's General Synod)

IMMEDIATE reaction on return from York's Synod was that the C of E is in good heart and making the best of things!

Yes, we declined to recognise the priesthood of Anglican women ordained abroad — or at least to

allow them to minister in this country should they be invited as visitors. The bishops gave it a 70 per cent backing, the laity 63 per cent, but the clergy only 57 per

cent — short of the required two-thirds majority. No doubt, had we voted on ordination of women in the C of E, the same kind of voting figures would have happened. But we didn't vote! Sensibly (in my view) we asked the House of Bishops to report and recommend back to Synod by February 1987, a proper and virtually unanimous decision.

Harmony for the moment prevails...

What excited me most was the cracking, sparkling debate on the "Nature of Christian Belief", in which we saw the C of E at its very best. I sense a rediscovery of the pioneering spirit in our church which — within accepted boundaries — urges each of us to do our own theology! The Bishop of Durham, the

man you love to hate, contributed brilliantly to the debate and won many new friends. I hope you will read what he says before accepting secondhand opinions about this man!

But it was far from "theory talk". The debate on South Africa and the overwhelming vote calling on the Government to impose effective sanctions was moving and

based on rock-hard theology. Again, the C of E at its very best!

My impression is of a Church which is recovering a sense of unity, courage and mission, more open than for many years to what God may be saying and where He may be leading.

Paradoxically, when it comes to putting our own house in order, as for example on the gender of

priests, this same openness will probably sweep us onward and with far less "casualties" than the doom-merchants are predicting. For this reason I'm relieved that women's ordination is back in the hands of the bishops. It is a setback, some say. I say it's a setback well worth accepting, like a racing car making a long-overdue pit stop before getting back into the race firing on all cylinders!

Richard Kingsbury



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RALPH ROGERSON

An appreciation

RALPH Rogerson has been variously described as a Methodist Friar Tuck, every child's favourite uncle and the perfect illustration of "mine host" at the local hostelry. Whilst I am quite sure that he would do justice to any of these pictures his special "forte" is that of a very accomplished Methodist Minister.

Ralph Rogerson is a genial, kindly man with a discerning charm that gives you the feeling that though you're convinced he's wrong he might just be right! He has been in Reading for nine years which in Methodism is a long stay, and during that time he has become beloved of many. It would be impossible to give any particular reason why, because Ralph is a many talented person.

As a pastoral counsellor he is excellent, reassuring those that

he counsels and leaving them feeling that for those few minutes at least he was oblivious of everyone else. Time seems inconsequential and any problems, however small, are treated with the same relaxed professionalism. I have known him even when handling some very complex task such as making the Methodist "plan" to push it to one side just to be able to talk a problem through or share the concern of a troubled colleague.

He is not an idle man, indeed I can vouch for the fact that he is an extremely busy man but his diary is for himself and never paraded as a sign of popularity. He is an effective preacher proclaiming the gospel with commendable honesty and maintaining that passion for social justice which is the hallmark of Methodism. He is never short of the apt quote, and the penetrating illustration and his total involvement in an act of worship makes claims upon his health which we all regret. A man of principles, Ralph is very compassionate. His concern for justice has never blunted his concern for the individual though his anger at the exploitation of those unable to defend themselves will draw forth a vehemence of criticism or an outburst of Godly anger.

He is not much given to committee work and his aversion to Methodist Synods is legendary. He has caused his own District Chairman to say

with some feeling that he would be grateful if I could encourage Ralph to attend the Synod occasionally, excellent though his reasons were for staying at home.

His capacity for arranging weddings (and funerals) to coincide with the meetings of the district courts of Methodism and take priority are well remembered, but when called upon to speak on a particular subject dear to his heart he becomes a redoubtable adversary. This may well account for the appreciation expressed by many of his colleagues in the caring services outside the church.

Outside the church Ralph is a lover of social occasions. Entertaining or being entertained he is excellent company with a love of games that is infectious and with a peal of laughter that breaks through any inhibitions that others may have. He is well supported by his wife Elsie who is gifted in her own right and who reveals endless patience when visits keep Ralph from returning at the expected time.

We in the Reading and Silchester circuit will miss them both and wish them well as they go to Whitchurch in the Andover circuit. Widespread though that circuit is, their new Minister will travel uncompromisingly and care extensively and as we in Reading have been blessed by his presence, so they will profit by Ralph's ministry among them.

John S. Stephens



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READ on only if you think you will be satisfied with a mix up of odds and ends of information. I can see no pattern in the rather disjointed series of notes laid out in front of me. So let's call this contribution...

Summer Serendipity

At last summer is here and what goes better with summer weather than summer flowers? It is most fitting therefore to report on the Chiltern Edge Flower Arranging Club's June competition. It was opened by Pat Taylor of the Flower Shop in Prospect Street, who also donated the "Best in Show" cup. I am sure that anyone walking along Prospect Street will have been impressed by the Flower Shop's window display in support of this event. Well, just as the window display brightened up Caversham, I am including a photo to brighten up this page.

Whilst on the topic of shops many readers will know the well stocked grocers at the corner of Gosbrook and Washington Roads. Mr and Mrs Watts' decision to retire will mean many of us will miss their cheerful and friendly faces. I will certainly miss the messages chalked up outside their shop!

Mr and Mrs Watts moved to Caversham in 1962. The couple were married in 1950 and before coming here they had shops in Sandhurst and Mortimer. They will be retiring to Somerset where we hope they will have a long and happy retirement. They have asked us to thank all their customers for their loyalty over the years.

Traffic

What can one say about this without get-

ting hot under the collar? Once again I was pushing baby in buggy, crossing towards the library when I saw a noble body, stop-watch in hand, timing the crossing signal. At last, I thought, confirmation that it isn't just middle age mak-

issue I raised two months ago. I was shocked, and I am not easily shocked, to read a report in the Evening Post that the Council proposes to put charges on the Chester Street car park. What a saga! Chester Street car park is to have

and good parking areas. More of this too if short term car park charges are imposed! What can we do about the problem? Just to see, I telephoned the police when one large van parked on a pavement. Under that pavement are cellars, water pipes and gas

merely to meet other friends and enjoy the lovely garden. Fortunately the weather was real Latto weather. Tributes were paid by many people to the work B. and G. have done, and to the quiet refuge their home has provided for many. A special joy to her Caversham friends was that Lilian Lewis, now in her nineties was able to make the journey from St Albans where she is now living with her daughter.

Another much loved doctor was Dr Barbara Pirquet. As GP in Emmer Green along with Dr Caiger-Smith and Dr McNie she did much to get the new surgery at Emmer Green.

Dr Pirquet lived at Pishill near Henley and for those who can make the trip I strongly recommend a visit to Pishill church which dates back to the thirteenth century. Once there you will find a memorial stained glass window to Dr Pirquet. It was designed by her niece, June Gray, and installed in 1985. It depicts the basic elements of fire, earth, water and air. The lily in the bottom left corner is the symbol of purity and represents Dr Pirquet's love for all things growing.

Caversham and a National Museum Award

Yes here in Caversham, well almost, we have an award-winning museum. The special Judges award for the achievement of "The most with least", was given last month to Blake's Lock Museum. Well, if the purists rightly say, it is not in Caversham, then I claim that three Caversham people are involved. The



Mr and Mrs D. H. Watts

— E. S. Archer

ing itself felt. Others too have noticed the Olympic standards required to cross in the time given. Enough, no more in this column, read Watchdog for a fuller report.

Whilst on the subject of traffic, I must ask why has the island where Church Street and Prospect Street meet never been replaced? Do my friends in the transport department ever visit Caversham? Do they think it is realistic to have rows of shops, an adult education centre, a school, a church, all converging on a mini roundabout and then deprive us of a sensible means of crossing the road? Perhaps we are meant to go backwards and forwards to the pedestrian crossing by the library and train for the next Olympics on the Caversham sprint track.

...and parking

Whilst moaning about the Council I must return to an

charges; is not to have charges; "we are opposed to charges but we shall hold consultation and discussion"; "sorry no consultation and discussion". Are you confused? I am. The Labour group categorically assured me that they would not bring in charges without first holding discussions with local residents and traders. No doubt someone wants charges brought in but if people want to park so that they can use the shops, then there have to be shops. But if the people of Caversham want to help close down local businesses and help create congestion on the roads through illegal on-road parking — "I was just popping into that shop, officer" — then car park charges will help us on our way.

On-road parking can often become on-pavement parking. Drivers of lorries, trucks, cars, even motorbikes all seem to look on our pavements as fair game

pipes. The driver didn't seem interested! The police just put me through to the traffic warden section who suggested I take details of time and dates, to see if it was a regular delivery. In the meantime I hope no gas mains are about to burst.

Doctor, Doctor

A much happier talking point is the news about Barbara and Gordon Latto. In 1986 they will both have reached three-quarters of a century, Gordon will have worked as a physician for fifty years and their partnership will have lasted forty-eight years. They saw this as a cause for thanksgiving and rejoicing so on June 21 from noon to sundown they were at home for all their family and friends. As this category includes literally hundreds of people, among them their patients, it was not surprising that over two hundred people turned up during the day for lunch, tea or supper or

museum covers a multitude of trades and industries including Caversham Mill. The museum can be approached either on foot from Huntley and Palmers or by road round the back of Sainsbury's Homebase. The three Caversham people most involved in the museum are Martin Andrews, Leslie Cram and Sue Read. Later we hope to produce a full report about the museum. In the meantime, please pay the museum a visit. I

found it absolutely intriguing — as did my eleven-year-old son. Even the baby was fascinated when we spotted a mouse scurrying around outside on the canal bank.

Silver please

The headline is just to catch your eye. Really it is silver paper wanted by Mrs Vincent, 14 Cromwell Road. She's not sure what she's going to collect next, but she is always involved in all kinds of ventures; animal welfare and the British Legion to name but two. So if you have any spare silver paper, just leave it outside No. 14 Cromwell Road.

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— E. S. Archer

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ROUND THE CHURCHES

GOSBROOK ROAD REVIEW

SUMMER has come at last and we give thanks for God's beauty showing in the gardens around Caversham which are a joy to see.

Friends at Gosbrook Road have been busy as usual. A Circuit consultation was held in the church when friends from all over the Reading and Silchester Circuit came together for an evening of discussion and report.

The Women's Fellowship had a special celebration on June 3 when Mrs Mary Clark celebrated her golden wedding. She was presented with a basket of flowers and a gold and white decorated cake, which was cut and shared with her friends at the meeting. The speaker

for the afternoon was Baptist Minister, the Rev. Hedley Feast who is co-presenter of Radio 210's Wednesday Witness programme. The ladies also had an enjoyable afternoon when Paul Kenchington was the speaker.

Barry and Margaret Fogden celebrated their silver wedding on June 3. Many church friends joined the family for a Silver Wedding Barn Dance. They were delighted with a bouquet of flowers received from all the members and friends at Gosbrook Road.

The Ambassadors Drum and Bugle Corps have been busy with competitions and fetes. They have taken part in events at Brighton, Nottingham,

Harpsden, Emmer Green and The Caversham Water Carnival.

Church fund-raising events have included the Annual June Fair which was a great success raising over £320. Congratulations are due to the new fund-raising committee and to the organisers Barbara Barrand and Pauline Hopkins. A fashion show was held at Micklands School and over £50 was raised for the building fund. Thanks are due to Dorothy Hicks and Micklands School for this enjoyable event.

Alan Alexander

It is with deep regret we record the death of Alan Alexander on Sunday, June 29, at The Sue Ryder Home at

News of Clergy

The Rev Martin Loveless, one time curate at St Peter's and Priest-in-charge of St Andrew's, and currently Vicar of Carterton, Oxfordshire, is to become a chaplain in the RAF. He expects to take up the position on September 28.

Nettlebed. Alan was a loyal and loved member of Gosbrook Road Church and a very courageous man, full of fortitude and determination. Our sympathies are with his wife, Alma, and Susan and Brian. Alan will be sadly missed. We thank God for his life and witness.

BAPTIST NEWS

Obituary — David Abercrombie

THE Baptist Church recently said "Farewell" to yet another of its members, David Abercrombie. David was born in Glasgow and in pre-war days he spent his boyhood and youth in and around that city where he first linked up with the Christian Church through the Boys' Brigade. The war came and he enlisted in the Royal Engineers seeing active service with the Eighth Army in the North African and Italian Campaigns. On demobilisation he returned to his birthplace and after a number of jobs entered the Prison Service as an Instructor. Following the death of his first wife, and subsequently having met Daphne whom he was later to marry, he transferred to the Youth Custody Centre at Huntercombe near Nettlebed. His

involvement with the local Baptist Church came later and having a fine bass voice he became a founder-member of the "Gospel Singers" and took a prominent part in the men's section. On retirement, some three years ago, from the Prison Service he was able, with Daphne, to indulge in his other passion,

bowling, becoming a keen member of Hurst Bowling Club.

Through the columns of the "Caversham Bridge" his many friends, within and without the Baptist Church, extend sympathy to Daphne and the other members of his family, many of whom are still domiciled in his native Scotland.

ST ANDREW'S MOTHERS' UNION

AFTER several months of preparation the evening at last arrived for the frank and open discussion on "The Ordination of Women". There was a very impressive audience, representatives of the Churches in Caversham and beyond. Each member of the team leading the discussion put their viewpoint on why they agreed or disagreed with the Ordination of Women. There were many questions asked which were ably answered by the team. At the end of a very informative evening, all had learned a lot from each other. Grateful thanks are extended to Canon Boulton, The Rector, Miss Gough and Mrs Unwin for the time they gave to make this evening such a success.

meeting was privileged to have Mrs Ruby Hignall, the Deanery Presiding Member, to talk about the work of the Mothers' Union and all that it does both at home and abroad to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

□□

The June "Tea on Sunday" was again well supported and members were pleased to be able to provide refreshments to the "band of workers" who were nobly clearing the rubbish and undergrowth around St Andrew's Hall in readiness for the Summer Fair.

On August 12 there will be a Ploughman's Lunch at 20 Ashcroft Close, Caversham from 12.30-2pm, the proceeds of which will be for the Overseas work of the Mothers' Union and the "Away from it all scheme," which helps to provide holidays for families under stress. Please join in if you can and help to help others less fortunate than ourselves.

At the June afternoon meeting members welcomed Mrs Marion Pyke, who is well known in the parish for her work among young couples preparing for marriage. Mrs Pyke told of her work as a Social Psychiatric worker. The evening

ST ANNE'S NEWS

JUST as we had begun to despair of ever returning to normal, the church repairs and redecoration are taking giant strides forward and an end to the interim makeshift arrangements does seem in sight. Every Sunday now we enter a lighter, larger (or so it appears) church. Financial worries about the building work continue, but fund-raising efforts are being made in all directions. Chief among these in June has been the parish fete which fortunately coincided with a brilliant warm day: although your reporter was working and not feting that day, trustworthy anecdotal evidence has it that it was a great success. The result: over £1,700.

ST PETER'S DAY

Canon Brian Brindley was the preacher at the morning service for the patronal festival and a Festal Evensong with the combined parish choirs closed the occasion. In between, there was a special service for children, followed by some water events on the Thames and tea and games in the Rectory garden. A happy occasion, on which the sun shone.

ST ANDREW'S FLOWER FESTIVAL AND FETE

A THREE-DAY Flower Festival held on June 20 to 23 was part of the St Andrew's 75th Anniversary Festivities. The theme was the St Andrew's family. The church was full of flowers, it was a beautiful sight which attracted many visitors.

Organised by the Flower Festival Arranging to the Chairman Ann Gray, there were floral arrangements by The Church School, The Fellowship, Mothers and Toddlers group, Mothers' Union, The Play Group, The Working Party, The Youth Group, 4th Caversham Brownies (St Andrew's), 2nd Caversham Guides, 1st Caversham Heights Cubs and 1st Caversham Heights Scouts, Caversham Heights Towns-

women's Guild, Maplewood Women's Institute, Reading and Caversham Physically Handicapped Club, Stephanie Stevens Academy of Dancing (all these groups meet in St Andrew's Hall). In addition there was a display by Mrs Jackie Benstead who had earlier given a talk on Flower Arranging to the Mothers' Union. Her exhibit "Water into Wine" on the portable Altar received much praise. There was a touching display placed at the end of one of the choir pews by Ingrid Slade in memory of her Father, Denis Slade. The one professional display was in the porch, this was by the Caversham Flower shop.

All agreed that the Festival was a great success and that Ann



St Andrew's en fête

— E. S. Archer



St Andrew's — children's fancy dress

— E. S. Archer

Gray and her team of helpers had done a splendid job bringing joy and delight to all

who visited the church. Throughout the three days organ music was played by David Sidwell and guest Organists. £254 was raised in collections, £52.70 on refreshments, £164.64 on sale of souvenirs, giving a total of £470.02.

The Fete which was on Saturday, June 21 got off to a fine start and was declared open by TV celebrity Rudy Walker. In the hall the stalls did a fast trade whilst outside in the car park were the usual fund-raising stalls, a Punch and Judy show by Roger Kent, A Caversham version of an "Emet" Organ built from just about everything that you would normally put in your dustbin, leaving little doubt that St Andrew's needed help with their organ. The proceeds of both these events are going to the Organ Fund. The day finished with a grand auction by Victor Smith. The total result of the Fete was over £900.

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ROUND THE CHURCHES

FLOWER FESTIVAL AT ST MARGARET'S



Decorators at work at St Margaret's

THERE is no doubt about it the flower festival at St Margaret's Mapledurham on June 21 and 22 was a great success; not only because everyone played a part in it (the children decorated the path up to the church), but because having as the theme the "I am" sayings made it far more meaningful for the great number of visitors who came from near and far.

The occasion was blessed with the weather and there was a wonderful atmosphere with visitors sitting on the grass chatting and having refreshments. The church bells were rung each evening and from time to time there was organ



Enjoying a summer afternoon at St Margaret's

music in the church.

On Sunday morning the festival thanksgiving service was extremely well attended, the preacher was the Rev Eric Wood, the

last Vicar of Mapledurham. The congregation were delighted to welcome him and members of his family back to St Margaret's. After the service a very special

cake was cut and handed round with the coffee or squash.

Members of the Flower Festival committee would like to thank most sincerely everyone

who helped in any way whatsoever to make the weekend such a memorable occasion. It was indeed a time of great Christian fellowship within the church.

THE May meeting was unavoidably postponed and at a meeting on June 2 the Group had a visit from Mrs Sue Nixon of the Oxford Diocesan Council for Social Work. Mrs Nixon gave an account of her work which is concerned with the welfare and support of young unmarried mothers and their babies. This involves work with the house in Priest Hill for single girls aged eighteen years and over and their babies and the house in Elliott Close for younger single mothers. Mrs Nixon also gave a short account of adoption procedures although fewer unmarried mothers part with their babies than formerly.

The meeting ended with discussions of

various aspects of the work of the group. A report on the Care Centre indicated a steady flow of visitors and offers of help.



The Annual General meeting of the Group was held on June 30 at the Rectory. In her report the Chairman reviewed the work of the group in the past year. In September members accompanied a group of children from the Mencap Friday Club to the gardens of the Childe Beale Trust — an outing much enjoyed by children

THE LINK GROUP

and adults. In December a performance of the musical play "Greater than Gold" was given in the Baptist Church and money from the collection at the end was given to the Group to be distributed to various charities. A Christmas Tea Party took place in the Baptist Centre in December for the elderly and housebound friends of the group. The Annual Sale took place in April. This raised £365.67 which after deduction of expenses has been distributed to various charities.



During the year members have heard speakers from the Hard of Hearing Club, Heathcroft Children's Home, the Phobic Trust and the Oxford Diocesan Council for Social Work.

The Treasurer reported that donations had been given during the year to Elliott Close Mother and Baby Home, Berkshire Women's Aid, Reading Cyrenians, REAP, Mid Counties Autistic Society, the Salvation Army, Reading Victims Support, Heathcroft Children's Home and the Phobic Trust.

Reports from indi-

vidual interests included distribution of furniture, the fortnightly tea parties, Mencap Friday Club, Reading Victims Support, the NSPCC and Berkshire Women's Aid.

The work of the Care Centre has continued to increase gradually. In November the Mayor and Mayoress visited the Centre and showed great interest in the work. Charity Christmas Cards were on sale during November and December and proved a great success. The Centre now has over fifty organisations on file offering or needing help and has links with Age Concern and the Health Visitors. The Anniversary meeting in May was well attended. The Pop-In Centre welcomes all ages for tea or coffee and a chat and the pile of knitted squares is growing! Members of the Link Group help in both office and Pop-In Centre.



The Chairman Mrs Pat Jenkins, Treasurer Mrs Janet Ferguson and Secretary Mrs Margaret Dart all agreed to serve for another year and members expressed their gratitude.

The outing for the

mentally handicapped children to the Childe Beale Trust was arranged for September. Donations given at the fortnightly tea parties by the elderly guests at their request will be used to finance the outing and the members of the Group are very grateful.



The meeting ended with a Communion Service conducted by the Rev Brian Skinner of the Gosbrook Road Methodist Church, much appreciated by all members.

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GREETINGS FROM KATY

I'M SURE you don't need me to tell you the National Health Service is rapidly falling apart at the seams. Indeed, were it not for the continued care and dedication of the majority of those employed in the Service, it would probably have collapsed completely by now. Unfortunately dedication isn't enough and the general malaise is rapidly gaining ground, particularly in hospitals. The emphasis has

switched from the needs of the patient to the need to cut-back on expense — and it shows! Who can blame the doctor who discharges a patient before he should because the bed is needed for another patient or the GP who knows he will get no thanks for sending a patient to a consultant perhaps too soon.

Having had ample opportunity to study these matters at close quarters

recently, I can only say I'm horrified and only very very grateful that I myself am now in good hands. I could write ad infinitum on the subject, but what it really boils down to is that it's largely a matter of luck if you get the treatment you need. One feels like echoing the sentiments of Jane Eyre when she said: "I must stay in good health and not die." More seriously I pass on this bit of advice and I do mean it! If you suspect that you or anyone in your family is in serious need of treatment then be prepared to fight to get it and don't just

accept what is handed out. Which reminds me, did you know that the Eye Clinic at the RBH is open round the clock for emergencies. You don't have to be the victim of a car accident, for instance, to get attention. No doubt this is true of other departments.

Alternative Medicine

One other thing — don't be afraid to try what is known as alternative medicine. I'd make only one proviso which is to try, as far as possible, to keep your own GP informed. If you've got more than one person

trying to help you, it makes sense for them all to know where they stand. My own experience, particularly with David Potterton, our local herbalist, opened my eyes to a lot of things. A good practitioner will not countermand your GP's treatment, he will have more time than the average GP to listen to all aspects of your problems, he won't charge the earth and he won't push you into any more visits than you can afford. Also he will be truthful if he feels he can't help. David has all these virtues and takes his profession very seriously. As many of you will know, his practice is at 2 Queen's

Road, Caversham (473313). And I also hear that he runs classes on herbalism, which might interest many of our readers.

A Caring Community

Having got that off my chest, I must say how very kind everyone has been and oh, I'm so glad to live in a community like Caversham where people know and care. I was the envy of the other patients in hospital, with a constant stream of visitors, cards, messages, flowers and so on — nothing to do with me, I kept telling everyone, just that I came from a very friendly and caring commu-

ity. My ex-colleagues at the BBC were great and nobody who has not experienced it can understand the tremendous feeling of support one gets from all this. Practical help was offered on all sides — a fact which my family very much appreciated — and I particularly liked the lass who sent a message to say she'd be glad to feed the cats if it would help. Gifts were most ingenious too and the Sister from St Anne's who brought me a large roll of kitchen paper couldn't have realised just how useful it was going to be. I can only repeat many many thanks to everyone.

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CHRISTIAN AID'S BURNING ISSUE AT SONNING COMMON

FOR THE third year running the Sonning Common and District Interchurch Steering Group has held a Christian Aid Supper. It took place on the evening of the Spring Bank Holiday at Sonning Common Village Hall.

The primary aim was to increase interest in Christian Aid Week. For this year's supper a Sri Lankan theme was adopted.



These suppers do not follow the "hunger lunch" format, everyone receives an equal and adequate meal based on a recipe from the featured country. This year a Sri Lankan beef curry formed the basis of the meal.

The Sri Lankan theme was maintained by Traidcraft,

the Christian marketing organisation which tries to improve the lot of Third World producers. Their stall featured a number of Sri Lankan products, including teas and ornamental elephants. Traidcraft, which works closely with Christian Aid and the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development, has been involved with the Sonning Common Christian Aid Suppers since the first one three years ago.

The Sri Lankan atmosphere was enhanced by the aroma of burning joss sticks, and the sound of authentic Tamil music.

The highlight of the evening was the showing of the Christian Aid film "Burning Issue". This was a revelation to most of the people present. Narrated by Anna Ford, it showed how Sri Lanka is facing a horrifying energy crisis — a crisis caused by a lack not of oil, but of firewood.

Nine out of ten Sri Lankans are too poor to afford electricity so they depend on firewood for their only fuel. "No firewood, no supper" is a familiar threat to the children of that unhappy land. Yet, in a few decades time, most of the Sri Lankan forests will have been cleared as part of massive "improvement" schemes. Already firewood is becoming prohibitively expensive. One of Christian Aid's aims is to try to overcome problems such as this, for instance, by assisting the establishment of

local biogas generators.

After the film Jeff Jeffrey, the Sonning Common Christian Aid organiser, talked briefly about the forthcoming Christian Aid Week and its objectives.



Although not intended as a fund raising event, the supper raised some £30 towards the campaign. All the local Christian denominations were involved. Members of the congregation of St Michael's Roman Catholic Church contributed most of the planning for the evening and Father Cecil Keane said the grace for the meal. Parishioners of St John the Baptist, Kidmore End and All Saints, Peppard Anglican churches helped out with the cooking and serving, the Rev Richard Chown, Vicar of Kidmore End, acting as "link man" for most of the evening.

And successful it was! This year there was no lack of volunteers for the annual street collection. The door-to-door campaign raised £850 and the grand total, including donations and the proceeds of the supper, was nearly £1,000 — an improvement of some twenty-five per cent over last year's figure!

The Sonning Common Christian Aid campaign is a good example of how the various churches can work together for the benefit of mankind and to the greater glory of God, without in any way compromising their principles.

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CAVERSHAM CAMERA CLUB

SINCE its formation early in 1985, Caversham Camera Club has made excellent progress in its relatively short history. The Club, which meets every Friday at the White Horse public house in Emmer Green, attracted some twenty-six members during its first few months and has since progressed steadily upwards.

All members are true amateur photographers who do not earn income from their hobby, although on many occasions they have been able to provide a photographic record of the activities of other local societies.

At the end of May the Club was proud to present three of its members with handsome trophies and awards reflecting their expertise in photography as

well as Club management. In the picture can be seen Jim Ball (left) the Caversham Camera Club's most consistently good slide photographer, Bill Pound (centre) the Club's most consistently good print photographer, and John Outhwaite (right) the retiring Chairman and founder of the Club. The presentation ceremony was followed by a review of the best photographs seen in the Club competitions during the past year.



Most Camera Clubs close down during the summer months, but not so in Caversham! The meetings continue right through July and August, when members congregate at the White Horse each Friday evening to share their problems and

successes or just for a sociable chat. Membership of Caversham Camera Club is open to everyone with an interest in photography, regardless of their abilities or the equipment that they use, and great care has been taken to ensure that the programme of meetings includes a large proportion of instruction and practical sessions. Before the new season starts in September, the Club will be holding a special "open" evening on Friday, August 29 for new members to see and try out the Club's lighting systems, and to enjoy the informal atmosphere that has been carefully encouraged since the Club's inception. An exhibition of photographs will also be on show that evening, before

moving into Caversham Library the Club's activities can be obtained following day for from the Chairman, display over a two-week period. John Robinson by telephoning Reading 475482.

CAVERSHAM CARE CENTRE

Church House, 59 Church Street

Office open Monday to Friday 9.30am-11.30am. T.N. 483466. Please ring, or call personally, if you need help or information from the many local charitable and caring organisations on the LINK GROUP files, or, if you need assistance from the CAVERSHAM BRIDGE GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME, who will:

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Caversham Park
May 25 Danielle Brind
Simon Roberts
Jennifer Rains

St Anne's
May Maria Middleton
Catherine Middleton
John Sadgrove
Jonathan Donnelly
Jennifer Falzon
Christopher Farrelly
Gemma Le Sueur

MARRIED

St Peter's
May 3 Peter Strobe and Victoria Bousfield
May 10 Andrew Barbour and Rosemary Hedges
May 17 Richard Wright and Joanna Baily
Douglas Glover and Sylvia McNicol
Stephen Loftus and Angela Cookson

St Anne's
May 31 Roger McMahon and Hester Kerr

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ROUND THE CLUBS

Caversham Ladies Club

MRS Harwood opened the meeting and welcomed members. She then introduced Mr Ian McLoughlin who spoke about Care Line, which operates on the Local Radio Station 210. Care Line is to help listeners in many aspects, some amusing, some sad, worried etc, one instance, finding foster mother for orphan puppy, a wheelchair for a child, and so on. 210 is ten years old this year. Plans are being worked on for expansion and new transmitter which will extend and take in North Hampshire. There is an appeal "Give a Child a Chance" going on at present with over £25,000 raised so far. This is well up on last year's appeal, and there is still more promised. An auction was held and over four hundred items sold. Local charities, individuals, play groups, etc will benefit from this appeal, and on being told there are over two hundred groups needing help, one realised how any donations will be welcomed. Care Line is open Monday to Friday from 9.30am to

5.30pm. At weekends messages can be left at the desk. So, as our speaker explained, the CSV, Community Service Volunteers, work closely with the media and will do their best to help you with your problems, social action, DHSS etc. A very helpful and interesting talk, much enjoyed by members.

The Club had a trip to Hever Castle in May. This was much enjoyed by members. It is a beautiful place amidst lovely grounds and the weather was very kind, being dry and sunny. After a welcome "cuppa" the meeting closed with Mrs Harwood wishing members happy days until next meeting.

St Peter's Wives Group

IT WAS a warm June evening when St Peter's Wives gathered in Church House to enjoy an evening with Mrs Hibbard. Her costume lecture started in Saxon times with Lady Godiva and as she was dressed in successive costumes, she revealed the evolution of fashion ideas, guiding mem-

bers through to the early 1900's. Una Waters volunteered to act as Mrs Hibbard's dresser and became her maid Rose for the evening.

There was a good response by members and friends to the raffle and Mrs Hibbard was warmly thanked by Marion Elliott. On August 19, the Wives with families and friends, will be meeting in Emmer Green to enjoy an evening walk.

Rosehill WI

THE twenty-third birthday party! The President welcomed guests, members, County Chairman Mrs Armstrong and VCO Mrs Lewis. Members were entertained most cheerfully by the WI Singers from Kidmore End. Mrs Barge was presented with the silver salver for most points in competitions, Mrs Gillings, as runner-up, with the goblet.

Late last month a party had an evening visit to Waitrose at Caversham, enjoying their hospitality.

The afternoon ended with a special tea and an iced cake made by Mrs Fry.

Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild

MR HARRY Cole from Harwell gave a most interesting talk to the ladies of the Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild on Nuclear Power in Britain. Britain is fortunate in having a good diversity of energy supply, from coal, oil and natural gas, as well as nuclear power. The first nuclear reactor was built in 1947, and the first power station in 1956.

There are now sixteen power stations, the first to be used commercially being built in 1962. Eighty-seven per cent of radioactivity occurs naturally, for example, cosmic rays (from outer space), from the earth's surface, from our own bodies, with some also coming from the medical industry, namely X-rays. Of the three categories of nuclear waste, low, intermediate and high level, forty per cent comes from hospitals. The intermediate level waste is debris from breaking up fuel rod containers, and only a very small percentage is high level, needing to be separated and stored, as a liquid, in

two tanks inside a concrete vault six inches thick, lined with stainless steel.

Mr Cole is totally convinced of the safety of nuclear power, and certainly succeeded in convincing many whilst giving others much food for thought. Miss N. Polard gave the vote of thanks.

The competition of a single rose in a jam jar was won by Mrs Julie Miles, and Mrs Ellen Fuller was congratulated on arranging a splendid outing to Chewton Mendip cheese factory, and Bath.

New members and visitors are always welcome to attend meetings, details of which can be obtained from Reading and Caversham Public Libraries.

Blagrove WI

MRS Popplewell, the President, welcomed a good turn-out of members to the June meeting on a most unsummery day. She reported on another successful coffee morning held at her home. The speaker at Mapledurham Playing

Fields Pavilion was Miss Pat Tyler who again managed to hold everyone's interest by her account of a tour of the Greek Islands on a Swan-Hellenic Cruise. She has a most entertaining manner and makes it all very real. The competition for a seashell was won by Mrs Reed, Mrs Houseden and Mrs Price. Plans were made for several outings in the coming months, and a ploughman's lunch.

IN JUNE, a small party of members went by car to East Hendred for a ramble followed by a pub lunch and on to Ardington. Later in the month Mrs Popplewell entertained members in her home at a ploughman's lunch which everyone voted a great success and demanded an encore!

The July meeting was on a very hot day when the pulling of the curtains to accommodate slides was welcomed to keep the temperature down. The speaker was Mrs V. Jerome who told all about bees, their place in history and the present-day keeping for the production of honey. She was a great

enthusiast and gave a most enjoyable talk. A report on the Albert Hall AGM was given by Mrs Fisher who recommended acting as a delegate to anyone who had the chance.

The competition for a single rose was won by Miss M. Chapman, second Miss Reynolds and third Mrs Thomas.

One visitor was welcomed to the meeting.

Caversham Afternoon TG

CAVERSHAM Afternoon Townswomen's Guild joined other guilds with a visit to the Commonwealth Institute in London, they studied all aspects of life in New Zealand. A tea party for new members was held and 18 new members were informed about the history of Townswomen's Guilds by Margaret Major, past Federation President and Chairman. The speaker at the June meeting was the Rev Richard Kingsbury on "Prisoners and Parole". The meeting closed with a debate on the motions to be discussed at the National Council Meeting at the Albert Hall.



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ROUND THE CLUBS

The National Council of Women of Great Britain Kennet Branch

THE MONTH of June Trap, a speaker from saw the AGM at a the Post Office and member's home and Eve Martin who spoke after last year's about the women's minutes had been health clinic she has read the Chairman set up in Halifax, remarked on how Yorks. The treasurer's successful a year it report confirmed that had been for such a more members are small group of people. needed to keep going. The monthly meetings and thankfully all had covered a variety officers were re-elected for the coming year. of subjects and speakers included Martin Salter on the Poverty Undoubtedly, the

highlight of '86 had been the International Council of Women's Conference held in London at the end of April when representatives from approximately twenty countries discussed a variety of subjects. During the conference week a party of delegates visited Reading and Oxford. The Reading group had a reception at the Mayor's Parlour and other parties looked at architecture in the town centre. A superb buffet luncheon provided by Reading and Kennet NCW was held at Ava Van Wijngaarden's home in Kidmore End, and this was attended by the Mayoress and Mrs Durant. A vote of thanks was given by a member from Canada. Later in the afternoon tea was held at Mrs Joan Belcher's home and so ended a warm and pleasant day.

The AGM evening closed with final arrangements for the Biennial Party at Henley Sailing Club to be held on July 11.

You would be most welcome to join the happy group; please contact Vicky on Pangbourne 3260.

Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild

THE June meeting of Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild was their silver jubilee dinner to which were invited Federation Chairman Joan Read, drama chairman Norah Schneider and members from Emmer Green and Caversham Afternoon Guilds. A beautiful flower arrangement by Mesdames Hawkins, Norman and Freeman was to be part of the Flower Festival in St Andrew's Church that weekend. Mrs West drew attention to a sponsored walk for Friends of the Earth on July 13.

Entertainment followed the dinner when Mr Allan Bliss's fanciful yet strangely satisfying one-act play about a Victorian ghost who meets some present-day characters was performed by the Caversham Players. Birthday cake and sherry and songs from the music group and members concluded the evening.

No news is good news, it is said, and there is nothing to report about social studies in June, it is true. For one person it was bad news however, as the

group's secretary Mrs Dorothy Moore had to go into hospital and the barbecue she had hoped would be held in her garden had to be cancelled. Members look forward to her return to health.

Chazey WI

HAVE you ever thought of tracing your family tree? Mr A. Ison used Chazey WI members to help unravel a tangle of old family documents and press reports when he visited them for their June meeting to talk on genealogy. Mr Ison soon demonstrated the fascination of the subject and showed how quickly one can become involved in an absorbing pursuit, once given a lead.

This has been a most successful month for the more sporting element, with Marilyn Ball and Liz Holland winning the table tennis championship, also Shirley Adamson and Linca Roach reaching the semi-finals of badminton. Not only these results, but Marion Elliott was fortunate in winning the Margaret Latham bursary "Swinging into Shape".

Best wishes go to Maureen Hubbard and all interested in forming a drama group. There are also several members considering joining forces to enjoy more regular visits to the theatre.

There is a warm welcome to the five new members and hope that they may find added interests through participating in WI activities.

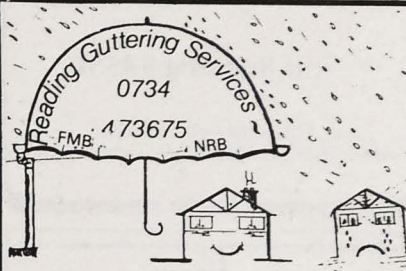
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Caversham Community Association

AN OLD Tyme dancing evening was held on June 2 with May Plant leading the dancers through the various routines. As it was the first Monday in the month there were bargains available on the Nearly New stall.

The following week Ellaine Campbell made a welcome return visit to the club to demonstrate Yoga. Some of the members came prepared to take part and enjoyed the exercises. Mrs Campbell encouraged other members to join in movements suitable for those seated and many participated.

On June 16 the members met for an evening coach trip. They were taken for a pleasant ride through the countryside near Henley, Marlow and Hurley. A stop was made for refreshments before the homeward journey.

There was an informal social evening the next Monday with games and a chance for a chat amongst the members.

On the last Monday in June the annual fish and chip supper took place. Indoor games were played including Scrabble, shove ha'penny, draughts and table tennis in friendly competition. Ted Howard, the Vice-President, then collected the fish and chips which he had previously ordered. The meal was very tasty and Maida Feast, the Chairman, thanked Mr Howard for his help in ordering the supper.

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11.15am Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Sundays)
11.15am Matins (2nd 4th and 5th Sundays)
6.30pm Evensong

St John's

8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST
11.00am Children's Service (1st Sunday)

St Andrew's

8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST
11.15am Holy Communion (not 3rd Sunday)
11.15am Matins (3rd Sunday)
6.30pm Evensong

St Barnabas'

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Family Communion (apart from 2nd Sunday)
9.30am Family Service (2nd Sunday only)
11.00am Holy Communion (2nd Sunday only)
6.30pm Evensong (1st Sunday only)

St Margaret's, Mapledurham

8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday)
11.00am PARISH COMMUNION

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6.30pm Evening Service

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Caversham Heights
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CAVERSHAM DIARY

August 17

— 11am. Farewell Service for Rev Ralph Rogerson at Caversham Heights Methodist Church.

August 29

— 8pm. Caversham Camera Club Open Evening at White Horse public house, Emmer Green.

August 30

— Midday. Ploughman's Lunch at St Andrew's Hall in aid of Missionary Fund.

August 30

— 7.30pm. Induction Service for Rev Keith Sanders (Caversham Heights Methodist Church new minister) at Wesley Church, Queen's Road, Reading.

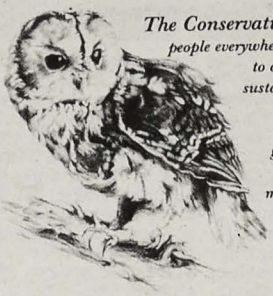
September 6

— 6.00pm. Induction Service for Rev Dr Philip Egglestone as associate minister at Caversham Baptist Free Church.

September 9

— 7.30pm. Caversham Ladies Circle Fashion Show at Mapledurham Pavilion. Further information telephone 474854 or 583247.

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