

Carnival time at Caversham library

THIS year's holiday activities in the Reading area were based on a carnival theme.

The start of the activities was on Thursday, July 31, with over 30 children participating in making a collage of a "Royal Float," an "Animal Float" or a Fairground scene.

The second event, on August 7, was the most well-attended, and perhaps the most popular of all the activities. A local Caversham magician, Mr Keith Churcher, entertained the children (and adults) for over an hour with balloon tricks, magic rings and, to the delight of everyone, a white rabbit.

On August 14, 25 children arrived at the library to make their own special masks. A variety of monkeys, monsters, brightly coloured headbands and face-paints made it a very enjoyable hour.

The last event of the holiday activities was a Carnival Fancy Dress party on August 21. Zoe Goss (the children's librarian) started the party with a storytime, followed by a hunt for book characters hidden in the library. Party games and the judging of the fancy dress finished the morning. First prize went to a very pretty "pink" princess, the second and third to an "Aberystwyth Mouse" and "Pierrot."

The funsheets available in the library (three different ones for each week of the holidays) have proved very popular. The prizes for the competition sheets will be awarded during Children's Book Week in October.

Look out for the "Roald Dahl" display and competition in September, to commemorate his 70th birthday.



Mask making



Watching the magician



"Story time"



Helping the magician



Fancy dress parade

The pictures
were taken by
E. S. Archer



Making a carnival scene

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TALKING POINT

"IT WAS VERY GOOD"

By Fr Adrian Dorber, Priest at St Barnabas

BY THE time you read this (I'm writing on a wet and wild August Bank Holiday), you will probably have celebrated autumn with a Harvest Festival or two. Funny things Harvest Festivals — you would have thought they date back to the mists of antiquity, but they don't. Well at least in the ancient world there are records of solemn harvest rituals, and appropriate merriment to accompany the season. The Jews took creation seriously, and living in an agricultural society, remembered to say their thanks to the Creator at Harvest time. Christians took a more restrained view of things, believing that if you got too excited over the produce you would forget the producer, i.e. the Almighty.

However, in Victorian times when manners were revived and refined, Harvest Thanksgiving services became an ecclesiastical fashion. It became extremely popular, and to this day there's scarcely a Primary School or Christian Congregation in the land that doesn't celebrate

Harvest. It's natural religion (not to be confused with nature worship) to give thanks for the earth's plenty and God's providence. Once a year we remember our manners and say thank you to all involved in bringing us our daily bread.

Thanksgiving and

wonder are the necessary ingredients of worship. William Golding, that most distinguished twentieth-century novelist, once wrote: "Wonder is the beginning of wisdom." And when you think of it, thanksgiving itself is meaningless if there is no one to thank. G. K. Chesterton found his way to belief in God through what he termed "an irrepressible urge towards thanksgiving."



Harvest then is an opportunity for looking at the world afresh. In doing so we are reminded of truths that emerge from the Biblical account of creation: First, that God made the

world "and it was very good;" second, human kind is given responsibility for the earth and is placed to help bring it to its fullest attainment. So we are stewards of that original mystery which is life itself, and deeper and more lovely still we can know the Creator and respond to him. Simply by being human, by being endowed with memory, reason and skill we are so to speak the high priests of all created things. This brings us duties: Worship, the expression of our gratitude for the good things of life that come to us as gifts, not rights to be demanded and taken for granted. It also includes some form of reparation or expiation for all the evil things which are, in part, our fault.



Such duties, if acknowledged, have a profound bearing on the way we see the world and treat the environment. They place religious belief and practice not in a special compartment but in a context where nothing is irrelevant. Conversely our relationship to the earth and its inhabitants is no longer purely economic but spiritual — or, better, sacramental. Those who believe in "God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth" are less likely than others to overvalue or undervalue the world in which they live.

It is over-valued when seen as an end in itself, undervalued when seen merely as a means to human ends. Really, it exists in its own right, independent of us, but dependent on God, and therefore our attitude to it should always be one of humility. Again, belief in a Creator enables us to look on all his works as

teaching us something of his nature. Poet and scientist alike can find their way from Nature to Nature's God, and no religious person is entitled to despise anything, however lowly or insignificant, from which he may learn more of the Being to whose worship he is committed.

And yet this old Victorian invention, the Harvest Festival, as much as it sought to teach us these truths has gone bad on us. It can relapse into sentimentality or be simply the hangover from an agricultural past. If it is a mere horticultural parade of pumpkins and turnips it fails to do justice to the complicated world we live in. This does not mean that we shouldn't give thanks or delight in what is around us — quite the reverse. What I would argue for is celebrations that draw our attention to the whole of the created order, and rekindle our wonder and our responsibility."



"A Christian Biologist has written:

"The chief difficulty with a lot of us is the poverty-stricken view we have of nature and of our total environment. We have eyes and see not, ears and hear not. We look at the world and it is not wonderful. Reality has no greatness, makes no demands on us. A scholar has argued that this is the malaise of the present century, that much of our agnosticism is the denial of greatness around us, and failure to penetrate beyond the most superficial perception of our environment. We have played too long on the surface and dulled our senses."

Perhaps we are too often appalled by what we have done to our planet to raise much enthusiasm for it. The catalogue of famine, pollution and irresponsible environmental policies produces a sense of disgust. It is understandable that folk want harvest-time

reveries of an innocent and wholesome world. But there is good news and at Harvest we need to claim it, and it is this: Note the great upsurge and commitment to conservation, wild-life protection, and the spirited pursuit of a new world economic order. There's a stirring of that primary vision that we all belong together, and the world is "very good" in its creation. We cannot survive unless we learn how to value the part and place of animals and plants, town and country, the seas and mountains, the rivers and plains, industry and habitat, things locked deep in the earth and the air we breathe. Barbara Ward, that great visionary of World Development, once wrote: "If this vision of Unity can become part of the common insight of all the inhabitants of Planet Earth, then we may find that beyond all our inscrutable differences we can achieve just enough unity of purpose to build a human world ... Is this not a precious home for all of us earthlings? Is it not worth our love?"

As Harvest rituals are celebrated this year, perhaps like our Victorian forbears we need to refine and retune our praises so that we are not singing yesterday's thanksgiving, but this generation's thankfulness and responsibility. Maybe we can do that by

recapturing a sense of delight. And that delighting in our world is very near to the Father's heart who made the world for his sheer sense of enjoyment. Perhaps we can meditate on these two quotations to get the feel of what Harvest praises might mean:

"When he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master workman; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world, and delighting in the sons of men." (Proverbs 8: 30-31).



And this by the seventeenth century prelate, Archbishop Leighton:

"All created things indeed declare and speak His glory: The Heavens send it forth, and the Earth and Sea resound and echo it back. But His reasonable creatures hath he peculiarly framed both to take notice of His glory in all the rest, and to return it from and for all the rest in a more express and lively way. And in this lower world it is Man alone that is made capable of observing the Glory of God, and of offering Him praises. He expresses it well who calls Man 'The World's High Priest'."

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All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham by Friday, October 24.

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LISTEN FOR A CHANGE

Special event in Caversham to mark One World Week 1986

"LISTEN for a Change" is the challenging theme of this year's One World Week which runs from October 19-26.

The week is being marked in Caversham by a special evening at St Barnabas Hall, Emmer Green, on Thursday, October 23. Please reserve the date in your diary now!

For the evening promises to be a unique occasion. The idea is that we listen to a number of people who either live or have travelled in different parts

of the world. We hope to have with us Pat Gerrard, the National Director of One World Week who recently spent seven months travelling right round our "one world." We shall have David Fulford, former missionary in Nepal, now a reader in Reading, and hopefully too a Nepali colleague. The ad hoc committee organising the event are also trying to arrange for an African and Latin American to be there.

People will be sharing with us for just a few minutes the one

thing they feel we most need to hear.

After starting the evening by "listening for a change" we shall have the opportunity to take part in change — either by playing the role of Third World rice farmers or critically analysing English and Kenyan newspapers and BBC World Service Broadcasts — and saying how we might have done it better. It promises to be a fascinating evening — don't miss it!



There's no charge for admission, costs will be kept low and at the end of the evening — when coffee will be served — people will be asked to contribute their share, which should not be more than about 40p each. A cup of coffee on British Rail would cost you about that anyway!

The organisers would welcome having some idea of how many will be there. So if you would like to come, please ring Veronica Armstrong, 481795; John Madeley, 476063, or Bet Tickner, 474099. Please arrive between 7.45 and 8.00 for an 8pm prompt start. Hope to see you then!

FORTY YEARS ON!

NEXT year the link of friendship between Reading and Dusseldorf will have been in existence for forty years! It was, in fact, the very first "town twinning" but, as our partner is more than three times Reading's size, we speak of Dusseldorf being our "linked town" rather than our "twin town."



Town twinnings come into being when towns of similar size and character in different countries decide to establish partnerships. Our link with Dusseldorf came about, however, as a result of the compassion of a senior officer in the Army of Occupation and a Mayor of Reading who was a Quaker. In 1946 the Royal Berkshire Regiment was stationed on the Rhine and its commander, Major General Collins, was appalled by the conditions in which the children of the Rhine towns were growing up. He appealed to the towns of Berkshire to "adopt" towns on the Rhine and alleviate the plight of the children by sending parcels of food, clothing and toys.

The Mayor of Reading was Mrs Phoebe Cusden, who responded at once to what was, in fact, a challenge, since the citizens of Reading were enduring ration-

ing themselves at that time, and in no mood to give any help to the defeated enemy. She visited Dusseldorf to see the situation for herself, and on her return not only organised the despatch of the mercy parcels, but arranged for six undernourished children from the devastated city to stay as guests of Reading families.

As soon as Dusseldorf was on its way to recovery it offered hospitality to a party of children from Reading, and so began an annual exchange which has taken place each year ever since. In the course of forty years there have developed links between sports

teams, choirs and orchestras, schools and colleges and other groups, one of which is the members of churches of Reading and Dusseldorf, whose first exchange was twelve years ago.



Over the Easter period in 1987 there will be a fortnight of celebration when a number of Dusseldorf sports teams will visit Reading and when there will be joint concerts in the Hexagon by the Reading and Dusseldorf Youth Orchestras and by the Reading Phoenix and Dusseldorf Oberkassel Choirs.

Then from May 23 to 30 a party of church people from Reading will visit Dusseldorf, those taking part hosting a return visit by members of Dusseldorf churches in 1988. Over the last decade a number of members of Caversham churches have enjoyed the warmth of Dusseldorf hospitality, and now there is the opportunity of doing so next year. If you are interested, please telephone Martyn Allies, Chairman of the Reading Dusseldorf Association (472007) or the Rev Gerald Restall, organiser of the Reading Churches Exchange (51057 or 51738), who will be very pleased to give you further details.

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By Watchdog

Church's plans turned down

WHETHER received with pleasure and relief or with bitter disappointment, the news that St Peter's Church Hall plans had been turned down by the Borough Planning Committee came as a total surprise. The general impression had been that the plans were as good as passed except for possible conditions regarding finishing materials. Members of the Planning Committee though had different ideas and after a prolonged visit to the site came to the conclusion that the churchyard was not the place for what one rather unkindly described as "a brick hut with a tin roof." Not all its detractors would go as far as that but it did reflect the widely felt misgivings that the building did nothing to enhance its setting.

Accompanying this decision was the recommendation that the Caversham Court Stable Block be renovated for use as a meeting place, a recognition of St Peter's need for the use of such premises close to the church. In not being exclusively for the use of St Peter's, this would be much nearer a replacement for Balmore Hall than the proposed building would have. It seems common sense to use what is already there, and in so doing bring back into use an interesting old building which is part of Caversham's history.

It is a matter of regret that this solution was not pursued with more vigour much earlier on. It would have saved the hard work and money that went into planning the new building, the controversy surrounding it, and the disappointment of those who now see their efforts come to naught. The way is open now for a new dimension to be added to Caversham life, acceptable to St Peter's congregation and to

the general community of Caversham.

Trees, lawns and flowers

Over the crinkle-crankle wall in Caversham Court changes are also taking place. Again some people don't like them, feeling that Caversham Court should be a place of sloping lawns and trees, whilst others welcome the bright displays of flowers we have been offered through the grey days of the summer. However, can the double wall being constructed to become a flower bed in the corner near the gazebo really be justified when not a penny has been spent on the gazebo itself? That part of the gardens was not an eyesore crying out for improvement, whereas the gazebo is once again rapidly being allowed to become so. The Gazebo Trust saw to it that this little building is now safe and weather proof, but the shabby door and blocked windows give it an air of dereliction. A coat of paint on the doors and window boards, even if nothing else could be afforded, would have looked as if someone cared. There must be some sympathy with a reluctance to spend money on good windows when even Caversham Court is not immune to vandalism, but that's no excuse for doing nothing when a certain amount of money is obviously available.

Bridge damaged again

Vandals were not slow in setting fire to the Caversham Bridge Hotel once it had closed down. It was a sad day when that landmark, which has been part of the Caversham scene (even if strictly speaking it is in Reading) for as long as anyone can remember, finally served its last drink, its last meal and its

last guest. Again, there are misgivings that what will replace it will be alien rather than complementary to its riverside position.

Caversham Bridge itself also suffered a further attack from vandals who returned to break down and hurl into the river yet another section of the parapet. It is perhaps a comment on our society that unemployed or under employed male youth should be so alienated that this is their way of seeking their revenge or their pleasure.

Richfield Avenue

Continuing along on the other side of the river, we find that the Promenade Car Park is also closed and that a fence is erected the length of Richfield Avenue completely shutting off the view. Where visitors to the Promenade, much used and enjoyed in the summer, are intended to park is anyone's guess. The answer probably is the places reserved for the disabled and slipway users. Additionally, as one of Reading's park and ride car parks (Chestnut Street is the other) this will put pressure on other parking places. All this is because of the development of the former pop festival site for leisure and industrial purposes. The end result will presumably be well worth the temporary inconvenience but it certainly puts complaints about the pop festival into perspective. This occasion, returned and banished to the far end of Richfield Avenue, is taking place as this column is being penned, so comments must wait till next month.

Dangerous junction

The replacement of the pedestrian refuge at the junction of Prospect Street was widely welcomed. One feels less vulnerable with plastic bollards as a protection amidst the swirling traffic. Although it was always proposed to replace the refuge, it was nagging from Caversham Residents' Association and individuals, supported by publicity in the local press, that ensured that it was done.

Meanwhile serious congestion is caused

by customers of Markhams, who as car owners have lost the use of their legs, parking under the archway instead of going on into the car park. Even more than the congestion is the danger, as vision is restricted there because of the bend in the access road. The danger and inconvenience is so obvious that the only conclusion is that the offenders could not care less. The Residents' Association is looking into the matter to see what course of action is best to take.

New by-pass

With the by-pass of Crowmarsh Gifford well under way, this will be yet a further

upgrading of the A4074 as a primary lorry route. The residents of the half of Crowmarsh Gifford affected by through traffic will benefit. The residents of Caversham will not, as yet more lorries are attracted to this route instead of the alternative A34-M4. Oxfordshire, who cry out in alarm that another river bridge in Reading to deal with local traffic must inevitably lead to further development in south Oxfordshire, does not apply this argument when it comes to turning a former B-road into a major A-route. Caversham is left to take the consequence of extra traffic whilst the means of mitigating it is opposed. But then Caversham is not in Oxfordshire.

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DOMESDAY AND CAVERSHAM

So runs the Domesday entry for Caversham.

Lord of Caversham Manor and a Commissioner for Domesday.

Reading an excellent little booklet "The Field of Hastings" by Colonel C. H. Lemmon a year ago I found among all the most interesting information one piece that for me was of special note. Colonel Lemmon mentioned several Medieval Chronicles that referred to the Battle of Hastings and in one De Bello Hastingsi Carmen (song about the Battle of Hastings) it tells that Walter Giffard was one of several knights who killed King Harold. Some of the other ancient documents tell the same story, that Harold was slain by a group of Norman Knights, but only the Carmen (as it is known) lists their names and it was the name of Walter Giffard that caught my attention for he was granted the Manor of Caversham by the Conqueror. If the song is correct (and it was written probably before 1071, that is only some five years after the events of that great battle) was the Manor of

"WALTER Giffard holds 20 hides in Caversham from the King Land for 21 ploughs Now in lordship 4 ploughs 2 slaves 28 villagers with 13 bordars have 13 ploughs. A mill at 20 shillings Meadow 13 acres woodland 1 league and 2 furlongs long and a league wide Value before 1066 later and now £20. Shein held it freely before 1066."

Caversham with which it was granted to Walter as part of the reward for what he did at Hastings? He was also created Earl of Buckingham by William and again, of great interest, was chosen by William to be one of the Commissioners of the Domesday Survey in 1086. By that time he was an old man. It seems clear that Walter Giffard received many favours from his King and was also a trusted servant. To have the Lord of the Manor of Caversham as one of the Commissioners for Domesday is quite something.

Having attended a dozen lectures this year on Domesday in Oxfordshire and Berkshire it may be of interest if I recount some of the notes I made. Several times surveys of this nature had been begun, even from the Roman period, but all had failed and the reason for the success of William's attempt was the speed

with which it was carried out. It had to be recorded as quickly as possible to ensure completion and in fact it took just one year. There were eight Commissioners (our Walter Giffard being one) on eight circuits. They asked the questions and the answers were recorded. Within a few weeks a second Commissioner arrived on the scene asking the same questions of the same people (where possible). Before him he had the answers already given at the earlier meeting. If the second responses did not tally woe betide those who gave a different version. Someone was in trouble — better to tell the truth in the first place! To make doubly sure that the answers were correct sher-

iffs of each area were moved elsewhere, they were never local men. This was done to avoid bribery. One wonders if Walter Giffard was allowed to record his own Manor of Caversham.

Bordars may well have been smallholders who had cut down woodland to make themselves a few acres of farmland. Villages where bordars are recorded were nearly always near great woodlands.

There were heavy concentrations of Domesday plough teams in the Thames Valley and indeed both Mapledurham and Caversham record several of them. It took eight oxen and two men to use a plough.

A hide was a

land unit reckoned as a hundred and twenty acres so there was a lot of cultivated land at Caversham. No wonder there were so many ploughs. This would have meant quite a large group of both oxen and men in the district.

No windmills are recorded in the Survey and some of the water mills mentioned had horizontal wheels. There were mills at Caversham and Mapledurham.

Fisheries were usually by the mills and were so for centuries. There are records of the eel bucks by Caversham mill in the seven-teen hundreds. The usual payment for the use of fisheries was by eel by the stick (so many eels threaded on a stick). Again this form of payment existed for centuries.

With all this information and a little careful thought it is possible to get a glimpse of the villages of Caversham and Mapledurham as they were nine hundred years ago. We are indeed fortunate that they were both recorded in that great book.

M.K.

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KIT IN CAVERSHAM

HANDS up all those who went either to Reading Show or the Rock Festival. Both events seem to arouse deep passions. Apart from this, there isn't much, at least on the face of it, that one shares with the other. But what would Caversham in August be like without these two annual spectacles? Certainly in losing our influx of rock music lovers many Caversham residents would raise a hearty three cheers. I remember one night a few years ago when the thud, thump, thud wafting across the river raised my blood pressure a few points. Yet who among our readers couldn't feel a drop of sympathy for those poor flooded out souls?

Reading Show

If the Rock Festival appears to be an event for outsiders, the very opposite is true of Reading Show. Organised by the Cowards, Caversham people, please note, it is a brave venture which gives pleasure to many, young and old. I have no intention of entering the lists in the battle over the future of the show. All I can say

is that I really do look forward to my yearly glimpse at the many fascinating lives people must be leading in order to produce what eventually ends up on display. This is true even when I don't win first prize for my own "champion" entry.

I am quite convinced that if I stood by the main arena for the three days I would meet practically all of Caversham. This year, for instance, I had just walked through the gates when I bumped into Ray Bunting. I am sure the many friends he made through his greengrocers business will be glad to hear how much he is enjoying "retirement." As for the show itself — well I enjoyed it and I should like to thank all involved; organisers, participants and judges. Maybe the judges come top of my list since disagreeing with their verdicts is the best part of the fun!

To answer my own question near the start of these jottings, I must say that Caversham really would be the poorer without these two events.

As they are both under threat I wonder if readers would like to write and say what they think?

Back to rocking

It is always intriguing to look at works of art and craft. As a total failure in that direction I find the arrays of art and craft materials on display in shop windows most fascinating and I can but wonder at the way some people turn these into so many different objects. For instance, I read in a national newspaper of someone who has turned his hand to making hand-carved wooden rocking horses. As chance would have it, we, in Caversham, have produced our own such craftsmen! Tony and Pam Green lived in Whitchurch and Caversham for twenty years. On taking early retirement they moved up north and Tony had time to pursue his interest in woodwork. Among the results of his labours are beautifully hand-carved rocking horses. Pam is responsible for painting and decorating them, including fitting

full leather tack. Each one takes several weeks to make so they are not cheap, in any sense of the word. One is on display in the window of Caversham Bookshop. All our best wishes go to these ex-Caversham people.

Hair craft

Since the theme of this month's look at Caversham is art and craft, I feel I ought to mention what promises to be a highly entertaining show. "Impressions," of St Martin's Centre will be organising a "Hair and Beauty Spectacular" at the Ramada Hotel, Reading, on October 7, starting at 7.30. Hair and beauty fashions for all occasions will be presented in an exciting show form. If there are any tickets left by the time this issue of the Bridge appears, I certainly recommend going along. All

the proceeds are going to be donated to the charity Action Research for the Crippled Child. This charity has given over £18 million since 1952 to research into the variety of disabling diseases that cripple so many children in this country. At today's values this sum is the equivalent of £50 million.

An island people

A month or so ago I had a bit of a moan about the removal of the traffic island at the bottom of Prospect Street. If anyone up there, in the heights of the Civic Offices I mean, read that, I do hope they will also see this thank you note. Not only was the work promised but it was completed with great speed and efficiency. Now I have no excuse at all for not getting across to Church House to get my copy in on time.

"PULL RINGS" FOR KIDNEY DIALYSIS

Dear Sir,
IN the August "Bridge" an appeal was made for silver paper. May I now make one for aluminium "pull rings" in aid of Kidney Dialysis? As I think everyone knows, at present there is no kidney dialysis machine in Reading; all people having that treatment have to make the journey to Oxford — usually twice a week. However, a kidney dialysis unit is being built in the grounds of Dellwood Hospital,

and funds are needed for this, and the aluminium pull-rings are sold in aid of same. If people would care to keep any they get on tins — or even pick them up in the street as I do — they can be deposited on the doorstep of the address below or in the box in the porch of St Andrew's Church, next to the box for "Working Party materials."

Yours etc.,
Kathrene M. Solly
24 Blenheim Road
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MORE GREETINGS FROM KATY

I'M not sure what part I'm going to play in future productions of the "Bridge" — apart, that is, from passing on any news I might gather to my good friend "Kit" who, on top of an already hectic life, has taken on the job of putting together any odd items of news and comment which come our way. But perhaps you'll forgive me for adding a brief note on this occasion.

So sorry!

For one thing, following my comments in the August issue, I've been taken to task by some people about my comments on the NHS, and I've promised to remind readers that I don't always expect everyone to agree with what I say and that what I write certainly should not be taken as "Bridge" policy or comment —

with so many involved it's highly unlikely even the editorial board would always be in complete agreement. But I wish readers would sometimes take the trouble to write to the editors if they agree or disagree — it would certainly liven up the paper.

But to return to the NHS, I do stand by what I said and must point out that one of my reasons for writing as I did was precisely because in general I feel doctors and nurses are working under great difficulties and those of us who can do so should do their shouting for them, as it were. We've seen enough in our local papers recently to realise that however good the concept of the NHS was at the outset — and Heaven knows I wouldn't want to substitute it with the

system they have in places like the US and Portugal — it has been eroded for years by gross under-funding.

So I stand by what I said, but I'm sorry if I've offended anyone. But please don't think I'm criticising NHS staff who, in most cases, are nothing short of wonderful — and I could give masses of examples of dedication both here in Caversham and in the district as a whole.

Caring

To turn to more pleasant subjects. I was delighted to see the article about Norman Kent in the "Chronicle" recently, and to find that he echoed my own feelings about Caversham people. Like many, I once had dreams of retiring to a cottage in the country. The years have taught

me that roses round the door are no substitute for shops round the corner and other amenities. But, more than that, I know I'd go a long way to find such a caring community as the one we have here and the older one gets the more important that is. I've been amazed and delighted at the number of people who've come up to me in the street recently to enquire how I am. I was particularly pleased to have a phone call from Elsie Platt of Mayfield Drive.

We've not met since I interviewed her many years ago when Platts' Stores closed down; yet, at well over 90, Elsie took the trouble to ring up and say how pleased she was to read something from me in the "Bridge." It's getting to know people like her which has made this job so worthwhile.



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ROUND THE CHURCHES

GOSBROOK ROAD REVIEW

HOLIDAYS have come and gone, and September and the new school term begins, and in some ways a new term in the Church lies before us.

During the Summer the Junior Boys' Brigade have had an enjoyable weekend away at Abingdon Methodist Church, the "grapevine" tells me they had a very "action packed" weekend and enjoyed themselves very much. Some of the older young people went to camp in Holland. They visited The Hague, Rotterdam, Delft and a cheese market, and were delighted to meet The Beatrix Drum Corps where the boys and girls were invited to join in their practice session. All this, good food, sun and swimming made an excellent holiday.

The Summer has been

busy with lots of people and events to mention. There were wedding bells for Dawn Ault and Jeffrey Stagg when they were married on July 5, and Silver Wedding congratulations for Jean and Geoffrey Trevis and Ann and Austin Rogers. We were pleased to welcome the Rev Dr John Francis from Holland, Michigan, USA, who shared in a Women's Fellowship garden party and joined friends at Gosbrook Road for a Youth Service. The service was planned and led by young people, was well presented and a joyous act of worship. A Mission tea and favourite hymn service was held at the end of July, when friends enjoyed a "good Methodist sing" together. The service was led by the Rev Brian Skinner.

The Ambassadors Drum and Bugle Corps have been out and about with events at Crawley, Weston-Super-Mare, Frimley and Cheltenham.



At the end of August it was time to say goodbye to Ralph and Elsie Rogerson who were moving to Whitechurch in the Andover Circuit. Ralph's last service on August 17 was a time of celebration of his excellent ministry in Caversham. We wish Ralph and Elsie every blessing in their new appointment, and look forward to meeting Ralph's successor, the Rev Keith Sanders and his wife Monica.

ST ANDREW'S MOTHERS' UNION

MEMBERS were very fortunate with the weather for the two fund-raising events in August, which gave an opportunity to meet in informal surroundings which all enjoyed very much.

The first event was a Garden Meeting at the home of Dorothy Moore when most of the members and one or two friends spent an enjoyable afternoon in the garden. The result of the Bring and Buy Sale was £21 which was for the branch

funds.

The second event was the Ploughman's Lunch when again members and friends from St Andrew's gathered in the garden of Jane Steer for an enjoyable lunch.

After expenses were deducted there was a total of £33 which was divided equally between the work of the Mothers' Union Overseas and the Mothers' Union Diocesan "Away from it all" scheme.

CHERUBIM SERVICE

AT 2.30pm on simple prayers, in Thursday afternoon which the children are actively involved. After the 20-minute service there is juice and a playtime for the children whilst Mums and/or grannies, enjoy a cup of tea and a chat.

If you would like to know more please give Suzy Robinson a ring on 478371 or come along to St Peter's together with a short story and Thursday!

'EAT YOUR SAUSAGE IN THE RAIN...'

THE first line of 1986's Embley Park Holiday Song reminds us of the only event the weather nearly won! A sunset camp fire and moonlight barbecue turned into a squelching feast. Clouds of steam rose from singing holidaymakers round the bonfire and a strange, shrieking thirty-legged monster under a groundsheet lurched amongst the brollies. Takes more than a downpour to dampen the spirits of Embley Parkers!

Forty adults and 33 youngsters arrived from Caversham on July 26 in hot sunshine. Most — especially those who'd been stuck on the M3 for ages — plunged straight into the swimming pool. This year's New Improved holiday included two full weekends at Embley Park School, Florence Nightingale's country house in palatial grounds near Romsey. As well as 73 full-timers, we served more than 60 meals to visiting guests during the nine days!

We woke to the sound of balls

croquet on the lawns and crawled to our bedrooms to sounds of Scrabbling in the Nightingale Room. The intervening hours were spent in hot pursuit of trophies in 14 different tournaments, with three cooked meals somehow fitted in daily. For 1986's holiday we welcomed several new families (including a master, Richard Gash — generously paired by the draw organisers with tennis star Julia Stanbrook — who turned out to have been in his distant youth a Wimbledon junior competitor!) as well as greeting the Nottons, veteran campers from past Embley days.

Outings included a Southampton night, to the rink — where we marvelled at the incomparable beauty of Robert Dimmick on ice windmilling through the crowds — and to tenpin bowling — where one of our heftier members got his fingers stuck in the departing bowl and demolished the ten skittles with his head. We began and ended with Eucharists, accom-

panied by violin and guitars trio, whilst the Rector mused on "dragons and drains," and we "Complined" midweek. We celebrated a birthday and two wedding anniversaries. We laughed a lot — mostly thanks to the boys' and girls' dorms, whose good natured enthusiasm was a highlight of the holiday. A daily Ladies Keep Fit Class was eventually desegregated and crumbling male bodies were teased into shape on the lawns by Fi Radford and sister bullies.

Several people made involuntary entries into the pool, Roger Hopkinson directed model airplanes and a golf ball into interesting and expensive manoeuvres, a very serious cricket match was won by the "Veterans" (helped by Rodney Pinchen's unorthodox but effective bowling), Brian Orpwood sprained an ankle in the first 24 hours and thereafter endlessly played rounders with the children, a children's sports party ended with musical pillows and the arrival of a real-



"DRESSED FOR DINNER": Role-confusion amongst Caversham holiday teenagers waiting for the dinner bell. Left to right — Helen Morrison's nose and elbow, Gavin Orpwood, Michelle Smith, Doug Smith, Susie Kitcher, Louise Taylor, Ian Orpwood, The Reverend Pater Mullins (dark glasses), Anna Kingsbury, David Hopkinson, with — demurely kneeling — David Payne.

Andy Radford

live witch and a high-speed skeleton, and the final night's party was graced by the arrival, to present trophies, of the Contessa di Aquitania, a six-foot stunner in flowing locks and crimson flamenco dancer's dress.

If this all sounds terribly esoteric, apologies. Embley Park is really about 70 people sharing a week at a level of warm friendship not experienced in normal parish life. The magic worked again this year. The cliché "tired but happy" sums up our feelings and we've booked the School July 25-August 2, 1987!

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STAN ELDON'S COLUMN

COMMONWEALTH GAMES — FUN — FIASCO — FUTURE?



WERE the Commonwealth Games a success or failure and what of the future should they continue? Whatever happens one thing is certain, the winners at the 1986 Games will go into the record books and will be remembered whilst those who did not take part, for whatever reasons, will be forgotten. The Gold Medal winners from the 1980 Moscow Olympics were the Gold Medal winners and they have and will be billed as such for the rest of their lives, even though one of the greatest athletic nations, the USA, did not compete.

Trying to use sport for political purposes cannot and should not work however just the cause. Even Hitler tried to use the Olympics for political ends but it is still the winners from those Games of 1936, like Jesse Owens, that are remembered. Perhaps there is too much nationalism in sport, especially when it comes to

European, Commonwealth and Olympic Games. No political pressure is put on the major sports meetings such as those run at Bislett Stadium in Oslo because all those taking part are running as individuals and not as national teams. As athletics in particular is an individual sport, maybe this is the way championships will have to be organised in the future.

The Commonwealth Games have always been known as the friendly Games and despite the problem of boycott there is no doubt that amongst the competitors and supporters they were just that. That is not to say there were no problems and some of the organisation and interpretation of the rules left a lot to be desired. One particular aspect was quite absurd as we move towards the 1990's. This is concerning "amateurism." At Edinburgh, in the

bowls, only competitors defined as "amateur" by their governing body could take part which meant that household names in the sport such as David Bryant could not compete and of course bowls was one sport at the Games that did not attract good spectator support. Contrast the attitude in this sport with that of athletics where some of the highest paid men and women in sport could compete quite openly in the Games.

Athletes were not of course paid to compete in Edinburgh but the likes of Seb Coe, Steve Cram and Fatima Whitbread earn £12,000 each time they perform at a televised athletic meeting. In fact their medal winning will increase their earning power next year. All this is perfectly legitimate and within the rules but it is an anomaly that two sports should have such a vastly differing attitude.

While on the subject of runners still competing and their earnings, I find it hard by many people as to see why the Sports Council should appoint a current athlete, Seb Coe, to the position of Vice-Chairman with a part-time salary of £10,000 a year. When he is finished with the sport no doubt he will be in a position to make a good contribution to the work of the Sports Council.

Finally, perhaps it would be appropriate here to welcome Laurie Bridge-man and his staff at the Southern Region, Sports Council, to their new home above Waitrose in Caversham.

Stan Eldon

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Postbag

Dear Sir,
I WAS interested to read your article

"Caversham Down Under" and thought your readers may like to know that when St Peter's, Caversham, had a Mothers' Union branch, as Enrolling Member I corresponded for some years with the Caversham Dunedin Women's Fellowship.

Incidentally, their church in Caversham is also called St Peter's.

In 1976, when the Mothers' Union celebrated its centenary,

Yours etc,
Betty Hutson

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READING

"FOX WATCH"

IN March this year the Reading Urban Wildlife Group launched "Fox Watch." The aim was to see where foxes lived within the Borough and to find out something of their life-style. Posters, leaflets and survey forms were prepared and launched on an unsuspecting public. There was press coverage in the local newspapers, interviews on Radio 210 and displays in local libraries and shops.



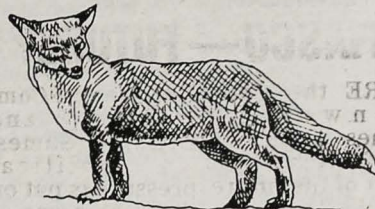
The response was most gratifying and by mid-August we had received details of two hundred and seventy-seven sightings and had located twenty-five earths. A computer programme enabled the data to be sorted and several interesting facts emerged. Forty-three per cent of Reading's foxes were spotted in gardens, whilst thirty-one

per cent were on roads. The rest were on waste-land, woods, parks, etc. The highest number of sightings were in February and March between the hours of seven and eight in the morning. By July cubs were in evidence with seve-

ral falling victim to cars.



Most people seem happy to see and squirrels or foxes around the pets chased. Some town, and some chickens and one regularly leave pet rabbit have food out for them. fallen victim to Damage appears the local fox but minimal—plants people seem trampled, dust- quite tolerant.



NICK RICHARDS. 16.1.1986. ©

The spots representing sightings on the town map look most impressive but, and here is the propaganda, there are gaps. There are many less spots than one would expect around Caversham and Woodley. So I am appealing directly to residents reading this to make a note of foxes they see, preferably on the form available from the library, and let us know. We particularly need to map all the earths to get an idea of overall distribution. So all you Caversham residents, take some late-night strolls armed with notebook and pencil to locate your very own local foxes.

Paula R. Cox

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ARCHDEACON ON THE MOVE

CONGRATULATIONS to the Ven John Brown, Archdeacon of Berkshire, who is to be the next Bishop in Cyprus and the Gulf. Archdeacon Brown has worked in Jordan and in the Sudan, and in 1976, the year of his appointment to Berkshire, he travelled with the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Coggan, translating his sermons into Arabic. John Brown has been a colourful figure in Berkshire, usually travelling by motor-bike or bicycle and his cheery good sense will be missed.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

PLEASE use this newspaper for coming events. Give us information about Charitable Organisations' sales of Christmas cards and goods and help us to ensure that the whole Christmas period is covered.

Please also note that the last date to include this information in the December issue is Wednesday, October 29.

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BLOWN OUT — NOT WASHED OUT!

IN the many years that Caversham Guides have been camping, 1986 is the first year as far as is known, that they have had to come home before the expected time. This year they went to Oxwich in the Gower and camped in a large, rather open field at Norton Farm. From it the views were magnificent, but it gave little protection from the wind which blew all the time they were there. Apart from a battle between the tents and the wind, the pitching went well and the sun shone. The next morning, however, they were woken up

by rain at 5am and it continued, non-stop, till 5pm. As there was a Challenge to do and gadgets to make it didn't matter too much, though spirits were dampened a little, they revived after tea when everyone went down onto Oxwich beach and the sun shone.

Thursday was much better, everything dried out and the afternoon was spent playing in the waves on Slade beach. Quite a few grazes were sustained as there were hidden rocks. The forecast for Friday was not good — rain after midday. It was true to form and as the coach left Caswell

Bay where the Guides had picnicked, the rain started to fall and continued all the time they were in Swansea. Back at camp the fire shelter had to be erected again, but mountains of spaghetti bolognese cooked well. During supper, the fire shelter blew down and a small hole was burned and then a glowing log fell onto a corner which had been repaired the day before. Everybody started to go to bed early, but progress was hampered by the rising wind and the necessity of finding extra guys and pegs.

The first tent blew down at about 11pm.

The young Guides were really frightened but calmed down when they were put in other tents. At about 1am the sleeping tents were falling down in quick succession and two ridge poles broke. The marquee had to be let down as it was taking off, and the big mess tent which had got damp during the winter started to split. At this stage the farmer was contacted and made a small barn available. As not everyone could lie down, several young Guides spent the night on the kitchen floor in the farm-house, three in the back of a car and four survived in tents.

Next morning a few tents were still standing but there was a general air of desolation. There was nothing for it, another night with gales could not be risked, so arrangements were made to get the Guides home.

Somehow all the tents were packed up and brought to one place before the coach arrived, but there was another two hours' work tying up poles, packing the kitchen equipment and stacking everything together securely, for the two adults left behind. It was a camp everyone will remember.

ROUND THE CLUBS

Caversham Community Association

ON August 4, the club members were asked to entertain the club. Olive Howard commenced by amusingly relating a story by the late Joyce Grenfell. Nita Chandler then recited some of Pam Ayres poems in an engaging manner. George Feast followed with an interesting description of his holiday in Chester.

Margaret Cameron had her twin sister Jean staying with her on holiday from South Africa. Jean had written an article on her life there and Margaret read this to the

club. Jean gave a good description of her life in Germiston, the Transvaal, and told of the warm climate, the corner shops and hypermarkets. The schools and colleges, where her children were educated, had strict rules regarding school uniform. Jean's pets were border collies which she and her husband trained for shows.

After the tea-break Beryl Latham gave an efficient demonstration on how to make chocolate nut cookies with tasty samples to follow. Dolly Usher also recited an extract from Joyce Grenfell's writing, this time a comical poem. Maida Feast completed the programme with an informative talk on Eastbourne and the surrounding villages. Vicki Scheel had bargains at the Nearly New stall held the first Monday in the month.

Rose Painter demonstrated flower arranging the following week and produced some delightful arrangements. Mrs Painter used yellow lilies, montbretias and copper beech in one composition and an attractive green arrangement, for when flowers are scarce, in another which was also much admired. Some useful tips were given to the members during the course of the evening.

A Beetle drive was held on August 18, the winner was Anne Bunce and the consolation prize was given to Berry Jamieson.

There was no meeting the next week as it was a Bank Holiday.

St Peter's Wives Group

ON a fine August evening, a small group of St Peter's wives, complete with two husbands and a dog, met at Budgen's, Emmer Green, to enjoy a leisurely walk.

The Group have two events planned for October. On the 11th they will hold their annual Dinner and Cabaret at Chiltern Chase Lodge and on the 21st, 8pm, in Church House, Mr E. A. Cole, of Harwell, will talk to the Group on the subject "Renewable Energy Research in Britain."



November 8, 10.30am, in Church House and the Group will be staging an Autumn Fair to raise money for a chosen charity. Tea and coffee will also be served during the morning, so please give your support.

Blagrove WI

FINGERS kept crossed paid off for the garden party held at the home of Mrs Joan Ford. It turned out a lovely afternoon both for weather and the success of the party. Nearly fifty members and friends attended and enjoyed a sumptuous tea and convivial company. Mrs Popplewell, President, thanked everyone who had helped to make the event so successful and said that the decision to hold the party instead of an outing had seemingly been a good one.

Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild**Outings and flower arranging**

A COFFEE morning meetings in September, too.

At the guild's August meeting in St Andrew's Hall, Mrs Margaret Pilkington, who likes gardening, teaches flower arranging and is chairman of Woodley Flower Club, gave an interesting demonstration entitled "Flowers in the Home." She said that dead-heading in the garden helped to ensure a good supply of flowers. She showed how to condition and use them in the home. Later there was a chance to win one of her attractive recommended its arrangements.

A combined outing with the guild to Arundel was arranged for September and another to the Hexagon to see "The Boy Friend" by Sandy Wilson. Drama group one of her attractive recommended its arrangements.

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SUE RYDER SUPPORT GROUP CAVERSHAM

A MOST exciting day was enjoyed recently when members joined many other volunteers, friends and staff at the Sue Ryder Home, Nettlebed, for the visit of HRH Princess Alexandra. Her Royal Highness opened the new day centre, toured

the home and spoke to many of those present.

At St John's Church supporters were also able to welcome Dennis Rogers the homes' Support Groups Co-ordinator, and the Rev Alan Wilson, Tyrone Clark and Michael Butlin (Ser-

vers) were able to present their cheque for £500 collected from sponsorship of the Reading Marathon. The Home and the Group thank the three men and their sponsors for their hard work and generosity to the home.

The Group's next event is the All Sorts Fair to be held on Saturday, October 11, at 2pm at Caversham Hall. There will be new and good-as-new goods as well as the foundation's Christmas cards. Any goods for sale (not jumble) will be gladly received by Ann Deane, 168 Henley Road, 473798.

CELLISTS REQUIRED FOR CAROL CONCERT!

CAVERSHAM Park Village Church is planning a carol concert this year for the first time which will be conducted by Michael Hollings, who will also be doing the rehearsals. They would very much like to hear from cellists in

particular, but enquiries would also be welcomed from other instrumentalists, all at minimum of grade 3. Children too are welcome and rehearsals will probably begin at the end of September. It will all need a fair bit of

commitment and practice, but it should be FUN too! If you would like to be involved, please telephone Michael on 479203 or the Rev Paul Kenchington on 475152.



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WE RECORD

BAPTISED

St John's
April 13 Siobhan Goodchild
April 27 Hailey Symons
May 25 Cherri Fuller
June 21 Rebecca Pembroke
June 22 John Boothroyd
July 20 Matthew Thomas
July 27 Edward Little
Jane Bushnell
Daniella Goodwin
Rachel Lacey

Aug 3

Martin Harris
Jonathan Sloan
Katherine Sloan
Dominic North
Laura Hunt
Katie Goodings
Karl Goodings
Kirk Goodings
Rebecca Cross

BLESSING

St John's
Aug 10 Stephanie Ellis

WEDDINGS

St John's
April 5 David Platts and Sarah Hawkins
May 17 John Whitcomb and Nuala George
May 24 Stephen Rosier and Cheryl Cooke
June 28 Anthony Player and Tracey Tavener
July 5 Michael Keep and Alison Eaton
Aug 2 Peter Durrant and Sonia Green
Aug 16 Peter McDonald and Zena Lucas

BLESSING OF MARRIAGE

St John's
Aug 23 Roger Withington and Julie East

FUNERALS

St John's
April 3 Brian Maskell
April 9 Dorothy Lee
April 15 Karl South
April 24 Ellen Parry
Edward Parks
Arthur Evans
Leslie Monks
April 25 Thomas Buller
April 28 Jessie Wellburn
April 30 Cyril Walker
May 1 Alice Suveelyer
May 8 Peter Snow
May 19 Ada Lewington
May 22 George Hold
May 29 Violet Preston
Leonard Whiteway
June 12 Edith Fisher
June 18 Cecil Pratt
June 19 Millicent Staines

OBITUARY

HAROLD HITCHMAN

WE should like to add our tribute to Harold Hitchman who died in Battle Hospital eleven days before his ninetieth birthday earlier this year.

He had been a familiar figure in and around St Andrew's district. It was not unusual to see him with bag in hand journeying to the local shops; stopping along the way to converse with those he met. His gaiety and enthusiasm were a joy to all. His friendliness was extended in a practical way during the years that he undertook the duties of postal subscription manager of "Caversham Bridge."

Before coming to reside in Caversham, Harold was an Altar Server at the parish churches at Twyford and Thatcham, and for many years at St Giles Church in Reading. Shortly after arrival he quickly joined and became an Altar Server at St Andrew's. In addition to his attendance on Sundays, he was frequently serving at the Lady Chapel Altar on weekdays. He was punctilious, conscientious, undertaking his duties in an unobtrusive way — until age and disability restricted him. He was a Member of St Laurence the Deacon, Reading, Chapter of the Guild of the Servants of the Sanctuary, which he attended for over sixty years.

Harold was a committed Anglo-Catholic of the highest order both in practice and outlook. To him his faith was very real and true and an abiding strength to him: his spirit was indomitable.

Deepest sympathy is extended to Mary, his widow.

BARN DANCE

COME and share a celebration of St Andrew's seventy-fifth anniversary on Saturday, October 11, in St Andrew's Hall. Music by "The Reivers;" the caller will be Paddy O'Neil. Tickets including refreshments £2.50 (OAP and students £2). Dancing from 7.30pm until 10.30pm.



Tickets available from Church House or the District Wardens, Mrs Molly Sidwell 474392 or David Cooper 471000.

The Rector says that we have a blissful obligation to enjoy life — come and carry out your obligation!

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:

1. Give help in a domestic emergency;
2. Visit and offer help to the sick, lonely and/or housebound;
3. Provide emergency transport. (Emergencies out of office hours — T.N. 479048 or 476181).

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October 15 27 Galsworthy Drive (Karen Rees)
October 22 2 Osterley Drive (Mildred Samuel)
October 29 1 Elstow Avenue (Mavis Davis)

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SUNDAY SERVICES IN OCTOBER

ANGLICAN

St Peter's
8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am PARISH COMMUNION
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

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

10.30am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH (Caversham Park Primary School)

11.00am FAMILY COMMUNION (1st and 3rd Sundays)
MORNING WORSHIP (2nd and 4th Sundays)
FAMILY SERVICE (5th Sunday)

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

10.30am Morning Service (meeting in the Hill Primary
School)
6.30pm Evening Service

METHODIST

Caversham, Gosbrook Road
11.00am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

Caversham Heights
8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday)
11.00am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Anne's
9.00am, 11.00am (also Saturdays 5.30pm)

Our Lady of Caversham
8.30 and 10.30am, 5pm Mass

St Martin's School
9.15am Mass

Mapledurham House
6.00pm Mass (last Sunday)

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CAVERSHAM DIARY

- October 7 — 7.30pm. Ramada Hotel. "Hair and Beauty Spectacular" in aid of Action Research for the Crippled Child. Details 62265.
- October 8 — 2.30pm. St Andrew's Mothers' Union Service in Church and AGM.
- October 11 — 7.30pm. St Andrew's Hall. Anniversary Barn Dance. Tickets £2.50 (and reductions) Church House.
- October 12 — 9.15am. St Peter's Harvest Festival.
- October 15 — 8pm. Organ Recital in St Andrew's Church by Christopher Robinson, Organist and Master of Choristers in St George's Chapel, Windsor.
- October 18 — 10-12.30. Church House. Reading/Caversham Afternoon TG Autumn Fair.
- October 18 — St Peter's Harvest Supper and Barn Dance.
- October 18 — 10.30am-3pm. Methodist Church Hall, Woodcote Road. RNLI Lifeboat Bazaar.
- October 19 — St Andrew's Mothers' Union admission of new members during 9.15 Family Eucharist.
- October 19 — 6.30. St Andrew's Songs of Praise.
- October 21 — 8pm. St Andrew's Mothers' Union, 20 Ashcroft Close — Mr W. A. Vincent.
- October 23 — 7.45 for 8pm. St Barnabas' Hall. One World Week — "Listen for a Change."
- October 25 — 2pm. Methodist Church Hall, Gosbrook Road. Auction in aid of Royal Berks Hospital Radiotherapy Unit.
- October 26 — 2.15pm. St Barnabas' Hall. Rosehill WI Jumble Sale.
- November 8 — 2.30pm. Caversham Hall. St John's Autumn Fair.
- November 8 — 2pm. Micklands School Autumn Fair.

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