

TALKING POINT: CRITICISM

I wonder how you and I react to criticism? Recently I have been reading again about William Tyndale. William Tyndale was a great man. So deeply did Tyndale set his mark on the English Bible that it is said that nine-tenths of the Authorised Version go back to him. Tyndale was a very great man, and he died a martyr for the open Bible, praying as he died: "Open the King of England's eyes."

But there is one most notable thing about Tyndale, which is an example to every man. Tyndale had little or nothing of the scholar's pride. He was one of the very few men who genuinely asked for and welcomed criticism. In the preface of his 1534 edition of his translation he wrote to all and sundry: "Where they find faults, let them show it to me, if they be nigh, or write to me, if they are far off, or write openly against it, and I promise that, if I perceive that their reasons conclude, I will confess mine ignorance openly." There have been very, very few men who sincerely asked for criticism, and who genuinely promised to accept it and act upon it, if it was justified. One of the best tests of any

man is just how he does accept criticism.



He may receive it with RESENTMENT — The slightest breath of criticism may make him angry that anyone should suggest that he could possibly be in error. There are certain people, and they are not altogether rare in the Church, to whom the least of criticisms is a personal insult. It is quite certain that any man who has resented criticism has put himself under three great disadvantages. First, he can never be a servant of any

leader or of any cause, for to himself he is the most important person in the world. Second, he can never cooperate in any joint effort, for no one but himself can ever be right. Third, he will never be able to learn or to improve, for no man can learn and no man can become better, who refuses to admit that he has any ignorance or any faults.



He may receive it with PETULANCE — There are certain people who, if they are in the least criticised, simply throw up the job on which they are engaged, like children who sulkily "won't play". It is no good at all to "pet" people like that. If they want to go, let

them go. We are far better without them.



There are people who receive it with UNDUE SENSITIVENESS — There are people who have a skin fewer than other people. They are very easily discouraged, and very easily depressed. When they are criticised they do not give up in petulance; they give up in discouragement and even in despair. People like that should remember one thing. In very many cases criticism is a compliment. A pupil complained to one of the ancient philosophers, that he, his master, was always criticising him. The philosopher replied: "You will



There are those who receive it in HUMILITY — As the ancient wise men used often to say, the really wise man is the man who realises that he does not know. The man who can make real progress is the man who knows that a job can be done better, and who is anxious only to find how it can be done better. The real enemy of all good work is self-satisfaction. The everyone has in man, who will never make any progress, is the man who is content with every-

thing which he produces.

Tyndale's offer was that, if any man could point out his faults and enable him to do better, he would gladly accept any criticism or advice. If for instance, a golf professional is playing badly, he will certainly go to a fellow professional and say: "Look at me playing, and tell me what I am doing wrong."

Surely if a man is prepared to accept advice and criticism to play a game well, we should be willing to accept him to live a life well, and to do Christ's work well. It would be good for all of us to pray: "Make me humble enough to know my faults, and if I can't see them myself, to listen to others when they tell me about them."

However that is only half the story, for there is not only an art in accepting criticism, there is also an art in giving criticism, and the receiving and the giving can hardly be separated.



Criticism can be given almost solely WITH THE DESIRE TO HURT. The real psychologists will self-tell us that almost everyone has in some way or other the desire for power; and that there are those who

criticise acidly or savagely because, whether they admit it to themselves or not, they like to see the other person wince. There is never anything to be said for cruelty and there is nothing to be said for that.



Criticism can be given in CONSCIOUS SUPERIORITY — It is possible for us to stand above the other person, and to look down, and to point out his faults, as if we had none of our own. One thing is certain — no man is faultless. It has been said that a real evangelist is one starving man telling another starving man where to find bread. And there is truth in the old saying that "There is so much bad in the best of us and so much good in the worst of us that it ill behoves any of us to find fault with the rest of us." Criticism given in conscious superiority is seldom effective, because it lacks sympathy. When a man has to criticise he should remember George Whitefield's famous saying as he saw the man going to the scaffold: "There but for the grace of God go I."

George Whitefield's famous saying as he saw the man going to the scaffold: "There but for the grace of God go I."

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WORLD CONSERVATION BADGES FOR ST PETER'S CUBS



SEVENTEEN Cubs have been working for this badge since the beginning of the year and the projects undertaken are listed below:

A survey of birds seen in Cubs' own gardens;

Making a foot-path map of an area between Peppard Church and Blounts Court, Sonning Common. Snow covered the ground and we saw a fox!

Finding out how man damages nature, which involved a visit to gravel pits at Theale and a visit to Greendene Farm where Mr Alfred Martyn-Johns, the farmer, explained how farmers are trying to co-operate with conservationists. This was followed by a picnic supper;

Mr Cyril Littlewood from the Young People's Trust for Endangered Species talked about creatures in danger of extinction and how people can help save them. As

a bonus he showed a film about the water shrew. £9 was donated to the Trust;

Carrying out tests for pollution on water from local ponds and the river Thames. The water from the Thames at Shiplake produced a water shrimp and a leech!

Learning the Country Code and making two board games as training aids.

At the end of the summer term Cubs invited parents to see the work they had done, which included information on all the endangered species

the boys had chosen to study specifically. Mr Jerry Webb was present to discuss the various projects and congratulated the Cubs on their hard work over such a long period. He then presented the Cubs with their World Conservation badges. The boys had written well and interestingly on their various outings, and that to the Amey Roadstone Corporation's work at the gravel pits at Theale was of particular interest.

Special thanks are due to Mrs Jane Bickerstaffe for her educational game showing the effects of man's actions on his environment.



Akela (Mrs Barbara Chapman) with her Cubs. Some are seen holding their conservation badges, which were presented by Mr Jerry Webb, who is standing in the back row

TALKING POINT

Continued from Page 1

Criticism can become HABITUAL until it becomes not legitimate criticism but unjustifiable NAGGING. There are some people whose tongues are tuned to criticise. There is the look of disapproval continually in their eyes, and the accent of complaint continually upon their lips. This way tragedy can lie. Mary Lamb, Charles Lamb's sister, used to have those tragic fits of madness. She knew they were coming, and she and Charles used to go hand in hand to the asylum, when they threatened, that she might be taken in until they

were over. When she was young, she used to say: "Why is it that I can never do anything to please my mother?" Poor Mary Lamb's distressed mind might have been less troubled if there had been a little more sympathy and a little less nagging.

There are two kinds of RIGHT criticism. There is the criticism which is PREPARED TO TRY TO DO BETTER ITSELF — When the young Isaac Watts was returning from church with his father, he complained about the dreariness of the hymns. His father retorted: "Then give us something better young man."

In time for the next Sunday, Isaac Watts started on that career of hymn-writing which made him one of the two or three greatest writers of hymns in the English language. The criticism of one who is prepared to take off his coat and help is always a right and valuable thing.

There is the criticism of LOVE — It is always wrong to regard love as a pleasantly sentimental attitude which indulgently allows the loved one to do as he or she likes. That is not love; that is the way to ruin the per-

son involved. Love is not blind; there is nothing so clear-sighted as love; and love cannot rest content watching its loved one living a life which is below the level of what it might have been, wasting the talents which might have been splendidly used, following some course of action which may even end in disaster.

But in such criticism there is gentleness, there is sympathy, there is understanding. Such criticism creates an atmosphere in which it is clear that the one desire is to help and not to hurt. It obviously speaks, not in delight at the opportunity to criticise, but under the compulsion which can do no other. Love is perfectly expressed in 1 Corinthians chapter 13.

Anyone set in authority in a family, in a business, in teaching, in a church, at work, cannot escape the duty of criticism. Let him be sure that that duty is carried out in nothing less and nothing other than the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Postbag

Dear Sirs,
Rectorial blood-pressure, hitherto causing only occasional alarm, soared on reading "Watchdog" in October. Your writer implies that St. Peter's did not pursue the option of using Caversham Court Stable Block with much vigour.

In your front page May 1986 it clearly states that Reading Borough Council ruled out this option. Only then (and with RBC encouragement) did St. Peter's District Committee turn to the option of an appropriate building in the churchyard, keeping the PCC informed of this.

To imply that St. Peter's has been dilatory is contrary to the facts. Two of my three years here were spent in negotiating with Reading Borough Council for the use in one way or another of Caversham Court Stable Block. It seemed to us an obvious solution.

I suspect that, in barking up the wrong tree, "Watchdog" has been listening to second-hand comments and has not pursued the truth with the vigour he or she urges on St. Peter's.

Miracles may happen. On hearing of the negative planning decision on the churchyard building (which we are formally contesting) I wrote yet again to the Borough Council — this time to ask whether they have made a radical policy change. After two weeks my letter has not even been acknowledged. If "Watchdog" has friends in higher places perhaps he or she would use them on our behalf, instead of making ill-founded assertions hurtful to us and contrary to the facts.

Yours etc.
Richard Kingsbury, Rector
Caversham Rectory
20 Church Road,
Caversham.

When writing under a pseudonym it is essential, in the Community's interest, to be clearly in possession of all the correct facts in order to give a balanced opinion, in this instance and in earlier comments, "Watchdog's" remarks are regrettably a mixture of complete inaccuracies, half-truths and personal prejudices apparently intended to mislead Parish readers into believing that the project was a totally undesirable and misconceived concept which should not be permitted, since not only in the writer's view did the proposal intrude into the traditional much-loved Churchyard, but equally suitable alternative accommodation is standing empty nearby waiting to be put to good use by the Parish, without dis-

Dear Sirs,
I seldom find it desirable to be drawn publicly into community issues debated in the Parish Newspaper since it may prove divisive in the long term, but on this particular occasion I can no longer remain silent about the article written by the anonymous "Watchdog" in the October issue of the Caversham Bridge regarding the current outcome of the proposed Parish



Turn to page 3

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All contributions for the January issue should be sent to Church House by noon on Wednesday, November 26.
All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham by Friday, November 21.

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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From page 2

turbing the existing mature environment.

Readers might wish to know that in reality extensive time and thought has been given to this particularly sensitive project with no fewer than five alternatives on four locations being considered before a final joint decision was reached on the siting. Two alternative building studies were also prepared before we were satisfied with the recent scheme. Not the least issue was the question of the right materials. The scheme was accepted by the overwhelming majority of the Church Committee and recommended for acceptance by the Planning Officers after several months of a negotiation and discussion on finer points of detail.

As to the use of Caversham Court, it can also be found that in truth the Rector and Churchwardens have spent some eighteen months talking and corresponding on this possible alternative, the situation ending in a negative response from the Borough.

I sincerely hope that this letter will redress the balance and destroy a number of illusions promoted by "Watchdog" in

recent articles. His or her eyes and ears have done a considerable disservice on this and other local issues. St. Peter's needs accommodation which can be directly associated with the Church for its ever-increasing religious and community needs and as their appointed Architect I hope that it will be my enjoyable privilege to create a building which can be a modest yet permanent contribution to the twentieth century, appreciated by present and future generations of the Parish.

Yours etc.
Nick Whiteley, Architect
144 Kidmore Rd,
Caversham.



Dear Sirs,

I head the following "The testimony of a pacifist," it being my understanding of the spirit and teaching of Jesus Christ, God's spokesman.

I was seventeen years of age when war broke out on August 4th 1914. The following August I enlisted in the RAMC, having been a member of the St John Ambulance Brigade, and was posted to a London hospital caring for wounded soldiers back from the war zones; there to scrub lavatory floors, polish water taps, empty urine bottles and sputum pots from the wards, but later to assist



Postbag

the anaesthetist to sedate patients prior to an operation, using the old method of ether and a gauze mask covering the nose and mouth. We then carried the patient on a stretcher to the operating theatre next door, where we stayed, afterwards returning the patient to his ward.

In March 1917 I was sent to Blackpool, the Headquarters of the RAMC, to "harden up" prior to being sent to the Western Front to join the 73rd Field Ambulance to become a stretcher bearer, carrying wounded from one relay station to the next on their way to a Field Hospital some miles to the rear; experiencing the fear of exploding shells; at times wading ankle-deep through seas of liquid mud; to endure the body lice before dropping off to sleep for the night, hopefully safe in some dugout, though that was no guarantee of not being blown sky-high.

November 1918, and the ending of hostilities, the end of fear of instant death, of the filth and squalor. The Allied Armies continued to move forward, as did our Field Ambulance which, at the end of a five-week march, became part of the army of occupation. I received my discharge from the army in July 1919.

Ten years on I committed my life to Christ, accepting the responsibilities and obligations He expects from His followers; a way of life that I found satisfying, and finding warm friendship from fellow Christians in the Church.

A real test of my faith came four years later when, in 1933, the Oxford Union Debating Society passed the motion that "This House would not fight for King and Country!" This caused a great stir throughout the country, and Church and public meetings discussed and argued on the subject. I myself gave it a great deal of thought lasting some weeks, finally coming to the conclusion that I could in no way reconcile the killing of men, women and children with the teaching and example of Jesus, whom I followed.

I therefore renounced

war, the manufacture and use of armaments, thus inheriting the term of pacifist, and, on the authority of Jesus, became a child, a son of God. (For pacifist/pacifism, consult the dictionary).

But that was not the end, only the beginning. From now on one had to work for world peace, total disarmament; to proclaim my faith in the truth and wisdom of Christ's teaching. Over the years, and more recently, I have written many letters to prominent MPs, including the PM, pointing out that killing fellow humans in war is not in accord with Christ's teaching, and contrary to God's will, enlarging on it, never short of reasons to back it up. You see, you cannot out-reason Jesus. I have spoken to many of my convictions, including fellow Christians, but almost without exception have met with opposition. We boldly sing "Onward Christian Soldiers", but where are we today? Sheltering behind armaments, no longer trusting Christ to be Saviour of the World; or are we in the front line with Him, battling to bring peace on earth, goodwill to men? Don't be deceived by those who say the nation has a right to defend itself by slaughter of fellow humans, it just isn't true. God's law still stands, "Thou shalt not kill!" The finest tribute we can pay to our dead, our maimed, the orphaned this coming Armistice Sunday is to pledge before God that we will no longer support this heinous, despicable practice. If the universal Church, all Christians, whether churchgoers or not, had the faith, the courage, the will, it could take a great step forward in establishing God's Kingdom here on earth.

Yours etc
H. D. Marshall
164 Kidmore End Road
Emmer Green



Dear Sir,
Might I, through your columns, ask if anyone who has sufficient Greek (Classical, Koine or Modern) to enjoy reading the New Testament in that language, and would like to join a study group for that purpose, would be

good enough to contact me on Reading 471158.

Yours etc
Cynthia Spoliar
43 Grove Hill
Caversham



Dear Sirs,
I would like to agree strongly with a lot of "Watchdog's" Residents' Viewpoint in September's Caversham Bridge. This is an untidy country and the worse it gets the worse people are likely to treat it. As "Watchdog" says, street cleaning has suffered badly from cuts. In Reading we now have little more than half the number of street cleaners we had after the war — with more streets, more litter and hardly any mechanical help.

By the time your readers see this I hope the Environment Committee will have approved a plan to turn the tide, and clean the residential streets fifty per cent more often. That can't totally solve the problem. We also need people to drop less litter.

The holes in roads are a serious problem, and I welcome your efforts to monitor them. We have to operate within the funds approved by the County Council. The vandals who attacked Caversham Bridge not only spoiled the appearance of the area, they also wasted money that could have mended a fair number of holes.

Thank you also for the article on food irradiation, which I found very

informative. It does overlook one possible danger, that irresponsible people may irradiate food which has already started to go off. This may stop further visible decay, but leave poisons that have already formed in the food. I think that allowing food irradiation would be very

unwise unless very substantial safeguards are enforced.
Yours etc.
Robert Dimmick
Chairman, Environment Committee
Members Room
PO Box 17
Civic Offices, Reading.

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By Watchdog

Landmark vanishes

"A sense of almost personal loss". This was one of the comments overheard and echoed by many others when, with what seemed almost indecent haste, the Caversham Bridge Hotel disappeared forever from human sight. It was a well used building and a familiar sight to all crossing over Caversham Bridge even if they rarely used it, and it sat there beside the river as though it had grown there. It had not of course, for its predecessor, really hallowed by the years, had been there until the beginning of this century, but there are few who will remember a time when it did not occupy that position. For most of us it seemed like a permanent part of the background. We wait, without high hopes, for what will go in its place, for we know only too well that it will be far more fitted to the international scene than it will to the river scene.

Back to front

A little further along Richfield Avenue, close to the hotel but the other side of the car park, is an odd little plot that has always been left out of the many plans that have been considered for Richfield Avenue, the reason apparently being doubt over its ownership. This appears now to have been resolved and an application to develop it has been put in. Over the years it has acquired many of the characteristics of a wild life site, with some mature trees, a covering of bushes, wild flowers and a variety of fauna, as well, of course, as the usual collection of litter. However, such wet considerations are not going to save it from the chopper.

The plan submitted in fact is for a restaurant and this could be quite a good use of the land, as the establishment in

question appears to be offering something between the convenience instant food likely to be on offer at the leisure centre, and the more expensive (probably expense account) meals to be available at the new hotel. So far, so good.

However, the building seems to have overlooked the fact that it is actually to occupy a prime riverside site (as we fear does the new hotel). Instead, it turns its back on the river, giving those boating, out for a stroll or crossing Caversham Bridge a view of its loading bay, storage area, dustbins and suchlike, whilst inviting its clients to sit outside, when the weather is warm, on the side of Richfield Avenue, where they can be regaled with a view of passing traffic, light industrial buildings and the backs of houses.

Its progenitors will, it is hoped, see the errors of their ways and virtually turn the whole thing about, which could even make sound commercial sense, as riverside users see how attractive the outside tables look and decide to have a meal there. The Richfield Avenue side can be suitably designed so that the eye of the passing motorist, when not concentrating on the junction ahead, will not be offended at what it sees.

Music to whose ears?

The Rock Festival site itself has moved off to the far end of Richfield Avenue, but still, as far as parts of Caversham are concerned, only just across the river. This year it experienced some of the worst weather of a cold wet summer. Small wonder that its fans looked so despondent, the mud in which they were camping only adding to the general air of gloom.

Or was the gloom part of the scene, and only coincidentally attributable to the weather? Perhaps they were all enjoying themselves in spite of appearances to the contrary. If, however, you happened to live opposite the site, and moreover hated rock music, you suffered. The sight of litter lying around added to your distress, leaving you with the feeling that the barbarians

really were at the gates of Rome.

However, the litter was cleared away reasonably quickly (perhaps more effort could be made to stop it being dropped in the first place) the hoards retreated, normality once more reigned, and the peace will not be disturbed for another year. Or will it? The Rock Festival is not the only event on the river bank that generates noise that can be heard in distant parts of Caversham, yet these are accepted without complaint or at least with the realisation that it is part of the price we pay for having the good fortune to live near an amenity that attracts people from afar. The Rock Festival arouses deeper emotions though, that may not be unconnected with the fact that its adherents have different tastes and pursue different life styles from those who prefer to "keep the noiseless tenor of their way".

Lower Caversham's needs

Whilst the Lower Caversham Residents' Association was in existence it acted as a vigilant watch dog for that part of Caversham. Now that it is no longer functioning, former members and others living in the area may find it worthwhile to link up with Caversham and District Residents' Associations, who are willing to take over its

Some residents have already banded together to oppose the overdevelopment of a small site with too many flats. Others have for a long time been complaining about the lack of a pedestrian phase at the George Street-Gosbrook Road lights. CDRA is now supporting them in their ongoing efforts in what is yet another example of the low priority given to pedestrians. Anyone who would like to join the Association and help keep it in touch with what is going on in their part of Caversham, should get in touch with their membership secretary, Mrs Isobel Dovey, 66 Rotherfield Way (Tel. 473430).

Hands off our countryside

Caversham people who went to the Civic Society's meeting on Boundary Changes

prepared to defend South Oxfordshire against Berkshire's expansionist policies, found that the speaker in favour of boundary extensions was far more concerned with Reading's desire to extend into the built-up and partly built-up areas of Berkshire than he was with Berkshire's wish to spread into Oxfordshire. Professor Bryce-Smith was left to ward off a non-existent attack. Dr Punter did say that Oxfordshire should not expect to escape unscathed by pressures being exerted in this part of the country, but he agreed that there were large areas of south Oxfordshire which should be sacrosanct.

Berkshire in fact seems to have few enthusiastic allies for its cause. Even Reading Borough Council, to whom the territories would most likely be attached, has been strangely silent. This must give grounds for hope that the Boundaries Commission will view Berkshire's proposals in a similar light.

On the other hand, murmurs emerging from the Countryside Commission could mean that any move to include Reading's and some of South Oxfordshire's proposals too in the Chiltern Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty are unlikely to meet with success. In their annual report the Commissioners say which areas they are concerned at attempts to get areas

designated just to prevent development, citing particularly those areas on the edge of the Chiltern's AOB who are raising a furor (that's us) about the Commission's current review. Well, it may be a contributory reason but there are plenty more perfectly valid reasons.

Speak up

The Countryside Commission was certainly not opposed to people making their views known. In fact they expressed concern about Government Departments, particularly the DoT and the MoD who ignore "the green tide". This is far from the case with Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, who described pressure groups as "strangling serpents" who made extra work for ministers and held up decisions. He would presumably like us all to sit back and accept what is good for us. He ignores the fact that many groups have thoroughly done their homework or are so familiar with places or circumstances that they are able to supply both local and national government with information which would have taken them time and money to collect themselves. Residents' Associations and amenity groups are only a part of this growing movement which wants to participate in decision making.

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KIT IN CAVERSHAM

TURN AGAIN

Take a trip along Prospect Street at night. That was the suggestion of one of the editors, an invitation I could scarcely refuse. So one evening at about 9.30 we duly made our way through Caversham and up Prospect Street. What a pleasant surprise! The warm glow of the street light brought out the best in the brickwork. The shop windows, many lit up, were attractive and in a Dickensian way rather comforting. A golden tinge spread over the streets. But dear, oh dear — the pavements! Chip bags, take away cartons

and general filth spoiled the effect. Or maybe we can't have Dickensian charm without its squalor. Still the shop keepers and residents in the area are doing their bit. Perhaps we could persuade others to join in.

Shopping days

Sorry I don't know how many shopping days there are to Christmas but don't forget to support your local traders. If we want local shops throughout the year we have to use them throughout the year — it's no good complaining about having to go into Reading if we don't use the shops we have. Think of what we do

have; kitchen ware, antiques, sports shoes and sports bags, tailors, clock sales and repairs, jewellers, bikes, typewriters, books, do-it-yourself, flowerers, shoes... I could go on and on... and at last we have a toyshop.

Tim and Julie Webb, local people, have aimed at catching the passing eye with their new shop Tam-bourine Toys. Painted brightly in yellow and red I don't suppose many could fail to spot the new shop. Inside is as tempting as the outside. Tim and Julie have stocked their shop with a wide range of toys from old favourites such as Lego and Matchbox to those made by hand locally. There is something to suit different size pockets too from children's pocket money toys to the really magnificent special present. Let's wish the Webbs every success. I have often said Caversham needed a toyshop, let's hope they now get the support.

Old Chester Nuts

Sorry, I'm back to Chester Street car park. Comments on parking charges in a later issue. No this is something else. Did anyone notice some second hand furniture for sale at the rear of one of the houses backing onto the car park? I don't know the rights and wrongs of that piece of private enterprise; did I catch a glimpse of the political proverbial bike? No it's the strange Caversham

version of the Berlin Wall that intrigues me. The saga began, if my notebook serves me well, on Tuesday, September 23. Four workmen complete with pneumatic drill dug a couple of holes and placed a couple of concrete pillars there. This was followed by some wooden fencing. They had blocked the entrance to the house's garage where no doubt the offending furniture was being stored. That's that, I thought. But not for a moment. Returning the same evening I found the whole magnificent erection had been taken down. This strange wonderland performance was repeated on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Then came the Council's piece de resistance. On Monday morning metal poles were sunk into the holes, a welder busied himself on the structure, admired by two or three others (I am not sure how many were employed workmen), and finally a magnificent mesh of ironmongery was there to block the entrance. Victory for our Council! I couldn't help but wonder at the cost of this exercise. Surely if the trading was illegal the law would have been a more subtle way of dealing with the problem. What I mused if the entrepreneurs were to remove a fencing panel! Would we see a whole wall of iron mesh — I suppose this is one way to treat dissidents!

SCF Quiz Aid

On a happier note, I have been asked to let people know that at the time of writing, Lindsay Mullaney's Quiz Aid for SCF has raised over £350. Entries came from as far afield as Scotland and Wales. Lindsay wants to thank all who gave so generously and she hopes it also gave many people great pleasure. The main advantage of this type of fund raising, she says, is that it costs so little to produce so that virtually all the proceeds go to the charity.

We are the Champions


Well done Caversham Primary School. Horticultural masters CPS, as many already know, won the Primary School Section for the Reading Chronicle sunflower competition.

Slide Shows

Is your Club, Society etc interested in short slide shows and talks about "foreign places"? If so, do get in touch with Mr and Mrs Archer at 472874.

Caversham Diary

And as a footnote — may we remind you that the Caversham Diary (back page) is used for coming events. We are happy to offer this service free of charge. If you wish to advertise with a special box, this has to be paid for. Churches and charitable organisations will pay half-price.



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HURRAH FOR ROLLERS!



Children from CPV Church raised £100 for a sponsored "roller-skate". Air Marshal Sir Alan Davies is seen here receiving a cheque for £50 on behalf of Caversham branch of SCF. The children gave the other £50 to St. Helen's Hospice, Oxford. Photo: Courtesy Reading Chronicle

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ROUND THE CHURCHES

WELCOME TO NEW CLERGY

A SPECIAL invitation was extended to the Rev Keith Sanders and the Rev Dr Philip Egglestone by the Parochial Church Council, who sped through their business to welcome these new clergy to the area.

They were each invited to speak for a few minutes, giving an account of their reasons for choosing and being chosen by Caversham. The Rector thanked them both for taking time to attend and extended

good wishes from the whole of the Anglican Parish of Caversham and Mapledurham.

Thereafter the two men circulated and enjoyed further fellowship with the members present.



The Rev Keith Sanders, new Methodist minister at Caversham Heights, photographed with his wife and family at home

Open Day at Springfield St Luke's

Springfield St Luke's held their Annual Open Day on the afternoon of Saturday, September 20. Many people came to enjoy the sunshine in the well-tended gardens, and to have a cup of tea and support the bring-and-buy stalls. The proceeds are being used for the refurbishment of the Springfield St Luke Chapel.



E. S. Archer

St Peter's Wives Group

MRS José Patterson was with St Peter's Wives Group for their September meeting. She outlined her work

with traveller children and highlighted the many difficulties when providing for their education.

Mrs Patterson illustrated her talk with slides and answered members' questions.

On November 8 the group will be looking for readers' support when they hold their Autumn Fair in Church House at 10.30am. All funds raised will be sent to the Sue Ryder Home,

Nettlebed. Later in the month, the group will be holding its AGM, followed by a demonstration of napkin folding.

If any reader is interested in joining the wives — this is a completely open group — then please contact Mary Duncan (481189) for further details. The group meets on the third Tuesday of the month in Church House at 8pm.

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THE LINK GROUP

THE sun shone brightly on the Link Group's annual outing with a party of Mencap children to the Child Beale Wildlife Trust on Saturday, September 27. All had a very happy day, and perhaps the members felt it boded well for a new season of Link activities.

The outing had been planned at the meeting of the Link Group held at Audrey Preston's house on September 22, together with discussion of coming events up to and including Christmas carol singing. It was reported that the tea parties for elderly/disabled folk had started successfully again after a short summer break, and that the Care Centre in Caversham is proving of increasing value.

The Link have lost some members during the past year, due to people moving away, and would be delighted to welcome in more people who would be interested in taking part in their activities. They have always acted as an ecumenical group, and provide an ideal opportunity for members of all churches in Caversham to get together to work for a common cause. They meet usually on the last Monday of the month to discuss their projects, sometimes having a speaker to advise them of the various community needs with which they might help.

Anyone interested please ring their Chairman, Pat Jenkins, on 478502, or Secretary, Margaret Dart (475403). You can be assured of a warm welcome.

St Andrew's Mothers' Union

THE autumn programme got off to a good start on the first Tuesday afternoon in September. Mrs Teague came to talk about the Mothers' Union Journal called Home and Family and how it comes to fruition every quarter and all that is involved in getting it from the printer to each individual member. At the evening meeting members were privileged to have Mrs Dulcie Bone, a very well-known member of the Mothers' Union in the Oxford Diocese. Mrs Bone explained the meaning of the Mothers' Union Prayer and how each could use it for prayer and meditation in their daily lives. All left this meeting feeling very inspired and resolved to do much better in the future.

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ROUND THE CHURCHES

BAPTIST NEWS

Music hath problems?

READERS of the Caversham Bridge will recall that last autumn the Gospel Singers of the Baptist Church, under their leader, Sue Allum, in conjunction with the Bible Society, staged the musical drama Greater than Gold by Roger Jones. This proved to be a "sell-out" when performed at the Salvation Army

Citadel and repeat performances took place at Tyndale, Tilehurst and Caversham Baptist Churches. This year Sue, the Gospel Singers and friends are planning to present the Christmas musical Night of Miracles by John Peterson at Caversham Baptist Free Church on Saturday, November 29.

The renown of the Gospel Singers has spread and recently they were invited to

take part in the opening of the new Baptist Church at Brighton Hill, Basingstoke and their forthcoming programme includes a musical evening at Wycliffe Baptist Church. This unsought but much appreciated popularity brings with it certain problems. Whilst the numerical strength and composition of the group has remained virtually unchanged since its inception nearly four years ago there is a continuing need for additional voices to

supplement the male section. Sue, however, says: "The Gospel Singers currently have an even greater need and that is for a suitable piano, the search for which has been going on since we held a fund-raising Coffee Morning in May." She goes on to say that: "I never imagined that we would experience so much difficulty in finding one to suit our pocket. Pianos appear to be priced at less than £100 — with or without a pound of tea to take them away — or in excess of £400. If we could find an acceptable instrument it would certainly be a night of miracles! If any reader of the Caversham Bridge can point in the direction of a suitable piano please ring me on Reading 478330."

his part, looked most distinguished at his induction in his red gown, the insignia of his doctorate, which he referred to as his football team colours much to the relief of the Area Superintendent who was feeling a little upstaged. As with all parcels it is not the wrappings but the contents which are important. Both Sally-Ann and Philip had responded to the call to full-time Christian service and each was convinced that their Lord had led them to the place where they were required be it Dhaka or Caversham.

Sally-Ann, in a question-and-answer

session, was adamant that Dhaka was the place for her. Notwithstanding the many frustrations and disappointments which she had experienced during the past two years, the bouts of sickness, not least home sickness, she was returning to the poverty and human degradation in the knowledge that the scale of the problem was such that her contribution to its alleviation was but a drop in the ocean. She was undaunted by the prospect for she loved the people and the country and had put her hand to the plough only after much research and prayerful thought.

Philip, in his statement to the congregation at his induction, traced his journey from comparative unbelief to the present time from his home in Newcastle-on-Tyne via Sheffield University, where he was converted by a fellow-student, to Jamaica where he decided to train for the Ministry. It was particularly fitting that in the congregation were many who had been partners in the process including a young lady from Mona Baptist Church, Kingston, Jamaica who greeted him on behalf of her church and spoke of his involvement with the young people there.



Just fancy dress?
The Baptist Church may not have put out the flags for either the homecoming on furlough of Sally-Ann Ousley or for the induction of its associate minister, the Revd Dr Philip Egglestone. Both in their turn however ensured gaiety by their garb. Sally-Ann looked resplendent in a sari even if, on her own admission, she did feel like a lemon trotting round Caversham on a cold Sunday morning with a bare midriff and in the evening in her pink pyjamas, sorry, her kashwar. Philip, for

HEED workers on replacement machines
— Sally-Anne Ousley



OBITUARY — BILL THOMPSON

IT is a measure of the affection in which Bill Thompson was held that the chapel was full to overflowing when he was cremated on September 15. It

was an opportunity for his friends and colleagues to pay tribute to the way in which he faced up to his illness with the knowledge that he hadn't more

than a few months to live.

Attached to Caversham

Although he had lived for some years in Woodcote, Bill had great affection for Caversham, where he came to live in the early sixties, when his work with Messers of Henley brought him to this district. He welcomed the chance of moving to the Thames Valley, particularly as the river was one of his great loves. For some years he owned a boat and liked nothing better than messing around on the river. His other great enthusiasm was for jazz and dancing and it was at a dance that he met his wife, Eileen, herself Caversham born and bred, after the break-up of his first marriage. It was with her support and devoted care and, above all, her ability to discuss his illness openly and freely with him, that

he owed much of the strength which he exhibited during the last months of his life.

A nice bloke
A builder by trade, Bill had many friends in Caversham, all of whom were very saddened by his early death. To the last he remained "the same nice bloke", as a friend described him, we had always known, always concerned about the wellbeing of his visitors. Even when practically unable to speak, he would often manage to speed a departing visitor with: "Cheerio, look after yourself." He was grateful for the support given to him and Eileen by family, friends and colleagues. Our sympathy goes out to members of his family at this sad time, and particularly to Eileen and Stephen, his son. May they take comfort in the knowledge that Bill will never be forgotten by those who knew him.

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ROUND THE CLUBS

Caversham WI
 Husbands and friends joined members of Caversham WI at their September meeting to hear an illustrated talk on Antique Silver by Mr Richard Came of Sotheby's. They were shown slides of early pieces of English silver, with hall markings which have continued through to this day, and were told of the changing styles of silver, from the very plain in the 1600s on to the very ornate early Victorian. Mr Came then talked about various silver articles which members had brought to the meeting, saying when and where they were made (many of them in Birmingham, some London and a pair of candlesticks in Chester), and their present day value compared to 20 years ago. Some members were going to rethink about their insurance as a consequence!

Caversham Ladies' Club
 The first meeting after the summer vacation was the Harvest Festival and members were soon arriving with their contributions of vegetables, flowers, fruit, jam etc to grace the tables. It was not long before the tables were groaning under the weight of these gifts. Mrs Harwood

then opened the meeting with a warm welcome to members and expressed the hope they had enjoyed the summer break despite the dismal weather. It was so nice to see member Mrs Mander back after a very long illness and members hope before long she will have fully recovered. Mrs Stringer, who had been a member of the club prior to her move to Worthing paid a surprise visit to the meeting. Members enjoyed a chat with her.

It was then time to start auctioning the produce and Mrs Brenda Strong took over the job of auctioneer. It wasn't long before the tables were beginning to look bare while members' bags were beginning to bulge. With Mrs Strong's merry wit, and helped by the committee, it was a very lively, enjoyable afternoon, and after the hectic auctioneering, the sight of a cuppa was most welcome.

The meeting closed with the reminder that next month was the Autumn Fair.

Caversham Afternoon TG
 The speaker at the September meeting of the Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild was one of their own members. Mrs Pat Smith, a retired nursing sister, gave an amusing talk about Florence Nightingale. After the summer recess, the Guild held the first winter event which was their Autumn Fayre at the Church House on October 18.

Caversham Community Association
 At the Arts and Crafts evening on September 1 many of the club members entered their work in the various classes. The judges were Rose Painter for flower arranging, Joyce Feeney for cookery and Ivy Allum for knitting and crochet. Stephen Franklin judged the art and photography. First prizewinners were as follows:

Flower Arrangements: General — Muriel Waite; Jam Jar — Joan Tarrant; TV Title — Freda Haines; Flowers and Fruit — Margaret Cameron.
Knitting: Adult's Garment — Muriel Waite; Child's Garment — Margaret Cameron; Crochet — May Plant; Embroidery — Margaret Cameron.
Cookery: Scones — Maida Feast; Choco-

late Eclairs — Maida Feast; Sausage Rolls — Maida Feast; Fruit Cake — Muriel Waite.
Art: Painting — Wendy Colton.

Photography: Humorous — Betty Colton; View — Patricia Haines; Portrait — Betty Petherbridge; Animal — Patricia Haines.

In the flower arranging section Muriel Waite was awarded the Muriel Rampton Rose Bowl and Joan Tarrant received the Joe Rampton Cup. The judges completed the evening with useful comments on their reasons for choosing the prizewinners.

There was a friendly whistdrive the following week with Doreen Crawley supervising the proceedings. Prizewinners included Ann Wright with the highest score and Joan Aldridge in second place. Beryl Latcham received a consolation prize.

A social evening was held on September 22. After the break for refreshments Beryl Latcham, the Secretary, discussed the bazaar planned for November 1.

The Harvest Supper was enjoyed by the members on the last Monday in September. Everyone came with something for the harvest display which looked very colourful by the time the last gift was received. The favourite harvest hymns were sung and readings were given by members of the club. Appreciation was expressed for the work of the committee and members in preparing and arranging the appetising supper.

Maplewood WI
 The September meeting was held in St Andrew's Hall when the speaker was Miss Pearson, the cook/housekeeper of Yeldhall Manor, a drugs and alcoholics rehabilitation centre. This centre, which accommodates 18 men at a time, is run as a Christian Community with regular Bible study and prayer meetings, and inmates must be prepared to complete a course of treatment lasting from fifteen to eighteen months.

The Manor stands in 38 acres of grassland and woodlands and this, together with maintenance and kitchen duties, provides the inmates with plenty to keep them occupied. Miss Pearson was given twenty pairs of handknitted gloves and socks made by members for the outdoor workers. During August,

when there is no set meeting, members enjoyed two informal occasions: a lovely lunch at Mrs H. Baker's raised £74 for Denman College, and a coffee morning at Mrs E. Alford's boosted Institute funds by £37.85.

Emmer Green TWG

The ladies of the war, with 20 million Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild met in Dutch Elm September to hear Mr Clark talk about Con-servation with Birds tion of rivers and the in Mind. He gave sea by oil, dumping of many hints on how to nuclear waste and attract birds to the lead poisoning. The garden and has had 51 wetlands and heath-different types of bird lands too face change in his own local gar-with overgrazing, den. Nature reserves, drying-out and of which there are 115 destruction by fire. Mr in Britain covering Clark gave many 110,000 acres, have to worrying facts and be specifically man-figures but ended on a aged to preserve the hopeful note as more right conditions for people are becoming particular birds. Two hundred and twenty species of birds breed

in Britain and 10 of these are dependent on nature reserves for their correct habitat. Over 80 per cent of land is used for farming and 140,000 miles of hedgerow have been lost due to more intensive farming methods. These areas are especially vital for food, shelter and nesting sites. Between a third and a half of our woodlands have been lost since the trees dying from Dutch Elm disease alone. In addition, the country faces pollution of rivers and the dumping of nuclear waste and overgrazing, and of which there are 115 destruction by fire. Mr Clark gave many 110,000 acres, have to worrying facts and be specifically man-figures but ended on a hopeful note as more right conditions for people are becoming particular birds. Two hundred and twenty species of birds breed

Turn to page 9

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ROUND THE CLUBS

From page 8

aware of the dangers of losing some of Britain's birds and are making moves to protect and conserve. He concluded the evening with some very beautiful colour slides of birds and their various habitats. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs M. Cooper.

Rosehill WI

Miss Vincent welcomed members after the August break to the September meeting. Autumn activities were about to start, so dates were given for crafts, rambling and an outing to RHS at Wisley. Also play reading would start soon.

Miss P. Tyler then gave her talk "A Journey on the Orient Express" from Victoria to Venice. This was interesting and very amusing at times, making all envious of such a trip. What luxury!

There was an exhibition of "Treasures of the Orient" brought by members.

Miss Vincent welcomed members to the October meeting, including three new members. On Monday of this week a day at Wisley Gardens was enjoyed.

As the speaker on the programme was unable to come, Mrs Pam Ridley, one of Rosehill's members stepped in and gave her talk on "26,000 miles in a suitcase", actually two suitcases, one each for her and her husband, on this long but interesting journey, which lasted two months. They visited Japan, and during the seventeen and a half hour journey saw the Arctic Circle, then Tokyo, New Zealand, California and Palm Springs. Altogether a fascinating account of a lovely holiday.

Members were asked to give their favourite lines, in

poetry, or prose, as an exhibition. A large number were submitted.

Blagrave WI

A demonstration of cake decoration using soft fondant icing was given by Mrs M. Patchin and members received an insight into a completely new skill for many of them. This meeting on September 2 was a good start to the Autumn season. Mrs Poplewell reported that a link had been established with a W.I. in Canada and the proposed exchange of letters would give an idea of the different lives led by the members. The competition of three differently decorated afternoon cakes was judged by Mrs Patchin and won by Mrs Ford, second — Mrs Housden and third, Mrs Ogden. There was a good sales table with produce from members' gardens.

labrador dog Nap. Pru Sharp, a "puppy walker" for Guide Dogs for many years, thanked them both.

Caversham Heights TG Antiques and Bygones

This refers to the subject of the talk by Mr W. Ripper, who once lived in Caversham, at the well-attended meeting in September of Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild in St Andrew's Hall. Born above an antique shop in Truro, he is a practising valuer in antique china, glass and furniture. He explained what a good investment antiques are and identified items whether English or continental brought along by members. He spoke interestingly about silver and porcelain

markings and gave valuations. He expressed regret that there were no paintings or furniture as he so enjoys speaking about them. Questions were answered comprehensively at the end of the evening. Mrs Cicely Strange, a former treasurer and member of the original art and craft group, sadly, has moved away to Scotland.

The combined outing to Arundel to see the castle, town and wild-life park was very much enjoyed. The short stop at Guildford to see the cathedral was delightful too on such a beautiful morning.

An outing to Harwell in October was arranged, to find out more about what goes on there, and another to the Hexagon in November to see South Pacific with the Sainsbury Singers.

Planting a tree in a gale force wind caused a lot of amusement at the 21st birthday celebration for the Jubilee Club, Mapledurham. At a recent luncheon party at Trench Green Hall to mark the occasion the club was delighted to welcome three of its founder members, Mrs Skinner, Mrs West and Mrs Deacon. It was a most happy gathering and the tree, a mountain ash, was planted in the grounds of the hall as a commemoration.



The National Council of Women of Great Britain

The social evening held in July at Henley Sailing Club was most enjoyable and successful, raising a profit of £60 for funds.

Meetings were resumed after the summer break on September 11 with a visit to a member's home from Susi Pearson of Yeldall Manor Drug Rehabilitation Centre. She gave first-hand information on how this Christian Community is trying to assist the residents to change their attitudes and lifestyles and find real security and purpose in life. All were most impressed by Susi's commitment to her work and after general discussion the meeting closed with best wishes to her and for the continuing work and success of the centre.

Anyone wishing to join the group please contact Vicki on Pangbourne 3260.

Chazey WI

News of a visit to a Canadian WI enlivened business at Chazey's September meeting. Liz Nealon had been entertained, and helped through a two-day power cut, by Dunrobin WI members whilst she was on holiday in Canada. It is hoped that contact will continue between Chazey and Dunrobin WIs.

Business was followed by Mr Warner's interesting talk on the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, ably assisted by his

Caversham Park Church House Communion

Wednesdays at 10.30am

November 5 5 Gifford Close (Paula Andrews)
12 130 Lowfield Road (Betty Lewis)
19 92 Lowfield Road (Margaret Stafford)
26 6 Jordan Close (Liz Beckett)

Advent Sunday at St Peter's SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER

3pm Children's Toy Service (bring gifts please for needy children)
6.30pm Advent Carol Service and Liturgy by Candlelight

The Annual Parish Choir Outing

THIS year's outing was to Chichester when about 40 choristers of the Parish set out with their organisers on a day on which the weather started well but deteriorated constantly until the return.

The morning was spent visiting the Cathedral, with a guided tour, followed by lunch which was eaten in the Nave (it is not long since such a use of the Cathedral would have brought a charge of "sacrilege", but as was explained during the tour, in the past it had been the custom for animals to be brought in when one went to worship). After that there was a chance to wander round ad lib and to

visit some of the shops nearby, including a precinct built within what was only a few years ago the local parish church. The afternoon was spent at the Museum of Mechanical Music and Dolls. This collection, which is also situated in a redundant parish church, has been built up over a period of about 40 years and includes many mechanical instruments in perfect working order, some of which were demonstrated.

The weather precluded the intention to finish the trip by visiting Bognor for a run on the beach, but nevertheless a good time was enjoyed by all.

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BICYCLING BOB

ON September 6th, Bob Beacroft took part in the sponsored Bicycle Ride in aid of the Oxfordshire His-

toric Churches Trust. From the long list of churches that were open to them (from 10am to 6pm), he

chose the Thames Valley, Dorchester, Abingdon, Watlington area.

The weather was perfect for cycling and his first sign in was at St. Matthew's Church, Harwell. Members of his family had preped a picnic lunch, and they met up just beyond Newington, where Bob had a brief rest. He finished at St. Thomas's Church, Goring-on-Thames at 6pm, asking for an ice cream!



It was a tremendously successful day and Bob signed in at 48 churches, cycled 76 miles and raised the sum of £1,850. It is to be divided equally between the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust and the church of his choice, which is St. Margaret's, Mapledurham. He thoroughly enjoyed his day and wishes to thank all his sponsors for their terrific support.

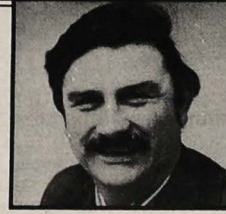
Well done, Bob!

POP IN CENTRE, CHURCH HOUSE

Charities Christmas cards now on sale, Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

STAN ELDON'S COLUMN

Now we are five



READING'S largest sporting event celebrates its fifth birthday on April 5, 1987, when the DEC Reading Half Marathon is run for the fifth time. Each year the event has grown in size and quality and to keep it in the forefront of similar races around the country, new ideas are always introduced.

This year will be no exception, when the full details of the 1987 event are announced in early November they will contain information about the Junior Mini Marathon being run in conjunction with the main event. As runners under 17 are not allowed to race over the 13.1 mile

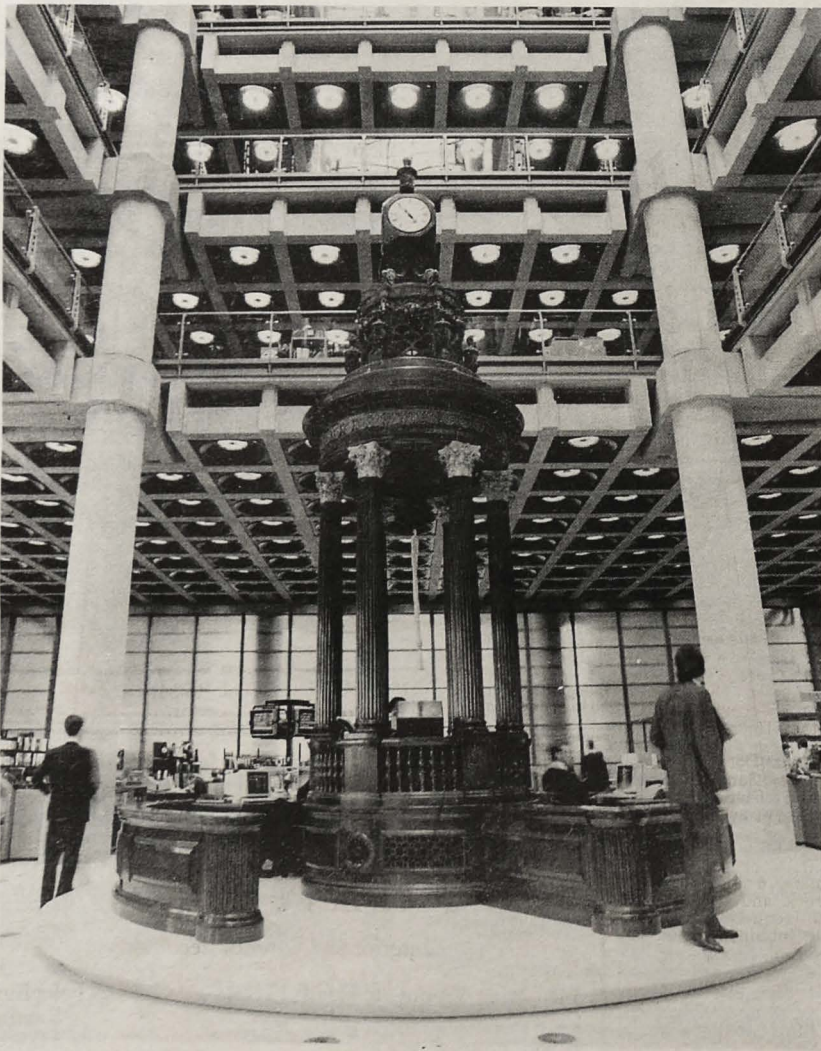
course Reading Recreation have agreed to sponsor a junior race over 3 miles for the 12 to 16 year olds. Apart from being over a shorter distance, everything else will be the same, as the young runners will start and finish at exactly the same points as their elders, therefore enjoying the full excitement of the crowds, bands, etc. They will set off just 15 minutes after the main event and should be finished around 15 minutes before the winners of the half marathon approach the finish. This new race will not only be exciting for those taking part

but will be an added attraction for the many thousands of spectators who watch the race in the vicinity of the start and finish. There will be a limit on the number of youngsters who can take part and therefore if you are disappointed make sure your entries are sent in as soon as possible after forms are available (by November 8).

Training sessions for the half marathon are being organised at Palmer Park Stadium every Monday and

Wednesday evening and the response so far this year shows that there is as much enthusiasm as in the previous four years, in fact as many as 60 per cent of those attending these sessions are completely new to running. So, as in all previous years, we will see many familiar faces running round the town in April, but there will also be many hundreds of people taking part for the very first time.

Whether you are under 17, boy or girl, and going to enter for the 3 mile run or whether you are over 17 and intending to run in the main event, NOW is the time to start your training. Remember to start very gradually and don't be too ambitious too soon.



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PASTORAL HANDS ACROSS THE NORTH SEA

TIRSTRUP Airport — not on the international jetsetting map — probably saw a higher percentage of Christians through its doors in one day than any airport in the world, when delegates from England and the Nordic countries flew in to Aarhus, Denmark, for the 6th Anglo-Scandinavian Pastoral Conference in September.

Eight Anglican priests joined clergy from Finland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark for the week's consultation, hosted by the Lutheran Church of Denmark. Staying in homes of parishioners of Risakov, they studied the life and ministry of the Danish Church, reflecting in the light of their own experience on the conference theme The Church in a Pluralistic Society.

The conference opened with meeting points between Anglican and Lutheran spirituality, illustrated by

the writings of Grundtvig, 19th century father of Denmark's religious consciousness.

The civic life of Aarhus, Denmark's "smiling city", opened its doors to the conference with a reception by the mayor in the modern town hall. Anglican eyebrows were raised at the hundreds of Danes queuing for a free blood-cholesterol check in the foyer as the clergy filed upstairs for smorrebrod and drinks in the mayoral parlour. Visits to modern and historic churches to study parish life were punctuated with seminars and lectures. Education and training of laypeople and clergy in Denmark was compared with Scandinavian countries. A visit to Alborg included a meeting with its Bishop, who expressed concern that the rate of

infant baptism in Denmark has slipped from 88 per cent to 83 per cent! The Bishop of Aarhus opened his home to the twenty delegates, giving a lavish feast and six hours of his time. Lively discussion was sparked by his frank opinion of Danish Lutheranism as essentially a "concensus" movement rather than a force for confrontation with society.

Lectures on the challenge of new religious movements enabled delegates to meet Dr Johannes Aargaard, dynamic leader of the Dialogue Centre at Aarhus, where deep study of new cults is backed by personal counselling for families of those trapped in these rapidly growing organisations. How far can pluralism, secular and religious be tolerated benignly? Even Anglican confidences quailed at what might be going on in the name of new religious sects in UK parishes.

Although an English incumbent's stipend compares unfavourably with a Dane's pension and despite the smoothly organised life of a Danish pastor (usually just one weekly service!) similarities were marked in comparing a huge national church membership with a tiny 2 per cent weekly church attendance and the pre-vaillingly secular cultures of all northern European countries.

The Anglo-Scandinavian Pastoral Conferences meet every two years. The ministry of the host country (so far England twice, Sweden twice, Finland and Denmark) is studied. Anglican and Lutheran participants gain much from this dialogue, returning with insights into their own ministries. In alternate years the Anglo-Scandinavian Theological Conference meets. Both conferences are to a greater or lesser degree sponsored by the Board for Mission and Unity of the General Synod and by the respective official Lutheran church bodies.

The next Pastoral Conference (celebrating ASPC's tenth anniversary) is planned for 1988 in Newcastle upon Tyne and the 1990 ASPC will be hosted for the first time by the Lutheran Church of Norway.

Anglican delegates to Denmark this year were The Rev Geoffrey Brown (Anglican ASPC Director, Administrative Secretary at BMU), The Rev Richard Kingsbury (Anglican ASPC Secretary, Rector of Caversham, Berkshire), The Rev Michael Middleton (Rector of Hexham, Northumberland), The Rev Bob Reiss (Team Rector of Grantham), The Rev Canon John Rhodes (Senior Industrial Chaplain of Humberstone), The Rev Canon Dr Anthony Russell (Director of Arthur Rank Centre at The National Agricultural Centre, Warwickshire), and The Rev David Stancliffe (Provost of Portsmouth), with The Rev Dr Kenneth Stevenson as observer-delegate (Secretary of the Anglo-Scandinavian Theological Conferences, Rector of Holy Trinity, Guildford).

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This summer the Caversham Bridge hotel was demolished and its going will have saddened many older Caversham folk. When first built it must have been a gracious place with its hand printed wall-paper and

black frocked waitresses with spotless white frilly aprons and caps. Now it is a thing of the past as is the White Hart Inn which stood on the self-same site long before the iron bridge was built in 1869.

Photograph by courtesy of Berkshire County Library

WE RECORD

BAPTISED St Peter's

August 3: Karli Hopkins, Kieron Thorne; August 17: Heather Perry; August 31: Matthew Hooper.

St John's

August 31: Michelle Clark, Stuart Doe, Craig Doe; September 7: Lee Scarlett; Sep 14: Samantha Smilie, Daniel Leer; Sep 21: Heidi Gent, Catherine Wilson; Sep 28: Mark Simmons, Kay Faulkner.

MARRIED St Peter's

August 2: Peter Hose and Judith Meekings, Anthony Smith and Debra Rockall; August 16: Michael Eakin and Kim Bodkin, Mark Brock and Julie Cook; August 23: Colin Foster and Jacqueline Conyers; Eustace Augustus and Carole Jobbins; August 30: Nicholas Hale and Sally Lamerton.

St John's

August 30: Kevin Jennings and Bev Purcigo; September 6: Stephen Harvey and Christine Davis, Sam Pegler and Teresa Hopkins; Sep 13: Kevin Woods and Amanda Rapson; Sep 20: David Yapp and Gillian Harris; Sep 27: David Temple and Memory Wiltshire.

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- November 1 Hill School PTA Jumble Sale, School Hall, Peppard Road, 2pm.
- November 8 Baptist Church Centre: Sale of Tearcraft Products, 10am-12.30pm. Refreshments. St Andrew's Hall, 12 noon-2pm, A Ploughman's Lunch (this will be a hot meal). Micklands School Playgroup Christmas Fair, School Hall, 2pm. St John's Church Autumn Bazaar, Caversham Hall, St John's Road, 2.30pm. For overseas missions.
- November 11 Sue Ryder Support Group Caversham, AGM, 168 Henley Road, 8pm.
- November 22 Methodist Church Hall, Highmoor Road, Playgroup Christmas Bazaar, 2pm.
- November 23 Methodist Church Hall, Gosbrook Road, Grand Christmas Fair, 2.30pm. Christmas gifts, etc.
- November 29 Sue Ryder Christmas Fair, Wallingford Centre, 2pm.
- November 30 St Peter's: Family Toy Service, 3pm; St Peter's Advent Carol Service, 6.30pm.
- December 6 St Barnabas Church Christmas Fair, St Barnabas Hall, 2.30pm.

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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)
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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

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St Martin's School
9.15am Mass

Mapledurham House
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