

CHRISTMAS AROUND CAVERSHAM



The Christingle Service at Caversham Primary School

— E. S. Archer



Edwardian Music Hall by Thameside School during their 80 years celebrations

— E. S. Archer



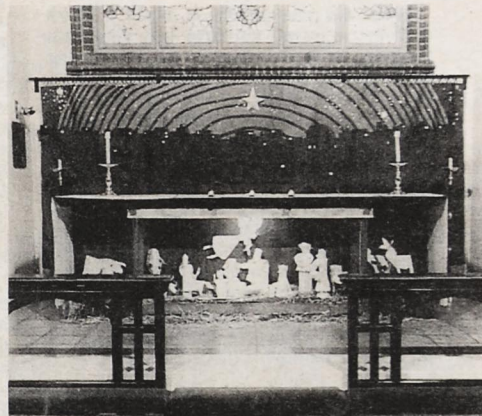
Christmas at Caversham Library. Story time for the under 5's at the Christmas Party there

— E. S. Archer



"The Nativity" at the Crib Service on Christmas Eve at St. Peter's

— E. S. Archer



The Crib at St. Barnabas' this year was the work of 1st and 2nd year pupils at High-down School. All the figures and animals of the Nativity scene were in paper sculpture, backed by a silhouette of Bethlehem, painted by Douglas Smith of 5th year. On the side walls were two "stained glass" windows, also the work of the pupils.

— E. S. Archer

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EFFORT RAISES £94

THE children and staff of Micklands Nursery Playgroup turned their playgroup into "The Holly Tree Cafe" for 4 days just before Christmas. The Cafe offered excellent cuisine and waitress service. The children waited on their parents with mince pies, coffee etc., giving them the menu to read, taking their order and collecting their money. A shop was also run by the pupils which sold groceries and Christmas cards, some of which had been drawn by the children. A large sign swung high outside, telling all who passed that the playgroup was now "under new management" as "The Holly Tree Cafe". Several special visitors were served at the cafe and these included P.C.

Mullins, (the local Policeman), the Social Services Day Care Advisers, several local clergymen and teachers and the Head of The Primary School. One other special visitor was Mrs Kit Bingham who had made all the caps and aprons for the waiters, waitresses and shop workers.

At the end of each Cafe session the children entertained with carols and singing games.

The best comment heard from one of the children was "I've been a waitrose!"

The whole effort was for The Blue Peter Sight Saver Appeal, and £94.61 was raised.



Katya Dara (left) and Natalie Baker with menus at "The Holly Tree Cafe"

TALKING POINT

by Peter Mullins

Assistant Curate at St Margaret's and St Peter's



BEFORE YOU PUT OUT THE MILK BOTTLES

THERE must be few serious lay Christians who have not made an attempt at forming a place for prayer within their lives, but fewer still who have succeeded. We try, we wonder if anything is happening, we become discouraged, life takes over and we forget about it. All Christians would agree that it is a good thing to pray, and yet there seem so few lay people who have found out how and when and where to do so. To pray — in the sense of stopping doing everything else in order to try to pray — seems, for a lay person, faintly eccentric. In those odd moments when we have furtively had a little go at it we have felt dry and useless, and so we often opt for being normal and putting the milk bottles out instead.

Now let me make it clear I have nothing against putting out the milk bottles. In fact it seems to me a very responsible thing to do. But when I read those words — by the wife of a well-known Roman Catholic journalist — I began to wonder. The thing about praying is that we do it before we realise it. And it doesn't matter one milk bottle top whether you feel damp or dry, boring or eccentric. God does not award marks for prayer. (Ah yes, Sheila — nice bit of concentrated prayer there this morning, must make sure she feels my presence today, but Jeremy — I'm afraid that last petition last night was a bit unorthodox ...).

□□

Think about setting out on a bike ride. If you are anything like me you get to the end of the road and you begin to worry. What happens if I lose my way? Do I have a map with me? Could I read it properly if I did? What happens if it rains? Do I have my waterproofs with me? What happens if I have a puncture? Do I have a repair kit with me? Would I have the first idea what to do with it if I had? What happens if I lose my way, it begins to rain and I have a puncture? Before too long I turn round, go home and put my bike away and pretend I had never been so silly.

What I don't do is this. I don't think how extraordinary it is that I can balance on this machine. In fact ever since I first discovered that I could do it (my father said he was holding on to the back at the time, but he wasn't) I have never thought about it. Me,

balancing on two narrow little wheels! How wonderful!

Now let us have a little look at those furtive attempts at prayer shall we? When we get to the end of the road what do we think? What happens if I don't do it right? What happens if I feel dry (or was it wet)? What happens if I find my mind has wandered? What happens if I ask for the wrong thing? Before too long we have turned around and, well, put the milk bottles out instead.

□□

What we don't do is this. We don't think how extraordinary it is that God is there waiting for us to draw near to him. Here I am, one of the less spectacular features of his creation, and there he is, the maker, saviour and sustainer of the lot, and he will listen to me. In fact ever since I discovered I could do it (my parents again, each night beside my bed, a quick petition, the Lord's Prayer and then a rush to see if I could beat my brothers into bed — marks deducted for moving before the last Amen) I have never thought about it. God listening to me whatever I put into it? How wonderful!

Here is a simple suggestion. Find somewhere safe (it's an eccentric habit remember) and do nothing for a moment. Relax. Breathe. If you must say something say "I'm here and you are here." Isn't that extraordinary. Then, as they come to mind, say please or thank you or sorry. Or just feel wanting, thankful or sorry. To be with God wondering, that is adoration. To be with God gratefully, that is thanksgiving. To be with God ashamed, that is contrition. To be with God with people and things we care about in our hearts, that is intercession. (Or so Archbishop Ramsey said).

Not been disturbed or given up yet? A brief biblical reading with a thought and a short prayer might round things off well. I expect that there is a representative for the Bible Reading Fellowship in your congregation who will let you have Daily Light at less than one penny per day.

Just two things. Don't give yourself marks on how well you are doing. Just rejoice that you can be with God at all. And it probably helps to put the milk bottles out first.

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

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All contributions for the April issue should be sent to Church House by noon on Wednesday, March 4.

All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham by Friday, February 27.

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

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Postbag

Letter from the editors

Dear Friends

In 1986 we instigated a Caversham Diary column in the paper. We are disappointed that it has not been used as fully as we had hoped. We are endeavouring to make this a really useful paper, and ask you to help us by telling us in advance of the interesting meetings and events being held in Caversham and Mapledurham. Our printing is done by the Evening Post at a reduced rate, which does mean that they need to have the copy well in advance to print up when time permits. But surely all you organisers know permanent dates weeks in advance? To help you — and please cut out and keep — the dates for sending in contributions for the year are as follows

for	
MARCH	February 4
APRIL	March 4
MAY	April 1
JUNE	May 6
JULY	June 3
AUGUST	July 1
SEPTEMBER	August 5
OCTOBER	September 2
NOVEMBER	October 7
DECEMBER	November 4
JANUARY '88	December 2

In addition, notices of Charity events can also be considered for inclusion (free of charge) subject to space being available.

This is a newspaper for YOU. Please use our facilities.

Your editors.

'TRAFFIC — A SOLUTION?'

Dear Sirs

Your front page report "Traffic — Time for Action" is indeed timely. Could I draw the attention of readers to another incoming threat to Caversham's roads?

In the spring of this year the Crowmarsh Gifford bypass is due to open. This will make the A4074 Oxford-Reading road even more attractive to heavy lorries than it is now. If nothing is done we might expect to see a significant increase in lorries trundling up and down the Woodcote Road on roads that were not designed to take them. In particular, the tight Church Road/Bridge Street junction could be reduced to sheer chaos.

There is a designated lorry route — the M4/M34 — for Reading/Oxford heavy traffic but it is inadequately signposted in both towns. In order that such traffic does use the lorry route, it is surely time for a lorry barrier to be positioned on the Woodcote Road or even lower down in Church Road, by the Griffin. Such a barrier (and there are several in other parts of Reading) could take the form of the road narrowing, on both sides, to a width that allows a car but not a lorry to pass. Heavy goods vehicles that needed access to Caversham premises could use Hemdean Road.

If you feel that such a barrier is needed to stop the further deterioration of our environment, there is no time to lose. Make your views known to your MP, prospective parliamentary candidates and local councillors, also to the Traffic office of the Engineering Section, Reading Borough Council, Civic Centre, Reading.

Yours etc

John Madeley

19 Woodford Close
Caversham.

We are grateful to readers for their suggestions to help the traffic flow in Caversham. We have asked representatives of political parties who live locally to give their comments and

suggestions. We are pleased to print below the ideas given by Mr T. G. Rees, Highway Superintendent for Reading Borough Council for 19 years until his retirement five years ago, and a local resident.

If Caversham Road is to become a freeway, and a roundabout built at the Richfield Road/Caversham Bridge Hotel junction, it might ease traffic if there was a roundabout at the junction of Church Road, doing away with the present traffic lights. There should be no parking outside the Griffin.

Prospect Street should be one way going out of Caversham, with a roundabout at the present traffic lights (junction Henley Road and Westfield Road). Westfield

Road would become busier, but if the surface were planed off and then resurfaced, it would ease the vibrations which were complained of when the road was one-way during roadworks.

Make a roundabout at the lower end of Westfield Road.

Make a roundabout at the junction of Gosbrook Road and George Street (I think this is planned).

The bus stop in Bridge Street causes much hold-ups. If it were not possible to buy some land in the forecourt of the garage there and make a lay-by, it might ease traffic if the bus stop was sited between the Crown pub and the bridge.

Any other ideas?

CAVERSHAM CARE CENTRE

Church House, 59 Church Street

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

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3. Provide emergency transport.

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Please note — offers to help are also always welcome.

CAVERSHAM — A PLACE OF HEALING WATERS

IN 1803 a discovery was made at Surley Row which could have turned Caversham into a famous watering place. A chalybeate spring was discovered in the grounds of a house whilst clearing and preparing an old orchard for a garden. Soon the find was brought to the attention of the Medical and Physical Journal who published the following account: "...Mineral springs of a chalybeate nature are by no means uncommon in this island, but very few either in strength or efficacy approach Caversham Spa ... The proprietor erected a pump to esclude the atmospheric air, since which time the water, when first drawn has been clear and sparkling."

□ □

By 1808 a Mr T. E. Williams had written a booklet on this discovery and it was printed and published by A. M. Smart and Com-

pany, under the title Observations and Experiments on the Virtues and Properties of the Chalybeate Spring at Caversham, near Reading.

□ □

The good gentleman had this to say: "The ochreous appearance of the surface of the water first induced the author to make some slight experiments to ascertain with what mineral it was impregnated. The result immediately proved that it was water saturated to the highest degree with iron held in solution by the carbonic acid gas. To the taster there is a very strong astringency which remains for a considerable length of time upon the palate. It instantly produces a very deep black with the infusion of galls or tea. Exposed for a short time it loses its brilliancy. The smell immediately detects sulphureous gas."

The fame of the spring soon extended to the whole of the surrounding countryside, but "caution was necessary as a quarter of a pint was enough to induce in many feverishness and headaches almost at once". So it was small doses at first! To gain advantage it was advertised to be taken fresh from the pump and it was said to have been of a superior strength to the celebrated chalybeate spring at Tunbridge Wells.

□ □

According to a Dr Saunders in his treatise on mineral waters chalybeate waters are decidedly of a stimulant nature. He goes on: "Soon after taking a moderate dose the pulse is raised in strength, the patient, if previously chilly and pale, feels a degree of glow due to increased circulation." But beware! "It is not uncommon on beginning a course of these waters to experience nausea, vomiting and pain about the stomach. Or else a heaviness of the head, slight vertigo and a sense of fullness over the whole body." Who would take the waters?

□ □

Just in case people questioned the healing properties of the spring at Caversham Spa, Mr Williams' booklet lists at the back several cases of the sick being cured. A man, who for many years has been subject to a rheumatic affliction, was confined to his bed

after a severe attack, but on drinking this medicinal water and after three months was recovered. On neglecting to keep up the treatment the complaint returned with increased violence and was again cured once the patient returned to his daily dose. A child of two living near the spring was cured of rickets and swelling joints, being unable to stand. A man of seventy who for the last two years had lost the faculty of distinguishing objects, was restored to perfect eyesight after frequently bathing his eyes and drinking the water. Another child, who after measles was covered with swellings and eruptions, was also cured. Lastly, there was the case of the "poor woman of the name of Green residing in Friday Street in Henley, who for many years had suffered from an ulcer on the upper lip". She drank two and a half pints daily and

washed her face in this medicinal water and after three months was recovered. On neglecting to keep up the treatment the complaint returned with increased violence and was again cured once the patient returned to his daily dose. A child of two living near the spring was cured of rickets and swelling joints, being unable to stand. A man of seventy who for the last two years had lost the faculty of distinguishing objects, was restored to perfect eyesight after frequently bathing his eyes and drinking the water. Another child, who after measles was covered with swellings and eruptions, was also cured. Lastly, there was the case of the "poor woman of the name of Green residing in Friday Street in Henley, who for many years had suffered from an ulcer on the upper lip". She drank two and a half pints daily and

This was not the only such spring to have been discovered in Caversham, for the Holy Well of St Anne, still to be found at the top of Priest Hill brought many pilgrims to Caversham in the Middle Ages.

MK



Lost sometime after 1727 St Anne's well was found by workmen clearing away a bank and hedge in January 1906.

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Auditions will be held during the first week in March. Applications should be made as soon as possible. Further details and entry forms are available from The Headmaster, Pangbourne College, Pangbourne, Berkshire RG8 8LA. The Director of Music, Robert Barsby, is pleased to see prospective candidates, or advise parents or teachers at any time. Telephone: Pangbourne 3928 or 3277.

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WEDDING AT HOME PASSPORT

THE OLD VILLAGE

ONE of the more welcome trends of recent years has been the blurring of the distinction between Caversham Heights and Lower Caversham. Time was when the terms denoted as much social as topographical differences but fortunately a combination of house prices and changing social attitudes have slowly eroded the distinction. In fact, if as in many places in the country, the desirability of an area can be assessed by the number of listed buildings it possesses, Lower Caversham wins hands down over Caversham Heights. The only thing is that whereas Caversham Heights has always regarded itself as a desirable residential area (something the burgeoning army of estate agents still shamelessly exploit) Lower Caversham became the work area and although practically every industrial building there pre-dates planning days, the inheritance remains. Consequently, the delightful cottages and farm houses that recall the days when the main part of the village of Caversham lay at the foot of the hill upon which the manor house stood, are now overshadowed or hidden away behind buildings which may be useful but are, almost without exception, eyesores.

At least the planning office is nowadays aware of the position and although there are no powers to remove businesses that already exist in the area, they have shown more care than their predecessors about what is permitted there. When British Telecom vacated their site off Lower Henley Road, a planning brief for the area concerned was issued. A planning brief is something like a mini-structure plan and must not be confused with planning permission. The brief recommends residential use of the site, a great advance on hazardous industrial use, and this has

been accepted as council policy. In detail the housing is mainly in the form of flats and the disadvantage is that the block on rising land is to be three floors high, which will cause it to dwarf the neighbouring cottage which is one of the area's listed buildings. The whole aim of the brief should be to ensure that the listed buildings are seen to their best advantage and not lost sight of, even if the overwhelming is done by residential rather than by ugly industrial buildings. So the message must be that while the general principle is to be welcomed, there is need to look at its details more closely.

Still traffic

With so much of the local press devoted to the subject of Reading's traffic, it was refreshing to read the front page of last month's Caversham Bridge, for its suggestions and recommendations showed common-sense, practicality and an awareness that towns are places where people live. Anyone can draw lines on a map and say hey-presto, do this and your traffic problems will be solved. Widen the roads here, extend the roundabouts there, cut out delays caused by pedestrian-controlled traffic lights, build an underground round and through the whole set-up, provide more and cheaper car parks, are all ideas that have been bandied about. No one seems to ask where the pedestrians are to go, whose front gardens and even homes must be sacrificed and just which shops, or perhaps newly-erected offices, will make room for the cheap new car parks. The underground solution is meant to provide the minimum disruption and destruction, engineered apparently by moles, but even

RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By Watchdog

their activities are only too visible on the surface. A wider use of helicopters has even been urged by someone who believes that his position in life should shield him from the delays ordinary mortals have to put up with, and as for the price of a helicopter, well, one gives about £50,000 for a car anyway. Such a combination of naivete and arrogance can only leave one gasping.

On the other hand, the suggestions in last month's article would go a considerable way towards reducing traffic congestion without satisfying the road-building lobby by spending billions on prestigious but ultimately self-defeating schemes. As a motorist, one of the last things I should want to lose would be the use of my car but the possession of a car does not entitle me to ride roughshod over all other considerations.

It's time you joined

Caversham and District Residents' Association, to give it its full name, will soon be 21 years old. In that time it has fought many battles and campaigns as well as kept an eye on everyday matters affecting life in Caversham. It has built up a vast store of experience and has the organisation ready to deal with any issues as they arise. Sometimes these issues are clear-cut and can be supported or opposed. At other times opinion is divided and then the Residents' Association makes information available and provides a platform for the exchange and discussion of views. By joining the association, you can join in this process and also help strengthen the association's hand when it expresses its findings. Joining will not break the bank, £1.25 will cover your subscription for three years, or 50p for one

year. Simply send it to the Membership Secretary or leave it with any one of the following committee members:

President: G. Thorne, 1 Kidmore Road.

Chairman: P. Wise, 142 Henley Road.

Hon. Treasurer: D. Ross, Clonmel, St Andrew's Road.

Secretary: M. Casey, 14 Albert Road.

Membership Secretary: I. Dovey, 66 Rotherfield Way. Planning: D. Thomas, 63 Cromwell Road.

S. Barlow, 48 Washington Road; M. J. Baker, 58 Shepherd's Lane; I. Brown, 46 Geoffreyson Road; R. Chapman, Greenacres, Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green; M. Falloffield, 40 Matlock Road; R. Levett, 1 Woburn Close; R. Masters, 20 Gurney Close.

The association will be holding its annual meeting on April 6 at Church House. Its form is still to be decided but if the Hemdean Valley inquiry is won, it will take the form of a celebration.

Award for surgery

One of the issues on which the Residents' Association was able to provide a platform for information and view sharing, rather than itself taking a firm position, was the loss of Balmore Hall and its replacement by the

doctors' surgery. Feelings ran high and we are left with both losses and gains. It is therefore gratifying to report that the surgery has been awarded a certificate for environmental improvement by Berkshire County Council's Keep Britain Tidy group. These awards, sponsored by a large local firm, currently Mars, are made annually for positive efforts to improve living and working environments in the county and have been running since 1971.

The surgery received its award in the category of caring services. Buildings are judged on their architecture and design, including landscaping, the Balmore surgery gaining points for improvement of the exterior areas by the planting of shrubs and flowers. High marks were also gained for a pleasing working environment, making for effective communication between staff and public.

"My colleagues and I are very pleased," commented Dr R. Smith. "We have been aware that building the surgery meant the loss of a much-used hall and this award recognises that we have replaced it with something positive." These awards are not easy to gain in a county where new building is going on all the time, and as the county council says, each one is an award of which the recipients can be justly proud.



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KATY IN CAVERSHAM

IT has been lovely seeing Prospect Street come to life again recently. Drawn no doubt by the sale bargains at what had become known as Caversham Gift Shop, there were a number of out-of-Caversham shoppers browsing in this area before Christmas and it was encouraging to hear their comments. Of course there have been some changes in the street recently and no doubt by the time you read this there will be even more.

December saw the departure of Eileen and Stan Perrin, the proprietors, for a new home in the New Forest and, of course, the closing of the shop which added a great deal of sparkle to the area. Fortunately Joan, their assistant, has found a niche nearby and is working mornings at the Post Office. What a rush they had there over Christmas — worse than ever. But Mr and Mrs Syal and Fred — sorry, I don't know his other name — together with their assistants, coped admirably.

A pleasant corner

With the opening of Waltons, an attractive jewellers shop, together with the florists and aptly-named Occasions, they form a very pleasant group on the corner of Prospect Street.

Other shops — please!

As regular readers know, I'm very anxious to have news of other shopping areas — I was agreeably surprised recently when I found myself shopping at the Caversham Village shopping centre. Even on Christmas Eve I found everything I wanted and the service was friendly and helpful. Won't somebody let us have the odd paragraph about shops in their area? I've heard interesting reports, for instance, of "Purl Row" in Donkin Hill and several people have asked me to comment on the excellent service they get from Munds, the butchers in Hemdean Road. Alas I don't get around much these days and most of my shopping is confined to one area. Not that I'm grumbling — Jennings, for instance, provides excellent service. But I can't help feeling I'm being a bit unfair to many shops dotted around Caversham.

A pat on the back

Which reminds me — I've been specifically asked to give a pat on the back to Prestos. A customer tells me that shopping there on the Saturday after Christmas, when many other shops were closed, she found the service there so friendly and helpful that it was hard to realise they were coping with num-

bers way over the ordinary. She herself is writing to their head office to tell them so.

Verity Martin

I should have mentioned her before. For some time now she has been assistant in the Bookshop and already knows a great deal about the stock. What's more, she's very keen — I'd only met her once when she approached me outside her home in South View Avenue to tell me they now had more books in the range I'd recently made a purchase. I know John and Lindsay Mullaney have found life much easier since Verity joined them — even able to take a short break after the Christmas rush and leave the business in her capable hands.

Antiques and collectors items

I've not forgotten my promise to write more on the purveyors of antiques and collectors items, but Christmas has a habit of upsetting one's plans and it will have to wait until, I hope, next month.

David Potterton, herbalist

For the benefit of those who used the services of David Potterton — and others interested — I must pass on the message that he has now, alas, moved to Hollybank, 6 Argyle Road. The phone number is 0734 508707 and he tells me that a good many of his old customers have already found him at his new address and he hopes others will follow.

Violins

News too of more of our old Caversham friends. John

Paris and Raymond Jones, both of whom used to teach at Highdown School before retirement, have now gone into the violin-making business and will be happy to advise any prospective purchaser on the subject — phone Aldershot 334057 or Reading 472096.

Climbing mountains

I doubt if many of us spent such an exciting time in recent months as Christopher Goriup, who came into Caversham to spend Christmas with his family. No doubt many people will remember Chris who was educated at Caversham Primary and Highdown Schools and worked for a time in the local branch of Barclays Bank before taking up other jobs.

Three years ago, when on a trekking trip in the Himalayas, Chris first set eyes on the peak he was resolved to climb, 18,500ft-high Tharpu Chuli. In October, sponsored by many, including his employers, W. H. Smith — he is deputy manager of their Colchester branch — he set out to make his dream come true. Accompanied by a Sherpa climber, a porter and a cook, he set out from Katmandu and on to base camp at 12,500 feet, inside the Annapurna sanctuary. From there they climbed to 15,000 feet where they set up a high altitude camp and planned to climb the last 2,000 feet to the summit. Unfortunately within 500 feet from the summit they had to come to a halt, when they met a moving glacier; there was no question of crossing it that day and it was

one of those occasions which doesn't afford a second chance.

Doubtless Chris was a bit disappointed but it doesn't alter the fact that his was a remarkable achievement and he will be collecting a great deal of money towards helping the Third World countries.

Busy Brownies

The 1st and 3rd Caversham Park Brownies held a Christmas Bring and Buy Sale at Caversham Park School and raised £115. The money was shared between the Blue Peter Sight Saver Appeal and Esther Rantzen's Child Line charity. A marvellous effort by all concerned.

Scotts in Caversham

By the time this paper is printed, Scotts will have started their tea bar. A visit to the shop is encouraged, if only to see the blown up pictures of old Caversham. More anon!

Young PhD

Congratulations to Hilary Jewiss, 25-year-old daughter of Owen and Daphne Jewiss. After three years' research at the University of Southampton, in December she was awarded a PhD in inorganic chemistry. She also has a postgraduate certificate of education and is now teaching, something she has always wanted to do. She started in September at Cheney School in Oxford, a 13-18 years comprehensive school where she teaches chemistry at all levels. Well done Hilary. And let's have more news of our bright youngsters please.

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Postbag

—Continued—

YOUR January 1987 issue carries a piece by Watchdog on repairs to St Peter's Avenue which appears to claim knowledge that the council will act in a certain way. The appropriate council official tells me that the council has not so far decided on any course of action — as Watchdog could have discovered had he/she bothered to ask. This is the second occasion recently when Watchdog has been, let us say, economical with the truth (see the Rector's letter in your November 86 issue). Traditionally a dog is allowed only one bite — change Watchdog?

L. G. HILL

25 St Peter's Avenue
Caversham

GOSBROOK ROAD REVIEW



Photo: E. S. Archer

The Rev Cecil Keane, 18 Peppard Road, Sonning
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ROUND THE CHURCHES

BAPTIST NEWS

ADVENT and Christmas are particularly exciting times of the year for Christians as we remember the birth of Jesus — for without the birth, death and resurrection of the Son of God, none of us would receive the gift of eternal life. As Paul reminds us in Ephesians 2 v 8-9: "For it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith (in Jesus). It is not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can boast about it". As a church fellowship we enjoyed several celebrations of the birth of Jesus throughout Advent, and I would like to share some of these with you.

Night of Miracles

On the evening of Saturday, November 29, the Gospel Singers (one of our two church music groups) presented a Christmas Musical entitled "Night of Miracles" written by John W. Peterson. Through narration and song, the night of Christ's birth was retold. The singing was excellent as the Gospel Singers praised God with their voices — and four solos were included. The congregation were asked to participate in the first and last hymns, finishing with "Hark the Herald Angels Sing". This last hymn, written by Charles Wesley,

succinctly reminds us what Christmas is really all about. Jesus was born "that man no more may die; born to raise the sons of earth; born to give them second birth". How we can praise God for this!

A collection was taken at the end of this celebration which raised £164 for the African Children's Choir. Friends will remember that this choir consists of orphaned Ugandan children, many of whom have seen their parents murdered in cold blood. These children are now cared for by Christian volun-

teers in Care Centres in Uganda, and already two children's choirs have toured Europe and the West, sharing the gospel message with countless congregations. "Ambassadors of Aid" is the organisation which seeks to care for these Ugandan orphans. It is an interdenominational relief agency which works in cooperation with a number of Ugandan churches. In order to help raise money for these Care Centres, some of the orphans themselves travel around the world in the African Children's Choir sharing the Christian message of hope and salvation.



The Three Kings.

Photo N. Wright.

Playgroup Nativity Play

Praises to God from the voices of tiny children were also heard on Wednesday, December 17, as School Lane playgroup held its nativity play in the church. School Lane playgroup meets on the church premises every morning between 9.15 and 12.00, when about twenty-five three to five year olds meet to learn through play, and enjoy the company of other children. The nativity play got off to a robust start at 3.30pm as a collection of angels, shepherds, camels and kings began the play by singing "Thank you Lord". Some of the children must have been rather sleepy as they had already spent the earlier part of the afternoon enjoying a playgroup lunch and party. However, this didn't prevent them from putting on a good show with songs and a little acting — much to the delight of all the mums, dads, grandparents and friends present. The Christmas story was told and popular choruses such as "H-A-P-P-Y", "He's got the whole world in His hands", and "Jump up and down" were sung by these enthusiastic three to five year olds. There were three lovely solos, one of these being the children's favourite "Away in a manger". The play finished with a noisy "Jingle Bells" and all the nativity



Full cast of School Lane Playgroup Nativity Play.

Photo N. Wright.



Angels, Mary, Joseph and the manger.

Photo N. Wright.

cast looked flushed and happy. Many thanks must go to the Playgroup Supervisor, Mrs Pat Jenkins and Deputy Supervisor, Mrs Shirley Strong. These ladies and their team of willing helpers gave hours of patience, preparation and care which enabled the play to go so well. The School Lane playgroup does have a few vacancies and if anyone has a child

aged three or over who would like to attend, please contact Mrs Jenkins on 478502.

Carol Service

The morning service on Sunday, December 21, was one of believer's baptism, when one of our members professed her faith in Jesus as her Saviour and Lord by being baptised, as Jesus Himself was during His earthly ministry.

The evening service was advertised as "Carols by candlelight" and it was a wonderful service of praise to God as carols — both old and modern were sung. Both our church music groups took a lively part in the service, and afterwards over tea and mincepies, members of the congregation were able to chat and sincerely wish one another a Happy Christmas.

LEE ABBEY — SIMPLY BEAUTIFUL

by Judi Hose

IT was with some anxiety that I set off from Reading for the North Devon coast and the Lee Abbey Community on December 27 for the New Year Houseparty.

I had been recommended to go by a friend on the Berkshire Christian Training Scheme who assured me that I would enjoy a stay there. How right she proved to be!

I had a marvellous week and enjoyed the most moving and uplifting New Year as we all "Behold the Open Door of 1987" at a midnight candlelit service.

Some of us knew that

1987 was bringing very definite changes that had already been set in motion. Others of us knew we were being called to stay in the same situation. Others like me felt God was asking for our willingness to change and face a new set of challenges but we had to wait upon Him for direction.

I spent many hours in quiet contemplation, I learned how to pray through the scriptures; attended a workshop on forgiveness, attended the best pantomime I have ever seen, ate a sumptuous New Year's Eve

buffet; went to a tramp's ball, walked through the Doone Valley with other guests and on New Year's Day went on a called to stay in the same situation. Others like me felt God was asking for our willingness to change and face a new set of challenges but we had to wait upon Him for direction.

The countryside and setting of Lee Abbey could not be more beautiful and offered me a week amidst hard-working people who knew the love of God working in their lives on a daily basis.

I came home greatly

encouraged, very excited with plans to revisit Lee Abbey in August with my family.

The community is open to guests nearly all the year round with different groups being catered for in special programmes.

If you are looking for a holiday with a difference be you young or old, single, family, or a couple there is something for you at Lee Abbey.

For more details contact Judi Hose on Wargrave 3060 or write to Lee Abbey, Lynton, North Devon EX35 6JJ, phone 05898 52621.



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STAN ELDON'S COLUMN

Running repairs

ONE aspect of the growth in sporting participation which in the past has not kept pace with increased sporting activities has been the lack of specialist medical care for sports men and women. Until a few years ago it was even difficult for very top athletes and other sports men and women to get specialist help with injury problems.

Six years ago one of the first specialist Injury Clinics was opened in Reading with the help and support of the Sports Council for the Southern Region. During that time over 5,000 sporting patients have been treated by the doctors and fully qualified physiotherapists. Most of the injuries treated are for those niggly sprains and strains which can prevent the sports man or woman from taking part in their chosen activity, enabling them to recover quickly and compete to the best of their ability.

In November last the Reading Sports Injury Clinic opened its doors at the new premises at 10 Eldon Road, Reading. It is under the direction of Dr Peter Thomas. The clinic can receive new

patients on Mondays and Thursdays from 6.30pm to 8.30pm without an appointment and treatment of injuries then takes place on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings between 6.30pm and 8.30pm. As with so many other things in the sporting world, Reading has led the way in sports injury care and I am sure will continue to do so.

Half Marathon

WE are now only three months from the DEC Reading Half Marathon and the entries are flooding in from all over the country in as great a number as in previous years — so if you intend to run don't delay — get your entry in NOW. This applies equally to the special Mini Marathon being run for the 11 to 16 year olds.

By the time you read this we could be into real winter weather but even so it is very important to try to continue with your training on a regular basis. Most important, wrap up warm and take care on slippery foot paths and roads. If we do have snow, wear some thick woolly socks OVER THE TOP OF YOUR SHOES and this will help you to stay on your feet.

Whilst looking at the Marathon scene, congratulations to Trevor Harbor of Priest Hill, Caversham who just before Christmas ran in the St Albans Marathon in 3 hrs 1 min, over 20 mins off his previous best time. Trevor, who is in his late 30s, is a shining example of what can be achieved by regular training because he started out as a fun runner a few years ago and is now running very competitive times at all distances.

Nos Galan

A nostalgic New Year

MY New Year's Eve was spent in the Welsh Valleys retracing the steps I took in 1958. For the first time in thirteen years the famous Nos Galan Road Race around the streets of Mountain Ash in Mid Glamorgan took place.

The race itself was created around the story of Guto Nythbran who died, aged 37, in 1737 after a twelve mile race from Newport to a spot near Caerphilly. It was claimed he ran the 12 miles in 7 mins under the hour, which would certainly make modern runners seem like slow coaches. Many stories have built up around Guto and his famous running feats such as the

run he made to Pontypridd and back, a distance of 7 miles, "before a kettle could boil".

To celebrate this sporting character, each year the Nos Galan race was run a mystery runner would carry the torch from his graveside to Llanwonno Churchyard, down the mountain to start the race in the town centre — a distance of 4 miles. There was always great secrecy over who would carry the torch and the "mystery runner" was always a well guarded secret. This year was no exception and Kirsty Wade, the outstanding 800 and 1500 metre runner, was the chosen person. As a previous mystery runner I was privileged to run down the mountain with her and a number of other past mystery runners including Derek Ibbotson (former World Mile record holder) and

John Merriman, the outstanding Welsh athlete who finished second in the Commonwealth 6 Miles in 1958. John was also well-known in the Reading area as he ran for Reading Athletic Club when studying at Bulmershe College.

The Valleys today may seem dark and unhappy places but even in pouring rain on New Year's Eve the whole population seemed to be out on the streets to give the runners a reception that they would probably not receive anywhere else in the world. I met many people whom I had not seen for twenty-eight years and the reception that all of the "has-beens" received was as though we were still world champions. What a wonderful way to start the New Year, it certainly re-charged my batteries!

OBITUARY

IT is just five years ago since this photograph was last seen in the "Bridge"; although he has not been

TED BOULDING

seen around the Parish recently, he has not been far from our thoughts. Ill health had meant that he had to spend the last months of his life in hospital.

Ted and his family moved to Reading in 1972 when the new "Pru" building was inaugurated. As a Reader he joined the Parish team, making a total of six, helping out in the Parish as occasion needed, preaching, leading house study groups, visiting the sick, administering the chalice at the Eucharist. For a time he sang in the choir, and was a founder member of the "Link Group", an outcome of "Family Fortnight".

Outside the Parish he was a Prison Visitor and started regular meetings of Christians at his place of work. He helped in the Parish of St Laurence's and was a committee member of the Church-people's Luncheon Club. He also organised interesting excursions to London — the City Churches and Lambeth Palace to name but two. It was his great wish that he could become a Non



Stipendiary Minister on his retirement from the "Pru" thus continuing to serve God whole time instead of the Church in his spare time. He was very disappointed when amongst other things ill health prevented him from attaining his objective.

He attached much importance to the sanctity of the family and the home; as a devoted father he had the satisfaction of seeing his children's response to the opportunities offered to them by their parents. He would be happy to know that the family by their love and care are helping Joyce, his widow, at this time. We should thank God for his witness to the faith and offer our prayers for Joyce, Peter, Christopher, Jonathan and Rachel at this time.

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A WOMAN PRIEST SPEAKS OUT

We are privileged to print below a statement made by the Rev Dr Joyce Bennett OBE concerning her faith and her work back in UK, particularly at St Martin-in-the-Fields.

MANY people are asking me to reflect on what has happened since my celebration of Holy Communion which brought me considerable publicity. I have also been reminded by the Archbishop of Canterbury of the present situation in the province of Canterbury concerning women priests legally ordained abroad. I know that I have now reached a painful crossroads on my life's pilgrimage.

□□

Do I deny what I understand to be my responsibilities and duties as an ordained priest in

the Church of God? Or do I listen to the dictates of the man-made laws of the Church?

The Church has to face the reality of the fact that by February 1986 there were already 743 ordained women priests in the Anglican Communion. Fifteen years ago the English Church was first confronted with legally ordained women priests in the Anglican Communion. On Advent Sunday, November 28, 1971, Jane Hwang (Hwang Hsien Yuen) and I were ordained in St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong. Still today some bishops and clergy in this country are trying to deny the efficacy of that laying on of hands by Gilbert Baker, Bishop of Hong Kong and Macao and later, in his retirement, assistant Bishop of Guildford. When they do so, I consider they have an incomplete understanding of the God whom we worship. They restrict his generosity to the male half of the human race.

I am no militant feminist. I liked the Sunday Times headline "The reluctant suffragette" above their article about me on October 12, 1986. However I am now finding myself pushed into the feminist camp, because too many cannot accept their own sexuality and wish to confine God's servants, the priests and ministers, to men only.

□□

I have then to make a decision. Do I publicly take issue with the hierarchy of the Church of England? Or do I quietly disappear and abandon the Chinese-speaking congregation at St Martin-in-the-Fields? But how can I abandon that flock whom God has strangely

entrusted to me since I retired from Hong Kong? Yet how can I protect them from a legalistic religion that does not recognise the free-flowing grace that comes through episcopal ordination in the Anglican Church of Hong Kong with which the Church of England is in communion?

I can never forget those stern words spoken by Jesus to those disciples who tried to prevent the little children from coming to be blessed. "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened round his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea". (Matt 18:6).

My ministry to the Chinese in this country where I was born and brought up cannot be confined solely to pastoral counselling and the teaching of the faith. I do not believe I can keep a Church law which forbids me to celebrate the Eucharist.

Of your mercy, pray for me.

Sponsored walk by 3rd Caversham (St John's) Brownies

IT all began at High-down Fete last May. A Brownie of 3rd Caversham (St John's) pack felt sad about a deaf girl she saw there and suggested that the pack should do something to help children like her. The Brownies decided on a sponsored walk. They set off on a Saturday in October to walk from Goring Station to St John's. Everyone completed the ten miles. They raised the magnificent sum of £105 which was presented recently to a teacher from Brookfields School.

NEW HALL FOR HIRE

The Scout Hall in Grove Hill is now available for hire. For further information, please contact Mrs Underwood. Tel: 475419.

CORRYMEELA SUNDAY

THERE will be a service of thanksgiving and celebration for the work of the Corrymeela Community at St Matthew's Church, Southcote, Reading on Sunday, March 15, 1987 at 6.30pm. The address will be given by the Revd Brian Murphy-O'Connor, Chairman of Corrymeela Link.

Whether you come on your own or with friends and members of your church congregation, you will be most welcome. After the service light refreshments will be served, when there will be an opportunity to meet old and new friends.

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Everest**ROUND THE CLUBS****Rosehill WI**

THE December meeting opened with a welcome from Miss Vincent. Tables were laid with a centre posy, ready for the Christmas tea. One member was unable to attend because she was celebrating her Golden Wedding with her husband and family. After news of forthcoming activities there were some quiz games to test members' knowledge. Then they were served tea, sandwiches, cakes and Christmas cake by the Committee. The cake was made and iced by Mrs Fry. To conclude everyone took a present from the "lucky dip" which had been put into a basket as they entered the Hall.

**Emmer Green
Townswomen's
Guild**

IN December Mrs Churcher entertained the Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild with tales of her life as a Store Detective. Some were funny and some sad, but all were most interesting. Delicious mince pies, provided by the Committee, disappeared rapidly during the tea break and Mrs Turner won the prize for the most attractively wrapped Christmas parcel. The parcels will be distributed to the elderly in Emmer Green.

In 1987 meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.15pm in St Barnabas' Church Hall, Emmer Green. A programme of events can be found in Reading and Caversham

Libraries. Small groups, such as Social Studies, Arts and Crafts and Ramblers are flourishing and there is something to suit most tastes. New members and visitors will always be made most welcome.

Maplewood WI

NOVEMBER was a Members' meeting at Maplewood and quite a wealth of talent was revealed. Four members talked of happily remembered holidays and showed some slides of lovely places as far apart as Iceland, Vancouver, New Zealand and Turkey.

Another member recalled the intense excitement that built up to the day the Queen came to Reading School. Tape recordings of the speeches made by the Queen and the Headmaster were also played.

A first visit to Denman College was much enjoyed by another member in spite of the initial dismay that the course in Italian writing presented special difficulties for a left-handed person.

A colourful collection of festive parcels was on display, brought by members for distribution at the Caversham Old People's Luncheon Club Christmas Party.

Caversham WI

CAVERSHAM celebrated their twenty-fifth birthday on December 18 with a talk by Mrs A. Mates. She began by saying that we were all part of the drama of life. She went on to relate what she associates with her drama of life and told of many memories of opera, plays and shows, which she had seen all over the world, and some amusing incidents of her career as a drama teacher.

The birthday cake, expertly made by Mrs L. Hensley, with mince pies etc, was washed down with sherry or squash.

Members also enjoyed a Christmas dinner held at the Fox and Hounds during the previous week.

Blagrove WI

A GOOD turn-out of members and visitors from other institutes enjoyed a very happy afternoon for Blagrove's twenty-fourth anniversary. The Henley Handbell Ringers gave a wonderful display of great skill, finishing with carols to put everybody in the right mood for Christmas. The tea, prepared by the Committee, was well up to the usual high stan-

dard and the birthday cake much appreciated. The competition for a Christmas table decoration was won by Mrs Idenden, Mrs Ogden and Mrs Housden. A minute's silence was observed in memory of Mrs Maureen Dawes who died recently and will be missed.

At the January meeting Mrs Margaret Churcher let all into the secrets of a Store detective and amazed and entertained with her stories of her job. The raffle was won by Mrs Ransome and the competition for a home-made calendar won by Mrs Thomas, Mrs Ogden and Mrs Housden.

New members are always welcome and should contact the Secretary, Mrs Sawyer, at Reading 472802.

Maplewood WI

A GLASS of punch and a warm welcome from the Vice-president, Mrs Joan Fry, greeted members, husbands and guests to the Maplewood Christmas Lunch — a new idea enabling members to come and go in daylight.

After a festive meal served at candlelit tables and rounded off with mince pies and coffee, Mrs Pat Tyler gave a most entertaining and often hilarious description of a holiday on Vancouver Island. The drawing of the raffle for which there were many delightful prizes brought the party to a close.

**Caversham
Heights
Townswomen's
Guild**Resolutions and
Parties

HELLO there, 1987! Yet another year, but the press secretary has been retained, so one resolution is for this report to reach its deadline on time. Another resolution to adopt in view of the article "Traffic — Time for Action!" in January's Caversham Bridge is to give time for walking and using the buses, to help decrease congestion by traffic in Reading and Caversham.

Not much news, except that a donation has been sent to Reading Talking News in aid of blind people, and there have been two parties to celebrate Christmas. One was for the social studies group of Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild and the other was for the main guild and held

in St Andrew's Hall. They were well attended. Mrs Joan Read, Berkshire Federation chairman, members from Reading Evening Guild and friends and relations of members were also invited. Punch and an excellent buffet meal in the hall were much enjoyed, bright entertainment being provided by the members themselves. Coffee and mince pies and some carol singing concluded an enjoyable evening.

**Caversham
Ladies Club**

It was Christmas party time once again. Where had the past year gone so quickly? Still, forget the past, the present with tables laden with lots of goodies, and the large beautiful iced cake made by Mrs Shirley Strong as the centre piece, was the priority of the after-

noon. A carol was first sung, followed by grace. Then very soon tables were looking considerably empty as members "tucked in".

A competition of a Christmas buttonhole was won by first Mrs Betty Frostick, second was Mrs Edie Locke and third was Mrs Queenie Strong. Mrs Shattock was the judge. A basket of fruit had been donated to be raffled in aid of the Save the Children Fund. This raised £5, the winner being Mrs Board. The money was handed to Mrs Shattock who gives so much of her time to Save the Children Fund.

Mrs Harwood then distributed an envelope to each member containing a Christmas card with an embroidered handkerchief tucked inside it. Mrs Locke sold Christmas labels

Turn to page 11

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ROUND THE CLUBS

From page 10

and cardboard Christmas trees which raised £7. This Mrs Locke gave to Mrs Q. Strong to add to her collection for the Radiotherapy Department, R.B.H.

Before closing the meeting Mrs Harwood thanked all the members for their very generous contributions to make the party a success and she hoped they would all have a lovely and happy Christmas and New Year.

St Peter's Wives Group

ST PETER'S Wives Group started the Christmas celebrations early, with a party held on December 9. Carols were sung with evident pleasure, led by Marion Croft and admirably supported by Yvonne Milne, playing not the most co-operative of pianos. A Christmas Quiz was entered into with enthusiasm. We then had the pleasure of listening to Pat Morrison read several poems appropriate to the festive season. After all this intellectual stimulation, the party fare, provided by all the members, was enjoyed with even greater appetite.

A week later, a group of over 20 members met on a bright starry evening, to sing carols at what has become almost our annual venue, the Sheridan Avenue/Hemdean Road area. Members were delighted that the residents proved as generous as ever. The sum of £56 being collected in aid of the Sue Ryder Home at Nettlebed.

Slightly chilled, the group repaired to Jean and Fred Pugh's home for coffee and mince pies. The Group would like to

thank them for their warm hospitality.

The Wives next meeting is on February 17 at Church House when we look forward to hearing Mr David Randall tell us about the Waterways of Reading.

Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild

CAVERSHAM Afternoon Townswomen's Guild celebrated its 25th anniversary with a luncheon at Chiltern Chase. Mrs Margorie Livingstone, past Federation Chairman, spoke of the changes in the Movement over the years. The Christmas guild meeting also continued the celebrations with a birthday cake, made and ably cut by the President Mrs Linda Grey. Members and guests were entertained by poetry readings and Christmas carols.

Caversham Community Association

AT THE first meeting on December 1 Miss T. Morgan and her assistant demonstrated cake icing and gave the members many good ideas for decorating their Christmas cakes. Miss Morgan used super-paste icing and created some very attractive designs.

The following week the visit of the East Reading Salvation Army Band with Bandmaster Alistair Todd was welcomed by everyone. Seasonal music was played and the versatile members of the band sang carols. Karen Cox gave a piano solo and also led the audience in carol singing. Bernard Cox accompa-

nied with the ukelele. The evening ended with a Bible reading and a closing prayer.

The club members made their own entertainment on December 15. Olive Howard commenced with a humorous reading from "Cider with Rosie". Dolly Usher and Nita Chandler enlivened the old song "I've a hole in my bucket" with their acting and costumes. George Feast followed with an amusing poem by Pam Ayres. Margaret Cameron gave a Christmas quiz and read a description of the sea coconuts found on the Seychelles island. After tea

Vicki Scheel read a happy story of a Christmas tree. Margaret Reeves then described her holiday in Florida and the evening ended with carolsing accompanied by Muriel Waite at the piano.

On December 22 the Christmas party was a successful event. The gaily decorated clubroom and tables gave a festive air for the members' arrival. An excellent meal was provided with ham, pork pie, salad and delicious trifles. Christmas cake with a glass of wine later in the evening was enjoyed by all the members. May Plant produced a panto-

mime, a skit on Cinderella, with the club's Drama Group which received a appreciative applause. Ted Howard, the compère, linked in rhyme the progress of Cinderella from rags to riches. The Fairy Godmother summoned the coach to transport Cinderella to the ball where she met the Prince, much to the Ugly Sisters chagrin. Everyone was well dressed in their appropriate costumes. Thanks were expressed to Mrs Plant, the players and Nancy Nelhams, who accompanied the singers at the piano, for all their efforts.

St Peter's proposed Parish Meeting Room

FOR some little time I have been a reader of Caversham Bridge, and thus have been able to read of the controversy over both the siting and design of the proposed parish meeting room — the exterior design of which in relation to St Peter's was shown in your issue of May last.

During my long life I served for some years as Honorary Secretary to the Church Council of Cockington, Torquay, whose beautiful old Parish Church of Saints George and Mary is visited by thousands of visitors each year, and which church bears a marked resemblance to St Peter's.

As with Caversham Court, the adjacent mansion at Cockington — known as Cockington Court — is also

Postbag

Continued

owned by the local authority, who as with Reading, also exercise planning control.

It so happened that I served the local authority of Torquay for about 40 years and during much of this time was responsible in the framing and issue of planning decisions — mostly carrying conditions of some sort — and over those many years I cannot remember any case where a proposed building was in such an abhorrent conflict with an existing ancient building as is the case of the proposed meeting room in relation-

ship with the church of St Peter's in its magnificent setting overlooking the River Thames.

All credit is due to the Reading council in rejecting a design which is in total disregard to the adjacent church, and which, at first glance, appears to be more like one might expect as, say, a refreshment building, better suited to erection in a permanent amusement park or recreation ground. It is indeed very difficult to accept that St Peter's Church Council could ever have seriously considered erecting such a building where contemplated.

If, as I assume, St Peter's has existed for a great many years without an ideal parish hall, it surely would be better to first find a suitable site, or explore further the possible use of Caversham Court stables, before attempting to raise money for any type of building on the suggested site, which by being within a few feet of the church would completely ruin its north elevation.

E. W. Packe

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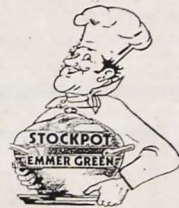
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Queen's Scout Award

ON the evening of Monday, January 12, at the 89th Caversham Scout hut, David Naton of the Trogs Venture Scout Unit was presented with his Queen's Scout Award by County Commissioner, Bill Vincent.

David, who is now in his second year at Keble College, Oxford, reading biology and entomology, was formerly a pupil at Caversham Park Primary School, passing on to Reading School in 1978. Records of his many Scouting projects and achievements were on show at the meeting.

It is interesting to note that the last name recorded on the company's Queen's Scout shield was that of David's sister, Gwyneth Naton, in 1985.

Photo: E. S. Archer

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SUNDAY SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

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)
4.00pm 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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WE RECORD

BAPTISED

St Peter's

November 2nd Katie Bond

Laura Ind

19th Jane Hammond

30th Sarah Upton

Catherine Everitt

December 7th Emma Lowth

28th Jose Ritchie-Prade

MARRIED

St Peter's

November 1st Neill Gregg and

Karen Walter

Caversham Park Church House Communions

Wednesday 10.30am. Children welcome.

February 4th 8 Bramber Mews (Esme Boshier)

11th 15 Newton Avenue (Rosemary Randall)

18th 130 Lowfield Road (Betty Lewis)

25th 2 Osterley Drive (Mildred Samuel)

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