



ONE, TWO, THREE

THERE HAVE BEEN THREE BRIDGES spanning the Thames at Caversham including the present one and all crossed the river at the same place.

"The Great Bridge"

The first written record of a bridge at Caversham comes in a document dated 1231, which mentions the Abbot of Reading and the Earl of Pembroke (who was Lord of the Manor of Caversham). Ten years later there is a reference to "le pons de Caversham," the bridge of Caversham.

Henry III often visited Reading and its neighbourhood and made several generous contributions towards the construction of the crossing at Caversham. Together with the Abbot of Reading and the Lords of Caversham Manor he was responsible for its erection. Perhaps as a young boy he crossed the Thames here to visit his Regent, William Marshall, at the Manor of Caversham to enjoy a holiday in the countryside chasing the deer. If crossing was by ford or ferry he must have realised that a bridge across the Thames would make life a great deal easier for him and his retinue on such occasions and indeed for everyone locally too.



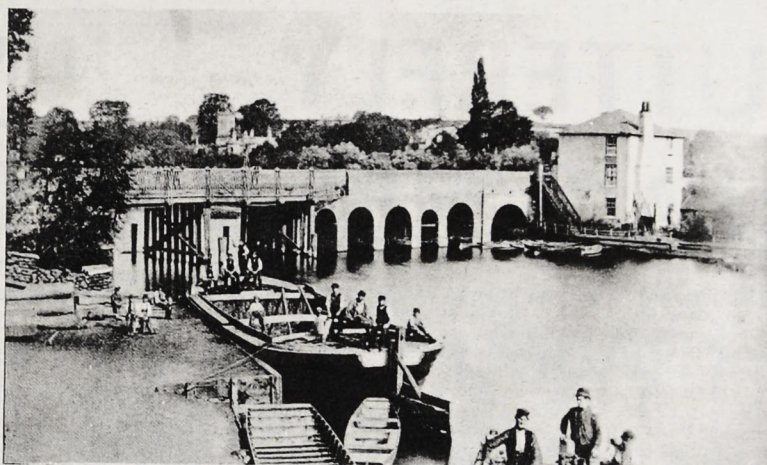
The place chosen for this first bridge was in a part of the river where there were several islands and the buttresses of more than one arch were

built into these natural foundations. It was a great feat of engineering and the bridge became famous as a crossing place. In 1314 it was referred to as the "great bridge."

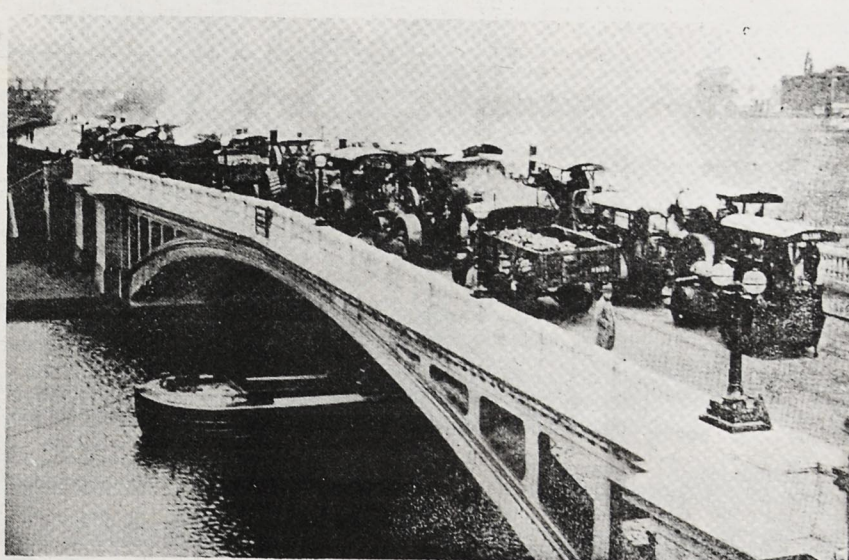
Early in the Civil War the old bridge, then already over four hundred years old, was partly demolished as an act of self-protection for the town of Reading.



No doubt it also suffered damage in the fight for Caversham Bridge which took place on April 25th, 1643. Three years later repairs were under way but the old construction was never again in a safe condition for users and many disasters occurred because of its dangerous state. In 1795 the account book of St Peter's Church states that Richard Betteridge was paid to watch the bridge on February 14th on account of its being impassable by flood. In spite of precautions such as this, accidents happened and the following sad story was reported in the Reading Mercury of 1812. "On Wednesday May 2, the body of a carter named Barefoot, residing in Caversham was taken out of the river... This poor man it is supposed, fell into the Thames in passing over Caversham bridge, the great part of the parapet being in ruins level with the ground." Strong remarks



The original bridge with Waterman Piper's ferry cottage on the right, clearly showing it had three storeys. Could the tree on the left be one of the plane trees, now sadly depeleted on the Reading side of the Thames?



A rare photograph of Reading bridge being tested for stress before its opening. Note the barge passing underneath with its horse tow-ropes.

about the bridge's condition and upkeep followed in the report and a 'deodand' was levied for Barefoot's family.

However the old bridge was to continue in use even though it was "so narrow that no two vehicles can pass at once, and that over every pier triangular spaces have been devised for the safety of foot passengers" (Mary Mitford. Recollections of a Literary Life. 1859).

The Iron Bridge and a tall story

In 1869 everything changed. By that time the railway was well established in Reading and the town increasing in population. Caversham too, was expanding rapidly and Mr Crawshaw, the Welsh Iron Master, was living at Caversham Park. A new bridge was now a necessity, so in 1869 the old crossing was replaced by

another one made completely of iron.

Perhaps the most exciting event in the erecting of the second bridge was the removal, en masse of the ferryman's cottage. On January 29th 1869, Waterman Piper's home, a three storey building was moved to a new site eight feet away using a recently developed American technique. This was achieved successfully and Old Man Piper, as he was called, and

his family were supposed to have remained inside throughout the whole operation. The house weighed one hundred and fifty tons so the paper reported. No doubt most of Caversham turned out to see the event and perhaps expected the worst! Actually the story has always been that the house was moved twenty feet. Perhaps the incident was embroidered as so many are over the years. There was

certainly no mention of the family remaining inside their home during its removal in the press of the day. Reading the account in the Berkshire Chronicle for Saturday January 31st, 1869 it definitely states a move of eight feet and said that not a pane of glass was broken in any window. In about three hours the work had been completed.

Opened by the Prince of Wales

Reading continued to thrive and so did Caversham. Populations in both places went on expanding. After the end of World War I it became necessary to replace the iron bridge by yet another. Before this could happen, however, a second bridge had to be built to prevent Caversham and all traffic crossing either way from coming to a complete standstill, for replacing Caversham bridge meant a couple of years during which there could only be passage for pedestrians. So Reading bridge came into being, built close to Caversham lock and nearer to the heart of Reading. Finally in 1926 the present ferro-concrete bridge at Caversham was opened by the then Prince of Wales. No doubt everyone was delighted believing it to be the final answer to all traffic problems. Little did they know the amount of usage their new bridge would have to cope with today and how inadequate it was to become.

M.K.

D/EX 1758/24/7

TALKING POINT

by REV. ALAN WILSON
Priest in charge of St John's



WHO BREAKS A BUTTERFLY UPON A WHEEL?

THEY don't do nostalgia like they used to... But it was twenty years ago today that Sergeant Pepper taught the band to play. I was always a conformist, afraid of being a fan, but I can tell my grandchildren that in 1967 I saw the Beatles. They brought some colour into a drab suburban schoolboy's day, when they came to film in Knole Park. We rushed down in our lunch hour, hundreds of us, to ogle the Mini Cooper S cars with smoked glass windows, the purple/glitter piano, the girls and the guitars. Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive.

Even in my small corner, I felt what others felt — a door was opening. The future was going to be better, somehow. There was more to life than eating your prunes and doing your best, and we were going to prove it. The Beatles stood for all that; and the more parental disapproval, the better. By the time I got to Cambridge, things had changed. We were the pre-Yuppies. The riots of '67 seemed years away, but we lacked the sophistication of those who to day settle for good seconds as their prelude to 16K in the city.

But just as my English master said we would, we grew up and bought houses and raised families. Looking back from now, of course, we all know better. For we are older and wiser, if sadder. We know the cost of everything as well as its value. It's all very well to be idealistic, but we know we need more than good ideas.



Twenty years ago, church magazines offered moral comment on the evils of the age — we don't do that like they did, either. Perhaps we don't need to. There are no coffee bars or beatnik vicars left in Caversham. But what moral comment do the sixties offer us? Perhaps what John Lennon said at the time — "One thing you can't hide is when you're crippled inside."

"What have you exchanged for idealism? A new social revolution, founded on personality? Or is it just smugness and indifference? Your values are not so much right wing as suburban. You are afraid as your forefathers who banned the word "Nappies" on the BBC. Nothing feels fear like basic selfishness and all those complexes about the human body Dr Spock put down to bad potty training.

"Who cares? That's why you all complained there was so much election on the telly. If our danger was idealism, yours is cynicism. Credit card companies flatter you by saying your credit is good for thousands. How good will your credit be, the night your soul is required

of you? Your biggest liars are the politicians who flatter you by saying you have or can earn credit by your own efforts.

"This gospel of self-reliance is the cause of your blindness. Your life was not given you by your own efforts; they will not keep you breathing. They will not give you children to love, or a wife to cherish. All these gifts of grace; purely and literally miraculous, poured out by God freely upon his children, minute by minute. You cannot add a cubit to your stature by worrying about it; certainly not by getting on your bike or into your BMW.



"Those who aspire to that sort of worth, or look at it in others, are victims of the theological malady anglaise theologians call "Pelagianism." It is the root of the heartlessness, blindness, and injustice of the eighties. They say these days a sick man can be seen by a consultant next week if he has money, and in six months time if not. That's an entirely different estimate of the value of humanity to Christ's who taught that value of a man is greater than of his possessions.

"As the years to come bring tales of deceit and immorality like those of the last months of the old government, look at the root along with the branch. Remember that the chaps who were realistic about their cows and businesses were not the corps de garden of the kingdom of heaven, but the poor fools who ended up in hell because they didn't want to go anywhere better."

So there's some sixties moralising for the church magazine. It's not enough. You can no more clean up our act by scolding than clear your garden of nettles with a strimmer. Anyway Christianity is not idealism or prudence, or morality, or going to church. It is what it has always been — follow Jesus. It is an alternative to the suffocating, artificial middle-classness that has sometimes been the highest aspiration of the English. No-one can serve two masters, or follow two dreams.

The sixties were full of visual images, on TV, and in the papers. Some stay with me. Remember the American officer shooting a man through the head in Vietnam? Remember the flower children and the fab four? The last image of Stanley Kubrick's 2001 was the face of a child, innocent, wide eyed. If you learnt that in the sixties, your memories may still bless you. Discover that God-given openness within yourself, and Jesus says you stand, quite literally on the threshold of that Kingdom whose door is always slightly ajar.

Postbag

Dear Sir,
Please, is there anyone with a little time to spare who could help three Guide companies in the Caversham Park / Emmer Green area in desperate need of adult leadership?

No previous experience in the Guide Movement is necessary as training can be given if needed, but a knowledge of the needs of the ten to fourteen year age group would be an

advantage, also an appreciation of the 'out doors'. For further details please ring 477860 or 482386.

J. HALL
9 Gayhurst Close,
Caversham.

LINK GROUP

THE Link Group was made welcome by Angela Kingsbury at the Rectory for their Meeting on 18th May.

Apart from the usual Link business, members were pleased to meet Mrs Shiela Goldsmith, who came to talk on the work of the local branch of the Co-Workers of Mother Teresa. It was found that the two groups had much in common, in that some of the same

local needs and charities are supported by both, but the Co-workers also go back to the routes of their organisation — the work of Mother Teresa of Calcutta — the help given by them extends overseas to "the poor, sick, suffering and lonely people" throughout the world.

Shiela gave out a list of the material goods which can be made or given to the Co-Workers for despatch to the

suitable areas, and it would seem that there is very little that cannot be utilised and made good if necessary for despatch to the appropriate destinations.

The Link members present were very interested in the subject, and it can be hoped that as a result of this Meeting there will be a happy liaison between the Link and the Co-Workers in times to come.

PILGRIM — AID

MANY readers will remember Derek Spears whizzing around Caversham on his motorbike. Now he is off, yet again, to The Holy Land, come August. The way he hopes to raise money is by asking you to estimate the

distance he will be travelling to and from Jerusalem. The money he raises will be donated to Reading and Caversham branches of SCF. You are asked to give at least 50p per estimate. Entry forms are available

at Caversham Bookshop, The SCF Shop, Oxford Road, and from St Matthew's Church Southcote. Prizes of £30 or possibly more depending on the response will be given to those who make the nearest estimate.

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All contributions for the August issue should be sent to Church House by noon on Wednesday Aug 5. All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham, by Friday, July 31st.

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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AS ONE of the 'oldest inhabitants', I really think it is incumbent on me to welcome 'Frances' to our pages; she is a great addition to our editorial staff, prepared to look for her own material and to write it up.

But that needn't stop anyone from supplying information that would be suitable for this column, for instance. I'm very grateful to the gentleman from Picton Way who took the trouble to write and ask for some publicity for the Welserv Tyre Service in Chester Street who came to the aid of his wife when she had a puncture some weeks ago. To quote him: "...they were most obliging, and had one of their men at the scene almost at once... It was all done cheerfully and happily and at very reasonable cost." Please, please, keep such recommendations coming!

Summer in Caversham

The summer calendar in Caversham is so full that it's not surprising we can't all get to everything, but that's no excuse for acknowledging the very great efforts put in by so many Caversham people, sometimes against

great odds. Particularly I must mention the very gallant band who kept Highdown Fete going even in the pouring rain. The youngsters on the trampoline and those in other ring events were marvellous; so too were the band of stallholders (this year there was a record number of 'charity' stalls) who kept going swathed in bands of plastic. Nor should the visitors be forgotten — they continued to plod round in great numbers. As one first-time stallholder told me: "Of course we shall come again; if you can do this on a wet day, what can't you do on a sunny one."

Victorian Days

The Victorian exhibition at the beginning of May at the Caversham Adult Centre was a delight and attracted a steady stream of visitors. Despite being small, it was beautifully set out, largely due to the efforts of Dorothy Nicholson, the Community Arts Worker, and her staff. There were some fascinating items on show, including a small display of Victorian jewellery, copies of old deeds

and so on. The presence of Mrs Dora Harbor who, in her Victorian costume, sat in the corner for most of the two days, making lace, made the whole thing come to life. I'm told she was a great success with the youngsters who were full of questions and I can't think of anyone more guaranteed to satisfy their curiosity.

Future Classes

And talking of things Victorian, I've just finished a short course on Victoriana at the Adult Centre, taken by Simon Jones who, I believe, is chief auctioneer at Holloway's of Gor-

ing — a real enthusiast. He finished by giving us a list of courses to be held during the next 18 months, several at Highdown. But it would be wise to collect all the information well before hand (obtainable at the Caversham Adult Centre) as these classes tend to be well booked up.

Local Storms

Feelings ran high in the district when it was discovered that the Spring Steam Fair was to be held on the Westfield Road recreation ground, a piece of ground originally intended as a children's playground, a service

which ran well until the swings and roundabouts started to fall to pieces, together with the very large shed. Why, I don't know, but at this point the Council seems to have given in, pulled down the toilets and the remains of the shed and left things to rot. The main bone of contention about the proposed usage was that permission seems to have been given without reference to anyone and by a mere member of the planning department. Be that as it may, it has yet to be decided — and I hope by the local people themselves — whether such an event here is a good

idea, and a questionnaire being circulated gives everyone a good opportunity to express their views. But I did admire the local people, particularly those in Westfield Road who, as soon as they heard of the event, got to work with a petition. At a time when it seems popular to leave it to somebody else and merely grumble, I take my hat off to them for their efforts.

Parking

I ran into a very friendly lass in some distress because she was having to put parking tickets on the cars of those who seemed to be local residents, particular-

ly as the recent very welcome blitz on illegal parking seems to have come from the cries of Caversham residents themselves. But, as she said, one can't ignore some and just clamp down on others. If this 'campaign' is to bear fruit, it is hoped that local people themselves will try to observe the rules. Otherwise there is an increasing danger to pedestrians and increasing traffic jams in places like Prospect Street. And please, please — the bay in front of Waitrose is not meant for drivers to park while they pop in for their purchases. Travelling around the country a bit lately I've been very impressed by the way double yellow lines do mean something in other parts — visitors are often shattered when they see what happens here.

KATY IN CAVERSHAM

OUR LIBRARY



Article and another picture on p5.

photo E.S. Archer

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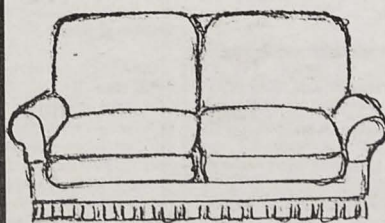
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A DAY AT THE CAB

THREE years ago (in 1984) I saw an advertisement in the local paper asking for volunteers to work at the Citizens Advice Bureau. I applied and was accepted. After a comprehensive training, I found myself one of CAB's voluntary advisers.

It is difficult now to recall what I expected, but I think before I joined CAB I envisaged I would be handing out leaflets all day and would become very knowledgeable about consumer law — very capable and in charge. Why is it then that at the end of a typical day at the CAB I feel rather drained and tired yet very satisfied? I think this is because there is much deeper involvement with people than I had imagined at the outset.

☐ ☐
☐ ☐

A typical day begins with Jim, who has been ordered out of his home by his father. He arrived at the Bureau with just a few belongings in a plastic bag. The friend with whom he stayed overnight suggested he came to the Bureau. He is soon to begin his O level

course and is very worried about everything. It has happened before, so after talking it over, we agree I should ring the social worker who was involved previously. Jim is found a place in a short stay hostel, while the social workers speaks to his father.

☐ ☐
☐ ☐

Next is a consumer problem. Mrs A. is very upset because she tried to buy a refrigerator on HP. She was refused credit, because there have been two county court judgements against someone living at her address. However, these refer to a previous occupant of her house whom she has never met. She is not happy about letter writing, so together we draft a letter for her to send to the hire company explaining the situation.

Next is Mrs M. Someone has hired a television in her name using stolen proof of identification. Now the hire company are demanding large sums of money from her. I listen to her story, she is very

worried by the situation. I offer to contact the company, but she is so worried by the threat of Court action that she decides to go to her solicitor.

Mr T. is in his twenties. He was told in his teens that he was an adopted child. Since then he has wanted to know who his real parents are. He has heard that this is now possible. We talk this over, exploring his reasons for taking such a step, and the possibility of disappointment if he did discover his "real" parents. Mr T. seems to find some relief in talking as he did not appear to have expressed his feelings much about being an adopted child. I explain the procedure, and he went away to think about things a little more, before deciding what he wants to do.

☐ ☐
☐ ☐

After having half an hour off for lunch I return to answer our telephone enquiries. I take three calls before handing over to someone else. This is very different from meeting clients face to face, the enquiries

are often simpler, but I feel a certain pressure to be as quick as I can to save the caller large telephone bills.

My next client is a school teacher with her husband, wanting to know if her job can be held while she had a baby. The school said they would like to see her back but cannot keep her job open. Unfortunately, she hasn't worked there long enough to insist that they do.

Next is Mr B. who has come hot foot from where he works. His boss wants to change his hours of work. He has a written contract, but the wording is ambiguous. I understand it to read one way, and then show it to our Manager who interprets it differently.

☐ ☐
☐ ☐

We agree it would be advisable to show this to one of the solicitors who hold regular free sessions in the Bureau. We make Mr B. an appointment for the following day, so he will know if he can refuse the change, or whether he must accept or resign.

My last client of the day is someone originally from Granada who wishes to apply for British Citizenship. Immigration enquiries are one of the most complicated things

we do, but the files are very clear and comprehensive. With the help of his passport, I work through our files to see if he can apply, (he can) and which of the five forms he needs.

It has been a typical, very varied day. I feel that I have spent most of my time encouraging people to talk about their situations. It is important to gain a full picture of the problem before I can help then. Though I can help people by giving information from our excellent and extensive information system, very often the insights gained by them into their problems is of equal value. This can only be gained by active listening on my part, which though tiring, is very rewarding.

I am very glad that I answered that advertisement nearly three years ago, and even though I have not turned into a confident superwoman, I certainly feel enriched as a person by working for the C.A.B.

☐ ☐
☐ ☐

If you are interested in voluntary work at Reading C.A.B., please write to Margaret Thomas, C.A.B., 10 St Mary's Butts, Reading RG1 2LN for more information and an application form.

CAVERSHAM CARE CENTRE AGM

THE ANNUAL General Meeting of the Caversham Care Centre took place on the evening of Thursday, 7th May at Church House where the Centre is based.

☐ ☐

Retiring Chairman, Mrs Doreen Bennett, welcomed members and reminded them that it was now three years since the idea for setting up a centre in Caversham where anyone who needed help or company could find it had been put forward. She hoped that the Caversham Care Centre and Pop-In Centre was now beginning to provide just that. For Mrs Bennett — and for Esther Youens, of the Bridge Good Neighbours scheme, who had for a long time wanted an office in the centre of Caversham from which the Scheme could operate — this was like a dream come true. Like most dreams, however, the reality was somewhat different from the original conception. This was only right as any organisation must evolve, according to the people who run it and those

who use it, and to suit the needs of the area.

Two things struck Mrs Bennett as important for the future development of the centre; first, that the caring should be a two-way process, with both carers and cared-for benefitting from the interaction. Second, that the Centre should continue to co-ordinate the work of the various local caring and charitable organisations, to help make their work more effective and to look for gaps, if any, in the services they offered which could then be filled. The Centre had begun to do this and she hoped they would develop this side of their work.

☐ ☐

The Pop-In Centre, organised the previous year by Peggy Baldwin, this year had been built up even more, under the guidance of Pete Littlewood, and was now providing a regular meeting place for people of all ages in Caversham as well as the caring friendship of those working at the Centre.

Mrs Bennett thanked all

those who had been involved over the past year for all their dedication and hard work, and in particular three people who had been involved every week since the Centre opened: Verna Blunt, Audrey Yates and Pete Littlewood.

☐ ☐

Mr Ken Bennett (Treasurer) reported that the accounts were at present in a healthy state, thanks mainly to monies from the Pop-In Centre and to donations from COFA and other such charitable organisations, such as Rotary Club. He thanked the Church House authorities for their continuing generosity in providing the office at a minimum of rental.

The meeting approved the Constitution for the Care Centre and ratified the appointment of new officers for the Care Centre's Management Committee, namely, Mrs Paula Andrews as Chairman, Mrs Marie-Paule Norgrove as Deputy Chairman, Mr Ken Bennett as Treasurer, and Mrs Elizabeth



E.S. Archer

"Manning" the Care Centre, Mrs Paula Andrews instructs a new recruit, with advice from Mrs Doreen Davies, Good Neighbour Scheme organiser.

Arnold as Secretary.

Mrs Andrews expressed the heart-felt thanks of all those concerned with the Centre to Mrs Bennett for all her devotion and hard work

in setting up the Care Centre and serving as its Chairman for the past two years.

The meeting closed and was followed by a buffet supper.

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CAVERSHAM LIBRARY

CAVERSHAM Library was built in 1907 with money donated by Andrew Carnegie. The building has remained virtually unchanged since the opening ceremony in December 1097, and is a distinctive feature of Caversham centre. When built the library was in Oxfordshire but in 1911 Caversham became part of Reading Borough which amalgamated with Berkshire in 1974.

There are many small libraries around Reading administered by the County library at Shire Hall. Caversham, Tilehurst and Woodley are the three largest after the town centre one in Kings Road.

After a talk with Caversham lib-

rarian Miss Sylvia Jones, I found out many fascinating things about the library that I have been visiting for the last twelve years. Miss Jones and Mrs Zoe Goss are the two professionals who run the library, Mrs Goss specialising in the children's section and activities.

by Frances

There are three non-professional members of staff and two further part-time non-professionals.

Miss Jones has overall control of the stock and can buy in books of her choice. To freshen the stock books are circulated between five associated small Reading libraries. If you cannot find a book you require on the shelves a facility for reserving books exists. This is a service which costs twenty-five pence for each book reserved. If the required book is not in stock it may be borrowed from the County stock. Miss Jones feels it is fair to say that a large majority of books requested, as long as they are in print, are obtained.



As well as a large selection of fiction and non-fiction books available, there is a small reference collection and a local collection. The collection is invaluable to anyone interested in the history of the area. The staff also maintain a display stand of newspapers and magazines for the public to read on the premises. The three daily papers taken are the Times, the Guardian and the Evening Post. The two weeklies available are the Reading Chronicle and the Henley Standard. There is also a selection of weekly magazines and the newspapers are filed for one month

and then disposed of.

The library is a great source of information on local affairs and entertainments. In the entrance hall there are noticeboards prominently displayed but on the desk inside there is a fascinating diary that I did not realise existed. This book is a local events diary which is available to any member of the public to write in or read. The public can enter details of any local events that they feel other people may be interested in. The events range from fetes to jumble sales to fairs. In fact, anything of interest to anyone!

On the desks to the right of the entrance doors are a large variety of free leaflets explaining all the facilities provided by the County Library Service. Caversham library also has photocopying available and cassettes for children and adults may be borrowed. Large print books for the partially sighted are also available.



To compliment the adult facilities Mrs Zoe Goss runs a very active children's library. Every Thursday from 2.30 to 3.00pm she organises a popular children's storytime. Schools can arrange class visits to the library and Mrs Goss occasionally goes out to individual schools to give talks and advice. Holiday activities are frequently enjoyed by local children, one

of the most popular being the recent Pooh Bear party.

Small exhibitions and displays form another interesting aspect of the library. At present there are four and the one that most caught my eye was provided by the Chiltern open air museum. The displays come from a variety of sources and are on a wide variety of subjects. The Ramblers' Association, Age Concern and the Music and Drama service in Reading are some of the contributors of material.

In the autumn this year the staff are hoping to celebrate the eightieth birthday of the building in style. The plans are not fully formulated yet but there are hopes for a local history exhibition and perhaps some of the staff will dress up in Edwardian clothes. We look forward to this with great interest.

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ROUND THE CHURCHES

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH

A weekend of 'Live Love' by Sarah Boardley

ON the 25th/26th April friends from Haslemere, Yatton, Chandlers Ford and Caversham joined with "Squash", Caversham Heights Methodist Church to celebrate a Youth Weekend of "Live Love". It was the culmination of several months' preparation inspired by similar District MAYC weekends and an exchange visit to Yatton, near Bristol. The weekend was to include a Barn Dance in aid of Cancer Research and the Annual Youth Service.

"Squash" had already been up at the Church all Saturday afternoon, preparing about ninety ploughman's suppers and putting up a

stage, when guests began to arrive at 6.30. One special guest was Marie Barnfield, who is this year's District Youth President. At 7.45 the Band struck up. No formal introductions were necessary as the young people quickly made friends "stripping the willow" with someone from Haslemere or "swinging" a partner from Chandlers Ford. The dancing hardly stopped except for a break for supper. At 10.30 the band had to finish and it was time to say goodbye to them and local friends. When all had been cleared up there was a short epilogue introducing the theme, "Live Love"

represented by Jesus' Resurrection and the way we should show "Live Love" in our lives.

The following morning around 10.30 there began pre worship singing which included some rousing hymns, favourite choruses and an original song "Lord of Love" written especially for the weekend by Squash member, Peter Dulborough. The service followed three topics, Love is Sharing, God's Love is for Real, and So what? Our Response, and included dance, drama, drama, prayer, testimony and music. The climax of the weekend's fellowship came as the packed

congregation linked up with string to symbolise love, and prayed to spread the bonds of love across the world. After sharing a meal with their visitors the young people sat talking until they had to travel home.

The weekend gave inspiration and spiritual rewards to many. It was an opportunity to share wonderful fellowship and friendship. Through it £35 was raised for Cancer Research and £106 was given from the morning's collection to help the Southampton District of the Methodist Church bring young Polish Methodists to England in the summer.

Holiday Club

THE last week of May was half-term holiday for the children of Caversham, and some of them came along to our Holiday Club, which was run by various members of our fellowship under the leadership of Mrs Pauline Hay. The club was held from Tuesday 26th to Friday 29th May between 2.00-4.00pm and all children between the ages of five and ten were welcome to attend. Ninety children came over the four day period, with an average of sixty each day, all greatly enjoying themselves.

The theme of the Holiday Club was 'Secret Agents' and the children were told that their mission was to find Jesus. The children were divided into groups according to age: fives to sixes were the 'Danger Mice', sevens were the 'Bat-finks', eights the 'Gadgets' and the nines to tens were the '007s'. (There was also a creche for the helpers' children under the age of five, and these little ones were given the name of the 'Inch Highs').

Each afternoon would start with a song, and then a sketch of the day's story was acted out by one of the church members, in a Sherlock Holmes disguise, under the name of Inspector Nick-a-lot-of-baddies. (This gentleman frequently visited the various activities during the week,

along with his magnifying glass, telling the children that he was searching for Jesus). This was then followed by a bible story relating to the sketch, followed by prayer. After refreshments the children then divided into their respective age groups to enjoy various activities for an hour, before re-assembling for singing and prayer at the end of the afternoon.

Each group enjoyed a different activity every afternoon. Over the four days each child had an opportunity to enjoy a games afternoon, a singing and music afternoon, a craft session, and a Treasure Trail. On their craft afternoon, the children made masks and magnifying glasses for their Secret Agents kits. The Treasure Trail took place in the worship area and took on the format of a maze. Coloured foot and hand prints were used to follow the way round, and each child was given a map on which were recorded various Biblical place names which eventually led to the treasure. Much fun was had by the children as they crossed the Dead Sea, as this turned out to be a darkened room which they had to cross with the use of torches! On each occasion the treasure turned out to be a Bible text and a sweet!

Each day the children learnt about different characters from the Bible: Nicodemus (Tuesday), The Paralyse Man in Luke 5 (Wednesday), Zacchaeus (Thursday) and on Friday the children were told the story of

Jesus rejoicing over the Lost Sheep, as recorded in Luke 15, v. 1-7. With each character the children learnt a Bible verse and how the above characters sought to find Jesus for themselves. The children were each given a Log Book in which they could write down their day's findings. They learnt that Nicodemus was told by the Lord that 'you must be born again' in order to get to heaven. From Luke 15 v. 1-7 the children learnt that God loves everyone and rejoices over one lost sinner repenting. They learnt that the Lord wants each one of them to love and trust Him in return.

At the end of the week each child was given a 'Top Secret Pack' hand-out, which included the gospels of Luke and John. (All the stories for the week were taken from these two gospels). Invitations were also given to the children and their parents to attend the Sunday morning service. Many of the children did come along and the congregation were given a synopsis of all the children had learnt and enjoyed that week. The children led the congregation in lively singing to the Lord, and some of them stood up and told the fellowship what they had learnt during the week. One little girl led the congregation in prayer.

The aim was for the children to learn more about Jesus, His love and also to enjoy themselves. Observing my own seven year old daughter, both these objectives were more than accomplished.

St Andrew's Mothers' Union

ST Andrew's Mother's Union met on June 1st in the Hall for a bread and cheese lunch followed by the usual monthly meeting. Mr Eric Nicholson, Deputation Appeals Organiser for the Church of England Children's Society gave a moving account of the Society's work amongst severely handicapped children and of its aim to help each child develop its full potential physically, emotionally and spiritually. He spoke also of the practical help and support given to families caring for a handicapped child at home when prompt help and a brief respite could often prevent stressful situations arising which sometimes led to the breakdown of the family.

Mr Nicholson also spoke of the large percentage of teenagers in the Society's care and of the help given them during the transition from care to independence.

A film was shown depicting the day to day life in one of the Society's Homes and it was plain to see how much the children responded to the loving care given them.

Mr Nicholson said how great the task was in caring for the hundreds of children in the Society's care, each one a child of God and with different needs, and he asked all present to pray constantly for all the children and those who look after them.

THE recent confirmations were a very happy occasion in the life of the parish. Sixty-two candidates were confirmed by the Archbishop, the Most Reverend Maurice Courte de Murville, on his first visit since the extensive redecoration at St Anne's. Thanks to a lot of preliminary hard work, the church looked at its cleanest and most sparkling, with abundant flowers beautifully arranged. The practical aspects of the ceremony had been well rehearsed, so that the liturgy on the day went off in a dignified manner, highlighted by the singing from the new choir. Since its notable 'debut' at Easter, the choir seems to be rising to further excellence. In all, the occasion seemed to confirm not only the candidates, but a lot

of valuable aspects of parish life.

Church Snippets

The Rev. Eric Wood, one time Vicar of Mappedurham, is celebrating 25 years in the Oxford Diocese. A special Eucharist will take place at Buckland Church on Tuesday, 21st July at 7.30pm. The preacher will be Canon John Grimwade and there will be refreshments after the service.

Stonesfield's Patronal Festival on 25th/26th July. Bishops preaching - Bishop Kenneth Cragg at 11am on St. James' Day (July 25th) and the Bishop of Oxford on Sunday at 10am.

Congratulations to Caversham Park Village who won the inter-church quiz after a thrilling final.

CAVERSHAM CLERGY

ANGLICAN

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

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

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

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

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

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

BAPTIST

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

The Rev Dr Philip Egglestone, 324B Hemdean Road. Tel: 470554.

METHODIST

The Rev Keith Sanders, 72 Highmoor Road. Tel: 472223.

The Rev Brian Skinner, 48 All Hallows Road, Caversham. Tel: 482530.

UNITED REFORMED

Enquiries to Church Secretary, St Paul's URC, York Road, Reading. Tel: 482557.

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

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

ROMAN CATHOLIC

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

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ROUND THE CHURCHES

GOSBROOK ROAD REVIEW

CAVERSHAM 'CARING AND SHARING' GROUP

EARLIER in the year the Gosbrook Road Sunday Night Youth Fellowship decided to sing some songs from 'Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' during a Sunday evening service in May. Although practices went quite well there seemed to be something missing, until the group went to see a performance of 'Joseph' at Windsor. As leader Tony Champion said 'Seeing the musical at Windsor gave them the idea how the music should be projected and the volume of our singing went up by 200%'.

Certainly the congregation at Gosbrook Road on Sunday May 10th didn't go to sleep as the Fellowship gave an excellent and lively performance. Sarah Lavington narrated the story of Joseph, linking the songs from the show, and Lorna McArdle,

as Joseph had much style and assurance. Jim Plunkett played the piano and the show was produced by Catherine Hackman and Tony Champion.

The young people had turned up trumps even before the performance when one of their number, 13 year old Catherine McCready had stepped in at literally a moments notice to play the Church organ for the hymns. Well done Catherine, and well done young people, it was an evening to remember.

Earlier in the day the congregation enjoyed singing by some of the younger children of the Sunday School, when they took part in the morning parade service as part of their Sunday School Anniversary.

On May 23rd the wedding of Sue Anderton and Mark O'Brien took place. The service was conducted by the Rev.

Ralph Rogerson and the Rev. Brian Skinner. Sue wore a full length dress of cream silk with a hooped skirt trimmed with lace and ribbons, and the bridesmaids wore full length dresses of sugar pink voile trimmed with lace and satin bows. The bouquets were pink and cream roses and lilac freesias. Gosbrook Road Church send greetings and best wishes to the happy couple as they begin their married life together. Sue is a former member of The Band and Mark spent many years as a member of The Boy's Brigade.

It is with regret that we record the death of Rev. Cecil Green. Cecil had been a member of Gosbrook Road for a good number of years and travelled in from Henley to worship with us. We extend our sympathy to his wife Clarice.

"A TWIX a day keeps commuting blues away!" I must have munched my way through dozens of bars on the 5.27 from Paddington to Reading after work. Now I don't. Not because I'm on a diet but because I've realised that my 17-20p per day, five days a week, all the working weeks of the year adds up to quite a bit of money, especially if I save it consistently. It adds up to even more if I pool it with the small weekly savings made by a few friends, who individually have 'given up' a daily glass of sherry, a Wispa bar, nibbles between meals, morning newspapers or a loaf of bread. By the

end of the year we could have £450 — a significant sum in a needy world, as much as a lifetime's earnings for a villager in Nepal.

You might be as excited as I am at how a little can go a long way, and how a readjustment in our affluent lifestyles can be a way of showing practical concern for someone less well off. If so, you'd be very welcome to join our 'Caring and Sharing' group in Caversham — our next meeting is on Sunday 19th July at 8.00 pm at 95 St Peter's Avenue.

The essence of 'Caring and Sharing' is the idea that if we could live more simply, others could simply live.

But instead of merely giving what is 'left over' from our income, we feel it is important to make a deliberate sacrifice which can be translated into a financial saving, and an investment in someone else's life opportunities. The project we have chosen to support aims to provide the basics of life — clean water, good sanitation, nutritious food and community health education — to the villagers of Burtibang in the west of Nepal. Burtibang is a rural community some four days' walk from the nearest large settlement. The project has been set up by the International Nepal Fellowship, a charity

originally founded in Reading, and it is intended to form part of the Nepal Government's wider plan to provide basic health services for the entire country.

The project is staffed by seven people whose skills include those of agriculturist, nurses, teachers and a water engineer. The team is led by Dr Alison Craven, a vet from Huntingdon, with over ten years' experience in Nepal. If you would like to hear more about the Burtibang project, please contact Tim and Carol Kelly of 8 Cromwell Road, Caversham (Tel. 483305), and if you'd like to join us, don't forget that meeting in July.

ST PETER'S NEWS

A BUMPER number of events, all geared to increase the red level on the organ fund thermometer have taken place. A very successful May Fair, held in St Andrew's Hall, raised over £1,500, was extremely well supported so that it is to be considered as an annual event; church funds in the future will always be glad of a welcome injection. A barn dance followed the May

Fair and congratulations to all those who had the energy to do justice to the dancing after the heavy day buying and selling. During the week that followed a memorable fashion show by "the two Susies" from the congregation was exceedingly well organised and raised over £400. The week ended with a concert in St Peter's church, given by

the Salvation Army band and Songsters. Well done St Peter's for the marvellous support from the congregation and from their friends. Rumour has it that only a couple of thousand pounds is needed to reach the total target with more events to come...



Walton Adams

David Harper and Beryl Boorman after their wedding at Caversham Heights Methodist Church, conducted by the Rev. Keith Saunders.

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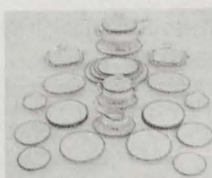
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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By Watchdog

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR
IN the event it turned out to be rather a jolly fair; all that was wrong was the way it was handled. The fair that caused all the fracas was the one held at Spring Bank Holiday on the Westfield Recreation Ground. It was a small well run vintage steam fair and steam was certainly what it generated. Why was this? The answer lay in a complete lack of public consultation which is something people expect nowadays from responsible local authorities.

The first local residents knew of it was posters which appeared all over Caversham and further afield. There was little in them to suggest that this fair was different from your usual travelling fun fair. It was to be held on what the organisers re-christened Westfield Green when it has always been known as the Westfield Road Recreation Ground. Nobody likes to be told by newcomers that the name by which they have always known a place has been changed (e.g. part of Oxford Road suddenly becoming Broad Street) but more sinister was the inference, justified or not, that fairs have an automatic right to perform on greens so this might be a way of establishing a precedent. Many older residents recalled that the ground was made over to Reading Borough for the purpose of a children's playing field.

The site is closely surrounded by small closely packed houses, a considerable number of which were in close proximity to the fair which was to go on till 10.30 at night and as no fair can be quiet these houses would receive the full impact. Moreover free parking was advertised when one of the continuing problems of the area is the lack of parking for residents' own cars, let alone other people's. The usual fears were expressed about litter and damage to the grass, particularly if it were wet.

All this should have been obvious to an alert Council and the full facts of the situation explained, yet we are told that because the officer who dealt with it was satisfied that this was a suitable venue for a well run fair he did not consider that further consultation was necessary.

Indeed, it was a well run fair and many people turned up to enjoy it, mostly in well behaved family groups. The vintage equipment was beautifully restored and decorated and a nostalgic feast both for those who could remember the fairs of their childhood and those who has only read about them. Swing boats, roundabouts with galloping horses chair-planes, all powered by steam, a helter-skelter, and hand-propelled children's roundabout and other traditional side shows as well as painted caravans, all told of the days when a fair arriving at a sleepy village or small town brought glitter, light and excitement to people whose lives usually lacked any of these.

Why could it not have been held at one of the traditional fairgrounds, or alternatively at the back of Christchurch Meadows, which are not so closely surrounded by houses? Greater sensitivity to local feeling and proper consultation would have resulted in this fair being a welcome pleasure instead of being marred by a sense of affront. Let us hope the Borough Council has learnt by its mistake.

POST OFFICE CLOSURE

THE matter of the fair is not the only instance in which people of that part of Caversham feel that their views are being ignored or brushed to one side. Regardless of need, the postal authorities decided that the Gosbrook Road Post Office was to be closed. What really riled people was the blandly worded identical letters which all those who had written in protest received, which did not give an inch, and made light of the inconvenience former users would experience. The post office has now shut its doors for the last time. No wonder local

people were in no mood to welcome an unasked for fair.

POP FESTIVAL
MEANWHILE, on the other side of Caversham, residents in the Warren area are worried that with a lot of drainage and similar improvements being carried out at the Pop Festival site, the organisers will want to get a return on their money by holding up to three festivals there a year. They also feel, and Westfield Road's experience gives them some ground for this, that the promoters will only have to apply for licence to get it.

One pop festival a year, as long as conditions are thoroughly worked out and adhered to, can be accepted. The site, after all, is not as closely surrounded by housing as Westfield Road is, with the river and railway embankment separating it from the nearest dwellings. Three festivals however, would be stretching people's tolerance too far. Three would not only detract from the main one, but would become an unacceptable intrusion into local life.

WAITROSE CAR PARK

SINCE Caversham Residents' Association drew Waitrose's attention to the confusions about the right of way that existed in the car park, new lane markings have appeared which are a considerable improvement. Now we know who is meant to give way at the point where the lane from Wolsey Road enters the car park. It is still not clear however what is meant to happen where lanes meet on the opposite side of the car park by the squash club. There have been several near misses, each side being sure it is in the right.

THE OLD ORDER CHANGETH

JUST across Caversham Bridge, the scene is undergoing a complete change from what has been familiar for as long as most people can remember. With construction and road works dominant it is difficult to predict what it will ultimately look like, but those who say the change can only be for the worse have good reason for their fears. With two plane trees already gone, the hotel presenting a

barrier-like appearance when seen from Caversham Road, and the boat house promising little in the way of enhancement, there is still the office block to come, as well as the traffic swirling round the roundabout. The river itself will take second place to all this, another opportunity lost.

In the interim, pedestrians who have been second class citizens on Reading Bridge for a long time, now occupy that position on Caversham Bridge. A warning notice of the footpath closure ahead has been put on the Caversham side of the bridge after protests from Caversham Residents' that it was not much use telling pedestrians they could go no further when it was obvious they couldn't. Some still pick their way through the debris instead of crossing over. It is debatable which is the less hazardous course.

With all this going on, it makes a nonsense of the newly

introduced urban clearway, not that without it there has been the slightest difference. Cars are still parked in the peak hours, either because their drivers have not seen the notices, or they do not know what they mean, or they could not care less. Until the regulations are enforced, the money spent on introducing them might as well have been saved. They are about as effective as double yellow lines.

SWAG

KATY, my fellow columnist, suggests that Sunday mornings might be a better time for the waste paper collection to operate. In a reply to the Residents' Association, the Environmental Health Authority said its success was largely tied up with the shopping pattern. Only the dedicated would make a special Sunday morning journey. Some of us do not attempt to get near the skip, but having triumphantly found a spare space, load our swag into a shopping trolley and wheel it across to the collection point.

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IT'S NEVER TOO LATE . . .

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED JOINING one of Reading Adult College's courses? Did you know that many of our activities take place in the day time? Have you discovered where your local adult centres are situated? Next time you are shopping at Waitrose or in St Martin's precinct why not call in at Caversham Adult Centre on the other side of Archway Road or walk a few yards along Gosbrook Road to the Arthur Legge Community Arts centre on the corner of Wolsey Road. You would be very welcome. You could also go a little further afield to Collier Centre in York Road or to the Highdown Evening centre in Emmer Green.

By the time you

read this, the college will have held an 'Activities Week' in all its main centres. Here in Caversham we shall have had a craft fair, an exhibition of art and photography, demonstrations of pottery and spinning, natural dyeing and weaving; our new 'learning' laboratory will have been officially 'opened' and we hope we shall have been able to show many visitors the numerous other activities we have on offer.

□□

But if you missed our 'Activities Week' it's not too late . . . our new Focus programme of courses and activities will be published very soon in the Chronicle Midweek on July

14th and enrolment by post will begin the following day. Most of these activities will re-start in September after the school holidays. Come and join our Craft Circle for the over 50's on Monday afternoons — learn a language — keep fit — learn to relax — join an art class — try silkscreen printing or yoga or pottery . . . the choice is enormous. Activities are held in the mornings, afternoons, and evenings, weekdays and weekends AND we have a creche for pre-school children in the daytime.

□□

Our Victorian exhibition in May was much enjoyed by local people; some made their own contribution by reminis-

ing about the 'old' days in Caversham or by providing special snippets of information. I do hope the contributor to Watchdog's column in the May edition of 'Caversham Bridge' found time to come along. Our event may not have compared with the 'memorable exhibition of 1978' but it had some delightful exhibits and gave pleasure to many people. The adult centres are very much part of the community in Caversham; we have been here for many years, during which time hundreds of people have joined in our activities. The organisers may be 'over-optimistic' occasionally, but we do try to provide a service for the community and encourage people to use their talents to the full.

Make sure you get a copy of the new programme — extra copies will be available at our centres and at Caversham library. It's never too late to learn

Mairwen Fantham
Caversham Area
Organiser

QUIZ AID

ARE you keen on word games and crosswords? Do you enjoy an intellectual challenge? If so, don't forget to pick up a copy of Quiz Aid II, the summer word puzzle, produced by Lindsay Mullaney of Caversham Bookshop in aid of the Save the Children Fund. Copies are available from the bookshop and you have until mid-September to solve the clues and possibly win yourself £15 worth of book tokens.

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AN APPEAL TO HELP THE MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNCILS IN WEST BERKSHIRE

IN 1987 one in three marriages are predicted to fail, and as a result one hundred and sixty thousand children will be involved in legal proceedings relating to divorce: their future suddenly will become uncertain.

Please will you support:

THE WEST
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which is aimed to raise £200,000 to form a Trust to support the work of the Marriage Guidance Councils in Reading, Newbury and Bracknell.

Marriage Guidance Councillors are volunteers who are professionally trained. Last year, in West Berkshire, three thousand five hundred and ninety two sessions were

given to nine hundred and fifty clients. But the waiting lists are high and clients often have to wait up to four months for the first regular interview.

The income from this Trust will help to alleviate this situation, as well as helping to expand

the service in other ways.

We would greatly appreciate your prayers and your help.

Donations can be sent:

West Berkshire Marriage Guidance Trust Appeal Office, Folly Farm, Sulhamstead, Reading RG7 4DF.

Well Done Heather

CONGRATULATIONS to eleven year old Heather Matthews who won the under twelve singles and with her partner the under twelve doubles at the Junior Hard Court Championships of Great Britain, held recently at Edinburgh. Heather, who was seeded No. 1, has been an outstanding tennis player from a very early age. A pupil at Hemdean House, when still only seven she was beating girls, no

mean players themselves, who were twice her age.

Heather's parents, Dr Ian and Mrs Pamela Matthews, live in Conisboro Avenue. Pam Matthews was on the P.E. staff of Kendrick School and later joined the staff of Hemdean House. Although Heather does not live exclusively for tennis, it looks as if she will go far in that field. Caversham people will want to wish her well.

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ROUND THE CLUBS

Chazey WI

'RESOLUTIONS' was the theme of the meeting when the speaker was Mrs Diane Lewis, a Voluntary County Officer. Votes were taken on subjects such as health, housing, unemployment etc, and the results will be reported to the National Federation.

The evening ended with sherry and a birthday cake, decorated with the W.I. motif, beautifully made by Mrs Marjorie McCombe and Mrs Sue Searle.

At the successful group meeting at Blue Coat School, Miss Lynne Faulds-Woods of TVs Watchdog, spoke on faulty electrical kitchen equipment.

The Easter Bonnet competition, judged by Mrs Wheeler, was won by Chazey W.I. The hat, made by Mrs Ann Hunt and Mrs Gail Russell, in ten minutes, was modelled by Mrs Vera Scott — the result was superb. Many congratulations.

On April 14th, a number of members and their husbands went to the Hexagon for a very slick and polished performance of "Daisy Pulls It Off!" — a most enjoyable evening.

St Peter's Wives

IN May the St Peter's Wives Group held two

very different events, the first being a fascinating talk given by a member of the group, Mrs Sue Brandon. Her subject was the history and use of the button hook. This was handsomely illustrated by a many and varied selection from Sue's extensive collection. To an age which only dimly recollects this one time essential implement, it was shown to be an article which exercised much ingenuity in design and craftsmanship.

A week later members and friends were entertained by a most enjoyable cooking demonstration, provided by the S.G.B.'s Home Economics Dept., at their Friar Street Showrooms. The theme was Entertaining at Home, and the dishes, which had been most carefully prepared, were raffled at the end of the evening. The lucky ticket holders had an even better return on their small entrance fee, the proceeds being donated to the St Peter's Organ Fund.

For their July meeting, St Peter's Wives will be taking part in a Treasure Hunt, further details in a letter at the June meeting.

Caversham Heights TWG

THE first day of June saw members and several husbands from a mixture of different clubs in Caversham setting out for Exbury Gardens near Southampton, a beautiful estate attached to a lovely house. Members of Caversham Heights social studies group were among them and thoroughly enjoyed the fine day spent wandering along the paths, admiring the wonderfully varied flowers of the rhododen-

dron bushes, reflected in one place so beautifully in the lake. Camellias, bamboo, azaleas and fine trees all grow well there and there is a well stocked plant centre and gift shop, besides facilities for eating and drinking. Peace and quiet too.

Altogether a lovely day, but how sad to see the black covering on the camellia bushes, no doubt because of the presence of Fawley power depot not far away. If only more could be done to clean up the emissions from such places.

Caversham Ladies Club

A very interesting afternoon was enjoyed by the members. It was a film show — but three films, not one, were shown, the first being of that lovely holiday resort, Eastbourne, and the surrounding countryside. This was doubly enjoyed as each film was accompanied by a commentary which was fine as most people are inclined to miss the nooks etc when visiting a place. The second film was concerning one's rights over claims etc., but the main character in the film was George Cole of "Minder" fame who, true to his usual form provided members with plenty of laughs but did not detract one from the message — more likely to imprint it more firmly. The third film was about Coalport china and started with a tour of the factory and then showed every aspect of making the famous china, starting with a ball of clay to the finished product. It was most interesting to see how the wonderful decoration was put on to the articles and to watch hand painting.

The club mem-

bers had enjoyed a trip to lovely Compton Acres Gardens and then on to Bourne-mouth. Even the weather had contributed its share by being warm and sunny.

Members left content after refreshments with a good afternoon's meeting.

Caversham Community Association

ON May 11th Mrs Margaret Carter, a teacher in flower arranging from Maiden Erlegh,

made another visit to the club — this time her subject was Happy Occasions. Mrs Carter commenced by creating an attractive arrangement suitable for the time when a friend visits for coffee. Other arrangements included Welcome composition, one for a wedding reception and another for a christening party.

Mrs Carter explained, step by step, her method of working and gave the names of the flowers and greenery used.

Turn to page 11

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ROUND THE CLUBS

From page 10

When the demonstration was finished the resulting beautiful array of floral decorations was much admired. During the break for refreshments Vicki Scheel was in charge of the Nearly New stall.

□ □
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The arrangements made for the meeting the following week were altered when the speaker failed to appear. A pleasant social evening followed with plenty of time for conversation amongst the members.

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Due to the Bank Holiday on the 25th May the members did not meet again until the 1st June. The visiting speaker was Valerie Stonor from Henley, a teacher on the art of making flowers

from paper, seed-heads and a varied selection of materials. Valerie first learnt her technique on the subject when she lived in Thailand and followed the example learnt there to waste nothing that could be used to make natural looking flowers. The colourful selection of roses, violets, chrysanthemums and many other flowers she created were much admired by the members. Many in the audience were inspired to try and make their own artificial blooms.

Caversham Darby and Joan Club

SINCE the last report in March the Club has had several interesting afternoon meetings.

Mr Kirby's slides on the Mediterra-

nean and Mrs Moss's talk and slides on Malta made us anticipate Summer days to come. The Firtree Singers gave an enjoyable and varied programme in April. Mr Beeton showed amazing skill on the violin when he entertained members with Music hall songs and jokes from yesteryear. The Club invited St John's Mothers Union to Church House at Easter and we spent an enjoyable afternoon in fellowship, with a spontaneous singing competition, and a tasty tea supplied by Club members. The collection of dolls brought by Mrs

Ritson in May promoted a most interesting talk and a dip into the past as several of the dolls dated back to Victorian times. Another visit is planned by Mrs Ritson in the Autumn when we shall look forward to seeing her collection of dolls from foreign countries. Forty six members and friends had a lovely day for the Spring Outing on May 20th. A coach tour of Oxfordshire and Berkshire villages in brilliant sunshine was

followed by an excellent high tea, at the Three Swans Hungerford.

Future events include a talk and slides by Mrs Beek entitled "Walking in the Welsh Hills." Our old friends Harold and Fred will entertain on the piano. The Rev. Peter Mullins will give a talk on his recent visit to Africa. The Summer Outing to Bournemouth (this year), is on July 22nd and a Garden Party the following Wednesday will conclude the Summer Session. The Club will re-open on Wed. Sept 2nd at 2 pm.

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We are sad to have to record the death of one of our oldest club members Mrs A.O. Green. A collection amounting to £15 was sent to the Royal Berkshire Hospital Appeal Fund in her memory.

Rosehill WI

THE May meeting was chaired by Mrs Barbara Weller, and after the usual business VCO Mrs Clayton ably explained the resolutions for the AGM

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E.S. ARCHER

IF you go through Caversham Park Village on the first Saturday of each month, you will see piles of newspaper and magazines outside most houses. They are waiting to be collected by volunteer residents, who take their loads to the Milestone Centre, where a large container awaits. As 8

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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)
4.00pm Evensong (1st Sunday only)

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CAVERSHAM DIARY

- July 18th Sue Ryder Home Nettlebed: Summer Fair
July 19th Caring & Sharing Group. 8pm. 95 St Peters Ave.
July 20th Margaret Mapledurham, Patronal Festival. 7.30 pm
Eucharist. Preacher: The Revd Dr Geoffrey Udall

WE RECORD

BAPTISED

St Peter's
March 22nd: Thomas Tyrrell
29th: Hana Gilbert
9th: Courtney Jane Holland
May 17th: David Clay
24th: Elisabeth Ruthford
June 7th: Emma Carroll
14th: Harriet Jones
14th: Adam Merritt
21st: Christopher Elvish
28th: Thomas Mee

St Anne's
May: Christina McKevitt
Received into the Church (St Anne's)
May: Alfreda Butler

MARRIED

Feb 14th: Jan Shergold and Gillian Davis
March 28th: Jeremy Harris and Susanne Scott
April 4th: Christopher Sedgwick and Denise Flux
May 2nd: David Vickery and Shirley Evans
9th: David Farmer and Sara Lise Barber



16th: John Martin and Susan Gardiner
29th: Philip Kipling and Tracey Jones
30th: Martin Gatter and Julie Dugan
30th: Peter Jackson and Jocelyn Churcher
June 5th: Anthony Smith and Elizabeth Cook

FUNERALS
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April 23rd: Ruth Senior

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