



A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

AROUND THE WORLD IN 33 DAYS

IT TOOK PHINEAS FOGG 80 DAYS — what kept him I wonder? The really determined traveller could now do it in less than 80 hours, but of course the technology has changed a little!

This autumn with the help of 13 aeroplanes, including some of the propeller variety, I proved to my own satisfaction that if you fly east out of London and keep on going in the same direction you eventually arrive back in London, as I did 33 days later. (Yes OK I should have been called Thomas).

Neither did Mr Fogg, from what I recall have the privilege of going to church with a king — read on.

The purpose of it all was to visit and write about United Nations supported projects in Indonesia and the south Pacific that are helping small farmers to grow more food. In all I visited 6 countries in what was a superb trip. The world seemed to get progressively more beautiful the further east I travelled, but above all it was the people I met who made it so memorable.

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Onwards, Eastwards
A Christian travelling abroad is fortunate — he or she can go into any church and meet people who share the same faith, who you can talk to easily and without barriers. Our faith yields a friendship which to someone in a strange country is a rich blessing.

That friendship was evident on my first 2 Sundays, worshipping at All Saints, Jakarta, Indonesia and St John's Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. "You're not going back to a lonely hotel bedroom" someone

asked me after the service at St John's. It so happened I wasn't, but the offer of hospitality was there as it was everywhere. It made me reflect whether we in our churches are as welcoming to the visitor from abroad.

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FIJI

On the third Sunday of the visit I was in the Fijian capital of Suva just weeks after the second coup. Going to church took a lot of organising and generous help! A strict curfew was in force — you had to be indoors from 9.00pm to 5.00am. (I was nearly arrested one night) and on Sundays no buses or taxis were allowed — and you were not allowed to work, shop or cut your lawn! It's an attempt to re-introduce the puritan Sunday but hits hard at the poor who don't have their own transport.

I was staying in the house of a friend 4 miles from Holy Trinity Cathedral, which, having just arrived in the country seemed to be my nearest church. My problem was now to get there by 10 am. My friend had a car but was out of the country for the weekend. I could have walked but wasn't sure of the way and as the temperature tended to hit the 90 degree mark around 9.00am I felt that even if I made it to church I would need last rites rather than communion!

So I visited one of the curates the day before, and enquired — do any of your

regular congregation live near where I was staying and if so could I cadge a lift? This took more organising than I had appreciated as it wasn't just a matter of picking up a telephone. A lovely Chinese family eventually gave me a lift to a wonderful service with a truly multi-racial congregation — native Fijians, Indians, Chinese and European. The coup

By JOHN MADELEY

leader, Colonel Rabuka, is incidentally a Methodist lay preacher — and there are many differing views among Christians about it all.

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TONGA

Leaving Fiji for Tonga was to change tension for "heaven on

earth." It may be blasphemous but that is how I shall remember the 5 days I spent in Tonga. I had heard of their reputation as the happiest people on earth; in the streets, everyone smiles and says "hello." It was almost like being part of a huge club.

The national religion of Tonga is Wesleyan Methodism



John Madeley

The Methodist Church in Tonga



John Madeley

Suva, Fiji

— they stress the Wesleyanism. King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV, who is perhaps the world's last feudal monarch, is a devout, regular worshipper. I joined 3 other people staying at the same hotel for morning service at the church — an enormous place with a congregation of well over a thousand.

As the King sat in a box at the side of the pulpit the congregation sang the most beautiful hymns — in Tongan, mostly without books. Everyone, including the young, seemed to know the service and hymns by heart. A very moving occasion.

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SAMOA

On across the international dateline to Western Samoa, enjoying TWO Wednesdays in one week, to a country which was the loveliest yet. Again such friendly people, added to which was the most incredible scenery. And I bring warm regards from Joy and Dennis Osborn — Dennis is Professor of Agriculture at the University of the South Pacific; they used to live in Ilkley Road, worship at St Peter's and were members of Mapledurham Tennis Club. They invited me to a superb meal one evening and certainly live in a beautiful place.

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...On the way home All Saints Day; back via Hawaii and Vancouver to London and a foggy, cold mor-

ning. South Pacific temperatures gave way to North Atlantic.

The south Pacific is NOT the poorest region in the developing world but I was often conscious during the visit of "two worlds." There was I staying mostly in hotels being shown round worthy projects by well paid officials and consultants doing a good job. A world of comparative affluence.

There was the world of the farmers, the people in the villages, often struggling against the elements. A world of comparative poverty.

I recall St Luke, chapter 16, the parable of Dives and Lazarus. To the rich Dives the warning was strong: "remember how you in your lifetime had good things; now he is comforted and you are tormented."

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We are the Dives in that story. It made me think very hard about our largely non-sacrificial giving and lifestyles. It reminded me of the long way we have to travel to escape the condemnation that was heaped on Dives. On that journey we have no time to lose.

It's not an exact parallel because I remember the people of Tonga, of the happiness and joy in their faces. Sadly such joy is often missing from our society. We have a great deal to give, we also have a great deal to gain.

D/EX 1758/25/1

TALKING POINT

by Fr Thomas Meagher
St Anne's R.C. Church



THE MARIAN YEAR AND THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF CAVERSHAM

Our holy father the Pope has proclaimed this time as a Marian Year — a time of special devotion to Mary, Mother of God. The Year actually began with the Pentecost of 1987 and it will continue until the Solemnity of the Assumption 1988. For us in Caversham it is of particular significance because Caversham was THE place in the south of England where, from the eleventh until the sixteenth century, Mary was honoured in a Shrine so renowned that it rivalled Walsingham.

Looking back through the time so far, we have marked the Marian Year in a very important way in October by a Diocesan pilgrimage. From all parts of our huge Archdiocese of Birmingham people came on a beautiful day: — the day was described very well in a recent number of 'The Bridge'. But we have other groups too, some from local Anglican churches, and perhaps particularly memorable was a group of handicapped from Bilston in the West Midlands together with their delightful helpers.

Why should we so signally honour Mary now? As Christians we have always held her in veneration as the holiest of created beings, but we are asked to meditate on her role in the Church as she prepares it for the third millennium of Christianity, just as she prepared herself for Our Lord's coming, and just as she prepared the Apostles and disciples by prayer to receive the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

So the Church, with her, has gone through its pilgrim journey, continues to go on its pilgrim way while she continues to help it towards heaven.

Mary, therefore, should be a unifying force within the Church; it is one of the great sadnesses of our age that she has, even more than her Son, though in a different way, become a kind of 'sign of contradiction'.

Misunderstandings have given rise to the idea that Catholics (and many of our brethren who do not owe total allegiance to the Pope) have distorted her position into something akin to that of a 'goddess.' This must be, and is a grotesque caricature. Although Mary was chosen for the unique position of Mother of God, she gloried in the description of 'the handmaid of the Lord,' and in her humility, one of her most endearing virtues, she proclaimed that 'He who is mighty has done great things for me,' and yet 'all generations will call me blessed.'

Our most famous prayer, the Hail Mary, is scriptural. As Christ hung on the cross and gave us into the care of Mary, so she is our mother. She brought Christ into the world, and hence, by her very election and office she helps us bring Christ into the world.

We honour her for her wondrous graces, appropriate to her state, and BECAUSE she was destined to be God's Mother (entirely dependent on her willing cooperation 'be it done unto me according to thy word') she could not be thought of as being in any way sinful. How could God's mother experience sin? The teaching of the Church on the Immaculate Conception is founded on theological grounds argued chiefly in England by Anselm's scribe Eadmer and by that glory of Oxford, the Franciscan John Duns Scotus.

As to Mary's Assumption into heaven, the Church has always accepted this as the logical consequence of her holiness. Mary has often been compared to and contrasted with Eve. Just as Mary cooperated in the redemption with Our Lord, so had Eve cooperated in our fall. It was none other than that great convert, Cardinal Newman, who so beautifully elaborated on this comparison.

In her exalted position do we really think that she cannot help us? Do we honestly think that she has no place either in our spiritual or in our everyday lives? To imagine that would be not only an insult to God but a distortion of the picture of God's plan.

In no respect does Our Lady replace Our Lord; on the contrary she always points to him and leads us to him. In addition to accepting God's word at the Annunciation she at the Marriage Feast of Cana, said to the stewards about Our Lord, 'Whatever he tells you, do that.' In devotion to Our Lady her most famous prayer the Rosary is, of course, not merely firmly associated with Scripture in most of the scenes contemplated, but is recognised as a prayer also to Our Lord. Most of the mysteries of the Rosary feature Our Lord's life rather than that of Our Lady.

Putting Mary into her true place in the 'economy of salvation' is only half the picture. Because she had a role to play it does not mean that all her work was finished long ago. She still has a role to play. 'Mary' as the holy father reminds us 'stands at the centre of the pilgrim Church' — with Our Lord always at its Head.

She can teach the Church the value of prayer, she can teach the Church the importance of listening to God's word. In an age of rebelliousness, of relativism in moral behaviour, of general disobedience, dare we look very closely at her words 'be it done unto me according to Thy word'. Our Lord's words 'if you love me you will keep my commandments' were perfectly fulfilled in her, and should be perfectly fulfilled in us. Her humility is a standing reproach to the pride of the age. When we see what Divine Grace can do for the human race, as exemplified by Mary, this gives us great hope.

And what of her virginal purity of life and conduct? Surely this virtue shows us an example so that we are able to lead a Christian life in a hedonist society, and point to her as a model of womanhood?

At this time of year, when we consider the events surrounding Our Lord's birth, Mary had a crucial role. She continues to occupy that role in Christ's body, the Church.

To sum up, would it not be a wonderful thing if Mary could be seen as the unifier of the Church, as she helped to keep it together before Pentecost? Could her position not be seen in its true perspective? Doesn't her life with her present function help to enrich our spiritual lives? And, above all, do not her virtues present the complete antithesis to the values of the world?

Would it not be a wonderful thing if Caversham, for so long a focus of her love and devotion, could once again act as a model for a new age, being led by Mary to a new vision of Christ?

THE RIVALS

The Caversham Players (The Puffins) latest production 'The Rivals' by Sheridan was given to full houses at St Andrew's Hall Caversham. The sets and costumes in eighteenth century elegance were beautiful (Sheila Hodson's department), the actors well suited their roles and the performance skilfully directed by Jessica Gilbert. Mrs Malaprop, possibly the limit of many people's knowledge of the play, was finely played by Marjorie Tillman; her solecisms were

clearly brought out, and much appreciated by the audience. She has a fine voice. The two chief characters Captain Absolute and his father, Sir Anthony, were admirably played by two stalwarts of the company, Ken Etherington and Charles Croft, the one cool and calm at all turns of fate, the other peppery and noisily irascible. Squire Acres (Jim McClure), something of a coward at heart, provided fire and action to his part as the discarded suitor, with plenty of spirit and liveliness. A voluble newcomer to the company, Sir Lucius O'Trigger (Derek Spears) was a big success with his native Irish brogue, and Faulkland (Peter Mullins) was a restrained and fearful suitor. The two young ladies (Anne Semple and Louise Mander) were like ornamental jewels in the production. Eighteenth century society did not give important roles to ladies, and these two provided all that was required of them. An excellent production throughout.

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POST BAG

Sirs,
Here we go again, to put the record straight! St Peter's applied for costs on their appeal against planning refusal for the meeting room NOT because of the initial refusal but because the Borough Council's conduct of the original application may (NB only may) have been improper.

Even if the application for costs could have been considered, it does not follow (as "Watchdog" implies) that it would have been allowed. The loser of a public appeal is not inevitably "dunned for costs" unless the Inspector is satisfied of improper conduct. The original news item stated that the application for costs could not be CONSIDERED. "Consideration" is not the same as vindication!

*Yours sincerely,
Richard Kingsbury*

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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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WILLIAM THE MARSHAL

RECENTLY A TELEVISION PROGRAMME ON BBC2 GAVE A MOST ENLIGHTENING HALF HOUR ON WILLIAM THE MARSHAL. Many people living in Caversham and who watched it may have been surprised to learn that this Regent for Henry III actually died in 1218 here at his Manor close beside the Thames. Perhaps it would be of interest if a little more was made known of this outstanding figure of those times. So with this in mind I share a little of what I have discovered about him with any reader to cares to read on.

Regent of England and Lord of the Manor of Caversham "Lords, you see what the life of the world is worth. Behold, all that remains of the best knight who ever liv-

ed. We have here our mirror, you and I. Let each man say his pater noster that God may receive this Christian into his Glory and place him among his faithful vassals, as he so well deserves."



Great words. They were spoken in 1218 by Cardinal Langton Archbishop of Canterbury, to the most powerful knights of the realm as they gathered together in the church of the Knights Templar to bury an old man who had died not many days before at his manor in Caversham. Who was this "best knight" who had apparently had such immense impact and influence in England during some of her most troubled times?

Born towards the middle of the eleven hundreds, William the Marshal was a landless younger son of John Marshall. One of the first stories to be told of William tells of an incident that occurred when he was a young boy. William had been taken hostage by King Stephen when the latter was barred from his castle at Newbury by the boy's father during the civil war that was raging at that time. So from an early age William became involved in his country's power struggle. What must the boy have felt as he was led out in full view of his father, watching no doubt on the battlements of the royal stronghold he had occupied? Did he think his last hour was near? He must have seen and certainly known about the barbarous ways of fighting men and realised his father was in revolt against his monarch. However all was well and a few days later William was actually seen outside Stephen's tent playing 'conkers' with the King. Perhaps the treatment he received at the hands of his father's royal enemy may have influenced him in later life for he is recorded as being a "simple, pious and courteous man" ever ready to forgive others. He was perhaps the greatest knight in the Age of Chivalry.

On the death of his father William, being a younger son, inherited nothing, but soon fortune began to change for him. King Richard, now on the throne, granted him half of the barony of Giffards who were the Earls of Buckinghamshire, among their estates was the Manor of Caversham and this came to William. It was not a large Manor and probably only a hunting lodge, it's lands stretching into the Chiltern Hills from the banks of the Thames. It very possibly covered roughly the same area as the estate of Caversham Park though now this mansion has lost much of its land.

In 1189 King Richard died and his brother John succeeded to the throne.



1200. A year of Good Fortune

The first year of the thirteenth century was to prove a landmark in William's life, for in 1200 King John confirmed his brother Richard's grant of part of the Giffard's estates to William, including the Manor of Caversham. That year also William married Isabella, daughter of Richard de Clare, Strongbow, the Conqueror of Ireland, Earl of Striguil and Pembroke.

William was now one of the most powerful barons in the land and one whom the King "favoured and trusted" and he became Earl Marshal of England. Probably "one of the few intimates of the king" he went with him on many continental visits to John's possessions in Europe. However things were not to remain so for many years and his relationship with his monarch declined from 1205 onwards. The ill feeling between them lasted some six years.



John was the most difficult of task masters stretching his Marshal's endurance to the uttermost at times; but he recognised the older man's integrity and was once known to have remarked: "I deem him the most loyal knight who was ever born in my lands." Before he died the King said this to his followers: "For God's sake, do you beg the Earl Marshal that he pardon me the wrongs I did him, for which I do repent me fully, for he has always served me loyally and betrayed me never, whatever I might do or say in his spite. For God's sake, my lords, pray he pardon me, and as I am more sure of his faith than others, I beg you will give my

son into his care, for he can never hold his lands except through him.' How much one can read between these lines. Perhaps at last John saw just how difficult he had been. Certainly he realised what support he had received from this most loyal subject, who harboured no bitterness or wish for revenge. As the French had a strong foothold in England at the time and were endeavour-

ing to gain the country for themselves the child Henry was crowned immediately at Gloucester cathedral, his crown, according to some, a gold bracelet belonging to his mother. But first he was knighted by the old Regent, for as one onlooker said 'None other of us measure up to him. It is William who must gird the sword upon the knight.'

(to be continued)

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The river must have looked much like this when William made his last journey. A church would surely have been visible. None of the other buildings in this painting by Edmund Havell (1785-1864) — from the Reading Museum and Art Gallery's collection — would have been erected. The painting is reproduced as a card and obtainable from St Peter's Church and from Caversham Bookshop.

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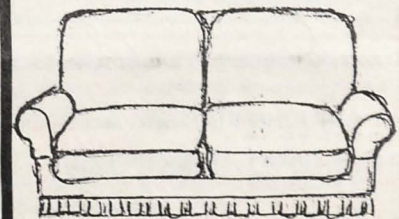
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Reading**KATY IN CAVERSHAM****First the good news**

If you live in Caversham, you're lucky. Oh yes, we all know about the traffic problems but we also know that, so far, we are on the edge of the green belt and don't have to plough through miles of houses to get to the country like our friends in the south of the town. But more important, we are still a community, at least in my part of Caversham.

Years ago I had ambitions to retire to a village in country; alas those kind of villages don't exist anymore. Gone are

the local shops, the post office, the bus services and so on. And, as I've said before, roses round the door don't make up for lack of such amenities particularly as one gets older.

So I settle for life in Caversham and thought that however restricted my are activities, I'm sure to meet somebody I know when I go shopping. Christmas, of course, sees and extension of bonhomie, but at any time it would be hard to collect such a number of greetings, enquiries, smiles and so on. So much to be thankful for!

And now for the bad news

Only a personal prognostication but I can foresee the end of the 'Bridge' if we go on as we are. Indeed I was almost ashamed to read the Bishop of Oxford's congratulations on our newspaper. I've recently had occasion to go through back numbers and there is certainly something missing these days. Good contributions we do have — and we are fortunate in having Francis join us and grateful, too, for John Madeley's timely reminders that life doesn't end at Caver-

sham boundaries. But where are all the 'tit-bits' which should make up any local paper, where the news, the photographs — Ben Archer does his best but he can't know about events unless we tell him — where news of interesting people? 'The Bridge,' I fear, is rapidly becoming one of those papers that one puts 'behind the clock' to be read at some other time, instead of being seized on for news.

I'm not blaming the editors and other staff who cope manfully every month with whatever comes in — they are all busy people and it's amazing they don't all give up. But before you put this column aside as yet another grouse, let me remind

you that this is your paper. No need for a lot of effort, but a note to the editors at Church House saying "Did you know...." and a whole page could be filled with news of our local people. Those of us who have been involved with the paper for years don't want to see it go down the pan as it were for lack of interest.

Which reminds me, a lot of you must remember John Crowe, the popular one-time priest on Caversham Park Village — did you know he was now back in the area as Rector of Dorchester. Come on now, let's have more bits of news. In the meantime, a Happy New Year to all our readers.

OBITUARIES**IVY ALLEN**

She was a widow, she lived not in poverty but in difficult circumstances, her diet had to sustain rather than nourish, her frame was feeble, her movements limited as she was bent nearly double by a spinal condition, she was given to lengthy diatribes which swallowed the SO precious time, but we, at Caversham Heights Methodist Church, loved her.

Ivy Allen had been in our care for a long time. When she was confined to the old Coach House in St Peter's Avenue, whose tenancy she had inherited after her husband's death, she became a beneficiary of our pastoral care.

To imagine that such easing of her burden of loneliness as we were able to give went unappreciated would be quite wrong. She reciprocated in every possible way: a special appeal, like the annual bazaar, resulted in a sizable contribution from her. Her rather small bed-sit would become

more cluttered than usual as she somehow amassed tins for the grocery stall — these had to be purchased back again as they were 'dinners' for the weeks ahead!

The flowers for Sunday services were donated at least three times a year on the anniversaries that she liked to remember. The best flower arranger must need to call and collect a generous amount of money as well as a request for a particular flower or colour. Pink roses were her favourite.

Nor was it only the Church folk who were aware of her needs: her neighbours were also very supportive. There was a Mrs Winchester — whom she always called Mrs Salisbury! — who, despite three small children, still managed to look in daily. There were the students who lived next door and who regularly went in to turn off the light. Yes, 'turn' from gas to electricity was a boon that only came to Ivy in time for her eightieth birthday — when she had

over sixty cards!

How she loved celebrating! — birthdays, weddings and Christmas, with her pile of gifts to distribute in one corner and a mountain of presents to be opened on the day, in another. On such occasions she would burst into song! For Ivy had a lovely singing voice, clear and true on the high notes, with hardly any indication of her age.

But perhaps she will be remembered most for her tremendous help towards providing the Royal Berkshire Hospital with a scanner. When the Ken Thomas Scanner Appeal was launched Ivy took up enthusiastically the task of raising money for it. Impossible in her circumstances? Not at all! I don't know how... but the money came. Mr Thomas died, but the fund grew and grew and Ivy's contribution was amazing. She set a target of 500, but when £750 was reached it had to be £1,000! She did it. Well done, Ivy. With your little you did a lot.

L.M. Allies

**THOMAS
CALVERT
SUMNER**

Many people in Caversham — and far more beyond our boundaries — are saddened by the sudden death of Tom Sumner and will sorely miss him. Here, more of us will have known him by sight than by name, for he and his wife Winifred (invariably together) walked or busied and were not hidden

away in a car. He was the tall, quiet, friendly man from Oakley Road who looked like the retired headmaster he was.

He must have been a wonderfully inspiring teacher!

At matins his presence, his voice and his knowledge of and memory for the Bible and Prayer Book stood him out, while in the Horticultural Society, too, he was a veritable

tower of strength; having transformed his trading activities by imagination and much hard work and brought wisdom and humour to all its proceedings.

There are other ways he was known and will be missed in Caversham most deeply, of course, as a devoted husband, father and grandfather.

We are very grateful to have had Tom with us and we shall be inspired by his memory.

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By Watchdog

TAKING OUR SHARE

CAVERSHAM CONTINUES TO TAKE ITS FAIR SHARE of new housing without having five hundred houses in Bugs Bottom foisted on it, and incredibly there is still no news of what the Minister has decided about that. Housing is going up in Harley Road on the former Grundon site, and that can only be an improvement. In Nelson Road and Montague Street a mixed housing development is about to be started by the Borough Housing Committee who are also planning to build in Amer-sham Road.



There is some uncertainty about this site because it is part of the Thames flood plain which in the past has been subject to flooding. It is claimed that modern flood control measures have virtually removed the danger of flooding over wide areas so that it would now be safe to use the land. Nevertheless this is a matter that needs clearing up before building starts, as with the high costs of building in this part of the country the Housing Department cannot afford to make a mistake.

At the same time, faced with the desperate need of those unable to buy in the private sector and unable to find anywhere to rent, the Housing Department sees this as a way of alleviating a small part of this human misery. The only problem is whether future misery in the way of flooded homes can be avoided.

SPACE TO SPARE?

Private developers, also always on the look out for land, have for a long time been finding out what space exists in the form of large gardens behind existing houses. Back land development is not popular with the Planning Committee, particularly if it is a piece-meal variety, so the aim is to find an access from somewhere and then persuade most of the other householders to sell off part of their gardens. Some for whom a large garden has become a chore or a burden, are only too glad to. Others, who bought their house because they liked the space round it, will resist.

This position has now arisen over a large area of land "trapped" in the block bounded by Albert Road, Highmoor Road and

St Peter's Hill. It has happened before, but on this occasion there are houses coming up for sale which would allow for access, so what was formerly a vague threat has become a more positive one. The outcome will depend on how many people are prepared to sell. The whole character of the area would be changed if the scheme went ahead.

TO SPRINGFIELD ST LUKE

It seems almost certain that more houses will be going up in the grounds of Springfield St Luke too, though it is still hoped that part of it will be in the form of homes for the elderly. The Abbeyfield Society is looking at that part of the site that was already used for accommodation of the elderly with a view to seeing whether it could be used as an "extra care" home. This would be a more than welcome use of the site and would come as a great relief to those residents of Abbeyfield Homes for whom increasing frailty means the need for increasing assistance, yet who wish to continue as Abbeyfield residents.



Jim Pilgrim, Abbeyfield's local secretary is, however, none too optimistic about this, for he is only too aware that the price land can fetch in Caversham puts it way beyond the reach of a charitable organisation. It is sad indeed when land represents the means to a fortune instead of the means to fulfil a need.

ST PETER'S CONSERVATION AREA

When the area around St Peter's receives conservation designation there will be stricter

control on building and alterations to buildings there as well as measures of enhancement. One such measure is already going ahead with the construction of a rock garden and waterfall in Caversham Court. Winter is not the best time to see either for the first time of course but by spring they will both be seen to advantage. The waterfall, which has already been heard splashing over its stones, came from a bequest made for the beautification of Caversham Court gardens with the suggestion of having a fountain there. Unfortunately this did not prove a practical proposition. Instead the waterfall has been made and the donor would surely be pleased to see the result of her generous gift.



St Peter's Churchyard will also, of course, be included in the conservation area. Such areas usually, though not necessarily, contain listed buildings, and here we have the church itself, the crinkle-crinkle wall, and several of the gravestones. A particularly appealing one is that of the Jenkins and Hayter family of 1750, with its beautiful lettering and poignant tale of early death.

It is very close to the site of the new parish rooms, and it is much to be hoped that it will not suffer from the upheaval that is bound to occur during building operations, for this must of necessity extend beyond the site itself. We have all seen what happens at the many building sites in Reading, and the churchyard could never be reinstated in ways that are usually possible with other sites. When the church itself was restored in 1878 it was a case of men with wheelbar-

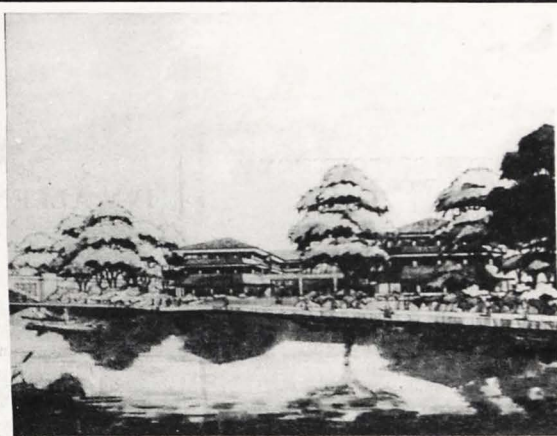
rows and the odd horse and cart in the Warren. Today's equipment is heavy and can cause serious damage which a fragile environment like the churchyard could not sustain.

Maybe Barton Wallop Powlett, whose headstone stands guard at the Warren entrance and who, at the age of seventy-nine, left behind five young

children "to mourn their loss" as it says, will rise in wrath and, in the manner of his middle name, protect the place where he and "the rude (and not so rude) forefathers of the hamlet sleep."

Barton himself, William and Isabel Crawshaw, Frances and Priscilla Knighton and all those Simmondses

who left this world some hundred years ago would scarcely recognise the Caversham that, even to us, will have undergone major changes by the time 1988 is through. But at least Elizabeth Jenkins and Eleanor Hayter would have been able to look forward to a longer life than they had in their quiet eighteenth century village.



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ROUND THE CHURCHES

P. MURPHY'S SLEEPING CUBS RAISE

A THOUSAND!

On the coldest night for months, thirty-seven cubs and helpers spent the night in St Peter's (notorious for its heating!) on a Sponsored Sleep-In to raise much-needed funds for treatment of children suffering leukaemia at Royal Berkshire Hospital. By the chill light of a frosty dawn, on 28th November, well over £1,000 had been pledged by sponsors!

The cub scouts, from the 3rd Reading (St Peter's) Thursday Pack, had several guides to keep them company, scouting leaders from the Pack, Group, and District, as well as a couple of parents — Mr Peter Hanks and Revd Richard Kingsbury. Bleary-eyed but elated with success, the 'sleepers' trooped from church next morning to The Coffee Inn, St Mar-

tin's Precinct, whose proprietor greeted them with a cooked breakfast on the house as his contribution to the venture.

The Pack Akela, Mrs Pauline Semple, organised the event and was delighted with the result. 'We hoped for £500, but to have cleared £1,000 for this urgent cause is wonderful!' she said over a plate of bacon and eggs, surround-

ed by her exuberant cubs and insomniac helpers.

Asked for his comments next morning, the Rector was for once lost for words. Whether this was from admiration for the success of the night in church or from his vigil on the vestry floor was not clear. 'Fantastic! The cubs have done us proud!' he said. 'It's a good place, St Peter's, to spend a night thinking of others.'

This year, CPV church was the host for the ecumenical service traditionally held on the second Sunday in Advent as Bible Sunday. As a presage for the future of the church as an ecumenical project, there could not have been a better turn out. The school hall, which doubles as church, was full.

As a preamble,

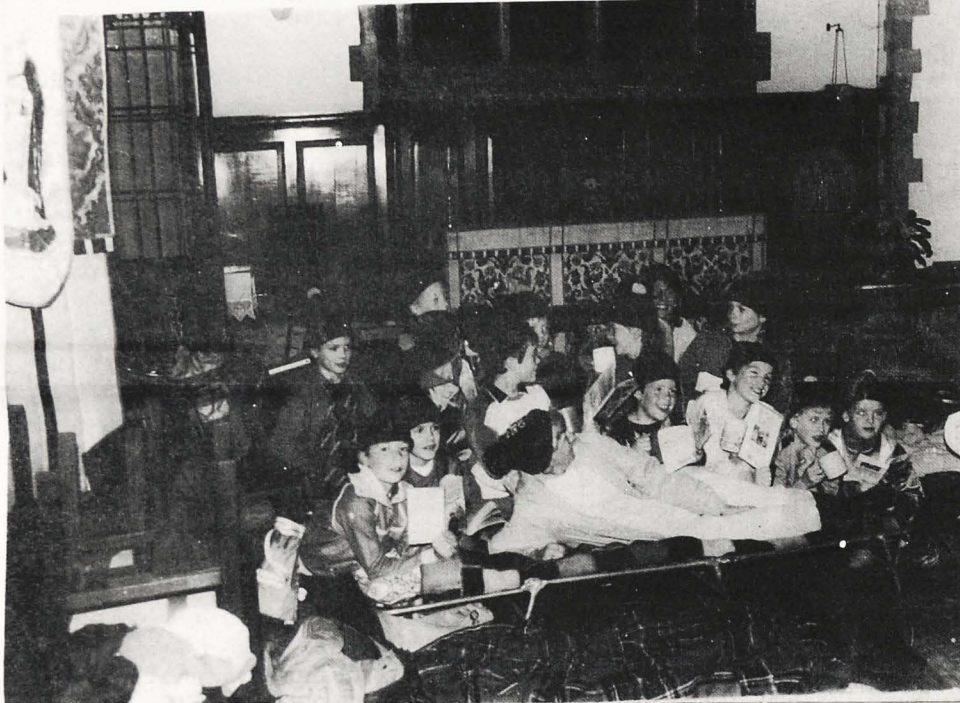
the Rev Paul Kenchington played his guitar to accompany the joyful songs of worship sung by the congregation. Most of them were well known to those who had joined in the Eastertide Carnival of Praise and were sung with great enthusiasm. The catchy tunes were easy to pick up.

from the Caversham Baptist Free Church, Mr Bernard Miller. The local policeman, PC Neil Mullins gave a moving testimony of how he became a believer and how his own and his family's life changed once he found Jesus. The Minister of the Chapel-on-the-Hill, the Rev Chris Justice, preached the sermon, apposite to the occasion and a rousing hymn ended the service.



After the welcome by Paul Kenchington and a rousing hymn, the service continued with prayers. Readings were given by a representative of the Caversham Heights Methodist Church, Mrs M Beek, and

Afterwards it was a great pleasure to drink coffee and to eat mince pies whilst talking to old friends and new. And it was surprising how many people one did know — a real coming together of Christian folk.



'Sleep-in' at St Peter's

E.S. Archer

Clergy on the move

We might almost have made this a special Caversham Park Edition! News of their old clergy has come in very recently. The Rev. John Crowe has been appointed Team Vicar of Dorchester in Oxfordshire — nice to have him back near us —

and the Rev. Stephen Bartlett goes to West Brompton in London, not that far away either! Congratulations to both of them and we wish them and their families a happy and fruitful ministry in their new churches.



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BAPTIST NEWS

Church Anniversary
On November 30th the church celebrated its 115th Anniversary. The Guest preacher at the morning service was the President of the Berkshire Baptist Association the Revd. Jeff Taylor. A box of liquorice allsorts provided the illustration for the childrens' address in which all were reminded of the variety in people

yet in the church we can all be unified through our faith in Jesus Christ. The theme of his address was the importance of unity in the church. This was expounded in a challenging way from Romans chapter 15.

Tear Fund

A coffee morning in aid of Tear Fund was held recently and besides the fellowship, a sum of £245 was raised.

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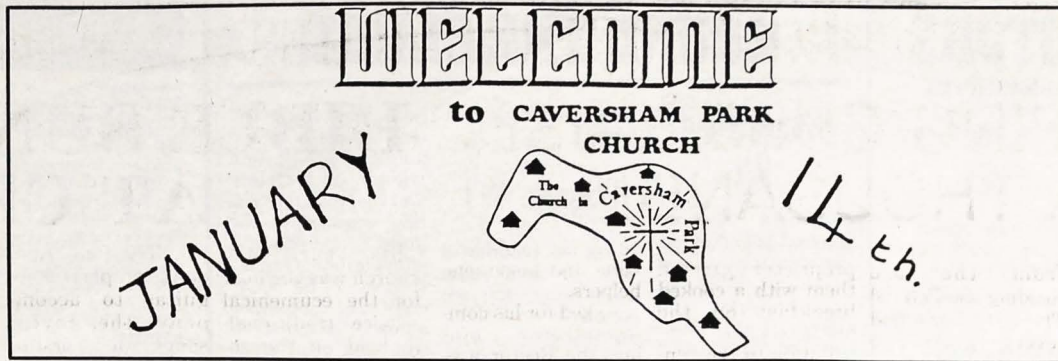
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THE SIGNING OF THE COVENANT JANUARY 14th

At last! After 17 or more years of ecumenical activity, Caversham Park, is going to become an official Local Ecumenical Project.

On January 14th 1988 at a service of worship on that Thursday evening 7.30pm, Ministers

and lay representatives of the Anglican, the Baptist and the Methodist Churches, as well as Caversham Park Church itself, will sign a Local Covenant. By so doing, we will be strengthening and underlining what al-

ready exists, but we will also be opening the way to fuller participation in our Church life for each of the denominations. The Covenant Document is available for anyone to read, if you wish, and a copy will be posted on the

church notice board.

I am excited by this step forward. The Lord has so clearly opened the way that I know GOOD things will come out of it. Imagine the likelihood of getting together at ONE

time an Anglican Bishop, a Baptist Superintendent, a Methodist Chairman of the District, Ecumenical Officers, Deanery Synod Lay Chairman, as well as local clergy and others — could they possibly ALL be free? Well, they

are all available and looking forward to coming. So I'm sure God has planned and kept the date for us. The service will be a celebration of the past years of ecumenical activity and a commit-

ment to a bright future together in Caversham Park.

Please put the date in your diary now. Please PRAY for the event, and above all please be there!!

Paul Kenchington

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH

It really started last year when it was decided by the PPC that things should be set in motion to divide the Parish of Caversham and Mapledurham. The three daughter churches, it was hoped, would become Parishes in their own right — so we would have the Parish of Lower Caversham — St John's, the Parish of Caversham Height's — St Andrew's and the Parish of Emmer Green — St Barnabas. St Margaret's Maple-

durham would stay with St Peter's, the Parish of Caversham and Mapledurham. But where would that leave Caversham Park Church? When we were originally set up — 17 years ago — as a mission in the vast new estate being built on Caversham Park, the then Bishop of Reading gave his permission for us to do things in an Ecumenical way. The Methodist minister of Caversham, Terry Harris, and the Rector John Grimwade

were both keen that this should be the way of Caversham Park Church, but nothing was made official, nothing was written down! So with the dividing of the Parish, we began to wonder where we stood — who would have us!

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We had already been looking into the possibility of becoming an official LEP and the Rector Richard Kingsbury, encouraged us to get things into action to be a real LEP. So in March 1987 at the AGM, it was agreed that we should take the necessary steps to do just that. Paul Kenchington our minister, had talks with all ministers of the different denominations at local level. The United Reformed Church had just

acquired a new minister and were still unsettled and unsure whether they belonged to Reading or Caversham. Though they expressed interest in our project, they felt they could not offer either the manpower or financial help at present. The Chapel on the Hill — an independent Evangelical Church — likewise expressed interest and wished to be kept informed, but didn't want to get involved. We are still waiting to hear from the Roman Catholics The Baptist Church and their minister Dennis Weller, and the Methodist Church and their minister Keith Sanders were both very keen on the idea of Caversham Park Church becoming and LEP., and arranged meetings with higher levels. So Paul met Geoffrey Reynolds and Gordon Thomas of

the Baptist Union and the Berkshire Baptist Association, and John Stevens of the Reading and Silchester Methodist Circuit, with very exciting results. We also have the backing of the Parish of Caversham and Mapledurham.

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In September, we as a Church,

agreed on a covenant. This states our intention and agreement with Churches of different denominations. The Baptist Union and Berkshire Association, the Methodist Circuit and the Anglican hierarchy are all willing to sign the Covenant as joint participants in the project. The Covenant leaves room for other denominations to join with us as and

when they feel able to contribute financially or with manpower.

There will be a signing ceremony on January 14th 1988 just before the week of Prayer for Christian Unity — an appropriate date we thought! Our hope for the future is to evolve into an Ecumenical Parish, and perhaps to build our own building.

Paula Andrews

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ROUND THE CLUBS

Maplewood WI

Members who attended the November meeting enjoyed travelling along the one hundred and seventy-four miles of Offa's Dyke with Mrs M Beek who took seventeen days to walk the long distance footpath from Chepstow to Chester. The Dyke was built by King Offa during his forty year reign over this section of England to keep back the war-like Welsh and the path was opened in 1971 by Sir John Hunt. The competition, a "Hiker's Picnic" which Mrs Beek would have enjoyed during her walk was won by Mrs Joan Fry and the Flower of the Month was brought by Mrs Joy Le-Mare.

Rosehill WI

The December meeting was held on the 2nd and was the Christmas party. The hall looked attractive with small tables and seasonal flower arrangements on each. After the monthly business, the Henley handbell Ringers entertained; these ladies really brought the spirit of Christmas in, and everyone sat quietly enjoying the music of bells. Tea was then handed round by the Committee, with mincepies etc and a lovely Christmas cake baked and iced by Mrs Fry. On leaving everyone took a present from the lucky dip, having left one

when entering the hall.

Blagrove WI

What a wonderful way to start the Christmas period. About fifty members and friends from fellow Institutes saw a magical display from Mr John Barlow who completely fooled everyone with his clever tricks and patter that defied anyone to keep a straight face. With a marvellous tea provided by the committee, crackers and a present for everyone the afternoon was voted a great success. The winners of the competition for a homemade cracker were Mrs Housden, Mrs Idenden and Mrs Ogden. The afternoon was rounded off with carols accompanied by Mrs Joyce Price at the piano playing them from memory!

Caversham Bridge Good Neighbour Scheme

Annual General Meeting Tuesday, 19th January 1988 at Caversham Hall, St John's Road, at 7.45 pm. Speaker Mrs Marjorie Hamilton, Social Worker, co-ordinating the work of Age Concern and Caring for Carers.

Caversham Heights TG

A talk about southern India was given by Mr D Clarke at the social studies group meeting of Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild towards the end of November.

Are annual general meetings always boring? Well, not always. At the well attended meeting of the main guild in St Andrew's Hall in the same week Mrs C Lott, who remains chairman for another year, described in her report a varied and busy year that

had encompassed new interests, for example scrabble and badminton matches, and met new friends. She said that the guild is open to new suggestions as to activities. The vice-chairman circulated a new draft constitution and read standing orders. Both retiring members of the committee and the leaders of social studies group were thanked for their good work. Coffee mornings were alive and well and helping to contribute to many good causes. Expressing concern at reductions in the standard of service in the National Health Service Mrs Joan Read from Berkshire Federation of Townswomen's Guilds invited members to inform her about any cases of delay in treatment.

Flower arrangements by Mrs M Pilkington, using fresh and dried flowers and foliage, for Christmas, for a wedding or for any time, brought a dash of colour to the rest of the evening.

Main meetings are at 7.30 pm on third Thursdays monthly; social studies meet on fourth Mondays in Highmoor Hall at 7.45 pm. Come and see what is going on there!

Caversham Community Association

Miss Pat Tyler paid her second visit to the club when she gave an interesting talk on her trip on the Queen Elizabeth II liner to New York and her return visit home on Concorde. From the time Miss Tyler boarded the Q.E. II to her arrival six days later in New York there was plenty to do to occupy the time. Shows and games, libraries for a quiet read, lovely meals with a different menu every day made the days pass quickly until

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, Emmer Green. Tel: 473095.

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

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

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

BAPTIST

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

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

The Rev David Clark, 41 Highmoor Road. Tel: 471909

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

ROMAN CATHOLIC

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

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Turn to page 10

SWANWICK

"History was in the making," wrote the Oxford Diocesan Ecumenical Officer. The occasion was Swanwick 1987, and the result was the Declaration, which we print below. The Archbishop of Canterbury asked that it should be read out in all Anglican churches; he was anxious that all congregations should be informed. Cardinal Hume spoke positively to the effect that the Roman Catholic Church should move from cooperation to commitment at all levels of church life.

This is an exciting time for Christians and efforts should be made by all to join in whenever an ecumenical opportunity occurs.

This is timely in view of the Caversham Park project and it is hoped that more togetherness will be apparent throughout the whole parish. A New Year's resolution!

THE SWANWICK DECLARATION

Appointed by our Churches and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit we declare that this, the broadest assembly of British and Irish Churches ever to meet in these islands, has reached a common mind. We are aware that not all Christians are represented amongst us, but we look forward to the time when they will share fully with us.

black and white, lay and ordained, and we have travelled from the four corners of the two Islands to meet at Swanwick in Derbyshire.

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There we met, we listened, we talked, we worshipped, we prayed, we sat in silence deeper than words. Against a background of so much suffering and sinfulness in our society we were reminded of our call to witness that God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself.

We affirmed that this world with all its sin and splendour belongs to God. Young people called on us to be ready to sort out

our priorities so that we could travel light and concentrate on our goal. Driven on by a gospel imperative to seek unity that the world may believe, we rejoiced that we are pilgrims together and strangers no longer.

We now declare together our readiness to commit ourselves to each other under God. Our earnest desire is to become more fully, in his own time, the one Church of Christ, united in faith, communion, pastoral care and mission.

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Such unity is the gift of God. With gratitude we have truly experienced this gift, growing amongst us in these days. We affirm our openness to this growing unity in obedience to the Word of God, so that we may fully share, hold in common, and offer to the world, those gifts which we have received and still hold in separation.

In unity we seek, we recognise that there will not be uniformity but legitimate diversity.

It is our conviction that, as a mat-

ter of policy at all levels in all places, our Churches must now move from cooperation to clear commitment to each other, in search of the unity for which Christ prayed and in common evangelism and service of the world.

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We urge Church leaders and representatives to take all necessary steps to present as soon as possible, to our Church authorities, assemblies and congregations, the report of this conference, together with developed proposals for ecumenical instruments to help the Churches of these Islands to move ahead together.

Continuing to trust in the promised gift of the Holy Spirit, we look forward with confidence to sharing with our own Churches the joys of this historic conference. We thank God for all those who from Lent '86 and before, have been part of this pilgrimage. We feel their presence with us. We urge our Churches to confirm by decision and action the hopes and vision

on which we have laid hold, and which we shall not let go.

This is a new beginning. We set out on our further pilgrimage ready to take risks and determined not to be put off by 'dismal stories.' We resolve that no discouragement will make us once relent our avowed intent to be pilgrims together.

Leaving behind painful memories and reaching out for what lies ahead, we press on towards the full reconciliation in Christ of all things in heaven and on earth that God has promised in his Kingdom.

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ROUND THE CLUBS

From page 8

the liner sailed up the Hudson river and arrived at New York. It was down to earth there with a three hour wait for a taxi to the hotel for a day's stay. Miss Tyler was fortunate on leaving for home in meeting a friendly taxi driver who gave her a fine tour of New York and then to Kennedy Airport to board Concorde. The considerate treatment from the moment she reached the reception desk until the arrival in England was thoroughly enjoyed by Miss Tyler and she was left with many happy memories of an exciting holiday.

Doreen Crawley was in charge of the whistdrive held the following week. Ted Howard was the winner with the highest number of points.

Frank Terry and Freda Clarke again entertained the club members with a musical evening on the 16th November. They sang solos and duets, their voices blending beautifully in songs from Bless The Bride, Phantom of the Opera, Gigi, The Desert Song and other favourite melodies. Kathleen

Robson accompanied the singers at the piano. Maida Feast expressed the appreciation of everyone for such an enjoyable evening of song.

At the 'Mini' Bazaar held for the members on the 23rd November there was a wide selection of goods for sale. It was also a 'Suitcase Sale' when members paid a fee and brought a suitcase of things they wanted to sell and kept the profits. An Avon lady had a stall with a variety of cosmetics etc. on display with Christmas gift ideas. The members went home with plenty in their shopping bags but lighter in purse!

A dancing evening completed the month's activities on the 30th November. May Plant led the members in their favourite Old Tyme dances. Some modern dances were also introduced and a pleasant evening was spent by all.

St Peter's

Wives

Group

On the 4th November, St Peter's wives held one of their purely social events, with a trip to the Mill at Sonning. There they enjoyed a pleasurable meal, in the company of their husbands and friends, to be followed by watching a new play entitled 'The Making of Julia'. The following Saturday saw members busily selling cakes, garden plants, bric-a-brac etc. at a highly successful Autumn Fair held in aid of the Sue Ryder Home at Nettlebed. Swiftly on the Fair's heels came the Annual General Meeting, three new members were elected to the committee and Mrs Mary Duncan told members she would be handling over the Chairmanship to Mrs Jean Fry, in the

New Year. As the Rector had been unavoidably detained and therefore unable to chair the meeting, Mrs Duncan took his place. The slight delay in commencing was filled by a 'Quote, Unquote,' Quiz, the members finished a pleasant evening, with coffee and cakes, whilst they checked their quiz answers. A small prize was awarded to Mrs Una Waters, who completed all twenty six questions correctly.

The Group will commence the New Year's programme with a talk entitled, 'The problems and needs of the Single Parent Family' to be given by Mrs S Barefield.

St Peter's Wives is an open group, which offers a welcome to any married, widowed, divorced or single lady of any age, who would enjoy socialising.

Please ring Sue Bartlett on 479406 if you would like more details.

Chazey WI

'Garden Design' was a popular topic for November's meeting. Members were instructed in the architectural and artistic challenges of laying out a garden from the beginning. On October 14th there was an excellent Health Club meeting at Scholes; there were demonstrations of their footwear; the whole evening was very therapeutic.

In the Newbury Autumn Fayre, at the Corn Exchange, on November 2nd, there was a fantastic display of arts and crafts for sale. The speaker for the evening, Mr Norman Croucher, enthralled the members with his talk on legless mountaineering.

Mrs Gail Russell is starting a four week course on cake icing for twelve lucky participants who will undoubtedly show their pro-

wess before Christmas; the Chazey members look forward to the results.

Caversham WI

At the November meeting Mr C Ross gave an illustrated talk on the changing face of Reading. Members were very interested to see how Reading had grown from about 1129 to its thriving town of nowadays. It seems that even in those early days there was difficulty in getting across the river at Caversham — travellers had to pay alms to St Anne's Chapel

which was built on the middle of the bridge. Later, too, there were arguments between Berkshire and Oxfordshire as to who should pay for the repairs to the bridge, as the boundary was in the middle of the bridge.

Slides were shown of streets which had changed so much in the last thirty years and ladies were interested to see shops, etc which had gone to make way for the Ring Road, which they had forgotten in such a short time.

Turn to page 11

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ROUND THE CLUBS

From page 10

Emmer Green TG

There was a large meeting on November 10th at St Barnabas' Church Hall of the Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild for their Annual General Meeting. In spite of the serious business of reports on the past year's progress and activities of the Guild, which were ably put over by the committee headed by the Chairman, Mrs Maureen Chamberlain, who relinquished her post after three years admirable service, there was a lighter side to the evening.

Guild members, of whom there are sixty-four, had made a mouthwatering selection of chocolate cakes and fancies; these were donated and sold in aid of the Royal Berks Hospital Appeal. Everyone was bought, and they were also judged by a visitor member of another Guild who gave first prize to Mrs Margo Sutherland, 2nd Mrs Maisie Garner, 3rd Mrs Sheila Anderson, other winners were Mrs Doris Prentice, Mrs Edna Barnes and Mrs Pam Harvey. Home grown gourd winners were Mrs Monica Robinson and Miss S Marsden; all these ladies were given small prizes.

The centre piece of the large cake stall was a superb Guild Birthday Cake made by Mrs Marion Cooper who also organised the chocolate cake competition.

A wonderful stall covered with beautifully made colourful gifts for the home, and Christmas was a great success; again all proceeds were for the Royal Berks Hospital.

Caversham Ladies Club

Mrs Harwood, the Chairman, opened the meeting with her usual warm welcome to members, and said how lovely it was to see so many present. Club business was quickly settled and final arrangements made for the Club's Christmas Lunch at Chiltern Chase on Monday, December 7th. Then it was time for the main attraction of the afternoon — Mr Moss, who had at a previous meeting shown lovely slides of 'Old Reading' was this time going to take members on a journey through Scotland, and that was just what it was, as promised. With a very interesting and amusing commentary accompanying the slides being shown, the Club was transported to Scotland and what a beautiful journey it was. The magnificent mountains covered with purple heather seemed to go on and on into the distance. The lochs so calm, ruins, castles, villages etc, it was an endless beauty of scenery, and members were very sorry when it was time to return to everyday matters. It had brought back happy memories to some of the members who had visited some of the places in past years, and Mr Moss was warmly thanked for a very enjoyable afternoon.

Tea followed and then it was time for the meeting to close for another month.

Caversham Methodist Wednesday Group

Maxine Henry visited the Group on 14th October, with a selection of needle crafts and she told how her interest had developed over the years and how some of her work had been included in a book as a result of winning a competition. She began with smocking and then patchwork, showing how both were done and followed with applique work and quilting. She had a huge table full of her work including a smocked christening dress, a patchwork quilt, cushions, boxes and various items of clothing.

At the next meeting members came dressed for a music therapy session led by Margaret Stephens who works at the Avenue School for handicapped children. As well as experiencing the way music can heal, soothe and stimulate, members learned how important a part music can play in the lives of the handicapped and indeed for everyone if they will let it. The exercises, though relatively simple, took a fair bit of concentration. "Lace the Spiders Web" was the title of the meeting on 11th November, when Helen of "Lilleycrafts" told members that she'd taken up lace-making because no one else would make use of the bobbins which were in the family. It didn't take long for her to become hooked. She has studied the history of lace-making and all the different types and ways of making lace both here and abroad. She illustrated her talk with some slides and passed round many beautiful pieces of bobbin, crocheted and knitted lace. For anyone interested in pursuing the subject, she teaches at evening class and while it's a slow pro-

cess, it is very rewarding to produce something so delicate yet surprisingly hard-wearing.

At the next meeting, members were again encouraged to be active, this time in icing their Christmas cakes. Nine members joined Norma Simpson, who is an active member of the Committee. Norma has perfected the art of sugarpaste icing, which is rolled icing giving a smooth shiny surface. She led members through each stage and at the end of the evening there were about a dozen attractively iced and decorated cakes of which those taking part felt duly proud and those watching had enjoyed the evening too.

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CAVERSHAM DIARY

Will our readers try and use this more next year? Just remember that because we have to go to press a month before each edition is printed, we do need plenty of notice. To help you, we are intending to print each month at the bottom of page 2 the dates for copy for the next two issues. We hope you'll find this helpful.

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SUNDAY SERVICES

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)
 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 and 6.30pm
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 (meeting in the Hill Primary School)
 6.30pm (in Chapel)
METHODIST
Caversham, Gosbrook Road
 11.00am and 6.30pm
Caversham Heights
 9.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday)
 11.00am and 6.30pm
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)
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, York Road 11am every Sunday, 6.30pm (2nd Sunday)
SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers), Church Street, Reading 10.45am.
 Caversham Church House — 3rd Sunday Meeting for Worship 7.30pm.
 House study groups Sept — June Tel: 475783

Caversham Park Church House Communions
 Wednesdays 10.30am
Jan 6th 5 Gifford Close (Paula Andrews)
13th 92 Lowfield Road (Margaret Stafford)
20th 1 Elstow Avenue (Mavis Davis)
27th 2 Osterley Drive (Mildred Samuel)

WE RECORD

BAPTISED AT ST PETER'S
 August 9th Clare Vooght
 William Balmont
 16th Alexander Robert
 23rd Alexander Pechey
 29th Joseph Billett
 Anne Jenkins
 Oct 4th Marc Taylor
 18th Sally Larkin
 Lauren Eighteen
 Christie Hill
 Sept 13th Catherine Higgs
 Benjamin Mansfield
 20th Stephen Roostan
 Rebecca Cushley
 Nov 15th Daniel Deering
 Rupert Deering
 17th Thomas Goskar
 22nd Kirsty Green
 29th Harriet Smith

CAVERSHAM DIARY

January 3rd 11am Caversham Heights Methodist Church Covenant Service.
 6.30pm Gosbrook Road Methodist Church Covenant Service.
 January 6th 8.00pm St Peter's Church Epiphany Sung Eucharist followed by Twelfth Night refreshments.
 January 14th 7.30pm Caversham Park Church — Ecumenical Service when Covenant signed.
 January 19th 7.45pm Caversham Bridge Good Neighbour Scheme AGM. Caversham Hall, St John's Road.

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