



# A TRIP TO LE MANS

BILL and Daphne Vincent's second son, Matthew, who was a choirboy, server and Sunday School teacher at St Andrew's before he went to University has been generously sponsored for Oxfam by members of the Church on his trip to Le Mans in his 1928 Alvis. The following is his account of the adventure.

3.50am of Friday 10th June was marked by the unwelcome sound of the alarm clock. However, the early start was necessary because we were off to see the 1988 Le Mans twenty-four-hour race. More important, a friend, John Goodwin and I,

were travelling in my 1928 Alvis 12/50, and were due at Portsmouth by 7am. Leaving John's house in drizzle at 5am, we made good time to reach the ferry terminal at 6.40am.

The trip had come about partly from a desire to do

something a bit daft, and partly to raise money for Oxfam. I had wanted to visit Le Mans for some time, and the Alvis' sixtieth birthday (the car was first registered in June 1928) seemed like a good excuse. The idea to combine fun with fundraising

seemed sound and so we set about the task of finding sponsors to pledge money for Oxfam, in the event of a successful trip in the Alvis.

France was reached at 3pm on the Friday, and the drizzle had turned to warm sunshine. As we



Matthew handing over a cheque for £680 to Oxfam Home Division Director, Mr John Wallace, on 5th July, with his co-driver.

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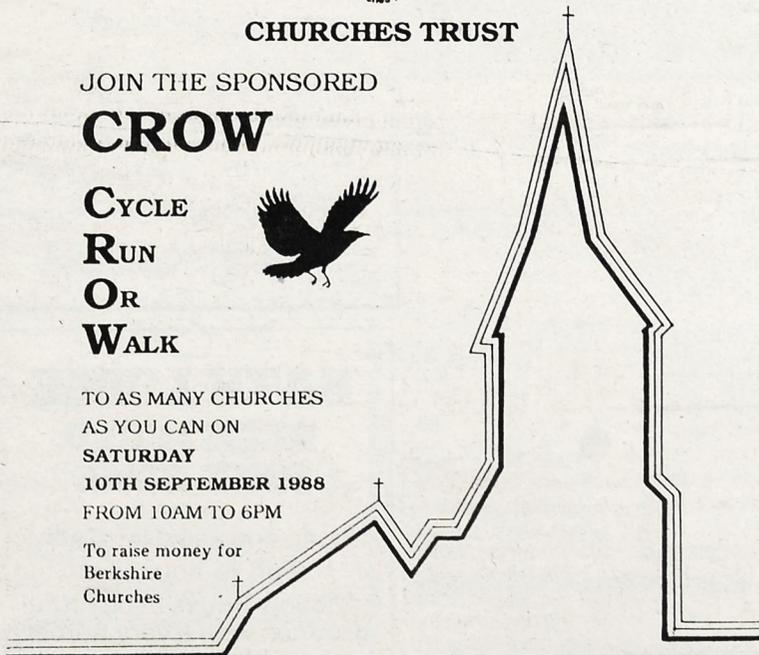
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were almost the first off the boat, we were soon bowling along through typical French scenery. Cruising between fifty and sixty mph, we reached Le Mans at about 7pm. After putting up the tent, we went for a triumphant spin in the old car round most of the circuit, which is largely made up of public roads. On the Friday evening, these are still open to the public; by the Saturday morning they are all closed. Driving round the circuit was indeed a thrill! After that, we had a good look round the pits, watching the Jaguar mechanics working hard on the cars, till late in the night.

Next morning, we went to the circuit early, to get a good position for the start of the race, which was due at 3pm. After the start,

which was preceded by aerobatic displays and parachute drops, we were delighted to see that Jaguar were soon in the lead. Later, after an excellent meal in a local hotel, we went to various vantage points close to the Mulsanne straight, where the cars were exceeding 230mph, even at 2am! Finally at 3am fatigue got the better of us, and we returned to the tent, to bed. Up again at 7am on Sunday, to pack up the tent and we drove back to the circuit to catch up with the race again. The Jaguar driven by Lammers, Dumphries and Wallace was still in the lead, closely harried by the works Porsche driven by Bell, Stuck and Ludwig.

We sadly watched the third placed Jaguar expire at about 10am, with a blown head gasket, but noted that the leading Jaguar was

still running well. Later we were eventually rewarded with the "icing on the cake" in the shape of a Jaguar win.

The Alvis again ran well on the homeward journey and we finally arrived home very late on the Sunday night, tired, but feeling really exhilarated. Could it all have been packed into only three days. We both arrived at work on Monday rather bleary eyed, but with a strong feeling of satisfaction. The Alvis had obviously enjoyed its sixtieth birthday outing, and had run faultlessly. We now could set about the task of collecting nearly £700 in sponsorship money for Oxfam £100 of which was generously provided by my employers, BP. All in all, a weekend to remember.

D/EX 1758/25/9

# TALKING POINT

By Rev. Brian Skinner  
Gosbrook Road Methodist Church



## WAITING ON GOD

A GENTLEMAN who has paid many visits to America, tells how he felt and feels about that great country. On his first visit to America he felt that the greatest American desire was for money, and the main occupation the pursuit of the almighty dollar. On his second visit he felt that the main American aim was power, the harnessing of mighty powers in mighty machines for the service of mankind. On his third visit, he felt that the main American desire was for speed, the desperate desire to keep moving, and to get from one place to another as quickly as possible; and he says that third impression is the one which has remained.

### The Tempo

We are living today in a world which is in a hurry; a world which worships speed; the tempo of life has never been more intense. There is something fundamentally wrong about all this.

Newman once described culture as a "wise receptivity", and there is far too little time in life when we wait passively to receive. W. B. Yeats writes in his autobiography: "Can one reach God by toil? He gives Himself to the pure in heart. He asks nothing but our attention."

But so many of us are living a life in which there is no time to glance at God, much less to contemplate Him.

I am reminded of the lines which W. H. Davies, the tramp-poet wrote with such a simple loveliness:

What is this life, if full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare?

### Essentials

That is what very few people in this modern world have time to do. There are certain things in life for which we must make time.

1. We must make time to THINK. So many people are so busy living that they have no time to think how they are living. Plato said that the unexamined life is the life not worth living. No business could ever survive if sometimes it did not take stock, and if sometimes it did not check up on the whole policy and purpose behind it. Time to think is essential to life, if life is to be what it was meant to be.

2. We must make time to PRAY. John Buchan once described an atheist as "a man with no invisible means of support". The tragedy of life is precisely that so many people who would resent being called atheists are trying to live life with no touch with the invisible world and with God. This is the age of the nervous breakdowns; the insanity statistics are frightening; we live in a worried and frightened age; and many of these things are due to no other cause than that men have lost contact with the eternal strength.

3. We must learn to TALK. Samuel Johnson, who knew John Wesley quite well, used to say that Wesley had one fault — he had no time to sit back, cross his legs, and have his talk out. One of the strange phenomena of modern life is that good talk is very nearly a thing of the past. A visit which once meant an evening of stimulating interchange of ideas has now become a silent session at the television set, during which even a whisper is hushed into silence. It would stimulate our thoughts, it would bring us nearer each other, if we took a little more time to talk.

### Wise Idleness

4. We must make time to do NOTHING. Pascal once said that more than half this world's ills come from the fact that people cannot sit in a room alone. There is a place in life for complete relaxation, for a deliberate letting go of the tensions, for a wise idleness, for a restful passivity. Many a man's mental and physical troubles would certainly be eased, and probably be ended, if only he could persuade himself for a little time to relax and to do nothing.

The Bible is full of advice to us to do this very thing. "Be still", said the Psalmist, "and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). "Stand still", said Moses to the people scurrying about in their terror, "and see the salvation of the Lord" (Exodus 14:13). "Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place," said Jesus, "and rest awhile" (Mark 6:31).

God grant us more stillness in this hurried life of ours: so only will life become what it is meant to be.

## WEDDING



Michael Blackburn

Claire McCombe and Hugh Poulton who were married at St Margaret's on July 30th. Claire who was in the choir at St Margaret's for several years, now works as a teacher at the Birmingham L.E.A. Field Studies Centre in Oxford.

## POSTBAG

Dear Sirs,

I would like to offer my congratulations to the Chairman, Mr P. W. Tipton, of the Arts and Crafts Exhibition, St John's Church Caversham, on your delightful, instructive and most enjoyable exhibition.

The white display stands showed to advantage the Arts Section, and needlework etc.

It was amazing to see the talent displayed, and lovely to have the childrens' contribution.

It was worthy of a longer period of time for return visits to appreciate so much effort that must have been put in to stage it.

Yours etc  
(Mrs) N. Douthwaite  
7 Allhallows Road,  
Caversham.

Dear Sirs,

The Cross Town Route will, in effect, bring the M4 Motorway to Caversham and Reading Bridges.

It will be a major disaster for ALL residents of Caversham, Emmer Green and ALL villages near the A4074.

It is therefore essential that we support those Reading Borough Councillors and Berkshire County Councillors who are opposed to this scheme.

Yours etc  
Bob Avis  
Resident of Caversham since 1918.  
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The newspaper produced by members of the Anglican, Roman Catholic and Free Churches of Caversham and Mapledurham for the local community.

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All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham, by Friday Aug 26.

The dates for Nov are Oct 5 and Sept 30

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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# ROMAN FONT FOUND IN CAVERSHAM

## —Continuing the story

THE HISTORY OF EARLY CHRISTIANITY IN THE THAMES VALLEY is fascinating and the discovery of the early Christian font in June prompted me to find out more about the subject.

Mr Leslie Cram, Keeper of Archaeology at Reading Museum, showed me the 4th Century font and explained its significance in the history of Christianity. The font was found in a crumpled state at the bottom of a well near Deans Farm. Mr Leslie Cram and experts from the Oxford Archaeological Unit have identified it as the remains of a tank used in Christian baptismal ceremonies during the 4th Century. Previously there had been no evidence at all of Christianity in this area before the year 635 when the King of the West Saxons was baptised in the Thames at Dorchester.

□ □  
□ □

The discovery of the lead tank in Caversham is very significant as it is one of only six in existence in Britain. Enough evidence has been found for archaeologists to speculate fairly accurately about some of the religious ceremonies.

There is little evidence left of the early churches but it

is believed that worship was more often conducted in special rooms in villas, or in chapels constructed nearby. The Caversham find also indicates this as building material was found down the well. The well was probably close to the villa to enable water to be drawn for the font.

Evidence has been found at one of the sites for an adjoining burial ground or cemetery. All the lead tanks found have been approximately the same size, and resembling the size of the two stone built fonts known from Roman Britain.

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Evidence of one of the earliest churches was found in Silchester. Outside the church building there was a small tiled area with the drainage hole. This has been interpreted as a baptistry since the size compares well with the size of the lead tanks found.

Many of the Silchester finds can be seen in the Silchester collection on permanent display at Reading Museum.

### Links with the continent

We know that in 314 the Bishop of London attended

the Council of Arles with three other British Bishops. It is reasonable to speculate on his activities in this country as we are fairly sure of the baptism ceremony. Baptism was performed only by the Bishop and only on adults. During the period of religious instruction before baptism the new member of the church was called a Catechumen. When the Bishop arrived he performed a service of exorcism

by **Frances** mersion nor by sign of the cross of the forehead. After the baptism ceremony the Christians immediately went to be confirmed, when they were anointed with oil. A white robe was then donned and the confirmed people were called Neophytes. The Bishop would then return to London before embarking on

pagans from across the water invaded. The Angles, Saxons and Jutes came over from the Low Countries with their Germanic gods.

The Britons were pushed into Wales and the West Country where some continued their Christian practices. They were cut off from normal contact with the Pope in Rome and so we are fairly certain that Christianity was virtually wiped out in the east of the country.

**Revival**  
St Augustine's arrival in this country in 596 was the beginning of a revival of the Christian religion after over 200 years. He was sent by Pope Gregory to convert the Anglo-Saxons. It appears that word had got back to Rome that the few Christians left in the West Country were not doing enough to convert the Anglo-Saxons and give them the opportunity to become Christians.

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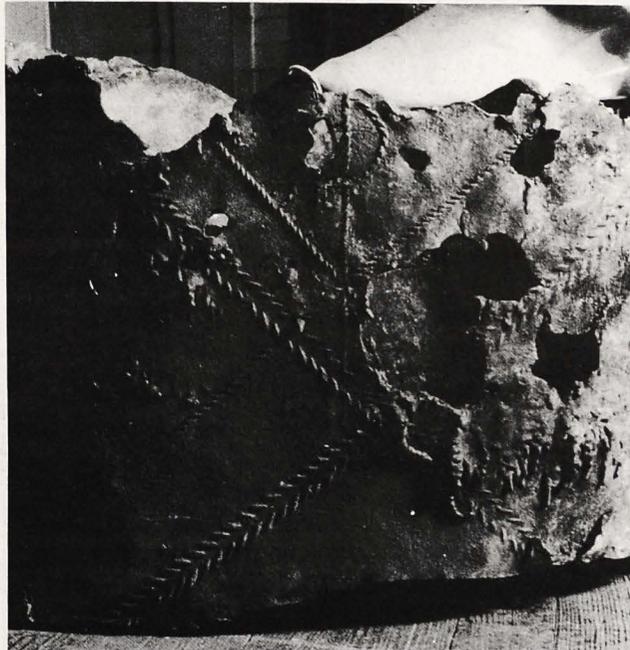
From this time on Christianity went from strength to strength in Britain. So although the piece of lead found in the well in Caver-

sham might not at first sight look very interesting, it's past is truly fascinating.

When I first heard of it I did not realise the full significance of its age and history. After talking to Leslie Cram I feel inspired to read more about the early days of Christianity in this country. Do go and see the font as soon as it is on show in Reading Museum together with the Silchester collection.

Mr Cram has suggested some further reading on the subject if you are interested:— Charles Thomas "Christianity in Roman Britain to AD500" published by Batsford in 1981.

Keith Branigan "Roman Britain — life in an imperial province" published by Reader's Digest in 1980, especially chapter nine.



Pic Reading Museum

The Roman lead font showing the chi-ro sign

followed immediately by baptism.

The evidence we have shows that the fonts were roughly the same size. The adult to be baptised stood naked in the font with about 30cm of water to stand in. The Bishop then poured water over the head of the person. Baptism at this time was neither by total im-

another baptismal tour.

**The Dark Ages**  
After the Emperor Julian banned Christianity in the year 361 there was a resurgence of paganism in Britain. Little is known of this dark time in our history. In 410 the official withdrawal of the Roman legions from Britain began. In their place

### REG BRIND

As we go to press we learn with regret of the death of Reg Brind at the age of 86. He was organist at St Peter's from 1947-1974. Tributes will appear in our next issue.

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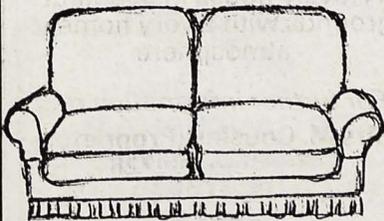
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# RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

## By Watchdog

**Opposition to the Cross-town route**  
On the other side of town the people of Newtown are up in arms about the cross-town route, which they see as destroying their nearest stretch of peaceful open space along the river-side. The construction of the new industrial park with its supporting road system gives ground for believing that their fears are justified. As this new road is planned to run along the river, through "the Coal" and King's Meadows, it is not only Newtown people but also Caversham people who are beginning to get worried.

There was indeed an extensive public consultation exercise in 1985 but that is small consolation to people who have moved into the area since then. Caversham Resident's Association at that time was deeply concerned about the road's effect on Caversham Road and the watermeadows to the west of the bridge. If the road starts off in the Kennet Mouth area it is going to come through our area before long. To say it will not make much of an impact on the water meadows because it will be set back as close to the roadway as possible is rubbish. Even if it could be hidden the noise alone would destroy the quiet of the riverside. The traffic it carries will then be channelled into Caversham Road where road widening can only cause severe environmental damage. If the road is then continued along Richfield Avenue the problem of the two railway bridges is likely to lead to the same kind of damage to the water meadows on this side of the town as will have happened to those on the other side. A look at what is happening in Vastern Road only confirms one's worst fears.

It is time that Berkshire County Council re-thought its road policy. In spite of protestations that they do not wish to turn Reading into one vast traffic roundabout, that is just what is already starting to be the case. In America and Europe, cities are waking up to the need for car restraint and public transport investment. Cities must not be torn apart to deal with what is essentially only a peak hour problem.

Reading Borough Council is opposed to the road. They have seen every new road that is constructed to speed up traffic flow ends up by attracting more traffic. Minutes off a car journey is a dream that recedes with every step taking to achieve it.

### What does it mean?

Nicholas Ridley, hand on heart, declares he will never allow building in the green belt (but that is not the same as green fields). Nicholas Ridley tells the builders' consortium that they are being greedy (something a lot of us twigged a long time ago). Reading and Caversham have had no major planning applications in for some considerable time (but there are plenty already in the pipeline). What does all this mean? Could it be recognition that pressure in the South East is reaching bursting point and it might as well not be around when it happens? Or is it no more than a pause to consolidate gains and draw breath?

### Swan-Upping

The cygnets on the Caversham reach of the Thames seemed to know it was their big day and were all conveniently gathered in accessible spots when an important looking flotilla came up the river especially for them. The Queen's Swan Master and the Worshipful Companies of Dyers and Vintners were making their annual swan-umping pilgrimage. The Queen's watermen were in red jerkins

and white trousers whilst the Vintners' and Dyers' men wore black jerkins and their boats bore banners showing which they were. As they rowed up stream they looked like something out of an historical film. A following launch bore the more soberly clad members of the worshipful companies but even they had a swan's quill in their lapels, whilst the boats captains had quills in their caps, and the Queen's swan keeper was truly resplendent all in red.

The poor swans though were soon in for a rude awakening. Why they were rounded up and had their wings and feet tied they did not like it at all. The family of five cygnets were divided between the Vintners and the Dyers, those claimed by the former receiving two nicks on the bill and those by the latter, one, whilst a large muscular waterman stroked and soothed the cygnets and their parents when they showed signs of distress. They managed to look suitably composed when speeches were made over them and a loyal toast and cheers were called for. They were given a medical by the Swan Care people.

The six cygnets on the other side of the Bridge were apparently Queen's swans, so they escaped nicking, but not rounding up, as they also had to have their medical. They hated it and refused to be consoled by sympathetic bystanders who explained it was all being done for their own good.

The whole process, medicals apart, could have been carried out more efficiently and cheaply (if indeed it actually needs carrying out at all) by a group of chaps in jeans and wellies, but it would not have been nearly as picturesque or half as much fun - unless you were a swan. They in fact recovered their composure quite soon once back in the water, though in future they will probably steer clear of splendidly decked out boats and their crews.

this year were presented by Miss Veronica Fraser, formerly headmistress of Godolphin School and currently Director of Education in the Diocese of Worcester. She told the girls there was room in life for all of them, prize winners or not, and reminded members of Miss Olivey, the previous headmistress, who never considered a job too lowly for her if it needed doing. When she discovered that, in spite of its long history, the school did not have a motto, she offered a prize for the most suitable one found within a year. So the search is on. She did not specify who could or could not enter, so if any friend of school has a bright idea, just drop it into the ear of a Hemdean girl.

**Views upheld**  
Strangely enough, after writing last month about an im-

aginary visitor who returned to reading after an absence, I met three such in a row. The first two were known to me, one having returned after twelve years, the other after two. The first pointed disbelievingly at the Leisure Centre squatting in the middle of what had always been thought of as riverside meadows; the second deplored all the new buildings he could see. The third, unknown to me, but like me, seeking refuge from being included in wedding photographs in Caversham Court, had also been away for twelve years and he was mourning the loss of the Caversham Bridge Hotel and though the new restaurant was a bright idea, just drop it into the ear of a Hemdean girl.

Incidentally, whilst we can scarcely expect wedding guests to refrain from scattering confetti in the churchyard and on the grass of Caversham Court, do they have to drop the bags too? The confetti at least looks festive, the bags just look like any other litter.

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# A DAY OFF

## Welsh Voices at St Giles

On Wednesday 28th September, in the refurbished Parish rooms of St Anne's Church, the Prayer Group is to host an OASIS DAY, when anyone can come to spend a day away from their normal duties.

Do come for morning coffee; stay for lunch; leave after tea to collect children from school or whatever. Throughout the day there will be time

for prayer, meditation, fellowship or relaxation in a Christian environment.

You are welcome from 10.30 am and we hope to make many friends.

For further information, and to help in establishing numbers for food, please phone Mrs Erica Turk on 473007 (7 to 8pm) or Derek Shew on 482960 (after 4pm).

The West Berkshire Marriage Guidance Trust is again active with its Appeal. After a very successful performance of 'Three Men in a Boat' by John Bromley-Davenport at Pangbourne College, the next event is a visit by the Pontnewydd Male Voice Choir to St Giles Church, Southampton Street, Reading at 7.30pm on Saturday 17th September. This well-known choir, coming from close to Cwmbran in Gwent, travels the country raising money for Charity. Tickets price £5.00 (£2.50 OAPs and children) will be available from Hickies Limited, 153 Friar Street, Reading or ON THE DOOR. By post from the Appeal Office, Folly Farm, Sulhamstead, Reading RG7 4DF. (Telephone Reading 303685).



Highmoor Hall garden — opened in August in aid of Tear Fund. *E.S. Archer*



Scots Summer Fayre in Caversham Court. *E.S. Archer*



From 'Prince Florizel — Detective' presented by the Cygnet Drama Group at Thameside School's end of term concert. *E.S. Archer*

## ANTIQUES APPRECIATION

Anyone interested in antiques and would like to know more about them is welcome to join Chiltern Edge Antiques Appreciation Society. Members meet on the first Wednesday of the month October to May from 7.30-9.30pm to hear a first class lecture, usually illustrated with slides on many and varied topics, e.g.

Anthony Lester on 'Watercolours', Geoffrey Tyack on Architecture of the Glorious Revolution and Laura Ponsonby on the History of Kew Gardens. Interested? Further details send a s.a.e. to Mrs J Bowen, CEAS c/o Chiltern Edge School, Reades Lane, Sonning Common, Reading.

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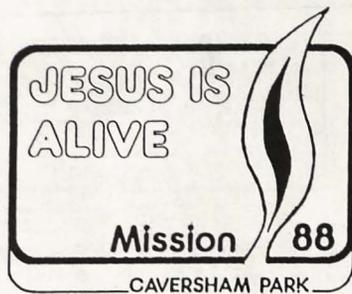
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# ROUND THE CHURCHES



**JESUS IS ALIVE** — well we knew that but thousands didn't so we spent four days, 10th to 14th of July, trying to tell them. At least one person got the message, quite literally — they made off with the eight foot banner inscribed with those very words which was wired to the fence outside the showground where most of the events took place. What happened during those four days? The original planning called for a Faith-Sharing Team from St Andrew's Church, Chorley Wood (words by the Rev Barry Kissel, music by Shirley Hartup, both ably assisted by other team members). But during the period of preparation, folk at Christ Church, Chorley Wood got to hear what was afoot and asked if they might join in. So we said "Yes, of course" and were duly joined by Alan Price, working with the children, and Martin Percy who laid on a rock concert at the Milestone Centre, home of the Caversham Park Village Association. Caversham Park Church opened the proceedings by holding our usual Sunday morning service in the 400-seat marquee around which all our activities were to centre. But the day before the Mission officially started, our regular Saturday mor-

ning prayer group also met in the marquee and our "closing hymn" was sung in procession around the outside of the tent by the way of consecration — "In Jesus's name we claim this ground...Satan has no authority here." Each afternoon after school there were children's activities with a Bouncing Giraffe and a Jumping Castle as the main attractions, followed by a short meeting. The main event of the evening meetings started at 8pm (there was no definite finishing time) with worship, followed by evangelism and prayerful ministry to people with physical or spiritual problems, or who simply wanted to make or renew a commitment to Christ. Some received immediate healing, some were visibly affected by the presence of the Holy Spirit. Members from Caversham Park Church were on hand to make and maintain contact with those who were helped, and kept up a prayer rota within the tent throughout each day whenever no event was taking place, while at night it was occupied on successive nights by the local Brownie pack and by youth groups from neighbouring churches. Attendances increased night by night up to around 200. Many of these were

friends from other churches in and around the Reading area. We were and are most grateful for their support but we would have liked to see more of the unconverted who were the real target of the Mission.

The tumult and the shouting dies we had a very effective P.A. system), the captains and the kings depart (back to Chorley Wood, but Barry got as far as Africa before he stopped!), we folded our tent (like the Arabs). What is left? Letters of thanks to be written, with payment of bills or suitable donations where appropriate, to all who helped us and provided essential facilities — Reading Borough's Leisure Services for the use of the ground, water and electricity, with special thanks to that staunch Methodist, Trevor Wilton; the St John Ambulance who fortunately had very little to do but were generously giving up their free time; the Scouts who provided a tent for the Ambulance crew, plus certain other conveniences housed in three micro-tents; and the Caversham churches who prayed for us and provided stewards.

But the real work of the Mission has only begun. Through what remains of the summer, there will be a variety of happenings and informal meetings to keep in touch with people who were helped during the four days. There will be a visit to the Child-Beale Trust ("The Peacock Farm") for the children, if we can arrange transport; house meetings; a weekly get-together of a group of young people who came forward to Jesus in the tent, and some of their friends who didn't. Then in September when holidays are over, we are setting up some more structured activities for new and not-so-new Christians who want to learn more about their faith, a bible study group, and friendship groups for those who would like to make and meet new friends without necessarily taking on any religious commitment.

Speaking personally as a comparative newcomer to Caversham Park Church, I found that involvement in the Mission and all the weeks of preparation beforehand has brought me in closer

After months of upheaval, work has now been completed on the new building which has been built on the site of the old school room at the rear of the chapel. The old school room had deteriorated in recent years and it became obvious that with the increasing numbers of people coming to meetings improved facilities were required. The members rallied to the call for funds, and work commenced last spring.

The new two-storey buildings comprises two meeting rooms upstairs, a garden lounge, kitchen, office and toilets. With the Sunday morning meetings being held in the new worship hall, after some eighteen months of meeting in the assembly hall of the Hill Primary School, the need for extra rooms for the various young people's meetings was a priority.

Building work was

## NEWS FROM THE CHAPEL ON THE HILL



The Rev. Michael Holmes

completed just after Easter this year, when the responsibility for interior decoration and reconstituting of the garden was handed over to members.

A second important event to occur in the life of the church year

has been the appointment of a second full-time pastoral worker. Michael Holmes was commissioned on Saturday 16th July as Assistant Pastor. He will be working alongside Chris Justice who is now entering his tenth year as

Pastor at the Chapel. Mike, his wife Cathy, and their three children, live in South View Avenue, and have been worshipping at the Chapel for some four years. A former computer training officer with Digital, Mike has recently finished a course in Pastoral Studies at the London Bible College.

As an evangelical church, the Chapel embraces wholeheartedly the principle of spreading the gospel of the Lord Jesus in the community. To help in this, a young man, Paul Salmon, has been employed full-time this year; and he has been arranging open air meetings in St Martin's shopping precinct on Saturday mornings. He also has responsibility for liaising with other churches on events of an evangelistic nature, like the 'Carnival of Praise.'

## GOSBROOK ROAD REVIEW

The summer is gradually drifting past almost without anyone noticing. But life goes on apace in spite of the inclement weather.

The Wesley celebrations went well all over the Reading and Silchester Circuit and friends at Gosbrook Road played their part in producing an excellent Flower Festival. The arrangements were set in the theme of Charles Wesley's hymns. All the flowers were provided and arranged by church members, and a wonderful sight was produced. There was a fairly large walk-in garden, a treasure chest overflowing with flowers, a musical piece arranged by two choir members which included a specially made treble clef, and a beautifully bedecked wooden cross representing the carpenter and his tools. Others included a wedding theme, gold & silver, Christ our Corner-stone and the good and kind physician. It was a well worthwhile family effort and was enjoyed by all who took part and visited the Festival.

June saw another team effort when a successful Summer Fair was organised.

Work is continuing

on the premises. A maintenance day was organised and many members turned up to do jobs such as gardening, cleaning floors, polishing etc. this was another special time of fellowship.

During August a new kitchen is to be fitted and the workers' will be out in force once again. We are indeed grateful to all who give so unstintingly of their time to maintain the

premises.

The Ambassadors Drum & Bugle Corps has been out and about taking part in various competitions. They have been to Haywards Heath, Watford, Ilfracombe, Lancing and Crawley. In each competition they have been placed in the first three.

In September we look forward to our Harvest Festival on the 18th, and on the Monday (19th) there will be the Harvest

Supper and a visit from Traidcraft and their Third World Fashion Show. On Saturday October 8th and Sunday 9th the Church celebrates the Church Anniversary and Gift Day. On the Saturday the Church will be privileged to have Lord Soper as their after dinner speaker. The Anniversary Services will be taken by the Rev. Nigel Collinson the new Chairman of The Methodist Southampton District.

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Turn to page 7

# ROUND THE CHURCHES

## SUE RYDER SUPPORT GROUP CAVERSHAM

SLOWLY after eighteen months it is beginning to dawn on Group members (and I am sure on other charity workers) that one can make money in the rain! Repetitive wishes for a nice day on Saturday or Sunday have been dashed, but still welcome funds have been raised even if shower caps were turned to rain hoods! £105 was raised by the Group during Highdown Show and an astonishing £214 during the Summer Fair at Nettlebed.

Sincere thanks goes to all those who bravely fought the elements. The next event is the Annual "All Sorts Fair" which takes place on Saturday October 8th in Caversham Hall, St John's Road, at 2pm. There will be New, Good as New and Jumble to suit all ages and tastes.

### Obituary

It was with deep sadness that the Group learned of the sudden death of Dennis Rogers on Monday

July 25th. A distinguished gentleman, retiring in 1962 from the RAF as Group Captain, and holding both OBE and CBE awards, he was always so homely and friendly and unassuming.

He became the coordinator of the support groups for the Sue Ryder Home in 1981, guiding new groups and supporting established ones. He was tireless and regularly spoke at meetings as well as appearing at donation presentations. He and

his wife Margaret undertook the raffles at all major functions, collecting prizes, organising ticket sales, and most importantly delivering the winnings.

Dennis was a tremendous ambassador for the Home and the work of Sue Ryder, and his loss will leave a considerable void. We extend our sincere sympathy to Margaret and John, his son, in their loss and assure them of our love and continued support.



E. S. Archer

The Revs. Jo and John Stevenson at St. Margaret's for the Patronal Festival.

## ST. PETER'S MEETING ROOM

This is the text of a notice given to all members of St. Peter's Church which may interest readers.

The notice was signed by the Rector and by Ken Bennett and John Stratford, Wardens.

"At its meeting on 13th July 1988 St Peter's District Committee decided with great regret, to cancel the project to build meeting rooms in the churchyard.

### FACTS

1. JUNE 85 - Architect instructed to draw up plans for a building in the churchyard.
2. SEPTEMBER 85 - Plans submitted to Committee, estimated to cost approx. £50,000. Design generally approved but some increase in area considered desirable.
3. OCTOBER 85 - Ar-

chitect agreed an increase in area by 20% was possible, with an increase in cost to approx. £60,000.

4. SEPTEMBER 86 - Reading Borough Council refuse planning permission.

5. AUGUST 87 - Appeal upheld by Department of the Environment who granted listed building consent.

6. NOVEMBER 87 - Architect notifies Rector that estimated cost of building now £185,000 and is requested to reconsider.

7. MARCH 88 - Architect submits revised estimate of approx. £125,000. In light of assurance from the start of working within a budget of approx. £60,000, the Committee expressed dismay at the

disparity and requested architect to make revisions to give total cost of a maximum of £100,000.

8. JUNE 88 - Architects submit revised costings: a. £140,000 for building complete

b. £123,000 for external shell (unequipped internally).

The architects secured planning permission on appeal - no mean achievement - but failed to say that the building, planned to an estimated cost of £60,000, would actually now cost some 2½ times that amount.

Meanwhile the Rectory Flat is used by Sunday Club, Youth Group and others at no cost to St Peter's but this cannot be a long term arrangement. The District Committee is

considering the possible re-ordering of the Church for meeting space as a matter of urgency."

## St. Andrew's Mothers' Union

AT the June meeting, the Revd Derek Spears delighted members with his talk entitled "A light-hearted look at Opera" which he illustrated with tuneful and lovely music, and some amusing anecdotes.

In July the enrolling member, Mrs J. Jellyman, warmly welcomed the Minister of Caversham Heights Methodist Church, the Revd. K. Saunders who came to speak about John Wesley and the foundation of Methodism two hundred and fifty years ago: a most interesting and absorb-

ing subject.

Some members took part in a colourful pageant in Buckingham Church in early July to celebrate the centenary of the Mothers' Union in the Oxford Diocese. Many members attended the Deanery Festival held this year at Beech Hill Church.

The August meeting was held in the lovely garden of Mrs Elizabeth Mason and was a most enjoyable occasion. Despite a threatening sky the rain managed to hold back until all had seen the beauty of the garden and eaten their tea!

## St Andrew's Fellowship

THE St Andrew's Fellowship followed its usual summer plan of outings with an evening trip in July. A party of thirty-two set off by coach on a rather cloudy, cold evening to Kennington, Oxford. The village was almost completely destroyed by fire at the turn of the century, after which it was rebuilt.

The hardier members walked across the meadow, which had been presented to the community by some generous people from

Chudleigh, Devon, to the river which is beautiful and peaceful and it was a pity the weather was not kinder.

The welcome in the nearby public house made up for the weather though, when everyone sat down to an excellent supper cheerfully served by the staff.

The journey home was quick and uneventful and the coach dropped people near their homes, so no one had a lonely dark walk back.

## ST MARGARET'S PATRONAL FESTIVAL

IT was good to welcome John and Jo Stevenson to the Sung Eucharist on July 20th and to hear Jo preach, for she is now a deacon in the Rugby Deanery. John was St Margaret's priest-in-charge several years ago before going north.

It was good, too, to share the joyous occasion with so many friends from Caversham churches. The rejoicings continued on Sunday July 24th with a special young people's service at which the MusicGroup gave a very impressive lead. This was followed by a picnic in the grounds of The Old Vicarage at the kind invitation of Bridget and Rowaleyn Cumming-Bruce.

From page 6

touch with my fellow church members than the ordinary routine of church life could ever have done. Others would say the same, and this increased togetherness would be a positive gain for our church even if nothing else were to

come out of Mission '88. But we are all very conscious that the strengthening and deepening of our commitment to Christ and our fellowship within the church must be made to serve as a base for continued outreach into the community.

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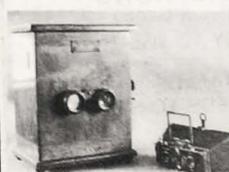
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### LESLIE CROPP

MANY were present in St. Peter's for the funeral of Leslie Cropp. The service was taken by the Rector and the address was given by Canon John Grimwade.

He said that Leslie and Louise were two of the first people he got to know when he came to Caversham in 1962. They had a real partnership in marriage and a strong Christian faith. It was particularly fortuitous that their Golden Wedding was celebrated on St. Peter's day.

For many years the Cropps ran the Youth Club in Balmore Hall. When these young people grew a little older, something different was required, and the Cropps started the Friday night coffee club in the old Toc H building. And how much it meant to have these stalwarts in the background, ever ready to listen! It was a valuable meeting place and many couples have good reason for thanking the Cropps for providing somewhere where they could get to know each other better.

Another of Louise's joys

was arranging flowers in the church. Leslie was there in the background, topping up with water, dead-heading and clearing up.

When Leslie retired from the accounts department at Elliotts he devoted much of his leisure time to St. Peter's. In such an old building so many small things go wrong and Leslie did all these repairs, unobtrusively. He then took over as parish clerk and became a self appointed voluntary verger, always on hand for weddings and funerals. However early the clergy arrived, Leslie was always there first. He was a member of the District Committee and always made sure that the Treasurer presented the accounts in a comprehensible manner.

He knew what religion stood for and knew the church had to be realistic in changing its ways. He always saw everything he took on through to the end. The heart of his life was a

devotion to our Lord; he was a regular attender at nHoly Communion St. Peter's owes an enormous debt to him. There was thanksgiving of Christ's victory over death and of the life and witness of Leslie Canon Grimwade prayed for Louise, Rosemary and David. A collection was taken for the Constable Ward, Battle Hospital, where Leslie spent his last weeks.

### ROBERT (BOB) GAMBLE

BOB Gable, who died on 1st August in his eightieth year, had many of the human virtues. The outstanding one, acknowledged and admired by all with whom he came into contact, was graciousness. He was truly a gentle-man in the Christian tradition of gentleness, kind and considerate to everyone. This must in no way be confused with weakness; Bob's

power of will in dealing with his prolonged final illness was merely an example of his inner strength.

Bob qualified and practised as a solicitor in Wiltshire before the 1939-45 War. He married Diana in February 1940 and, after service in the Army, he joined Colonel Field in partnership in his offices in the Forbury in 1947. Diana and he were blessed with a family of two sons and four daughters all of whom, with their own children, survive him.

Bob played an active part in the professional and business life of Reading and in his forty year membership of the Berkshire Athenaeum Club served his term as its President. Abbey, Hemdean House and Highlands schools have much for which to thank him as have the many business, professional and, perhaps especially, charitable organisations which he served.

He was involved in the life of St Peter's Church, Caversham over many years and he himself drew strength from membership of the Church and from his Christian faith. Many will remember his magnificent voice coming from the clouds in the Mystery Plays in 1982. He was a Warden of St Peter's until very recently when his strong sense of duty told him that his illness was preventing him from performing his tasks to the very high standards which he had always set himself.

Bob's retirement and the death of Diana were tragically so relatively close to each other that he did not have her loving companionship during his retirement years.

In their loss his family and friends can take comfort from a life well lived and which set a standard of high moral and ethical values for those who follow.

K.P.B.

## John O'Groats to Lands End

Colin McFarlane, Alex Hazell, Tim Etherington and Raphael Bate about to set off on 23rd July for the sponsored cycle ride from John O'Groats to Lands End. They left from St Peter's where two of them are regular members of the congregation. British Rail were sufficiently impressed with their imagination to give them free tickets to get them to Scotland and back from Cornwall. They expected their journey to take them just over two weeks.

The four boys left Reading School in July after taking their A

levels. As well as being school friends they are all members of the Reading Interact Club. Interact is the junior division of Rotary. The Reading Club was formed this year and meets in Caversham. The

sponsored cycle ride was their first big event.

They had set themselves a target of raising at least £1,000 for the new Audiology Unit at the Royal Berkshire Hospital and at least £1,000 for a

project called 'Africa Now' which provides clean water in African villages. As they left they has promised for well over half the money. For any reader

impressed by this example of initiative from some of our young people it is not too late to send a donation to them at 77 Kidmore Road. Phone 476757



E. S. Archer

Boys setting off for their Charity Cycle Ride.

### THE READING BACH CHOIR

THE Reading Bach Choir wishes to recruit new members of all voices for its twenty-third season starting in September. Although as the name suggests the choir is Reading based, many of the choir's members come from Caversham or north of the river.

Last season they gave a performance of Schutz's St Luke's Passion in St Anne's Church which was very well received by those who attended. A return visit is planned to the church

this season to give a performance of Victoria, Monteverdi and J. C. Bach. The acoustics should be ideally suited to such a programme.

An OPEN EVENING will be held on Tuesday 13th September at Leighton Park School at 7.34pm. All interested singers are very welcome.

If you would like further details please ring Daphne Rowbottom on Reading 583683 extension 3134 during the day or Henley 681354 in the evening.

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# KATY IN CAVERSHAM

July, as far as I'm concerned, seems to have been a month for saying farewell, in some way or another, to several people — I make no apologies for mentioning them in this column since they were well known to many Caversham residents.

## George Wardell

Even if they didn't know his name, many would have known George Wardell by sight — he died in July and a requiem mass was held for him at St Anne's, where he had worshipped for many years. You see, George was a person for whom friendliness was a very appropriate word — even his illness in later life didn't prevent him from giving all he met a smiling greeting. His rare visits to the shops with a kind friend who accompanied him was an occasion for meeting people and exchanging smiles. George, who worked at the BBC Monitoring Service for a very long while, had not had an easy life; his wife, Hannah, who also worked at the BBC, died many years ago. Yet he retained a keen interest in everything

and everybody as long as he was able. It has been good knowing him.

## Leslie Cropp and Bob Gamble

Elsewhere in this paper will appear obituaries of these two members of St Peter's congregation. No doubt they will contain lists of the many duties they carried out at the church; but, more important I think, they will both be remembered for their very loving friendly attitude to all they met both inside and outside the church. They, too, are people it has been very good to know.



## Our June

On a happier note — since June Desforges and her husband are moving to a new home in Pewsey and, we hope, a very happy retirement — those who attend the Emmer Green surgery will be wishing them well. June, who has been with the practice for many years and was greatly involved in the move to the

new surgery some time ago, was a worthy successor to Mary (I'm afraid I can't remember her other name) when she joined the surgery as a receptionist. Latterly she has worked more behind the scenes but older patients in particular will always be grateful for her ready smile, her sense of humour and her air of quiet reassurance. This practice has been particularly fortunate in the friendly nature of its back up staff, always guaranteed to put patients at their ease. June has been one of them and we are lucky to have known her.

## Barbara

At a party at the BBC on the occasion of Barbara Dalton's retirement, many expressions of gratitude were voiced. Barbara, whose husband, Henry, recently retired after many years as caretaker at St Anne's School, first came to the BBC 35 years ago and it would take more than one column to list all those who have been thankful for all she has done. Not only has she herself carried out an enormous amount of work for organisations such as the Sue Ryder Hospice and Borocourt Hospital, but she succeeded in involving a lot of others, particularly the young people she worked with. For several years she worked as a volunteer helping illiterate adults to read — no easy job but one which gave her great satisfaction. It is typical of Barbara that, while being very firm in her attachment to St Anne's, she took a keen interest in what happened in other churches, and knowing that Sally Ousley, whose family worshipped at Caversham Baptist Church, worked at a Leper Hospital in Bangladesh, her last venture before leaving the BBC was to raise £200 for the hospital by selling paper-backs.

Barbara's interests were wide and there's no reason to suppose she will stop now; particularly she would like to find time to be more involved in actual church work. But, over and above this list of achievements, there was the great interest she took in all the young people who worked under her through the years and the help she gave many of them. Weddings, babies and so on

were all occasions for rejoicing, and she kept in touch with many of them after they left BBC, besides keeping a watchful eye on retired staff and anyone in need. Personally I've always been grateful for the news items she used to provide for the 'Bridge' and hope she will find time to do so in future.



## One last farewell

By the time this sees publication, Peter Mullins will be well on his way to leaving Caversham for a year's study in Dublin. I'm grateful to him for telling us something about the Irish School of Ecumenics because for the life of me I couldn't think why he wanted to go to Dublin, apart from the fact that is an attractive city in many ways. I'm still not fully genned up on what the course is all about, but I rely on Peter to keep us informed when he has time. In his years in Caversham he has worked hard and made many friends so we hope, wherever he goes after the course, he will keep in touch.

## The Reverend 'Jo'

It's many years since we said farewell to the Stevinsons when they moved to Durham, so it was a great joy to welcome them back to a service at St Margaret's, Mapledurham, in July, when Jo, now a deacon, preached the sermon. In a district which has had its fair share of loving clergy families over the years, John and Jo were outstanding and are still lovingly remembered both in the St John's area and in Mapledurham.

impressed by the cleanliness and general standard of the shop and the friendliness of the new proprietor. She tells me she aims to stock as much as she can of what local people want and would like customers to ask for anything they are likely to need. Meanwhile she is carrying a reasonable stock of grocery, has introduced a lot of new videos — no membership necessary — and plans to open from 9am to 10pm. As one who sees a continued need for such 'corner shops', I would like to think local people will give her a chance. You'll be sure of a friendly welcome.



## Bygones

Many of you will know that Church House has been undergoing alterations recently; in knocking down a wall the workmen came across part of a copy of the 'Daily News' dated 8th August 1908 which I was fortunate enough to see before it disappears into archives. I found the report of the suicide of George Collier, who had been unemployed for 15 months, strangely reminiscent of more recent events, but the report of a fire in a colliery due to 'lax candle rules' seems a little out-of-date. For good measure there was a fire at the Old Bailey about the same time. Nothing world-shaking but it's interesting to know that this bit of 80 year history has been wall-ed up all this time.



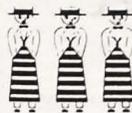
## Gardens

I'm keener than ever on seeing owners of small gardens helping to brighten up Caversham streets, so was pleased to see a lovely splash of colour in a house about half way down South Street on south side. Alas, I don't know the owner of the house but whoever it is must be congratulated on the display of hanging baskets, tubs and a window box in such a very small space. There's still room for improvement in many areas, so I look forward hopefully to more gardens of this kind.

## Welcome to Caversham

Those who remember Mrs Towner's lovely Corner Shop in Westfield Road will, no doubt, have viewed the comings and goings there with some misgivings and it is no secret that there have been times when local people have given up using the shop. Quite by chance I happened to call in the other day and discovered Mrs Nar, an attractive young Kenyan-born lass who had just moved in with her husband and son. I was

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# the CLUBS

## Caversham Heights TG

Children are born having their own feelings about colour and even style can develop, but this state of affairs can change. People all too often do not recognise their assets, Mrs Jane Moss said at the July meeting of Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild in St Andrew's Hall, but only see their faults, which they try to disguise and only emphasise. She was explaining the theories on colour developed by Johannes Itten in Switzerland which have led to an interest in colour analysis and brought along a replica of his colour wheel. She said that the British company she works with aims to help people find their own sense of style and colour, and the confidence to learn to dress with a few well-chosen and better quality clothes. She also mentioned that the British have a history of knowing how to dress appropriately, starting with the imposition of fines for too lavish a

use of material in a cloak or too long a point to shoes in the 12th century and Henry VIII's time, while Australians and Americans may have little to guide them.

She showed how to pack an average-sized suitcase with enough clothes, including a pair of shoes and jewellery, for a fortnight.

At social studies at the end of the month Miss Susan Read had interesting slides which showed how Blake's Lock museum was created, and an immediate visit is planned. Townswomen's Guilds have now survived for 60 years. The conference at Alexandra Palace in June urged introduction of identity cards and the preservation of the National Health Service, members were told.

## Blagrove WI

A lot of speculation, finger-crossing and silent prayers went into the preparations for the garden party held on August 2nd at the home of the President in Upper Warren Avenue. Nearly forty ladies and one baby arrived complete with macs and brollies "just in case". The rain started slowly at first and Blagrove being a hardy lot, put up their brollies, donned their macs and stuck it out till tea was over when common sense prevailed and the party sought refuge in the house where the afternoon finished in the dry. In spite of it all everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and the funds were much healthier as a result.

The previous week the fates were kinder when a party of elderly Londoners were entertained by the Institute at the farm home of Mrs Beacroft and a good time was had by all.

## Maplewood WI

Maplewood members were given a very interesting talk by an American officer from Greenham Air Base on his impressions of England

at their July meeting. Earlier in the month twenty-two members enjoyed a luncheon at the home of the president Mrs Heather Baker which raised \$46.

The flower of the month competition was won by Mrs Rose Painter with a beautiful red poppy.

## Caversham Ladies Club

Mrs Harwood, the Chairman being on holiday, the meeting was opened by Mrs Weal, Vice-Chairman, who welcomed the members present. She then reminded them that there would be no meeting in August, and the September meeting was Harvest Home.

Then Mr Chris Baird was introduced. He is a Ranger at Dinton Pastures and gave a talk accompanied by slides of the different parts and activities that went on at Dinton Pastures, and what an interesting show it turned out to be. First was shown the start of this conservation centre with a slide of old buildings, crane and gravel extraction. This had taken a couple of years. The pits were then flooded and stocked with trout. Unfortunately this was not a successful venture troutwise, and Wokingham Council then took it over. There were two hundred and thirty acres of meadows, hedges and open water; half of the area was water.

Mr Baird said the largest lake was used for sailing, model sailing, canoeing, and water surfing. Fishing, Archery and even Dog Shows were also on the programme. One very good thing at the Pastures is access for the disabled everywhere, so they too can enjoy the beauty and wild life, cormorants, Canada geese, herons, even a green woodpecker very occasionally.

Dinton Pastures is ten years old and a Mr Frank Lavell started the conservation. After his death a lake was named Lavell Lake in memory of him. Floating islands are set up for nesting birds, and another excellent idea is that schoolchildren are welcomed there, and plenty take advantage of it, enjoying rafting, visiting the local farm, going on local walks, and even the very young were catered for with teddy bears' picnics, punch and judy etc. One can phone and find out all

about these activities. They cater for all groups and disabled. The very enjoyable talk by Mr Baird with slides of beautiful wild flowers and trees certainly gave one an appetite to see Dinton Pastures for oneself and it is not surprising it has been given the name "Gateways to Countryside". Everyone said they wished there had been lots more time to listen and look.

Guardian Royal Exchange. He reminded members how simple most remedies were, the avoidance of fires and heaters being used as dryers, aerosols left in sunlight or beside a heat source.

Mrs Wright then guided members through the network of paths in tracing one's family history. As a reward for endeavours through the year members were taken to Burchetts Green for another informative cookery demonstration, much enjoyed at the time by all, and again at home by the lucky winners of the day's products.

Meetings continued on the third Thursday at Church House at 2.15 on September 15th and October 20th when new members will be most welcome.

## Caversham Afternoon TG

The Guild, like Topsy, continues to grow and welcome new members, the zest for new information in a palatable way persists.

Members enjoyed a visit to Rivermead Leisure Centre to see progress and wonder at the ability of the management to meet the opening date and the comprehensive nature of the complex.

The Guild is taking part in the Nationwide PG Tips tea parties to raise money for Imperial Cancer Research as well as continuing their efforts for the RBH 150 Appeal.

The variety of speakers has continued with Mr Bob Featherstone telling of the pitfalls of safety in the home from the point of view of the

## Emmer Green TG

Members of the Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild welcomed Mrs Barbara Phillips, area organiser for OXFAM, to their July meeting. Mrs M. Sutherland, leader of the Arts and Crafts Group, presented her with one hundred and forty garments made from patterns available in the OXFAM shops. Mrs Phillips thanked every one for their work and

Turn to page 11

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# the CLUBS

From page 10

assured them that the dresses, shorts and jumpers would be packaged ready for an emergency.

The speaker for the evening was Mr S. Gold, who gave a most interesting description of the National Trust properties. He explained that the Trust not only cared for historic buildings but owned large areas of farm and coast land which all had to be maintained.

A Bring and Buy paperback book stall was very popular, providing lots of holiday reading material.

## Caversham Community Association

The first meeting in July was on the 4th of the month and, as it coincided with American Independence Day, it was decided to hold an American supper party. The members all brought a contribution to the refreshments table, resulting in a good selection of food. A happy social even-

ing was enjoyed by all, some of the members dressing in traditional American costumes. Evelyn Cook was awarded first prize for the best costume and Doreen Meadowcroft received second prize. As it was the first Monday in the month there was a 'Nearly New' stall with Vicki Scheel in charge.

The following week a visit was made to the Rivermead Sports Centre. The members were greeted by Michael, their guide for the evening, who gave them a tour of the premises. Sports lovers were in their element for there was a fine bowls hall, a sports hall marked out for badminton, tennis and other games. The sports hall could be converted for roller-skating etc. and for fashion or dog shows and concerts.

The members watched children and their parents having a lovely time in the lagoon pool, with waves like the seaside to add to the fun. After seeing the squash courts, the fitness room, which included rowing machines etc., the sauna and jacuzzi, the members were shown the restaurant where they completed the

evening with a welcome cup of tea.

The visiting speaker on the 18th July was Major Alan Thorp (retired), who is the Project Co-ordinator for the Royal Berkshire Hospital's 150th Anniversary Appeal. It is hoped that \$1.5 million pounds will be raised for the redevelopment of the Radiotherapy Department which treats cancer patients. Major Thorp said that the planned department will be the finest in the country. Even-

tually 'Dellwood' will become the new cancer hospital and will be known as 'McMillan Green'. Major Thorp said that he "Deals with good people all day long" in his efforts to raise money for the Appeal. He brought video tapes, slide film and also a fine model of the facade in Redlands Road as it will appear in the new building. The members found Major Thorp's talk interesting and encouraged them in their fund raising efforts.

On the 25th July the second group of members visited the newly built Caversham Hotel. They had a pleasant evening and enjoyed the tour of the hotel, admiring the tasteful decor and comfortable furnishing of the carefully designed rooms. The members were given a warm welcome by the staff and at the end of the tour were given a glass of wine or fruit juice. Members who have already visited the hotel attended the clubroom for a games evening.

## WHAT A CHANGE!

As one who regularly travels along the Caversham Road and Vastern Road it is easy to forget what it used to look like. These photographs were taken just two years ago before all the present works began.



N. Wright



Caversham Road

N. Wright



Along Vastern Road from Caversham Road junction.

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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)  
6.30pm Evensong (1st Sunday only)

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- September 18** 8pm Caring and Sharing Group, Baptist Church Hall, Prospect Street
- September 19** St Andrew's Playgroup Open Morning in Hall from 10am
- September 19** 8pm Institution of the Rev. Bill Carpenter at St Andrew's Church
- September 25** 22nd Reading Ex Cubs and Scouts Reunion, St John's
- September 28** Oasis Day of Prayer, St Anne's Church from 10.30am

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