



PARISH HOLIDAY SETTLES IN AT SANDROYD!

A record number of applicants — well over 100 — rushed to secure places, as well they might, with new, heated, indoor swimming pool, smart gymnasium and squash court, rifle range, spacious gardens and playing fields, surrounded by 30,000 acres of woodland estates, once a royal hunting lodge. From virtually every window of the 1760 house, a panorama of woodlands and hills delighted the eye.

Saturday 6th August, a blistering, vintage summer day, saw our convoy unloading games, kiddies bikes, sports gear, sleeping bags and Caversham off-licences' summer stocks, for eight days' relentless pleasure. We were blessed with sunshine for our setting-in days. At open-air Eucharist the first Sunday, our Rector urged us to listen for whistling butterflies. In the pool the dozens swam daily, a water-polo match at one stage had as many in the sin-bin as in the water, and a swimming gala wound up the week. Tournaments in most imaginable sports were pursued, some after dark, and the Boy's Dorm v Veterans football saw the Boys extracting revenge for their defeat at cricket a few days earlier (N. Stanbrook and R.

Kingsbury vied for the longest over ever, due to physical and mental inability, respectively, to get the ball remotely near the wicket). Nathan Gash's last minute penalty, crafted home past an incompetent clerical keeper, sealed victory in a seven-a-side thriller.

But it wasn't all physical competition. Excursions through Wilts and Dorset hills encouraged appetites, the Nottons resolutely trekking daily while others meandered, a steady stream of visitors brought pleasure to the curator of The Museum at Farnham's nearby hamlet, a daily Bible-study group deepened friendships and commitment and will, DV, continue, Fi Radford and the lasses kept fit musically in the gymn each morning, birthdays were celebrated, a talk on the history of Rushmore by the Assistant Head drew a large audience, relaxed conversations launched friendships in the wee small hours, several people lost car keys and didn't mind (though how Louise had her car at Sandroyd and her keys at Reading baffled us) and Angela K, reminiscent of Forth Bridge painters, plodded daily with renovating her deckchairs for 1989

Last November came the bad news. Embley Park School could no longer accept summer bookings. After a quarter century's Embley holidaying it seemed the end of an era; Caversham rose to the challenge. A group met, dozens of letters were written, and early in 1988 Frances Weeks and John Kavanagh brought good news. A NEW HOME FOR THE PARISH HOLIDAY! — Rushmore House, in the heart of Cranbourne Chase, a few miles from Shaftesbury, Dorset, once home of Lt-Gen Pitt-Rivers, now home of SANDROYD SCHOOL.

and beyond.

Sandroyd's one early morning chapel, unusually midweek and the cosy (for prep final Sunday's, school), hosted two when trumpet, more Eucharists, drums, violin, flutes, percussion, guitars led us in thanksgiving praise for blessings receiv-



"The Spirit of Sandroyd '88" Anna Tomson at the final night's party

ed in our holiday. The chapel altar, appropriately, was a gift from four ex-Sandroyd pupils, including K.J. Woollocombe, later to be Bishop of Oxford! The final day's worshippers, though tanned, seemed slightly tired. The cause? Our traditional last-night party, whose 'Circus' theme brought amazing talent from our numbers. Performing seals, horses, cattle, an elephant, a wimpish Strong Man, a ferocious Caversham Park lion and an adorable St Peter's 'Reginald' lion who came over all shy, all won our hearts. As did Mustaphagin, a Middle-Eastern gent with shovel and barrow, whose genial helpfulness meant much through the week — thanks John Martin! Then came the cavalcade of clowns. 'Fools for Christ's sake' came alive as dozens of clowns, brilliantly attired, cavorted in the wonderful Big Top under streamers and lights, with audience fantastically attired. Andy Radford, commanding ringmaster in top and tails, kept order as the evening degenerated into cabaret, with whimsical poetry from Edna Fitzeustace, hysterically progressive charades via Charles Baker, slick 'Ra-Ra' girls winning deserved encore, Mark 'Ton-

Macoute' K urging gullible volunteers to identify feet, distribution of 1988 trophies, and final Singa Songa Sandroyd, whose chorus was heard in bathrooms all over Sandroyd by those who went to bed on our last night.

Yet there were, more or less, for our climax Eucharist, when the Rector urged us to continue the CELEBRATION theme! The Gospel reading (Cana's wedding feast) and the Epistle (Philippians 4) said it all — 'JOY IN THE LORD'! In its new Sandroyd setting, Caversham Parish Holiday goes from strength to strength. If this report seems esoteric, sorry. Come WITH us NEXT year and experience the divinely relaxed joy of re-creation of God's hilarity in Creation!

Above all, all thanks are due to Frances Weeks and John Kavanagh, who took the Parish Holiday by the scruff of its neck and set us on course for the next quarter-century!

Final word to Mike and Willie, kitchen-staff, watching our last-night spectacular: 'Thought you was a church group. Don't seem like one to us — you're such nice people!' Thanks fellas. We felt the same too.

THOUGHTS ON THE ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD OF MARCUS STOCK

The Parish of Our Lady and Saint Anne celebrated an unique occasion on Saturday 13th August when a young parishioner was ordained here. To add to the importance of the day we were close to the end of the Marian Year (of which I wrote elsewhere in the Caversham Bridge), and our newly ordained priest, Marcus Stock, said his first Mass on the Solemnity of the Assumption, the last day of that Year of Grace. These were bonuses in a parish so steeped in devotion to Our Lady for nearly a thousand years.

By
Father
Thomas Meagher

attending the Mass in Rome when Marcus was made a Deacon (on March 22nd, the Feast of St Chad Patron of the Archdiocese) at which Cardinal Hume presided, surrounded by three Bishops and many Priests and Deacons. It was a very special ceremony, and it was delightful to see Mr and Mrs Stock as the guests of honour. One was given a flavour of the forthcoming Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood by the excellent singing of the students. (My own personal highlights of the visit, apart from the Diaconate Mass, were of two audiences with the Holy Father).

The Stock family had come to Caversham in 1976 and from then until 1980 Marcus attended Highdown School. He was very proud that Highdown provided him with the opportunity of an Oxford place at Keble College where Marcus studied theology for his M.A. Just before he went up he was received into the Catholic Church at St James by Canon Conway.

After his graduation he was accepted as a student for the priesthood for the Birmingham Archdiocese and was asked to train at the Venerable English College in Rome, a College with a long tradition of giving Cardinals, Bishops and Priests to the Church. His studies were made at the Gregorian University, where he added a Ph.B., an S.T.B., and an S.T.L. (Bachelor of Philosophy, Bachelor of Sacred Theology and Licentiate of Sacred Theology) to his M.A.

I had the privilege of

apart from the Solemnity of the Rite of Ordination, the whole ceremony had been beautifully put together by Marcus with all playing their part admirably. The Parish Choir, now an excellent unit under the direction of Mrs Patty Naxton, was complemented by some superb singing by the Roman students and guitar playing by Mr Terry Bryanton. His Grace was most impressed by the whole ceremony, which reflected the dignity and importance of the great sacrament of Holy Order.

The Rite included Marcus' Presentation and Election. There followed the very important promise of obedience to the Archbishop, and the Litany of the Saints, asking the intercession of that great company of God's friends. There followed the central elements of the Ordination the laying of hands, (first by the Archbishop, then by all the priests) and the Prayer of Consecration. In that Prayer is included the essential nature of the Sacrificing Priesthood, the Sacraments (associated as they are with the Eucharist) and the teaching and preaching of the Faith through the Gospel. Marcus was then invested with his own stole (the priestly vestment) and chasuble (the vestment of sacrifice) and his hands, being consecrated to God, were anointed.

After presenting Marcus with the Bread (on the Paten) and the Wine (in the Chalice) — as the elements of



Courtesy Reading Newspaper Co. Ltd

Marcus Stock after his ordination.

Consecration — the Archbishop led the Priests in giving Marcus the kiss of Peace, a visible sign that he had been admitted to the brotherhood of the Clergy. The Sacrifice of the Mass followed, and Marcus joined his fellow-priests in celebrating it.

All were invited to the Hall for a Presentation Buffet, hosted by Mr and Mrs Stock, during which Marcus received a message and a Blessing from the Holy Father, and a cheque from the Parishioners of £1,015.00. Monsignor Jeremy Garratt, Vice-Rector of the English College, spoke warmly of Marcus' work and presence at the College; it was obvious that the loss to

the College would soon be the gain to the Archdiocese. Marcus paid tribute to his parents, and handed his Mother and Grandmother a bouquet each. He then thanked the Parishioners.

The week end was completed by another splendid ceremony — the First Mass of the newly-ordained Priest. Again we had the benefit of the students, beautiful singing and serving, and an excellent sermon, on the Assumption of Our Lady, from a deacon who will be ordained also for our own Archdiocese.

The work done by so many Parishioners, especially since it was in the middle of the holiday season, and the full Church on both occasions, obviously showed the esteem in which the priesthood is held. All 'did Marcus proud'.

One could not help reflecting on the importance of the Priesthood as a Sign of Christ in these humanistic and materialistic days. The essence of the Priest-

hood is in offering oneself to God, and God offering Himself to the world through that work. One great symbol of that offering, at least in the Western Catholic Church, is the offering of celibacy, as Cardinal Hume reminded Marcus and the congregation at the Diaconate Mass.

The Priesthood is not merely a sign (and an effective sign) but the occasion was also a reminder that there is an essential place for God's work; and, in an age when vocations to the priesthood have been declining, an ordination of a parishioner is doubly significant. It is fervently to be hoped that it

will serve to remind other young men of the locality that the Priesthood may beckon them. As the Archbishop reminded us at the beginning of the Mass, there is a great deal to be done, and he is finding it more and more difficult to get priests to man the parishes.

As a matter of interest, as you read this, Father Marcus will be already working as Assistant priest to Father Michael Neylon (previously an Assistant here) at the Parish of Our Lady and St Brigid, Northfield, Birmingham. He is assured of our prayers for a fruitful ministry.

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All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham, by Sept 30.

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KATY IN CAVERSHAM

Happening to call in on Mr Ellis at Prospect Furnishings recently, I was a little disappointed to hear that Penny, to whom I was introduced when I did a write-up on antiques nearly two years ago, had left the business. However I did meet Bill who has taken her place; and what a delight to talk to these two men who so obviously enjoy meeting people. My memory, for once coming to my aid, I asked Harry Ellis what happened to the pipe organ he'd just acquired when I first met him, since he boasts that he buys and sells only in Caversham. At the time I thought he had met his match, but when I asked he grinned broadly and informed me that, believe it or not, he had actually found a home for it in a house on Caversham Heights only a few doors away from where he acquired it, and it's being put to good use.

While still carrying on the upholstery

stery business, the shop is stocking a good line in antiques, and I'd like to remind readers that, like Pat Howard, he is only too delighted to welcome browsers, with no obligations.



The Pop Festival

Incidentally, Harry was among the several people I've found who would like it known how much they appreciate the behaviour of the young people who attended this festival. True, if you live near the music can be a bit trying unless you are 'into Pop', but on the whole these youngsters have made a reputation for themselves for good behaviour and politeness. We hear so much about bad crowd behaviour that it is a joy to pass on these comments.



Flower Festivals

This is in the nature of a request. Won't some

kind soul — possibly a member of the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies, let us know in future when any of their exhibitions are scheduled to take place near enough for Caversham people to attend.

of advertising showed that they left much to be desired. True visitors were invited to become members of the Association, but such an event as this deserves a far wider audience than those who actually want to do

most was to find that the various arrangements were produced by members of several churches in the area, including St Anne's, the local Methodist Churches and Caversham Hill Chapel.

And incidentally

societies etc., have, or plan to have, similar events, but I think I'll be forgiven for making special mention of the local branch of the TSB which, in August, held an at-home for its customers to come along one Saturday afternoon for the purpose of discussing personal financial requirements.

Greeted with coffee and biscuits on arrival, one was given a very pleasant welcome. I'm sure it encouraged those who had wanted to discuss but who would have been a bit hesitant about asking for 'an appointment' with the Manager.



Old Friends

The highlight of August for me was a trip to Lasham to visit our old friends, Betty and Bindy Shaylor — for the benefit of

newcomers to the area perhaps I should say that Bindy was curate at St Peter's some years ago, though the activities of these two lovely people spread far beyond the confines of one church.

After the vicissitudes of recent years, it was a joy to see them looking so much better and, as always, full of beans and very happy in their lovely new granny flat attached to the house where their son, Charlie, lives with his wife and family. Betty and Bindy don't seem to have forgotten any of us and were full of questions about various Caversham people. Alas, we couldn't answer all their questions but promise to keep a watchful eye open, in future, for anything which might interest them.



E.S. Archer

Summer holiday story time at Caversham Library.

It was quite by accident that my family noticed a poster about a Pageant of Flowers to be held at a school at Sherfield-on-Loddon in August. It was also quite by accident that one of our editors saw a similar notice when visiting Winchester. I wonder if we were the only Caversham people there; if so I think it was a great pity as it was a superbly produced event, colourful and exciting. The sad thing was that it wasn't nearly as well attended as it should have been. Enquiries about the NAFAS methods

flower arranging. In this case, the Missions to Seamen — all these displays are in the cause of a charity — would have benefitted financially. So please, somebody, do let us know about such events.



Speaking of Flower Festivals

I can't let August go without a mention — no doubt written up more fully elsewhere — of the Flower Festival held at St John's in August. Beautiful as it was, the thing which pleased me

Honour for St Peter's Lady

Congratulations to Stella Oates JP, who has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Berkshire. She and her husband Peter are members and supporters of St. Peter's

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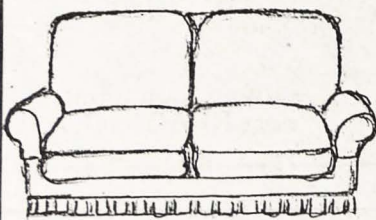
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THOSE WERE THE DAYS

It is thirteen years since I wrote the following article for the Caversham Bridge. Sadly two of the three dear ladies have since died, but I remember that afternoon as clearly as if it had been yesterday.

It was a perfect June afternoon when I walked past the newly cut hayfields to have tea and a chat with three of the older residents in Mapledurham. The three ladies had lived locally all their life and each had been to the village school, and I was primarily after information about Miss Butler who was headmistress there from 1870 until she retired in 1914. She came from Streattham as a young teacher and stayed at her work in the Oxfordshire countryside for forty-four years. Then she retired to Myrtle Cottage, Chazey Heath. I hoped to be shown a picture of this rather remarkable woman, but was disappointed. No one had such a thing. However over a cup of tea we were soon chattering merrily about schooldays around 1910. There was no doubt from the conversation that everyone agreed Miss Butler to have been a very good teacher, even in her last few years when she must have become rather weary. True she did have a little cane which she enjoyed rapping on the desk but I was told she never used it, though possibly there may have been the odd case when either she became overwrought or felt it was necessary.

A Prize of Twopence

Apparently Miss Butler always had Maypole dancing in the hard dirt playground every Spring when a flag pole was adorned with gay ribbons and all the school entered a competition to make the best crowns for the May King and Queen. The two winners received a prize of two pence each and after the merrymaking was

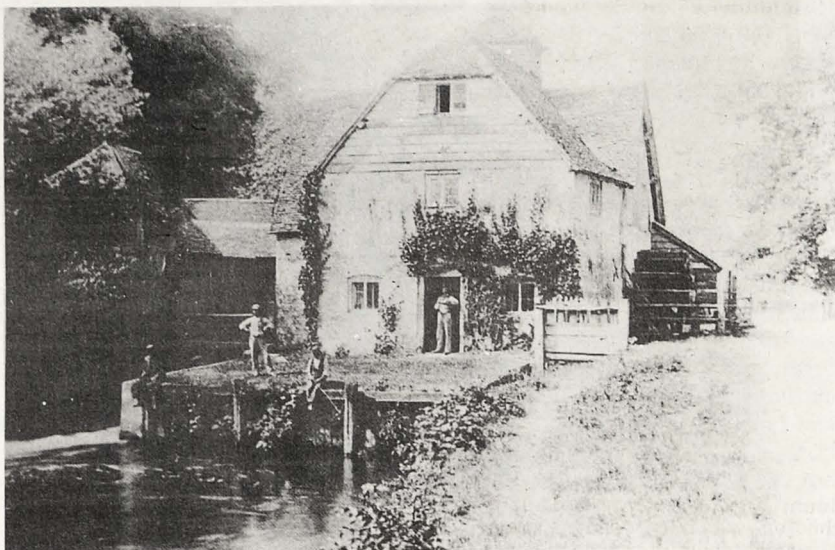
these pages, such as the recording of Queen Victoria's death on January 23rd 1901. "It was with great sorrow we received the news of the death of her Majesty the Queen, who passed away peacefully at 6.30pm." Truancy occurred then as it does today, but then

Fund." In 1895 the Cocoa Scheme began and children paid a half-penny a week during winter months for a daily cup of cocoa to have with their sandwiches.

Summer, too, brought occasional excitement to the routine of school life. "July 24th 1899. The children were taken to Reading Museum. The conveyance was

kindly lent by Mr Hill of Lilley Farm." Perhaps the transport was one of those old wonderful Oxfordshire wagons. Again in "September 1900 Mrs King kindly invited the teachers and thirty of the school children to spend the afternoon and take tea on the houseboat Iris." Nineteen hundred

Continued on Page 5



Mapledurham Mill around 1890 as Miss Butler would have seen it.

choice and the church yard suddenly became adorned with flowers.

From Miss Butler's entries in the school log book it is possible to gather an interesting picture of Miss Butler had a donkey and cart before she gave up teaching or not. Some say she only had one after retiring, others who can remember back a little further say she used one whilst still at School House. There is an entry in the logbook pointing to the latter. "January 5th, 1889, the stable has been re-thatched.

Winter had its brighter days. On "January 16th 1896. The New Year gifts were given away after school this afternoon, dresses, cloaks, shirts." Then on "December 6th 1897 I showed the children a magic lantern show this afternoon which they very much enjoyed. It was about the Pied Piper of Hamelin." Other entertainment included "November 1899. A gramophone recital given in School by Mrs Rose in aid of the War

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THOSE WERE THE DAYS



We haven't a date for this delightful photograph of Mapledurham House, which is seen in the distance. It looks as though a celebration of some kind is taking place — Coronation of Edward VII or George V? Sadly, the avenue of elms became diseased and had to be cut down.

From Page 4

and four has this thrilling little entry "March 15th. The first cuckoo heard". Very early, but no doubt country children would be correct in their in-

formation and there would have been more cuckoos about. For many years after her mother had died Miss Butler had an invalid sister to live with her and one of my friends remembered having

read to Miss Emily every day about the Crippin and Miss Le Neve case, but towards the end the poor little girl became so upset by these newspaper reports that she had nightmares and her mother sent a message to say she was not to read any more of the gruesome affair.

Help for the Donkey

Sometimes Miss Butler would go down to Mapledurham House to take tea with her friend the housekeeper. She made the journey in her little donkey cart and took one of the school children with her. On the way home the child, who got a free tea in the servants' quarters, was made to get out when they reached the steep climb up the hill, and had to push the cart from behind to help the poor donkey, for Miss Butler was of generous proportions!

Of course during our conversation we got to other topics. Most people seemed to have kept chickens, and a pig as described in that fascinating book on country life towards the end of the last century, 'Lark Rise to Candleford.' I was told that some sold part of their pig meat to neighbours,

thus making a little extra money. How people managed to have enough spare food to feed a young porker is quite a guess, but children around Chazey Heath used to collect acorns for Mr Vanderstegen's pigs at Cane End, getting nine shillings a bushel for them, so perhaps they also collected some for their own pig at home. Gleaning in those days was probably a regular autumn activity.

A favourite dish in one household was a lump of bacon put into a large iron pot hung over an open fire and boiled with cabbage and potatoes. Into all this was added a huge spotted dog plum pudding tied up in a cloth. Sprinkled liberally with sugar or covered with custard, this was the "afters" and I am told never tasted of cabbage or bacon!

Around 1900 the Hon. Algernon Mills lived as a tenant in Mapledurham House. He was very fond of dogs and horses. He had nine dogs and several beautiful horses. When coming back from Reading in his carriage Mr Mills used to notice how the horses slowed down when they reached the Pack Saddle public house, and he

always said he imagined the groom often used to stop off for a pint because the horses had become so accustomed to the halt they automatically got ready to turn in there.

Mr Mills always arranged for a Flower Show in the village every year. There was a marquee and a band in a field nearby and it was looked forward to with much enthusiasm by young and old alike, but for different reasons in some cases. One of my elderly friends told me she and other children always bought a lemon just before the great day and then stood around as close to the bandsmen as possible sucking it. They imagined, probably rightly, that it would cause the players blowing the wind instruments to have watering mouths and spoil their playing.

Our conversation could have carried on much longer about days far gone, but like all good things, it had to come to an end. So I thanked my kind friends for the tea and the chat and hoped we could continue our talks another day. Then it was past the hayfields again and back to Caversham. M.K.

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ROUND THE CHURCHES

St Peter's Young People

The four young people reported in our last issue to have set off on their sponsored bicycle ride arrived safely at Lands End after two weeks working their way down the country. They hope to have raised nearly the £2,000 which was their target.

Their adventures included a buckled wheel, several flat tyres, at least one night in the open, and another night sheltering in a friendly church. A group of parents and friends met up with them at Cheddar Caves for a day towards the end of the journey.

Two of them celebrated 18th birthdays soon after their return. The Reading Interact Club put on a reception for them at one of their homes. They had a map on the cake suitably marked with little flags at each of their stopping points.

Catharine Harris

Meanwhile one of the leaders of St Peter's Youth Group set off on a trip which took her much further afield. She had been selected to join the National Scout and Guide Orchestra on its tour of Japan during August.

Catharine works for the Home Office. She was a cub leader in Norwich when she was studying for a music degree there. She has also helped with one of the 3rd Reading (St Peter's)

packs in Caversham. She plays the flute and sings in the St Peter's Choir.

As well as playing in a large number of concerts members of the orchestra had the chance to stay with local families. Catharine reported that she was particularly fortunate in the welcome which she received and her insight into several features of a Japanese way of life.

Alex Neil

On 23rd August people at St Peter's and in many parts of Reading were deeply saddened to hear of the death of Alex Neil in a motor-bike accident near his home in Caversham Heights.

Alex was a pupil at Leighton Park School. He had been a member of the choir at St Peter's for several years before going to boarding school, was confirmed there in 1984 and had been involved in the 'Mapledurham Mob' Youth Group based at St Margaret's. He was a incredibly friendly, determined and outgoing boy with a very wide circle of friends.

His funeral was held in St Peter's a week after the accident. It was attended by a large number of young people from Leighton Park, St Peter's and elsewhere. The choir sang, a member of the staff from Leighton Park read the lesson, and Brother Joseph from Presentation

College who knew Alex well led the prayers. Many donations have been received in Alex's memory towards the fund to re-robe the choir of which he had been part.

'The Caversham Bridge' joins many people in offering its sympathy to Alex's parents and his younger brother.



E.S. Archer

Presentation to the Dorner family after their last service at St Barnabas'

GOSBROOK ROAD REVIEW

A comment made by a recent visitor was 'very enterprising' - now what was she talking about? Well if you care to visit Caversham Methodist Church you can take away a souvenir of your visit in the guise of a bone china thimble in a presentation case, or a tiny china plate. Each piece of china is crested with a picture of the Church and inscribed with the name. The cost is £2.50 and these make nice mementoes and christening gifts etc.

Another enterprise taking place at Gosbrook Road is the Kitchen refit organised and headed by Tony Champion. When finished the kitchen will have a really modern look with new beige units and shiny stainless steel sinks. This will be a welcome advantage to the catering crews who do such a splendid job for the various Church and Circuit events.

Looking ahead to

the Autumn several new projects are emerging. The Sunshine Girls Singing Group will be beginning on Mondays at 4pm to 5.15pm. This is a singing group for girls aged 6 to 9 years. The activities will include singing (of course, games, quizzes, refreshments, trips out to entertain, taking part in Church services, and hopefully a theatre trip. New members will be very welcome.

A second house group will be starting in the Henley Road area of Caversham giving opportunity for monthly fellowship and discussion. All the usual fellowship and youth meetings will be continuing and a warm welcome will be found in every part of the Church Family for the would be visitor.

Congratulations are in order for DIANE

HERBERT and DENISE DYMOND who have just gained their GOLD Duke of Edinburgh's Award. This award represents many years of hard and dedicated work. Well done Diane & Denise on this marvellous achievement.

It is with regret that we record the passing of Mrs May Terry of Gosbrook Road. Mrs Terry was a loyal and faithful member of the choir and the Women's Fellowship. She was always interested in everything that was taking place at the Church and in people's lives. She always had a twinkling smile and a world of encouragement for everyone. A true example of a cheerful Christian. We remember her family in our prayers and assure them of our support in the future.

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The Rev Bill Carpenter, St Andrews House, Harrogate Rd., Tel: 478688.

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

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

(For Caversham Park Village)
The Rev Cecil Keane, 18 Peppard Road, Sonning Common. Tel: 723418

St Andrew's Fellowship

On Thursday 11th August a party of about thirty-five members of the Fellowship and visit was the friends braved this year's summer to go to the Wild Life Park at Burford. They called in for coffee and a quick look round at the shops at Burford before actually going to the Park. Some took advantage of the many facilities for a picnic and some had lunch in the cafeteria before exploring the beautiful Park.

The highlight of the visit was the penguin's feeding time, and the most beautiful spot was the walled garden. Added to all this was the little train which did a circuit of the Park and was very well patronised and the shops, including a special one for children, which were also popular.

It stopped raining just as most people had finished lunch and exploring the houses and it stayed fine until the party was just leaving for home, tired but happy and very appreciative of the organisation by Ken Bond and his committee which had provided them with a splendid day out.



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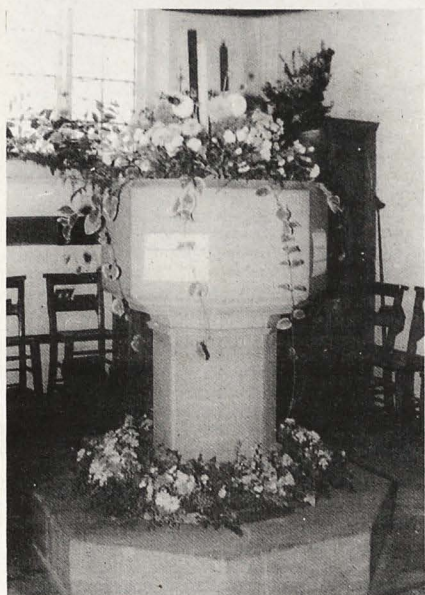
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ROUND THE CHURCHES

ST JOHN'S CHURCH CENTENARY FLOWER FESTIVAL



E.S. Archer

We welcome you by Mrs Sylvia Froud



E.S. Archer

Pulpit by Mrs Roberts

Flower Festivals it seems either evoke total horror or great joy, the former to the would be organisers and the latter to the people who enjoy the resulting displays. In practice this Festival produced an incredible fellowship amongst all the church and friends of St John's. With the umbrella theme "Ancient and Modern" some of the arrangements reflected particular decades as the Victorian window by St Barnabas and posies on the chancel gates by St Peter's. Some reflected the Church's purpose like the font area decorated by Mrs Sylvia Froud on behalf of St John's Choir members, saying, like the baptism service "We welcome you." Others reflected the gifts of the Radcliffe family in the Lady Chapel "Dedication" display by Mrs Phyllis Colley, and the present commitment of the Mothers' Union to the sanctity of family life.

There were beautiful floral arrangements on behalf of Caversham Heights Methodist Church, Caversham Park Village, St Margaret's, Gosbrook Road Metho-

dist, St Anne's Church, the Chapel on the Hill and many individual friends including a musical presentation by Mrs Jane Robson, the Children's Corner by Mrs Hand, a painter, together with the Tuesday Cub Pack's plate gardens which gave so many people such joy. Mrs Alice Smith showed the austerity years with her hand made flowers and field and hedgerow products; the pretty decorations of the pulpit were by Mrs Roberts. Technological progress was vividly displayed by Mrs Mary Smith with the colours of

the compact discs reflecting the sunlight and the drama of greenery and red gladioli and dahlias giving Concord its flight path. Mary also decorated the nave altar to reflect the High Altar window and the Gothic arches of the nave altar borrowed from St Saviour's Church.

The red of Pentecost was reflected in the chancel windows by Mrs Margaret Massey and pedestals were matched



E.S. Archer

Lady Chapel. 'Dedication' by Mrs Phyllis Colley

by Mrs Edna Fitz-eustace and Mrs Christine Davis, the latter of whom did all the pillars and corners. The overall theme was summarised by St Andrew's with the 'Light of the World' spanning the 1662 prayer book and the ASB. Finally, reminding us of our duty to the community as a whole, the outside displays were loaned by Parks and Gardens at Coley Nursery.

There was scope and room for everyone, including, as it turned out, those who have no

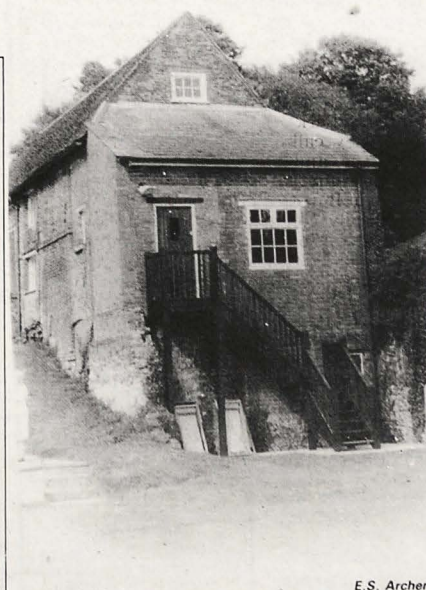
skill but like the children caught the enthusiasm for flowers and the love of playing with oasis, wet or dry!

For all that has changed and gone the whole festival and the building in which it stood, spoke of what is right, beautiful and enduring, God's love for us and for all his children, what we may find in a Lord who is the same yesterday, today and forever.



E.S. Archer

Birthday Greetings by Gosbrook Road Methodists



E.S. Archer

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OBITUARIES

REG BRIND

The death has occurred at his home at Twyford of Reg Brind, who was organist at St Peter's for twenty seven years until his retirement in 1974.

Reg was highly regarded as an accomplished musician. At one time he studied under the direction of Gustav Holst, the composer, and he was director of music at Henley Grammar School for many years.

He made a notable contribution to the musical activities of St Peter's. He conducted the combined Caversham Church Choirs on

many occasions, notably when they sang Evensong at Westminster Abbey and St Paul's Cathedral. He composed settings of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, and also wrote an adaptation of Marbecke for the Series 3 Communion Service. All those works were performed at St Peter's from time to time.

Reg did not entirely sever his connections with St Peter's after his retirement, and he was always welcomed back at the organ as occasion arose.

Twenty years ago, when Reg Brind retired from the staff of Henley Grammar School, he characteristically gave more time to music-making at Caversham.

Toodie Scott-Dempster (whose husband was then curate at St Peter's) became his organ pupil and so did I. He was a patient, enthusiastic and gently critical teacher, helping one to surmount obstacles by recounting his own humorous experiences in the past.

His worst threat was, "If Twyford is under snow next Sunday and I can't get my car out, you will have to play for Parish Communion!" But his never happened. Instead, on entering St Peter's for a service, we heard Reg improvising so skilfully on the organ that cares and duties were forgotten, and we were quietly inspired to worship.

Anne Grimwade.

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TWO GOLDEN WEDDINGS

Sue and Blossom



E.S. Archer

Sue & 'Blossom'

Susan Taylor and Charles Butler (Blossom to everyone) met fifty-seven years ago in Woodley. Quite a lot of their courting was done in the church at Woodley, or St Peter's at Earley, where Sue lived. They were married there on the 17th September 1938, by the Rev. H.H. Nash (Yes! Canon Nash!) Like many young couples at that time, they knew hard times and separation, when Blossom served

in the Royal Berkshire Regiment during the war. When peace came they settled at Woodley. Blossom rejoined the Church Choir, where he sang 'man and boy' for forty years, and Sue sang in the congregation. Blossom was Scoutmaster there for a time, and Sue joined in the church activities. In the early sixties they moved to Coley, and Blossom was Treasurer for St Saviour's Church. In

1969 they came to Caversham, and they have sung together in St John's congregation ever since. Church music has been an abiding, shared interest in all their fifty years of marriage, and we shall sing two of their favourite hymns at the 9.15am Communion Service, as part of their celebrations.

Sue's links with Caversham go back to before her marriage, when she worked in the Reading & Caversham Laundry. Blossom's skills, learned on building sites, are always being called on for church repairs. "Ask Blossom" is the cry when any job needs to be done — and Blossom cheerfully does!

Their counsel for a long happy marriage is a shared interest in God, shared interests and a sense of humour, — "but, anyway, we are made for each other."

They hope to go to Scarborough to have a double golden wedding celebration with their best man and his wife, whose own golden wedding comes on the 3rd September this year.

We wish them all a very happy and blessed time together.

Olive and Bob Roberts

What a delight it was to meet Olive and Bob Roberts. They celebrated their Golden Wedding on 30th July and they are as happy with each other as they must have been when they first met. And it was a real holiday romance — and romantic is the word that fits the Roberts — who remember the date of that meeting, August 9th 54 years ago. Parents then had much more say in their children's lives and Bob had to wait

for four years before they married. During this courtship he acquired his first car, so has now had 52 years of motoring.

Bob did 6 years in the Army during the war, then became Commercial Director of an electrical business and travelled extensively overseas, representing British industry, during his business years. So starting married life in Heston, then moving to Dorney, he was always close to Heathrow. Dorney was the place where they were happiest. It is a delightful village

Emmer Green 8 years ago. Their son trained as a solicitor. He was involved in litigation with young offenders and then changed direction by becoming ordained. He is now Vicar of Thamesmead, SE London and keeps open house for the young. His parents know this well, as they "house-sit" for him when he is on holiday.

The Roberts are perhaps a little disappointed that Emmer Green does not correspond to the village life style. They are both very busy; very



E.S. Archer

Bob and Olive on the garden seat given them by their family.

and they lived a full village life, both entering into all that was going on. They had a garden of 1 acre, quite enough to keep them very busy part from all their other interests. John Methuen had been Vicar there, and when the Roberts moved to Emmer Green, they continued to support him at St Mark's, Reading, until he left. Thereafter they became members of St Peter's where their talents will surely be utilised.

The Roberts have two children. Their daughter has lived in Caversham Park Village for 21 years with her three children, so Bob and Olive knew the area before they retired to

keen gardeners and the house was full of lovely flowers and plants together with many of Olive's own productions — delightful pottery figures, paintings, sewing and embroidery. The length of the garden is an eye opener, but beautifully kept and in the greenhouse are the results of Olive's very green fingers. She is a member of Rosehill WI. Bill is a prolific reader and is busy, when not in the garden, catching up on all that he missed in his very busy working life. People are clearly very important to them both, themselves such a friendly couple.

The whole family was present and had arranged a celebratory lunch at the White Hart in Sonning. We wish them well and many happy years to come.



Gordon Hodgson

Phillipa Jewiss, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs O. Jewiss who married Richard Shales, only son of Mr & Mrs Shales of Harborough at St John the Evangelist, Bradford on Saturday 6th August.

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By Watchdog

CONSERVATION STATUS FOR SURLY ROW

It is welcome news that Surley Row is the next in line to become a Conservation Area. This is one of the most attractive parts of Caversham, in that, although small, it contains a wealth of listed and other interesting buildings, lining a narrow street with a backdrop of trees and red brick walls. The section under consideration stretches from Peppard Road to Rotherfield Way, then crosses Rotherfield Way to include buildings on the other side.

The entrance from Peppard Road to Surley Row has a welcoming traditional look with its old type phone box, its wall mounted post box, and wide grass verge. Hill House, home of M.P. Tony Durant, can be glimpsed through the trees.

From the Rotherfield Way entrance, this section of Surley Row is approached by a steep hill, bordered by the high wall of Springfield St Luke, which conceals from view what lies beyond. Sheepwalk is excluded from the proposed area.

St Luke itself is probably seen best from that part of Surley Row on the other side of Rotherfield Way. It is an imposing house of the early nineteenth century, occupied in turn by several well known Caversham Residents, one being Admiral Coffin, who endowed the Westfield Road almshouses, and now the subject of a planning brief since its late lamented closure as a home for elderly ladies.

Similarly, on the opposite side of the road, only what is virtually the back of No. 23 (Farmcote) can be seen, although the curious will be interested to know that its promised attractions are amply fulfilled on the side concealed from the road. It is eighteenth century with early nineteenth century extensions.

After this, we have No. 4, White Cottage, eighteenth century with early nineteenth century additions, No. 2 Fir Tree House, again eighteenth century but with alterations, and No. 1, attached

to and formerly part of Hill House, and notable for its large bell. There are several other houses which can only narrowly have missed listing.

Meanwhile, in the section of Surley Row beyond Rotherfield Way, there is the timber framed Tudor cottage, and the mid-nineteenth century Tudor-Gothic Grove Cottage on the west side, and on the east side No. 46, in colour-washed flint. Just beyond lies the popular though unlisted Gardeners' Arms and here the conservation area stops although further along Surley Row there are other listed buildings.

To ensure that the setting of this little gem of an area remains fitting, tree preservation orders have been placed on a large number of trees just outside it. Trees in conservation areas themselves cannot be removed, or lopped without special permission.

Designation as a conservation area does not mean preserving it in aspic. There can be development, but it must be sympathetic. This new area faces the challenge of what is to happen to Springfield St Luke. The fact that its attractive nature has been officially recognised gives ground for hoping that future development there will be of an acceptable nature.

ST PETER'S CHURCHYARD

The conflict of interests between preservation and development was particularly exemplified in the proposals for building parish rooms in St Peter's Churchyard. As announced in last month's Caversham Bridge, the plans have now had to be abandoned on the grounds of escalating costs, even though the Department of Environment Inspector came down on the side of the development rather than conservation. Some heard this news with bitter disappointment; others rejoiced that the harmony of the church yard will remain unshattered. As the church authorities now look for other ways of finding the accommodation they need,

they will have the good wishes of everyone in their deliberations, for interest in what goes on in and around the parish church is not confined to members of its congregation.

PATTERNED BRICKWORK

Still on the subject of conservation, the Secretary of State for the Environment (Nicholas Ridley, no less) has approved Reading Borough's directive to protect the character and appearance of certain examples of Reading's patterned brickwork. This includes 8-32 and 1-17 Rectory Road, Caversham. This is welcome news.

Although this road has unfortunately become and extension to the local car parks, it has not so far been seriously harmed by unsympathetic alterations and with this official recognition of its importance, both new and old residents will, it is hoped, want to take a pride in the appearance of their road, and seek advice before changing the appearance of their house.

Twelve other streets in Reading were originally picked out by the Borough for recognition, but three of these, Curzon Street, Whitley Street and Brook Street were rejected by the D. of E. because there had already been too much unsympathetic alteration. Sad.

THAT BOATHOUSE AGAIN

It seems rather incredible that after all the controversy over the Promenade Boathouse it is still unoccupied. There it stands, obstructing the views and restricting the right of way by being too close to the river itself so that the oarsmen's arms shouldn't get tired from carrying their boats and no one seems to want it now. It cost the Borough Council \$400,000 to build and they are willing to let it to Reading Rowing Club for a mere £10 rent per annum (no, not night or even week), but the Club cannot afford the running costs. Perhaps rowing enthusiasts of earlier days who used the premises

tent with a boat-house that simply stored their boats, whilst they put their clothes where they could, went home for the equivalent of a shower and resorted to a local pub for a drink.

Understandably the present generation of oarsmen have higher expectations, but to read as one of the excuses that the boating club cannot afford the fire precautions (why were they not already there?) required in order for them to open the bar takes the breath away. The Boat-house is surrounded by drinking places. What is it — a rowing club, or a drinking club?

The Leisure Department say that if the Club don't want it, they can always use it, but this building was designed at considerable expense, as a boat-house, not as a general community hall. Now, after all the hoo-ha over the planning process, it seems it wasn't needed after all.

From page 12

of the members were accompanied by their dogs and all enjoyed the walk. At Sonning a stop was made for drinks, already organised by fellow member Dolly Usher, then they made their way homeward to Caversham. \$450 to date was raised by the members on this walk. There had been a Rummage Sale organised by Margaret Cameron, the Secretary, on the 30th July at the clubroom, and \$80 was the total profit on that occasion, which was also for the Royal Berkshire Hospital Appeal.

An Old Tyme dancing evening was held on the 15th August led by May Plant. A varied selection of dances, with a few modern ones for variety, made a pleasant evening. Members who did not wish to dance played card games.

A social evening on the 22nd August was well attended. There was no meeting the following week as it was the August Bank Holiday.

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A CONCERT OF MUSIC TO AID ROYAL BERKS HOSPITAL AUDIOLOGY UNIT APPEAL

AUDIOLOGY UNIT APPEAL



A highly successful concert which raised £1,800 for the Royal Berkshire Hospital's Audiology Unit Appeal was held on 31st July at the home of Drs. Monica and Douglas Latto, Lethnott Lodge, 4, Derby Road, Caversham.

Taking part were well known percussion artiste, Evelyn Glennie who herself suffers from some hearing disability and pianist Caroline Clennow who accompanied her. The music was greatly appreciated by an audience of some 250 people who congregated on the lawn in a marquee to hear an uplifting programme on Marimba, Tabourin, Snare Drum and Xylophone. Works played were by Chopin, Fritz Kreisler and Keiko Abe of Japan where Evelyn Glennie herself has studied his special music. Both musicians have appeared regularly on television and on the radio.

The event was in- Inside the Marquee.

produced by Dr John Bamford, head of the Audiology Unit who outlined the aims of the department which hopes to raise £200,000 to rebuild the section which

houses research and treatment.

A vote of thanks was given by leading harpist Marisa Robles who has already given two Charity concerts at the Latto residence.

Royal Berkshire Hospital

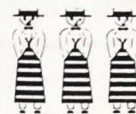
Dor Monica Latto is a Commander of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade and Dr Douglas Latto has recently been granted

Freedomship of the City of London and has received the Queen's Jubilee medal for services to safety.



C. Latto

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The money does not, however, go directly to the child, so favouring one child rather than another. World Family arranges for many children in a village to be sponsored, and the money received is devoted to projects which will benefit them all, such as health care, basic improvements to dwellings, provision of clean water or improving education facilities. The families themselves decide which are their children's most urgent needs, and

they must make their own contribution, either by giving such money as they can afford or, as in the case of a project like sewer-building or tree planting, by joining in the work.

Thus the lives of individual children are enhanced by raising the living standards of the community as a whole. Moreover the children learn how, when they grow up, they will be able to provide their children with a better standard of living than they enjoyed themselves.

For the sponsor there is the interest of having a close link with a family and corresponding regularly with the boy or girl, and the satisfaction of receiving periodic reports on the improvements to the children's lives which the contribution is making possible.

If you are shopping in the Broad Street Mall between October 3rd and 8th,

look out for the World Family exhibition, and if you would like more information on how to extend your family in such a worthwhile way, just phone Martyn Allies on Reading 472007.

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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)
6.30pm Evensong (1st Sunday only)

St Margaret's, Mapledurham

8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday)
11.00am Parish Communion

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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 (in chapel)
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 Annes 9.45am (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

the CLUBS

Caversham Heights TG

Are hearing dogs for deaf people really of value, or necessary? Have you ever wondered about what can be done to improve the quality of life for a deaf person? Members of Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild heard in August in St Andrew's Hall in Albert Road how dogs have been trained since 1982 at Chinnor in Oxfordshire to recognise four or five different new sounds which may occur in a home and to interpret them to their deaf owners.

A telephone rings. The dog will then run to and from the telephone. There's a

knock at the door and the dog will again run between its owner and the source of the sound. What a help to independence for those who have lost their hearing.

Miss Claire Guest Martin, a trainer for the society "Hearing Dogs for the Deaf", said certain conditions have to be fulfilled and then a dog is carefully matched to its new owner's lifestyle. She and her assistant, who brought a dog along with them, were warmly thanked for their talk and demonstration and contributions were given towards this good work.

The £21 originally raised at Mrs J Slawson's tea afternoon for cystic fibrosis was added to the total of £106.30 raised at Mrs M Holloway's social evening in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital's "Wishing

Well" Appeal. A Bring-and-Buy Sale at Mrs P West's house in aid of Imperial Cancer Research raised £53.

Caversham Community Association

A whistdrive was held on the 1st August with Doreen Crawley, a club member, in charge of the proceedings. There was a good attendance and the player with the highest points was Betty Petheridge, who received first prize. Joan Tarrant was given the consolation prize. Vicki Scheel was in charge of the "Nearly New" stall held on the first Monday in the month.

The clubroom was closed the following week as members were taking part in a sponsored walk along the riverside to Sonning and back. They were giving the money raised on the walk towards the Royal Berkshire Hospital 150th Anniversary Appeal. The walkers assembled on Reading Bridge at 7pm and starting at Caversham Lock made their way along the tow path to Sonning. Some

Turn to page 10

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