



SCARGILL HOUSE HOLIDAY

by David and Margaret Pearson

AT the end of May 1990 five families from the Parish of St Peter's and St Margaret's Mapledurham, travelled north to spend a wonderful week of fellowship and spiritual uplift at Scargill House, the Christian conference and holiday centre situated in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales.

Once the home of a Bradford woollen mill owner, Scargill House lies amid beautiful countryside in Wharfedale. The original building has been extended to include a spacious hexagonal lounge with glorious vistas from every window, art and games rooms, and a superb chalet-like chapel. The whole complex is surrounded by fields, mountains and woodland, from which issue the sounds of pheasant, owls and curlews and the bleating of lambs for their mothers. Cows graze and even gambol, and rabbits bob about most of the day. There is a splendid adventure play area for the under-twelves, a playground for wet days and a well-stocked library. A cow bell summoned us to delicious and wholesome meals in the dining room. Each morning after breakfast there was a fifteen-minute period of family worship, after which the many children were cared

for and given their own activities in other parts of the centre, while the adults could attend optional sessions led by the Revd John Littlewood, a former Scargill chaplain, on the theme "The Image of God".

The idyllic weather during the week gave the energetic and nature-lovers among us the choice of a long or short walk most afternoons, ranging from a gruelling race to the summit of nearby Great Whernside to leisurely strolls along (and unintentional dips in) the River

Wharfe. We had the pleasure of watching our curate deftly negotiate the extremely tricky stepping stones near Kettlewell (while the youngest family members abandoned all pretence at keeping dry). On another occasion another prominent member of our Caversham community made a largely successful bid to walk unscathed across the river.

We had an opportunity to exercise our latent creative skills by participating in dance, art and music workshops at the cen-

tre. One member of our party reached the finals of the table tennis tournaments and narrowly failed to bring home the trophy (a tube of smarties). There was a place for everyone and we all enjoyed the opportunity to become absorbed in activities which we would not

usually be doing. Great fun and fellowship were experienced while producing our own masks for the 'Masked Ball' at the end of the week.

Worship is undoubtedly an essential part of the whole Scargill experience.

The optional chapel services and epilogues provided a chance for contemplation and renewal against a background of a community of sensitive and caring people. For many people the worship at Scargill is one of the highlights of their stay, while for others one of the

greatest gifts which they take away with them is the feeling of space and silence that can be found there: an opportunity in this busy and rushed world to slow down and re-establish contact with the deep springs of ourselves.

On leaving Scargill House for the journey home we could not help but agree with Bishop David Young, who has written: "It has always seemed to me that the heart of the Scargill secret has been the interaction of the Community who run it with those who come as guests... It is a natural friendliness and an interest in people for their own sake".

Anyone who is interested in a holiday at Scargill House can write to them as follows:

The Bookings Secretary
Scargill House
Kettlewell
Skipton BD23 5HU
North Yorks.
(Tel. 075676-234)
Holiday weeks are held throughout August and early September and late bookings are sometimes possible.



Some of the Caversham group who visited Scargill House in May

J. Madeley

DRASTIC CHANGES TO OLD TREE LINE

NOT surprisingly, howls of disapproval greeted the arrival of a team of workmen who proceeded to set about the row of yew trees topping the flint wall of the churchyard on St. Peter's Hill. No one can pretend that visually the result has, or looks as if it ever again will have, the age-old homogeneity of what had been there for longer than anyone can remember.

However, with the

passage of time, the weight of the trees was gradually pushing out the equally old flint wall, and in some cases the trees appeared to be slowly dying, as well they might, with the fumes they have to endure from passing traffic. The decision was therefore taken to remove the tops of the trees and form a hedge which, at a height of some six or seven feet above the wall should,

as soon as growth starts, provide a visual and sound screen between the churchyard and the busy road, such as the trees very effectively did over the years. Time alone will show how far this succeeds.

It should be noted that urban churchyards formerly used for burials are in the care of local authorities, so this was a Borough, not a Church, decision.

FIVE years ago the mind numbing pictures of starvation, disease and death in Ethiopia shocked us all. Band Aid and Sport Aid reflected a world concern for our fellow people. Contributions to aid agencies such as Oxfam, Christian Aid and SCF broke all records. In this climate local groups tried to help in their work. One such initiative was QUIZ AID.

Compiled by Lindsay Mullaney this was a word puzzle competition. Although it has had a different format each year it has retained this basic concept. It has also grown each year to the extent that last year entries were received from all over the British Isles and beyond. Over the four years it has raised over £2,000.

The initial fee is a mere 50p for the competition form. On handing in the entry a minimum of another 50p is donated. Many people however send in extra donations of £5, £10 and even £20. It is this sort of generosity that the Quiz relies on for its grand total. Last year Quiz Aid 4 raised over £700. Appropriately the final sum contained a nice round 7 in celebration of the 70th anniversary of SCF. A copy of the Quiz was sent to the Princess Royal who graciously acknowledged the work involved in Quiz Aid and wished it further success.

Save the Children THE LAST QUIZ AID

Although there are token prizes (literally since they are Book Tokens) the aim of the competition is unashamedly to raise money for SCF, on the principle that the 50p in your pocket is a meal for a child, a meal that could separate it from death. If the Quiz gives pleasure or causes frustration, engender extra knowledge or creates confusion then so much the better.

QUIZ AID 5 is however the last for the moment, hence its title THE LAST QUIZ AID. Lindsay feels that the title, if not the concept has run its course. Money will still be needed however, and no doubt new ways of raising it will be dreamt up. But for this year the emphasis is on breaking all records in number of entries and donations.

Do not feel this is a Quiz for the intellectuals. No one need be ashamed at not getting 100%. In fact over the four years no one has scored full marks. If you have never competed before please help in this last great effort. If you have had a go before and especially if you enjoyed it or were frustrated by it please use this opportunity to make this the 'last but not least'.

Entry forms are available from Caversham Bookshop in Prospect St., Caversham, and you have until mid September to return your solutions.

TALKING POINT

By the Rev. John Boakes

Gosbrook Road Methodist Church



GOD'S WILL

SHARING in Sunday Worship is not thought of, even sometimes by those who profess to be Christians, as a high priority in life. Criticism is very often aimed at the Services themselves, and while certainly there is room for concern about the "content" and "presentation" of worship, what is important to think about are the main reasons for regular attendance at Sunday Worship.

In this matter, as in all our thinking, we should put God's will first. Therefore, because God desires it, we should week by week attend a Christian Service. This is not only a great privilege, but also a serious responsibility. It would be said that those who are not to be found at Church services do not care enough about God's wishes or do not think it important to respond to Him. The fundamental commitment to God is missing. Whether this is so or not, there should be a sense of urgency to put God's Will for us at the top of our priority list.

If our first obedience is to Love God, our second is to Love our Neighbour. To say, "I can do this

without going to Church" is a very poor response to the Call of God to share with Him and His people in united, disciplined prayer and concern for others. Further to this, we express our desire to Love our Neighbour as we support our fellow worshippers. There will be many who come to Christian services who need us to stand alongside them. If we are not there, the strength of their faith is diminished. Also, of course, the Witness of the Christian Faith is weakened. If we are not present at Worship, others are deprived and suffer. The part we play may not seem much but we must not forget that the Lord uses our 'little' in His work for men and women.

But finally, we ourselves will greatly benefit as we worship. It may not always seem the case. Indeed, we have to be aware of the part we play in receiving those 'benefits'. But in the presence of God with His people there is created the atmosphere for His fulfilment for our lives. The Living Jesus shares with us to touch our lives as we deliberately turn from daily living in the world to res-

pond to the Call to Worship. Our commitment of obedience is answered and blessed. So many people are struggling with life in their own strength when all the time the personal power of God's Holy Spirit is available to them. How can a person receive this help? The answer is to be found in the individual's humble and sincere desire and response to God in Jesus Christ. Yes, of course, anywhere and any time. But it has to be said that for the great majority this happens within a Sunday Act of Worship. And certainly God's 'help' is added to and renewed as we week by week worship.

Many people would say that they do not want to turn against God. That they want what is God's best for themselves and for others — especially their own children/family and friends. Yet by neglecting God's simple priority of life they deny their rightful desires and thwart His loving care. The answer is easy. Let all in humility and obedience return to God's House as a regular Sunday commitment. The benefits will be immense.

THE NATURE SPOT

SITTING by the open french doors, watching the birds feeding on the biscuit crumbs I have thrown out, I find to be very entertaining. There is a young robin, with speckled back and chest, the red feathers not yet showing; it might puzzle some people as to what bird it is, but each bird has its own characteristics. In the case of the young robin, it is the sharp pointed beak, the shape of the body, and the stance, combined with its movements that help one to identify it. A young blackbird, in all respects identical with the parent, still has a fluffy topknot, the feathers not yet being fully developed. The same with the young starling that lacks the metallic sheen to the feathers so prominent in the adult; and of course their rapid movements, so different

from that of other birds. Right now there is a young starling, with a number of adults, continually squawking, to no avail, to be fed, until an adult squawks back as much to say 'Oh do be quiet a minute, I too am hungry'.

There appears to be a considerable increase in the rabbit population, young ones are invading our vegetable garden and eating the brassicas. Is it because of the satisfaction some get from hunting or shooting the fox, the rabbit being one of its staple foods? When nature is tampered with by humans the balance gets upset, and creatures that normally perform their natural functions, with numbers controlled, increase and become pests.

From birds and

animals to trees. A twenty feet in height well-known politician was asked recently on a radio programme what he was doing to help the environment. He replied that he was planting a little wood of trees. Well, we have been doing that for the past fifteen years or more. Although our wood is less than an acre in extent, we have planted over a hundred trees of many varieties, too many to mention individually. Up to 1975 the Dutch Elm disease killed off the trees, there were two hundred elms in varying degrees of maturity, and although the trees died and were felled, their shallow roots remained alive and threw up saplings. Some, after reaching a height of eight feet or so, died, but others lived on and now are

CAVERSHAM CLERGY

ANGLICAN

The Rev Richard Kingsbury, Caversham Rectory, Church Road. Tel: 479130.
(Parish Office: Monday-Thursday 9.30-12.30 Tel: 471703)
The Rev Alan Wilson, St John's House, 9 South View Avenue. Tel: 471814.
Rev Bill Carpenter, St Andrews House, Harrogate Rd. Tel: 472788.
The Rev Nigel Hardcastle, 20 St. Barnabas Road. Tel: 478239.
The Rev Christine Allsopp, 25 Ikley Road. Tel: 472070.

CAVERSHAM PARK ECUMENICAL PROJECT
The Rev. Philip Abrey, 51 Galsworthy Drive, Caversham Park Village. Tel: 475152.

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

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The Rev Keith Sanders, 72 Highmoor Road. Tel: 472223.
The Rev John Boakes, 9 Woodlands Grove, Caversham. Tel: 482530.

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

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The Rev Chris Justice, 119 Peppard Road. Tel: 474529.
The Rev Michael Holmes, 8 Southview Avenue. Tel: 474138.

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The Rev Thomas Meagher, The Presbytery, 2 South View Avenue. Tel: 471787.
(For Caversham Park Village)
The Rev J. Ellis, 18 Peppard Road, Sonning Common. Tel: 723418.

WHAT'S ON IN THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES?

In addition to noon and from 2 - 4pm. There will be stories, activities and other happenings. Why not go along and see what it's all about?

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All contributions for Sept issue should be sent to Church House, by noon on Wednesday 1 August.

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

The dates for Oct will be Monday 3 Sept and Wednesday 5 September.

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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SAFE TO WALK
 HARDLY a leader in the field of town centre pedestrianisation, Reading is now starting the process of introducing this into streets bounded by the recently completed Inner Distribution Road. It cannot be total pedestrianisation, as vehicular access will be necessary for servicing and deliveries, for public transport and for disabled badge holders, something that applies to nearly every town that has introduced pedestrianisation.

The bus routes are from Duke Street corner along Duke Street, both ways, to the IDR, and along King Street, Broad Street, Queen Victoria Street and Station Road both ways, along Friar Street from its junction with Queen Victoria Street east-west only and south north along Greyfriars Road to reach the railway station. West Street, St. Mary's Butts and Castle Street to the IDR will also be two way, as will Oxford Road as far as Cheapside.

RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT by WATCHDOG

Broad Street, west of Queen Victoria Street, Cross Street, Friar Street east of Queen Victoria Street, the Market Place, Butter-market, Minster Street and Gun Street will be free of virtually all traffic as well of course as the already pedestrianised Chain Street, Union Street and Merchant's Place.

The operation of the nine control points round the town is obviously a key factor. The idea is that these will not be physical barriers but rather discouragements, with road narrowing, planters and paving changes, as well as warning signs and in

hours. If none is admitted it could lead to a dead town centre and no-go area in the evenings. If there were free access to all traffic, apart from buses which would keep to their routes, it would be worse than it is now, particularly at the morning peak hour and immediately after 6.00 p.m.

Broad Street will cease to be the bus station it has become since the introduction of semi pedestrianisation, but the railway station environs will be under even heavier pressure than it is now, with all the buses using it. As anyone knows who has ever waited for a

few minutes seem to have to keep their engines running, pumping out a particularly noxious concentration of fumes.

When all this has been carried out and it cannot be done overnight, then the town centre will be improved with trees and shrubs, better paving, seats and co-ordinated street furniture. There could be street entertainment and safe play areas. The picture shows what it might look like.

One niggling doubt remains. Broad Street and Minster Street have always been busy Reading Streets, full of bustle and activity. Could we be turning them into parks? Certainly the present system demands change. After further work is done on the scheme, perhaps a balance will be struck.

THEM THERE BLACK POSTS

The rash of black bollards that have sprung up in Reading has provoked an equal number of adverse comments, but with the average motorist's propensity to treat the pavements as an extension of the road, something needed doing. Apart from the danger to pedestrians, particularly the handicapped or those in charge of small children, many of the cracked and broken paving surfaces have been caused by vehicles driving on the pavements and they too cost money to repair.

The bollards are probably too close together, though knowing what gaps some motorists are prepared to take their vehicles through, one can see the problem.

It is odd that none has so far appeared in Caversham. Instead we have definitely down-market concrete posts, a number of which have been knocked down or lean at an angle bearing tell-tale paint marks

Perhaps we should apply for a few black posts which seem to get their message across more positively.

These black posts cannot come cheap but before complaining about wasteful spending of poll tax, it might be as well to recall that only 12% of our poll tax goes to the Borough, who put up the posts and the rest goes to the county. The cost of a few less posts, cheaper ones, or none at all but broken pavements to repair instead, is not going to make any of us noticeably richer. And here I speak as one who thinks the poll tax iniquitous and the bollards somewhat overdone.

CAR PARK

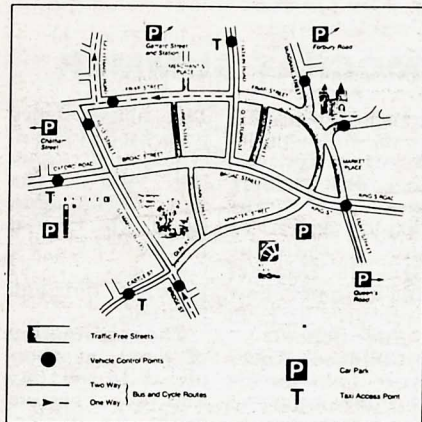
Permission has been refused for a car park that would have been situated on land where an advertisement hoarding now stands,

at the busy Bridge Street-Church Road junction. It is astounding that anyone could even have considered that a suitable site, with the filter lane which causes tail-backs the moment someone parks in it to pop in (shan't be a sec) for a newspaper, and the constant traffic streams that make crossing the road a hazard at any time of the day. Small wonder permission was refused.

SUMMER IS WITH US

It is a pity that the landscaping of Westfield Road playing field was carried out during a dry and later hot spell. Many plants have consequently died from lack of water. When mulch was finally applied it was on to dry ground. Fewer plants and better aftercare would have

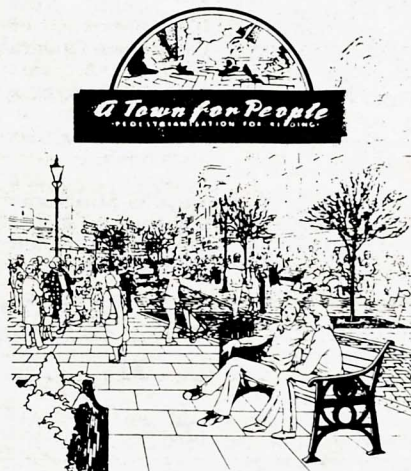
Turn to page 4



● Buses will be allowed into the town centre on certain routes at all times. These routes are shown on the map. Do you agree that these are the right streets?

The general idea is that most types of vehicle will be excluded from the town centre between 11.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. from Mondays to Saturdays. Certain streets will be virtually free of any kind of traffic during those hours, but in other streets, buses will be allowed, as well as cyclists and black taxis. Those with disabilities will also be allowed access, but probably only the most severely disabled rather than all orange badge holders.

A glance at the map makes this clearer, from which it will also be seen that although familiar bus routes will be changed, bus stops will be no further from town centre facilities than they were before, and in certain cases will be better placed, such as the heavily used No. 17, which will, under the new arrangement, go to the railway station, so that the luggage carrying passenger will no longer have to choose between lugging their bags or taking a taxi.



the early days rigorous police control.

Another matter to be worked out is how far traffic can be admitted to the traffic free streets outside the restricted

29 bus, there are far more 17's than any other. Station Square is likely to become heavily polluted with diesel fumes, particularly as buses which have to wait for

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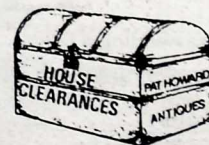
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WEDDING AT HOME PASSPORT

MAYOR'S SUNDAY AT ST. ANDREW'S

ON a lovely June evening the Parish Church was full for Evening Prayer to mark the occasion of Councillor Geoffrey Canning and his lady wife Betty, being the first citizens of Reading.

The floral decoration was carried out by the Parks Committee and St Andrew's own flower arrangers. Geoff, as he is known to the Church family, arranged the hymns and lessons with much love and care. The first reading was by Mr Geoffrey Filkin, Chief Executive of Reading Borough Council, and the second by Geoff himself. The choir was under the able direction of Ian May, the organist, who played the Crown Imperial March by William Walton. The setting for the canticles and psalm 150 was by Stanford and the recessional voluntary was the 'Toc-

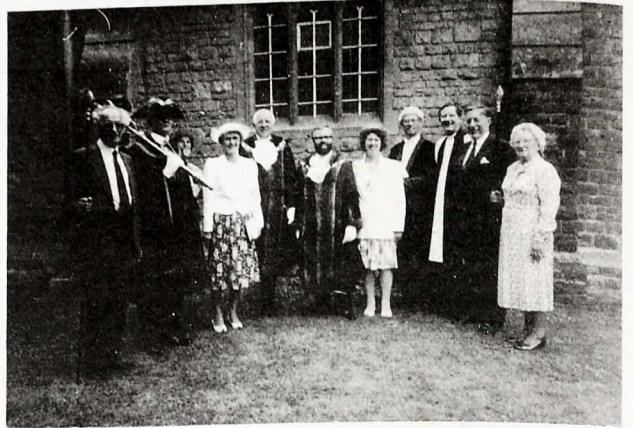
cata in F' by Widor. The sermon was preached by the Vicar who is now the Mayor's Chaplain.

It was very joyful and happy time; the Mace Bearer, resplendent in his robes gave added colour to this occasion, with members of the Council and their ladies, together with MP Tony Durant.

After the service the congregation and friends were invited to the reception served by St Andrew's ladies.

The last few words Geoff read in the lesson were: "THE ONLY THING YOU SHOULD OWE TO ANYONE IS LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER, FOR TO LOVE THE OTHER PERSON IS TO FULFIL THE LAW! If Reading could accept this what a change would come over the town.

B.W



The Mayor and Mayoress, with the Vicar of St Andrew's Church and Mrs Carpenter, Reading West M.P., Deputy Mayor and Mayoress and Council Officials.

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT SUMMER FETE

CAVERSHAM Liberal Democrats held their annual summer fete on Saturday 16th June at Caversham Court. The event was photographed by John Row (Chairman of Caversham Camera Club) and this photograph gives a flavour of the activities during that afternoon.

There were various stalls and sideshows, and a tea tent; the last proved to have an

irresistible appeal to the followers of Reading Regatta! In addition, there was a dancing display given by the Jeannine Greville Dancers and a puppet show presented by F. P. Collier School.

Children's races were held during the latter part of the afternoon — which were thoroughly enjoyed by the younger element.

The prizes were presented by Councillor Nicki Canning, who is the most recent addition to the Liberal Democrat members of Reading Borough Council.

The combination of good weather, plenty to see, buy and do, coupled with the excitement of the nearby Reading Regatta made for a very enjoyable afternoon.



Cheerful faces at the Lib/Dem Summer Fete

From page 3

been a preferable use of the money.

With summer here, the loss of the trees in Caversham Road from the roundabout to the railway bridge is very apparent. The large remaining stump of one of the last to be felled has put out half a dozen pathetic leaves in a last defiant gesture. It and the others are unlikely to be replaced, and if they were they would have to survive vandalism, both official and unofficial (what is the difference between felling a mature tree because it is in the way of a car, and pulling a small one down because it is in the way of a mindless lout?) before they grew to their full stature well on in the next century.

However, the Post Office has come to the rescue and planted a very attractive row of maples behind the fence of its new premises, which should bring back greenery to that stretch of the road and be relatively protected from both types of vandal.

Caversham Residents' Association has drawn the Borough Council's attention to the litter-strewn state of the popular riverside spots either side of Caversham Bridge on the Reading bank. On the downstream side there are no litter bins although there are seats. The whole area is badly littered. On the upstream side the steps down to the river beside the hotel are deep with the rubbish of ages, an utter disgrace to a town that claims to pride itself on its waterways.

In the car park, duck-feeding and boat house area, there are four bins of the wire netting type that look unsightly when full. The one near the duck place is frequently full, though less frequently emptied. Behind the boat house where the picnic tables and refreshment kiosk are, there is no bin and it is covered in litter. The nearest basket is some distance off under a tree and hardly used. In other words, a bin needs to be well sited to be used, and if there is not one at the

source of the litter, it will be dropped and not carried. Two further along beside a seat are quite well used.

More frequent cleaning, better sited and more frequently emptied bins of a better design are all needed here, and needed while it is still summer and the riverside attracts its maximum of visitors. Then the tidy ones will want to come back and the untidy ones might begin to see the error of their ways.

BUGS BOTTOM

If Bugs Bottom features last it is not because it has been forgotten, let alone that it is becoming accepted. Signatures to the petition are still being collected, fetes and fairs are being visited and money is still needed for the Appeal Court fund. The Appeal depends on enough being subscribed. Cheques, payable to Bugs Bottom Action Group, are welcome at 159 Kidmore Road and will be returned if the appeal is successful.

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EARLY ACCOUNTS FOR ST. PETER'S CHURCH

THE EARLIEST EXISTING ACCOUNTS for St Peter's, all laboriously hand-written, began in 1672 when Thomas Cartwright and William Frewin were the church wardens.

In 1675 Edward Berry recorded paying one shilling "for washing the surplis". Three years later twelve shillings was spent on a new binding for the church bible. A little further on, in 1679, comes a rather strange entry: "Paid by Nicholas Deane for setting up the upping stocks, seven shillings." What on earth were upping stocks? A look in the reference book on the Records' Office shelf soon disclosed the answer. They were mounting stones used by horseriders. Local gentlemen would, in many cases, have ridden to Sunday service on horseback, so there were bound to be such mounting stones close to the church gate.

Around this time there seem to have been constant repairs done to the old steeple, so badly damaged in fighting at Caversham during the Civil War. It had evidently still not been replaced by the wooden tower of later years.

The next entry of any interest occurs in 1684. It says simply: "Gave a seaman who had a wife and children sixpence". Help was also given to a poor man in the parish who was "undone by fire". He received one shilling. The next year the

church wardens had to dip into church funds several times for quite large amounts. First they gave twelve seamen two shillings and sixpence. Another twelve received two shillings, while nine more were handed one shilling and four pence. Maybe the Church Wardens were becoming increasingly annoyed after the first hand out, for they gave less and less each time they received fresh demands on their generosity. Perhaps they felt that the first recipients of their charity had told others that Caversham was worth a visit! At any rate their brotherly love was wearing rather thin when they made their third payment. It is interesting to speculate just why so many seamen were to be found in this Thameside village so far from the coast. The answer may lie in the river itself, for in a book I have recently read it mentioned that on some occasions teams of men hauled the barges down from London instead of horses. It may be that sailors, having been paid off from their boat found other work, or perhaps they had jumped ship and pulling a barge into the heart of the country was one way to disappear and earn a few pence at the same time. Anyway after diminishing handouts of parish charity in Caversham the sailors soon appear to have vanished from the scene.

In 1685 five shillings and eightpence was

paid to "the Old Churchwarden for what he was out of purse". In fact it was quite a considerable amount in those days.

Visit from the Qwene
"The Qwene came through the streete" at Caversham in 1687 and the bellringers were busy in action on the great day. She was probably passing through the village for this is the first and only mention of the Queen coming to Caversham in that year. She was, of course, the consort of James II (1685-1689).

James Flexney, the priest in 1688, decided to replace Matthew Kerswell as church warden that year with Thomas Stamp. We shall never know why. According to the accounts it was a very ordinary year. Money was spent on "beare" for the ringers, "rayles" for the church yard, "bottels of wine" and washing the "surplises", not to mention the "wrighting" of the accounts.

Spelling was never a strong point with the keepers of such accounts and when reading them through one cannot sometimes help smiling at these good people's efforts. One also has to make some intelligent guesses as to what they are meaning.

Sometimes the parish seems to have made a real effort to stamp out vermin and then the accounts show that quite large amounts of money were paid to those who had helped

in the exercise. One man received seven shillings for killing seven foxes and a woman obtained a reimbursement of two pounds, eight shillings and badger would certainly not be thought harmful.

Royal celebrations

As at Mapledurham, and all over the country for that matter, the ringers received money for a peal of bells each time the King had his birthday. They also had plenty of beer on the "King's crown-ashion Day."

The Church plate was obviously kept clean and ten pence was spent yearly on scouring the flagons, bowls and plate.

The sundial seems to have come adrift in 1691 as John Edmonds was paid sixpence to secure it. In a print of the early eighteen hundreds it is still clearly visible on the South Wall of the church.

Five seamen turned up again in Caversham in 1692. They were given a shilling between them. The ringers received five shillings for beer money when they rang the bells for the King's coming to London.

For some reason Henry Grayes had to go

to Oxford in 1696, no doubt on parish business, and a long ride by horseback. His reimbursement was two pounds, eight shillings and ninepence, so no doubt he had to stay there for several days.

There seems to have been quite a party in 1701, for fifteen shillings was spent on the parish meeting on Easter Monday. The entry for this is in rather wobbly handwriting. Perhaps the church ale had been drunk a little in excess.

A visit to Henley cost two shillings in 1702 and that year there were several minor renovations in the church.

Again a rather strange entry in 1703 "for smoke farthings two shillings and sevenpence". Recourse to the dictionary soon solved the meaning of smoke farthings. It appears to have been a form of Hearth Tax.

Although accounts continue in the book until 1706 there is little more of interest, save a short Christmas entry for 1705, "Holly to dress the church, six pence."

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

THE total amount collected in Caversham, Emmer Green and Mapledurham was £4,500.95. This consists of £4371.66 from the street collection and £129.29 from donations. Last year's total was £4442.

The Caversham Committee would like to express their thanks to all those who helped and in particular to all who took part in the actual street collection.

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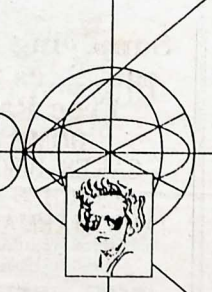
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ROUND THE CHURCHES

GOSBROOK ROAD REVIEW ST BARNABAS' DAY THE LINK GROUP

AFTER a few months absence it is hoped that the 'Review' is now back to stay. Since this column last appeared the church departments have been very busy with lots of activities. The Ambassadors Drum & Bugle Corps have been doing well on the competition scene gaining two 1st places and two 2nd places at British Youth Band Assn. Competitions. In the more difficult Drum Corps Competitions, they have been placed a very creditable 4th and 5th. The Band spent a weekend away at Basildon and Havering and also played for the Dellwood Hospital Fete locally.

The Torch Trust for the Blind, and to West Reading Salvation Army Home League. They are now practising hard for their end of term concert.

On the Fund Raising scene, people have again been working hard. £100 was raised at the Plant and Cake Sale and £317 at the June Fair. Our thanks to the Fund Raising Committee for all their hard work. Also thanks are in order for the workers who have got the Church grounds in such tip top condition.

The Ecumenical service for St. John's Day was very much enjoyed by all who went and we look forward to the next event of 'The Churches Together in Caversham'.

The Womens' Fellowship has been enjoying many good speakers at their Tuesday afternoon meetings, and have also enjoyed outings to Bradfield and Burgfield Common where it has been good to join with ladies from other parts of the Methodist Circuit.

It is with regret that we record the death of another loyal member of the

JUNE 11th 1990, the first St Barnabas' Day since becoming a Parish that the church was able to invite people from other churches. As a result, the church was duly crowded, with over one hundred people receiving Communion. Canon John Grim-

St Barnabas' newly formed music group

wade, whom many Caversham people will know and remember, kindly came to give the sermon, an excellent one on mission, which happily fitted in well with St Barnabas' current ideas about strategy. played what it hopes to be the first of many musical contributions, and in spite of a slight technical hitch with the electronic keyboard, its efforts were praised by many. Could this be the start of a new musical tradition at St Barnabas? Time alone will tell.



Canon Grimwade circulates among parishioners during refreshments following the St Barnabas Day service.

Fellowship. Mrs. May Cooper passed away on July 2nd aged 95 years. She had been a member of the Church and Fellowship for many years, and was always there willing to help. She had been treasurer for the Womens' Overseas Work, and had served very loyally in the kitchen for many catering events. She will be remembered mostly by Caversham people, walking to church from her All Hallows Road home with her very good friend Hilda Kings. May's Reading based family supported her through all her years and she will be missed by

them all. She leaves two sons, Ron & Les, grandchildren, Peter, Martin & Thomas.

THE Link Group held its AGM on Monday 25th June 1990 at Doreen Bennett's house. Angela Kingsbury, Link's Chairman, opened the meeting with the Link Group prayer. She then outlined the Group's activities over the past year and thanked all members for their help and support during this time.

Janet Ferguson, Link's treasurer, continued the meeting with her report of another financially successful year. Angela thanked her for all her hard work and for agreeing to remain as treasurer for the next twelve months.

The meeting continued with reports from all the Charity representatives. As new members join

Link, it is hoped that further contacts with local charities will be established.

The election of officers was discussed, but as no one person is able to take over the Chair at present, it continues to rotate through the Group with each member acting as Chairman for three months. It was agreed that the present Secretary and Treasurer should continue for another year and a vote of thanks was proposed to both. All Charity representatives agreed to continue.

The meeting closed with a Communion service conducted by a the Revd Keith Sanders.

The next meeting of Link will be held in September at the Rectory with a talk by David Wallace from Yeldall Manor.

MIDSUMMER MASQUE AT ST MARGARET'S

THURSDAY, 21st June 1990, and for the second year a Midsummer Masque took place at St Margaret's, Mapledurham. Thanks to the vision and organising skills of Bob Avis, seven members of the renowned Sainsbury Singers, supported by David Allsopp (trumpet) and the now famous Thespian trio - Richard Kingsbury, Citrine Allsopp and Derek Spears, entertained some hundred or so people to an evening of music, songs, Shakespeare and Noel Coward.



Some of the Sainsbury Singers with Bob Avis, the inspirer of the occasion

David Allsopp

During the day, the weather fluctuated between shower and sunshine but smiled kindly in the evening. The marquee, erected in the churchyard, was filled at the interval with members of the audience enjoying cold drinks, snacks and conversation.

A setting such as St Margaret's almost guarantees the success of such a venture, Thank you, Bob but, behind the scenes, there is always in mind for 1991?



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ROUND THE CHURCHES

ST ANDREW'S FAIR

ST ANDREW'S held their annual Fair on Saturday 23rd June. The sun smiled for the arrival of The Right Worshipful The Mayor of Reading, Councillor Geoffrey Canning, to declare the event well and truly open.

The target was to raise £1,000 to purchase two specialised chairs for Heathcroft, handicapped children's home at Emmer Green. The chairs which are specially adaptable to the needs of the more severely handicapped children, enable them to participate much more actively in their environment, whilst being supported or seated in a comfortable yet anatomically correct way.

Despite the, at times, heavy rain,

the fair raised well over the £1,000 required, thanks to the main stalls, the raffle, the auction and of course the many people who came along and spent their money, or sat and enjoyed some of the light refreshments prepared by some of the ladies of St Andrew's.

There was a children's fancy

dress competition, judged by the Mayoress of Reading, Mrs Betty Canning. This was followed by the happy and sometimes noisy response by children, both young and old, to the Punch and Judy show presented by Geoffrey Kent. A grand auction run by Marion and Robin Kitcher was followed by the raffle

draw. St Andrew's were happy to welcome Mr Ben Guppy, Officer in charge of Heathcroft, together with his wife Jane and son William. Mr Guppy will return to St Andrew's on Sunday 15th July to receive the presentation of a cheque to cover the cost of the chairs.



The rain sent everyone inside to spend money at the stalls



Mr Ben Guppy, his wife Jane and son William (left) talking to Bill Carpenter (Vicar) and Mayor of Reading, Councillor Geoffrey Canning.

Thanks are due to all contributed to this very successful day, especially the stalwart souls who remained in the car-park with the fund-raising side stalls despite the heavy downpours.

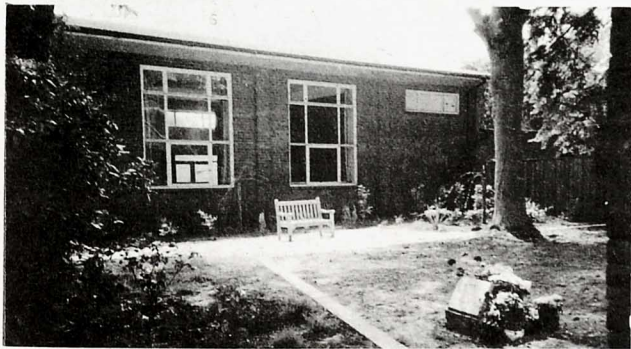
ST ANDREW'S GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

FOLLOWING the removal of the air-raid shelter, the garden between the Church and the hall has now been transformed. A paved area and seat, surrounded by a variety of shrubs has created a setting of peace and tranquility beside the Garden of Rest.

Many people have contributed, both financially and physically and to them we say a big thankyou.



Lining up for the children's fancy dress competition



The newly transformed Garden of Remembrance

MEN OF ST ANDREW'S VISIT DORCHESTER ABBEY

ON the evening of June 11th a party from St Andrew's was privileged to visit Dorchester Abbey and be treated to a guided tour of the historic buildings by the Revd John Crowe.

It came as a surprise to realise the importance that Dorchester held in the early days

of the English church, being chosen in 634 by St Birinus as his episcopal seat, commanding a See that stretched from Hampshire in the South to Yorkshire in the North. Only after the Norman conquest did Dorchester lose its primacy to Winchester and Lincoln.

The present buildings do not, however, date from such early days, being merely eight hundred years old (though restored more recently). Not all the Abbey buildings survive, but the present parish church largely embodies the monks' Abbey church. Other nearby buildings, notably the museum, date from the same time as the church itself.

The party was particularly fortunate to see the floodlit East Window, though John Crowe assured them that it is even more spectacular when viewed by day and illuminated by morning sunlight.

As an historic and religious centrepiece, Dorchester Abbey is well worth visiting, but an even more rewarding experience when viewed in the presence of a guide such as John who has such an empathy with his place of ministry.

Before returning to Reading, the 'Men' felt emboldened to enjoy the local brews — the conviviality of the company adding to the pleasure of the evening which was enjoyed by all.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CAVERSHAM

ON SUNDAY, 2nd September at 3pm in CAVERSHAM COURT there will be an OPEN AIR CELEBRATION to launch CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CAVERSHAM. The Reading Salvation Army Band will lead the singing and the service will include an Act of Commitment for the working together of the Churches in Caversham for the mission of Jesus in our community. It is hoped that all our churches will be well represented.

The officers of 'Churches Together in Caversham' are Chairman — Revd. Keith Sanders; Vice-Chairman — Revd. Philip Abrey; Secretary — Mr. Bill

Butler, and Treasurer — Mr. Ken Dean. Each church has a representative on the committee, and at their first meeting on September 18th they will be looking at our hopes for the Decade of Evangelism and Outreach; the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January 1991, and Lent 1991 Studies.

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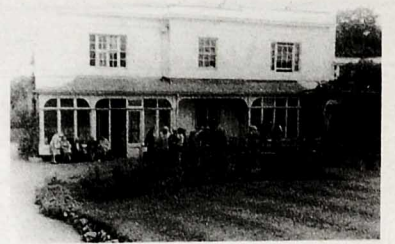
SOME years ago, in 1983 to be exact, the story of Springfield St. Luke Residential Home and of the 'Wantage Sisters' who looked after the ladies, appeared in the Caversham Bridge. Then there were 28 ladies living at Springfield, content to spend their 'evening years' there in peace (and there was a waiting list of ladies who hoped to do so!) These hopes were shattered when it was announced it was no longer possible, through shortage of staff, to keep the home open. It was hoped that some other Community would buy the Home and keep the good work going, but sadly this was not to be, and the property was sold to developers. The residents were dispersed, and everyone, including their neighbours in Surley Row, were regretful at this turn of events — not only because they envisaged blocks of flats rising on the quiet gardens! Fortunately this was not to be, as the area was designated a Conservation Area.

Mrs. Joan Jones, who lives in Surley

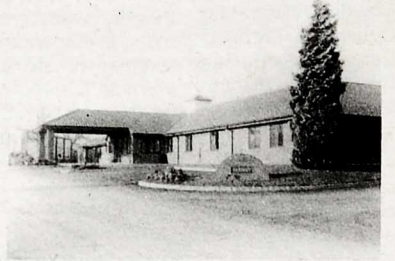
Row and was very sorry to see the closure of Springfield, and wrote about it as follows.... "I was grateful to be able to attend their Chapel regularly and I made many friends amongst the residents and Sisters. It seemed to be the end of an era when it was decided that it should close and the residents dispersed. It was interesting therefore, to see what had replaced Springfield St. Luke. The site has been cleared of all the buildings except the original house (Grade II listed). A splendid new Home has been built, with many modern facilities, large, with three dining rooms and lounge areas, single and double rooms, into which residents may bring some of their own treasured furniture, pictures and ornaments. It is built around a spacious courtyard with a central fountain, and it is called 'St. Lukes'. Interestingly, the stained glass from the chapel has been used in the Reception Area. Not far from the Home are twelve cottage-type houses, also built around the courtyard. Pleasant in appearance, they each have a small garden, whilst the garages are in a separate block. This is St. Luke's Court. Whilst I was standing contemplating the changes, the bulldozers were busy where the well-kept lawn, with summerhouse and flowerbeds used to be. This I used to cross on my way to the chapel and now it is a barren waste, as is the erstwhile vegetable garden, ready for future building"....

So Springfield St. Luke awaits its final changes — first it was a farm, then a Gentleman's Country Residence which achieved fame through the discovery of a Chalybeate Spring in the gardens and Springfield became known as 'The Physic Garden'. Then it became a haven for elderly ladies. Now — what? We hear the house will be converted into flats and that three houses are to be built on the remainder of the site — but that is in the future

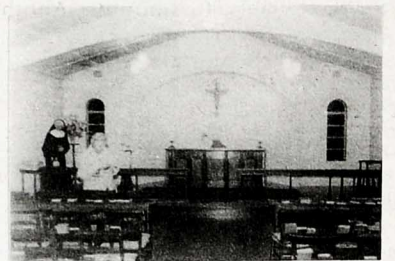
J.A.



The last tea-party at Springfield St. Luke



The new Residential Home — St. Luke's



Interior of the Chapel at Springfield



The houses in St. Luke's Court

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Windows from the Chapel of Springfield St. Luke's — now in the foyer of St. Luke's Retirement Home.

Photos: E.S. Archer

READING — DÜSSELDORF CHURCHES INTERCHANGE

WHEN twenty four and Sylvia Restall, members of now living in Düsseldorf churches Hereford, had staying in Reading travelled across to from June 16th — renew old 22nd, just half of acquaintances. One of the highlights for our guests was viewing the Victory and Mary Rose at Portsmouth. Another was lunch in Reading University's Wantage Hall after seeing the cocoa growing project in the Department of Plant Sciences. And yet a third was the farewell barn dance — a novelty for the Germans but one in which they joined with great spirit.

Today there are almost thirty Reading organisations, including colleges, schools, sports clubs & choirs, that are linked with organisations in Düsseldorf which have similar purposes or interests, but when the Churches Interchange was launched in 1974 by Pastor Klaus Dedring and the Revd. Gerald Restall it was one of the first.

Pastor Dedring was once more a member of the Düsseldorf party, and when hosts and guests had lunch in Churches Interchange (65860), you can learn more of what is planned for 1991.

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ART SHOW IN CAVERSHAM

VERSATILITY was the keynote of the Art Exhibition held on 23rd and 24th June at the Thameside School in Caversham when some 270 paintings in various mediums were on show exhibited by the pupils of Mr Ted Burnell most of whom attend his classes at St. Mary's Butts or at Church House, Caversham. The event was held in conjunction with Headmistress of Thameside Mrs V. Cussell and included paintings by pupils. Water colour and pen were used by Mrs J. Bryant for such subjects as a Kent landscape and Prospect of Whitby and Miss E. Thomas already well known for her rhymes centred on animals indicated her love of these by paintings of cats, horses, realistic butterflies and many others. Skill was shown by Mrs W. Griffin in her acrylic paintings of flowers and birds while Mrs M. Huggins' oil paintings of flowers were accurate and convincing. Water colours of roses and cottages in pastel indicated keen perception on the part of Mrs A. Holmes and Dorothy Willicombe's maritime paintings of for instance The Cutty Sark were totally convincing. Among other notable flower painters was Mrs. W. H. Griffin whose skill was evident.

Paintings by Dr. P. Williams indicated the latter's love of Africa and conveyed a feeling for vivid wastes captured in water colour. Mrs Pat Blewett used water colour and pen and ink sketches of Twyford, cottages in snow and bowls of fruit. Sally Taylor's tulips and pansies indicated keen botanical observation, and Mrs K. Jeffery's "Winter Sun Over Notre Dame" and her horses in acrylic showed accuracy and understanding of this medium. Also taking part were members of Burghfield Common Art Centre and a young entrant of 14 whose pen and ink sketch indicated future promise in this direction as did the drawing by Andrew Gardner aged 7. Works by Mr and Mrs A. Janes captured cloud effects over water, and realistically portrayed such well known landmarks as St. Michael's Mount as well as country scenes where a feeling of space and positioning of buildings indicated accurate draughtsmanship and good handling of colour.

During the exhibition which was opened on June 23rd by the Mayor Counc. Geoff Canning, Mr. Burnell demonstrated the use of acrylics. His own works included pen and ink drawings of local and other scenes, some Chinese paintings, rural and Scottish scenes.

EMF

SUNDAY SERVICES

ANGLICAN

St Peter's

8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am Parish Communion
11.15am Matins
6.30pm Evensong

St John's

8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am Family Eucharist
11.00am Children's Service

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)

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

10.45am Worship at Mapledurham Pavilion

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 Saturday 5.30pm, Sunday 9.45am and 6.30pm

Our Lady of Caversham 8.30am and 11.15am

St Martin's School 9.15am Mass

Mapledurham House 6.00pm Mass (last Sunday)

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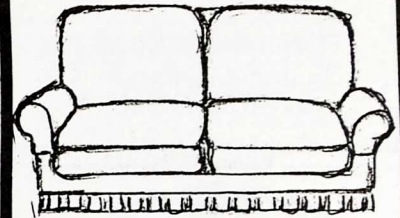
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Six checkpoints on the route, two with refreshment caravans supplying food and drinks. A barbeque at the finish.

A trophy and medals go to the first team of four walkers. Medals to the first man, first woman, first boy and girl under 12, and a prize to the first dog.

A short walk of 4½ miles starts at 11 a.m.

Sponsor forms showing details of the route and a map will be available in July from local branches of the Nationwide Anglia Building Society or from the Home.

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St Peter's Wives

THE May meeting, held in Church House, was addressed by a speaker from the organisation "Hearing Dogs for the Deaf".

Many of those present were familiar with the "Guide Dogs for the Blind" but few had heard of the former. It is a new organisation to help those who, in many ways, are neglected by Society. The dogs are trained to help in their own homes those who are deaf. They learn to recognise certain sounds such as the front door bell or the telephone or even a timer clock on the cooker. They then attract their owner's attention and take them to the source of the sound. The speaker had brought with her her own dog who proceeded to give a demonstration of his skills. It was an enlightening evening, enjoyed by all those present.

The June meeting was a social event

where the members were provided with strawberries, short-cake and cream with punch to drink. There was an opportunity for members to chat together and strengthen their relationships. A very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all those present.

The Wives Group welcomes all members of whatever standing and from every denomination or none to their meetings on the third Tuesday of each month (usually in Church House, Caversham).

Caversham Community Association

MRS. WILMA Grant, Area Librarian of Reading, was the visiting speaker on the 4th June and gave an informative and interesting talk on the Berkshire Library and Information Service. From the time when it first opened in 1924, the service has expanded and today covers 43 libraries, also mobile and container libraries. Six and a half million items are borrowed each year across the country and staff are trained to be helpful to their many customers. The club members endorsed this by their comments on the friendly assistance of the Caversham library staff. Caversham Library, incidentally, was opened in 1907 due to a private donation. Mrs. Grant brought a fine selection of books and cassettes available for borrowing from the library, also items such as

teres, letter cards and postcards now available for purchase at main and local branches. She also explained that talks, special meetings of playgroups, as well as displays on various subjects take place regularly and special arrangements for supplying the books to residential and the housebound exist. Many other services are available at Reading Library including local history information and a department on music and drama. Beryl Latham, the Chairman, thanked Mrs. Grant at the end of her comprehensive talk. Evelyn Cook was also busy at refreshment time in selling goods at the Nearly New stall.

The Bring and Buy evening which occurred on the 11th June was supported generously by the members. A good array of household articles, food-stuffs, plants etc. was auctioned in aid of club funds — £25.96 was the amount raised. Members were reminded to look ahead and prepare their entries for the Arts and Craft evening due to take place on the 10th September.

A musical entertainment took place on the 18th June when the Elizabethan Singers visited the club. The group was formed in the 1950's — hence their name — and the lady members looked very attractive in their royal blue dresses. Frank Terry was their conductor and the pianist Rita Barnes. The programme consisted of songs to suit all tastes with melodies from light operettas, musical comedies and favourites from recent stage shows. The singers took part in solos, duets and quartets with Frank Terry participating in the duets, to entertain the appreciative audience. The Chairman thanked the per-

formers for giving the members such an enjoyable evening.

A whistdrive was held on 25th June with club member Frank Masterman in charge. Ann Wright had the highest score at the end of the game and received the first prize, Dolly Usher was in second place.

Emmer Green TG

THE June meeting of the Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild was startled when the speaker, Mrs Dismukes, appeared all in black and proceeded to give a fascinating insight into the life of ladies in the Middle East. She had been a teacher in Dubai for many years and had much of great interest to relate. She could have gone on talking for a lot longer, the time passed all too quickly.

The delegate to the National Council Meeting to be held in Birmingham was given advice and direction on the voting for the two motions to be debated, Toxoplasmosis and Compulsory Voting, the two other motions put forwards are already under Parliamentary discussion. The arts and crafts group are about to embark on a most interesting and varied programme for this year and the social studies group are to pursue the theme 'Multi Cultures', finding Mrs Dismukes' talk of especial interest.

Thirteen members of the ramblers had just returned from a lovely walking holiday in Rothesay. The weather and scenery were beautiful and a bonus was a boat trip around the Isles.

The Guild meets every second Tuesday in the month, 7.30pm in St Barnabas Church Hall, Grove Road, Emmer Green and is always pleased to welcome visitors and new members.

Caversham Ladies Club

IN the absence of Mrs Harwood, Chairman, the meeting was opened by Mrs Weal, Vice Chairman, who welcomed the members attending. The outing to Worthing had been very successful, with lovely sunny weather, and members all agreed that they had enjoyed themselves very much and were looking forward to their next outing which would be a half day trip to Stow-in-the-Wold in September.

Members were then introduced to Mr Wilton from the Parks Leisure Department who talked about Caversham Court Garden and the old house which used to be in the grounds of the Court. Mr Wilton had also brought along a selection of slides of the 'Old House' and its gardens through to the present day scene. The house with its two towers and St Peter's Church looking down on it

Turn to page 11

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From page 10

was of great interest with gardens of olden times. The house was demolished many years ago, but the gardens of Caversham Court are still there and, looking at the present day's slides, a lovely haven amongst the hubbub of modern day traffic. Alterations are still going on in improving the gardens. Mr Wilton said a Miss Doreen Wicker had left money for use in the gardens and a waterfall and rock garden had been built to her memory. It was also very pleasing to see on one of the slides of trees, there in the foreground, a very well established strawberry tree presented by the Ladies Club. Mr Wilton was warmly thanked by members for an enjoyable afternoon meeting which had also awakened many memories and reminded members how rarely they visited this garden, so near to their homes.

Rosehill W.I.

THE June meeting was held on the 6th and Mrs Weller welcomed members and visitors from neighbouring Institutes to the twenty-seventh Birthday meeting. The Chairman, Mrs Fricker and Mrs Lewis also attended. A very happy afternoon was spent with entertainment by Mrs Stephenson and Mrs Lavender, who played the piano and sang songs from well-known musicals and old songs too. Tea was then served by the committee, with a lovely iced birthday cake made by Mrs Fry. An arrangement

of pink roses on the President's table was taken after the meeting to a very sick member of Rosehill, Mrs Peggy Fisher, with a card signed by everyone present.

The competition for three home-made biscuits was won by Mrs Martin, and the silver salver for most points gained during the year for competitions and exhibitions went to Mrs Ellingham, with Mrs Martin as the runner up taking the goblet.

Maplewood W.I.

MRS J. Stockhill from Rosehill was the Link Delegate at the AGM held recently at the Albert Hall and she gave a very interesting and concise report of the proceedings which were made all the more exciting by the presence of Her Majesty the Queen.

Then after the business part of the meeting the Speaker was Mrs Kruschelnyskyj talking about "Women of the Ukraine" and the terrible results of the Chernobyl disaster on so many of the children.

The Flower of the Month Competition was won by Mrs Peggy Turner.

Caversham W.I.

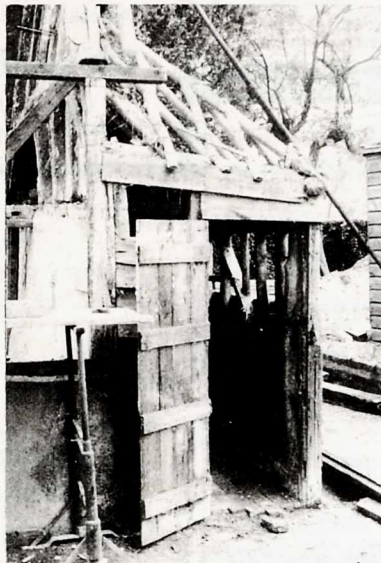
AT the June Meeting the President, Mrs S. Taylor, reported that the recent Jumble Sale had raised £60.

Members were then taken on a

fascinating, imaginary journey through the History of English Embroidery, by Mrs M. Sutherland. The talk was illustrated with slides. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs P. Colley; it was a most interesting evening.

OLD SQUATTER'S COTTAGE

LAST month an article appeared in the Bridge about a heathland home. These two photographs show another such squatter's cottage, a rude construction of rough timber and daub and wattle, plaster and laths, with a thatched roof, on the Mapledurham estate being reconstructed in 1980.



Chazey WI

CHAZEY W.I. was eight years old in May and celebrated with wine and cake. The meeting was to discuss and vote on the resolutions for the AGM, the VCO being Mrs Morden, who put some difficult items across very well.

Margaret Quick won the decorated chocolate cake competition and the Denman Bursary for the year was won by Kathy Sell.

In June Molly Casey visited the Institute to talk on Caversham - Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow. It was a most interesting evening which made members wonder where Caversham would go next. During the month the group has also had a very successful barbeque.



POST BAG

Dear Editors,
Reading Caversham Art Centre

On September 13th at 7.30pm I am arranging a free lecture on the Great Abbey of Reading, its rise and fall, in Abbey buildings, Reading.

I shall also talk about the ten paintings given to Reading Council at the death of Queen Victoria by Dr H. Hurry, of Cambridge University to be seen at all times by the citizens of Reading, our children and visiting people from overseas. Our own unique history and heritage peopling the events leading to

the rise and fall of this great spiritual House, the paintings are by artists who were much influenced by the pre-Raphaelite artists of the Victorian age. They are now incarcerated in the Abbey Gate building. Members of the Townswomen's Guild and some of my pupils will attend, but there is room for a number more. If you are interested please ring 478496 for booking.

Yours etc.
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