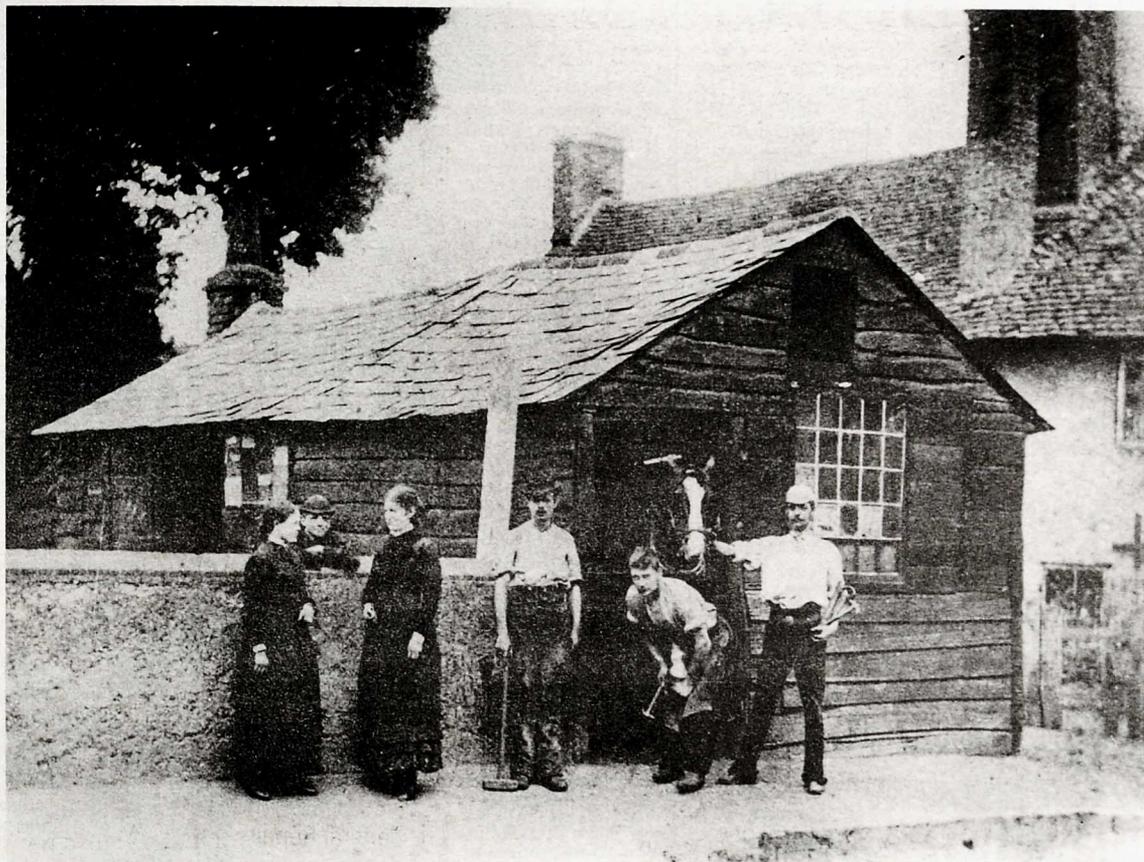


CAVERSHAM OF OLD

When Peacocks Walked Down Church Road and Elephants Bathed at Buckside.



Mr Eynott at work at the forge with an assistant on either side. The ladies are members of the Eynott family. The date of the picture is uncertain but it is probably a few years before or after 1900.

FIFTEEN years ago I visited Mrs Lillian Haines then in her eighties, at her home in Gosbrook Road. It was a very happy occasion and she told me a great deal about the Caversham she remembered as a child for she was Caversham born and bred.

I discovered that her father was a Caversham blacksmith. His name was Frederick Eynott and his forge was somewhere behind Robin Kitcher's shop in Church Road. At the back of it towered a row of white blossomed chestnut trees reminiscent of those in Longfellow's poem 'The Village Blacksmith'.

Mr Eynott's house was exactly across the road from the forge. It was here that Mrs Haines and her brothers and sisters lived.

Lillian Eynott, as she was then, could remember the eel bucks (traps) at Buckside. She remembered too, how elephants from travelling circuses, which were held in fields off Great Knollys Street, used to be taken down to Buckside for a bathe and a drink. When ever this happened horses at the smithy became very restive and Mr Eynott had to be sure to shut the gates to prevent them from bolting. They became terrified at the sound and scent of these creatures.

Both Frederick Eynott's father, George, and grandfather, Henry, were also blacksmiths. A

Henry Eynott had a piece of land in the village according to a tithe map of 1834.

The forge and farrier's house in Church Road were on land belonging to Caversham Court, then in the hands of the Blackall-Simonds. When the estate was sold up Lillian's father was asked by Huntley and Palmer's if he would go to them and shoe all their horses. Like most smiths, Frederick Eynott did not simply deal with the shoeing of horses. He did all manner of iron work, some of it fine and decorative. He was the last person to run the smithy in Church Road and the anvil was still in the vicinity fifteen years ago.

Mrs Haines' mother was head housemaid at Caversham Court before she was married and was highly thought of by the Blackall-Simonds family. One daughter of the house was god-mother to little Lillian and frequently walked down to visit the forge cottage bringing gifts for the children.

Mrs Eynott was a Miss Deacon before she married, and her family came from East Ilsley. She had a relation of the same name living at Chazey

Heath, a Mr Deacon, who was, in fact, a blacksmith at Mapledurham. Mrs Eynott and her children often walked out to Chazey Heath to visit her relatives. In those days it was quite an

adventure and thrill to go as far as that and a good long walk for young legs into the bargain.

A Stay at the Royal Mews

Another even more exciting event was the visit Lillian made when she stayed in the Royal Mews at Buckingham Palace where her father's sister lived, for she was married to one of the coachmen.

School treats included a day up at Balmore Park, home of General Radcliffe, with a picnic in the grounds. First the children all went along to St Peter's Church for a service and then marched behind the local band through the village and all the way up Prospect Street and on to the General's home off Peppard Road.

One thing that Mrs Haines mentioned and which sounded very attractive but quite unthinkable for these days — peacocks used to strut down Church Road from the garden of Caversham Court and fly up on to the low walls around the smithy.

May I remind readers that it was only in the time of the Blackall-Simonds that Caversham Court was known by this name, before their time it was the old Parsonage or Rectory. M.K.

TALKING POINT

By the Rev. Dr. Alan Wilson
Vicar of St. John's Church, Caversham



BEING A CHRISTIAN

CHRISTIAN leaders all over the world, including the Pope and the Church of England's bishops, are calling on Christians everywhere to make the ten years which start next January a 'decade of evangelism.'

Some people may find the whole idea a complete turn-off.



It may put them in mind of soured old men in dirty macs patrolling the streets with tracts; Or perhaps tents full of wailing teenagers, riding high on religion.

Presumably the Pope, the Church of England's bishops, and the leaders of all the major Christian denominations don't want everybody to start doing that. So what do they have in mind?



They want Christians everywhere to see, to enjoy, and to make the most of what being a Christian is all about. 'Evangelism' is something that starts when I see the possibility that God cares passionately

about me, and wants the best for my life. It comes to mean something when I experience for real what those words mean. And when I am turned outward from just thinking about myself, what is good news for me becomes good news for everyone who crosses my path. It's as simple as chat.



Jesus came for everybody. Living lives which reflect that fact isn't some add-on extra, like foglamps. It's one definition of what being a Christian is in the first place.



There are all sorts of different ways of showing it. Each one of us has a unique personality and a contribution that only she or he can make. You aren't trying to export the idea of being you to lots of other people God made to be somebody else. The point is to be yourself, and to share the good news.



One thing is crucial. You won't

get anywhere with evangelisation as long as you think of it as a specialized activity, like mowing the lawn or watering the dahlias. If you do, you'll always think you aren't doing enough of something you are never going to be much good at. Don't bother about what you don't know, and can't believe and haven't experienced. Instead, focus on the positive aspects of your faith, and bring your observation and sensitivity and imagination to bear on them.



Here's somewhere to start. Ask yourself "Is my faith good news for anybody except me? If so, how? If not, how could it be?"



Working that one out could be good for all our churches. It could put our own in-house concerns in context. It could save us from wasting time chasing our own tails. It could help us stay out of battles we could win without even having begun to fight the real war.

JOAN DILS

Farming



IT IS perhaps not surprising that several people have asked us to mention Joan in our columns, seeing that for a time at least she will not be conducting so many courses at Caversham Adult Centre as she has done in the last few years. They are years in which she has made many Caversham friends, taking them through such subjects as Victorian Caversham, Thames Valley Country Houses, the building up of the local population. Though she has held courses and given lectures on a very wide range of subjects - Tudor and Stuart Reading from the Dissolution to 1700 for example - here in Caversham she is best known and liked for her efforts to help us explore our own history. Though she can and does impart a wealth of information, backed up by diagrams, maps, copies of old archives etc., she is at her best when drawing information out of members of her classes - it is what makes them interesting and what makes her such an excellent teacher.



Many will already have read her book on the history of the Berkshire County Council, commissioned in connection with last year's centenary celebrations. Now she will be turning her attention to the history of other parts of Berkshire, while still conducting courses in other parts of Reading. It is typical of Joan that she wishes to commend to the good people of Caversham Don Desborough, an historian who will be guiding them through the origins of Europe and Britain, and Josephine Cormier, archaeologist with Berks. County Council, who will be taking a course on traditional building in the Thames Valley.



And we're sure she would like to mention Mr. Godwin Arnold, known to many Caversham people, for his assistance. For above all Joan is a truly nice person, always anxious to hear what other people have to say and to pay tribute to their help. We shall miss her but fortunately we hope she will be able to produce a series of articles for the 'Bridge', so we shall not be losing touch.



Actually Joan is employed by the W.E.A., Reading and Oxford Universities and various organisations. It is difficult to believe that she is a busy housewife, married to a scientist, and with two daughters currently going through the trauma of being selected for further education. To see her bustling ground local shops one can really believe this, but to be in class with her as tutor it would almost seem she has nothing more to do than prepare material, give

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.
- BAPTIST**
The Rev Dennis Weller, 80 Balmore Drive. Tel: 478668.
- METHODIST**
The Rev Keith Sanders, 72 Highmoor Road. Tel: 472223.
The Rev John Boakes, 9 Woodlands Grove, Caversham. Tel: 482530.
- UNITED REFORMED**
The Rev David Clark, 41 Highmoor Road. Tel: 471909.
- CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL**
The Rev Chris Justice, 119 Peppard Road. Tel: 474529.
The Rev Michael Holmes, 8 Southview Avenue. Tel: 474138.
- ROMAN CATHOLIC**
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.

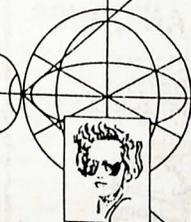
CAVERSHAM DIARY

- Saturday, 1st Sept** 2.15pm Dunsden Church Fete in Village Hall
- Sunday 2nd** 3pm Open Air Ecumenical Service in Caversham Court inaugurating Churches Together in Caversham (St. Peter's if wet)
- Saturday 8th** 8pm Poetry Evening by Caversham Players in aid of Sue Ryder Home. £2.50 to include coffee and biscuits. Tickets 476877.
- Saturday 8th** CROW Sponsored cycle, run or walk in aid of Berkshire churches
- Thursday 13th** 7.30 and
- Sunday 16th** 2.30pm Faure's Requiem by Highdown Singers at St Andrews
- Saturday 29th** 6pm Musical Cantata 'Pharaoh to Freedom' followed by Harvest Supper at Caversham Heights Methodist Church

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POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER: Miss S. Stark, 36 Auburn Court, Caversham. Tel: 473045.

All contributions for Oct issue should be sent to Church House, by noon on Wednesday 5 Sept. All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham by 3 Sept. The dates for Nov will be Monday 1 Oct and Wednesday 3 October.

The Editors wish to make it clear that the views expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the board.

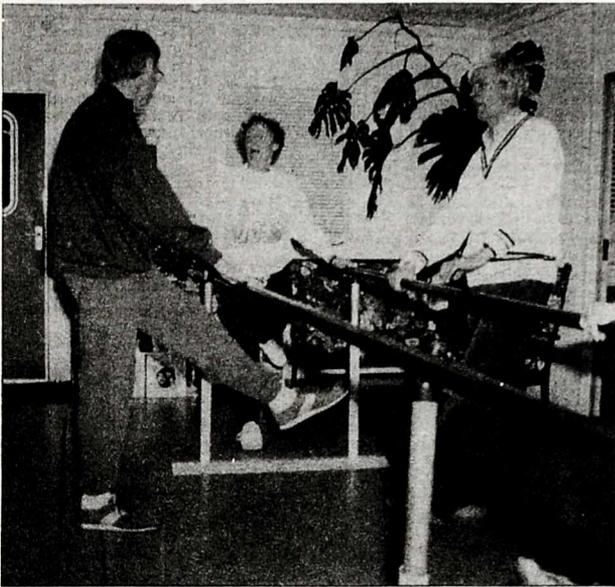
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READING ARMS THERAPY CENTRE



Five things you should know about the Reading branch of Action and Research for Multiple Sclerosis.



Physiotherapy at the Centre.

1. What is multiple Sclerosis?

MS is an, as yet, incurable and sometimes unpredictable disease, affecting the central nervous system. It can lead to physical disability of varying severity.

2. Who are we?

ARMS (Action and Research for Multiple Sclerosis) is a national charity funding research into both cure for, and management of the condition. Reading ARMS is one of over fifty local centres and serves the Berkshire and surrounding areas. We provide a range of self-help therapies aimed at limiting the progression of the condition; the Centre also has a social function, providing a comfortable environment for participants, their families and friends in which to relax and exchange ideas and solutions to day to day MS problems. The Centre helps to break down the feelings of isolation and helplessness which can accompany MS.

3. What therapies are available at the Centre?

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy. At the Centre

a chamber which can accommodate up to eight people is pressurised with air to equivalent water depths of eight, sixteen or twenty-four feet depending on the participant's response. Pure oxygen is then breathed through a face mask for an hour. Initially, the treatment consists of twenty, usually daily, sessions at increasing depths, during which symptoms are monitored for any improvement. Thereafter, 'top-ups' are often weekly. Clients may gain some relief from symptoms, and regular treatment can have a beneficial long-term affect.

Physiotherapy.

Statistics confirm that exercise helps to retain muscular function. The Centre runs regular group and individual physiotherapy sessions. Monitoring by the Physiotherapist enables home exercise programmes to be individually tailored.

Nutritional information.

ARMS research has shown that a higher proportion of essential fatty acids and less saturated fat can be beneficial. We have a

dietician available by appointment to discuss and suggest suitable eating plans.

Counselling

Diagnosis of MS can be traumatic, and the condition may require a readjustment of lifestyle by the whole family. We have a professional counsellor available to help with this and other related problems. In addition, ARMS has a national telephone counselling service which handles over three thousand calls a year.

Yoga. At the regular yoga session participants learn the many benefits of yoga and exercises which can then be practised at home. Relaxing physical and mental exercise improves circulation, breathing and joint mobility, and can produce a calmer state of mind.

4. What do I do now? If you would like to know more why not contact our administrator, Charles Rampton, who will be pleased to answer your queries and invite you to the Centre to have a look at our facilities. Our address is:

ARMS Therapy Centre
26 Patrick Road
Caversham
Reading
RG4 8DD
Telephone (0734) 482072

5. ARMS Research. ARMS nationally co-ordinated research is based at the Central Middlesex Hospital (London), The Nuffield Laboratories, St Thomas' Hospital in Glasgow and Dundee, and at Bristol and Brunel Universities. It covers all aspects of MS, from diagnosis, through self-help therapies, to the body's auto-immune system and the relevance of common ailments. Around three thousand ARMS members have contributed their personal histories to a databank, which is the foundation of the Brunel work.

Contributing to research (£35,000 in the last two years), and running our Centre cost money, and all types of fund-raising take place. We are glad of help from anyone able to give a little time. Our therapies are largely paid for out of funds, but we generally ask participants for a voluntary contribution to each session.

RETIREMENT OF BROWN OWL



Mrs Vardy's presentation on her retirement as Brown Owl.

Photo: Mrs. G. Hall

ON TUESDAY, teen years. Know-17th. July, the 1st. ing Mrs. Vardy lik-Caversham Park ed Beatrix Potter Brownies held a tales, they per-party to say 'Good- formed a play for bye' to Mrs. Janet her, baked a cake Vardy, who had with Mrs. Tig-been Brown Owl gywinkle on the for the past eigh- top, and presented

her with a bouquet and an ornament of Jemima Pud-dleduck, amongst other presents.

Mrs. Vardy was recently presented with the 'Berkshire Stag' Award for outstanding service to the County, in recognition of her work as Adviser on Pack Holidays at the Brownie and Guide House at Coddleston, and its re-organisation. She has also received the Guide Award for long service.

PAT HOWARD ANTIQUES

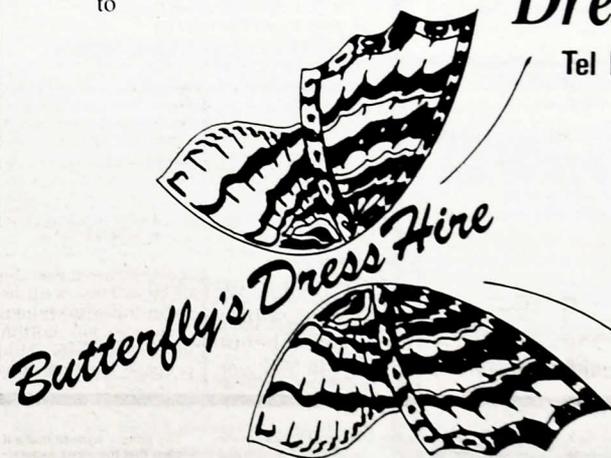
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**HALFWAY TO THE
TARGET**

THE BUGS Bottom Appeal Fund has now passed the half way mark, thanks to donations made or pledged at the Bugs Bottom Rally in July. This means that every cheque contributed from now on makes its less likely that the Borough Council will drop the Appeal on grounds of cost. So now is the time for all those who intend to send something but not yet got round to it, to write out that cheque and send it to Peter Watsham, 159 Kidmore Road, to ensure that this last chance to save Bugs Bottom is not lost through lack of money. Cheques should be made payable to Bugs Bottom Action Group and all cheques over £10 will be returned if the Appeal is successful. Smaller sums will be used for running expenses.

Although the rally had to compete with the conflicting demands of other outdoor events and family commitments before the start of the holiday season, so did not attract the numbers its organisers had hoped for, the hundreds who braved the heat and humid conditions

showed their determination to save the valley from destruction and the streets from even greater traffic congestion. The resignation of Nicholas Ridley, who for so long had resisted all attempts to get a re-examination of the whole issue, had just been announced, and no one pretended that the news gave them other than satisfaction even though his decision on Bugs Bottom still holds. As one of the posters said, 'Another of Ridley's mistakes'.

Representatives of all political parties were present or sent messages of support, Sir Gerard Vaughan's coming from his hospital bed. Kenneth Branagh (local boy made good), Emma Thompson and Richard Briers, playing the Hexagon, sent a long message of support and Rudi Walker was present in person to encourage his listeners to continue the struggle. He treated them to an extract from The Tempest to show problems. They need

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**RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT
by
WATCHDOG**

repairing from time to time, the Grade I listed barn being a prime example, and Department of the Environment regulations mean that a patching up job won't do. Coupled with this are Government requirements to farmers to 'set aside' and diversify, something that is particularly applicable to farms on the fringe of urban areas. Hence arise the proposals to turn Chazey Court into a rehabilitation centre for sports and accident injured persons.

The barn's external appearance would remain unchanged and it would be repaired for use as an exercise hall with only minimal internal alternations. The old buildings would also be refurbished and the less attractive modern buildings demolished and replaced by further residential accommodation in courtyard style. The land to the river side would be landscaped as rural parkland.

The advantages of this scheme over giving the land over to housing and converting the barn into a dwelling are obvious. Barn conversions, once a popular solution for old barns, are now seen irredeemably altering their character because of the need for fenestration. No one either is going to deny that the new use would provide a good and useful service.

Yet in spite of all this, there is little, if any, welcome for the proposals because it will mean Chazey Court no longer being used for the purpose for which it grew up, all those years ago, on the banks of the Thames. It has nevertheless adapted itself to the present day by introducing its popular P.Y.O., reinforcing its supporters' reasons wanting it retained.

There are also misgivings about the approach roads. The Warren is barely adequate for the traffic it already takes from the houses that have been built there over recent years and Reading Borough Council have indicated that they would not be prepared to accept this extra use. That means another approach from the opposite direction. Where would it run? Would Oxfordshire be prepared to upgrade the winding road down to Mapledurham village and then where would it go? Would traffic ever use this detour if it could nip along the Warren? That there is a problem is undeniable and most of us must be glad it isn't ours to sort out. Whether these plans are the best, or indeed the only way of solving it, is where the disagreement lies. A lot of talking still needs to be done.

ST. PETER'S AVENUE

FROM THE west fringes of Caversham, we turn to St. Peter's Avenue, well in the urban area but retaining its rural character. This it has still managed to

Turn to page 5

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

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

10.30am and 6.30pm

CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH (Caversham Park Primary School)

11.00am Family Communion (1st and 3rd Sundays)
Morning Worship (2nd and 4th Sundays)
Family Service (5th Sunday)

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

10.30am (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)

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, York Road
11am every Sunday

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers), Church Street, Reading 10.45am
Caversham Church House — 3rd Sunday Meeting for Worship 7.30pm.
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CAVERSHAM'S NEWEST COUNCILLOR INTRODUCES HERSELF



Judy MacDevitt

Courtesy Jean Frances

I AM 37, and widowed with two teenage daughters. The elder is going to University in October and the younger attends Highdown School. I work as a Sales Manager in the computer industry, have been an active member of the Labour Party for the last twelve years and last stood for election in 1983.

reaction I have had so far there are many people in Caversham who feel they have never been represented before. I intend to work hard to prove that the Labour Party deserves continued support in Caversham, and I don't think Tories will be able to consider Caversham a safe seat again.

So far I have been inundated with calls from people concerned over a wide range of issues; housing repairs, abandoned cars, environmental issues, poll tax, housing benefit and parking and traffic problems. I consider dealing with these problems to be the most important part of my work as Caversham Councillor and have kept my committee workload low as a result. I am on the Leisure and Traffic Management committees.

My husband was a councillor for Battle Ward until his death of a brain haemorrhage in 1988, so I knew what to expect when I was elected, and I knew how much work was entailed. Some people will put my victory down as a freak result caused by opposition to the poll tax, but judging by the

I hold regular surgeries on the third Saturday of every month (excluding August and December) at Caversham Library where I will be joined by other Labour Councillors and anyone that has any questions or problems is welcome to pop in. I will also keep in touch via regular newsletters.

for money. Our children's play facilities are second to none, but I will work to see more provision for 11-15 year olds who have not been as well served.

So far I have managed to get agreement for residents parking schemes in several streets. More significant improvements will take longer to achieve but I consider these to be my top priorities for the next four years.

TRAFFIC - Caversham suffers particularly badly from traffic problems. A high percentage of all the complaints and queries I have received so far are related to traffic problems whether parking problems, or problems caused by the volume and speed of traffic.

If anyone has any questions or problems that they feel I may be able to help with them, they are welcome to contact me on Reading 574058.

Judy MacDevitt

From page 4

do, even after its surface has been made up. Its verges and footpaths remain unaltered and the ruts and holes of blessed memory have now gone. The closure of the road at a point near Scholars' Close means that it cannot be used as a through road, so only residents and their visitors will be able to wear it out. The saga of making up St. Peter's Avenue had been going on for so long that it came as quite a surprise to see that at last it had actually been done.

AUNGELL WITH OON WING
HARKING back to times earlier than any of the foregoing, in pre-Reformation times a small chapel stood on the ancient bridge which spanned the Thames for over six hundred years between the thirteenth and nineteenth centuries. It possessed many relics, among them 'an aungell with oon wing that browt to Caversham the spere hedde that percyd our Saviour

his syde upon the Crosse'. In modern times this one winged angel has been adopted by Caversham Rotary as the club's symbol, and to mark their twenty-fifth anniversary they have placed a well-designed polished marble plaque on Caversham Bridge which commemorates the Chapel and its best-known relic. Thanks and congratulations to Caversham Rotary for this generous and public spirited gesture.

original shop fronts left in Caversham. They are also going to improve the whole area outside their premises, which at present looks run down and neglected. This is something Waitrose offered to do and not a condition of being granted planning permission.

that frequently the shops are unable even to accept rear deliveries. So far every Council has shied away from attempts to sort out this problem.

ANOTHER RESTAURANT

PLANNING permission has been granted to change the rather short-lived super-market in Prospect Street, closed no doubt at least in part because of a lack of really close parking, into a restaurant. Objections were received on the grounds of lack of parking space but the Planning Committee felt this was unacceptable because there was a public car park close by. Indeed there is, but the Borough's proposals to sign-post it more clearly, misses the point. It isn't finding the car park that is the problem, but finding a space in it when you get there. Prospect Street is still losing shops, though the trend has slowed down a little. Part of problem is that Chester Street car park is full of day-long parkers, so

WATER SHORTAGE

MOST OF Caversham escaped the hosepipe ban that applied to the greater part of the Reading area, but those parts west of Kidmore Road were once more affected, just as they were for the whole of last summer on into the autumn. Algae in the Kennet and low levels at the Woodcote reservoir due to fire fighting were the reasons given, and when heavy rain fell and put these matters right, the ban was lifted. Almost at once a very hot dry spell set in and on went the hoses, sprinklers, showers, and filling of extra water cans, so that in several places, including parts of Caversham, down went the pressure. So much for the high expectations of privatisation. Plus ça change..... The thought of five hundred more families in one of the most sensitive areas waterwise adding their demands to all this is another reason why Bugs Bottom must be kept green.

WAITROSE TO EXPAND

ANOTHER organisation prepared to put some money into enhancing the centre of Caversham, is Waitrose, who have now been trading here for around six years. They intend to expand their store to include the premises previously occupied by Kashoff Beds and for time immemorial before that, by Frase and Robinson, as many readers will recall. In so doing they intend to keep the existing shop front, something Caversham Residents' Association suggested to them when this move was first mooted some time ago. It is one of the few

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ROUND THE CHURCHES

GOSBROOK ROAD REVIEW

THE Sunshine of July made an apt background for the Sunshine Girls Singing Group Concert on July 13th, which took place at Caversham Methodist Church. The girls performed to a large audience of parents, Auntyes, Uncles, Grandparents, and even a great Grandma! The Singing Group sang songs which they have used during the year when they have been out entertaining, and then the second half of the concert was given over to individual items. These ranged from song and dance, ballet, Christian dancing, duets, clarinet and recorder pieces, poems and Indian dancing. Two musical plays were also performed and all the girls gave good performances. £60 was raised which will be split between Action Research for the Crippled Child, and Church Gift Day Funds. At the end of the evening prizes were given for attendance, progress and helpfulness. There were also presentations to Erica Jones who had been a founder member of the group and was moving to Newcastle, and to the groups leader, Eunice Cooper,

who received a cut glass rose bowl. The new session begins on the 2nd Monday in September at 3-45p.m. New members are always welcome.

The Women's fellowship have enjoyed some good meetings and outings, and at the end of July, Mrs. Gladys Alderman gave a Garden Party at her home. It was a lovely warm afternoon, and all enjoyed themselves. Talking of the Aldermans, we need to congratulate Gerry and Gladys Alderman on their Ruby Wedding which was celebrated on August 26th.

A different kind of service was shared on July 29th, when some members of the congregation led the service, as the preacher, Mr. Brian Bosier was ill. The theme was "Sharing the Holy Spirit", and all who were there found the experience of sharing more in the worship a very uplifting one. We do wish Brian well, and hope he will make a good recovery. Our good wishes also go to Austin Rogers who has been in hospital.

The Company sections of the Boys

PETER and Sybil came to Caversham Park Village in November 1974 and immediately began worshipping at Caversham Park Church with their three lovely daughters Andrea, Joy and Lynn. Peter, as a Reader of some sixteen years standing, soon found himself being used in the Parish of Caversham and Mapledurham generally and very especially at Caversham Park Church.

Peter and Sybil, who perhaps tend towards the Evangelical end of the Anglican Church, were very excited by the fellowship between the churches of all denominations in Caversham and also by the Ecumenical nature of Caversham Park Church, as they believe in people being Christians rather than wearing denominational labels.

Peter has really shown his strength during the

Brigade are off to camp in Harlech at the beginning of August, we hope they will have a successful and fulfilling camp. Camping with the Boys Brigade can be a very special time, and is to be recommended to all young boys, so if you are not going this year, then make sure you get your name down for 1991!

MOVING ON

A Tribute To
Peter and Sybil Holbrook

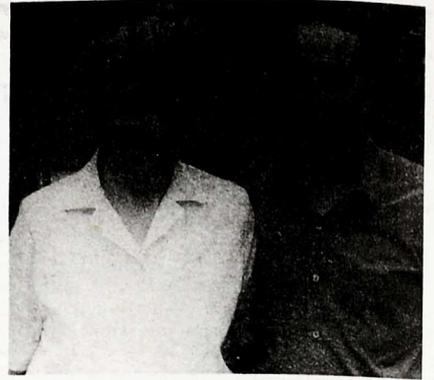
interregna experienced by Caversham Park Church, and perhaps none more so than this latest one between Paul Kenchington leaving and Phil Abrey arriving. That the Church stayed together — and even grew — during this time, rests a lot on Peter's efforts and encouragement to us all.

During their time with us, we have seen all three girls grow into lovely young women. Andrea married ten years ago and last year presented Peter and Sybil with their first grandchild, Robert was born prematurely and the prayers of all the Church were added to theirs for his survival. Praise the Lord, they were answered and Robert is now a happy, healthy one and a half year old and into everything! Joy took up a career as a nurse — and like all the best books — married a Doctor. She went with Clifford to live

in Taunton, where he is on a G.P. training scheme, as well as sitting (and passing) other doctor related exams. Joy is a in the local hospital. Lynn is starting her final year of Medicine this Autumn and was married to Martyn in August. Martyn is hoping to go to the Wycliffe College to train for the Ministry.

Peter and Sybil both feel a need to share their faith with others and help those less able than themselves. They joined the Acorn Christian Healing Trust in 1987 and are both fully trained members. Sybil is also a trained Christian Listener and a Bereavement Counsellor through CRUSE, and they hope to carry on this work when they live in Tiverton.

Peter had to take early retirement from his post as the Ad-



Peter and Sybil Holbrook

E.S. Archer

ministrators, West Berks will be greatly missed Health Authority in ear- particularly by Caver- sham Park Church, health — just in time to where Peter was act as co-ordinator for almost a second Caversham Park minister. He worked in Church's Mission held very close partnership in July '88. God's timing with all the Incumbents, is perfect! Sybil retired and took a lot of the pastoral duties of the Parish.

They have encourag- ed — and challenged — us all by their faith, energy, enthusiasm and commitment. We all wish them God's blessing on their move and also on the work God has for them in Tiverton. Watch out Tiverton!

During their sixteen years in Caversham Peter and Sybil have become well known, much loved, members of the community a nd

Paula Andrews

ADIEU TO THE SMITHS

THE REVEREND Bill Carpenter offered the Reverend Neville Smith facilities at St Andrew's Church to celebrate two occasions, his Ruby Wedding anniversary and also his retirement as Chaplain at Queen Anne's School.

On Saturday 28th July a large congregation from all over England joined in a service that was presided over by Neville Smith and assisted by Bishop Wild a former Bishop of Reading, Canon John Grimwade, a former Rector of Caversham, Timothy Smith the youngest son who read the new Testament lesson, and Michael Smith who preached the sermon. He had only recently been ordained. The organ was played by Mavis Hazel, who had acted as organist for Neville during sixteen years at Queen Anne's School.

There was a most inspiring atmosphere of joy and thanksgiving for Neville's service to the community and his happy marriage to Joan. As a token of thanksgiving a collection of £280 was given to the Church of England Children's Society.

The service was followed by a recep-

tion in St Andrew's Hall with splendid refreshments provided by the ladies of St Andrew's.

The deliciously iced cake was made by Kate Hubbard (daughter). The beautiful flowers in the church and the hall were based on a ruby colour scheme and provided the final touch.

Everyone who had contributed in any way was thanked and round off a very memorable occasion Bill Carpenter presented Joan with a lovely arrangement of flowers.

Neville Smith said his retirement goodbyes to St Peter's by preaching at the Parish Communion on 8th July. After the peace Neville and Joan were given a pair of framed prints to say thank you for what they had done for and meant to St Peter's over the last eighteen years. Prayers for a long and happy retirement were briefly, but very sincerely, expressed by the Rector.

Despite his having moved to the seaside, the Church of popular demand will require Neville to be in the pulpit again at St Peter's before too



The Revd and Mrs Neville Smith (centre) with grandchild.

Photo: Jim George

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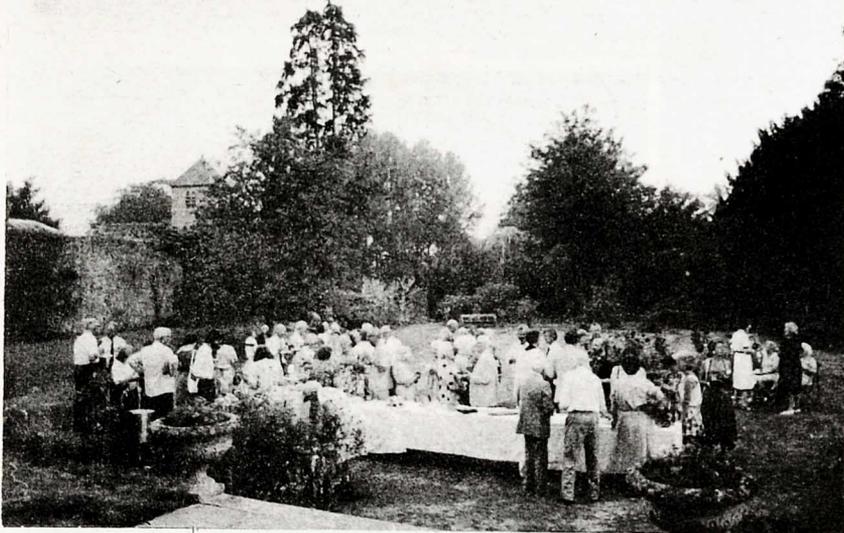
ROUND THE CHURCHES

ST MARGARET'S DAY

ONCE again St Margaret's Patronal Festival was celebrated in perfect summer weather. The evening of July 20th saw a goodly gathering of members of St Margaret's and their friends from neighbouring churches attending sung communion.

Afterwards refreshments were serv-

ed in the garden of the Old Vicarage. St Margaret's are most grateful to Bridget and Roualeyn Cumming-Bruce for their kindness in allowing them to hold this very happy occasion in such beautiful surroundings; a real country gathering in the cool of the evening.



David Allsopp



David Allsopp

ST MARGARET'S DAY REFRESHMENTS IN THE OLD VICARAGE GARDEN

A MEETING FOR WORSHIP

A MEETING for worship. Friends and friends gathered in the upper room of Church House in Caversham. Some had been members of a Lent study group, they have been visiting one another's places of worship....

It was a hot and humid in mid July, a Sunday. The noise and fumes of traffic, conveying people to unknown destination rose, and spilled through the open windows. Journeying home? To meet with friends and loved ones? We, sitting still in a cir-

cle were also journeying — journeying towards the encounter. The stillness and the silence offer a time of communion. Its reality is in the hands of the receiver. God's gifts hold no value for those who refuse and accept them not... and so it is in a Quaker Meeting for Worship — the silence is empty for those who are unable to be open, whose defences are impregnable, whose pains and scars have built a fortress all around.

But, for the seeker, the silence, the spoken and unspoken ministry

offers infinity — God's goodness speaks to each one, speaks to need, speaks to my condition and to yours.

I can only recount my own experience when I say that this Meeting for Worship was a time of great blessing and deep communion with one another and with God.

For some years Friends in Caversham have been holding a Meeting at Church

House (opposite the lower end of Prospect Street) on the third Sunday of the month at 7.30pm. The meeting lasts for about an hour. Individual families within the diverse family of God have much to give and to receive from one another, we all need each other..... it is in giving that we receive. Please join us when you are able to do so.

Ann Varma

ST PETER'S 'CHERUBIM'

LAST summer's end-of-session picnic was one of the hottest days of the year. The same thing happened this time, when over sixty people, mothers, toddlers, babies, two or three grandmothers, and a few former 'Cherubim', now schoolchildren, filled the garden at 33 Woodcote Road. But with a paddling pool, sandpit, toys, train,

and a lot to eat and drink, they all seemed happy, though hot! Daniel Deering, William Sheppard, and Oliver Collis are all now five, and leaving to go to school. They were presented, with prayerbooks. There was a presentation too for Mrs Doreen Bennett, leaving after leading the group for several years. Together with a

lovely gift, and flowers, the children gave her a delightful composite photograph, showing the laughing faces of nearly fifty children, a wonderful memento.

"Cherubim" — simple worship, followed by tea, talk and toys — will meet again on Thursday afternoons at 2.30, in the Church, from 6th September.

St Andrew's Fete — Presentation of Cheque



Mr Ben Guppy O.I.C. Heathcroft, Councillor Geoffrey Canning, Mayor.

Photo: Jim George

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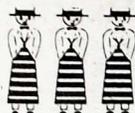
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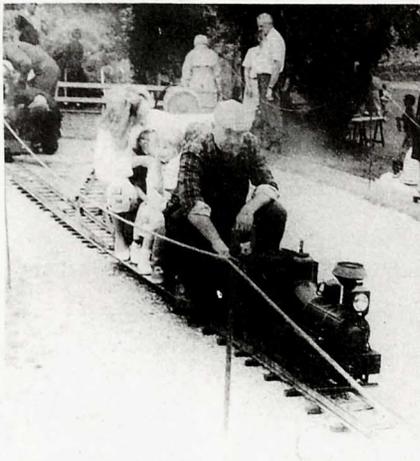
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**ST. PETER'S &
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FETE**

THE two churches joined together once again for a grand fete in the delightful grounds of Caversham Court. Over £3000 was raised. Our photographer was busy and the general spirit of the afternoon was well captured.

1.



1. All Aboard for a real train ride
2. General View
3. A show for all ages — the perennial Mr. Punch
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**POST
BAG**

Dear Editor,

I have just re-read, after many years, a little book entitled "Why aren't all the best chaps Christians?", written by the late Studdert Kennedy, otherwise known as Woodbine Willie, and published in 1919. Kennedy was a chaplain to the armed forces on the Western front during World War I and in contact with many different types of men. He wrote: "There are plenty of good, honest, kindly chaps about but don't seem to have any use for religion, or for Christ. Talk to them about it, and they look awkward at you. Is it the person that puts them off?" and continued, "People ask me 'Why doesn't God stop the war?' The answer is, because He can't. Before the war (WW1) most people had very little idea what war meant. We know now that war is hell; un-terrible and appalling misery; women; murdered homes and broken hearts."

Thus the introduction to my own question: Why do the majority of professing Christians support the retention and use of armaments, continuing the OT practice of 'an eye for an eye', etc. which Jesus repudiated by commanding us to love one another, including our enemies, to return good for evil, words of advice for all time and every situation? Who are we to think we know a better way? The hymn writer puts the question to God in these words: 'when comes the prof-mised time that war shall be no more?' God's answer can only be: 'It's up to you, my Son to show you, by His life and teaching, how this can be achieved. He is the Way, there is no other. Your reliance of armaments only delays the coming of that time.'

According to an MP there are something like forty-three wars going on in the world today. By our support, and export of armaments, are we not partly responsible for the deaths, suffering, and sorrow these wars are creating? A recent news item in one of the 'Dailies' stated that there are two hundred thousand war orphans in Mozambique today. Is it nothing to us, all we who pass by? So I repeat the question: 'Why do the majority of Christian support the retention and use of armaments?' Having spoken to many of my fellow Christians in recent years on this matter, the following reasons have emerged. Foremost are the imaginary fears as to what might happen if we were to disarm; then the gut reaction to 'Give as good as you get'; the belief that you can get rid of one evil by committing another; lack of faith, or a shallow faith

that fails to think things fact is, this matter is so vital to the well-being of the spirit and all mankind, this stumbling block to the coming of the Kingdom, that we should make this a matter for discussion, and decision. Unless we are loyal and obedient to Our Lord's teaching, show by example the way to true peace, there is little hope for the world. The

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EYE AND DUNSDEN VILLAGE HALL

I WONDER how many people remember the fight to keep Dunsden Primary School from closing in the early 1970's? At that time the parish of Eye and Dunsden stretched right up to All Hallows Road and incorporated Micklands Estate, part of Henley Road, and Caversham Park Village. The school finally closed at Christmas 1973 and after a further long series of negotiations was bought from descendants of the original benefactors and became the Village Hall in 1977. You hardly notice it as you drive past Dunsden Well on the way to Binfield Heath. What a treat you are missing! Built in 1846 the exterior remains almost exactly as it was in Victorian times with

the same grey and pink brick effect that is so attractive in Dunsden Parish Church which was designed by the father of the architect of the school. Inside the two original classrooms make one large room when the leaded glass doors are folded back; the raftered roof and pointed windows remain. There is a small kitchen with a serving hatch and up to date cloakrooms have been added by the entrance, but the atmosphere of the old world remains. Dunsden Youth Club recently completed a collage, complete with river, sky and fields, which covers part of the end wall.



Eye and Dunsden Village Hall.

Photo: Alan Greeley

The Hall is in frequent use for WI meetings,

bingo, youth club and band practices, but if anyone is looking for a hall with real character for a private party or a

regular meeting place, bookings can be made through the resident caretaker on Reading 470339. The hall will accommodate eighty to one hundred and hire charges are very reasonable.

Christine Bland

SWAN LIFELINE UPDATE

ON Wednesday, the 11th. July, the Swan Lifeline A.G.M. was held in the River Suite of Caversham Hotel, by courtesy of Mr. Robin Winter, General Manager. But this turned out to be no ordinary A.G.M.

First of all, at about 7.30p.m., Cygnus IV, an inflatable boat with outboard motor, was presented to Swan Lifeline to help with swan rescue in the Reading area, by Robin Winter. This boat was purchased with the funds raised by the very successful raffle kindly run by the Caversham Hotel for this purpose, and through help from other friends. It was a lovely summer evening, and quite a number of supporters, and other people gathered by the riverside outside the hotel to see Robin Winter "push the boat out". A goodly number of swans also gathered, as well as a duck with her family of eleven very small ducklings! Another

presentation of indoor plants was made to Joan Hammond in recognition of all the good work she has done in connection with Swan Lifeline.

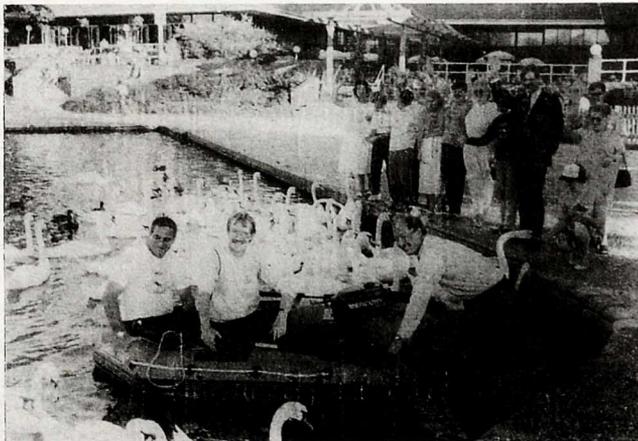
This was followed by the A.G.M. chaired by Tim Heron from Windsor. He reported that about 350 swan injuries were dealt with last

lead weights are now illegal, but are unfortunately being used! He thanked Joan and Dennis Hammond for their good work in rescuing swans which landed, instead of on the river, on Caversham Bridge! He also thanked all helpers and those who reported injuries etc. to swans. During the

meeting a phone call was received reporting an injured swan at Marlow, and a rescue party set out to help.

After a break for coffee, Tim Heron presented a film showing the rescue and care of injured swans. There followed a talk by Steve

Cooke, who runs a Veterinary Hospital at Kelperland, describing his work for the organisation. During this talk the rescuers returned, bringing the injured swan with them. He turned out to be a "second-time around" patient, Brough DCK by name, who once again had been "mugged" in a territorial dispute. He was rather a sorry sight, with bloodied feathers and a slightly battered look, and rather bemused by all that had happened. He sat quietly while Steve examined him and was, of course, the centre of attention for the rest of the evening! It is not often that a swan, albeit injured, attends a Swan Lifeline A.G.M. The verdict was that he did not appear to be badly hurt, and we hope that by now he has completely recovered and has learnt his lesson!



Mr. Robin Winter "pushes the boat out" — the launching of Cygnus IV.

Photo: E.S. Archer

year, due mainly to pollution; there were fewer injuries from lead poisoning, as fishing tackle with

READING MALE VOICE CHOIR

THE award-winning Reading Male Voice Choir, under its talented founder and director Gwyn Arch, provided an ideal basis for a service of "Worship for Creation" at St Peter's Church on Sunday, 8 July 1990.

Their excellent concert was linked with well-chosen readings from British poets by the Rector, Richard Kingsbury, who also led the large congregation in prayer.

The precision and energy of the Choir's director was well supported by their accompanist, Clive Winterman, who also ably conducted some items. The Choir reflected this direction admirably, particularly in moving renderings of 'Be Still

My Soul' ('Finlandia') by Sibelius, The Last Words of David ("He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God") and 'The Rose'.

Imbued with the Welsh sensitivity of its conductor, the RMVC also sang lively interpretations of Spirituals, including 'Dry Bones' and a highly syncopated and joyous 'I'm so, so

Happy that I Can't Set Down'. A new item in the Choir's repertoire, the 'Sanctus' from Gounod's St Cecilia Mass, was performed with good dynamic emphasis and deserves further hearing.

The theme of giving thanks for creation was well emphasized in the words from 'The Rose' — "The soul who fears of dying has never learned to live".

We would add that the Swan Lifeline Organisation is always pleased to welcome new members, and anyone interested should contact:- Kay Webb, 1 Markway House, Lower Hampton Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx. TW16 5PN.

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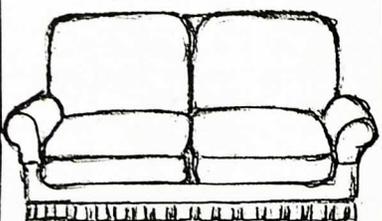
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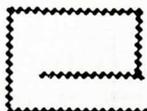
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Patience and Courage

PATIENCE is a virtue, we are told, and patience allied with courage under adversity is an ideal attitude which is often held up. Examples of it are sometimes right under our noses so to speak, but may still not be properly observed. Members of Caversham Heights Townswomens' Guild had the chance to note such examples on two occasions recently.

Any serving member of HM Forces who receives an injury which threatens sight has the right to receive treatment from the St Dunstan's organisation. Just such a person speaking at the main meeting in July was Mr RJH Pringle who was blinded while serving with the Palestine police. He described the kind of work done at St Dunstan's training establishment in reading, typing, getting about and manual dexterity. Everyone is given a Braille watch which is of important psychological value. Good work and improvement in all those fields will mean that you

can leave St Dunstan's sooner. Some are so effectively trained that they can earn well on a piecework basis, while others have succeeded in a managerial or other capacity. St Dunstan's invites everyone back for a fortnight each year; no screaming children, no accidents just pleasurable activities. When answering questions Mr Pringle said it must be remembered that blind people in the street cannot catch anyone's eye or see you coming. Touching or kissing them is therefore not appropriate. A red band round a cane means there is loss of hearing as well. Blind people have to think about everything and discover for themselves the difference between a butchers shop and a chemist. Looking for bargains is not really a possibility.

Later in the month Major M Paxton, familiar as a former member of Huntley and Palmer's workforce and magistrate, gave an interesting and amusing account of his life. Becoming a victim of multiple sclerosis in later life, he stressed the fact that there has been much help forthcoming. He has been encouraged to drive through France six times, and has learned to follow his father's tradition and to do his own thing.

Rosehill W.I.

THE July meeting was well attended despite the rainy afternoon. Mrs Weller gave particulars of activities still carrying on during the summer.

A lovely day was spent at Kew on 20th June. The rain did not come down until 4pm when the party was leaving.

At the current meeting members had a talk, with slides by Mr David Chandler, "Bird Man". Not only is he

knowledgeable about birds, but a lot of other animals, badgers, foxes, and mice as well. The audience was unaware of so much wild life here in Emmer Green. It was a most enjoyable and informative talk.

The competition was for a flower, a single bloom. This was won by Mrs Alice Turner.

Though there is not an August meeting, quite a few coffee mornings and other events have been planned.

Emmer Green Townswomens' Guild

THE LADIES of Emmer Green Townswomens' Guild were given a most interesting talk and slide show by Mr Gold on 'Old Houses of Reading'. He opened members' eyes to a wealth of fine buildings dating from the 16th Century to the turn of the present Century. Many of the buildings were familiar but some were tucked away in little frequented places and were more surprising. The realisation that Reading is not just a town of ugly office blocks was a pleasant surprise.

Members had an enjoyable day out in Salisbury, beginning with a talk on the Cathedral embroideries, including some of the vestments and rarely seen altar frontals. The afternoon was spent visiting National Trust properties, museums, or just wandering around Salisbury, enjoying the old streets and buildings, and pottering in the antique shops.

Mrs Sharman was the delegate at the National Council Meeting, held this year in the Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. She gave an excellent account of the meeting, painting a picture of the gathering of six and a half thousand ladies, the parade of banners, and the discussion and results of the voting on Caring for Carers, Toxoplasmosis Testing and Compulsory Voting, the first two motions being carried, but with a very strong feeling against the third.

The Chairman, Mrs J. Smith, wished members a happy summer break, the next meeting being

on September 11th at 7.15pm St Barnabas Church Hall, Grove Rd, Emmer Green. New members and visitors are most welcome.

Maplewood W.I.

FOR the July Meeting of Maplewood W.I. members met at 1pm and enjoyed a Ploughman's Lunch followed by fruit and coffee before the main meeting. The speaker was a British Airways Cabin Crew Member who wouldn't change her job for any other in spite of the long hours and demanding nature of such a career. British Airways receive around sixty thousand applicants for cabin crew staff each year to fill one hundred and fifty vacancies, so the selection and training process is quite tough.

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

On a very hot day in early July thirteen members went on a visit to Highclere Castle

where the house, the gardens and the lovely walled gardens and greenhouses were all much enjoyed.

Caversham Ladies Club

THE July meeting held in the Baptist Church Hall was well attended, opened by the Chairman who welcomed members on a beautiful summer's afternoon. As the Secretary, Nan Nelhams; was on holiday, Mrs Harwood read the June minutes, and remarked how lovely the outing to Worthing in June had been; members had all enjoyed it. The September outing, a half-day one on the 20th, to Stow-on-the-Wold, would be paid for out of funds. Members were reminded that the September meeting would be the Annual Harvest Home, and were requested to bring produce if possible.

It was then time to introduce Miss Bell from Reading Borough Civic Centre, who gave a most enlightening talk on Con-

Turn to page 11

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the CLUBS

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sumer's Rights which proved to be most interesting. Members asked questions which were satisfactorily answered by Miss Bell, who said anyone with problems about Consumer Rights would be welcome to see her or a colleague inside the main entrance of the Civic Centre. Miss Bell was warmly applauded.

Tea was then served by the tea ladies and as it was a rather warm afternoon this was much appreciated. Mrs Harwood closed the meeting at 4pm with a further reminder of the September Harvest Home.

Caversham Community Association

AT THE meeting on the 2nd July the members were given the opportunity to describe their memorable holidays. Olive Howard commenced and told how she gave up a trip to the Chester and instead saw a wonderful performance by the Bolshoi Ballet at the Hexagon, Reading. She also described a trip to France on the liner Queen Elizabeth II. Muriel Waite then gave an account of her visit to Arnhem, Holland. The tour was beset by misfortunes ranging from get-

ting lost, dreadful weather and having the wheel coming off their coach — luckily no one was hurt. George Feast gave an interesting talk of his holiday at Ramsgate when a small boy. The car ride there, at 20 miles per hour, was an event along the narrow roads and he remembered the bathing machines on the beach. Evelyn Cook explained how the holiday she and her late husband enjoyed in Cyprus in 1969 was a competition prize. She described her visit to the ancient walled city of Famagusta and a meeting, at a reception, with Archbishop Makarios. Dorothy Osborne's happy memory was when her husband received some insurance money and then treated his family to a wonderful holiday in Yugoslavia. To complete an interesting evening Dolly Usher gave an amusing account of her only camping experience, when parents were invited to a Scouting holiday and she ended up by booking into a hotel.

The following week Mrs. Jennifer John, from the Millk Marketing Board, was the visiting speaker. Mrs. John gave a comprehensive talk on the making of cheese, illustrating various points with slide films. Of the hundreds of cheeses available some of the best known are from England and Wales, the most popular in Britain being English Cheddar. The members heard how milk is separated into curds and whey. The curds eventually processed into various grades of cheese, the whey made into dry whey powder for use in the food industry. After her talk Mrs. John invited everyone to try some of the varieties of English and Welsh cheeses which she had arranged into a tempting display, attractively gar-

nished. Leaflets and recipes were also available to the members. Beryl Latham, the Chairman, thanked Mrs. John for her informative and interesting talk.

The evening coach trip on the 16th July was a happy occasion. The weather was fine and the tour, via Dorchester, East and West Hendred and thanked Mrs. John for her informative and interesting talk.

over the Berkshire Downs, covered some lovely countryside. The members saw pretty villages, fields with poppies flowering, making a colourful display, and farm workers busy haymaking. There was a stop at Blewbury for refreshments before the trip homeward via Streatley and Pangbourne.

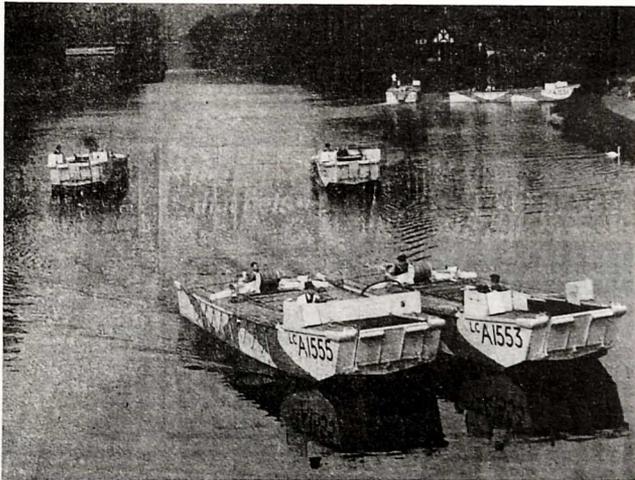
There was good attendance for the social evening held the following week.

On the 30th July the members met for a games evening. Carpet Bowls, Scrabble, Shove ha'penny and various card games were available. Ted Howard, the President, kindly collected the fish and chips that had been ordered earlier for the members. The tasty meal was enjoyed very much and completed a pleasant evening.

LANDING CRAFT



Two pictures which may interest readers of the Caversham Bridge. They show landing craft made at Elliotts during World War II, awaiting their trial run on the Thames. These craft were driven up to Sonning bridge where they were turned round and driven full throttle along the mile stretch of river from Sonning to the old Dreadnought Inn.



STOP PRESS

MR. TED Burnell, Art Tutor at Reading and Caversham Art Centre (whose exhibition at Thameside School was reported last month) is holding a one day exhibition of paintings. This will be on Saturday, 15th September in the Forbury Gardens Bandstand from 10am to 5pm.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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