



WHEN AID IS NO HELP —

HOW PROJECTS FAIL, AND HOW THEY COULD SUCCEED

With this title John Madeley's book (Intermediate Technology Publications, £8.95) is a significant contribution, not only to the thinking of aid policy makers, but to all who want development assistance from rich to poor countries to get through to the poorest peoples, the ones in need of assistance. A simplistic view would quite properly say that is what aid is all about. Indeed it should be, but there are many complex factors, not least the structures of the societies into which the aid is inserted, the physical conditions and so on. Some of this is generally recognized and there is the understanding that aid has to be 'burglar proofed from seizure by the better off.' However, while those giving aid make the 'right noises about poverty alleviation', attitudes within the funding nations and organisations tend to be decisive. Aid donors measure justifiable risks and there is the question whether they really are prepared to attempt to reach the poorest in the face of all the difficulties involved. Whether the donors are international agencies, governments, banks or non government organisations dependent on voluntary subscriptions, their field workers are under strong pressure to produce the projects and the project results to which the donors want to give their money.

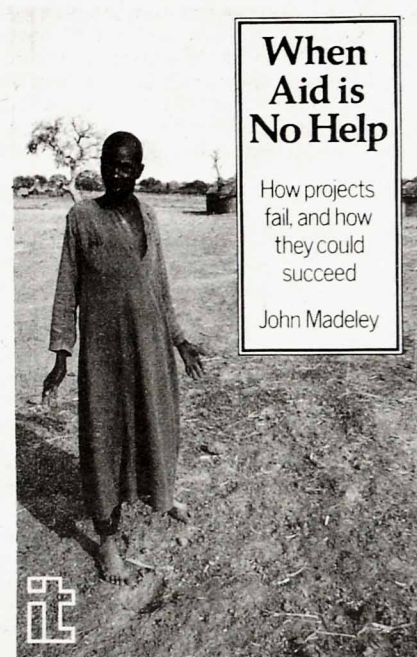
FATE OF THE POOREST

Selection of projects and the people who can benefit from them is fundamental. Selection is likely to exclude 'villages and peoples who are poorer in social cohesion and community spirit, where they do not work together well for whatever reason, find it difficult to pay their taxes... have limited land... Such villages are unquestionably "poorer villages", poor not just in material terms but in many other ways'. The people who live there are likely to be those who will not 'satisfy the world of official aid projects'. Selection often involves credit-worthiness, however slender, and to 'extend credit to villages... with a comparatively weak organisation, would be to take a risk. Repayment would be more uncertain, the success of the project might be in jeopardy' — and

what good is a failed project to anyone? Writing about official aid failures in Mali, John cites a project in which its 'careful selection of villages is undoubtedly a key reason for its success; it is also the reason why it has failed to reach the people in the neediest villages... many villagers not covered... ended up as famine victims... An insufficiently publicised fact of famine in Africa is that only the poorest die. It is they who cannot afford to buy food and, in many cases, are not being helped to grow it.'

WOMEN WORK, MEN TALK

John gives much credit where it is due, recognizes the problems being faced while taking the reader through illustration after illustration of very worthy work which, nevertheless, fails to meet the needs of the poorest. He particularly commends the work of the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), a small organisation with 'flexibility which is a strength for reaching the poorest peoples'. Women he visited in Mali, who were drawing water from a well told John, "we are very tired, our energy is gone, our backs are aching". Meanwhile the men of the village sat under a tree discussing contemporary affairs but presumably not the state of the women! In Africa, as elsewhere, 'It is men who frame policies for women' and 'Food policies are often drawn up with scant regard for helping the women who grow most of the continent's food. In Gambia the UNIFEM supported Gambia Womens Bureau is working for change... to promote development activities that would enhance and lift women's status'. Women there are being trained in a variety of skills in engineering as well as agricultural extension workers, and UNIFEM funded milling machines save women hours a day hand pounding grain in 15 villages, thus releasing them for relaxation with their children and giving time they can use to grow more food. There is a fascinating and encouraging chapter on a UNIFEM project for women in the Philippines in which women grow arrowroot for processing. The emphasis on training



When Aid is No Help
How projects fail, and how they could succeed
John Madeley

and processing 'makes a great deal of sense' but arrowroot processing is comparatively long term, the crop takes between 8 and 10 months to grow, so the women are encouraged to set up piggeries because pig fattening is short term, giving essential income. Unfortunately 'participants must have completed primary school', a local requirement not demanded by UNIFEM which excludes the poorest women. However, if the funding can be increased there is a sincere desire to include the illiterate and 'the project could yet do much to assist the demoralised poorest of Filipino society'.

The chapter on 'Non-government organisations (NGOs): giving official aid a lift' was of special interest to this reviewer with its challenge as to whether 'NGOs would welcome ... a shift of official aid resources through them'. Apparently 'while recognising that there are limits, many voluntary aid agencies do believe that they could handle **more** aid monies without jeopardising their style'. Action Aid's Chief Executive suggests that '... the maximum rate at which we could grow responsibly would be something in the order of 20% per annum.'

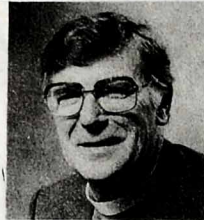
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D/EX 1758/28/6

TALKING POINT

By the Rev. Keith Sanders

MINISTER CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS
METHODIST CHURCH



'RESURGAM'

Shortly before Easter the Methodist Conference Stationing Committee asked that I should be sent for my next appointment to the Queen's Hall Mission at Derby as the Superintendent of the Derby Derwent Circuit. A few days later the present minister rang me to say that an arsonist had set fire to the interior of the church and much of it had been destroyed. We visited Derby after Easter and saw for ourselves the charred building and the smell of burnt wood going right throughout the premises.

My mind went back to almost thirty years ago when in the very same church I had preached a trial sermon for my ordination as a young probationer minister at Ashby-de-la-Zouch. This was followed some weeks later by my ordination at the Methodist Conference at Plymouth. The Conference Service took place in the lovely St. Andrew's Anglican Church in the centre of the city — when in 1940 German bombs had almost demolished the church. We saw some photographs of the occasion and one of them depicted the then vicar nailing a piece of cardboard to what was left of the entrance; on it was written one word — 'RESURGAM' — it is an imperative latin word, 'WE WILL RISE AGAIN'.

All of us live in the burning light of the resurrection. We are called to be on fire for our Risen Lord. Charles Wesley had a hymn for it —

'O Thou who camest from above, the pure celestial word to impart;

Kindle a flame of sacred love on the mean altar of my heart.'

The mission of the Church is to set hearts on fire for the Lord; to rekindle the flame of love in the lives of those who have lost their glow and to burn up the dross of sin in the world. Which is quite a challenge.

It is this challenge that confronts the churches of Caversham. Monica and I have been grateful to God for being able to share in the life of this area for the past five years, and for all the friendships and links which have been made. There has been a growing together of Christians and a development of our united mission. I rejoice in the commencement of the Churches Together in Caversham, the open air celebrations and the growth of the Lenten groups, and not least to be part of this publication.

My place will be taken in September by David Moody who comes with his wife Joan, from an ecumenical church at Sanderstead, Surrey; I'm glad that my church at Derby has a covenant with the Cathedral and the Roman Catholic Church. I can only urge you to continue in the united mission of being aglow with the light of Christ which can be as a bush fire spreading through our community and our world.

God bless you and guide you.

Keith Sanders

'WHEN AID IS NO HELP'

From Page 1

In his final chapter, John sets out 'guidelines that the country's aid projects should include if the poorest are to be reached.' Among these are 'careful painstaking attention to detail; projects must correspond to local realities, involve non-government organisations at the design stage, trust the poorest.' Our 'projects must not gamble with the lives of the poorest, must ask whether it has a land reform component' and so on.

No-one reading this excellent book could claim that they did not know the situation and, as John concludes, 'the how of reaching the poorest is becoming clearer. There is no reason why the task should be delayed.'

Frank Baker

Frank Baker is Deputy Chairman of 'Help the Aged' and a trustee of

Voluntary and published by In-Christian Service termediate Tech-both of which nology Publica-organisations are tions 103/105 involved in aid to Southampton Row, Third World coun- London WC1B tries. 4HH, price £8.95 or can be obtained from St. Peter's Church.

The book is Church.

CAVERSHAM CHURCHES PROVIDE ANOTHER MAYOR

Best wishes to Cllr. about his time as No. 1 Geoff Canning, who man in Reading. will have completed his year as Mayor by the Cllr. Robert Dimmick time this paper is from Caversham Park published. While he is Village is the new taking a breather after Mayor and all good his busy year, we have wishes go to him in his asked him to write term of office.

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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 Harcastle, 20 St. Barnabas Road. Tel: 478239.

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

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The Rev John Boakes, 9 Woodlands Grove, Caversham. Tel: 482530.

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The Rev Michael Holmes, 8 Southview Avenue. Tel: 474138.

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The newspaper produced by members of the Anglican, Roman Catholic and Free Churches of Caversham and Mapledurham for the local community.

EDITORS: Mrs Margaret Bailey, Mr Eric Chappell, Mr John Mullaney, Mr Bernard Miller, c/o Church House, 59 Church Street, Caversham. Tel: 471703.

ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER: Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham, RG4 7PE. Tel: 471816.

CIRCULATION MANAGER: Mr. R. Kitcher, 5A Church Road, Caversham, RG4 7AA. Tel: 472660.

COMPANY SECRETARY: Mr H. Pilgrim, 64 Highmoor Road, Caversham, RG4 7BG. Tel: 474017.

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

All contributions for July issue should be sent to Church House, by noon on Wednesday 5 June.

All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham by 3 June.

The dates for August will be Monday 1 July and Wednesday 3 July.

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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KATY IN CAVERSHAM

LITTLE LAMBS

I'm only too well aware — and this no criticism of our editors who do their best with the material provided — that this paper can at times look extremely dull. So I was delighted with the May copy's front page. There's nothing in this world quite so charming as 'little lambs'. I was lucky enough this year to be taken on a kind of lamb-hunting tour. Technically we were on a visit to Silchester (I wonder how many newcomers to Caversham are quite unaware of this once thriving Roman-British town, of which there is still much to be seen) but en route we saw enough sheep and young lambs to satisfy even me. Incidentally I've discovered that more than one farm near here is now throwing open its doors in the Spring, for people to watch lambing. What a wonderful opportunity and how children must love it.

THE NEW WAITROSE

Nearer home, like most local people I've been discovering the 'delights' of the new Waitrose. And anyone who says it isn't new should just try finding their way around it. Luckily, as in the past, the staff have been extremely helpful and

even, a blunt request such as "Where the hell have you put the sausages?" is met by a conducted tour. Sometimes even the staff themselves are at a loss to find things, but Waitrose must surely be one of the few retail or service establishments these days where economy cuts have not led to such a reduction in staff that customers are often at a loss to find somebody to help them if they can't find — or can't reach — something. I take my hat off to the staff and how well they've coped.

My only real worry about the expansion is that the shop might eventually corner the market as it were, for they do carry a very wide range of goods even if they might be a bit more expensive, and like most shoppers I hate wandering from one shop to another looking for odd items. But I do like to have a choice of shops and the way things are going that might be just what we won't have. I hear the same thing is happening in Reading itself and every shop which is forced to close drives us inevitably to one big store. And when that happens we have no choice at all and the store in question can do what it likes with us regarding goods and prices. Think about it!

FRANK AND EILEEN HABGOOD

I was asked by some readers to mention Frank and Eileen of Ellesmere Close who recently celebrated their Diamond Wedding in great style. I'm always pleased to get requests like this and intended to visit the Habgoods. But time is short and I'm sure they will forgive me for not calling on them in person as I was able to cull the necessary information, their marriage in Wandsworth in 1931 and subsequent life in Caversham from the 'Chronicle' which adds that their daughter, Joan, flew in from Canada to join the celebrations. One day I must get around to visiting them — they sound a lovely couple.

PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE ARCTIC

And I trust the 'Chronicle' and David

White will forgive me for quoting an article in this week's paper together with some beautiful pictures of seal pups which Davids took while visiting the Gulf of St. Lawrence on behalf of the International Fund for Animal Welfare. David, who lives in St. Peter's Avenue, seems to love his job especially now that visitors come to 'watch the pups at play' instead of watching them being clubbed to death. I really must get to meet him one day but if, in the meantime, he feels kind enough to let the 'Bridge' have the odd item for us it would be most welcome. Not much money in it I'm afraid but think of the pleasure it would give so many Caversham people to see such lovely pictures. The 'Chronicle' ones I'm keeping for myself.

THEY CAME TO CAVERSHAM

Recently asked to

feature a young man who is running his own business in Caversham I found I'd accidentally stumbled on a family who come with the highest credentials from everyone who knows them. They all arrived in England during the Suez crisis when they were forced to leave Egypt and having English nationality all arrived here and now surely are one of the friendliest families in the district. So what might have been a paragraph in this column will probably turn out to be an "in depth" story and will have to wait till next month.

THE OLD AND HOUSEBOUND

I know a lot of you do keep a watchful eye on the old and housebound but I can't resist an appeal on their behalf, particularly now that statutory services are being so heavily pruned and roads are no longer the friendly places they used to be. Nobody's fault but young couples moving into the district, probably both working — tho' I don't know for how long — often have no idea that next door is an old person who would welcome the occasional call to see all is well. There really is a fund of goodwill in the district but getting it tapped is another thing and very difficult for anyone to organise in spite of the Good Neighbour Scheme. What is really needed is for everyone to keep an eye open for needy cases and if they're not in a position to help a lot themselves, for goodness sake let somebody know. I like to think Caversham is a cut above districts where people are sometimes found dead in their homes. And for heaven's sake don't think it beneath any of you to give a

greeting to the person next door or somebody you pass in the street. It does help.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH

With such an ideal site right in the centre of Caversham, I often thought it was a pity that the Baptist Church wasn't able to make better use of its porch, so I was delighted to read about the refurbishment. I went along to see it, stayed for a service and once again recalled the dreary great barn of a place the Church used to be before it was taken in hand and became a most attractive and suitable building for all the many activities that go on there.

JOHN WILLIAMSON

Readers who remember John Williamson, who ran St. Peter's Youth Group, will be pleased to know that he has recently qualified as a Reflexologist (see article on P.9 by another practitioner). He is still working at his Post Office at Cheswardine near Market Drayton, and practising his interesting new skills out of office hours! We wish him well.

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fun, enjoyment, free and directed play, music, social awareness, integration in every possible way and, above all, communication.

Communication is vitally important to us all, but especially to those with special needs. Our little ones, their families, and all who come into contact with us are encouraged to learn and use Makaton. Makaton not only employs signs but facial expressions and directioning, and is always accompanied by speech. It is great fun and we learn it through our rhymes, songs, fingerplays and

ordinary conversation. Basically it helps the child understand what words mean and also others to understand the child, giving him much needed confidence.

In addition to giving the youngsters a stimulating and happy morning we are also

very much a parent support group. We welcome visitors, but it is wise to contact us first in case we are on an outing.

I would be only too pleased to give information to anyone who would like to know more about us.

This newspaper has given £100 towards the Bubble Club and Sheila Bowcock, who runs it, was asked to write about the Club's activities.



POSTBAG

GRAVEL PITS

Dear Sirs/Mesdames,

What a pity that Messrs Dutton and Jewell felt it necessary to rush into an attack on my letter of the previous month without reading that letter properly first. May I please correct them.

I did not object to the publication of an article, by the developers of the gravel pits, extolling the virtues of their own proposals. I did object to the article being given the entire front page of the March issue, as received wisdom, with no indication of its origin. However, I still consider that the usual advertisement fee should have been charged.

I did not object to the third bridge - indeed I have been one of its advocates for at least the last 25 years. But surely the very great benefits of that bridge will be largely out-weighted by the cars of an extra 2,500 office workers in Caversham. And who is to pay for the Bridge? The Government has given no undertaking, our two poll-taxed councils have no money and although there were verbal undertakings at the Redlands presentation that the developers would pay there is no such written statement. The Planning

Application makes no promises on costs.

I did not object to the concept of a Dinton Pastures-type conservation area. I too would welcome such a public amenity but as the developers have to restore the land anyway once they have finished digging, the extra contouring and tree-planting seems a small environmental gain for the beginning of large scale office development in Caversham. Give planning permission for one development and others will follow.

Although it was not a criticism of me, I must also comment on the 'near sycophantic support' for the Chazey Court development. There were not the official objections to this as might be expected simply because it was felt that some development was inevitable on this site and the proposals would cause far less disturbance and extra traffic than the alternatives. However assurances were sought from the developers and the Planning Committee on construction traffic and the re-instatement of the Warren afterwards.

Surely though, instead of bickering among ourselves, now that the developers have

made such a mess of Reading and are beginning to turn their greedy eyes on Caversham, those of who care for the area should be trying to find ways of working together as we all have over Bugs Bottom.

Yours faithfully
Mrs D.E. Thomas
GOOD WISHES

Dear Editors,

I am full of admiration for our new Archbishop of Canterbury and thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful Enthronement Service on T.V. but did not like the clapping! Like our late Archbishop Runcie, I am sure he has a tough row to hoe.

I feel so sorry for Archbishop Runcie. I hope now he will really be able to relax and enjoy his pigs! I have a feeling Terry Waite will come back.

All good wishes to both Archbishops!
Yours etc.

(Mrs) Nancy Banfield

1 Mander Court
Derby Road
Caversham.

CLARINET

Dear Editors,

Some time ago Reading, and later Caversham both had good music shops but these have now sadly disappeared.

Since I first heard the dulcet tones of Artie Shaw's clarinet way back in the late '30s it has long been my hope to be able to play this instrument, and I now

wondered if there is one of your many readers who would be willing to sell me such an instrument.
Yours etc.
Pete Littlewood

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By Watchdog

WELL RUN
Half a dozen Bugs Bottom rabbits were waiting on Caversham Bridge to cheer on Paul Ranson, their intrepid runner in the half-marathon as he came running past, all bright eyed and bushy tailed in spite of disclaimers to following a healthy life style, on his way to raising money for the Court of Appeal case and proving he could complete the course. Complete it he did and raised a very healthy sum in doing so, something in the region of £900 which has given the fund a splendid boost, bringing it into its last thousand pounds. Well run Paul. Many thanks, and everyone hopes you enjoyed doing it.

It was great to see all those thousands of runners pouring over the bridge, filling the road from side to side, whilst for a change cars waited for pedestrians. This year, with the new

starting place at Rivermead, they were all fresh, whereas in other years they have been more than half way round by the time they got to Caversham. It is obviously a popular event and it should not be allowed to die away because of lack of financial support.

A further boost to the Bugs Bottom fund was from the tombola stall at the Highdown fete. Again many thanks to those who left offerings at the collection points. It now looks as if the target of £20,000 will be reached by 1-2 July, but only by going on collecting money until it is.

FINE WORDS

The Review of the County Structure Plan once more shows no sizeable development north of the Thames. In fact it comes out very strongly in favour of environmental protection and against buildings in green

fields where the self-defeating. Yet we have the Cross Town Route coming up, fought for hard and long by the County, as well as other road 'improvement' schemes that damage the environment (have you seen Maidenhead Thicket recently?) that add to the difficulties of cyclists and pedestrians and cost huge sums, a fraction of which could improve public transport. Think of the time added to a walk into Reading from Caversham since the new road schemes were carried out.

However, in spite of the environmental awareness which is emphasised throughout the Structure Plan review in terms with which no one would disagree, firm signs of how this can be achieved are thin on the ground. The provisions made for growth in fact cancel out most of these expressions of concern. Another 45,100 houses by the year 2000 and another 1,132,000 square metres for businesses and industrial uses hardly add up to keeping open spaces in a county which in recent decades has been subject to one of the highest growth rates in the country, far outstripping its infra-structure.

Transport also features prominently in the plan, with much emphasis on integrated transport policy; in other words, 'buses, rail, cycling and walking will all be encouraged, instead of mainly cars, as the realisation is dawning that unrestricted car use with new road schemes to cater for it, is destructive and

HERITAGE AWARDS

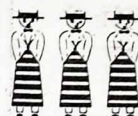
Under the Heritage Awards Scheme, inaugurated by Berkshire County Council, with generous sponsorship from Bayer (UK), Caversham Residents' Association has nominated the flint and brick wall in The Mount, which was repaired and restored by a firm at Sandford after a whole stretch had fallen into the chalk pit. Any building, however small, (a post box or village pump for instance) is eligible, as long as it was built before 1940. Amongst points the judges will be looking for are the enhancement of old buildings and conservation areas, the proper use of traditional materials in appropriate locations, the use of skilled craftsmen and good or proper restoration/repair. On these grounds, the wall qualifies as much as Reading Town Hall, another nominee and already the recipient of major awards. Perhaps one day the Caversham Court Gazebo will be included in the scheme.

CHAZEY COURT

Plans for a medical rehabilitation centre at Chazy Court have now been passed. It was difficult to see how, under current planning regulations they could be refused, and there is no law to force anyone to continue farming a piece of land. In fact Government policy currently encourages diversification, and the present proposal is much better than most other options could be.

There will be extra traffic along the Warren, not in the nature of what Bugs Bottom or Redland Gravel would produce, but enough to cause concern about its effect on this country lane. Attention must now be concentrated on deciding what is, and what is not, acceptable in the interests of safety and its traditional character.

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CAVERSHAM DIARY

Saturday, 8th June 7.30pm St. Anne's Parish Barbecue and Barn Dance
Tuesday, 11th June 8.00pm St Barnabas' Day. Preacher - Bishop of Oxford.
Saturday, 15th June 2.00pm Caversham West Brownies, Guides and Rangers Summer Fete in the Rectory Garden, Church Road,
ST. MARGARET'S TWO-DAY MASQUE
Thursday, 20th June 7.30pm Corallian Singers (Madrigals etc)
Friday, 21st June 7.30pm Sainsbury Singers
Both in St Margaret's Church
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ROUND THE CHURCHES

NEWS FROM ST. BARNABAS'

Just because the St Barnabas correspondent failed to make the May deadline for this newspaper, it would be wrong to assume that nothing much happens in this northernmost part of Caversham. On the contrary, St Barnabas is a veritable hive of activity. If part of the Easter message is about the promise of New Life in Christ, then St Barnabas has most certainly found new life this Easter.

By popular request the Evensong, which was begun during Lent has been extended into the post Easter period and takes place at the new summer time of 6.30pm. It is sufficiently well supported to merit the presence of an organist, so for those who are addicted to BBC's Songs of Praise, they will now be able to enjoy their own Songs of Praise. Members of other churches are most welcome. Sunday evening always seems a most appropriate time for worshipping God. By then, the inevitable weekend tasks are all but finished and there is at last time and space to say a "Thankyou" to God, for all that has been and to draw strength for all that might be in the week ahead.

For St Barnabas, the weeks ahead bring a veritable burgeon of House Groups. Two concurrent groups on "Worship" are to be held during May and June, together with one entitled

"The Hand of God" in the Bible and in our lives. There are also plans for occasional evenings of Songs, Prayer and Meditation, not forgetting the summer season's round of wine and cheese parties, when manageable numbers of people get together in each others houses for fun and friendship.

However, the big event of the season is of course St Barnabas Day on June 11th, when the Rt Revd Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford will be preaching at the Church. A warm welcome is extended to everyone from the local churches to come and hear him preach; an opportunity not to be missed.

Also in June, on Saturday 29th, a quiet day has been arranged at Bagshot Park, a royal residence, once seat of the Duke of Clarence. It boasts some one hundred and ninety one acres in which, weather permitting, participants can lose themselves in prayer and meditation. The quiet day held last year at the Sue Ryder Home, Nettled was appreciated by all who attended, so this further day of quiet comes highly recommended if past experience is anything to go by.

Thus, it would seem that the weeks between Easter and Summer are filled with hectic activity — hectic, but very meditative if such a paradox can be seen to exist.

BAPTIST NEWS

CRY FREEDOM

This year's Baptist Assembly was held at the Bournemouth International Centre. Each morning as delegates, from all over the country, left their hotels, they were joined by more and more people heading for the Centre, so the trickle of people became a stream and the stream became a flood. The Centre, close to the sea was a good venue for the conference and there was space for practically everything. There was even a swimming pool if time could be found to use it!

The theme of the Assembly was "Cry Freedom" and the various speakers concentrated on different aspects. The Rev. Roy Jenkins, Senior Producer, Religious Programmes, B.B.C. Radio Wales was inducted as President for the coming year and his address set this scene. He maintained that Christians are mandated to Cry Freedom, not the freedom to do as they like in personal relationships, regardless of the dignity and integrity of other people, not the freedom to exploit the market without reference to the suffering of those with no power and no voice, not the freedom to pillage the planet, leaving the future generations to pick up the bill. The only freedom Christians are in the business of declaring is that which God gives, the God who raises up prophets to denounce corrupt rulers and who

places himself firmly on the side of the victim! This freedom finds its focus in the one perfectly free human being, the Lord Jesus Christ who is himself the truth which sets people free, the one whose self offering liberates from guilt, despair and the fear of death, sets free for a life of love and service and provides the model for personal freedom. During his address, Roy Jenkins inquired who shapes our values, attitudes and expectations. He would like to be able to say the Word of God, a life of prayer and a commitment to the needs of the World where Christ is to be found. He feared that it would be more honest to speak about models set by the latest television block buster, the jingoistic prejudices of sections of the Press, and the crude calculation as to whether any given political programme will leave more in our bank accounts or less.

The theme of the address by Fr Gerard Hughes SJ was the Spirituality of Freedom. He made a distinction between liberty and freedom, reminding the delegates that Jesus is the source of freedom and the freer we are, the more we shall work for the liberty of others. If we do not have freedom, attempts at liberty end up in enslavement as they did in Communism. Freedom is not popular as people feel more secure without it. He reminded delegates that this is God's world but 800 million are undernourished, the super powers are wheeling and dealing in arms, loans to the third world countries, caused debts of £50 billion to the first world in 1983 and one Trident costs the same as the education budget of 23 developing countries. He left the delegates with a picture of what might happen if Jesus came to the door, was welcomed and told to make himself at home. It could have far reaching consequences.

Other speakers were Rev. Jim Wallis who founded the Sojourners Community in Washington DC. He spoke of how he discovered the hard way the divide between the white Christians in Chicago and the black churches. This led him to work among the under privileged and he expressed his concern about the dangers on the streets at night.

Rev. Sven Ohm from Sweden, who preached the Missionary Sermon, said that in God's sight, there was no second and third class citizens and the Gospel should be proclaimed to every nation.

Jacquie Wells who is working in Thailand re-

counted how 2 Thai people, both of whom were more privileged than most found freedom in Jesus and Rev Patrick Baber who at the final session, the Communion Service dwelt on the Centrality of the Cross.

There is not space to mention many other events in a packed 3 days thought provoking programme. We were left with the knowledge that God as creator is not just interested in selected people e.g. Middle Class white, but he is concerned about the whole of mankind. He is not just interested in their spiritual condition, but he is concerned about their mental and physical conditions too. We need to be informed about events and policies in our own country as well as those overseas and question how our life helps or hinders the less fortunate. When the global tasks seem beyond our strength and resources, we were advised to start with the tasks nearest to us.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WITH 1000 CHILDREN

For their final indoor meeting of the 1990-91 season, St Andrew's Fellowship welcomed Miss Lorna Jackson, a local historian, whose knowledge of 'Bath Road and Castle Street' appeared to be encyclopaedic. The various buildings of this well known thoroughfare through the centuries have reflected Reading's ever changing face. The almshouses, most unusually donated by the benefactor, Sir Thomas Vachell during his lifetime; the main drive to Coley Park House is now Coley Avenue; the Mayor's official residence, Holybrook House, have all played their part in the long saga. At the turn of the century St Mary's Castle Street

had a Sunday School roll of over a thousand children which showed society and the area had changed. At the same time, however some things have not changed because Miss Jackson told that along Bath Road, vixen may still be seen prowling around.

Members are already looking forward to Miss Jackson's return visit next session when her subject will be "Street names of Reading". Before then, the Fellowship has its three outings, the May one having been an evening mystery tour. For June they are joining with the Townswomen's Guild for a day trip to romantic Leeds Castle. In July there is to be an afternoon excursion, but full details are not yet available.

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)

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
10.00am 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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THESPIAN CAVERSHAM

Two One Act Plays

Two widely contrasting plays were presented by Caversham Players during April at St. Andrews Hall, Caversham, the first "Par La Fenetre" by Georges Feydeau a turn of the century comedy, the second a modern play "The Real Inspector Hound" by Tom Stoppard.

In the former the part of the French lawyer was played by Derek Spears who handled the character with great vigour, and the vivacious lady who upsets his equanimity, by Yvonne Maynard as Emma. From the moment of her surprising entrance she tried to persuade the reluctant lawyer — already smarting from the disappearance of his wife — to seduce her in order to take her revenge against her husband. By her second entrance the position had been clarified — it was all due to a mistaken identity after all by which time the lawyer was warming up to the situation and saw the chance of effecting a bit of legal business. Spectacular in her turn of the century red dress Emma sent shivers down the spine of the lawyer and the audience alike by her description of the hand drill torture practiced in her own country to reluctant males. Both were totally audible though the lawyer could have made a greater contrast between his real voice and his sotto voce to the audience — and would such a man have

grabbed at the bread on the table in such an undignified manner? A good romp — or nearly one — conducted at a spanking pace well directed by Nancy Quennell — probably a divan by the important window would have revealed more of the intended goings on than a high backed chair.

The set for the first play was designed by Charles Croft to adapt to a theatre scene for the second play with a box overlooking the stage below. It is in the latter that two critics chat to each other, Moon played with expertise by Jim McClure, and Birdboot the more excitable character well portrayed by Ken Etherington. There are accusations and recriminations, undercurrents of spite and envy as Moon dwells on his rival Higgs — later to be one of the corpses on stage. He sermonises on "the crustaceans of the rock pools of society" when he is not accusing Birdboot of favouritism over an actress with whom he has been seen the previous evening. Men fall like ninepins for the glamorous Cynthia admirably played by Sheila Hodson who proves she is not just a pretty face by her prowess at the card table. Felicity, played by Louise Mander vents her fury on fickle suitors between bouts on the tennis court — how did she manage it in the fog? Maggie Stokes played Mrs

Drudge, the lady who "did" for the folk at Muldoon Manor convincingly, rasping voice, work-worn waddle and all. An edgy Simon well played by Simon Locke invigled his way skillfully round the furniture but why did he keep jumping up at the card table? Charles Croft as Magnus made a spectacular entrance in his wheel chair, later taking everyone by surprise including the critic Moon in charge on the stage by this time. He declares himself to be among other things Cynthia's long lost husband Albert. The Inspector Hound obviously an impostor played by Geoff Stokes had little time to establish himself before the whole thing blew up with Magnus taking over and disarming Moon who had started his own enquiry into two murders.

Marion Croft's voice came over loud and clear with warnings on the radio and if some of us in the audience failed to follow all the intricacies of this modern play with its shocks, suspense and mysteries galore, it was completely riveting with never a dull moment. The producer Barbara Graham is to be congratulated on manoeuvring players in an out of situations in a play few amateurs would have tackled.

E.M.F.

The Plot's the Thing

'Portrait of Murder', performed by Caversham Theatre and directed by Bob Green on April 25th — 27th, turned out to be not a 'whodunnit' but a 'whowasreallyalmost-dun'. Failed actor Eliot Barlow and his lover, Denise Murray, had attempted to murder Eliot's wife Paula, a highly successful novelist, to have better access to her fortune. But it was not Paula who suffered a loss of memory from the gas boiler that Eliot contrived to explode but her double, who had fortuitously appeared on her doorstep in response to an appeal for a secretary — and who fortuitously was alone in the house at the time

of the explosion! Paula, safely in Dover whilst the house was rebuilt and her double convalescing, sent her warnings of the danger that threatened her. Sadly the real Paula eventually came to grief in a trap that had been rigged to kill the double!

Perhaps not so sadly, though! A series of flashbacks had revealed that Paula's temperamental, touchy and domineering personality was enough to drive any husband to desperate measures, and Liz Martin successfully contrasted this character with the mild, likable character of her double. The other members of the cast

had less opportunity of characterisation, for the enjoyment of the play depended on the twists and turns of the plot and not on the actors convincing us that they were real people.

Martin Leckie did not really seem at home in the part of Eliot: the fact that he managed to marry the barbed Paula, and almost managed to murder her, called perhaps for a stronger and slyer interpretation. Kathy Munn's Denise would have gained by a more intense sense of evil purpose: as with Eliot, there was needed a stronger contrast between the mask and the face behind the mask.

Tony Hales was suitably foppish and self-opinionated as Tod Logan, the artist who had painted the portrait — actually painted by Claire Leckie — but at times he suffered from inaudibility. David Munns gave Jim Guthrie the right degree of business acumen blended with sincerity, and Maggie Wild played Paula's long-suffering secretary, whom the double replaced when she was sacked for suffering no longer! The back stage staff had produced a convincing set and Paul Martin conjured successfully with the lighting complications which this play demanded.

E.M.A.



Caroline Croft and Ian Cleare after receiving their Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award on 25th March from Mr John Henderson, the Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire in a ceremony at Leighton Park School.

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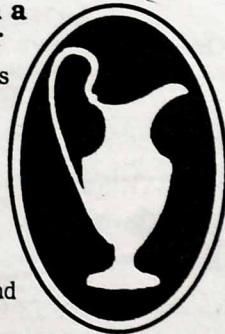
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WEDDING AT HOME PASSPORT

SWAN LIFELINE



Swans on Emmer Green Pond

Photo: E. S. Archer

The A.G.M. was this year held at the Castle Hotel, Windsor on Tuesday, 26th March. Amongst those attending was David Bird of the National Federation of Anglers. David has been a member of Swan Lifeline for many years, and, during the evening gave a short talk from the anglers' point of view. This was followed by some discussion (understandable in such controversial views).

Tim Heron's report gave details of swans rescued, problems encountered and help received. Amongst other items there was the news that Eton College had agreed to lease

Cuckoo Weir Island to Swan Lifeline, for use as a Rescue Headquarters and Treatment Centre (subject to planning permission). Help would be required in the way of building materials, fencing, concrete, cupboards etc. to set this up, and, of course, manual help! The number of birds rescued during this year was 304; an additional 143 were dealt with on site (mainly released from fishing tackle). Unfortunately costs continued to rise, but there are many kind people who organise fundraising events. The income from collecting boxes helps, also the sale of donated and bought goods (helped by the splendid efforts of Brian Butcher and

George Fielder — Lockkeepers of Mapledurham and Whitchurch locks.) However, out-goings are still higher than In-comings!

David Chandler of Caversham was also thanked for his help on many occasions, especially in looking after seven cygnets who were abandoned by the pen when the cob was injured. They were eventually released on to the lake at Dinton Pasture, when the cob was sufficiently recovered to look after them.

Sadly the death of the swan 'Brough' was

reported. He was brought in at last year's A.G.M., having been injured in a territory dispute. He recovered and was re-united with his mate — but had not, apparently, learned his lesson; he was involved in yet another territorial dispute (his third) and this time was not so lucky!

Thanks to all the kind people in Reading and Caversham who continue to feed and to keep an eye on 'our' swans.

There is still a bread-collecting sack in St. Peter's Church porch.

Finally, two swans appear to have abandoned the river and taken up residence on the more peaceful waters of Emmer Green Pond (see photograph). To judge by the amount of time the three geese spend away from the pond, across the road on the green by the car park, it would appear that they don't approve of the new residents!!

BROWNIES SPRING CLEAN

If you walked from the Golden Key to Reading Bridge on Saturday 27th April, and noticed a lot of girls wearing blue badges, and carrying green sacks, then you surely saw the Brownies and Guides of 3rd Caversham (St John's) doing their bit for Berkshire Spring Clean. In one hour they filled four sacks with rubbish, collected a box of glass, a box of cans and half a bucket of ring pulls.

'IT IS NEVER TOO LATE...'

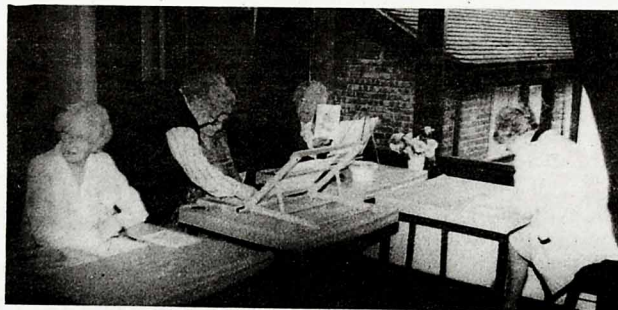


Photo: E. S. Archer

What do ladies in their 70's and 80's do when they at last have time to spare? They look for something new to do! Our photograph shows an Art Class in progress at Mander Court, Derby Road, Caversham. Mrs. Lillian Greenaway is the Art Tutor. Lillian, who is a talented artist now in her 80's, went to live in Mander Court nine years ago and began her Art Classes to help people have an interest in life. She at-

tended Reading University for Art tuition in her youth, then, after her husband died, she taught in various Centres. Now, as well as her Art Class at Mander Court, she has classes at the Art Centre at Reading Library, where pen, ink and wash work is her main subject.

When we visited Mander Court, where these ladies live, not all of Lillian's ladies (Celia, Midge, Ann, Lydia,

Joan and Liz) were there, but the work, which included flower studies, floral greetings cards, and landscapes, produced by those who were, was most impressive. And to think that none of these ladies had ever painted before Lillian started her classes!! The fact that their ages are from 70 to well over 80, shows that it is never too late to take up new interests!

J.A.

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WHAT IS REFLEXOLOGY AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Despite its increasing popularity, Reflexology is still something of a mystery to many people. Here is an ideal opportunity to understand a little more about it.

Reflexology is a method of stimulating the organs and glands of the body to perform their true functions efficiently without the use of medicine or drugs. This is achieved by massaging the reflex points on the feet (or hands) relative to the organs. Nature performed this task quite well until man invented shoes. Walking on the sand or grass still proves this point.

Reflexology is not new. More than three thousand years ago, during their first civilisation, the Chinese established there were pressure points all over the body which were related to specific organs and glands. From this knowledge they formulated Acupressure (without

needles) and Acupuncture (with needles). Ancient Egyptians and the North American Indians were also known to have practised this art.

About 1913, Dr William Fitzgerald, an eminent Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon who practised here and in the United States, discovered (or re-discovered) the effect of pressure points on his patients. He went on to study this ancient art and the result was the publication of the book *Zone Therapy*. He described how the body is divided into ten zones longitudinally starting at the head and terminating in the fingers and toes. Where these zones pass through organs and glands, so pressure or reflex points could be established.

In short, over a period of years, Dr Fitzgerald and others were able to map out to the hands and feet all the reflex points of the

human body. Therefore Reflexology. What's new?

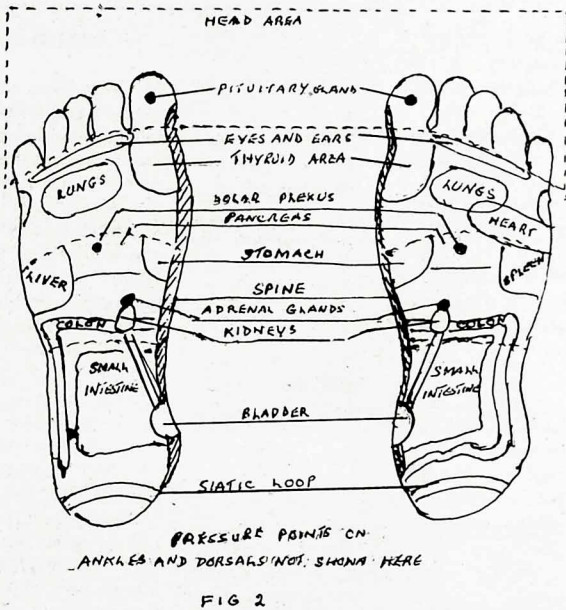
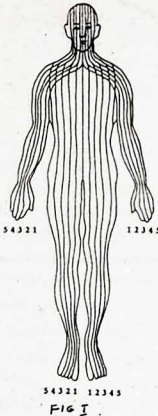
Fig. 1 illustrates the ten zones of the body and can be superimposed on a chart of the human body. In Fig. 2 in the limited space available and in simple form is illustrated a pair of feet viewed from the soles as presented for treatment. The organs, glands and skeleton can all be traced on the feet when they are placed side by side, with the exception of those points that are located round the ankles and on the dorsal areas. Roughly speaking the

justified, the Reflexologist will seek permission to contact the patient's doctor and abide by his advice on the suitability of such treatment.

Firstly then, Reflexology can be considered as preventative

injuries that can be helped on the basis that the health and well-being of the entire body is dependent on each gland and organ playing its part.

With Reflexology the patient often has a part to play whereas drugs or medicines may mask the warning signs of pending ill health (disease), the symptoms may well return as soon as medication is stopped. Reflexology has the approach that there is a 'cause and effect' and therefore looks for the cause! During treatment to restore the body to its natural balance, it may become obvious that the patient is required to change his or her way of life to some degree, or perhaps face up to



toes represent the head, the inside of the feet the spine and so on. Any tender or painful spots in these areas can indicate a malfunction to some degree.

To commit this information to memory is easy, but then a good working knowledge of biology is required together with the necessary training in the function and malfunction of the body and what problems these may present. With practice, qualified Reflexologists can detect problems by touch and sense long before they are evident to the patient.

So what can Reflexology do for you? Before proceeding further it is necessary to understand that Reflexology is not intended as an alternative to sound medical treatment or surgery where it is suspected that such action is necessary. It is complementary to such treatment, and where

(car maintenance). A patient can be suffering from some degree of stress, which can give symptoms of headaches, loss of appetite followed by stomach upsets, or poor sleep pattern to name but a few. A short course of treatment by a practitioner will prove very relaxing in the first instance, and the general treatment will relieve the symptoms, if not entirely clear them, in the process of balancing the body. Some people go on feeling below par for ages as they feel a visit to the doctor is not justified.

This has been a very brief description of a rather complex subject. Whereas Reflexology is never harmful and yet can sometimes have amazing results, it follows that if you are contemplating treatment, you ensure that the therapist is qualified, insured and a member of an approved association.

Mark Chuter

From this point we can move on to more specific illnesses. Two of these most commonly suffered in silence are constipation and pre-menstrual tension which often go together. These two illnesses form a large part of a Reflexologist's practice. However, there is a long list of il-



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the
CLUBS

Maplewood W.I.

At the April Meeting Mrs Phyl Duckworth gave a report of the Annual Council meeting at the Hexagon. The opening of the house at Mortimer had been an outstanding event of the year.

An interesting talk on Embroidery through the Ages was given by Mrs Sutherland. The members heard how interest in embroidery flourished and declined from the 13th Century. This was illustrated by slides showing examples of work from the Bayeux Tapestry to modern times.

The Flower of the Month was won by Mrs Joyce Beacroft.

**Caversham
W.I.**

The April meeting of Caversham W.I. took place on Thursday April 18th. Mrs Mills spoke most interestingly about the auction in Geneva of the Duchess of Windsor's jewellery. She gave a fascinating account of her preparations, the journey and the event itself.

The competition, for a piece of jewellery, was won by Mrs R. Wall, who brought along a gold and pearl pendant owned by her mother.

Rosehill W.I.

The May Meeting was on the 1st, and Mrs Weller welcomed members. Last month's minutes were read by Mrs Stockill. Rambling continues twice a month and play

reading has recommenced. Scrabble is finished until the autumn. Miss Vincent gave a very interesting account of the Annual Council Meeting at the Hexagon, especially praising the speaker, Mr Colin Tarn, and his witty performance. Then Mrs Forder, VCO explained the resolutions for the Tri-ennial General Meeting at Birmingham in June. Mrs Weekes will be the delegate.

The competition for "The best dressed wooden Spoon" was won by Mrs Joan Martin.

**Emmer Green
Townswomen's
Guild**

The April meeting of the Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild was well attended, many members having recovered from winter colds.

The Arts and Crafts group met at a member's home to be shown the art of making decoupage greeting cards. Everyone took home a card they had made themselves. The winter sewing classes have now finished until next autumn.

The Ramblers are meeting weekly to help train for their summer holiday at Selworthy on Exmoor.

Miss Nasim Chaudary spoke to the Social Studies group about the Islamic way of life for women.

The speaker this month was Mr Bartlett whose speciality is fuchsias. He said that there are over eight

thousand different varieties. Members were shown how to take cuttings and look after them till they are healthy flowering plants. Mr Bartlett has written two books on fuchsias and he will be at the Chelsea Flower Show to pass on his expertise. Everyone enjoyed his talk and his parting words were "Grow for fun and pleasure".

**Caversham
Heights
Townswomen's
Guild**

WILDEST WALES

Mrs Meryl Beek related at social studies group of Caversham Heights Townswomen's guild recently that she had developed a fellow-feeling for George Borrow's book "Wild Wales" when she and her husband explored some of the 300 square miles of a Cambrian mountain area of Wales. This area contains reservoirs and receives 70 inches of rain each year, being bounded by the rivers Towy and Teifi. The abbey at Strata Florida and Tregaron are to be found here. George Borrow, the scholar gypsy who lived 130 years ago, walked in town clothes and with an umbrella, coming finally to the south coast, while the Beeks stayed in youth hostels and made many walks. Llandrindod Wells was a starting place; an alternative could be coming in by sea at Aberystwyth and thence by the great little railway on the Vale of Rheidol line to Devil's Bridge, a place visited by both George Borrow and the Beeks. There was not too much rain during their week in May and the bluebells and mountain ash tree blossom were there to be admired, also the may blossom. Stringent protection received from the RSPB means that numbers of buzzards and the very rare British bird of prey the Red Kite are slowly building up and may be seen on the remote hillsides

and quiet sheep walks of Wild Wales. So if you really want to get away from it all, this could be your destination.

**Caversham
Afternoon
Townswomen's
Guild**

March started off with the Annual General Meeting. The officers stay the same; two members were introduced on to the Committee. The others agreed to do another year's service. Mrs Fryer was invited to officiate, and she thanked existing members for the work they have done over the year, and welcomed the new ones. She was thanked with a gift from the Guild.

The Chairman thanked members who had taken the time to make the dresses put on show in aid of The Save the Children appeal.

Mrs King rounded off the day by amusing everyone by putting on a lovely play with a cast of some members. It is hoped she will continue with some more offerings from the Drama Group.

For the April meeting members were given a talk and insight into being a helper with the rehabilitation of the mentally handicapped and mentally ill.

Following the Government closure of Borocourt hospital at Peppard the inmates have been rehoused into the Community. The Health Authority has bought properties in Caversham and put three to four people into each house with a helper from the public in each to assist them to live independent lives and to shop, cook and housekeep for themselves with help. The Council funds them by paying each one housing benefit and income support. It seems to be working all right, and to have been accepted by the community. She suggested should any come up to members and ask for help of any kind, they should respond and try to help.

A visit to Blakes Lock Museum was being arranged later.

New members welcome, third Thursday each month, 2.15pm at Church House.

**Caversham
Ladies Club**

Mrs Harwood, Chairman, opened the meeting, welcomed the members to the afternoon's event, which was the Club's Easter Party, and said how very attractive the tables looked, thanks to the generosity of the

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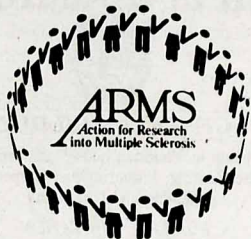
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On the 8th/9th June, 60 teams of ten will attempt to carry Multiple Sclerosis sufferers in wheelchairs to the summit of Snowdon. The Reading Resilients, a team made up of M.S. sufferers, partners and friends of A.R.M.S. will be carrying Rachel Shrimpton, an

M.S. victim, and can be found practising up steep hills at the weekends.

The aim is that the team will raise thousands of pounds in sponsorship. Any money raised will help Multiple Sclerosis sufferers manage the illness with the aid of self help therapies. Not a cure, but a great relief to many in the attempt to improve the quality of life. The money will also help in part with the group contribution towards

vital research in the hope that a cure may soon be found.

Team Captain, Charles Rampton, said "It is not a leisurely route - it is the Rangers Path, and in places it is going to be very challenging." The team aim to complete, they are not commandos or marines, they are ordinary people with a commitment to supporting A.R.M.S. in their work.

The team is desperately seeking sponsorship to cover

team costs such as boots, waterproofs etc. which are essential for the climb. Perhaps there is a generous company out there? The team is also seeking sponsorship from the general public. Please help in the challenge and the fight against Multiple Sclerosis.

If you would like further details or are able to sponsor the team, telephone Reading 482072 and speak to Charles Rampton or Liz Cheyney.

the CLUBS

From page 10

members. She said, before Club business, that she had some sad news to give out. Mrs Mander, who had been one of the original founder members of the Ladies Club and also Secretary for twenty-five years, had recently passed away. She had worked hard in the Club up until her health caused her to resign had always taken a great interest in all the Club's activities. A minute's silence was held by members in her memory.

Strong, second winner was Mrs B. Frostick. Mrs South had been the judge and she was invited to join in with the Easter Party. Soon the tables were looking bare and it was time to cut the cake, which had been decorated in marzipan in the traditional manner by Mrs Queenie Strong. After the distribution of cake an egg was given to each member. The eggs had been donated by Mr Ray Strong and were much appreciated by the members who asked the Committee to thank him on their behalf for his gift.

A competition for a decorated hat was won by Mrs P. Weston. A competition for a home made Easter bonnet was won by Mrs A.

A reminder and particulars were given to members of their outing to Southsea.

Caversham Community Association

Many members willingly helped to clear tables and the room was soon back to normal before the closing of the meeting with a warm feeling of a happy afternoon enjoyed by everyone.

As the first Monday in April was the Easter Bank holiday the members did not meet until the 8th of the month, when a social evening had been arranged.

The club's 40th birthday party was celebrated in style on the 15th April. Caterers were asked to provide a hot meal, with a choice of lamb or gammon, and vegetables. The members found this delicious and then enjoyed trifles and fruit salad, which had been prepared by the committee members. Later, a beautifully decorated two-tier cake, made by Doreen Meadowcroft, was served to everyone with a choice of fruit juice or sherry. The entertainment was provided by club member, May Plant, who once again produced a successful concert with fellow members as performers. Olive and Ted Howard acted the parts of a married couple choosing a holiday and this gave cues for the cast to sing and dance about the various countries advertised in the

holiday brochures. This resulted in a display of colourful costumes and the rendering of a happy medley of songs, with the audience seizing the chance of joining in the choruses. Nancy Nelhams, as usual, was the able accompanist at the Piano. At the end of the concert Beryl Latcham, the Chairman, thanked everyone who had taken part and especially Mrs. Plant. One competition at the party was for a floral corsage and was won by Maida Feast, using fresh flowers, and Doreen Meadowcroft who used artificial flowers. Dorothy Osborne won the prize for arranging the most red articles on a saucer. Before everyone departed for home, Doreen Meadowcroft, on behalf of the members, thanked the committee and all who were involved in making the party such an enjoyable occasion.

During the last few weeks the members had been busy knitting squares, ready to make into blankets for local charities. On the 22nd April the members brought their squares to the clubroom and a busy time was held sewing them together into multi-hued blankets. Some members had already made and completed knitted or crocheted blankets. Games were available for those not wishing to sew.

The Annual General Meeting was held on the 29th April, when Ted Howard, the President, opened the

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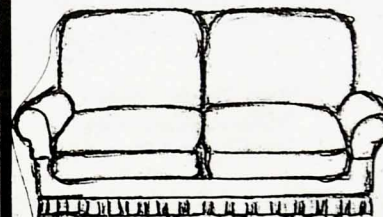
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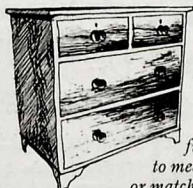
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