

READING/DUSSELDORF CHURCHES INTERCHANGE

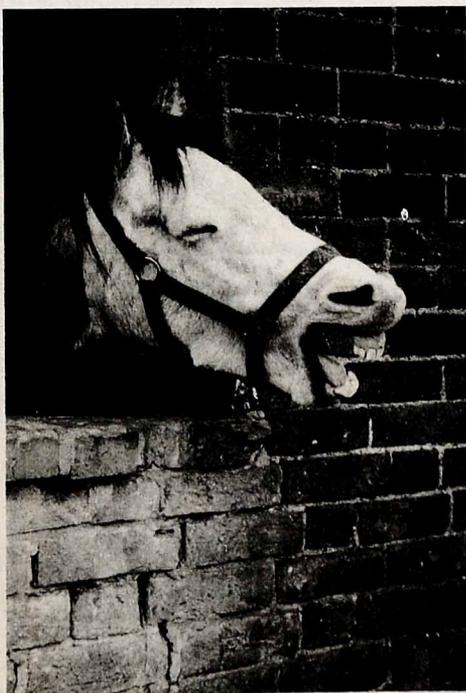
On Saturday 25th May, 40 people from various churches in Reading including 15 from Caversham travelled to Dusseldorf to spend a week staying as guests in the homes of Christian families in Dusseldorf. For some, this was their first visit and for others it was a return to renew friendships formed during their past exchanges. For Jeanne and Philip Smith of Donkin Hill it was their first trip abroad.



WARM WELCOME

When we arrived at Dusseldorf airport we were met by our host families. On Sunday we attended the Methodist Church in Dusseldorf with our hosts and after the service shared in a church family lunch. The congregation were all very friendly and the majority of them spoke at least a little English. It was very interesting to hear about the various activities going on in their church and compare them with our church in Caversham.

If you see someone without a smile give them one of yours!



— E. Cooper

After lunch we travelled to Dortmund to visit the Garden Festival taking place there from April to October this year. Here there were displays laid out to bring pleasure to old and young alike. A scented garden for those with partial sight, several musical gardens with bells to ring and glockenspiels to hammer away at. Tulips and pansies by the thousand when you felt tired and weary, small cafes or large restaurants where you could rest awhile and sample the excellent German cuisine.



OFFICIAL RECEPTION

On Monday morning the group met together again at the official reception for us at the Town Hall. Here we were joined by a group of South Africans who were also on a visit to Dusseldorf. The mayor of Dusseldorf welcomed us and Robert Dimmick, who is mayor of Reading and a member of the Ecumenical Church at Caversham Park, made a speech in German giving our thanks and good wishes to the people of Dusseldorf. We were then taken on a coach tour to see some of the beautiful city of Dusseldorf. The excellent shops and department stores, the river Rhine — spanned by two huge modern suspension bridges. The giant sports stadium and attractive parks. The old town with its bars and restaurants overflowing onto the pavements, museums, art galleries and much, much more.



TRIPS OUT

On Tuesday the group spent the day visiting the Roman Cities of Xanten and Kevelaer on the Lower Rhine. This was organised for us by Caritas and included lunch in Xanten and a cream tea in Kevelaer.

Andre Hagerman, a member of one of the host families, took us on a conducted tour of Cologne on Wednesday. Dominated by the Cathedral, Cologne is a city of contrasts, — modern shops and walk ways blend in with the architecture of a bygone day.

In the evening we attended an ecumenical service. Rev Michael Roberts preached the sermon, and one of the ministers with the South African party also took part. It was a very moving experience as we all said the Lord's Prayer together, German English and Swahili all saying the Family Prayer, uniting us together in our love of our Lord Jesus Christ.



MORE VISITS

Thursday and Friday were spent with our host families and we were taken to visit Burg Eltz castle in the Mosel region. We then travelled on to Cochen, where it was the Mosel week. There was a wine festival taking place, people in colourful national dress, bands playing, dancing and of course wine tasting. Each vineyard has its own wine queen.



DUSSELDORF AGAIN

Friday we travelled into the city of Dusseldorf and at last I was let loose in the shops. What choice! Where to begin? clothes are more expensive but the range and quality of the goods is very tempting. In the evening we had a farewell party which was enjoyed by everyone. A group of us had secretly been meeting before the trip to rehearse a selection of traditional English ballads to sing to our German hosts. A folk group from Dusseldorf and our new South African friends also entertained us.

On Saturday it was time to say our goodbyes at the airport. Memories of the warmth and kindness, though, will live on. 1993 is not far away, when a group of Christians from Dusseldorf will be arriving at Heathrow airport. Would you like to take part in that exchange, or are you interested in knowing more about the Reading/Dusseldorf Churches Interchange? I will be happy to share more of my experiences with you, Valerie Keating, Reading 475586.

TALKING POINT

By the Rev. Philip Abrey
CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH



WELCOME

I remember going to one of the nation's great ancestral homes a few years ago and as I walked through the door I crossed a mat and on it in large letters was the word WELCOME. The next thing I had to do was pay for the privilege of looking round! Printed arrows, strategically placed guides, thick cord, signs on doors, indicated where I could and could not go (and there were plenty of these). I could not touch, I could not sit down, I could only look. Eventually the route took me out through the strategically placed shop where I could buy souvenirs and reminders of my visit to this home. A notice on the door thanked me for coming and invited me to come again. I won't be taking up that invitation. I did not feel welcome. I felt that I was wanted because of the income I brought to keep the house open and in the hands of the owners, not because anyone in the family was bothered about me. I was merely a statistic.

It is now a year since Dorothy and I arrived from Wigan to begin our ministry in Caversham Park. One of the greatest concerns we had related to the warmth of welcome we were likely to receive. Northern people have, rightly or wrongly, a reputation for warmth and friendliness; Southern people for coldness and distance. We had spent more than ten years living in Wigan having moved there from the south and although at first we were viewed with suspicion and kept at a distance, once people realised that we did not look on them as second class citizens, we were accepted as part of the community and we enjoyed our time in the home of Rugby league, tripe and Wigan Pier. What would we find when we returned south? Neither of us really knew. Nobody put out a large mat with the word WELCOME on it, but nobody needed to. The warmth and love which has surrounded us in Caversham Park Church, Caversham Park Village and on a broader front within

Caversham itself has been overwhelming and we thank God for it. It has enabled us to settle in very quickly. I could tell many stories of how that love has been shown through acts and words of kindness but it would be unfair to single out individuals. Let me just say thank you to everyone for showing such love. It has been a welcome not just in name but experience.

Many people find the church cold and distant, concerned to preserve its own status and position, defending vigorously what it thinks it has. As someone once said to me, Phil, how can we think of growth when we're fighting to hold on to what we've got. Jesus calls us to be a welcoming church, an open church, open to him and his love. Open to risk-taking, risk-loving, and change, we should be prepared to welcome in deed as well as word.

Jesus said that our common life as his followers should be marked out by the love which we have for one another. Paul writing to the christians in Corinth wrote that love was and is the most important expression of the Christian life. All other things fade into the background when confronted by love, and we can all love... We may not be able to preach, read, lead activities, but we can love. If we love we make people feel welcome, and they may even want to come again to our services. Love changes lives. A welcome which is seen in action can make all the difference to those who are on the fringe of church life. All too often churches which are struggling to hold on to what they have get caught in the risk-trap: change and risk losing everything or hold on to what we have and hope things will change for the better. The risk cost Jesus his life but out of death came life. The young Church grew as it took risks and loved. The challenge to us is to risk rejection, misunderstanding, and love.

INNER WHEEL CLUB OF CAVERSHAM



Handing the cheque over — Doreen Bennett to Mrs Van Dort

President Doreen Bennett handed over her chair of office to Mrs Mary Tait at the Caversham Inner Wheel Club meeting in July.

Her year has been very busy; a substantial amount of money and goods has

been handed over to a variety of local, national and international charities.

The photograph shows Mrs Bennett handing a cheque

for £750 to Mrs Van Dort, a representative of CARE, the President's Charity this

year. Andrew Van Dort, who used to live in Caversham Park Village, is now a resident in one of CARE's village communities in Devon. The villages provide homes, work and recreational facilities in a caring supportive environment for mentally handicapped people, and a new one is planned in the Thames Valley.

P.S. The Inner Wheel Club has knitted hundreds and hundreds of squares made up into blankets for overseas charities. Please can anyone spare odd balls of double knitting wool so that they can carry on? Doreen Bennett (473096) will gladly collect!

POSTBAG

Dear Sirs,

I am afraid that, due to a misunderstanding, Pete Littlewood's entertaining account in your June issue of the visit to Reading of Düsseldorf's Anglo-German Club contains a serious — and embarrassing — factual error.

At the presentation mentioned I did not, in fact, receive the "Verdienstplakette", the gold medal to which I assume Pete Littlewood was referring.

The Verdienstplakette is the highest award given by the City of Düsseldorf for meritorious service and, as far as I know, the only English recipients have been the founder of the Reading Düsseldorf Link, Mrs. Phoebe Cusden — and our Queen!

Yours sincerely,
Martyn Allies

CAVERSHAM
BRIDGE
NEWSPAPER

A distribution manager is required who would be willing to accept the newspapers direct from the Evening Post and deliver them in bulk to 12 addresses in Caversham. Could someone reading this undertake this vital job once a month — perhaps share it with a friend?

Please contact Robin Kitcher on 472600 or Margaret Baily on 471032 for more details.

Dear Sirs,

In answer to Mrs Banfield's letter, yes, indeed the new Archbishop of Canterbury is a true man of all seasons, with a charismatic outlook in vision and experience, fundamental, radical and evangelical. Not since Archbishop Cranmer in 1489 has there been so wide a vision in Anglicanism, a revival, long overdue.

With reference to the clapping not being liked,

this is mentioned in the Scriptures in psalm 150, praising God in the sanctuary with the dance, the trumpet; can one be still with the tambourine? Must the Church become an exclusive club, maintaining the silence of a local library. It may be 'Churchianity' but not Christianity which is love, joy, peace in the Holy Spirit, and what joy to know one's sins are forgiven and to be at peace with God this side of eternity.

Saved by Grace
Ted Burnell

11 Bristow Court
Harley Road, Caversham

CAVERSHAM DIARY

Sunday, 4th August 11am Caversham Heights Methodist church — last service of the Rev. Keith Sanders

Friday, 30th August Circuit welcome at Caversham Heights Methodist Church for the Rev. David and Mrs. Joan Moody, new minister and his wife. More details about these two events in the next issue

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

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

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

All contributions for September issue should be sent to Church House, by noon on Wednesday 31 July.

All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham by 29 July.

The dates for October will be Monday 2 Sept and Wednesday 4 Sept.

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

This time last week — I wrote this at the beginning of July — I really hadn't any idea what I could find to put in this column. Suddenly things started to happen.

Jane Watts

I discovered that Jane, an assistant in Caversham Pharmacy, was leaving. She had worked there since Pat Way took over and with her friendly and helpful manner, had become known to many local shoppers. Pat was as reluctant to part with her as she was to leave, but circumstances forced her to look for full-time work and she has now gone off to Battle Hospital as an auxiliary nurse. She's afraid she'll never find anywhere as friendly to work in as Caversham, but hopes to keep in touch with some of those she has come to know; I shall miss her.

The Cross Town Route

Saturday morning found me handing out leaflets outside the shopping precinct in Church Street — never again! My flash point is too low and I really should be handing out apologies to the few people to whom I was less than polite. For heaven's sake, we were only taking part in the campaign to prevent the cross town route taking over yet another chunk of our Riverside,

and we were certainly not pestering anyone. Most people took the leaflets, some even said thanks, a few declined saying they were in favour of the scheme. I don't understand their thinking but they were entitled to their opinions. No, what really bugged me was the kind of person whose watchword, I'm sure is "I keep myself to myself". It should have been plain enough that I wasn't handing out bombs or even suggestive literature, yet the looks I got from some people — if they looked at all and didn't scurry past — made me wonder if I wasn't, after all, doing something really wicked. I'm sorry, but I've been getting involved in such matters for nearly 70 years — yes I'm told I was taken out leafletting in my pram. I care very much about what is happening to our part of the world and I'm not likely to change now. Never mind — an awful lot of other people do care. But I don't think I'll do that particular job again.

Jack and Joyce

After that it took a cuppa in the precinct cafe and the company of two very friendly people, Jack and Joyce, who live in Gosbrook Road, to restore my sense of humour. No, we didn't discuss the Cross Town Route, but we got through a lot of other subjects and congratulated each other

on living in such a friendly place as Caversham. Actually I had seen these two in Caversham from time to time; it was nice introducing ourselves and knowing we shall be looking out for each other in future.

Murray Brown

On the way home I called in at the Pet Shop to be told that Murray, the son of Jill and Jerry, had really had quite a week. I've mentioned him before, particularly when he was involved in the Gulf War. Well it seems that on Tuesday he was made up to Sergeant, on Wednesday he got his new posting with the Ambulance Corps and was staying, as he had hoped, near to his present base in Germany. And on Thursday came the news that he had been awarded the B.E.M. As Jill says, heaven knows what he got it for; I don't suppose we shall ever know but any good news from this family is always more than welcome.

Biking for the Alzheimer's Disease Society

When I got home I picked up my copy of the 'Bridge' and was interested to see that Kevin Corrigan who I knew from my days at the BBC, hoped to make his own pilgrimage cycling to Santiago de Compostela in September. What really caught my eye was that he was dedicating his efforts to the Alzheimer's

Disease Society and was looking for sponsors. I suppose it wasn't all that long ago that few of us had ever heard of Alzheimers. Now, alas, many of us have grown familiar with all aspects of this disease; two of our BBC colleagues died of it recently. Not that dying is the worst part of this disease for which there is no known cure and which can totally alter the personality of the victim, making them very difficult to care for. So if you too are interested and would like to do something, do contact Kevin (479699) and offer a pledge, however little. I've taken a pledge form myself and don't think I shall have much difficulty in getting names.

Yet another Thank-you

As you must know, I'm always happy to pass on messages from some of our satisfied readers, so I couldn't refuse to pass on a lady's thanks to the Opticians on the precinct. Her glasses happening to come adrift right outside the shop, she went in for help and in a few minutes they fixed them and wouldn't even accept any payment. It's not a good thing to let ones wonky spectacles get to the state of collapse, but it's good to know somebody will deal with them if they do.

My Bank Manager

If your idea of a Bank Manager is something like Captain Mainwar-

tion. I was able to attend the service of re-dedication of the Chapels of Rest and was very impressed by the dignity of the whole operation. Begging with a simple service, prepared by a member of the staff, led by the Rural Dean and clergymen from the Church of England, the Roman Catholic Church, the Methodist Church, the Salvation Army and the United Reform Church, we were invited to wander around, inspect the building and ask questions of any members of the staff. It was at this stage that the man next to me, looking at the assorted clergy in the front, said what a pity something like this couldn't happen in Northern Ireland.

And Now for Something Completely Different

Radiating from the very tastefully furnished reception area are offices, a comfortable rest room, chapels of rest and, what I think impressed me most, a room, with its own separate entrance, for use by any group of people who wished to perform their own rituals. I am told that Moslems, for instance, prefer to dress the person and prepare the body for burial themselves. This room, probably unique in Reading, with full facilities, must be

ideal for people like this. Nothing could have been more in keeping with the occasions for which this building will be used; the services offered, advice on such things as repatriation or transfer to other towns if required, seem to cover every eventuality. It may seem odd to eulogise about such a thing as a re-dedication service of this kind, but the whole thing, finishing with a closing response by the National Manager and an excellent buffet repast, could not have been better conducted. I was told that a group from any congregation or church would be welcome, if they were seriously interested, to inspect the building.

The Management took advantage of the occasion to present a farewell gift to Ella Hopes who has worked at the establishment for nearly 36 years starting when it was at the top of Caversham Road; she will shortly be retiring. Like everyone working here she is well fitted for the job, courteous at all times, willing to fit in with most requests and anxious to make a funeral as dignified an occasion as possible.

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The Rev Nigel Hardcastle, 20 St. Barnabas Road. Tel: 478239.
The Rev Christine Allsopp, 25 Ikley Road. Tel: 472070.
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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By Watchdog

NEW PHASE FOR BUGS BOTTOM

The campaign to save Bugs Bottom has now moved into a new phase. Although it would be foolish to pretend that the necessity of withdrawing from the court case was not a set back, it does mean that it has not actually been lost in the courts, and at the best, there had always been a strong possibility of this happening.

Once the legal loophole on which the case was to have been based was closed by the House of Lords ruling on the matter of Mappin and Webb, legal advice was that it would be foolish to go ahead at the Appeal Court. The Borough Council then had little option except to withdraw, as costs would have escalated and individual councillors could have been made to bear the financial burden.

Nevertheless the Council made it clear that they remain totally opposed to the development and will subject all detailed applications to the closest scrutiny. As for those who have been campaigning for so many years to save the valley, they have no intention whatever of giving up at this stage. The battle will simply move to different fronts.

One of the major corporate shareholders in Higgs & Hill, Prudential, is being particularly targeted, and being requested to dis-invest. Individual policy holders who can change such things as car and house insurance with little difficulty are being encouraged to inform Prudential that this is what they will do if the company does not disinvest from Higgs & Hill if they continue to forge ahead with plans to build in Bugs Bottom. Prudential was chosen for this attention because they have a high local presence and it was felt more impact could be made.

Money will of course have to be returned to those who contributed to the Appeal Court Costs. This will be done as soon as possible but legal costs have been incurred and until these have been worked out

there is bound to be some delay, but a careful account of all contributors has been kept and they will be informed in due course.

SUPPORT FROM ALL SIDES

John Mortimer found himself called on for filming in France at the time of the public meeting on Bugs Bottom and unable to get back in time. Many of his fans must have been disappointed but as far as campaigning was concerned the strength of feeling to continue was so strong that the meeting was still a success.

Rumpole, aka Clive Williams, stood in for John Mortimer and read a message from him supporting the efforts to save Bugs Bottom and all other precious green corners of England.

The rest of the meeting was largely devoted to publicising and gaining support for the approaches referred to in the first part of this article. Amongst the speakers were Jill Parker, Chairman of the Borough Planning Committee, Edward Dawson of SPISE, Cllr. Putt, almost voiceless but bearing a message from Sir Gerard Vaughan, Clive Williams, clarifying the legal position, Molly Casey on confronting the directors of Higgs & Hill, and Cllr. Richard Stainthorp on targeting Higgs & Hill investors.

Most important however were contributions from the floor, which showed a determination to carry on the campaign on all possible fronts, particularly aimed at convincing Higgs & Hill that going ahead with this scheme will not be in the best interests of their shareholders.

CROSS TOWN ROUTE

The Cross Town Route is also attracting a lot of opposition. For the people of Newtown where gardens are small and houses tightly packed, it will mean losing their nearest green lung. For people of Caversham it means hearing the noise of an urban motor road across the river and having its traffic end up on their approach

roads. For the general population of Reading it means losing King's Meadow, a popular and widely used leisure area away from the town centre.

To exchange this for a piece of neglected land three miles upstream at Scours Lane is manifestly unfair, which in no way can compensate for the loss of King's Meadow and Kennet Mouth.

If there is sufficient objection to this, and there certainly will be, a public inquiry will be held, probably on 13th September. Letters of objection on the land exchange can still be sent to the Department of the Environment, though at this stage it would be irrelevant to refer to the line of and need for the road itself, as Berkshire have already given themselves permission to go ahead.

At a well attended public meeting in the Kennet Room of the Civic Centre, speakers from the platform and the floor re-iterated the folly of this road which on the county's own admission will be filled to capacity within five years of completion, in spite of its cost of £23M and still rising. "Yesterdays solution to todays problem" was how most those present regarded it as they pledged themselves to continue to oppose it.

REACH STUDY

A study report of the Thames westwards from Caversham Bridge would certainly gain the support of all those who have read it. It was largely concerned with improving the river banks without detracting from their tranquility, though it did foresee the continued use of the Richfield Avenue site for the Rock and WOMAD festivals.

Tucked in amongst it however was the almost casual comment that the preferred route of the CTR was now north of the railway line (because British Rail won't play) which meant going through the meadows beyond Cow Lane, finally going beneath the railway at either Wigmores Lane or Scours Lane. So, the land given at Scours lane in place of that lost

to a dual carriageway in King's Meadow could in its turn also disappear under a road. Some exchange!

ENCROACHING JUNGLE

May was cold. June was cold and wet, so no hosepipe bans, but warnings that if the downpours did not continue they could still be imposed. Many out door events were washed out and as for the Caversham Water Carnival, water was the operative word.

Gardeners watched as their carefully nurtured flowers blossomed only to be battered down or turn into balls of mould. Vegetation burgeoned and threatened to take over the garden, and the Secretary of Caversham Residents' Association became overwhelmed with complaints about overhanging hedges obstructing the pavement.

The Residents' Association does send in periodic complaints about particularly bad cases, but to refer to every one becomes a virtually impossible task. If anyone reading this has a hedge, bush

or tree that impedes free passage of the pavement, please go out as soon as the showers cease for long enough and cut it back.

The Borough's own trees have sprouted all over the place and their attention has been drawn to this. It is unfortunately only too plain that this Borough has been charge-capped and this is one of the signs. Even Caversham Court, their flagship among public parks, has weeds waist high in it. Still, as they say, we needed the rain.

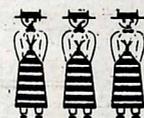
ADDRESSES

Addresses to write to:
Dept. of the Environment for the Cross Town Route, Room 501, Charles House, 375 Kensington High St., London, W14 8QH
Prudential: M. Newmarch, Chairman, Prudential Insurance, 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP.

LATE NEWS

The flint and brick wall in The Mount has been shortlisted for a Berkshire Heritage award for top quality restoration. Final decisions as to winner have yet to be made.

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DR. CONRAD LATTO LINK GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING RETIRES



Dr. Latto presented with a retirement gift from his patients. — Courtesy Reading Chronicle

On 30th June Dr. Conrad Latto retired from General Practice within the National Health Service having been employed by the National Health in one way or another since it began in 1940. He was a General Surgeon with special interest in Urology and finally became the Senior Surgeon at the Royal Berkshire Hospital.

In 1980 at the age of 65 years he retired from the hospital as a Consultant and then took the unusual step of entering into General Practice, joining his Sister-in-Law, Dr. Monica Latto in her practice and eventually taking over from her after her retirement. The practice grew from strength to strength at times with over

2,000 patients registered on his books.

With particular interests in Vegetarianism and High Fibre Diet some patients have continued to come and consult him from many miles away.

He and his beautiful garden will be sadly missed by the patients but he will continue a small private practice at his home and hopes to keep in contact with many of the patients who have become his friends. In his retirement he plans to visit all the cathedrals of England.

The patients presented him with a cordless telephone and cheque for £1,300.

His practice is being taken over by Dr. H. Chadwick from Harpenden who will have his practice in Peppard Road with all the staff from Dr. Latto's surgery.

The Link Group held its AGM at Doreen Bennett's house on June 24th. The Chair was taken by Lynn Baker in Anthea Prescott's absence.

The Chairman's report spoke of another successful year for the Link Group, a year in which over £700 was raised at the annual knit-in. This event has become their main source of financial support. This year Link welcomed four new members from various churches in the area and continued to give their support both in person and financially to a number of local charities and organisations. It is hoped that the new members will be able to widen the Link umbrella.

The meeting continued with reports from all the charities with a special plea from Lynn Baker for

help for the "Drop In" Centre which provides meals and drinks between 10.30 — 4pm Monday to Friday for up to seventy people daily. Any help from as little as one hour to a full shift would be appreciated. If you can help please contact Lynn Baker on 471262.

The meeting continued with nominations for officers. The following posts were finalised: Anthea Prescott Chairman, Veronica Shew Deputy Chairman, Janet Ferguson Treasurer, Sonia Higgs Secretary.

A vote of thanks was given by Angela Kingsbury to Veronica Shew for all her hard work over the last three years as Secretary.

The meeting closed after arrangements for the Link Social on July 22nd were finalised.

"It's great to be a bridesmaid"



Victoria and Samantha Crowdy at the wedding of Sally Neave and Mark Stevens at St John's Church on June 1st. Victoria and Samantha are great grand daughters of Kit Billingham from St John's.

NEW PLANS FOR CAVERSHAM YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

Senior Youth and Community Worker in the Caversham Area, Roy Burgess is conducting a survey by visiting all youth groups and organisations north of the river. He hopes a network will be formed in the area that would lead to a number of possibilities, including

perhaps liaison between all groups who have a common concern for young people shared activities, events, discussions, a regular information — exchange newsletter, training programmes on common-issue areas for group leaders and young people.

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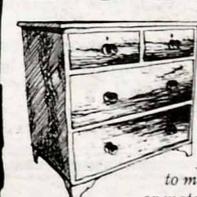
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ROUND THE CHURCHES

BAPTIST NEWS

DOING IT

The members of Caversham Baptist Free Church have been involved in special training for evangelism for the past three years.

It began when the Baptist Union produced a manual entitled "Aims in Mission." Arising from this they took part in a door-to-door survey of their immediate neighbourhood; and appraisal of their premises; and a summary of the opinions of their membership.

They can confirm that about 90% of their fellow citizens do not regularly go to Church, but that nearly 70% would like to know God personally. At a special one day conference held for all who attend their Church to consider this audit of the Church and its task, they all felt a desire for more training in mission.

This took three forms:

— The Berkshire Baptist Evangelist the Rev. Harry Weatherley conducted a special one day seminar at their Church to which they invited the other Churches of their locality.

— their twice monthly house groups have been studying the Rev. Weatherley's excellent training manual "Life Story - Life Style."

— also many of their members attended the ecumenical house groups studying "First Steps in Evangelism."

Having assessed their situation, and trained to meet a need, they are now planning and praying about a special time of "DOING IT."

From Saturday September 28th through to Sunday December 1st every event taking place in their Church will be aimed at having an evangelistic emphasis. In other words, during this period their services will be designed to meet the needs of the outsider rather than the Church member — to reach out rather than to consolidate. All Sunday services are planned to be "Guest Services". They are trying to arrange for their regular meetings to be open for friends. Some special

events and meals are also planned — see later editions of this paper for details.

To formalise plans their Church appointed a Mission Action Group consisting of Nigel Appleton, Sue Cantwell, Peggy Ide, Chris Ham, Beryl Miller and Ruth and Norman New to work in conjunction with their partnership Mission Team of Steve Cantwell, Sammie Collins, Chris Ham, Pauline Hay, Shiela and Geoff Goldsmith, and Martyn Strong. They are all very aware that unless the Lord is at the centre of their thoughts and actions they will fail. To show the love of God through Christ, His Son, they need to be possessed by that love.

They want to work alongside all Christians. They would value all our readers' prayers and fellowship.

Doing assessments and academic training are easy. "Doing it" that's the hard bit. Like the apostle Paul they dare to ask of all Christians — "Brethren, pray for us!"

ST BARNABAS NEWS

For most residents of Emmer Green "Blazing June" may only have been a fine delusion, but for St Barnabas the Light certainly blazed at its Patronal Festival on June 11th and not just because the festival was blessed by the presence of the Bishop of Oxford, Richard Harries. It was good to have the Bishop present on this, his first visit to the Group Ministry of Caversham and equally good to remember the Patron Saint, Saint Barnabas — Son of Encouragement, Son of Consolation, in the truly inspirational service which the Revd Nigel Hardcastle devised.

Before the service a trio consisting of Richard Jackson on organ, John Evans on drums and Laura from Highdown on trumpet, played two dances by Suzatto. The service contained a delightful and well balanced mixture of traditional and modern music, with the music group showing fine form. Obviously delighted by the choice of music, Bishop Richard, at the conclusion of the service, processed down the aisle singing and clapping enthusiastically to a triumphant rendering of "When the Saints go marching in". The service also presented a lovely opportunity to thank Les and Margaret Woolford for all the work they have done during their twenty-five years at

St Barnabas. They have now moved to a new house in the Parish of St Peter and have started worshipping there. St Peter's are fortunate to have them.

On June 29th in contrast to the large and occasionally noisy celebrations of St Barnabas Day, a small group of parishioners went to Bagshot Park Royal Residence and home to the Corps of Army Chaplains. Here they spent the day in silence. In this world of noise, rush and hurry there is not too great a price that can be put on the value of "silence". After the initial difficulties of laying aside the cares of the world, the body and mind relax and open up to whatever God wants to say. Would it be presumptuous to think that God was blessing this day, with what seemed to be the first sun of this belated summer. Ly-balanced in the sun, listening to the birdsong, smelling the grass, trees, cows, one became grateful for the sense of sight, smell, hearing, touch, taste. In the house itself, with its chapel, peaceful lounges, and reading areas, it was easy to feel oneself drawing closer to God.

So for those who found neither the courage, nor the time to go this year, don't be afraid. A day spent in silence is not really a day doing nothing. It's a day doing a great deal! So why not give it a try next year?

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

The Revd David Hastings, Chaplain to H.M. Prison, living and well-known in Caversham, is planning a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in May 1992. Starting on Tuesday and finishing on Friday 12th to 22nd May, and costing £695, this includes visits

to all the famous holy places in Jerusalem, Bethany, Nazareth, Cana, Galilee as well as to Masada and the Dead Sea. Further details David Hastings, 18 Ridge Hall Close, Caversham RG4 7EP or Tel. 461545.

ST ANDREW'S OLD TIME FAYRE

Saturday 26th June. The clouds rolled away and the sun shone out, just long enough for the afternoon 'Old Time Fayre' at St Andrew's. As it is the 80th anniversary year of the church an Edwardian theme was adopted.

Stallholders and visitors were encouraged to attend in Edwardian or 'yesteryear' dress. This brought out a fair old mixture of attire, adding a refreshing splash of colour to the occasion and one could be forgiven for wondering if they had wandered on to the set of 'Upstairs Downstairs' by mistake.

Children enjoyed

the 'Bouncy Castle' and Punch and Judy, while others got tucked into the 'Strawberry Teas'. The afternoon finished with a grand auction.

The fayre raised in excess of £1400. Coffee mornings, a cheese and wine evening and a bridge drive added further sums. At the time of going to press the figure is over £1800, getting very close to the target figure that Victor Smith, organiser of this years fayre, had set himself to achieve.

A magnificent sum, the result of superb organisation by Victor and a lot of hard work by his team of stallholders.

Children enjoyed

THE REVD DAVID MOODY

From the beginning of September, Caversham Methodist Church and the Reading Methodists Circuit will be welcoming David and Joan Moody who will be coming from a five-year ministry at the Methodist/United Reformed Church in the Sanderstead and South Croydon Circuit. David entered the Methodist Ministry in 1961 after three years at Manchester University, where he studied law, obtaining an LL.B (Hons) degree, and the three year Theological

course at Handsworth College, where he obtained a Bachelor of Divinity degree.

Following stays in the Stafford, Congleton and Manchester Circuits, David became convinced that he needed to be alongside the non-church-goers. He then joined ICI as Personnel Manager in 1969 and remained with this company for seventeen years, living in Guisborough, and being linked with the local church.

David served as a councillor on

Guisborough UDC and became a Magistrate; Joan was a Church Steward and taught in the Sunday School. In 1986 David accepted early retirement from ICI and returned to the Ministry, and for the past five years has been Minister at Sanderstead. David and Joan have two daughters, Julia and Diane who are living away from home. We warmly welcome them to Caversham and pray God's blessing on their life and ministry in this Circuit and Church.

Keith Sanders

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Busy at the Fayre

ROUND THE CHURCHES

MIDSUMMER MASQUE AT ST MARGARET'S

For the third successive year, Bob Avis master-minded the Midsummer Masque at St Margaret's, Mapledurham, on the 20th and 21st June. This year he embarked on the most ambitious programme so far. On Thursday the Corallian Singers entertained with a selection of beautifully performed madrigals, interspersed with verse and prose, based on the themes of "Sweet Thames Run Softly" and "The Thames Flows On". Altogether an uplifting experience in the lovely riverside setting of St Margaret's.

Friday saw the return of our old friends, the Sainsbury Singers, who entertained with songs and arias from shows and opera, all presented with the high

quality we have come to expect. This was complemented by performances from our own clergy!

The Australian Cultural Attache introduced Christine Allsopp and Richard Kingsbury in an extract from "The Taming of the Shrew" of which, perhaps, the most memorable line came from Katherina — "where did you study all this goodly speech?"

After the interval Derek Spears matched his Professor Henry Higgins to Wendy Carne's Eliza Doolittle and Chris Smallbone's Colonel Pickering in the "By George, she's got it!" scene from "My Fair Lady" before the Sainsbury Singers closed the evening for us.

On both evenings "St Margaret's weather" smiled and enabled everyone to enjoy refreshments both in and outside the marquee.

The event resulted in £603 being given to the Roof Restoration Fund (over half of which was accounted for by two very generous donations).

As always, success comes from hard work on the part of performers and behind-the-scenes workers who gave of their time and talents so freely.

And, finally, Bob Avis — the epitome of the best of Le Troisieme Age — must be congratulated on his vision, energy and courage for, without him, no Masque would have taken place.

SYNOD'S BIG "YES" TO WOMEN PRIESTS

The Oxford Diocesan Synod of the Church of England has given an overwhelming "yes" to a motion to approve legislation that will enable women to be ordained as priests.

Meeting on St. Peter's Day, June 29th, the Synod heard a range of arguments for and against legislation which has been drawn up by the General Synod, and which is now being debated in 42 dioceses. At least half the Diocesan Synods have to approve the legislation for it to go back to General Synod for the final vote, when it will need a two-thirds majority in all three "houses". That is, the bishops, clergy and laity on

synod will all have to pass it by that majority.

At the Oxford Diocesan Synod the voting was: Bishops 4 in favour, none against; clergy 43 in favour, 16 against; laity 66 in favour, 22 against.

Speaking in favour of the motion, Owen Jewiss of St. Barnabas said that some people pleaded this was not the right time for women priests.

He pointed out that if God had had the benefit of synod's advice 2000 years ago, he might well have heard the cry 'this isn't the right time for you to send Jesus to earth!' And if God had listened to Synod, said

Owen, we might still be waiting for Jesus yet! He also believed there was too much emphasis on the physical aspect of the priest representing Jesus at the altar, and not enough on the spiritual aspect.

The Bishop of Oxford, the Rt. Rev. Richard Harries, said that some believed that ordaining women to the priesthood would not help church unity. But he asked for how long could the claims of unity be placed above the claims of women's ordination. He said that many Roman Catholics were hoping that the Church of England would decide in favour. The Bishop of Reading, the Rt.

Rev. John Bone stressed how women priests would help the church in its task of witness.

Also speaking in favour of the motion, John Madeley of St. Peter's said that he believed women priests are a gift of God to his church at a time when it is needed. The legislation was not perfect, he said, but nothing made by men and women is perfect. There is no perfect piece of glass or china, said John, "but if we never had a drink unless we had the perfect cup in our hands, we should never drink, we'd die of thirst". The church must not die of thirst; rather it was time to drink of the cup marked women priests.

SUE RYDER SUPPORT GROUP CAVERSHAM

When a group member learned that there was to be no quiz this year, she set about creating one — no mean achievement and she was full of praise for the previous compiler. All proceeds will go straight to the Home at Nettlebed. All answers relate to the number nine in some form and

there will be book token prizes for the first three highest scores, and random tokens for one in every hundred entries received, chosen by lot so everybody has a chance.

Closing date for return is September 15th. Entry forms are

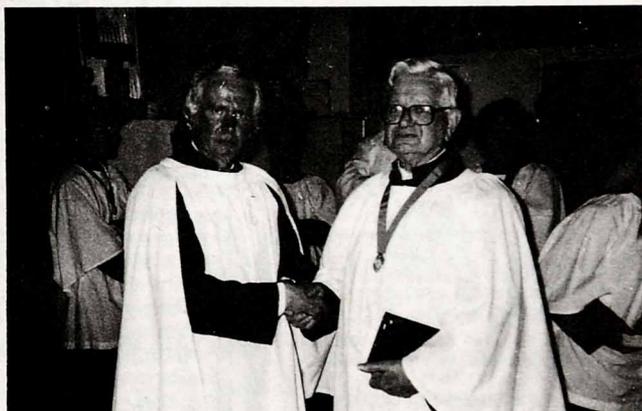
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USING THEIR TALENTS

Fifteen senior members of the Sunday Starters of the Caversham Heights Methodist Church were challenged last January to respond to the appeal to help the children of Romania. Monica Sanders and Wendy Higgs, their leaders, gave them £2 to use their talents for the following six months.

The young people responded by baking cakes, selling sweets, walking the dog, producing mini shows for their friends and many other activities. At the Anniversary on June 30th they presented a cheque for £588.72p which will be sent to the Blue Peter Romanian Appeal.

Bill Vincent



Mr Arthur South (right), who has been singing in a choir since he was a boy and for the last 23 years in St. Peter's Church, is here seen accepting the long service medal from St. Peter's organist and choir-master, Mr Andrew Bosely.

M. Cadwallader

INDUCTION OF ROGER PACKER, M.A.

After twenty years as Vicar of Sandhurst and Owlsmoor, Roger Packer, one time priest in charge of St. Andrew's Caversham was instituted and inducted as vicar of the united benefice of Bridgewater St. Mary with Durleigh and Chilton Trinity on 26th June 1991.

The service of institution and induction is always an impressive ceremony, this occasion proved even more so. Roger was presented by the Lord Lieutenant of the County on behalf of the

Crown, patron of the parish. As the service progresses so does the solemnity, and the dedication of the priestly office becomes apparent. The parish priest affirms his belief in the faith revealed in the Holy Scriptures as set forth in the Catholic Creeds, and to which the historic formularies of the Church of England bear witness, namely the thirty nine Articles of Religion and the Book of Common Prayer. Following the normal sequence Roger was then instituted and

installed by the Archdeacon, greeted by the Mayor and Corporation (Roger is the Mayor's Chaplain) and various dignitaries of local ecumenical churches and organisations. It was a very impressive service in a most historic church; the first vicar being instituted in 1170. Roger is a most dedicated priest and we pray that his time at Bridgewater will be as successful as at the other parishes in which he served.

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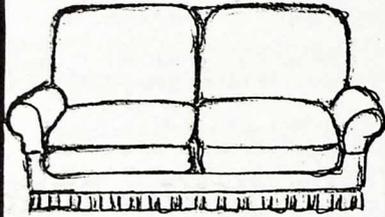


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ROUND THE CHURCHES

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A stark and strictly functional Exhibition Centre at Birmingham was transformed on Saturday 22nd June by a Celebration of Readers from all over the country and Europe, the Archbishops of York and Canterbury and Diocesan Bishops. The brilliance of the Archbishops' vestments, the scarlet of the Diocesan' rochets, the white surplices and blue scarves of the Readers gave a very colourful impression and sense of occasion to the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the reintroduction of the Order of Reader.

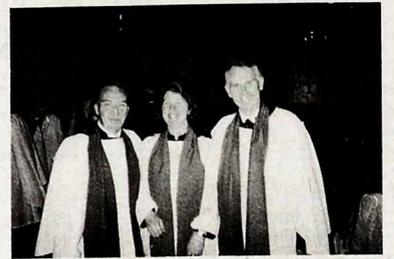
The first part of the programme was devoted to a Celebration, beginning with a message sent by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of Readers. This was

followed by a dramatic presentation of the historical developments in Reader Ministry since 1886, "Readers Today", "Readers Tomorrow", "The Future". Most impressive was the fellowship of Readers when each Diocesan group stood as they were announced and were greeted by the remainder in turn, clapping and waving programmes.

After an interval, giving an opportunity for a very welcome leg-stretching exercise, there was a short silence, and then the processional hymn "Lift high the Cross" was sung as the Archbishops and participating Readers processed in and were led up and on to the stage for the celebration of

Holy Communion, by the Archbishop of York.

His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury preached saying that for the last one hundred and fifty years the Church of England had been bleeding to death and this had inspired the Decade of Evangelism. Whilst admitting the primacy of the Eucharist, in some areas an over emphasis on the Communion service had led to a decline in numbers attending church. It had been suggested that there should be a simultaneous Sunday service time, whether Eucharist or non-Eucharist. Dr Carey's vision was that Readers would be used far more in delivering the 'Services of the Word' and that we must regain a sense of Mission; we have wonderful news to share. Every time we open our mouths we



Two Caversham Readers and one former Caversham Reader attending the Celebration at Birmingham. Left to right Peter Holbrook (recently moved to Devon), Margaret Dimmick (present Mayoress of Reading), John Madeley.

- J. Madeley

have wonderful opportunities of sharing faith and building people up in the love of God. Most important to the Reader Ministry is proclamation. There is a desperate need for God's Word to be proclaimed and taught.

Members from each Diocese, carrying the elements, joined the celebrant at the foot of the stage. After the con-

secration they returned to their Bishop who administered, with the help of Readers, to those from his Diocese, a wonderful piece of organisation, which went very smoothly.

So ended a wonderfully inspiring and strengthening experience, a good basis for the Decade of Evangelism.

Bill Vincent

HOLIDAYS — A TIME OF REFRESHMENT?

As August begins, no doubt many people will be about to go on holiday as the schools have recently broken up. During the summer vacation our churches will be at times perhaps thin on the ground as our members seek refreshment from a variety of different sources.

There will be those who will be going on bible weeks in order

to receive additional teaching and enjoying the thrill of worshipping God with many other Christians. Let us hope they do not forget their wellies — does it not always rain on bible weeks?

There will be those who will be going away on their own, or with family or friends in order to have a complete change of life, to do nothing but relax in this country or abroad.

Finally there will be those who will be staying at home. Perhaps they will go out for 'days' or just carry on as normal. For some people the summer vacation will be a lonely time. Perhaps they are

mums with pre-school children who will find it difficult to cope as most places close during this time and yet their routine will not change. Perhaps there are families who need a break but just cannot afford it. Perhaps there are old people who do not have anyone to go on holiday with. As Christians we need to remember these people and show God's love and care through ourselves.

It is good to know that our God does not go on holiday! He is always there and we can always seek refreshment from him. "Come to me all you who are weary and I will give you

rest". (Matthew 11:28);

At this time when perhaps our Pastor, friends or family are away and we need help, what a comfort it is to know that our Heavenly Father is reliable and ever present.

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever

present help in trouble". (Psalm 46:1).

For those of us able to have a holiday, let us hope and pray that we return relaxed and refreshed. Let us also come back with a keen determination and with renewed energy to serve and worship the Lord in a fresh way.

Sue Scrase



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OBITUARY

RUBY AMOR

We were all very sorry to hear the sad news that Ruby had passed away on the eve of Friday 14th June 1991 at Battle Hospital.

Ruby had been a member of St Andrew's for about twenty years becoming involved with many activities, such as the Mothers' Union, and Fellowship; she was also a member of the Townswomen's Guild. She was very active and always willing to help in

any way possible. Ruby was a quiet and gentle person.

Before attending St Andrew's Ruby was a member of St Giles' Church from childhood. She then became a Sunday School teacher and a Lieutenant in the Girl Guides.

Ruby will be greatly missed by her relatives and many friends everywhere.

R.B.

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BOTSWANA '91

This concludes the present account of Ken and Marjorie Tillman's life in Botswana, started in the July issue. We hope to hear more from them later.

We have been fortunate enough to become active members of the local Anglican church in Mahalapye. It took us some time to find it and our first impression was not favourable, a plain tin-roofed building in a remote part of our sprawling village, fenced in a compound with no noticeboard, and when we peered through the windows it was empty save for a bare altar and six wooden pews. But how different on a Sunday morning when the first to arrive sweep out the sand which gets everywhere, then the children lay out the kneelers and unroll a strip of carpet, the young people set out simple pots of freshly plucked flowers and the ladies of the Mothers' Union drape and smooth the immaculately laundered lace and linen over the altar and lectern. Esau, the priest or moruti, is non-stipendiary and runs a market garden and also has a cattle-post. He is also responsible for the village of Shoshong 40Km away into the hills along a bumpy dirt track, which is where David Livingstone had a mission and where Livingstone's bell can still be seen. This is a huge rock which he struck with a stone and the ring-

ing sound summoned the faithful to church. Until recently Esau also had to minister to Orapa, a diamond mining town a good 100km away which meant the congregation had to do the best they could with Frank the catechist taking the lead supported by the Mothers' Union.

A REAL WELCOME

Right from the start we were made to feel completely welcome. We have prayerbooks in English and Setswana but the sermon is always translated for our benefit and if no interpreter is available it is preached TWICE. The singing is unaccompanied and led by Mary who has a strong, richly sweet voice. As always here the harmonies are totally natural and spontaneous. Our Setswana pronunciation is now good enough for us to join in the hymns but sometimes we sing along in English to familiar tunes. It is nothing for us to arrive for morning service at 9am and not get home before 11.30, for nothing is hurried and we often chat over church business as a

congregation after the service. Last week Mary's son who is a teacher in Serowe brought over some of his Youth Group to take the service, they preached, testified and sang and John's sermon lasted 45 minutes!

DIPLOMA PARTY

We had the pleasure of joining in the party to celebrate John being awarded his teaching diploma. There were about forty of us gathered in Mary's compound and a traditional festive meal was prepared. As visitors from abroad we were honoured guests and presented with plates piled high with mealie-meal, rice, coleslaw, red cabbage, beetroot, pumpkin and "seswa". This latter is made from all parts of a cow cooked for a long time in a three-legged "cannibal" pot over an open fire and then pounded with a large wooden pestle. It is a very tasty and economical way of feeding large numbers of people. This was accompanied by home-made ginger beer and followed by fruit salad and cream and home-made biscuits. After the meal the women danced and sang and then we all went home before nightfall. Driving after dark can be a hazardous business especially at the weekend, and more especially at month-end when it's pay day. Then a lot of beer is consumed. There are no drink-driving laws and the combination of no street lights, befuddled drivers weaving all over badly surfaced dirt road, unlit donkey wagons and straying goats and cattle is just too lethal to be contemplated with any equanimity. So

evening excursions are fairly limited, and in any case most people go to bed soon after nine and get up with the sun about half past five.

Our friends at St. Peter's will be interested to know that we have not escaped THE CHURCH FETE. We are heavily involved in fundraising for St. James', a dinner is planned for the end of May with the churchwarden presiding over the "seswa" pots and the rest of us preparing the accompanying salads, vegetables and puddings. We have hired the Catholic Hall and hope to entertain two hundred guests. A Grand Fete is planned for July on the mall, the aforementioned dusty strip, and local businessmen are being asked to contribute pula or prizes for the Grand Draw. Building has already commenced on the kitchen and toilet facilities, we are commissioning the workshops at the prison to make more pews (too many of the congregation have to sit on the floor), we now have a notice board to advertise our services and other meetings, and the next big project is the installation of electricity. As the Decade of Evangelism begins there is tremendous scope in our fast growing community and we are working together as a congregation to meet the challenge.

REAL INTEGRATION

Friendships we have made at the church have given us a unique and much valued opportunity to integrate with the local people. So far there have been limited opportunities for

drama, there is no Mahalapye Players and not enough interest for a group to be formed. Informal suppers and barbecues among the staff are pleasant events especially as the guests consist of many different nationalities. The Ursuline sisters extend friendship and hospitality to all the expatriates, these women teach and do social work in the community and run a retreat centre. Supper with the sisters is always a jolly affair and they are an excellent source of information on many matters. Botswana Railways has a social club where tennis and table tennis are played, and every week Ken plays snooker with an Indian colleague. We swim in the pool which is rather haphazardly maintained, the water generally resembling emerald green soup, and so heavily chlorinated that an Irish friend of ours had the colour removed from her trousers when her children splashed her. Some Friday evenings there are B films shown at the Railway Club, projected on the plain wall in glorious red and green with an incomprehensible sound-track. The favourite ones show karate and the enthusiastic patrons join in by demonstrating holds and throws in the aisle.

Not much has been said about our working life and the students, nor about our travels in the school holidays. When time permits we will write about our days in school which are full and busy, and the wonderful places we are able to visit in our holidays: Victoria Falls, the game parks, and this coming summer, sorry I mean winter the fabulous Okavango Delta.

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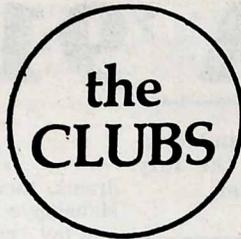
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Rosehill
W.I.

Caversham
Afternoon
Townswomen's
Guild

Rosehill were hosts to the Group Meeting at St Andrew's Hall, Caversham on 23rd May. All agreed it was an enjoyable evening, especially the talk by Mrs J. Debney on the origins of surnames.

The June meeting was on 5th, so Mrs Weller welcomed everyone to the twenty-eighth anniversary

At the June meeting Mr John Rogers gave a talk on the history of the Postal Service. He started off the talk with the present day and an account of how the letters are sorted into area post codes, with twenty divisions. The computer is used to sort the areas by means of dots

ud of their achievement there.

It was suggested that members had their summer visit to Blakes Lock in August; a date would be fixed at the next meeting.

A few members enjoyed a visit to the University of Reading which was well worth a visit. Mrs. S. Froud read out the Federation report and said new officers had been elected to serve, also some of the Committee. Townswomen umbrellas were now on sale, which was something new. The cheese and wine party which was to be held in June at Church House had to be cancelled as not enough people supported it.

New members will be made welcome at meetings, on the third

sions. Mr. Simmonds, who had studied soil science at college, explained how he had the opportunity to work at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-arid Tropics, based in Hyderabad, and went there with his wife. They also visited Kashmir and the south-west coast of India. Mr. Simmonds said that one fifth of the people in the world live in India and the population is increasing. He described the wide contrasts in living standards, with a good deal of poverty in the cities. Labour was cheap and some highly skilled workers received low pay. The photographic slides which were shown to illustrate the talk were most interesting, especially those depicting everyday life, the bullock carts, the exotic fruits sold at the markets and the school for the local children of

the families who worked at the institute. Mrs. Simmonds, incidentally, taught at the school. The members appreciated the talk and slide show which were both informative and interesting.

Members who appreciated Country and Western music had a pleasant time on the 24th June when Dennis Wheeler, accompanied by his wife, visited the club. Mr. Wheeler, dressed to suit the music, sang well a varied programme of songs and soon had the audience tapping their feet to the rhythm of the music. At the end of the concert the members had the opportunity to hear Mr. Wheeler's singing again, in their own homes, as he had brought cassette tapes of his songs, recorded with a musical

Turn to page 11

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

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

10.30am and 6.30pm

NORTH CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

10.45am 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

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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sary. Tea and sandwiches, with birthday cake, were served. The cake was made by Mrs Fry. The silver salver and goblet presented yearly for points gained in competitions and exhibitions were won by Mrs Martin and Mrs Turner respectively.

In July Mrs Weller welcomed members on a lovely afternoon. After the usual business Mrs Weekes, as delegate to the triennial General Meeting, gave an interesting account of the two-day event.

As there is no meeting in August dates were given for a Coffee Morning and a Ploughman's Lunch.

Mr Houlden was the speaker. He told of the history of Clifford's Dairies and the Dairy Industry over the years. He answered questions at the end and left generous samples to choose from, custard, chocolate sauce and breakfast milk. There was an exhibition of very pretty teacups and saucers, brought by thirteen members.

on the envelope, and sorts the different post codes. So it is important to put the post code on letters to get them through more quickly. Around forty million items are handled a day, and it is interesting to know England is the only country in the world to have codes on mail.

Years ago mail was irrelevant as people could not read or write. Later mail was put in tin boxes and put in the sea, in the hope it would be picked up in the right places. The first penny black stamp was introduced in 1840 and England was the first country to send mail that way, just one penny being paid to any part of the country.

Lamp boxes were introduced in 1860, and then post boxes. It was interesting how many different styles of post boxes have been used over the century, and Mr Rogers brought some slides to illustrate them.

The Chairman read out that the Townswomen Flower exhibit at the Chelsea Flower Show this year had been awarded the silver medal. Members all felt very pro-

Thursday in the month at Church House at 2.15pm

Caversham Community Association

On June 3rd Ron Geall and his wife Jean visited the club to entertain the members. Mr. Geall brought his electronic keyboard with him and played a good variety of music and popular songs. Members were invited to sing or dance to the well loved tunes, with Mrs. Geall leading the dance. Everyone had been asked to bring a contribution of food for the refreshments and a wide variety of food was thus provided to complete a most enjoyable evening.

A whist drive was held the following week with club member Doreen Crawley in charge. Joan Aldridge had the highest score and received first prize.

Lester Simmonds, with his wife Cynthia, were welcomed on the 17th June to describe their experiences when they visited India on two occa-

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the CLUBS

From page 10

accompaniment, with him. These were available for purchase, by those interested, the money raised being donated by Mr. Wheeler, in aid of Pine Lodge, Thames Valley Hospice, Windsor.

Maplewood W.I.

At the May meeting Maplewood W.I. discussed the resolutions for AGM in June and instructed the delegates how to vote. The flower of the month competition was won by Mrs Housdon.

The meeting on 18th June began with reports from the delegates to the AGM in Birmingham, which they had much enjoyed.

This was followed by an interesting talk by Mrs M. Wrigley on 'Talking News', assisted by her husband. The speaker related that taped news for the blind began some thirty years ago with recordings of the football results for blind miners. This evolved into an established service staffed by volunteers and today Reading Talking News issues some twenty-four copies of tapes each week. Operating in its early days from private homes, this service entails recording news items and topics such as gardening, cookery recipes adapted for the blind and local information. Mr Wrigley then explained the process of copying the tapes and packaging them for the Post Office to collect and deliver in time for weekend listening, which it does free of charge.

From 1983 to 1988 Radio 210 took over the whole process as its own Charity, housing and operating the system. Nowadays the Wilson Adult Centre houses the operators and machinery of RTN, keeping costs as low as possible, while REME gives support with machinery maintenance. The financing of expensive machines and tapes comes from donations, coffee mornings, and car boot sales. These tapes are invaluable to blind people and Mr and Mrs Wrigley told the meeting that RTN wished everyone who is blind should know about and benefit from the service. The flower of the month competition was won by Mrs Mortimer.

Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild

On Monday June 10th the ladies of the Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild met to hear Mr A. Lawson give a talk and slide show on Woodland Ecology and Conservation. It was so nice to have a young person enthusiastic and dedicated to conservation and with so much to say about his subject in all too short a time. Members were pleased to hear him speak about Clayfield Copse, it being home ground to them. The copse is a very old natural wood with about thirty-two tree species present. A great deal of work is being done, much of it by volunteers, to make paths for horse riders and clear areas around some of the trees thus encouraging plant life to re-generate; dead trees are being left to provide a habitat for owls, woodpeckers, bats and

other wild life. Woodlands need to be properly managed to keep their natural beauty. At the end of this fascinating talk the vote of thanks was given by Mrs L. Klein.

The sewing group held an exhibition of their work and a tea party to raise money for charity and the Social Studies group discussed the National Council Motions in order to advise the guild delegate how to vote at the annual meeting at the Royal Albert Hall. The Ramblers had a lovely walking holiday based at Selworthy, North Devon, being very lucky with the weather, and eleven of their group did a sponsored walk from Hurley, encompassing a very pretty part of the Thames and raising money for the Townswomen's Guild "Rooting for the Future" scheme.

Caversham Ladies Club

In the absence of Mrs Harwood, the Chairman, who was away on holiday, Mrs Brenda Strong opened the meeting and welcomed the members warmly. Club business was soon dispensed with and members were in-

A very enjoyable afternoon was the verdict of the members who would have liked to see more, as they left at the closure. Appreciation was shown in the usual way.

Caversham Heights TG

WILL NIGHTINGALES RETURN?

There was a roll-call to the sound of cheerful music and National Chairman Jean Hunt welcomed all those present, those on the platform, delegates, observers and staff at the National Council Meeting of Townswomen's Guilds in June at the Royal Albert Hall in London. Mrs Hunt's hope that many new guilds would be formed during the past year had certainly been realised. A message of loyal greetings was sent to HM the Queen.

An urgency motion on HIV/AIDS was taken early by Mrs Rosemary Ballaster, the vice-chairman. This urged HM Government to insist that local authorities ensure mandatory HIV/AIDS education in secondary schools by appropriately trained teachers and visiting experts. A recommendation that doctors,

this subject guest speaker Alan Titchmarsh felt encouraged to hope that grandchildren may be able to hear the voice of the nightingale there. Mr Titchmarsh, who may well have turned many budding gardeners into perennials, gave sound advice and sage comments on the state of the land. He put the point that even a patch 15 feet by 20 feet has a vital part to play. Winding up he said, "When your one flower blooms, sit down in your garden with a glass in your hand, and sniff it." In the afternoon Viscountess Cobham, who accepted an invitation and became President in the New Year, told how she became closely involved with a stately home at the age of 23. She asked people to grow more knowledgeable and better equipped to care for the heritage, looking down to the pavingstones and then opening their eyes to view the roof. The 80's saw many big houses bought and restored she said but sadly it has not been so easy to continue. A more cost effective way would be to increase restoration and fiscal laws, so work towards more government support is necessary.



Guides and Brownies fete in Caversham Rectory

- E.S. Archer

duced to Mr Leeke who was paying a second visit at the request of members and would be showing slides.

There was a slight hitch when a couple of bulbs in the projector blew, so Mrs Strong suggested members might like to talk of their holiday or anything they thought unusual. Mrs Nelhams gave a short talk of things she had seen and visited during her recent stay in the United States.

Mr Leeke had by now returned with a new bulb; help in finding it was due to Mr Taylor who returned with Mr Leeke, and what an interesting show and talk Mr Leeke gave! He showed skeletons of birds of long, long ago, and explained some had originally been in the form of reptiles. Then slides were shown of birds from all over the world accompanied by bird sounds which were most unusual and very funny to listen to.

not teachers, be approached was put forward but the motion as originally tabled was carried. The second motion debate urged HM Government that suspects of violent crime be obliged to give samples for DNA analysis and that these form part of a National Index. These samples cannot so far be used as part of forensic evidence. This motion put by the National Executive was lost. Motions and an amendment concerning transportation over long distances of all farm livestock for human consumption and donor drivers of vehicles were both carried.

Mr John James, chairman of the Woodland Trust, felt he should shout his thanks to the roots and branches of the movement as all sums raised had amounted to £150,000, so five new woodlands can be planted. In Woodland Trust care these will grow into mature areas which everyone can enjoy. On



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