

ALTERATIONS TO SAINT PETER'S

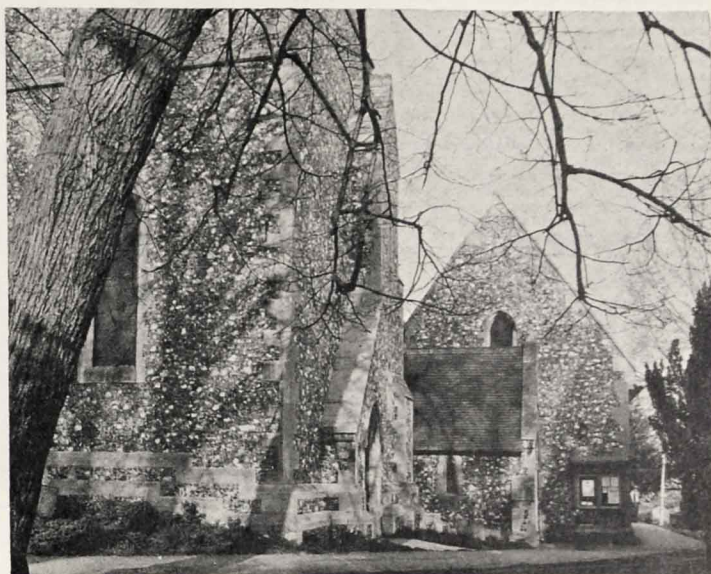
WORK is now taking place, and is expected to be completed shortly after Easter, on important alterations to Caversham Parish Church. A kitchen and lavatories are being installed under the tower, and some pews removed at the west end of the nave. The choir which has until recently robed under the tower is now using the Vanderstegen Chapel as a vestry.

GREATER USE OF THE CHURCH

The alterations will make it possible for many Church organisations to hold their meetings in the church and for tea, coffee and light refreshments to be served. The parish is giving up the use of the Old Stables at Caversham Court from the end of March and coffee will in future be served at the west end of the nave after the Parish Communion on Sunday mornings.

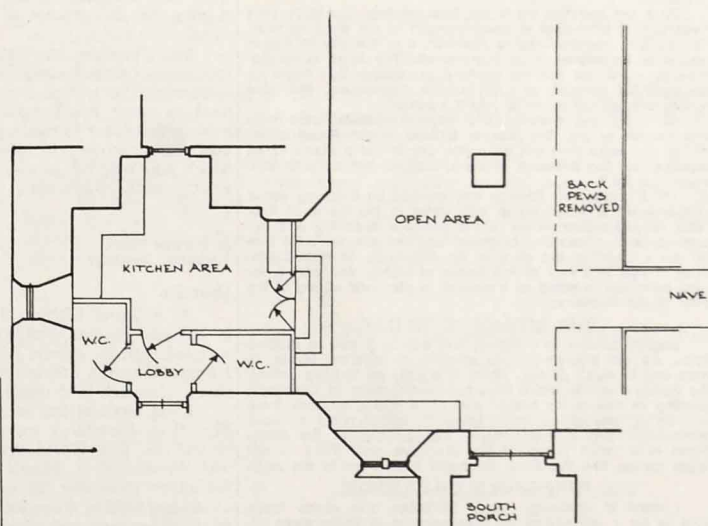
FIRST STAGE

The present alterations are the first stage of a plan to re-order the entire nave. When sufficient funds are available it is hoped to remove all the pews and replace them with chairs. This will make it possible for many other activities to take place in St. Peter's. This is in effect merely reverting to the practice of the middle ages when the church building was the place where so many events were held. The parish churches of England served as schools and council chambers, theatres and concert halls. The Church used to claim a share in almost every corporate event in the life of the community, but fixed pews have driven these activities into other buildings. Now with the sharp increase in the cost of maintaining buildings it seems that the day is coming when our ancient churches will once again house many of our community events.



— Walton Adams

A winter photograph of the flint tower of St. Peter's built almost one hundred years ago as a replacement for the old wooden tower.



The area re-planned under the tower and at the west end of the nave.

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

EDITOR: The Rev. Canon J. G. Grimwade 59 Church Street, Caversham. Tel. 471703.

ASST. EDITOR: The Rev. P. D. Atkinson
St. John's House, 9 South View Avenue, Caversham. Tel. 471814.

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

CIRCULATION MANAGER: Mr. R. Kitcher
8 Blenheim Road, Caversham RG4 7AW. Tel. 472660.

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

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER: Mr. R. Hitchman
153 Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham RB4 7JR. Tel. 472542.

FAREWELL TO THE ATKINSONS

A large congregation attended St. John's Church for Evensong on Sunday, February 2nd and after the service a farewell presentation of a dinner trolley and cheque was made to the Rev. and Mrs. Peter Atkinson.

Mr. Atkinson was licensed on February, 13th as priest-in-charge of the parish of St. Mark's Sunderland and the Rev. and Mrs. Leonard Burn journeyed north for the service. Also present were the Rev. and Mrs. John Stevinson and Miss Elizabeth Hawthorne, the former headmistress of Mapledurham Church School who is spending a year at Durham University.

THE EDITOR REGRETS THAT OWING TO EXTREME PRESSURE ON SPACE IT HAS BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO INCLUDE ALL THE MATERIAL THAT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED.

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The Editor's Column**A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH**

IN THE PAST FEW YEARS I HAVE BECOME AWARE THAT THERE ARE A GROWING NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO CANNOT ACCEPT THE MESSAGE OF EASTER: they are unable to believe in a future life and unable to accept that death is not the end. Undoubtedly for some the achievements of science are the reason for their unbelief, yet there are many who at present cannot believe, yet wish they could, and envy those of us who can. In the words of one such person "I don't know where I stand. I am neither able to believe nor am I satisfied at being unable to do so". A great many people are in fact looking for a faith. What can we say at this season of the year to help them?

THE EVIDENCE OF THE DISCIPLES

I think we can challenge them with the evidence of the behaviour of the disciples. On the first Good Friday they were a miserable group of disappointed and disillusioned men. Their leader was dead and they must have realised that they also stood a good chance of crucifixion. Commonsense would suggest that the wisest thing would be to lie quiet. But we find that a few weeks later these same men are risking their lives to proclaim from the house-tops "This Jesus whom you Jews crucified is risen from the dead — repent, believe and find life in his name". Nothing seemed able to stop them from preaching this gospel even though it cost many of them imprisonment and death. And to those who find it hard to accept the fact of the empty tomb I would ask "What explanation can there be for this remarkable change in the apostles' behaviour other than the fact that they in some way experienced the risen Christ? "Otherwise they had no reason for behaving like this — in fact they had every reason for behaving otherwise.

Secondly there is the evidence of the Church through 2,000 years — the lives that have been changed and the witness of countless men and women over the centuries. Would all these people have made such sacrifices if they had not a conviction of the reality of the risen Christ? It is difficult to believe that they would.

MODERN WITNESSES

Valuable as appeals to the past are, it is the Christians of to-day who are the most important witnesses. What people think of Christ is shaped largely by what they see of those who claim to follow him. If many to-day do not accept the Resurrection it is because they see that in our daily living we do not measure up to what we claim to believe. St. Teresa pertinently said "Christ has no body now on earth but yours — no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes which are to look out Christ's compassion to the world: yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good: yours are the hands with which he is to bless men now". In the end it is not argument, but example that convinces. So we need to see what it was that people found so attractive about the early Christians.

First, the apostles made the Resurrection central to their preaching. It is central to every sermon in the Book of Acts. And we owe our Sundays to this fact. It is the day of Resurrection to be witnessed to every week. The large congregations to which we are accustomed on Easter Day show us the potential strength of Christians in Caversham. We have now to change the potential into the actual.

Secondly, the apostles and early Christians were men and women of joy. You cannot believe in the Resurrection and at the same time not be joyful. Joy is not a mood or an emotion, but the hallmark of the Christian. Are we men and women of joy?

Thirdly, the early Church was marked by a strong sense of fellowship summed up in one verse in the Book of Acts "They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers". No one can be a Christian cut off from the fellowship of other Christians. It was this very strong sense of loyalty and caring for each other which acted as a magnet to convince others of the truth of the Resurrection.

OUR SITUATION TO-DAY

English society is complex, and not as it was in Biblical times. So the church has to operate at different levels, in large and in small groups. There is a case for the big activity like Family Festival and a case for small groups of Christians meeting in homes for prayer and Bible study, so that there can be a feeling of really knowing and having a close relationship with a few people. We see this in the Bible. There is a small group of the disciples, and there is the larger group, like the three thousand mentioned in the Acts.

A THREE-FOLD CHALLENGE

I want to challenge every Christian who reads these lines to be a witness of the Resurrection in three ways.

First, by making the Resurrection central to your life not just on Easter Day but all the year round. This means changing from saying "I can't worship next week, we will have visitors" to saying "I will be bringing my visitors with me next week".

Secondly, it means being a person of joy. If we believe in the Resurrection we must follow St. Paul in saying that we know that all things work together for good for those who love God. So we will show joy through every situation, however tragic it may seem.

Thirdly I ask many of you who read this to give up the impossible — that you give up trying to be an isolated Christian, and become involved in the fellowship of the Church in Caversham — this will almost certainly mean taking part in the life of the church at two levels — the large and the small group.

And when you and I do all this, then our actions will speak louder than our words and those thousands of nice people who live in our road will themselves come back to Christ, for they will see that we have taken to ourselves the title that belongs to the members of a religious order in the Church of England who call themselves "The Community of the Resurrection". That is a wonderful description of what I want to see the Church in Caversham becoming — the Community of the Resurrection.

John Grindale

NEW LOOK FOR OXFAM SHOP

— Walton Adams

POSTBAG

Dear Sir,

I have recently been shown the October issue of your paper and was most interested to see your article "The Chapmans Last Round".

Their old Bedford van you refer to has not in fact gone to the breakers as you imply. I bought the van from Mr. Chapman a few weeks ago and I am just starting on the process of restoring it to its original condition.

Mr. Chapman has unfortunately no photos of the van in its original condition and as information on a commercial vehicle of over forty years of age is very hard to come by, I would be grateful if you could publish this letter in the hope that some of your readers may have photos or information regarding the van which may help me in restoring this interesting and rare vehicle to the condition it warrants.

Yours etc.

M. J. Singer.

40 Corwen Road,
Tilehurst, Reading.

Dear Sir,

As a Senior Citizen of Caversham, born and bred in the old "village", and for many years actively associated with St. John's, I would like to say how much I appreciated the article "A Victorian House in Caversham" (January 1975 issue).

I feel however that some mention might be made of Miss Rose Radcliffe's sister Elsie, who for many years around the first World War years to the early 1920's was Warden of St. John's, and who was unstinting in her efforts to further the work of the Church. Although somewhat retiring from the public eye, Miss Elsie gave freely of her help and advice to many of the residents in Lower Caversham, and her death was a great loss to the District.

Yours etc.

Len Slade.

258 Henley Road,
Caversham, Reading.

Dear Sir,

I am asked to tell you, in the hope of influencing others, that an ecumenical house group has resolved to respond to the article in the February/March issue on the World Food Crisis.

Each member will adopt his or her most appropriate "act of frugality" for a certain agreed period, and any money which is saved in consequence will be given to Christian Aid.

It was felt that the three elements of the resolution were all important — the money that would be given, the voluntary self-restraint in fellowship with others, and the announcement of the decision, which might influence other Christians, and ultimately contribute minutely to public opinion and so move the government to action.

Yours etc.,

Leader of the Group.

Name and address supplied.

CAROL TREGORRAN of the Archers appeared recently in Prospect Street for the re-opening of Caversham's Oxfam Shop. Oxfam is endeavouring to give a "new look" to its five hundred shops, and already the Prospect Street branch reports improved business. There are two other such shops in Reading and also a book shop in London Street. Be sure you look in next time you are out shopping.

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The Caversham Bridge
will be published on
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MORE ABOUT OUR CAVERSHAM COLLEGE



— Walton Adams

Students with some of the babies in the grounds of the College.



— Walton Adams

The Rise, 32 Peppard Road, the residential centre and day nursery attached to the Chiltern Nursery Training College.

OVER TWO YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE MISS SIMS BECAME PRINCIPAL OF THE CHILTERN NURSERY TRAINING COLLEGE IN PEPPARD ROAD. There are now 106 students, some from far corners of the world, taking the 2 year course. Applications are so numerous that the College can afford to be selective. Several girls who have finished their training have gone to work abroad, in Bermuda, Hong Kong and parts of Africa.

Caversham Rise, an interesting old house, built at the turn of the eighteen hundreds is used for children requiring residential care, but over the last few months this need has declined and the two cottages within the grounds are now used as a Day Centre. This new venture is used by the Reading and Oxfordshire Social Services. It also helps children from the local community. The scheme has proved a great success and the Day Centre is already full. Miss Sims is also anxious for the College facilities to be used as much as possible by Reading's Community Services and the Social Services hold courses there for Foster Parents and Matrons of Children's and Old People's Homes. Both the High Wycombe and Oxford Colleges of Technology send students for residential placements. Chiltern

students join in whenever suitable courses are held there by the organisation for South and South West England's Pre-school Play Groups Association. Another bit of sharing happens when the Reading Association for Mentally Handicapped Children (Mencap) come along in their minibus to enjoy playing in the lovely grounds and join in the fun at the paddling pool.

The outward look does not stop there. The students themselves are encouraged to join in the local community. They ran a creche at Highdown during the Family Festival and also helped in the Shop. Carol singing raised a considerable sum of money for the N.S.P.C.C. and a visit to Reading Prison with Miss Sims to sing there must have given great pleasure. It was one of the students from the College who received the toys at the Mayor's Market last autumn.

More flats for the staff have meant the possibility of wider activities on the course. There is much more emphasis on art, music, drama and art and craft, including woodwork. The training is most interesting and comprehensive. There is no doubt that the Chiltern Nursery Training College is fulfilling a most important role and that students, when qualified, have immense scope for their future in a very worthwhile career.

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MRS. HENS GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

TWO YEARS AGO WE PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE on basketry done by Mrs. Hens of 210 Kidmore Road in which she mentioned she was beginning to teach herself canework. Recently she has submitted three articles for selection in the Berkshire W.I. Heirlooms for the Future Exhibition at Reading Town Hall, together with a thesis on the History of Cane seating. All won her awards. A laundry basket captured a silver star; a baby's cradle in single setting came in for a double silver star (95-99%) and a bedhead done in double setting gained a gold star, (100%). This last item went to London for a final National selection and was accepted for the W.I. exhibition at the Commonwealth Institute in March. Congratulations Mrs. Hens.

FRIENDS OF ST. BENET'S

On Friday, 18th April, the Friends of St. Benets are holding their Spring Cheese and Wine Party at 8 pm in St. Barnabas Hall, Emmer Green. Proceeds from the tickets (50p each) help with special projects at the Church of England Children's Society boys' home in Emmer Green.

Why not come and have an enjoyable social evening or at least become a Friend for just 50p a year. For further information please contact Mrs. B. Dennis of 29 Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green, or Mr. H. Gray of 17 Greenleas Avenue, Emmer Green.

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THE SCOUTING SCENE IN NORTH READING

ON 31st MARCH LAST YEAR THE PONDEROUS READING AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL CEASED TO EXIST, and four new Districts arose, as it were, from the ashes of the past. The smallest of these was the North Reading Scout Council.

Quite a lusty infant, but like most such, bringing with it a fair crop of doubts, worries and teething troubles. The first year is nearly at an end, and the infant will assuredly live. How it grows up depends on many things: the number of boys who want Cubbing or Scouting, the number of leaders who will help them to find it, the support these leaders get, both from the District team, and from Group supporters, the enthusiasm of the boys themselves, and perhaps most important of all, the enthusiasm of their parents.

There are seven groups within the District boundary, and one "outstationed" Venture Unit at Borocourt Hospital. Five of the seven are sponsored by local churches. The Groups vary in size; three consisting only of a Cub pack, two having a Cub pack and a Scout troop, while two are multi-unit Groups with packs, troops and a Venture unit. All are short of leaders. One wonders where the old Scouts of Caversham are, especially as most Cub Packs have waiting lists.

Many of you will have seen, even fallen over, the Cubs swarming the precinct on 5th October, while we were engaged in "Operation Lifeboat". The national aim was to raise 50p per Scout, to enable the Scout Association to present a new lifeboat to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution on its 150th anniversary. North Reading was able to send £1 per Scout. We thank you all for your support, good humour and generosity.

You will probably see us again in early April, when Job Week comes around and the boys set out to raise money for their Group funds. All members of the Scout Movement must pay a capitation fee to assist in the running of District, County and National headquarters, £1.40 this year. If you have a job for a Cub, Scout or Venture, to help him earn that sum we shall be grateful, and I DO MEAN EARN. We aim to give a fair job for the rate, and only ask a fair rate for the job.

These are the times you see us. When you don't, we are still in action, as the number of awards the boys have won this year will testify — Chief Scout Awards, Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Awards, Duke of Edinburgh Silver Awards, and a Duke of Edinburgh Gold, Service activities, from tramping footpaths, helping at the Royal Berks, Hospital, "adopting" an Old People's Home, to the Cubs Christmas Good Turn.

So, we have the boys, we have their enthusiasm, we have a fund of goodwill and occasional financial support from the people of Caversham and Emmer Green. What then is missing? What are our immediate

by CHRIS WORT

needs, if Scouting in North Reading is to thrive and grow? We need PEOPLE. People who can spare a little time to help us in giving boys, (your boys?) a Scouting background to their lives, a background they will remember with affection throughout their lives. We do need more uniformed section leaders and assistants, but this I know is not a job that appeals to all tastes. How else can you help? We need several Group Scout Leaders, to look after the Group administration, and take the load off a section leader who is doing that work as well as running his, or her section.

We need a District Secretary, a District service team, Groups will welcome badge instructors, the

District wants badge examiners. Have you seen the list? Your hobby will probably be there.

The North District A.G.M. will be at 8 pm on 17th April at Church House. Why not come along? If a phone contact is more convenient I append a list of the Groups, their Sponsoring Authorities, and Scouters-in-Charge, with their phone numbers, or ring our District Chairman on Reading 474356 or me on Reading 586046.

3rd Reading (St. Peter's)
Rev. J. Grimwade Mrs. B. Chapman 325-2746

8th Reading (St. Paul's)
Rev. S. Haine Mrs. K. Bews 26188

22nd Reading (St. John's)
Rev. J. Grimwade Mr. S. Cousins

69th Reading (Caversham Heights)
Mr. C. Odell (Temporarily) 474356

75th Reading (Caversham Free Church)
Rev. L. Stevens Dr. J. Rothwell 474478

83rd Reading (St. Anne's)
Rev. W. O'Malley Mr. A. McDonagh 477169

89th Reading (Milestone Wood)
Mr. C. Gamble 472470

We shall be pleased to welcome anyone who cares to help into the team. We are a good, friendly team in a District of which I am proud to be their Commissioner.

3rd READING (ST. PETER'S CAVERSHAM) SCOUT TROOP — JOB WEEK 1975 —

SCOUT JOB WEEK this year is from 29th March to 5th April (excluding Easter Sunday) and members of our Group will be taking part. The money raised goes towards the annual capitation fees we have to pay, viz. £1.40 per head of each member of our Group. During JOB WEEK we ask the public to support us by paying for a job.

We have decided this year to try and obtain bookings for jobs prior to JOB WEEK to avoid our Cubs and Scouts having to canvass the district by knocking on doors.

We are, therefore, asking you to give us details of any jobs you may have available for boys between the ages of 8 and 20 by ringing one of the leaders below. We will arrange for a suitable lad to do the job and you will be notified accordingly.

Mrs. Barbara Chapman Kidmore End 2746 Day or Evening
Mr. Tony Cleare Reading 477326 Evenings
Mr. Michael Brewer Reading 479639 Evenings
Mr. Colin Wareham Reading 479383 Evenings

SUGGESTED JOBS TO BE UNDERTAKEN

Weeding, Shopping, Shoe cleaning, Washing up, Sweeping paths, Cleaning silver or brass, Laying the table, Bed making, Tidying rooms.

PRESENTATION TO SCOUTS

Mr. Christopher Wort, District Commissioner for North Reading, visited the Headquarters of the 89th North Reading Milestone Wood troop recently to present the Chief Scout's award to six members of the troop. This is the highest award that can be gained in the scout section of the movement. Mr. Wort also presented Christopher Frew with his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

Pictured from left to right are: Mark Potter, Ian Andrews, Mr. Christopher Wort, Neil Horne, Richard Childs, Darrell Hobson, Jonathan Allen.



— Leonard Burn



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TALKING POINT

PUBLICITY by LESLIE GRIFFITHS

I WAS STANDING IN KNIGHT'S THUMBING THROUGH SOME MAGAZINES. It struck me how attractively advertisers displayed the goods they are trying to sell. If an Oxo cube can produce the Beef Stroganoff as wholesome and appetizing as the one I saw then it really is packed with untold goodness. This started me thinking about the whole matter of advertising. It seems to me that the publicity men are seeking to create illusions. If they can portray a picture of rosy-hued happiness then they only have to allude to their product as the one identifiable constituent of the total picture and they are on to a winner. So a picture of virile activity (a rugby scrum) is all a prelude to a glass of Guinness in the clubroom afterwards. Instant happiness and friendly laughter of the most infectious kind are inseparably linked to another brand of beer. The soft perfection of deep domestic bliss seems to come out of a jar of jam. Health and cleanliness are the consequence of puffing your lavatory basin with that product that goes right round the bend. The true friendship

that you read about in the serialized sob-stories of women's journals are made real across a cigarette and through a cloud of exhaled smoke. Life and vitality are assured to those who take certain medicines. Clean skin free from blackheads comes not so much to those who wash as to those who smudge their faces with some kind of cloying paste.

WHO BENEFITS?

There are two things that worry me in all this. Dr. Donald Gould in an article in a recent number of "New Scientist" shows how persistently advertisers of proprietary brands of medicine ignore all codes of practice designed to protect the consumer from the wild excesses of the salesman. Indeed, false and exaggerated publicity is the rule rather than the exception. There is widespread disregard for the standards laid down in law and such guidelines as those offered by the Code of Standards for Advertising Practice or the British Code of Advertising Practice. It all suggests that the interest and the satisfaction of the consumer are subordinated to

the Big Sell. The profit margin drives both Truth and customer satisfaction into second place.

The other thing that bothers me is the way such ideals as joy, happiness, friendship, health and love can be trivialised by the advertising industry. At a time when there is great uncertainty as far as moral standards are concerned vast amounts of money are being spent to convince the public that the basic ideals of life can be identified with certain brands of consumer goods. This is to bring the deepest values of life down to the level of a can of stale beer. It is also a challenge to Christians to proclaim how the real price of happiness, friendship and love were shown in the person of Jesus Christ. The cost of these things is high, demanding the sacrifice of self-interest, a passion for the well-being of others, a preparedness to accept pain and scorn and much suffering rather than compromise the values in which one believes. Jesus paid just that price and expects it of his followers. To trivialise these matters and make the ultimate truths of human existence a cheap charade is both pernicious and dangerous.

RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN CAVERSHAM

Those who braved the fog and rain of an unpleasant winter night were rewarded by an absorbing account of the work of an Environmental Health Officer when the Caversham Residents Association held a public meeting at which the speaker was Mr. G. Holmes, who fills that post for Reading Borough Council. It is encouraging to know that such an important sphere of our lives is in the hands of a capable and conscientious staff who achieve the maximum impact possible within the confines of an inadequate budget and existing legislation. Mr. Holmes' department shared the anxiety felt by the public that it was not possible as the law stands, to close down those take-away food shops where disgusting conditions had been exposed by the department's inspectors. However, owing to pressure being brought by Environmental Health officers all over the country who have found similar cases, legislation is likely to be introduced shortly to bring these in line

with the requirements applying to the conventional type of restaurant.

THERE'S NOTHING SLICK ABOUT OLD OIL

With this slogan Reading Council is launching another campaign which will have the effect of cleaning up the environment. A 600 gallon tank has been installed at Hodsoll Road (which is off Great Knollys Street) where motorists can dump their old engine oil. With an increasing number of people doing their own minor maintenance work in an effort to by-pass rising garage charges, the problem of the disposal of old engine oil has become serious. As any good conservationist knows, it can deaden garden soil for years and if tipped down drains, gum up the system and eventually find its way into the watercourses, where it harms plant and wildlife and causes irremovable pollution. By using this facility, not only will motorists be helping themselves, and helping in the battle against pollution, but will also be helping the town's finances as the oil will be re-cycled by a company specialising in this. So make this service as widely known as possible.

A DIRTY RACE

Our streets are in a mess. Why are the British such an untidy people? Reading Council is conducting a Keep Reading Tidy campaign in part of the borough. (it can't afford to in the whole borough) but one wonders how much effect it will have. Caversham is not the part that has been chosen, but litter bins have recently been placed in what sometimes seems to be mistaken for the local tip, the Chester Street car park. Litter bins obviously do get used, but surely the lack of one is no reason to drop rubbish where one stands. It's going to be a long time before it becomes second nature to take

FAMILY FESTIVAL CHARITIES GROUP

There was an enthusiastic meeting of the Family Festival Charities Group on January 27th. Representatives from the Townswomen's Guild and W.I. and from the United Reformed, Baptist, Methodist and Anglican Churches were present. A Treasurer and Secretary were elected and the group expressed their thanks to all those who had worked so hard to make the collection and transport of clothes and bedding to the Simon Community such a success. Plans were made to hold a "Good as New" shop at Church House (end of Prospect Street) on April 12th. The proceeds are to go towards Mencap and Simon Community.

As well as clothes and bedding, which have been despatched immediately, generous offers of larger household items for the various charities have been received.

It is a delight to have these offers, and the Committee will always make sure that the gifts are well used. But they cannot always place them immediately. Storage space is badly needed, and also an electrician who can advise on repairs. Any offers? Please phone Doreen Bennett 473096.

by WATCHDOG

rubbish home if there isn't a bin, but it can be done. There are other countries whose street and beauty spots are not made unsavoury by litter, so why should ours be?

GRAVEL

The wet remains of gravel workings litter the countryside of the Thames Valley. It is encouraging to see how opposition to Oxfordshire County Council's decision to allow the extension of gravel workings between Caversham and Sonning is growing. Antony Durant and Michael Heseltine, the two M.P.s have both taken the matter up at Government level. Any other individual or organisation which cares to, could usefully write to Oxfordshire County Council or the Department, preferably to both. Oxfordshire must be shown that such high handed treatment of this corner of their territory will not be taken lying down.

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ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

The Rev. John Sumner, at present assistant curate at Liskeard, Cornwall is to join the staff of the parish in May as priest-in-charge of St. John's District. Mr. Sumner took a degree in chemistry at Corpus Christi College Cambridge and then was trained for the ordained ministry at Ridley Hall Theological College. His wife Alice took a degree at Bristol University. They have two children, Arthur born in November 1972 and Petroc a year later.

LADY DAY

As March 25th falls in Holy Week, Lady Day is transferred to Tuesday April 8th. The annual Mothers' Union service for all the branches in the parish will be held this year at St. Andrew's at 2.45 pm. The preacher will be the archdeacon of Berkshire, the Venerable Raymond Birt, well known as a former curate of the parish.

NEW CHURCH COUNCIL

An account of the Annual Parochial Meeting with names of those elected will appear next month.

CHURCH NEWS

MOTHERS' UNION NEWS

St. Andrew's

A very happy time was spent at St. Andrew's Hall by 24 young people from Boro-court Hospital. They were welcomed by Mrs. St. Alphonse who is the Enrolling Member of St. Andrew's Mothers' Union, and by her Committee and Mothers' Union members.

The party (usually an annual event), began with Musical Games which caused great fun! These were followed by a lovely tea which the young people thoroughly enjoyed. Home-made cakes, mincepies, jellies and crackers etc., were all appreciated! Also cups of tea.

After tea and more games Mr. Norman Kent thrilled

everyone with his super Punch and Judy show. Finally carols were chosen and sung with enthusiasm while Mrs. Gant played the piano. Each guest was given a present and a balloon and all the young people said that they will look forward to coming again next Christmas time!

St. Peter's and St. Barnabas

Mrs. Goyder paid another visit to the branch when at a recent meeting she spoke to members on the subject "What makes a good mother-in-law", and gave much good advice about keeping the peace. An outing is planned to Chichester in May.

ST. PETER'S WIVES

Owing to a bereavement the

speaker arranged for February was unable to come so a hurriedly arranged informal evening took place, with various quizzes, and proved a good way for members to get to know each other better.

A National Trust representative will be at the meeting on 22nd April to talk about the activities and aims of the Trust.

JUNIOR MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION AWARDS

The children of the East Caversham Sunday School received their awards on January 18th from Rev. Leslie Griffiths M.A. They collected a total of £174 for 1974. Twenty eight children took part. Ten received medals, and the remainder certificates.

DOING IT THE WHITEWAY AT ST. JOHN'S



— Walton Adams

AS A THANK YOU PRESENT FOR TEN YEARS'

hard work on behalf of St. John's Mothers' Union, a Pyrex dinner service was presented to Mrs. M. Whiteway at the Annual General Meeting at the end of January when she retired as enrolling member. Mrs. Whiteway, of Mayfield Drive, had served her permitted nine years plus a year of working in close collaboration with Mrs. Godwin who has now succeeded her. She is, however, continuing to act as secretary, a job she has previously combined with that of enrolling member.

While some branches of the Mothers' Union have declined in numbers, the attendance at St. John's has remained good and the church relies a great deal on Mothers' Union members for support in its activities. This is in no small measure due to Mrs. Whiteway herself, who has always been willing to give help wherever possible. Always cheerful even in the face of difficulties, she also has the great gift of making everyone she meets feel that they really matter.

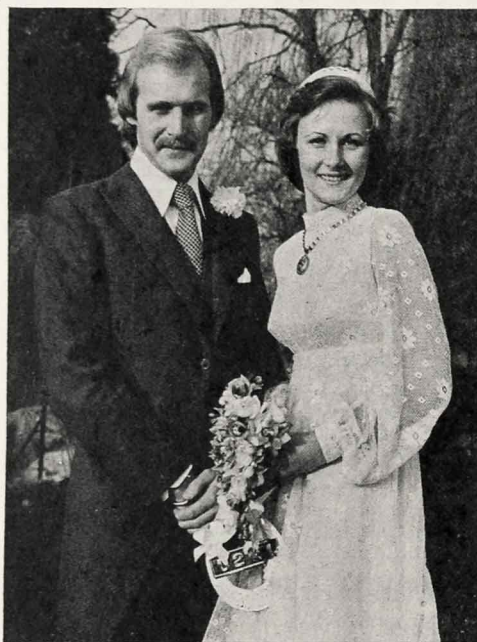
In thanking Mrs. Whiteway for her past efforts St. John's also wishes her and Mrs. Godwin and their committee every blessing for the future.

ST. ANDREW'S CHOIR WEDDING

The wedding took place on Saturday, 8th February between Jonathan Smith and Henrietta Chapman. Henrietta (Henri to her friends) for many years a member of St. Andrew's Choir, is the daughter of Mr. Tom Chapman a well known local builder and Mrs. Barbara Chapman known to many as the Leader of St. Peter's Cub Pack. The church was full not only with relatives

but many members of the congregation as well. During the signing of the registers the choir sang 'Love Divine' with a duet by Stella Curtis and Valerie Gardiner. The Bridal March was composed

by Mr. Hugh Rowe, organist of St. Andrew's. The bride and bridegroom are to live in Henley and it is hoped that St. Andrews will have the pleasure of seeing them from time to time.



— Walton Adams

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ST. BARNABAS NEWS

A new ecumenical direction was taken in St. Barnabas on January 31st with a Russian Orthodox funeral. The ceremony was performed by Metropolitan Anthony Bloom of Sourozh for Boris Moussman, a Russian who worked for the BBC and lived in Caversham.

The Girl Guide movement goes from strength to strength in Emmer Green with the second company now established under the leadership of Helen Holloway. The colours of this second company were dedicated at the Family Eucharist on February 9th.

The Youth Fellowship has recently started to go to Battle Hospital twice a month to help with transporting people to chapel services on Sundays. The group had a joint meeting with the Baptist Youth Fellowship in January.



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CELEBRATIONS IN CAVERSHAM 1887

THERE WAS QUITE A GATHERING IN THE PARISH ROOM, CAVERSHAM, ON FRIDAY, MAY 20th, 1887. The reason for the meeting was to discuss just how people in Caversham should celebrate the Jubilee of Her Gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria. Major General Radcliffe was unanimously voted to the chair and "a long discussion ensued as to the best way of carrying out the objects for which the meeting was called". In the end it was decided to hold a dinner at which all Caversham children between 3 and 14 and all adults over 60 with their wife or husband (even if under sixty) should be invited to attend free of cost. All other parishioners could also be present on purchase of a ticket. A tea was also to be provided on the same basis and the schoolchildren were each to receive a Commemoration medal. During the afternoon and evening there would be various amusements — coconut shies, swings, a Punch and Judy and an entertainment by the Living Marionettes. The adults could enjoy themselves with quoits and skittles and there would be sports for all to join in. The whole affair would take place at Balmore Park (now Balmore House) by kind permission of the General.

Things Get Moving

Four days later another meeting was held at which it was decided that Tuesday, June 21st should be The Day. Soon sub-committees were getting organised all over Caversham. At one such meeting at Mr. Wilson's, the Priory, it was decided that Mr. Turner should be asked to supply a dinner at two shillings a head consisting of cold roast and boiled joints, vegetables, salad, plum puddings, cheese etc. He did, and also ran a refreshment stall in the Park grounds at the request of the Committee, and tea for everyone at eightpence each for ticket holders. Beer and other beverages were to be had, but beer was (wisely) limited to one pint per person and supplied only on show of a ticket.

The Ladies of the Committee decided that the children should wear their medals on a ribbon so 500

yards were purchased at thirty-five shillings and the thousand medals ordered from Messrs. Bracher and Sydenham duly threaded.

At last June 21st arrived hot and sunny. A thanksgiving Service was held at St. Peter's at 10am, then a procession formed up at the National Schools headed by a band and members of various local Benefit Societies with their banners. True there was a bit of a let-down over the band, two were engaged at first, one from the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, the other from Reading under the auspices of a Mr. Davis. The committee cancelled the latter and then almost at the last minute lost the services of the former, who broke their engagement. However the Peppard Band came to the rescue, and all was well. Everyone marched up to the General's and about 270 sat down to dinner under a large marquee of rick cloths! The children sang the National Anthem plus two additional Jubilee

verses and God Bless the Prince of Wales and then everyone got down to the business of enjoying themselves.

The sports included two races I have not come across before, a bucket race won by someone called Wettengham and a menagerie race which was won by Mr. A. Cooper's black cat "Jummy" and second was Mr. J. H. Cooper's white drake. Mr. J. Eynott won the 50 yards veteran's race and the lucky lady who won the ladies fifty yards race (long skirt and all) received a Jubilee teapot as a prize.

The day ended with a twilight procession, everyone carrying a Chinese lantern supplied by Messrs. Farrer and Sons. Then a giant bonfire was lit and fireworks rose and fell in the darkening June sky.

No Disorder, but plenty of Kindness

It may be worth recording the following from a local newspaper cutting about the day's events:

"Perhaps the happiest features of all in connection with the Caversham Jubilee Celebration was that although there was an estimated attendance of about 5,000 people not a single case of disorder of any sort or kind took place either at Balmore Park or in the village; and Inspector Jannaway, who was present the whole time, informed us that he did not hear an angry word throughout the day."



It is also worth recording that people in Caversham were as generous then as they are today. A Mr. Williams gave 50 boxes of Jubilee biscuits as prizes. Mr. Palmer gave twenty gallons of milk towards tea and Mr. Phillips an 18 gallon cask of ale, while the Cooper family gave several bottles of wine towards parcels for those who were housebound. In all the excitement those who were too ill or infirm to leave their homes and join in the fun were not forgotten, they had the choice of a florin or a Jubilee dinner

and a grocery parcel. Various people also fetched many elderly and disabled down to the Park in their carriages.

Readers may wonder from where all the above information was gathered. It is found in an old exercise book at Caversham Rectory and contains all details of the Committee meeting, expenditure, newspaper cuttings etc. in connection with this event.

Nor was this the only rejoicing held in Caversham in the eighteen hundreds. In my copy of some old notes is the following record:

"Mrs. Tyrrel told the fol-

lowing in 1889. She remembered the celebrations in Caversham in 1814 after the First Peace of Paris, which included an open air dinner held at the bottom of the field then called the Mount and opposite the wall of the present Rectory garden. Mrs. Tyrrell's mother helped to make a hundred puddings at the "Church Gate" (maybe Church End, now Banksfoot) then occupied by Mr. Stevens. The amusements were fiddling, dancing, music and merry-making. An old gentleman named Cottrell, 101 years of age, was carried about in a chair trimmed with laurels.

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FRANK BEETHAM

As so often happens, it is not until someone has left that we realise how much we depended on them, and how much they did. Looking back over the years that Frank Beetham lived in Caversham, we see a personality that had a firm Christian conviction, and it was his very strong belief that carried him through life, meeting all its buffetings with such a cheerful countenance, and the knowledge that he was not facing the problems alone.

Since he came to Caversham Frank Beetham was intimately 'mixed-up' with St. Andrew's Church, and all its works. For many years he was responsible for St. Andrew's Church Hall, he was in charge of the sidesmen, a very competent M.C. at District parties and Harvest Suppers, and of course took a leading part in the Fete organisation. When spring cleaning was the order of the day at St. Andrew's, there was Frank in his shirt sleeves doing his stint. Frank was a man of many parts, he was a District Warden for a number of years and undertook this privileged office with his usual cheerfully charming manner. It was a great deprivation to him to give up the office of Warden due to pressure of work. St. Andrew's certainly has a lot to say thank you for, and we offer our prayers of thankfulness to

God and our sympathy to Ruth at this time. Frank was a good example of what a Christian should be and we may be sure that Our Lord has said to him "Well done, thou good and faithful servant"

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ST. PETER'S BROWNIES



— Walton Adams

ST. PETER'S BROWNIES recently entertained the newly formed second St. Peter's Cub Pack to a Pirates Party. Also present was Mrs. Hedge who came to receive the new electric water heater for the Guides Training Centre at Windsor presented by the Brownies.

Presentation to Patrol Leader



CLARE MAITLAND, A PATROL LEADER OF 1st EMMER GREEN GUIDE COMPANY, was presented with her Queen's Guide Badge and Certificate by District Commissioner Mrs. Agnes Sanford, at a party held in St. Barnabas Hall on

MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday, 27th February, 1975. Mr. W. H. Wheeler, Vice-Chairman of the Council presided at the meeting in the absence of the Chairman. As the result of comments previously made by the Parish Council to the County Council that it was not their wish to have street lighting in Unner Woodcote Road, the County Council have now abandoned the scheme.

The Parish Council have nominated two of their members to represent them at the meeting with the Boundary Commission to be held towards the end of March. The Parish Council do not propose to submit any further evidence as they have already provided two such statements.

The Council considered a draft document which would

enable the Parish Council to act as a Trustee of the Playing Fields in conjunction with the Charity Commission. Before accepting the draft document, the Council are very anxious that the Charity Commission's attention is drawn to the pending boundary review, as any change in the parish boundary could adversely affect the running of the Playing Fields and the Council are most anxious that the Fields shall remain undisturbed.

The Council have purchased a number of footpath direction signs and it is expected that they will be shortly erected at suitable points along the various footpaths in the Parish.

Comments were made that the maintenance services for Council houses in the Parish had deteriorated and the District Councillor agreed to make enquiries to ascertain reasons for a depreciation in the service provided.

OBITUARY

LILLIAN CARTER

The death occurred in Wales on February 3rd of Mrs. Lillian Carter. She and her husband will be remembered by many of their friends in Emmer Green where they lived until ten years ago. Mr. Carter used to help as organist in different Oxfordshire churches and Mrs. Carter was at one time in charge of the Sunday School at St. Barnabas. The Caversham Bridge sends sympathy to Mr. Carter who has for many years been an invalid, and to their daughter Mrs. Leggett who until she left Caversham last year was a keen member of the choir of St. Barnabas.

Thursday, 30th January. To gain the Award, Clare who is 16, had to gain 5 badges for the Service Emblem, 6 for the Little House Emblem, her Commonwealth Knowledge Badge and her Campers Badge as well as several badges showing proficiency in Arts and Crafts and Woodcraft. Clare, who lives at Balmore Drive Caversham already holds the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

WE RECORD...

BAPTISED

St. Peter's
February 23rd

Peter Molesworth

St. John's
January 26th

Gordon Stagg
Barry Peck

St. Andrew's
January 5th
January 19th

Catherine Reynolds
Mark Hunter

St. Barnabas
January 26th

Sebastian Vincent

St. Margaret's
February 9th

Michael Bishop

Caversham Park
January 5th

Alexander Macdonald

Caversham Methodist Church
February 9th

Daniel Isaacs
Michael Crutchley
Darren Anderson

WEDDINGS

St. Peter's
February 15th

Selwyn Garnett and Avril Stride

St. Andrew's
February 8th

Jonathan Smith and Henrietta Chapman

FUNERALS

St. Peter's
January 31st
February 20th
March 12th

Florence Coleman
Dorothy Hayes
Rosamond Pearce

St. John's
January 30th

Maurice Povey
Beatrice Smith

St. Andrew's
January 15th
March 4th

Frank Beetham
William Betteridge

St. Barnabas
January 13th
January 31st

Alice Becket
Boris Moussman

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ZOILUS AND THE PLANNERS

WAY BACK IN THE DAYS BEFORE LOCAL GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANISATION — BEFORE 1973 TO BE EXACT — THERE WAS AN IMPORTANT COMMITTEE CALLED "TOWN PLANNING" A NAME BOTH SIMPLE AND SELF-EXPLANATORY, BECAUSE IT VETTED NEW BUILDING PLANS FOR THE BOROUGH. BUT THE PARKINSONIAN SORT OF PROLIFERATION THAT SEEMS TO HAVE STEMMED FROM RE-ORGANISATION HAS EXTENDED TO THE TITLES OF COMMITTEES AND THIS BODY IS NOW KNOWN AS THE DEVELOPMENT CONTROL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

One difference these days is that the public can attend all meetings, and anyone interested in planning and the environment might find a visit interesting. Conservationists will be glad to know that most of the members are strongly on their side, and any proposal that would mean the demolition of worthwhile older buildings, the over-development of an area or the destruction of trees usually receives short shrift. But the going isn't always easy, because planning is the classic example of the sins of long forgotten city fathers being visited on their sons. For instance, there may be a pleasant residential area with a small factory or a builder's yard stuck in the middle. This is because permission was given umpteen years ago, so there now exists what is known as "established use" and no power within the present law can remove it.

Then there is what at first sight appears to be a safeguard against local dictatorship, the right to appeal to the Minister of the Environment against a refusal of planning permission. Taking into account the fact that there are about twice as many refusals as permissions each month, the number of appeals is pretty low, but occasionally one is successful and local judgement is over-ruled. Strangely enough there is no provision for an appeal against a planning permit.

Planning control abounds with knotty problems. At the present time there is a typical case at Southern Hill, a block of 19th Century buildings at the top of Redlands Road. Once used as an old people's home, the houses stand empty, unfit for use, and a developer wishes to buy the property, raze it and build flats for a housing association. As the houses are listed as Class II on the Ministry list of scheduled buildings they cannot be demolished without special permission, and organisations such as the Civic Society feel they should be preserved. But internally they are like a crumbling rabbit warren, and restoration would cost a lot of money, and their use could only be limited. The owners are the Corporation who could do with the cash, whilst welcoming the provision of well designed modern flats to help the housing problem. The Planning Committee has to balance the value of a minor example of Georgian architecture against the provision of needed housing.

At the moment, it seems the choice will be for preservation, and the hope that ways will be found to preserve at least the facade of the building, its best feature. The decision will be a difficult one, and that goes for so many of the problems of Town Planning.

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— Evening Post

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The Rev. Stephen Bartlett, Caversham Park House, 2 Blackwater Close, Caversham Park. Tel. 475152.

The Rev. Leonard Burn, St. Barnabas' House, 33 Grove Road. Tel. 473095.

The Rev. Bernard Metcalfe, 25 Ilkley Road. Tel. 472070.

The Rev. Michael Kitchener, Mapledurham Church House, 222 Upper Woodcote Road. Tel. 471605.

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The Rev. Plunkett Shannon, 2 South View Avenue. Tel. 471787.

SERVICES AT CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH

Maundy Thursday, March 27th

8.15 p.m. Holy Communion.

Good Friday, March 28th

1.30 p.m. The Liturgy.

Easter Day, March 30th

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (breakfast following).

11.15 a.m. Family Service.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER DAY SERVICES IN THE PARISHES OF CAVERSHAM AND MAPLEDURHAM

Maundy Thursday, March 27th

6.30 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Andrew's).

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Peter's).

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St. John's).

8.00 p.m. Sung Eucharist (St. John's, St. Andrew's and St. Barnabas).

8.30 p.m. Sung Eucharist (St. Peter's).

Good Friday, March 28th.

9.30 a.m. Morning Service (St. Andrew's).

10.00 a.m. Morning Service (St. John's and St. Barnabas).

THE THREE HOURS' DEVOTION

(St. Peter's). Conducted by The Rev. P. C. Magee, Vicar of St. Michael's Salisbury).

12-3 p.m. Good Friday for the Children.

(Caversham Primary School).

6.00 p.m. Evening Prayer (St. Peter's).

Holy Saturday, March 29th

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer and preparation for

Easter Communion (St. Peter's).

8.00 p.m. Evensong and lighting of Paschal

Candle (St. Andrew's).

Easter Day, March 30th.

7.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Peter's and St. Andrew's).

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (all churches).

9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST (all churches).

11.00 a.m. Matins (St. Peter's).

11.15 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Andrew's).

12.15 p.m. Holy Communion (St. Peter's).

6.30 p.m. Festal Evensong (St. Peter's, St. John's, St. Barnabas).

6.30 p.m. Easter Music (St. Andrew's).

The clergy would be glad to know of any sick or housebound communicants who would like to receive the Sacrament in their homes during Easter week.

UNITED HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Maundy Thursday, March 27th

8.00 p.m. Caversham Free Baptist Church
United Free Church Holy Communion
Preacher, The Rev. L. Griffiths.

Good Friday, March 28th

10.30 a.m. Caversham Heights Methodist Church
United Free Church Service.
Preacher, The Rev. L. Stevens.
7.30 p.m. St. Andrew's. A Meditation for Good Friday: readings and music by members of Anglican and Free Church choirs.

Caversham Park**SERVICES IN APRIL**

House Communions on Wednesdays at 10.30 a.m.

April 2nd Vera Wilson, 63 Kingsway.

April 9th Hilary Outhwaite, 4 Goodrich Close.

April 16th Lynne Livesy, 28 Lowfield Road.

April 23rd Penny Christison, 2 Malory Avenue.

April 30th Thelma Chevallier, 18 Lowfield Green.

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Secretary: Mr. N. S. Ide, 3 Ibstone Avenue.
Tel. 477007.

**FREE CHURCH SERVICES ON
EASTER DAY**

Caversham Free Baptist Church

11.00 a.m. Family Service.

6.30 p.m. Evening Communion Service.

Caversham Methodist Church

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Service.

Caversham Heights Methodist Church

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

11.00 a.m. Family Service with Holy Communion.

St. Paul's United Reformed Church, York Road

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

6.15 p.m. United Evening Service (the congregations of other United Reformed Churches will be present).

**SUNDAY SERVICES
IN APRIL****ANGLICAN****St. Peter's**

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION.
10.30 a.m. Family Service (3rd Sunday).
11.00 a.m. Matins (not 3rd Sunday).
11.15 a.m. Holy Communion (3rd Sunday).
12.15 p.m. Holy Communion (1st Sunday).
6.30 p.m. Evensong (April 13th Easter Carols).

St. John's

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.
6.30 p.m. Evensong (1st Sunday).

St. Andrew's

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.
11.15 a.m. Holy Communion.
6.30 p.m. Evensong

St. Barnabas'

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.
6.30 p.m. Evensong (2nd Sunday).

St. Margaret's, Mapledurham

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th Sundays)
9.15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION
(4th Sunday, Matins)
10.00 Family Service (2nd Sunday).

NORTH CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

10.45 a.m. Morning Service.

6.30 p.m. Evening Service.

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

11.00 a.m. Morning Service.

6.30 p.m. Evening Service.

CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH (The School)

11.15 a.m. Family Service
FAMILY COMMUNION (4th Sunday)

METHODIST CHURCHES**Caversham Heights**

11.00 a.m. Morning Service
6.30 p.m. Evening Service (not 3rd Sunday).

Caversham

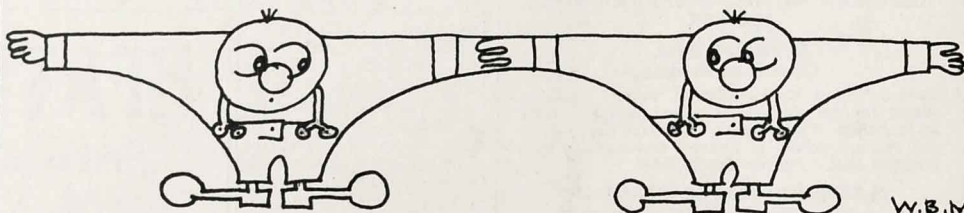
11.00 a.m. Morning Service.
6.30 p.m. Evening Service.

ROMAN CATHOLIC**St. Anne's**

8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m., 7.00 p.m. Mass.

Our Lady of Caversham

8.30 and 10.30 a.m. Mass.

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Area Organisers:

Mrs. A. M. Russell, (North Caversham), 31 Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green. Tel. 472934.

Mrs. M. Coombs (South Caversham), 5 Kidmore Road. Tel. 472689.

Mrs. E. B. Evans (East Caversham), 50 Grosvenor Road. Tel. 473596.

Mrs. P. Edwards (West Caversham), 4 Harrogate Road. Tel. 476893.

Mrs. G. Thompson (Mapledurham), 205 Upper Woodcote Road. Tel. 471328.

Mrs. S. Bould (Caversham Park Village), 11 Holyrood Close, Caversham Park Village. Tel. 478906.

Please tick the appropriate space if you can help in any of the following ways:

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3. Look after children ☐
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ROUND THE CLUBS

MAPLEWOOD W.I.

At the 20th Birthday Party the President Mrs. B. Osborn welcomed over 70 members and guests from other Institutes and introduced Mr. Robert Gilmore, the artist and photographer, who gave an entertaining talk with colour slides of the sea birds which nest in the National Sanctuaries on the islands of Skoma, Skokholm and Goe-holm off the coast of Wales; the slides of wild flowers and rock lichens were particularly beautiful.

Mrs. B. Lewis will serve on the committee connected with the Gazebo conservation concerning a fete to be held at Caversham Court.

The February meeting in St. Andrew's Hall was presided over by the President Mrs. B. Osborn who introduced Mrs. Parks. She told members how Denman College was founded and slides were shown of the accommodation provided for W.I. students attending the many varied courses which are held there. The house which stands in beautiful parkland in Abing-

don has been a College for over 30 years.

Nominations were made for a new Committee to be elected on 18th March. Several members are attending at Mrs. B. Belfield-Smith's house to rehearse for the Choral Speaking contest to be held from April 14th - 18th at a local hall.

BLAGRAVE W.I.

The New Mapledurham Pavilion was the venue for the February meeting of Blagrove W.I. and all were impressed with the facilities of the new Hall.

The Guest Speaker was Mr. Townsend who gave a fascinating talk on the History of English Clocks and illustrated his talk by showing some marvellous examples of old clocks from his own collection.

A letter of thanks for the contribution towards the curtains for the New Hall had been received from the Parish Council and as still more money was needed it was suggested that a Jumble Sale should be held at a future date.

The Monthly Competition was won by Miss Chapman with her jar of home-made marmalade and the raffle was won by Mrs. Maddox.

ROSEHILL W.I.

Mrs. Sansum presided, at the February meeting. Nominations were made for the new Committee. During January a members' dinner party was much enjoyed, also an evening at the Festival Ballet. Mrs. Andrews made a second contribution to the year's charities fund from the sale of patchwork pieces. The speaker was Mr. Booker who gave an interesting talk on gardeninn. The competition was won by Mrs. Record.

At the annual meeting in March the new committee was appointed. Thanks were accorded to retiring members. The speaker was VCO Mrs. Pocock. Eleven new members were welcomed during the past year.

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS TOWNWOMEN'S GUILD

Many people have photographs tucked away in a box

or an album, which remind them of the special times in their lives.

Mrs. B. Lewis has a very old album, her enthralling talk was about three lovely girls, Katie born in 1890, Betty 1920 and Susan 1970.

The album was started by Eliza and William, who moved from Stafford to a village situated between the Rivers Severn and Wye in Gloucester. They had ten children Kate being the youngest. Life was very hard in those times, lots of work and washing; clothes were made mostly by hand. Education in the villages was quite a problem, children were taught at home when very young. Kate went to school at eleven years, she was taught the three R's and needlework. Mrs. Lewis brought along some beautiful nightgowns and bonnets, with samples of the stitches that required so much patience.

Kate married Richard and made six of everything for her trousseau, all by hand. She cooked on a big black monster, called the kitchen range; which needed so much time and trouble as most chores around the house did then.

Betty was born, and the village had grown. Life revolved around Church Festivals. Easter, the Harvest Home and Christmas. You will have guessed by now, Betty is Mrs. Lewis, it was apparent her affection for everything concerning her home, especially the village schoolmistress, who opened up a new world for the children; with her exciting stories of other lands. A ride in the carrier's cart was a special treat. All their lives seemed to have a natural rhythm, as everything was in seasons.

Susan is Betty's niece. She lives in the same village. The woods are still there, and many other familiar things, but now there are two nuclear power stations and the Severn Bridge.

The photograph album is often looked at, and thought rather amusing and quaint. Mrs. Lewis ended her talk by reading an extract from "Cider with Rosie", by Laurie Lee, illustrating typical village life in Gloucestershire, and

left everyone wanting to hear more of country life. Mrs. P. White gave the Vote of Thanks.

The Informal half-hour was spent discussing the Guild's Bazaar to be held later in the year.

Another guest soeaker has been Mr. J. Treble of the Conservation Society. He explained many of their activities and the influence they are hoping to have on the community at large.

The world is very small and extremely vulnerable, the population is rapidly increasing, and all the natural resources are being used far too quickly. Underdeveloped countries are being encouraged to control the birth-rate, but very little help is given to guide them beyond that, to raise their standard of living.

The Conservation Society was formed in 1966, and has three hundred members in the Berkshire area; they are aiming to do more locally, to encourage the growing of more food, and be more economical in the use of everything. The inner distribution road is one of the projects they are hoping to discourage the Reading Council from completing; an improved public transport system would seem to be much more advantageous.

Members asked Mr. Treble questions, and he left many leaflets printed by the Conservation Society, which gave much food for thought.

Fourteen Guild members are attending the Federation Luncheon near Newbury on April 30th. Mrs. M. Kitcher made plans for outings in the near future and the evening ended with the draw for the raffle.

EMMER GREEN TOWNWOMEN'S GUILD

The February meeting took the form of a Social Evening when members were free to

chat to old acquaintances over coffee and cakes after the formal business was finished. Mrs. Weaver had a stall selling goods made by members of the Reading Workroom for Elderly People. The evening finished with the community singing led by Mrs. Weekes at the piano and two solos were sung by Mrs. Norwood.

The Guild have also been entertained by Mr. F. Terry who gave 'An Evening with Gilbert and Sullivan'. He spoke of the not always happy partnership but the songs which he sang from some of the Operettas proved that the partnership worked very well.

CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON TOWNWOMEN'S GUILD

The 13th Birthday Party was held in St. Andrew's Hall

Mrs. Barrow being hostess. The room was a blaze of colour, the ladies wearing delightful dresses and hats, a reminder of the Good Old Days. The gentlemen wore red roses in their buttonholes. Reading Dramatic Society, the Rats, provided a very good entertainment with songs and duets from the Music Hall. A buffet supper was served by Committee and Members, and the birthday cake, made and cut by Mrs. Grey, was served with sherry. Mrs. Barrow proposed a toast to the late President, Miss Brown, the founder of the feast.

At the February meeting in Church House, Mrs. Barrow presided. Mr. Bradbury, a solicitor, gave a very interesting talk on law. He was thanked by Mrs. Stratford. The meeting ended with a film.

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WEDDING



— Walton Adams

Mr. Rose and Miss Ridgeway seen after their wedding at Caversham Free Baptist Church

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SPORTS SPECIAL YOUNG CAVERSHAM

A Fair Deal for Sport

The most controversial subject over the last few months amongst local sportsmen has been the proposed new charges for various sports facilities around Reading. These include the various Rugby and Soccer pitches at the Public Parks and Recreation Grounds, the Palmer Park running and cycling track, swimming pools and other indoor facilities at the Meadow Sports Centre.

Protest Meeting

A meeting was held at Ashmead School to enable representatives of clubs and other sports ground users to meet and put their points of view to the various Council officials concerned. Following this and other representations, the Council referred the matter back to committee for further discussion.

Rising Costs

In any future discussion about increased charges, it seems there are a number of points that should be kept in mind by both sides. Firstly, many of the charges have remained at the same level for a very long time and indeed, in one case at least, it would appear they have changed little in nearly twenty years. In fact it is to the credit of many Club officials that they say they will pay the new charges as, in the light of current inflation, they are not excessive. The second point is that while many of the charges are right and proper, there are some that will place too much of a burden

by



— Walton Adams

STAN ELDON

on the Clubs using them. In particular, the proposed rates for the hire of a football pitch on a Sunday would go up from about £3 to over £8 in most cases, thus increasing the running costs of a small club between £75 and £100 a season for each eleven players. With the increase in the cost of transport and other expenses, the hard worked Club Treasurers would find it very hard to get up to another £9 a year in subscriptions from their players. In the case of the many Boys and Youths teams who play on a Sunday, it would be impossible to raise the kind of funds required to keep operating. Another important point is the variation in the standard of the facilities offered. At the moment most football teams pay about £3 for their pitch but, depending on where they play, they can have good changing facilities including hot showers or, if they are the unlucky ones, they may have to change without any light and with a bucket of cold water to wash in. If the charges are to be increased it would seem only fair that all facilities offered should be of a reasonable and consistent standard.

Long Term

In the future much better and fuller use will have to be made of all sports grounds, halls and equipment in the Reading area, including those at schools, and eventually there will have to be large capital expenditure on laying synthetic sports pitches which, being unaffected by weather, can be used for three or four matches on one day.

Another Caversham Soccer Star

There are many promising footballers in the Caversham area and the latest of these to be spotted by one of the top clubs is fifteen year old Brian Williams of Woods Road, Caversham. Brian a pupil at Chiltern Edge School, signed Schoolboy Forms for Arsenal in January and hopes eventually to become an apprentice with the Club and indeed go on to be an Arsenal star of the future.

Youth League

I am pleased to note that since my article in the January 'Bridge' steps have been taken to start a Youth League for the Under 14's in the Reading area.

The last Sunday in January proved no exception to the long mild spell of winter days we have enjoyed this year. That particular afternoon, three young cycling club enthusiasts plus myself (does that indicate I am not so young?) embarked upon a 40-miles round trip to the village of Pendon Parva. The three boys, Paul Mackrory, Richard Griffiths and Glen Pringle decided on the idea, although Glen was the instigator. He usually thinks up something unusual, and Pendon Parva seemed very unique—it does not even appear on the map!

It is in fact, a miniature village, the only one of its kind in this country. The lay-out began as long ago as 1931 and no-one knows when it will be completed. The idea to start Pendon came to Royce England, an Australian who came to this country about 50 years ago to study the railways of Britain. To capture the reality of village life as it was, every cottage, tree, railway locomotive farm animal and signpost has been meticulously constructed to scale. Years of research and study have resulted in a true-to-scale landscape of the Vale of the White Horse where Royce had settled. Over the years he has gathered together a band of enthusiasts, among them in particular, Guy Williams and Ken Budd, who have been responsible for the building of the engines and rolling-stock. The passenger carriages bear the livery of the railway companies of pre-nationalisation days, and the goods wagons neatly display their wares, even that of the Reading Workmen's Coal Union! Others have contributed their skills in modelling the buildings, and the old world cottages have been thatched with genuine Chinese hair — the English crop is too curly! Railway relics of by-gone days are also displayed in the form of a museum, and contain many interesting photographs and documents.

Little can be done to save the countryside and the railways as once they were, but Pendon's aim is to take a part in bringing them to life in miniature in a more scientific way than the lay-outs of the popular "Model Villages" so frequently patronised by the Mystery Tour trippers. Pendon is maintained by proceeds from the admission charges, but the Trust is a non-profit making entity.

I have still kept you guessing where Pendon is to be found. It is in the village of Long Wittenham near Didcot, and the premises are situated at the end of a cul-de-sac off the main street. It is all under cover, and opens from 2 - 6 on Saturdays and Sundays and summer Bank Holidays. Large groups cannot be accepted at normal opening times, but special arrangements must be made for alternative periods. Unless you are a cycling fanatic ac-

customed to pedalling 40 miles in an afternoon, you would be well advised to make a day of it. The direct way is via Wallingford and a picnic lunch would be ideal up in the woods at Wittenham Clumps about three miles beyond Wallingford. Light refreshments are also available at Pendon. An interesting return route would be through the picturesque villages of North and South Moreton, then on to Cholsey and Stratley, but you will have a few steep hills to contend with.

Of course, you can try the easy way out, and ask your dad to take you in the car.

by



— Walton Adams

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