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BRIDGE

AUGUST, 1975

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Walton Adams

CONSIDERING THAT IT HAS BEEN UNTOUCHED FOR NEARLY 100 YEARS, the roof of Caversham Baptist Free Church has lasted well, especially as the tilers have discovered that their predecessors of the 1870's didn't use a single nail to hold the tiles in place (there weren't even any holes for nails!) Instead, they used mortar which has crumbled over the years, so that recently the old tiles seem to have been staying up by faith and habit. Now the roof is being completely renewed, although many of the old tiles will be re-used. The work is expected to cost in the region of £4,000.

"We regret spending the money", said the Church's minister, Rev. Laurence Stevens, "but what else can you do? It's no use having the rain come in, or waiting until tiles start falling on passers-by. We would much have preferred to spend the money on making the interior of the church more flexible to cater for the many family activities of the Church, and we are working hard on plans to increase our floor area by inserting a middle floor in our very high building, but unfortunately, we shall have to wait a little longer now".

FOUR TIMES FORTY

RUBY WEDDINGS ARE IN THE NEWS. On St. Peter's day two well known couples. Leslie and Louise Cropp of St. Peter's and Sam and Betty Hutson of St. Barnabas kept their "Ruby". With three weddings the previous day Louise, who is in charge of the flower arrangements had a veritable field day for the patronal festival. In August two St. Andrew's couples will be keeping their "Ruby" anniversary. John and Nellie Tomlin were married on August 11th 1935 and Leslie and Edith Hardy a fortnight later. All four couples were at the garden party in the Rectory garden and the festal evensong on St. Peter's day - the Tomlins were reported to be using it as a dress rehearsal for the Buckingham Palace garden party to which they have been invited.

The Bridge looks forward to congratulating them all on their Golden Wedding in ten years time, and will next month be reporting the Diamond Wedding of another St. Andrew's couple.

LINK (Family Festival Charities Group)

THE READING MALE VOICE CHOIR WAS IN EXCELLENT FORM ON June 20th when a concert was given in St. Peter's Church in aid of the Society for Mentally Handicapped Children. Their musical rendering of the various items was so feelingly performed that it was a pleasure to listen to such musical talent. Contrasting with the vocal renderings of the choir, the Sonning Children's Ensemble with their instruments also demonstrated musical talent of a very high order and the musical feast which the audience was privileged to hear will long be remembered. The sum of £60 was raised for "Mencap" on this occasion.

The sun shone brilliantly on June 25th for the outing arranged for a group of mentally handicapped children. A party of 9 children, together with a similar number of helpers and some of their children, met in the home of one of the members. The children all played happily together in the large garden until lunch time when a meal was served on the patio.

After lunch the party visited Well Place Farm where the children were able to see a variety of birds and animals and all had an opportunity of donkey rides which proved most popular. A tired but happy party returned at the end of the afternoon. The outing had been a considerable success, enjoyed by both helpers and children alike.

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The Editor's Column

ROOTS

Two subjects which at first appeared to have little in common came under discussion at a recent meeting of the Parochial Church Council. They both however raised fundamental questions about the nature of the Church of England, and I write about them here because when the Church of England takes important decisions they are invariably of some concern both to other churches, and also to the very large number of people who, on the rare occasions when they seek the services of the church nearly always turn to the Church of England.

THE FUNERAL SERVICE

That the funeral service needs revision few would question. The present service contains some difficult and tortuous prayers, and the revised service is in a number of ways an improvement. Although on some occasions the congregation at a funeral may consist mainly of regular worshippers, any priest who has much experience of taking funeral services in crematorium chapels knows that far more often he is confronted with a group of mourners who are by no means familiar with Christian worship. But they do for the most part know the Lord's Prayer, and many also are familiar with the traditional translation of the 23rd Psalm. To expect them to say "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name do not bring us to the time of trial" and to say in Psalm 23 "He will make me lie down in green pastures and lead me beside still waters" is to take from them the little in the service that is familiar. I am convinced that the process of Prayer Book revision is a necessary one, but strangely enough the new services are often more suitable for those who are regular rather than irregular worshippers. No one really supposes that if we use a modern service we have also to re-write our hymns and must no longer sing at Christmas "O come all ye faithful". So what is the gain in changing those parts of the service with which people are most familiar? Perhaps in revising forms of worship it is wiser to make changes more readily in the prayers said only by the priest, and to make fewer changes in the parts in which the congregation join.

PATRONAGE

The other question under discussion was the matter of patronage. Every parish has a patron who has the right of nominating the incumbent: the patron may be a private individual, a corporate body such as a college or city company, the Crown, a diocesan board or the bishop. The system is one which has evolved in the course of centuries. No system is perfect and obviously some patrons fulfil their responsibilities more conscientiously than others, and there needs to be safeguards so that patrons do not block schemes for pastoral re-organisation. But the proposals to abolish the present system and place all patronage into the hands of each diocese is a policy fraught with dangers.

If the new system became law (and it would require parliamentary approval which may not so easily be obtained) it would have a number of serious effects. It would cost the Church a great deal of money: the work so willingly done by patrons at their expense would be put upon diocesan offices and this would involve extra staff and office expenses: even more important is the fact that many patrons have certain funds available which can only be spent on particular livings so long as they are the patrons, but which would be lost to the Church if the present system was abolished. At this particular time when the work of the Church is already suffering from financial difficulties it would be particularly stupid for the church to deprive itself of so much money. But there are other reasons than financial ones which must be considered. The new proposals would place all patronage into too few hands in each diocese. It is one of the strengths of the Church of England that it holds together those who, while agreeing over the essentials of the Christian faith, differ in so many matters. The present system of patronage has helped to preserve this important principal, and has safeguarded those who may be out of favour with their particular bishop. Because patronage is in so many different hands there is a place for everybody somewhere. The present system also helps to make it easier for clergy to move from one part of the country to another. Even though posts might be advertised there would be a tendency to appoint clergy already known in the diocese, and this tendency can discourage fresh thinking.

As rector I have in the course of thirteen years in Caversham discovered how many people turn to the Church when they see it involved in the life of the community, and because, in an age of change, they see the Church standing for continuity. Things which go deep into the history of the English people should not lightly be discarded, whether those things be familiar words, or methods of working. So the discussion about the funeral service and patronage were at heart about the same question. Is the Church of England to remain what from its name it claims to be, or is it to tear up the past and be a small society for the like minded?

John Grindale

POSTBAG

Dear Sir,

When we started meeting a few months ago, we knew a little of the problems of families with a mentally handicapped child; of old people left alone; and of the destitute given shelter by 'Simon'. We started by trying to help just these.

But we have had many other desperate problems brought to our notice; rehoused families needing everything to make a home; people who have come out of psychiatric hospitals needing a half-way house before facing a normal life) the Richmond Fellowship makes a home for them; autistic children who need the right environment to help them to communicate (Smiths Hospital provides this); one parent families, with no means of equipping a home, or of being with their children if they have to work; children needing residential care; the elderly and the sick.

These are all local problems; the amount of help needed seems overwhelming, and we are a small group, trying to help in a personal and practical way.

As a result of the generosity of many Caversham people we have been able to send gifts of clothes, bedding, furniture, household equipment, and money to all of these. The money raised at the 'Good as New' Sale is providing holidays for two handicapped children, two outings, and a cine-slide projector for

'Mencap'. 'Simon' has written with gratitude for their share of the money.

In the autumn we shall be collecting clothes for "Help the Aged" and we hope to show films of their work — we do hope you will help us again.

RATES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

The Caversham Bridge is available at the reduced price of 3p for old age pensioners if they are the only occupants of the house. This reduction cannot be given where pensioners are living with other members of their family who are wage earners.

In the meantime, if you have any unwanted items of furnishings, bedding, and clothing which you would like to pass on to very deserving people, the following names and telephone numbers may be useful.

Family Aid — Mrs Bland — Reading 475826
Health Visitor — Mrs. Hoggett — Reading 479910
Social Worker — Mrs Turner — Henley on Thames 6464
Chiltern Nursery (Mrs Hill

Reading 471847) and the Richmond Fellowship (Maurice Dye — Reading 599261) would be pleased to receive offers of furniture and Smiths Hospital (Mrs Beacroft 325-2218) is always in need of play equipment.

Mrs. Kitchener, Mapledurham Church House, (Reading 471605) has very kindly offered to store clothes and bedding for the Simon Community and Help the Aged. Mencap require solid toys, dolls and dolls clothes. Small items of furniture to meet future urgent requests will also be accepted by Mrs Kitchener, but please contact Mrs. Beck (Reading 472820) for larger items.

Donations towards costs, particularly transport, will be gladly accepted by the Treasurer, Mrs Birtwhistle (Reading 473489).

If you would like to join the group (it's completely interdenominational) please contact Cath Pynn (Reading 476065) or David Dallain (Reading 475890), we would be delighted to see you.

Yours etc.

David Dallain.

Antonia,
Gurney Close,
Caversham.

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## CAVERSHAM BRIDGE BOARD

At the recent annual meeting of the Caversham Bridge Board the resignation of Mr. J. Clark, who has served for a number of years was accepted with regret. Mrs. Janet Hallett of Caversham Park was appointed in his place.

The Board apologises for the late publication of the July edition, and the combining of the August and September editions which were due to circumstances entirely beyond their control. It is their hope that future editions will be published punctually.

### MORE FOR CHRISTIAN AID

The total received from Caversham and Mapledurham as a result of the house to house collection in Christian Aid week resulted this year in the record total of £1151. Many thanks to all who once again helped with this work.

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## RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

by WATCHDOG

### Pedestrians, pavements, posts and priorities

The car is king! The state's whole being depends on him. He must be manufactured, bought and sold, fed and serviced, cities and countryside must abase themselves in his path, and once inside him, lowly man achieves the status of a god. Without him, man is servile, his humble subject, without rights, an outcast of society.

Yet only 55% of households in this country possess a car and of that percentage it must be assumed that some are unable to drive, by reason of age, health or simply lack of opportunity or aptitude. In addition, the god-like driver loses his status and reverts to his unprivileged position as soon as he leaves the protective sphere of his car. Should not then priority be given to the pedestrian and not the car? Moreover, a caring society would remember that in that large majority of its members are also included the most vulnerable, the very young, the blind, the infirm, the aged, the physically and mentally handicapped, and the mother pushing a pram and leading a toddler at the same time. Furthermore, all of us, whether we drive, walk or stay at home, having to breathe air polluted by this autocrat's noxious fumes and ingest the lead it spreads in its path.

### PAVEMENTS

Confining ourselves to Caversham alone, what do we find? Not even on the pavement is the pedestrian safe. The furnishings considered necessary to ease the monarch's passage are not in the carriageway. Oh no, they are on the pavements, and so that they do not impede the royal passage, they are at least two feet in from the kerb, and 'at least' means just that. Caversham Residents' Association mounted a campaign a year or so back and as a result, some thirty dangerously sited or useless posts were removed from the central area. But they are sprouting up again, and in the lower part of Hemdean Road, a luxurious crop can

be seen.

Traffic light control boxes, painted grey and rising to hip level, lurk with intent to inflict injury on the unwary pedestrian. It took some prodding from the Residents' Association to have one controlling the Peppard Road junction lights removed from its site bang in the middle of the pavement.

### JUGGERNAUTS

But not content with their regalia littering the small piece of the highway intended for pedestrians, the lord and monarch will mount it in pursuit of his victim. The unsightly posts along the pavement's edge on Caversham Bridge commemorate a lorry which mounted the pavement to pass an obstruction and fell through. Heavenly mercy tempting justice, he did not go right through. But as a recent article in THE CAVERSHAM BRIDGE related, this has not prevented lorries and cars taking to the pavements when it suits their convenience. An even commoner sight is the car or lorry parked on the pavement, with or without double yellow lines. Again, this newspaper raised this issue a few months back under the slogan 'PAVEMENTS FOR PEDESTRIANS' and I have observed that a few previously guilty readers have dropped this pernicious habit, but they are, alas, only a drop in the ocean. The average driver's instinct is not to impede the flow of traffic, to protect his own vehicle or to save his legs (almost useless from lack of exercise). The rights of the pedestrian never even enter his head.

### ON YOUR MARK, GET SET.....

It was the bridge again which drew attention to the inadequacy of the Pelican crossing in Church Street. Why should the pedestrian have to walk several hundred yards in order to cross the road where a computer has decided he ought to want to cross, and on arriving, have to wait patiently for the lights to show in his favour, and then when they do, sprint off like an Olympic runner if he wishes to survive in the permitted six seconds. Only those in A-1 condition can successfully complete this assault course. Small wonder that if there is no traffic, pedestrians cross against the red light, which then flashes for the motorist, to his annoyance, when there are no pedestrians about. It puts the person in charge of small children in a difficult position. Why not cross when there isn't a car in sight, just because the light is red, and instead wait for the green light and the next load of traffic? The whole business of Pelican crossings, obviously devised for the benefit of the motorist, needs looking at again.

### BRIDGE

The building and moving into place of the Vastern Road railway bridge was a splendid feat of engineering, whatever else one may think of it, but again the pedestrian suffered during its construction. Confined to one side of the road, he picked his way across cracked pavement and through water thick with gravel and cement whenever it rained. Wellies were the only suitable form of footwear, regardless of where one was going. At the time of writing, it is not clear from looking at the work in progress what the pedestrian is ultimately intended to do. It rather looks as if he is to be diverted again from the more direct route. When will planners remember that what is only a short distance for a motorist is for a pedestrian, in a hurry, heavily laden or with incipient blisters on a hot day, yet another burden? Neither is there any other route between that side of Caversham and Reading for the pedestrian to choose. It is to be hoped that his needs have been considered more than they were during the Bridge's construction.

### WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THIS?

One 'bus can remove many cars from the road, so everything should be done to encourage their use. Reading's 'buses, unlike those of many other towns, were steadily gaining passengers instead of losing them, particularly after the rise in petrol costs. But then fares were raised again and for the first time there was a reduction in the number of passengers carried. So what does the management do? Why, ask for another increase of fares, of course! No comment required.

## MARRIED AT ST. PETER'S



HYMOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

DAVID HILL, formerly a server at St. Peter's and Angela Webster of St. Barnabas Road, Emmer Green, were married in the parish church on June 28th. David is in the police force in Oxford and the Hills' new address is 73 Horsepath Road, Cowley.

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# THE SAMARITANS

IN 1953 AN ANGLICAN PRIEST NAMED CHAD VARAH MOVED TO A CITY CHURCH IN LONDON. One of his last acts before moving was to bury a young girl, who had not been told of the likely outset of menstruation and who had killed herself when this happened.

This experience moved Chad Varah to attempt to set up a service for suicidal and despairing people and after a very slow start The Samaritans grew to the movement it is today, dedicated to the help and support of suicidal and despairing people. The following facts and figures are of great interest:

**Samaritan Branches in the UK.**  
1962 — 28  
1973 — 143

**Suicides in England & Wales**  
1962 — 5,388  
1973 — 3,821

In 1974 18,022 Volunteers in 143 Branches were contacted by a total of 192,284 new callers.

A drop of 29% in the figure of recorded suicides is "unparalleled in any comparable country", and although Samaritans do not claim to be the only factor in this dramatic reduction, they do claim to have been a major factor.

## A LISTENING POST

Basically the Samaritans advertise a telephone number which is manned day and nights, 365 days a year by selected, prepared and carefully "supported" volunteers. (People may also call in person if they wish and often do so). They have been called an Emotional Drop-in Clinic or a "Listening Post".

What The Samaritans offer their clients is an understanding person who will listen in confidence and who won't be shocked by what is told; what is not on offer is "good advice" or a heartless "pull yourself together".

If contact is desired by the client over a period of stress, he or she will be offered a continuing confidential relationship with an individual Samaritan, and meetings take place when and where it suits both best. This is called "Befriending", and although it may sound artificial and contrived, it works effectively. With how many people, for example, would you be able to discuss your sexual impotence (or frigidity); how many friends will listen to your "lostness" and sadness on bereavement (or separation/divorce)? Yet these fairly commonplace situations and many others can be for any of us a step towards despair and suicide if we cannot share our nasty feelings with someone else.

## SAMARITANS IN READING

The Reading Branch of Samaritans (affiliated to a Regional and a National Body) consists of about one hundred and twenty Volunteers who man the emergency telephone (Reading 54845). The Centre contains another telephone for mustering further help in emergency, some rudimentary records and two Samaritans. The Centre has also two comfortably furnished "interview" rooms — and a small administrative office. It costs about £2,400 a year to keep going; Local Authorities sometimes make

grants, but the main source of income is from donations and from the money-raising efforts of a group of "Friends of Reading Samaritans".

The members are of all ages from about eighteen upwards and about fifteen new members a year are required to make good the loss by removal from the district and by retirement — and to allow for a small overall increase in numbers.

## Would I Make a Samaritan?

What sort of a person would you like to talk to if you were horribly lonely or very anxious about a member of your family, or just felt you "couldn't cope"? That's the sort of person the Samaritans need! Someone who is not likely to "sit in judgement", or to pooh-pooh whatever the problem is: who will try to share the problem with you and, above all, will NOT be so arrogant as to attempt to tell how you should solve your problem by offering so-called "good advice". Perhaps someone who seeks to feel and, of course, someone who can be trusted to keep their mouths shut about whatever is confided to them.

If you feel that you might be a suitable person for this work you can either telephone or write for an application for a membership form: The Samaritans, 16 Sidmouth Street, Reading 54845. You would then be invited to an interesting "Selection Session" and then involved in seven evenings of preparation for offering help and support to the many suicidal and despairing people who will contact the Samaritans in the future. While you are sharing in this work reali-

stic efforts will be made to support you and also enable you to work more effectively with yourself for the benefit of despairing and suicidal people.

Alternatively, if you would like to just join the "Friends" write to John Miller, The Old Bakehouse, Quicks Green, Upper Basildon.

# They have gone to Aylesbury



L. BURN

Penny Metcalfe tried out the new garden chair after the presentation made to Bernard and herself in Balmore Hall on June 8th. The Metcalfes new address is 10, Palmer Avenue, Aylesbury. Tel: 21830.



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# MARY KIFT MEANDERS DOWN MEMORY LANE. THOSE WERE THE DAYS

IT WAS A PERFECT JUNE AFTERNOON WHEN I WALKED PAST THE NEWLY CUT HAYFIELDS TO HAVE TEA AND A CHAT WITH THREE OF THE OLDER RESIDENTS IN MAPLEDURHAM. The three ladies had lived locally all their life and each had been to the village school, and I was primarily after information about Miss Butler who was headmistress there from 1870 until she retired in 1914. She came from Streatham as a young teacher and stayed at her work in the Oxfordshire countryside for 44 years. Then she retired to Myrtle Cottage, Chazey Heath. I hoped to be shown a picture of this rather remarkable woman, but was disappointed. No one had such a thing. However over a cup of tea we were soon chattering away merrily about schooldays around 1910. There was no doubt from the conversation that everyone agreed Miss Butler to have been a very good teacher, even in her last few years when she must have become rather weary. True, she did have a little cane which she enjoyed rapping on the desk, but I was told she never used it, though possibly there may have been the odd case when either she became overwrought or felt it was really necessary.

## A PRIZE OF TWOPENCE

Apparently she always had Maypole dancing in the hard dirt playground every Spring, when a flag pole was adorned with gay ribbons and all the school entered a competition to make the best crowns for the May King and Queen. The two winners received a prize of twopence each and after the merrymaking was over all the school went down to the village churchyard each child carrying the wreath he or she had made. There they were allowed to place their wreath on a grave of their choice and the churchyard suddenly became adorned with flowers.

From Miss Butler's entries in the school logbook it is possible to gather an interesting picture of Mapledurham in Victorian and Edwardian times. Between 1885 and 1911 Miss Butler filled 500 pages of such a book. There were the school outings, the lantern slide shows, the evening classes to help adults to read, the fund raising for various wars and the mention of various illnesses which caused absences as they would never do today — scarlet fever being one of the more common. There were also many children away with sore feet, rubbed by wearing shoes that had been passed down or got second-hand and that did not fit. Chiblainis, too, often caused non-attendance in winter. Perhaps a few entries from the logbook may be of interest, for the fabric of history was set down on some of these pages, such as the recording of Queen Victoria's death on January 23rd 1901. "It was with great sorrow we received the news of the death of her Majesty the Queen, who passed away peacefully at 6.30 p.m." Truancy occurred then as it does today, but then the truants did not get away with it. "June 15th, 1885. Thomas and Henry Roberts punished for playing truant." I have not been able to establish whether Miss Butler had a donkey and cart before she gave up teaching or not. Some say she only had one after retiring, others who can remember back a little further say she used one whilst still at School House. There is an entry in the logbook pointing to the latter.

"January 5th 1889, the stable has been re-thatched." Winter had its brighter days. On "January 16th 1896. The New Year gifts were given away after school this afternoon, dresses, cloaks and skirts." Then on "December 6th 1897 I showed the children a magic lantern show this afternoon after school which they very much enjoyed. It was about the Pied Piper of Hamelin." Other entertainment included "November 30th 1899. A gramophone recital given in School by Mrs. Rose in aid of the War Fund." In 1895 the Cocoa Scheme began and children paid a half-penny a week during winter months for a daily cup of cocoa to have with their sandwiches.

Summer, too, brought occasional excitement to the routine of School life. "July 24th 1899. The children were taken to Reading Museum. The conveyance was kindly lent by Mr. Hill of Lilley Farm". Perhaps the transport was one of those wonderful old Oxfordshire waggons. Again in "September 1900 Mrs. King kindly invited the teachers and 30 of the school children to spend the afternoon and take tea on the houseboat Iris". Nineteen hundred and four has this thrilling little entry "March 15th. The first cuckoo heard". Very early, but no doubt

country children would be correct in their information and there would have been more cuckoos about.

For many years after her mother had died Miss Butler had an invalid sister to live with her and one of my friends remembered having read to Miss Emily every day about the Crippin and Miss Le Neve case, but towards the end the poor little girl became so upset by these newspaper reports that she had nightmares and her mother sent a message to say she was not to read any more of the gruesome affair.

## HELP FOR THE DONKEY

Sometimes Miss Butler would go down to Mapledurham House to take tea with her friend the housekeeper. She made the journey in her little donkey cart and took one of the school children with her. On the way home the child, who got a free tea in the servants' quarters, was made to get out when they reached the steep climb up the hill, and had to push the cart from behind to help the poor donkey, for Miss Butler was of generous proportions!

Of course during our conversation we got to other topics. Most people seemed to have kept chickens, and a pig as described in that fascinating book on country life towards the end of the last century, Lark Rise to Candleford. I was told that some sold part of their pig meat to neighbours, thus making a little extra money. How people managed to have enough spare food to feed a young porker is quite a guess, but children around Chazey Heath used to collect acorns for Mr. Vanderstegen's pigs at Cane End, getting nine shillings a bushel for them, so perhaps they also collected some for their own pig at home. Gleaning in those days was probably a regular autumn activity.

A favourite dish in one household was a lump of bacon put into a large iron pot hung over an open fire and boiled with a cabbage and potatoes. Into all this was added a huge spotted dog plum pudding tied up in a cloth. Sprinkled liberally with sugar or covered with custard, this was the "afters" and I am told never, never tasted of cabbage or bacon!

Around 1900 the Hon. Algeron Mills lived as a tenant in Mapledurham House. He was very fond of dogs and horses. He had nine dogs and several beautiful horses. When coming back from Reading in his carriage Mr. Mills used to notice how the horses slowed down when they reached the Pack Saddle public house, and he always said he imagined the groom used to stop off for a pint because the horses had become so accustomed to the halt they automatically got ready to turn in there.

Mr. Mills always arranged for a Flower Show in the village every year. There was a marquee and a band in a field nearby and it was looked forward to with much enthusiasm by young and old alike, but for different reasons in some cases. One of my elderly friends told me she and other children always bought a lemon just before the great day and then stood around as close to the bandsmen as possible sucking it. They imagined, probably rightly, that it would cause the players blowing the wind instruments to have watering mouths and spoil their playing.

Our conversation could have carried on much longer about days far gone, but like all good things, it had to come to an end. So I thanked my kind friends for the tea and the chat and hoped we could continue our talks another day. Then it was past the hayfields again and back to Caversham.



Part of Mapledurham Mill destroyed by fire in more recent years. Here, when the river froze, children in the village used to slide.

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# "S.O.S. — SAVE OUR SAUSAGES"

Talking Point by Stephen Haine

TO MY CHILDREN SOS IS NOT SO MUCH AN INTERNATIONAL DISTRESS CALL AS A TELEVISION ADVERT. It is for them part joke and part serious — on the one hand they make up phrases such as "Save our Sausages", and on the other hand they have taken to saying pointedly in my direction, "Someone has left this light on", (much emphasis on 'someone'). They then look me in the eye and say, "Daddy, SWITCH OFF SOMETHING, NOW!"

My own father, rooted in the tradition of 'make do and mend', seemed to spend a lot of time during my childhood going round the house turning off lights behind me and it is somewhat disconcerting to now find my children doing it to me! However I really am beginning to get to the point of the new slogan.

## ENORMOUS SAVINGS

I have been reading a newsheet published by the Department of Employment, and I have been intrigued and stirred by a variety of information that has made me see the point of the campaign. There is a Mr. Bill Gillett who works for the Perkins Engine Company in Peterborough. Just before last Christmas he was awarded £137 by the company not just for turning off the lights but for actually taking out the light bulbs as well. It began during the oil crisis when he looked round his home and began turning some of the lights off. Having done that he decided to look round Perkins and see what was being lit unnecessarily. The manager sent him round with an electrician and the net result for him was a Christmas windfall of £137.

But what did the company save? And this is what made me sit up and take notice. Bill Gillett, and a few others

like him with fuel saving ideas, cut Perkin's electricity bill last year by one hundred and twenty four thousand pounds!

I was also intrigued to read that the Central Electricity Generating Board (Midlands Region) — people who are making electricity managed to save £400,000 last year on the electricity they themselves, without reducing output or efficiency. Some wag might argue that there would be even greater savings if they gave up producing electricity, but I won't pursue that one. But £400,000 worth of electricity would supply half Reading's homes for a year!

## BLACK GOLD

All this concern about SOS of course is not just to do with electricity. It goes back, as Bill Gillett saw, to the oil crisis, and to the fact that the country's balance sheet for oil showed a horrifying deficit. In 1973 it was equivalent to about £20 for every man, woman and child and last year it jumped to over £60 for each person! Industry is the prime user of energy and so Perkins and even the CEBG can make massive savings. But next on the list of energy users is the Domestic sector, that is you and me at home. Switch off something NOW!

June 18th was a mildly historic day when Mr. Benn turned a large green valve on the oil tanker Theogennitor and the first North Sea Oil came ashore. But through North Sea Oil will alter the balance sheet and the names of our creditors, it would be foolish to suppose that energy will ever be cheap again, yet alone to suppose that energy can be cast like pearls before Gaderine swine. No wonder that oil is spoken of as black gold.

Will someone offer a prize for a twentieth century Psalm on the theme in question? More precious than the black gold of Theogennitor is the wisdom of Bill Gillett....

Perhaps in "Saving our Sausages" we may learn a little more about what it means to "Save our Souls".

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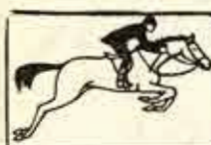
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## A DECADE IN CAVERSHAM PARK VILLAGE

Caversham Park is 10 more active there are netball teams, football, tennis and cricket clubs. There is a thriving theatrical company, who produce a pantomime each Christmas at the Kenton Theatre in Henley, besides other productions throughout the rest of the year.

The idea behind the village concept, was a place where a community spirit could thrive, and families grow up in safety. Interconnecting paths separate from roads, play areas for children, and houses built to an open plan offered an alternative to back to back suburbia.

People began to move on to the village in 1965, and within 3 to 4 months these new arrivals, true to the concept, formed a group that was the birth of the Caversham Park Village Association.

Over the years the village has changed, open plan living has in parts given way to high density, a price paid for rapid inflation. The open spaces have not been quite so open, and the Community Centre, so long worked for has not arrived.

The Association have strived hard over the years, employing various methods of fund raising for the Centre. Although long promised a piece of ground, the land was in use by the builder until a couple of years ago. All the hard work of fund raising has now paid off, the green light is shining, and a start is hoped for in 1976.

### A Variety of Clubs

The Community spirit has not dwindled for want of a Centre, the whole village is alive with activities ranging from record evenings to a sub aqua club, stamp collecting to archery. For the

more active there are netball teams, football, tennis and cricket clubs. There is a thriving theatrical company, who produce a pantomime each Christmas at the Kenton Theatre in Henley, besides other productions throughout the rest of the year.

All these various groups and clubs advertise themselves in a local journal Village Voice, which is Caversham Park's own monthly magazine, written by villagers for villagers. People are able to air their views, on any subject, and the lines of communications between the community are always open. The Association also makes full use of the press to keep villagers informed on all that is going on.

The Christian Church too has not lain dormant for lack of a building. Caversham Park Church and the Roman Catholic Church have services each Sunday morning at the two primary schools.

Every Year Caversham Park goes on display to the outside world, in June the Village holds a show, which is primarily a fund raising function for the Community Centre. It is hoped that in the years to come when the Centre is well established that the show will not dwindle away. Like all good village communities the place would not be the same without its annual fair.

Caversham Park Village does live up to its name. As a Village created rather than evolved, the attitude of caring about the place, is rooted in its very framework.

J.H.



# LARGE NUMBERS AT FETE...

A successful fete was held at Caversham Park on June 28th and the proceeds go towards the community centre which it is hoped will soon be built.

The fete was followed in the evening with a barbecue and dance. Our photographs show the line up for the Donkey Derby and one of the many popular side-shows.



One of the side attractions — test of strength.

ALAN PEDDLE



Lining up at start of Donkey Derby Race.

ALAN PEDDLE

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WEDDING

AT HOME

PASSPORT

## A FORTNIGHT IN THE PENTHOUSE SUITE

THE ROYAL BERKS HOSPITAL is a strange conglomeration of buildings. I can remember a time when you could not go straight through the front door because there was a hole in the floor boards, but the place seems to change minute by minute and you can hardly imagine a greater contrast than between the old buildings and the Reading Hilton, the Maternity and Gynaecological Unit in Craven Road.

I have recently spent a couple of weeks in Rushey Ward, at the very top, and it has been a revelation. The last time I stayed in hospital was 23 years ago and I hated the place, and the attitude of the staff. My first clue that things had changed came after the decision that I needed an operation, but not as an emergency. The sister making the arrangements actually asked which dates would suit me, so that I was able to go in at a time that would fit in with family ties. And moreover, that date was adhered to.

### Crossing the Rubicon

In spite of this reassuring start, I reached Rushey Ward in a thoroughly apprehensive state, as I imagine most people due for operations do, and the plate glass and shining lift did little to calm me. But the Rubicon had been crossed. Other people would now take over, and not just other people, but the place itself.

Rushey Ward is beautiful and functional. The reception and nursing centre is in the middle of the ward, behind a shiny wooden counter, slightly reminiscent of a bar in a modern pub. The walls are mainly painted soft grey, with decorative and expensive wooden banding which, just at some very useful moment, you realise is in fact a hand-rail. And that seems to me typical of the skill and flair which has planned a ward specifically for the purpose for which it is being used. There are some of those superbly high gloss areas of flooring which I had thought the acme of hospital house-keeping, but most

of Rushey Ward is carpeted in old gold, so that trolleys glide through without clatter and do not detract from the general calm. None of the nursing bays have more than six beds, and from each there is a superlative view of Reading.

My particular side ward looked across Reading School playing fields, silver and untouched through the trees in early morning light, to three gasometers and a set of toy trains beyond, and from another window I could look past Huntley and Palmers and the chocolate layer cake of the Thames Water Board, to the parish church and the trees of Caversham Heights. One of the rooms looking west, is a Day room furnished with comfortable chairs and, very important, ash trays.

I hope that other patients and visitors going there will find the ward as soothing as I did. I am sure they will appreciate the quiet competence of the staff and their orderly yet unbossy and unfussy mway of getting on with their job.

M.S.

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# WITH KATY IN CAVERSHAM

It seems we are in for some changes in Prospect Street shops shortly. Vera Fletcher, who in the seven years or so she has been in Caversham, has become well known to so many customers, is moving and enlarging. On 8th August she is taking over the shop on the corner of North Street/Prospect Street; these larger premises will give her the room she needs for her much expanding business. Most Caversham shoppers will know very well of her considerable range of clothes — not least the kind of articles which our older residents sometimes have difficulty in finding — and her stocks of handicraft goods. Her lace-making classes which she recently organised were but one example of her ability to keep abreast with local demands.

## Alterations and Buttonholes

She is taking on new staff and Mrs. Mabel Narroay, already known to many as a local shop assistant, is already in charge of the alteration side of the business, a service many local people will find invaluable. She will be joined by Mary, also a local shop assistant; between them they will endeavour to fulfil all the needs required by home dressmakers and handicraft workers. It is hoped that lessons in crochet and tapestry will be a feature of the new establishment. Whatever happens, there is no doubt it will be worth keeping a watch on Mrs. Fletcher's shop in the future; she is also anxious to let her customers know that her previous services, Spirella orders for example, will remain a feature of her new establishment and, as always, she will endeavour to provide any service for which there is a request. As a matter of

interest to those of us who remember the more leisurely days, it is interesting to note that her shop is probably the only one left in Caversham where there is a chair waiting for a customer who needs time to decide on her purchases.

## Chiropody in Caversham

We hear a whisper that there will shortly be a chiropodist practising in Caversham, and that too will be much appreciated particularly by the older members of our community.

## Greengroceries

Mrs. Fletcher tells us that her present premises is being taking over as a greengrocery by a lady from Wallingford, who is going to run it with her 16 year old son. While not wishing to detract from the very good service we already receive from our present greengrocers, we are sure there is more than enough room for yet another, particularly as we are approaching the season when fruit and vegetables will play a valuable part in our daily diet. We wish our newcomers well — they are moving into an area where personal service is important and that, as Vera Fletcher says, is a good thing for all concerned.

## Never let your right hand ..

It has come to our notice that very shortly there is likely to be a mammoth traffic problem in Caversham. It seems that the powers that be have decided that a new sewer is to be laid between Westfield Road and Cromwell Road which, among other things, will result in large numbers of residents in the area being unable to use their own garages, and consequently more cars than ever will be parked in the roads. At the same time, the

re-surfacing of Prospect Street is going to put it completely out of action to vehicular traffic for anything up to two months. The mind boggles at what will happen when traffic using Prospect Street will be forced into streets unusually encumbered by parked vehicles. Enquiries made to the local authorities can only elicit the information that as two different departments are concerned, nothing can be done about this. All one can

## A Good Samaritan

We have been asked, through the columns of the 'Bridge' to thank the good Samaritan who recently came to the aid of one of our older residents, Mrs. Davies of South Street. Suddenly taken

ill, she tried to dial one of her relatives, only to find she had obtained the wrong number. We shall probably never know who she did get on to, but whoever it was deserves Caversham's own Good Medal. It seems the gentleman in question, realising that the lady he was speaking to was in distress, took the trouble to inform the local police, so that by the time her own relatives had been also arrived on the scene. It's

good to know that in any event our friend would have been taken care of, thanks to the thoughtfulness of one of our residents who wasn't content to 'keep myself to myself', as one so often hears local people say. Whoever you are, Mr. Samaritan, many thanks, not just from Mrs. Davies, but from any of us in the area who so badly need that kind of neighbour.

## AEROMODELLERS



WALTON ADAMS

SEVERAL MONTHS AGO A SMALL GROUP OF PEOPLE wanted to form a club for aeromodellers at Emmer Green. The Church agreed to lend the hall to the group for a short period to see how many were likely to be interested. The small nucleus that came together at the start rapidly grew in size so that now the hall is well filled with model aeroplane enthusiasts and their planes every fortnight. The club's activities have extended and meetings are now arranged with other aero clubs. It is encouraging to see so many members taking an interest in this hobby.

## 89th SCOUT FETE

IN BRILLIANT SUNSHINE like to be included on our roster. NEARLY A THOUSAND please contact Alan Branch, Hon. PEOPLE attended the 98th Reading (Milestone Wood) Scout Fete. It featured some twenty five stalls and a highlight of the afternoon was the Vintage Car demonstrations, particularly Austin Sevens. The Scouts and Cubs gave various displays throughout the afternoon, and overall the event, which was held at Emmer Green Primary School on 7th June, raised £400 for Scout funds. The Scouts and Cubs will collect newspapers regularly in the area to raise funds, and if any reader would

During the weekend 30th May — 1st June some 50 Cub Scouts with their leaders attended Cub Camp at Eynsham, whilst in August some 80 Scouts with their Leader will attend summer camp at Hay-on-Wye in Wales. Additional Cub Camps are planned throughout the summer and various Scout Patrol weekend Troop camps will be held.

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## ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

The month of June, blessed as it was with wonderful weather, has been a most happy and joyful one throughout the parish. The three patronal festivals were all well observed. The congregations at St. Barnabas and St. John's were both notably larger than last year. There were 134 communicants at the Parish Communion at St. Barnabas and 165 at St. John's. On both these days the youth group under the direction of the Rev. Leonard Burn was responsible for part of the singing. The caterers deserve congratulations for their efforts and Canon Vile, although he left the parish in 1942 found many familiar faces at St. John's.

St. Peter's Day, falling on a Sunday this year brought some three hundred people to the Rectory Garden for tea. It was good to see that among the guests were several former members of the parish who have now moved away, as well as friends from other denominations. The caterers seemed unruffled by the large numbers who came. The parish church was packed for a most joyous festal evensong. The choirs of the parish sang the service to Walmsley in D Minor and the newly formed parish orchestra, under the direction of Mr. John Dussek, played for the first time, and their playing greatly added to the beauty of the occasion. The splendid congregational singing reached its climax as the large choir wove its way round the church for the processional hymn, "For all the saints". The one disappointment on this occasion was the failure of the preacher, the Rev. Fred Dawson, to arrive. Unfortunately the radiator of his car burst as he was driving from Sheffield, but it is hoped that he will be able to come on St. Andrew's day.

In addition to the patronal festivals St. Andrew's fete and the concert given by the Reading Male Voice choir in St. Peter's, both of which are reported elsewhere in this paper, were occasions of pleasure and also raised considerable sums of money for three different charities. There was another happy occasion when some 150 from different parts of the parish came to the Rectory garden for country dancing, and during these summer weeks this garden has been the setting for many other gatherings for young and old arranged by different organisations in the parish.

## St. Peter's Wives

ON 17th JUNE MRS. FITZEUSTACE gave a fascinating talk on her experiences as a Courier in Northern Spain. The talk was illustrated with a variety of slides which showed picturesque villages and rugged, but beautiful, countryside.

Members are reminded to bring their children to the August Picnic, to be held again at Mapledurham Playing Fields on 20th August, from 2.30 p.m.

On to a more serious subject, Mr. H Reid will be coming to talk about Life in the Prison service, on the 16th September.

## St. Margaret's Parish Picnic

It is always good to meet old friends so when about six car-loads of folk ended a mystery tour, cleverly arranged by Michael and Christine Kitchener with first class clues taking them through many lanes and byways around the southern outskirts of Reading, and which ended at the home of Gareth and Sheila Price at Sulhamstead Abbots, all were delighted. Setting out after Sunday church on a beautiful June morning a very happy few hours were spent in the Prices' spacious garden having a picnic lunch and chatting whilst some of the young and more energetic played games. It is less than two years since Gareth and Sheila moved from Mapledurham with their family and everyone was most interested to see their large Victorian home and hear all their news. It was indeed a very happy Parish gathering.



HYMOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

The wedding took place in St. Margaret's Church, Mapledurham on Saturday, 24th May of Clive Beer and Rachel Perring.

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## St Andrew's Annual Fete

St. Andrew's Annual Fete was held on Saturday 28th June and was opened jointly by a representative from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution and the Missions to Seamen, the two societies who are to receive equal shares of the proceeds.

In spite of other attractions in the area it was most gratifying to see such a large crowd supporting event. A feature of the afternoon was a display by the Heather McLeod School of Dancing. The inflatable dinghy kindly loaned by R.A.F. Abingdon provided an enormous attraction for the children as did Norman Kent's ever popular Punch and Judy Show. The working model of Dennis Slade's steam engine recalled the nostalgia of the steam era for many people.

This was an afternoon well spent and enjoyed by so many people and which raised a sum in excess of four hundred pounds.

## St. John's News

Her many old friends at St. John's will be glad to know that Mrs Moss is now a great grandmother. Her granddaughter, Janet, gave birth to a daughter, Lisa, at the Royal Berkshire Hospital on May 29th. Mrs Moss who lives at Flat 1, 16 Helmsdale Close is always delighted to have visits from old Caversham friends.

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# CAVERSHAM COURT FETE

## OBITUARY

### Victor Smith

The sudden death of Victor Smith at the early age of forty-seven came as a great shock to all who knew him. Formerly churchwarden at St. Luke's Reading, Vic and his family moved to Caversham in 1969 and quickly became involved in the life of their new parish. Vic had been a keen supporter of St. Peter's Scouts, had administered the chalice at the Parish Communion, been manager of Church House and served on the Finance Committee. The large congregation at his funeral service in St. Peter's was evidence of the many friends he had. The Caversham Bridge extends sympathy to his widow, Sheila and their three children and to Vic's father who had made his home with the family at 62 Woodcote Road.

### Leslie Plant

It was with shocked disbelief that many people in Caversham learned of the death of Mr. Leslie Plant of Elizabeth House, Gosbrook Road, on 12th June.

"Les" as he was known to everyone, was the caretaker at Elizabeth House and many of the tenants had good reason to be thankful for his help and friendship. Caring for people seemed to be the driving force of his life and his death leaves a gap that will not easily be filled. He will be missed by many and will be remembered with happiness by everyone who knew him.

"Am I a responsible Christian?"

A one day course for teenagers at St. Barnabas Church Sunday, September 28th, 9.15 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.



WALTON ADAMS

The fete organised on behalf of the Multiple Sclerosis Society and held in Caversham Court was a colourful event.

## ROUND THE CLUBS

### BLAGRAVE W.I.

At the June Meeting of Blagrove W.I. a new member was welcomed and Mrs. Wilkie presented the Birthday Posies. A ballot for the Denman College Bursary was held and this was won by Mrs. Maddox.

The guest speaker was Mr. Player who gave a most helpful and interesting talk and demonstration on Home Decorating, emphasising that good preparation was absolutely essential for good results, particularly in painting.

The Outing arranged by Miss Reynolds for a party of members and friends to go and see a Dress Rehearsal for "The Trooping the Colour" was a very great success and all who went thoroughly enjoyed the day in London.

### MAPLEWOOD W.I.

The President, Mrs. K. Bubb, welcomed two new members. The cakes and produce stall at the Hospitals Fete raised £42.30 and Mrs. Warwick's coffee morning raised £13.50. Mrs. B. Osborne gave a good report of her visit, as delegate, to the Albert Hall for the Annual General Meeting. Ten members enjoyed visiting Windsor Castle for the Garter Ceremony and there was an outing by coach to Greys Court. The Cookery Group held a "summer meeting" as a picnic by the river at Whitchurch.

Mrs. Ann Gregory demonstrated "Cooking with Grand Marnier" and Mrs. J. Lemare gave the vote of thanks. There was an interesting display of old newspapers and magazines of local and national interest.

### CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS' TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

The last Guild meeting was our 14th Birthday Party which was celebrated in appropriate fashion. The Committee prepared a splendid

cold buffet and Mrs. Griffiths made her "taste and add a little" punch. The entertainment was in the form of an informal Edwardian "At Home", when Mrs. Baker played the piano and Mrs. Birtwhistle, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Griffiths sang several Edwardian top of the pops and led general community Music Hall renderings. Mrs. Bliss, Mrs. Blunt and Mrs. White gave recitations such as Billy's Rose and A Yellow One Eyed Idol on the Road to Katmandu!! The evening was very successful ending with a parade of Edwardian hats.

much appreciated by a large audience, and the Guild outing to Hereford on 12 June was blessed by perfect weather.

### THANKYOU

Mrs. Davis of 30 South Street, Caversham wishes to thank most sincerely, the kind gentleman whose name she does not know, who came to her rescue recently when she was taken ill and dialled the wrong telephone number! Mrs. Davis also wishes to thank the Police for their help at the same time

### CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

The Monthly meeting was held in Church House on Thursday 19th June. Mrs. Barrow in the Chair. The speaker, Mr. Tony Durant, M.P. for Reading, gave us his experiences as a new member of Parliament and what it entailed. He was thanked by the President. Mrs. Barrow gave her report on the Townswomen's Guild Meeting in London.

A garden party was arranged for August 20th.

### EMMER GREEN TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

"Antique Glass and China" was the title of the talk given by Mr. J. Beauchamp at the June meeting. Mr. Beauchamp illustrated his talk with several beautiful pieces of glass and china which formed part of a collection he had accumulated over many years as an auctioneer. He also evaluated and identified a selection of crockery and ornaments which members had brought along, in the hope that great grandmother's vase which had been gathering dust in a cupboard for many years would turn out to be a long-lost Ming, and worth a fortune. The Drama Group and Caversham Singers presented an evening of Music and Drama on 4 June which was

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# YOUNG CAVERSHAM

STATICIANS TELL US that there are just over two children to each British family. I won't attempt to argue with them, but my friends at E.P. Collier Primary School might surprise them. Class 6 have prepared a graph of their families' make-up, which shows a comparison with a national trend. But the picture appears like a yo-yo. The class contains 28 pupils; only one is an only-child, while no fewer than 7 pupils are members of 5-child families! The largest family represented contains 9 children, with a close runner-up with 8, and another with 6. Homes domiciling two and three off-spring a piece seem popular, with 7 families applicable to each category. The remaining three pupils are ordinals of foursomes.

A case of each one in his own small corner.

If you prefer to go by coach, which is usually even cheaper than rail, there are endless possibilities and through connections to most parts of the country. Coaches leave Reading Bus Station every day at 11.08 for Cheltenham where there are connections for the North of England, Wales and the West Country. In the opposite direction an early morning Alder Valley bus to London will connect at Victoria Coach Station for East Anglia and the south-east, and you will even find it convenient to join the fast motorway services to Glasgow and Edinburgh. They will give you all the information at the Bus Office.



by  
**PETER  
SHOCK**

SUMMER HOLIDAYS UPON US AGAIN! Bravo to Thomas Cook who thought up the idea of holidays for the masses in the middle of the last century! I expect many of you will be going off to some exciting spot with your parents or friends, or even on your own. You have been saving up and making plans for many weeks in preparation for one of the big events of the year which we all look forward to. This year, our holidays will cost us more, particularly in travelling, and it is not surprising that everyone will look for the cheapest means of reaching our destination. Despite heavy increases in rail fares, there are still special reductions available for rail travel. If you are going more than 75 miles you can make use of the 17-day returns which save you about 25%, although there are restrictions on returning before the following Saturday if you travel outwards on a Monday to Friday. Economy Return fares at just over half-price can be obtained if you book 21 days ahead and are prepared to travel mid-week and do not intend to return until the following week. In addition there are Away-Day and Week-end fares which cut the cost of your journey, and all these details can be obtained from British Rail Enquiry Office. At your centre it is often possible to buy a run-about ticket which entitles you to use the trains and buses on a go-as-you-like basis at a concessory fare.

The main excursion operator, of Mill Lane, Reading, also run daily trips to the south coast during the summer holidays and you can have period return tickets as well as day returns, so you might find this an economical proposition. If you are feeling more adventurous and time is of little importance you can take one of the regular Europabus services operating from London to Amsterdam, Barcelona, Frankfurt, Munich, Vienna, Budapest, Athens and Istanbul. Good luck, but keep a wary eye on that dithering english pound!

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IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THE EMMER GREEN YOUTH CLUB was having a ball, and the sound of music wafted over the summer air — if the frenzied howling of the Bay City Rollers could be termed as such without infringing the trades description act. In the drive off Grove Road were a string of fairly resplendent motors, but as present day youth is often a prosperous lot that was not so very astonishing. But inside the Club, valiantly gyrating to the disco that belted out the Top Twenty were some of the oldest teenagers in the business. The fire brigade chief, a couple of councillors, clergymen and schoolteachers, they were all there to support youth leader John Jenkins at his successful party for the helpers and managers of the club.

### Involvement

It is the policy at Emmer Green to involve the Youth Club with the social life of the neighbourhood, and the hall is used on several afternoons by local organisations ranging from a play group for

under fives to the old age pensioners. Rosehill W.I. and the local rabbit breeders club, a semi-prof pop group and the young wives association are regular users of the building and they all feel a family connection with the Club, and are ready to become involved in their various ways. The pop group, for instance, give special concerts for the youth members, and the rabbit fanciers are going to hold an exhibition, while several of the young mums come in to help at the club in the evenings.

This summer John has arranged a play project for the older children who will meet at the club to take part in all sorts of interesting activities including games for the little ones, play readings, horse riding and the like. Mother often goes along as well so it becomes an informal coffee morning for the local ladies, and a good example of the way a youth club can help the adults to get to know each other.

A little while ago the Emmer Green Youth Club may not have been everybody's favourite place. Gangs of embyro Hell's Angels zoomed up and down outside on their revved up machines, but loads of loutish teenagers arrived from all parts of the town and looked like turning the place into a yobbo's paradise. There was a fire, some thieving, and the inside decorations soon became a unique blend of broken plaster and graffiti. It is not good to turn the kids away, and at least the membership was mounting, but at a cost. Still, by a mixture of example, tact and firmness, John Jenkins persuaded the worst of the trouble makers that Emmer Green was no place for them, assimilated those that wanted to use the facilities in the proper way and now has a membership of three hundred, most of whom are local lads and lassies.

On a normal evening there could be up to a hundred members playing table tennis, dancing, using the games

machines, drinking coffee or coke, and of course talking and getting to know each other. And the talking of ten gets somewhere very worthwhile because the members have formed themselves into groups to perform various useful tasks. Twenty of them have helped in a project to clear the river banks; sponsored walks and charity collections have been arranged to learn gliding and skiing. So after some set-backs, a few mistakes and a lot of hard work, John Jenkins and his staff, and the management committee who are all local people with Mr. Ken Bridges as chairman can feel they deserved their night out doing the what-have-you, and that the Youth Club is not only doing a first class job for its young members but is also of some service to the general community at Emmer Green and Caversham.



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## WE RECORD

### BAPTISED

St. Andrew's  
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Sally Jenkins

### MARRIED

St. Peter's  
June 14th  
June 28th

Robert Brough and Susan Sharp  
Robert Lewendon and Lyndsay Sabine  
David Hill and Angela Webster  
Anthony Fennell and Lesley Collis  
Philip Utley and Susan Yeo

July 5th

St. Barnabas  
June 21st

Michael Utley and Marcia Withers

St. Margaret's  
May 10th  
May 24th  
May 31st

Malcolm Pemble and Jill Lomer  
Clive Beer and Rachel Perring  
Michael Fox and Cherie Webb

### FUNERALS

St. Peter's  
June 23rd  
July 3rd

Victor Smith  
Winifred Farrow

St. Andrew's  
June 16th  
June 20th

Frederick Strange  
Cyril Belcher

St. Barnabas  
June 30th

Doris Millar

St. Margaret's  
May 1st  
June 25th

William Bushnell  
Gertrude Bushnell

## CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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. B. Gardiner,  
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### EMMER GREEN YOUTH CLUB HALL

Secretary: Mr. J. Jenkins, The Youth Club,  
Emmer Green. Tel. 476794.

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Secretary: Mrs. G. F. Davies, 11 Eric Avenue.  
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Secretary: Mr. Martyn-Johns, Greendene Farm,  
Mapledurham. Kidmore End 2198.

### WEST MEMORIAL HALL

Secretary: Mr. K. Shield, 27 Albert Road.  
Tel. 473709.

## SUNDAY SERVICES IN AUGUST

### ANGLICAN

#### St. Peter's

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.  
9.15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION.  
10.45 a.m. Family Service (3rd Sunday)  
11.15 a.m. Matins (not 3rd Sunday).  
11.30 a.m. Holy Communion (3rd Sunday).  
12.15 p.m. Holy Communion (1st Sunday).  
6.30 p.m. Evensong

#### 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  
10.30 a.m. Family Service (2nd Sunday).  
5.30 p.m. Evensong (3rd 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).  
7.30 p.m. Holy Communion (2nd 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.

## CAVERSHAM BRIDGE SCHEME OF SOCIAL SERVICE

### Central Organiser:

Mrs K. P. Besley, 10 Ashcroft Close. Tel. 472374.

### 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. C. Pynn, (Mapledurham), 42 Geoffreyson Road. Tel. 476065.

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