

GOODBYE MR COX

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**"MR COX, WHY ARE YOU
LEAVING 'COS YOU'RE
NOT REALLY OLD?"**

That's what a little girl asked Charlie Cox at Caversham Primary School recently. Charlie will always be young in spirit, that's the way he's made, but there comes a time to sit back and relax — to take life a little easier — and that's what Charlie and his wife intend to do when they move to their bungalow at Tilehurst in October.

For almost all his life Mr Cox has devoted his time to the needs of children. From 1952 till 1969 he was caretaker at Emmer Green Primary School and then he transferred to Caversham Primary School from which he is now retiring. Way before 1952 he had held similar posts at Leighton Park, St Anne's and Broad Oak Convent. Now after years of often long, erratic hours of work and a job demanding patience and a real love for children Charlie feels it is time to hand over to someone else.

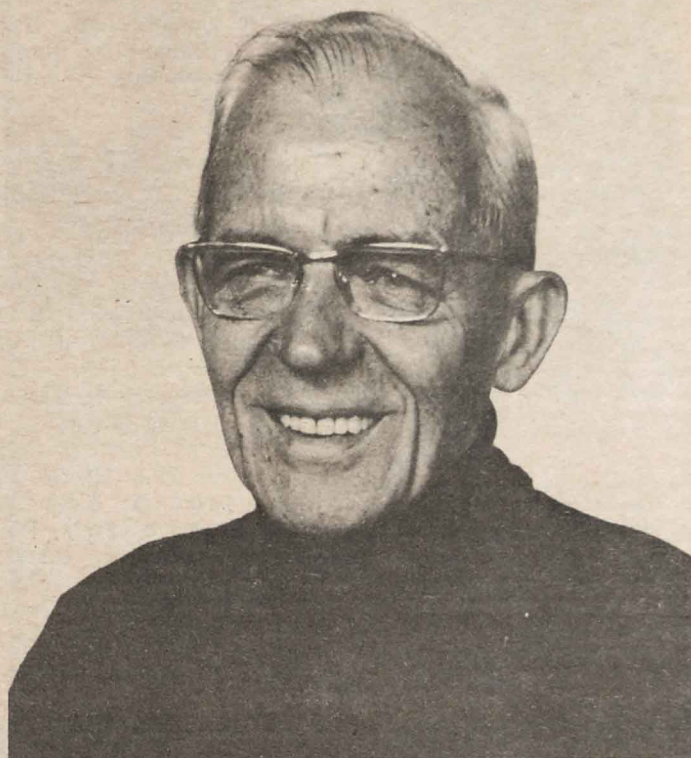
No doubt at first the new way of life will seem strange. No more early starts to the day. No youngster knocking on the door at a quarter to eight on a Sunday morning to ask if he could get his shoes. No staying up late to lock up after evening classes.

The children, too, will find it different. No Mr Cox to mend a broken toy or chat with them about this and that. They will have lost a great friend. For as Charlie says "I am so involved with children. They are part of my life. I loathe the holidays when they are not around." But they will have something to remember him by, for when he leaves Charlie intends to present the school with the wonderful gift of a huge weather vane.

Retirement will not mean losing touch with young people altogether. Mr and Mrs Cox have seven children, all married, and twelve grand children. So they will have more time to spend with their family. That Tiny, the Cavalier King Charles Blenheim spaniel, will get some extra walks is more than likely and if the hoped-for greenhouse materialises, many busy hours will be spent pottering in there.

Caversham Bridge thanks Charlie Cox for his service to the younger members of the community and wish him and his wife a long and happy retirement.

M.K.



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The Editor's Column

WHAT IS MAN?

ONE SWALLOW DOES NOT MAKE A SUMMER, but when it comes to scientists questioning some of the basic assumptions that so many people are tempted to make because they are dazzled by the achievements of science, then there are a growing number of swallows around today. The presidential address that Sir Bernard Lovell gave a few weeks ago at the opening of the British Association for the Advancement of Science was yet one more indication of how some of those in the top ranks of the scientific world are not prepared to rest content with the view that man, because of the discoveries of science, is the master of all things. Sir Bernard instead was concerned to develop a theme from Thomas Carlyle's inquiry, 'What is man?'

THE VITAL QUESTION

After raising fundamental doubts about some of the research on which such vast sums of money is spent, including the enormous spending on military work, Sir Bernard went on to say that for him the vital question was whether society could develop the ethical and moral purpose necessary to ensure that in future man could overcome the forces leading to decay and destruction. He admitted to having changed sides in the debate about the responsibility of the scientist. "We have," he said, "deluded ourselves that through science we find the only avenue to true understanding about nature and the universe. Further we have persuaded the society in which we work to support our activities in the belief that our discoveries will inevitably, in some way, be of practical benefit. The simple belief in automatic material progress by means of scientific discovery and application is a tragic myth of our age."

RE-EXAMINATION NEEDED

Many people with little or no scientific knowledge have accepted the tragic myth of which Sir Bernard spoke and have therefore assumed that the work of the scientist is in opposition to any view of life, whether Christian or not, which challenges the assumption that we can control our destiny. Many of the younger generation in particular have used what they have imagined to be the claims of science to justify their rejection of Christian standards and a Christian way of life, which they know would compel them to re-examine much in their way of living.

The debate which Sir Bernard has re-opened must lead on not only to our asking honest questions on ethical issues. It must insist that those who dismiss any idea of an after life, and remark "Death is the end", look at the evidence not just of Scripture but of almost 2,000 years of Christian history. It must insist that they honestly try to understand what it is that "makes tick" the lives of millions who believe that the Resurrection is the key to the answer to the question that the Psalmist asked long before the days of Carlyle — "What is man?"

John Grindall

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WHERE WAS IT?

This house, well known to many people in Caversham was pulled down many years ago. A book token will be awarded to the first correct solution opened. Send your answer to the Caversham Bridge Office and mark the envelope "Where was it?"



THE CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

The Editor regrets that the October issue was so late in being published. The Editorial Board has however arranged that this and future editions of the paper will be printed in Reading by Thames Valley Newspapers Ltd, and is expected that it will now be possible to publish on the third Friday of every month. The price will be increased to 7p from the December edition, but will be available to old age pensioners living on their own at the reduced rate of 4p.

HAS YOUR INCOME CHANGED SINCE 1971?
HAS YOUR GIVING TO GOD'S CHURCH CHANGED SINCE 1971?

POSTBAG

Dear Sirs,

Co-ordination of Road-works — Westfield Road/Prospect Street

I refer to the article 'With Katy in Caversham' which appeared in your issue of Caversham Bridge for August 1975:

The article contained a paragraph 'Never let your right hand...' and stated that traffic problems are likely to be immense while the above two road schemes were being carried out.

The two schemes have both been administered by the Technical Services Department and you will be aware that the resurfacing of Prospect Street has now been completed, while the laying of the Westfield Road sewer is just commencing. There is no knowledge in the department of any enquiries concerning the timing and, as you will know, they were not contemporaneous.

Letters to residents who may be affected by the sewer scheme are being sent giving details of access to the garages which should at no time be

restricted for more than one night in any case.

I hope you will appreciate that the situation is not as outlined in your report, and that your conclusion was unjustified.

M. SALTER

Reading Borough Council, Civic Offices, Civic Centre, Reading.

Dear Sir,

Knowing of Hemdean House School's long association with Caversham, I feel sure there must be many former pupils, numbered among Caversham residents, who would be interested in making renewed contact with the school. I should be very pleased to hear from anyone who cares to write to me at the school, and hope to arrange an evening gathering later.

MONICA K. RALPH,
Headmistress

Hemdean House School, Hemdean Road, Caversham

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With Katy in Caversham

FOR YEARS I'VE BEEFED ABOUT USING LOCAL SHOPS WHILE, at the same time, making occasional forays into Reading to refurbish my undergarment wardrobe from a famous emporium patronised, I understand, by royalty. My time being currently even shorter than money, I recently found just what I wanted, price and quality just as good, in a local shop. Talk about notes and beams!

No apologies for mentioning shops again — in any event it's becoming a vital conversation piece even for people like myself who haven't time or interest to spend hours searching for "2p. off". What worries me is that the small shops are taking such a hammering at the moment that if we don't encourage them, we'll wake up one day to find they just aren't there any more. I'd like to ask the gentleman who challenged my theory years ago about the run-down of the Prospect Street shopping area, to repeat what he said then. If he can, with truth, he must be blind; the empty shop on the corner of North Street/Prospect Street is an eyesore for a start.

ENCOURAGING NEWS

And now for the good news. Our local butchers are stocking large quantities of deep freeze meat for the benefit of those with freezers but without cars, and those who don't fancy the idea of hacking up a whole sheep by themselves. Worth taking a look; and I'm pleased to report that our very friendly cashier, Anne, is only in semi-retirement, so we shall still be seeing her in the shop from time to time.

SERVICE WITH A SMILE

What a difference our shop assistants make to our lives. Called at a local supermarket this morning to be treated with a 'take-it-or-leave-it' indifference from the girl at the check-out which made me hopping mad. A few yards down the road the chemists' assistant was so worried about the size of my bill that she checked and re-checked — with a smile too!

It's nice too to see that some shops are not frantically competing with each other. Vera Fletcher's Shop in Prospect Street exactly complements Bob Grothers Fabric Shop opposite; I happen to know that both these people are particularly anxious to avoid unnecessary competition. Bob tells me he is now making his own venetian blinds in a small workshop in School Lane — 33 1/3 per cent discount if you're interested, and you can make your own choice; he is also now stocking a far wider range of children's clothes.

WELCOME TO CAVERSHAM

While in the area, welcome to Mrs Harling and her son Tony who have opened a greengrocers in Prospect Street; Mrs Harling is no newcomer to the business and caters for special needs of those who cannot afford to buy large quantities. We're going to depend a lot on fruit and vegetables this winter, so this is a welcome addition in this particular area.

I also discovered in one of our local supermarkets, cheese in very small packets — just enough for someone living alone.

It's often forgotten, in this era of thinking big and 'best values' that many pensioners simply can't afford the best value if it means travelling miles in a car they haven't got and stocking up with money they don't possess in a freezer they don't own.

DO-IT-YOURSELF

Of course, a lot of housewives will be making their own produce, Christmas gifts and so on this year; Caversham is rich in do-it-yourself material (ever tried making plastic paper-weights?) and there seems an unprecedented run on returning to the spinning wheel. So again, no apologies for mention that for anyone who can't fit in the dates or times of many of other organisations, Reading Central Afternoon Townswomen's Guild, which meets at 2.30 the second Friday of each month at the Broad Street United Reformed Church, is looking for new members and will welcome people from anywhere in the district. I don't want to draw anyone away from other activities, but even now I hear many people grumble about being lonely or not knowing what to do with their time. Frankly I've no sympathy if they are hale and hearty — and for those who aren't the 'Bridge Scheme' provides visitors. However badly handicapped a person is there is usually something they can do to play their part in the community, even if it's only listening sympathetically to the trials and tribulations of their visitor. Listening, alas, is something few of us have sufficient time for — and it is important.

ORCHESTRA PRACTICE



— L. L. Burn

The Rev Martin Loveless conducting the parish orchestra as it practised in Church House preparatory to playing in St Giles Church at the Stewardship Service.

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Talking Point

CHRISTIAN FOLLY

The Cross, says Saint Paul, is the sign of the Fool. But the Cross, says the Christian, is the sign of triumph, of God's purpose fulfilled. The two statements don't seem to hang together. The Gospel says that the greatest event in human history, the redemption of mankind, has been achieved by what humanity regards as folly.

In a generation of challenge and growing economic hardship the Church has to make hard decisions of far-reaching consequence. Precisely so that we may proclaim the gospel more effectively. That Gospel has at its heart a man who is, by human standards, a Fool.

But we are also children of an age of cool scientific realism. Our thought and our behaviour stem from a cultural background which says, "Folly is absurd." Reason has been deified. Logic and rational consequence have become the in-bred tools of our everyday human behaviour. For the Christian this poses a grim tension. Folly and realism don't mix.

More and more frequently, writings on contemporary Christian life include articles on Foolishness. This fact is I think deeply significant. However painful, today's Christian needs to explore this tension between a world of no-nonsense scientific realism and a Gospel of God's foolishness.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FOOL

Saint Paul, in the opening chapters of the first letter to the Corinthians, asserts that there is a division between human wisdom and God's wisdom. The one will

always be folly to the other. The Church as a human institution, ordering her affairs in human ways, is necessarily caught across this division.

Literature has kept something alight for the Christian Church which might otherwise have disappeared. The significance of the Fool. Heinrich Boll, Dostoevsky, Bernard Malamud and other novelists and playwrights have explored Folly and its inherent truth. But the classic is Shakespeare's play "King Lear". Man, sane by human standards is an individualist, divided from God and his fellows, driving towards his worldly ambition, paying little heed to folly. Any view of human life as having its purpose in a unity and fellowship with God must seem madness. And so it is only when King Lear goes mad by human standards that he can know the truth about Man. Lear's madness is the way to true wisdom.

In an article in the Lent number of "Christian" John Saward says; "The late middle-ages and early sixteenth century saw a great celebration of folly — not only folly for Christ's sake, but also that of the court fool, the buffoon and jester. But towards the end of the sixteenth century the tradition seems to die". The writer goes on to quote from Enid Welsford; "We have been reminded of what was lost with the disappearance of the fool. The fool belonged essentially to a society shaped by belief in Divine order, human inadequacy, efficacious ritual and so has no place in a world increasingly dominated by the notions of the puritan, the scientist and

the captain of industry. For strange as it may seem the fool in cap and bells can only flourish among people who have sacraments, who value symbols as well as tools. Scientific enlightenment is good, yet it would also be good to regain the sense of glory, which does somehow seem to be connected with humility and the acceptance of limitation."

The sixteenth century was a great watershed for western Europe in almost every way. "The celebration of folly" was, for better or worse, one of the things which receded at that time. Christians of the Reformed Churches which were born out of the upheaval of that time, perhaps need to ask themselves whether our celebration of the Faith lost anything important as a result.

The Gospel is a gospel of foolishness. The world will see the Church proclaiming such a gospel as a place of Folly. Human wisdom alone will leave the Church barren. No one wants to put the clock back to the sixteenth century. But without a contemporary exploration and celebration of Christ-like Folly the Church will have no meaning.

A Church life carefully measured out in the achievement of a human ambition has to be thrown over for a life of such generous love and commitment to God and his ways that it seems to the world to be a foolish abandonment.

For what else can the world say about the carpenter who threw his human life onto a cross in the way he did?

HISTORY IN OUR MIDST

CAVERSHAM PARK HAS KNOWN MANY NAMES THROUGH ITS LONG HISTORY, which dates back to the time of Domesday. At one time it belonged to Walter Giffard, a distant relation of the King, who was later created Earl of Buckingham. Walter Giffard had five sons, and the estate passed to each one in turn, but the last son died without issue, and there was some uncertainty as to who should inherit. So for the next few centuries, due to political intrigue and baronial wars the estate changed hands many times.

Caversham Manor was from 1471 to 1493 a Royal holding; during this period the house was first called Caversham Lodge. It was afterwards leased to Nottley Abbey, but unfortunately, after the dissolution of the monasteries, the original house fell into decay.

Elizabethan days saw the building of a new mansion, by the Knollys family. William Knollys, Earl of Banbury, entertained Queen Elizabeth I at Caversham.

After the death of Lord Banbury, the estate came, probably by purchase, into the hands of William Lord Craven and he, in turn entertained royalty, in the person of King Charles I with his son, the Duke of York, as proved by a letter dated 'Cawsam' July 4, 1647.

After the restoration of the monarchy, Lord Craven sold the property to John, Earl of Kildare.

The first Earl Cadogan purchased the Manor in 1718 and died seven years later, having no sons. The Barony passed to his brother Charles, who took up residence at the Manor and was known as Lord Cadogan of Oakley. Charles died in 1776 and his remains with those of his wife rest in Caversham Church, though no tablet to their memory is visible.

The property was acquired by Charles Marsack in 1784, and then in 1844 by William Crawshaw of Cyfartha Castle Glamorganshire, who bought it from Charles Marsack's son Colonel H. R. Marsack.

The house was twice destroyed by fire, first in the time of Lord Cadogan of Oakley and then when William Crawshaw lived there. The grounds of this house have always enjoyed a high reputation, and in 1731 a book called Vitruvius Britannicus described the gardens in detail. The mansion also housed some fine tapestry when the Cadogan and Marsack families lived there. One tapestry was believed to be a present from Louis XIV to Lord Cadogan.

In the twenties the Crawshaw family sold the house to the Oratory School, and the late Duke of Norfolk was educated there. The School then sold the property to the BBC, who are the present owners of the house and surrounding gardens. The bulk of the estate was sold in the 60's and has become Caversham Park Village.

J.H.

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CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH'S MINISTRY OF HEALING

DO YOU BELIEVE IN FAITH HEALING? This question might conjure images of the rather dramatic healing missions which take place from time to time and which are well publicised. However, there are other methods and these are conducted in a calm, constant and perhaps more effective manner.

Within the Anglican Church is the Guild of St Raphael which was founded in 1915. The Guild consists of various small groups throughout this country and also some in Australia, New Zealand, Rhodesia and one in the U.S.A. The members of each group

meet regularly once or twice monthly to pray and intercede for the physically and mentally ill. Members are admitted at a special service and promise to pray daily for the sick and also for the Guild at least once a month at Holy Communion. The local group meets at St Andrew's Church.

ULTIMATE AIMS OF THE GUILD

The ultimate aims of the Guild are that those for whom they pray will receive peace of mind, courage, freedom from pain and fear and the assurance of God's love and forgiveness. It is known, of course, that a complete recovery in

answer to prayer is possible, regardless of what the illness may be, but sensational healing services are deprecated as they incline towards the emotional and could lead to disappointment and even a loss of all hope of God and His love.

Members are encouraged, wherever possible, to work in full co-operation with the medical profession, and it is helpful to the Guild to know that the medical profession can understand the power of prayer in endeavouring to restore patients to health of body, mind and spirit. Doubtless many doctors, on hearing of faith healing, visualise the more dramatic and sensational

by Sylvia Grinsted

forms. Understandably they may be sceptical or even antagonistic, it is therefore necessary to emphasise that the Guild does not function in this way at all.

Belonging to a group of the Guild of St Raphael is very rewarding. To visit those whose names are on the prayer list and to find them cheerful and feeling better than one could have hoped is so uplifting. If someone does not appear to be improving, there is the need to pray more often, knowing they will benefit one way or another.

And perhaps others will pray for the Guild, that it may be further and continually strengthened.

CAVERSHAM PARK MAN ORDAINED AS DEACON

On September 7, Mr Jerry Morland of Chestnut Avenue was ordained as a Deacon in the Roman Catholic Church.

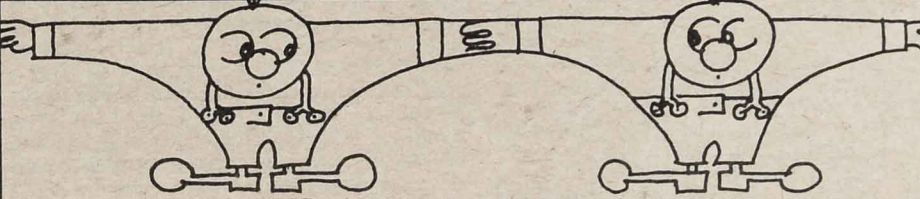
The first Deacons were ordained by the Apostles, and played an important role in the Church. In the course of history the Diaconate lost its importance and it was not until the Second Vatican Council that the Roman Catholic Church authorised the re-establishment of the permanent Diaconate.

The role of a deacon is in no way that of a 'second class' priest. A deacon does not try to take the place of a priest, but complements and supports the work of the priesthood.

Mr Morland belongs to an ecumenical group called I.T.E.M. — Industry Trade and Employment Mission, whose members are concerned to bring the Church to the people in their place of work.

The Caversham Bridge wishes Mr Morland every success in his ministry.

J.H.



CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

SCHEME OF SOCIAL SERVICE

WHOM TO CONTACT HOW TO HELP

Central Organiser:
Mrs K. P. Besley, 10 Ashcroft Close. Telephone 472374

Area Organisers:
Mrs A. M. Russell (North Caversham), 31 Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green. Telephone 472934
Mrs M. Coombs (South Caversham), 5 Kidmore Road. Telephone 472689
Mrs E. B. Evans (East Caversham), 50 Grosvenor Road. Telephone 473596
Mrs P. Edwards (West Caversham), 4 Harrogate Road. Telephone 476893
Mrs C. Pynn (Mapledurham), 42 Geoffreyson Road. Telephone 476065
Mrs D. Davies (Caversham Park Village), 81 Galsworthy Drive, Caversham Park Village. Telephone 476181.

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St Peters News

Two of the parish church servers have just embarked on their university careers — Dafydd Thomas at the University College of Wales at Aberystwyth and Simon Lathan at Exeter where he has gone to read law. Julie Evans has started her course in social studies at Portsmouth Polytechnic. The ranks of the servers are being reinforced by some of the newly confirmed. Mr Dussek would also be glad to have some more boys in the choir. New arrivals in the parish (a result of Metal Box moving to Reading) are Mr and Mrs Patrick Bailly from Muswell Hill with their family, Joanna, Hilary and Nicholas.

The recent wet weather brought a great deal of rain through the

church roof at the west end of the north aisle; examination revealed that once again lead thieves had been at work.

St Peter's Wives

Mr H. Reid, Deputy Governor of Reading Prison, talked to the group at the September meeting about his work. His talk ranged from the history of prisons and similar establishments to conditions and methods used in prisons today. This led to a thought-provoking discussion on crime in modern society and ways and means of prevention and punishment.

Breadmaking will be the subject of the meeting on November 18, when Scotts of Caversham will be demonstrating.

St John's Mothers' Union

St John's Mothers' Union has had a very good summer with lovely weather for all their outdoor activities. In May they went to Evesham to visit the Rev. John Crowe and his wife Una. A service in church was followed by tea with their M.U. branch.

In June, July and August there were meetings in members' gardens and the annual visit to the Rectory garden in July. All concerned are thanked for making these meetings so enjoyable.

In September there was a visit to Salisbury and a conducted tour of the Cathedral. After lunch they went on to West Sour in Dorset for a service in church.

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A QUESTION OF INVOLVEMENT

Just over a year ago five men and one woman sat down around a table in the Old Town Hall and held the first meeting of a Working Group set up to consider Public Participation in Local Government. The result of their united endeavours was a massive report detailing every aspect of community involvement as practised in Reading and elsewhere, the effectiveness of present arrangements and the views of the public on the need for further participation.

The Group consisted of three councillors, one from each political party and the local government officers, whilst two newspaper men and a student writing a thesis on local government were regular attenders, indeed they were co-opted informally on to the working party. Whilst there was no disagreement on the factual part of the report describing the mechanics of community involvement it was soon obvious that there would be varied opinions on the conclusions to be reached regarding the desirability or otherwise of increased public participation.

CIVIL SERVICE TRADITION

The officers in the group, true to civil service tradition, voiced a wary

By Zoilus

approval of some increase in the community voice in local affairs, although the departmental heads, when canvassed for their views, were something less than enthusiastic on some aspects of public involvement. Among the councillor members there was a definite two to one division, one representative wanting the man in the street to take part in almost every piece of decision making, whilst the other two thought that the present degree of participation was about right and saw danger for both the public and the Authority in letting too many cooks spoil the community broth.

One of the major tasks of the working party was to discover how passionately the ordinary voter wanted to have a voice in the running of the town, and letters were sent to a random sample of six hundred and sixty residents soliciting their views — this produced the imposing total of thirty six replies! A similar pro-forma was sent to numerous local organisations but less than half of those thought it worthwhile to answer the question.

HOUSE TO HOUSE SURVEY

A street and house survey carried out in South Reading yielded somewhat better results and of the one hundred and sixty one subjects interviewed just over half felt they would like to be more involved in council decision making. But the most successful venture was probably an informal coffee evening held in the Council Chamber when one hundred and fifty people turned up to discuss their problems with members of the group.

Combined with the inescapable fact that less than half of the electorate bothers to vote at local elections it might seem at first sight that the people of Reading are stubbornly disinterested in both the doings of their Council and the members who sit on it. Only one in four voters knows the name of their ward councillor, although a large majority think there should be more ward meetings or surgeries. Yet when the mobile interview bus (a new venture in public participation) came to Caversham only four people visited it in two hours. But maybe we Caversham folk are a contented breed?

In spite of the rather dismal results of the surveys, opinion polls and so on

some members of the Working Party held that such exercises rarely give the true picture of people's feelings as most are shy of involving themselves on municipal matters unless it is an issue which affects them personally. It may be that many folk would like to be consulted more and to play a part in local affairs. The problem is to find a method whereby they can participate without slowing down the decision making process, or gumming up the works by sheer weight of numbers and diverse opinions.

Nevertheless, the corner stone of democratic Local Government is that the councillor is elected to take the decisions on the basis of his own knowledge and his assessment of local opinion. Many feel it would be dangerous for any new process to weaken his ability to perform that duty.

The draft report has now gone back to interested bodies for their comments and at the end of October the Group will meet to make their final conclusions and recommendations. It will be a lively meeting and it doesn't look likely that the findings will be unanimous, but at least the electors of Reading can be assured of one thing, that the whole field of Public Participation has had a long and thorough consideration, and everyone has had a chance to stand up and be counted on this involved issue of community involvement.

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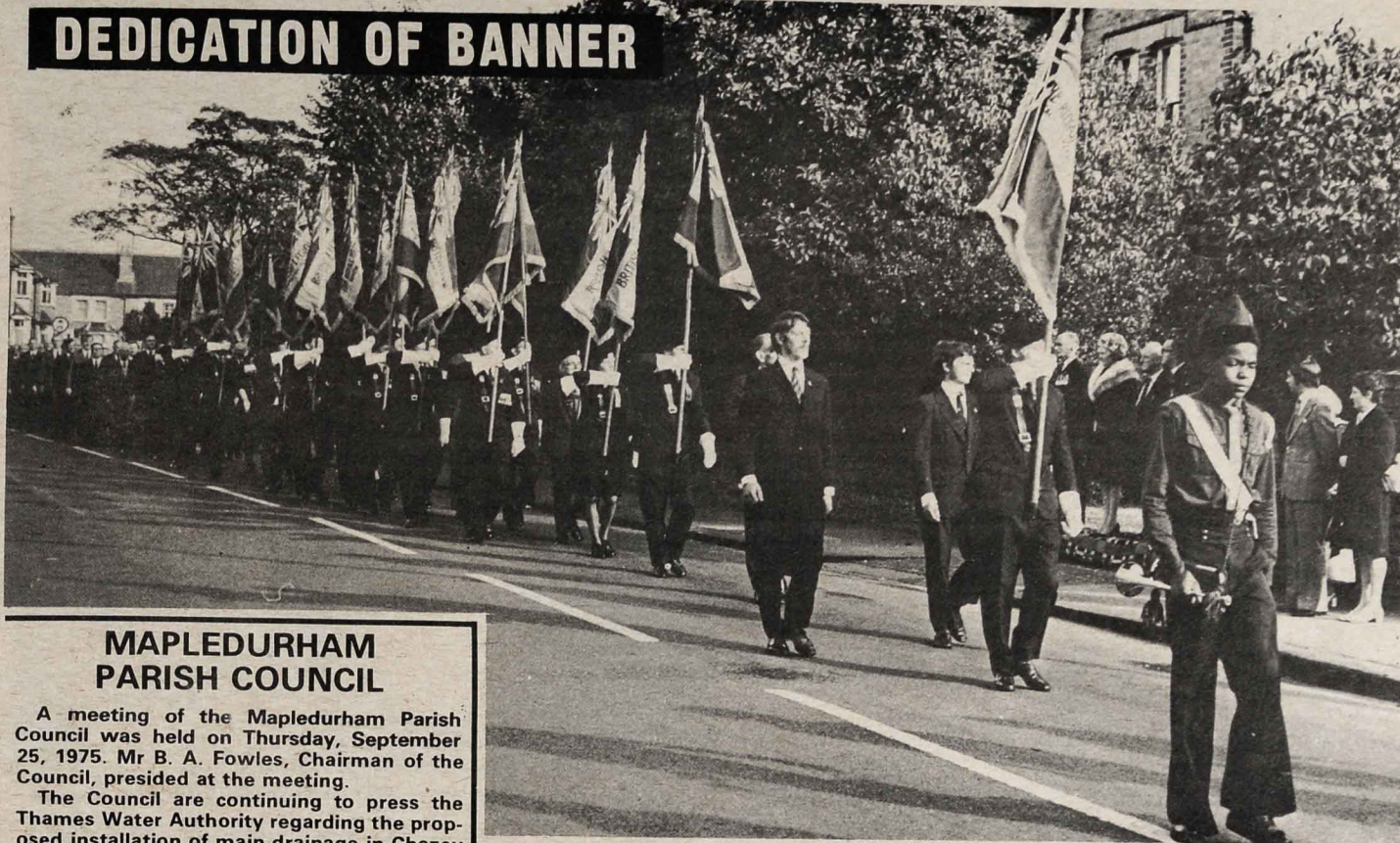
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— WALTON ADAMS

MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday, September 25, 1975. Mr B. A. Fowles, Chairman of the Council, presided at the meeting.

The Council are continuing to press the Thames Water Authority regarding the proposed installation of main drainage in Chazey Road, Upper Warren Avenue, but the Water Authority are being somewhat slow in replying to the Council's letters.

Regarding the general service charges that are included in the rate demands for those areas, the Council were informed that when the question of relief being granted to ratepayers whose properties are not connected with main drainage first arose, the District Council agreed that it should be left to individual ratepayers to claim relief.

The current situation is that the recent High Court case is to go to appeal, probably in October, and until a decision is made District Councils will not take any action to recover sums outstanding under the general services charge.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the clearance of the footpath between Woodcote Way and Upper Woodcote Road, but despite comments that there were reasons for it to remain in its present state, the Council re-iterated its previous decision that it should be cleared.

The operation of the Concessionary Bus Service Scheme for old aged persons and blind and registered persons is to be amended, although the Scheme will be based at the District Council offices. However, the District Council have requested a local person to be appointed to operate the scheme for persons living in the Parish. Mr and Mrs J. L. Scholl of 139 Upper Woodcote Road have kindly offered their services to act as local co-ordinators when the District Council implement the scheme.

BATTERED WIVES

by Councillor John Freeman

Some while back I happened to pick up a book with a title which seemed unusual "Scream quietly or the neighbours will hear." This persuaded me to read it; its contents left me with a feeling of horror, for it was a case history of battered wives and the pioneer work done at the Chiswick Centre in London. I was left with a feeling of wanting to do something constructive, but what? In the end like most of us I did nothing at all. What could be done anyway? It was left to others to take the initiative here in Reading.

WOMEN'S AID

A small determined band of women had formed themselves into a local "Women's Aid" group dedicated to obtaining a house to be used as a refuge for mothers and their children who had suffered physical and mental battering at the hand of their husbands. But where was a start to be made? There was no money, no house — only a few willing hands supported by immense enthusiasm and dedication.

An approach was made to the Community Services Department and a considerable amount of advice and assistance was obtained together with a suggestion that perhaps the Borough Council as a housing authority with a responsibility for the homeless might be able to help. So the inevitable happened and I became involved in the preliminary discussions with the Women's Aid

Group in the town.

It was decided to ask the Housing Committee to give consideration to the provision of an old house which could be renovated and used as a refuge for wives who had suffered as the result of violence in the home.

FRUSTRATION THEN REALITY

The initial response was encouraging and it was finally agreed that a house would be made available. Of course there remained a lot to be done; the house had yet to be found, rent had to be agreed, charitable status sought, voluntary help recruited and money raised. At the same time practical help was needed for the women who were by now seeking our help in increasing numbers.

Time dragged and feelings of frustration appeared at the lack of action on behalf of the authorities, but finally the agreement came and the "home" was at last a reality.

It is not often that one engaged in local government is able to see a project through to finality, as in this case, and I particularly wish to thank all those who helped — the officers of the Reading Borough Council and my colleagues in the venture.

If you are concerned about violence in our society and would be willing to help in any small way whether it be by donation or contributing bedding, furniture, cooking utensils and so on for the house, or by helping at the house, please contact me.

Members of the British Legion attended a parade service at St John's Church, when the new standard was dedicated.

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COACHED BADMINTON IN SOUTH AFRICA

RAY JOHNSTON OF ORWELL CLOSE, Caversham is a National Coach of the Badminton Association of England and at the invitation of the South African Badminton Union he spent three enjoyable weeks during the summer at coaching 'clinics' throughout that country.

The tour started in Johannesburg, with its wide streets and clear blue skies, and where Ray discovered that all the blue patches he could see as he came into land were the swimming pools attached to nearly every house. During the first four days, while based at Johannesburg, he was able to visit Pretoria and Ndebele, a small native village where he found more than enough interesting sights to keep his camera clicking. After the sight-seeing it was back to work with coaching sessions for Juniors and Seniors, also two evening sessions with several of South Africa's top players which Ray found most enjoyable and rewarding.

Then it was on by jet to Capetown — Table Mountain and more breathtaking scenery — but also plenty of hard work

by **STAN
ELDON**

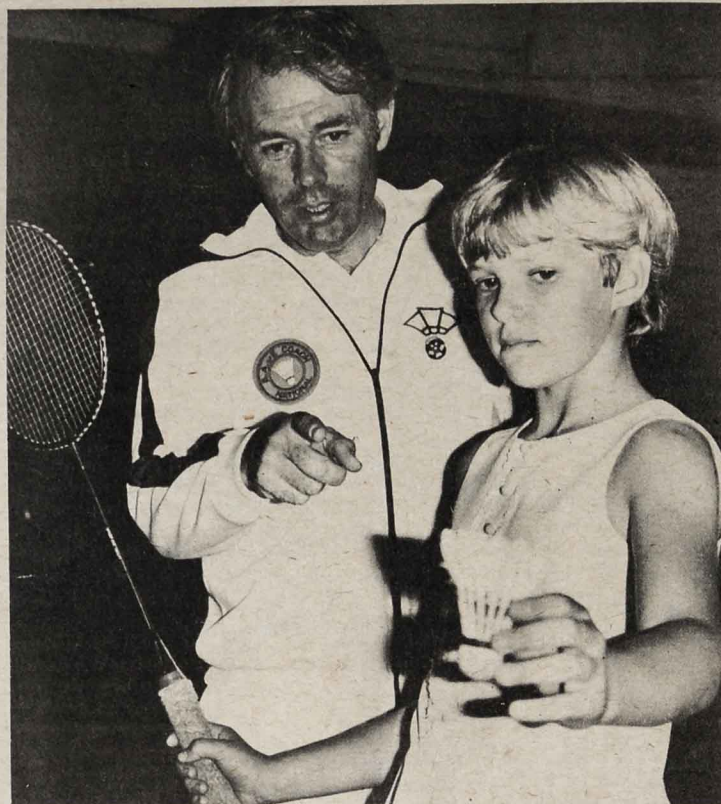
with many sessions for the various coaching groups, for example, Indian Juniors followed by Indian Seniors, then White Juniors, White Seniors, etc. After several long days it was time for the next step of the journey, this time to East London. It was this stage of the Tour that became a bit hectic for Ray. Although he had arranged for an early call at 5.15am unfortunately he was not called until 6am.

This started an hour which he says was at the pace of the Keystone Cops, with speedy packing, hasty farewells, whisked to the Airport with just five minutes to spare before take-off — only to find that the flight was delayed until 10am. However, when he did arrive at East London he had some very good sessions of coaching before moving on to the city of Durban.

At Durban he had lunch and toured the Indian College where the top lady player, Deidre Tighe, works in the P.E. Depart-

ment. A player Ray thinks would make a big impact at the All England Championships, were she given the chance. From here it was on to Kroonstad for five days. Kroonstad is a de-luxe sporting holiday camp set in the middle of a Game Reserve. It has its own golf course, various sporting facilities, bungalow style accommodation, outdoor barbecues, etc. The time passed quickly and ended with a special presentation to Ray in appreciation of his work.

To round off the trip he spent a few days in the Kruger Park Game Reserve as guest of the chairman of the South African Badminton Union before flying home having travelled over 3,000 miles around South Africa.



■ Ray Johnston at a coaching session with a promising young player.

— The Daily News

RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

by **WATCHDOG**

2001

Like the classic monster of the deep, the Strategic Plan for the South East raises its ugly head from time to time, a reminder of the threat overhanging our future. All parts of the country have had to prepare these strategic plans, but the South East's is one of the most controversial.

Within the South East Region the plan provides for medium and major growth areas. Reading - Wokingham - Aldershot - Basingstoke is one of the designated major growth areas and the original estimate was for the population to increase from 623,000 in 1971 to 1,280,000 by the year 2001. It fails to mention what happens after that. The local authorities concerned were told to appoint a study team to work out the best ways of dealing with this growth. It was not within their terms of reference to query either the choice of this as a growth area or the estimated increase of population.

However, it soon became apparent this estimated increase in the population was too high, something critics of the plan had suspected all along. A slight fall in the birthrate, combined with a fall in the population of Central London, have caused a revision of the original figures to an estimated 950,000 by 2000. Although smaller, this still represents an enormous increase in the sub-region's population. It also raises the question as to how accurate this forecast might be.

COMMENTS INVITED

The team has worked hard to explore the best ways of absorbing all these extra people. They have asked for public comment and have received it. In the middle of August they produced their interim report and invited further public comments. They arranged a Town Hall meeting but at such short notice that barely fifty people turned up. To be fair, other meetings in the sub-region were arranged with longer notice.

Of the fifty present in the Town Hall, about forty-eight were opposed to the plan. In spite of the fact that the team had not been able to query the need for this to be a major growth area, there was widespread criticism of the whole of the assumptions underlying the plan. Summed up briefly, the opinion of the meeting was that this was the wrong place to expand and that

even if this expansion could be carried out according to plan, it would produce serious problems which would make it a most unattractive area to live in.

NO DECISION YET

It must be emphasised that no decisions have yet been taken on the plan. The local authorities concerned have declared that they will take public opinion into consideration before making up their minds. It is very important then for everyone to make their views known. Booklets explaining the plan are available at public libraries and the Civic Centre and in the back there is a pre-paid form on which comments can be made. These should be in by the end of November. Individuals and organisations who care about the future have a duty to make their views known.

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WORLD JAMBOREE

CHRISTOPHER LONGSTAFFE OF THE 3RD CAVERSHAM (ST PETER'S SCOUTS) ATTENDED THE 14th WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE HELD THIS SUMMER IN NORWAY. HE WENT AS A MEMBER OF THE BERKS-BUCKS TROOP AND HAS WRITTEN HIS IMPRESSIONS FOR THE CAVERSHAM BRIDGE.

ON JULY 29 WE FLEW FROM EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT and landed at Oslo. As we walked from the plane we returned the waves of some Scouts from the Philippines; that was our first contact with the world friendship of Scouting. Our first impression of the camp site was that of its immense size. The blaze of colour from Scout uniforms of 109 countries made a crazy mosaic as we all marched into the arena singing national songs. The Jamboree was formally opened by King Olav of Norway; the climax was when a Japanese handed over the jamboree torch to a Nordic Scout. Next day we went to the first of our activities. I did "following the footsteps of the Eskimo," learning some old Eskimo skills. The next two days were the highlights of the jamboree. Led by an experienced Nordic Scout, a patrol of eight risked the perils of the Norwegian fjeld. Our patrol consisted of a Norwegian, an American, a Philippino, a French Canadian, a Turk, an Italian and another English boy. We spent the night out in the open under the stars; it was all great fun really. At the closing ceremony after the speeches and official taking away of the flame by an Iranian Scout, we all saw the most magnificent firework display. After this we partook in what was for me the most moving event of my whole life. It is hard to explain but the atmosphere as 18,000 Scouts walked into their tents each holding a small white candle was very moving indeed.

Next day we left by train to go to Goteborg for home hospitality. This involved the family of a Swedish Scout taking me into their home for a week. On the last day the Scouts of the area gave us a farewell party at the headquarters. During the flight back to London we considered what women drivers were like in the air, as the pilot was the only woman airline pilot outside Russia. We got home safely and I can now recollect my experiences and thoughts at the 14th World Scout Jamboree. It was something that I am really pleased and thankful to have gone to.

"THE 89TH"

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

EIGHTEEN SCOUTS ARRIVED HOME ON SATURDAY, August 30, from the second of two summer camps held this year by the 89th Reading Scouts at Hay-on-Wye. The camps were led by Colin Gamble and John Hobson, and activities included canoeing, abailing,

hill walking, a raft race and a momentous night hike, in which one group of boys was missing until 3.30am — three hours later than they should have arrived back at base.

These camps ended another most successful year for the Group. Earlier in the summer thirty of the older Cub Scouts had their own week-end under canvas led by Jerry Webb, and John Hobson had taken three Scouts — Nick Allen, Mark Potter and Wayne Moore — on a week-end to the Lake District where they all successfully passed their mountaineering badges. This is a difficult badge, and these three boys were the first to receive it in the Reading area. They had climbed for six months on a practice wall at Bulmershe College, learnt a lot of theory, and then had to make five successful climbs of not less than "moderately difficult" standard. They made their climbs on Great End one of the Scafell group of mountains, and on Lower Scout Crag in the Langdale Valley. They filmed themselves climbing, and this and the photographs they took should make an interesting viewing at the next parents evening.

Another notable achievement was that of Antony Pearce and Peter Fisher, of Founder Troop, who were successful for the second year running in winning "The Mount Trophy". This is a joint cycling and camping competition open to all Berkshire Scouts. The boys had to cycle to Wasing Manor, (writing a report on a village they passed through on their way), and were also judged on the standard of their camping at the end of the journey. Antony and Peter will be too old to compete again next year, so the Group will be looking for another couple to help them retain the Trophy.

Sadly, the Group said goodbye in August to Ted Price, who had been associated with the Group for the last six years. For most of the time he was Leader of the Founder Troop, but more recently, when his work took him away from Emmer Green, he acted as assistant to Colin Gamble, Group Scout Leader. There are many boys in Emmer Green who must be grateful to Ted for making their Scouting enjoyable.

ST PETER'S SCOUTS AWARDS

THE 3RD READING (ST PETER'S) SCOUTS MET AT THEIR HEADQUARTERS ON WEDNESDAY, 24TH SEPTEMBER TO WELCOME MR JACK HOUGHTON, COUNTY ADVISER TO THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME, who came to present the Silver Award to Alistair MacArthur and Bronze awards to Peter and Andrew

Wilkinson.

Alistair, of Albert Road, went on a four day cycling expedition, camping overnight at Windsor and Guildford. He also played the trombone for his school band and the Reading Youth Band.

Peter and Andrew, of Oakley Road, hiked from Streatley to Whitehorse hill camping out on the

Ridgeway. Both gained their Red Cross Certificates for First Aid. All three boys already hold their Chief Scout Award and are patrol leaders in an active Scout troop led by Scoutmaster Mike Brewer.

Twenty two boys have recently returned from Summer camp at Glasbury on Wye with nineteen British Canoeing Union certificates.



— Evening Post

Dorothy Dingle

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After the summer break, Mrs K. Bubb, our President, welcomed members to the September meeting: this included one new member. At Mrs Bubb's garden party in August, £19.95 was raised for Institute funds. A collection was made at the meeting to send to the Associated Countrywomen of the World; this is an annual contribution known as "Pennies for Friendship". Mrs D. Tittley is to be our delegate to the Autumn Council Meeting in October. There was a display of pretty handkerchiefs, and the Institute's Golden Jubilee Scrapbook was on show.

"Electricity in the Home" was the title of the demonstration, film and talk given by members of the Southern Electricity Board. Many queries were answered. Mrs Idenden gave the vote of thanks.

Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild

"Deserts in the Sea" was the title of the most interesting talk, illustrated by slides, given by Mr Richard Snailham, MA. FRGS, at the September meeting.

Guild members very much enjoyed an afternoon coach trip to Box Hill, Surrey and were pleased to have the opportunity to visit Guildford Cathedral.

A most successful Rummage Sale was held during September in aid of various charities supported by the Guild.

Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild

The monthly meeting was held at Church House on Thursday, September 18. Mrs Smith, Vice Chairman, was in the chair. A very interesting talk on the Yorkshire hills, illustrated by very colourful

slides was given by Major Dobey.

A railway quiz was won by Mrs Steer.

Reading Caversham Heights' Townswomen's Guild

The celebrated guest, Mrs Margaret Powell, needed no introduction, her books and talks on radio and television have given great pleasure.

Life was so different when Mrs Powell was a child, there seemed to be two nations in England, the people with power and position, and the people living in poverty. She well remembers the soup kitchen, Parish Inspectors, and young children in ragged clothes without shoes, all so difficult to imagine in these days of the affluent society.

After leaving school at the age of 13, Mrs Powell had lots of jobs until, a year later, she started in service as a kitchen maid, a very low position indeed in the order of servants in a household. After watching the cook for

a while she decided she could promote herself and applied for her next position as a cook. She recalled some of the meals she sent "upstairs" and often had to disguise the disasters that occurred in her cooking. She evidently improved very much, as she had some happy days in her time under kind, if somewhat eccentric, employers.

Mr Albert Powell then came into her life. He was the milkman in the area at the time. They were married over forty years ago and had three sons. Mrs Powell still continued to go out as a daily help, the three boys grew up and had grammar school education, so she decided to improve herself, to be able to discuss intelligently with them subjects other than the weather. She enrolled for evening classes to study social history and French, her sons teased her but this made her all the more determined to succeed. While she was there she recorded a talk on life in domestic service

which was heard by a publisher and he asked her to write a book on the same subject, offering her the services of a ghost writer. She preferred to write the book herself but realised her grammar needed improving, so she enrolled again at Sussex College for a two-year full-time course in English. The Principal doubted whether she would complete the course as she was too old, and was delighted when she passed her 'O' level, and then went on to 'A' level.

Her books have been selling ever since, and the latest called "Albert, my Consort" is being published in September. Hopefully she is to start another on Australia, after her recent visit to that country.

The favourite part of her fame, as she so modestly put it, was meeting and talking to people from all walks of life. Members of the Guild had spent an hilarious evening listening to such an entertaining lady, who gave us all lots of inspiration by saying it's never too late to try anything new in our lives, and

have such fun in doing so.

A wonderful selection of handicraft was on show which had been made by members for the bazaar.

The Jubilee Club, Mapledurham

The Jubilee Club certainly made full use of the glorious summer. At last they managed a short boat trip on the Thames in June, and how everybody enjoyed it. Then back to Mapledurham House for a lovely tea. In July and September meetings were held as garden parties. On Monday November 10 they are holding an Open Afternoon with tea and a bring and buy stall for funds. So anyone interested in Age Concern (Oxfordshire) to which the Club belongs, do please come. You will be most welcome. A Chiltern Queens bus leaves Reading at 1.30 and 2.30 and you can pick it up by the Methodist Church in Highmoor Road. There is one to take you home again at 4.50. The meeting is in Trench Green Hall, Mapledurham, a few yards from the bus stop at the four cross roads, Mapledurham.

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September 20

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August 30
September 6

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September 13

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September 19
October 2
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YOUNG CAVERSHAM

FINLAND

For many years I have had happy associations with that somewhat unobtrusive country, Finland. My father, who was in the Navy in the First World War, was based in Helsinki during the Russian Revolution, and he would often relate to me his epic adventures ashore as well as at sea. As a boy, I often dreamed of following in his footsteps to those northern coasts, and fortunately this has materialised, when on several occasions in recent years I have led parties of young people to this remote land. In the course of this time, I have made some personal friendships with the Finns, and last year arrangements were effected for a small group of children

from Tapiola, a suburb of Helsinki, to stay in Caversham. Unfortunately, a few weeks before departure date, the leader became indisposed, a successor could not be found, and the project had to be abandoned.

LONDON

However, the school children of Tapiola did not lose their connection with England, and in the last week of September their school choir was selected to perform during the Finnish Music Week in London. I was able to attend the performance at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on the Tuesday. Princess Margaret, in a pink silk gown accompanied His Excellency, the Finnish Ambassador, and the audience was entertained with the delightful singing

of Finnish folk-songs and a few better-known Negro Spirituals. Their young orchestra gave a brilliant performance after the interval, and a young boy flautist enthralled everyone with his rendering of national melodies. The choir and orchestra are conducted by the school's music teacher, Mr Erkki Pohjola, and started when he first went to Tapiola School in 1963. The following year Mr Pohjola visited Budapest, where he met the composer Zoltan Kodaly. Together they listened to recitals by the finest Hungarian and Bulgarian choirs, and Mr Pohjola returned to Finland, with a determination to make Tapiola School Choir one of the best in the world! In little more than ten years his ambition has been achieved. They have given ten concerts abroad, and have won major national and international prizes, even representing Finland in the recent International Society for Music Education congress in Dijon, France.

May be, we shall have the pleasure of hearing the Tapiola School Choir in Caversham one day.

by
**PETER
SHOCK**

MUSIC HALL

You may have heard that old-time music-hall dee-dah dee-dah that goes — 'My old man says follow the van and don't dilly-dally on the way'. Well, on Friday, August 29, the Pringle family of Kendal Avenue, Caversham Park, moved house, to that lil' ole way-out-west town of Hungerford. There were mum and dad, Keir, Glen, Donna and Tony; and the van, all set to go 'with the home packed in it', just had no more room for Glen's bike. He had no intention of forsaking it, either! "All right then, I'll follow on behind", decides Glen.

'Thus an enigmatic tale is told That Glen appeared first at their new abode, The reason why, no one would say, Perhaps the van had lost its way!'



— Walton Adams

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*All articles for
inclusion in the
December
edition should be
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Tuesday,
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WHO, WHEN, WHERE

Clergy and Ministers of Caversham

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The Rev Canon John Grimwade, The Rectory, 20 Church Road. Tel. 471703.
The Rev Brian Gardiner, St Andrew's House, Harrogate Road. Tel. 472788.
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 Martin Loveless, 25 Ilkley Road. Tel. 472070.
The Rev Michael Kitchener, Mapledurham Church House, 222 Upper Woodcote Road. Tel. 471605.
The Rev John Sumner, St John's House, 9 Southview Avenue. Tel. 471814.

BAPTIST

The Rev Laurence Stevens, 80 Balmore Drive. Tel. 478668.

METHODIST

The Rev Leslie Griffiths, 72 Highmoor Road. Tel. 472223.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

The Rev William O'Malley, The Presbytery, 2 South View Avenue. Tel. 471787.
The Rev Plunkett Shannon, 2 South View Avenue. Tel. 471787.

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

There is no United Reformed Church in Caversham. The nearest is at York Road, Reading.

Sunday Worship: 11am and 6.30pm

Minister: The Rev Stephen Haine
41 Highmoor Road. Tel. 477490

CAVERSHAM PARK

HOUSE COMMUNIONS WEDNESDAYS at 10.30am

November 5, Vera Wilson, 63 Kingsway; 12th Penny Christison, 2 Mallory Avenue; 19th Penny Peirce, 7 Earlsfield Close; 26th Hilary Outhwaite, 4 Goodrich Close.

HELP THE AGED

The Link Group has made arrangements to receive gifts of clothing and blankets on Saturday November 1, between 10am and 6pm at Church House, and the Methodist Church Hall, Highmoor Road. Please contact Mrs C. Pynn, Tel. Reading 476065 to arrange collection if necessary.

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SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN CAVERSHAM

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

St Peter's — Balmore Hall, 11am (not 3rd Sunday of month).
Superintendent: Miss R. Eves, 6 Wrenfield Drive. Tel. 476494

St Andrew's — St Andrew's Hall, 11am (9.15 1st Sunday of month).
Superintendent: Mr J. Tomlin, 32 Kidmore Road. Tel. 473809.

St Barnabas' — Church Hall, 9.15am

Caversham Park — The School, 11am.
Superintendent: Mrs Paula Andrews, 5 Gifford Close. Tel. 478430

METHODIST

Caversham Heights — In Church, 11am
Superintendent: Mr D. Tutty, 5 Carlton Road. Tel. 477384.

COMBINED CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND METHODIST

East Caversham — Caversham Hall, 11am (aged three to seven)
Superintendents: Mrs J. Stephens, 24 Carlton Road. Tel. 477030. Mrs S. Holley, Tel. 477142; Ardler Road Schoolroom, 11am (seven upwards).
Superintendents: Miss K. Harris, 4 Valentine Crescent. Tel. 472084 and Mrs J. Trevis, 40 All Hallows Road.

BAPTIST

West Memorial Hall — 11am, aged three years and upwards.
Secretary: Miss I. Marshall, 16 Albert Road. Tel. 474478.

TO HIRE A HALL

BALMORE HALL

Secretary: Mr D. F. Osbourn, 15 Ilkley Road
Tel. 472953

CAVERSHAM HALL

Secretary: Mrs C. H. Jordan, 7 St John's Road
Tel. 478538

EMMER GREEN YOUTH CLUB HALL

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

MAPLEDURHAM MEMORIAL HALL

Secretary: Mrs L. F. T. Bartlett, 143 Upper Woodcote Road. Tel. 471863

ST. ANDREW'S HALL

Secretary: Mr J. Tomlin, 32 Kidmore Road
Tel. 473809

ST. BARNABAS HALL

Secretary: Mrs G. F. Davies, 11 Eric Avenue
Tel. 471334

TRENCH GREEN HALL

Secretary: Mr Martyn-Johns, Greendene Farm, Mapledurham. Kidmore End 2198

WEST MEMORIAL HALL

Secretary: Mr K. Shield, 17 Albert Road
Tel. 473709

CHURCH HOUSE, CHURCH STREET

Secretary: Mr R. E. Vanderpump, 5 Surley Row. Tel. 472232.

SUNDAY SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

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.
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)
9.15am PARISH COMMUNION
10.30 a.m. 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)

11.00 a.m. Morning Worship (1st and 3rd Sundays Holy Communion)
7.30 p.m. Holy Communion (2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays).

METHODIST CHURCHES

Caversham Heights

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

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.

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Mrs A. M. Russell, (North Caversham), 31 Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green. Tel. 472934.
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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.
Mrs D. Davies (Caversham Park), 81 Galsworthy Drive. Tel. 476181.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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

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