

HIGHDOWN'S HEADMASTER

MANY CHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN RECENT YEARS in the Surley Row area, but surely none so significant and so far-reaching in the lives of many of the younger generation than the emergence, high on the hill, of Highdown Comprehensive School.

Whatever ones feelings about the loaded question of Comprehensive education, a visit to the school is an interesting and rewarding experience and in meeting the Headmaster, thirty-nine year old Andrew Clarke, one is immediately aware of a strong and vigorous personality who fits well into the plum educational job that must be his.

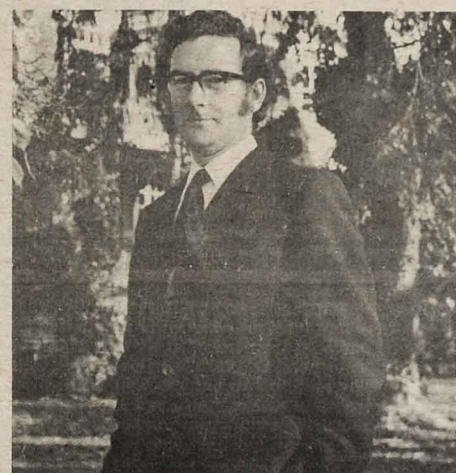
His beautifully proportioned office is in the old house formerly known as The Grove and now used for their studies by the sixth form who, incidentally, appear to feel their position keenly as the school's elite by enjoying and jealously guarding the splendid surroundings in which they work.

Irish blood

Andrew Clarke, whose family were Irish, was born in Doncaster, having what he describes as a fairly mobile childhood spent partly in Western Ireland. When he was nine years old his family moved back to England and he went to school in Ilkley until, at eleven, they moved to Scarborough where he completed his education. He enjoyed his own school-days and says his own schools, although tiny in comparison with Highdown, were in fact in the State system.

At eighteen he started his National Service and served in Germany, returning in due course to study Modern History, Economics and Politics at Manchester University. After graduating he spent eight years teaching at various non-selective and Grammar Schools in Salford, including a year in one of the all-age schools that used to exist where a teacher taught all subjects to all children, staying with his class from five to fifteen.

Although he modestly says he never intended to be a teacher, Andrew Clarke obviously



— Walton Adams

thoroughly enjoys his chosen career, and was delighted when he was accepted first as Deputy Head and then Head of Highdown after a period spent in teaching at another purpose-built Comprehensive School in Basildon, Essex.

While in Salford he met his wife, Helen, who was also a teacher, but

By Margaret Hill

who is now fully occupied with their sons aged three and four at the family home in Sonning.

His job at Highdown is of course very largely administrative, and he speaks with concern about the problems of fitting nearly 1500 pupils into a school built five years ago for only 1000. The need for specialist accommodation such as science laboratories is particularly acute, and creates difficulties in formulating school time-tables.

Much of Andrew Clarke's day is spent in sorting out people's problems, and he says there is a continual trek in and out of his office of pupils, parents and teachers about anything from suggestions regarding the bus queues at the school gates to requests for money from the various clubs in the school.

A fair number of the more serious discipli-

nary matters are brought before him, and much of his time is spent in discussions with parents, and sometimes social workers, regarding pupils with any sort of problem from academic to disciplinary, or even financial. Sixth form pupils seek his advice on their work, and members of the staff want his views on curriculum changes and, among other things, on out of school educational visits, for which they also have to ask him for the necessary funds.

He enjoys seeing pupils' problems successfully resolved and stresses that he always tries to involve parents, as he feels strongly that with parental co-operation a pupil's difficulties can often be overcome before they become too serious.

Amid all the ill-informed rubbish expounded in the media about Comprehensive Education, it is encouraging to report that here in Caversham we have what by any standards, or by any name, is a first-class school, run by a Headmaster who realistically faces all the problems and appears totally dedicated to the task of giving all the pupils in his care the best possible education for their particular and vastly differing abilities.

THE ARCHBISHOPS' LETTER

Read to members of the Church of England on Sunday, October 19, this letter has received such extensive publicity that we reprint it for the benefit of readers. The Editor comments on Page 2.

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York hope that you will regard this letter as a personal one from themselves to you. They are asking that it will be read in all churches today because they believe that there is a great body of seriously-minded men and women who are deeply concerned, not only about the economy of our nation, but about its spiritual condition.

During the last few days you will probably have shared through the media something of what we have been trying to say at this critical time. We have posed such questions as these — "What sort of society are we looking for?" and "what kind of people are needed for the creation of this society?"

We Christians believe that God reigns and that he cares about the nations.

We believe that he has demonstrated his concern in the life, teaching, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We believe that his Spirit is operative today doing his recreative work in individuals and groups.

If, however, a responsible society is to come into being everyone must realise that he counts and that his contribution matters.

The time has therefore come when we feel it is our duty to call all Christian people

(i) to pray steadily, persistently and intelligently for our nation.

(ii) to think seriously about our society in the light of what we believe, asking such questions as "What sort of society do we want?" and "What sort of people do we need to be in order to achieve it?"

(iii) to co-operate with Christians of every allegiance, and with others who are willing to be associated with us, so as to influence society in a positive and helpful way.

(iv) to live out the faith we profess, that God reigns and that God cares.

We therefore invite you as members of your local congregation to take seriously God's call to God's people in God's world, and to go on and work out in further detail in the next few months, what this will mean for yourself, your home, your parish and the community where you live and work.

Donald Cantuar

Stuart Ebor

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The Editor's Column

THE ARCHBISHOPS' LETTER

WHATEVER THE MERITS OR OTHERWISE OF THE ARCHBISHOPS' LETTER IT HAS SERVED TO SPARK OFF A DEBATE. AT A TIME OF GROWING APATHY OVER RELIGIOUS MATTERS THAT IN ITSELF IS A WORTHWHILE ACHIEVEMENT.

It is well to remember that the letter was written for members of the Church of England and read as such to those who attended Anglican worship on Sunday, October 19. It happened that morning that having first read the letter to congregations at St Peter's and St Margaret's where I had been celebrating the Eucharist at 8am and 9.15am I went to take the morning service at 11am at Caversham Heights Methodist Church.

Before the service began one of the stewards asked me if I was going to read them the letter. I said I was not doing so as it did not seem right for me, as rector, to read on my own initiative the letter of Anglican archbishops in a non-Anglican Church. But in the debate that emerged in the following days, and with the publicity given to the letter through press, radio, and television it was obvious that there was widespread interest in the letter not only by Anglicans but also by non-Anglicans and indeed by other men and women of goodwill outside the Christian Church.

What next?

Since there is little point in the letter unless, as the archbishops said in an accompanying note to the clergy, it is implemented in local situations through prayer, study and united action in the coming months, it seems only proper that I, as rector, should extend an open invitation to anyone be they Anglican, non-Anglican or non-Christian, to come and express their views. I therefore invite anyone to do this either by writing to me, talking to any of my colleagues, or attending a meeting in Church House on Tuesday, December 9, at 8pm.

We should rightly be concerned about the condition of the nation. Anything therefore that can be done to create a more responsible society, and to help individuals realise that their contribution counts, is worth doing. In saying this I have not myself formulated any concrete plans. I wish to listen to what people have to say, and I hope that something constructive may emerge.

I should therefore be delighted to have your views about this and look forward to a well attended meeting on December 9.

John Grindale

Nicholas

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POSTBAG

STAN Eldon's report on Mr Ray Johnston's visit to South Africa was very picturesque. It does, however, raise many questions for me and I take the liberty of asking some of them now. How many of those chimerical blue patches (which turned out to be swimming pools) belonged to people who were not white? How many integrated groups did Mr Johnston have the pleasure of coaching? The impressions is given in Stan Eldon's article that the groups were wholly segregated? Deidre Tigne, whom Mr Johnston met at the Indian College, would make a big impact at the All-England Championships "were she given the chance." Why is she not given the chance? In the Kroonstad de luxe sporting holiday camp were there any non-whites besporting themselves luxuriously? The article does not mention black people. Is this an oversight? Or did Mr Johnston not meet any?

In his social moments (which seem to have been most enjoyable) did Mr Johnston find himself rubbing shoulders with non-whites? What has Mr Johnston's visit accomplished other than some nice photos for his album and some respectability for the odious political philosophy of the South African regime?

I know, sir, you'll forgive my disturbing the respectable calm of your newspaper with my questions. I cannot confess to being calm of mind after reading Stan Eldon's report.

THE REV. L. J. GRIFFITHS

72 Highmoor Road,
Caversham, Reading.

Dear Sir, What an idyllic place South Africa sounds, according to the account given by the badminton coach to your columnist, Stan Eldon. How beautiful it must be with all those houses with their own swimming pools, those de luxe holiday camps

and those excellent sporting facilities, with coaching groups for white juniors, white seniors, etc.

I wonder what that "etc" refers to. Can it be the black African? It would be interesting to hear what the visitor saw of him. What about the shanty towns of Johannesburg where he lives, for instance? Where does he play his games? Could he walk into that de luxe holiday camp and partake of its facilities?

Of course, we know only too well that the black South African is a second class citizen in his own country, and no account of South African life should omit to mention this. Fortunately the Church in Caversham has had ample opportunity of hearing the other side from bishops who have been expelled from Africa. It would be a pity if that article gave the impression that "Bridge" readers were expected to assume that everything in the garden was lovely.

(MRS) MOLLY CASEY

14 Albert Road
Caversham, Reading

Dear Sir, I was interested in the article "On the Air" (October issue of the Bridge) written by the Rev Leslie Griffiths and agree with much of what he says.

However, I think it would be a pity if the Church is to have no special privileges with a

radio station in operation locally. If there is a lack of news, enterprising clergy and church people might have the opportunity of presenting certain pressing matters and problems, from a Christian point of view. For example, there could be a local phone-in on people's ideas about the Archbishop of Canterbury's message to the nation, similar to that carried out by the BBC. Or other matters in the public eye on which Christians have strong feelings.

Following on the Archbishop's message, it is time Christian views were aired more publicly. Radio Kennet might well get off to an audacious start!

Obviously I do not agree with Mr Griffiths' final paragraph. But maybe he is just being provocative?

Sylvia Grinsted

21 Morecombe Avenue
Caversham

Dear Sir, Some years ago the young Liberal Peter Hain published a book called "Don't play with Apartheid," but according to your correspondent Mr Eldon, Ray Johnston, of Caversham Park Village, does not appear to have heeded this solemn warning, for he has shown himself prepared not merely to play with it but also to COACH IT.

MICHAEL B. C. SCOTT

St Mark's Vicarage
West Reading

YOU AND YOUR GARDEN

Too Big or Too Small?

The Caversham Bridge is aware that many elderly people in Caversham have over large gardens, which have become a worry to them. Help is both difficult to obtain and also expensive. On the other hand many people have a much smaller garden then they would like; often they wish to grow some vegetables but are unable to obtain an allotment.

If you are one of those people who have more garden than you can manage and would be willing for someone to take part or all of it over so that they can grow vegetables, perhaps supplying you with some of what they grow, write and tell us. And if you are looking for an allotment and would be willing to take over part of someone else's garden then write and tell us also.

In this way we hope to be of service by putting readers with too much and readers with too little garden in touch with each other.

WHERE WAS IT?

Many correct answers were received to the competition in the November edition of the Caversham Bridge, and the letters brought some interesting information about the building which was St Peter's Hill School, the entrance to which was from St Peter's Hill; the site is now occupied by Scholars Close. The first correct solution was received from Mrs O. Butler, of 35 Mayfield Drive to whom a book token has been sent. The school was closed in July 1966 and demolished the following year. Mr L. Hunter wrote to say that he believes the date over the front door was 1889.

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MILKMAN — OLD STYLE

WORKING A MILK ROUND IS NEVER THE EASIEST OF JOBS. For some it is a seven-day week, out in all weathers and up long before seven in the morning.

In 1931 Mr Chennell and his wife came to Reading to start up a small business with all they had saved. They really came to look at a little shop they had seen advertised, but that turned out to be far from satisfactory, so the estate agent suggested looking at a milk round in Tokers Green and before the week was out Mr Chennell, who had never been in business before and had little knowledge of country matters, became a master dairyman.

Soon he was busy reorganising the round. After a few weeks he sold the pony and trap and started using a bicycle with a side

cart. Twice a day after morning and afternoon milkings he had to fetch the milk from a nearby farm, and twice a day he had to cycle round with it, for in those days there was a second delivery. His customers lived as far afield as All Hallows Road and Balmore Drive. He started at five each morning and finished around eight or nine at night after washing and sterilising the bottles and fetching the afternoon milk for next morning's early round.

At the beginning of World War II he sold his business to a local farmer at Blagrove Farm and worked for him in the same capacity. There he found himself back with a horse and milkcart, and life was not without its adventures. Once in a thunderstorm at the top of Woodcote Way, the light-

ning struck the brass on the reins and went right along them and up into his arms. He had a lucky escape. Another time he was helping in the farmyard and was knocked down by the bull. During the whole twenty years he was at Blagrove he was only late once. Not bad when he had to be there at 6 am.

When the farm changed hands he went to help Messrs Ellis and Heading and he was still there in the bad winter of 1963 when he had to walk to Tokers Green for seven weeks.

Chatting to him about the nineteen thirties he remembered Mr Fielder who also had a milk round and lived in Kidmore Road. He remembered too, Mr Hatto who had a market garden, also in the same road and probably on land where the



■ Mr Chennell and a four legged friend.



■ On the round

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Grosvenor Hotel now stands. He also came round with a horse and cart and his daughter used to ride her bicycle on wet days holding up an umbrella — as they still do in parts of Switzerland. Lallan Lodge in Conisbore Avenue, he told me, was still a farm just after the First World War and a Mr Mott used to farm it. It was Mr Mott who had Mr Chennell's milk round in the nineteen twenties.

Now retired for the past twelve years, Mr Chennell lives quietly with his wife at 24 Conisbore Avenue. Both are members of St Andrew's Church, where for more than a decade Mr Chennell was a sidesman. Mapledurham British Legion has also long had Mr Chennell's active support. For twelve years he was their secretary and for two years their chairman.

His has been a full life and he must have many memories, a great number very satisfying, for a full life is usually a happy one.

WITH KATY IN CAVERSHAM

LOTS of messages, to be passed on, have come my way recently.

For example, I've been asked to thank the owners of the Prospect Street pet shop for all their help when Prudence kitten met with an accident. True my acquaintance with pet shops has been somewhat spasmodic, but I've never met one before where customers get so much real help with their pets' problems and where love of animals is so much in evidence. In this case the surgery in Prospect Street was closed but the vet was contacted at his home, arrangements made to take the cat there and she was given something prescribed by the vet to ease the pain in the meantime. There seems to be a very happy relationship between the vet himself and the shop owners, and I hereby award them all my own personal Animal Lovers Award for 1975.

And for the benefit of those who haven't already enquired (we never knew she had so many admirers), young Prudence is feeling rather sorry for herself but 'is going to be all right'. No further bulletins will be issued.

One of our local shop owners — always interested in giving a boost to others — asked me to mention that the local branch of Parslows recently won the Vitbe Competition for a harvest window display and general cleanliness. This is happy news — any more of that nature I'll be glad to publish. Congratulations to those concerned.

Labels please!

Somebody currently working with a delivery service making deliveries from a motorcycle has asked me to point out to householders the dangers of having numbers and names of houses in difficult places. The possibility of accidents while cruising along looking for a number are endless. Many a time I've seen a motorist breaking all the rules of the road while looking for a particular house.

It would help if the responsible authorities made sure roads were well signposted — it doesn't help to have to go to one end of the road to find out the name and turning into long roads at junctions presents particular problems. And don't tell me they can't afford the expense. Falkland Road (a short road anyway) has no less than three street names — and it hasn't a single house or building in it.

Sand and shovels

Another beef to local authorities. I'm not the only one who has seen

Calling all animal lovers

children playing with shovels and piles of stones in Falkland Road recently — and when they get around to throwing stones and sand at passing cars it is time something was done. Care should be taken in leaving such stuff around — shovels can certainly be removed at weekends. And parents really should keep a watchful eye on the activities of their young offspring in areas where roadwork is taking place.

Our local councillor,

George Robinson, has now taken over the florists in Prospect Street and with his friend, Claude Cleal, they hope not only to continue the previous high standard but to add to the stock. Already they have a range of flower arranging equipment and hope to augment it considerably by Christmas.

In the meantime, George is planning to get the Yard really going again and hopes to sell, among other things, a range of garden furniture. We shall be looking for a bright spot in this corner at Christmas.

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WEDDING AT HOME PASSPORT

ZOILUS WRITES OF IMPROVING BERKSHIRE—AND HEALING WATERS

OIL

ONE of the more pleasant aspects of present day big business is the increasing involvement of large industrial concerns with the promotion of leisure and charitable activities.

One example of this is the Shell "Better Britain" competition, sponsored by the giant oil conglomerate in conjunction with the Nature Conservancy Council and the Civic Trust.

Rubbish dump

This project is for young people between 10 and 20, who are encouraged to form themselves into groups to conserve and improve their local environment. This could take the form of transforming an unofficial rubbish dump into an attractive picnic place, renovating a derelict building or converting an overgrown pond into a

pleasantly landscaped pool. One local scheme that might benefit from this venture is the plan to tidy the banks of the Kennet, as suggested in the recent report on Reading's waterways.

Prizes

The local council is taking an interest in the competition and Mr Gordon Dykes, chief officer for Recreation and Leisure will act as link-man between the Corporation and the various competing organisations and help with advice and suggestions. There are cash prizes to be won on both a regional and national basis but one of the major rewards could well be the fun and satisfaction to be got from helping to better our surroundings. Full details of the scheme can be had from the Nature Conservancy Council at

Attingham Park Shrewsbury or from the local branch of the Civic Trust.

Well

From the aspirations of the present to a relic of the past. I was interested to come across some information — new to me, at least — about one of Caversham's landmarks, the well of St Ann, in Priest Hill. As a kid, I remember clambering up to peer over the grill on the top and wonder what was concealed in its murky depths. This curiosity was shared by others, amongst them Mr T. Wing who delivered a lecture on ancient Caversham in the Parish Room in 1894. He remarked that the well was mentioned in documents of 1727, which stated that in medieval times it was a place of pilgrimage for the cure of numerous ailments and was in the charge of the

monks who officiated at the chapel on Caversham Bridge. In those days it was thought miraculous, because spring water kept the well fully charged right up to the surface. When building works started in the area the water was diverted, and the well has been dry for many years. Incidentally, Mr Wing was an architect who lived to a great old age, and perhaps some older readers may remember him.

Spa

But St Ann's well was in full operation at the beginning of the 19th century. In a pamphlet written in 1808 by a certain T. E. Williams the virtues of Caversham Chalybeate, as it was called, were praised with a fervour that might make one suspect that the gentleman had a special interest in promoting

Caversham as a spa. His opinion of the healing qualities of the water was high. "In many cases of debility most striking effects are evinced," he wrote, "its fame extends to the whole surrounding country and daily wonders are achieved by this powerful medicine." It seems that the liquid was of a muddy brown colour and care had to be taken not to drink too much of it. "A quarter of a pint will induce feverishness and headaches," he warns, "but taken in moderation the appetite is increased and the general spirits improved." This description could equally apply to another brown liquid still popular today. I wonder if the monks of old got their pipes crossed and used the well as an extension to the cellars at The Priory?

At all events it is

interesting to speculate whether healing waters still run far beneath the brick and iron surround that today marks St Ann's well, and to imagine the scene long ago when pilgrims tramped the long hill from Caversham Bridge to take a miraculous cure

THE ARCHBISHOPS' LETTER AND

YOU

A PUBLIC MEETING

Church House
Tuesday, December 9
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CHURCH NEWS

Bishop's message

THE BISHOP OF OXFORD sent a special message to Caversham when he heard the result of the Stewardship Campaign:

"I have just heard of the remarkable achievement of the Christian Stewardship Renewal Campaign in Caversham and Mapledurham. The splendid result constitutes a diocesan record and is the latest development in a proud record of teaching and practising Christian Stewardship in the two parishes over many years.

"It would not have been achieved without the enthusiasm and hard work of all those men and women taking an active part, matched by a splendid response to the stewardship challenge by hundreds of church families.

"I send my love and congratulations to you all."

(Signed) Kenneth Oxon

ART AND CRAFT FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

The small St Andrew's Hall is to be turned into a small but interesting shop for three days in November when Bob and Audrey Ormrod are organising a sale of work in Silver, Wood, Pottery, Embroidery and Painting. During the past few months they and their friends — all local amateur craftsmen — have been busy at work and intend to be able to offer a wide, interesting and unusual range of Christmas gifts at reasonable prices.

Make a note in your diary: Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 27, 28 and 29 November, from 10.30am until 9.30pm.

The District Wardens and Congregation of St Andrew's record their sincere thanks to Mrs Ruth

Beetham for the memorial gifts given in memory of her late husband, Frank Beetham who was for many years a prominent member of St Andrew including a long spell as District Warden.

The memorial consists of a magnificent green frontal for the High Altar. The frontal was made by the Sisters of the Convent of John Baptist, Clewer. The rather unusual design for the central cross is that of the sister who made the frontal. The second part of the memorial comprises a pair of glass Communion Cruets for use at mid-week celebrations of Holy Communion.

Mr J. Simpson at present assistant organist at Caversham Heights Methodist Church has been appointed by the Rector to succeed Mr H. W. Rome and will take up his duties on Sunday, December 14.

ST PETER'S NOTES

St Peter's organist Mr John Dussek, former Churchwarden Col Francis, and Mrs Eves, well known to so many people have all recently been ill in hospital but reported to be making progress.

The congregation welcomes Mr John Williamson who has recently moved here from Nottingham, where he served on the Parochial Church Council at St Leonard Wallaton. With David and Margaret Doggett he is planning to help with youth work in the parish.

The Advent Carol Service with the choir of Queen Anne's School takes place on Sunday November 30 at 6.30pm. Those attending are advised to arrive by 6.15pm if they wish to obtain a seat.

By schooner to USA

Simon Latham, a server at St Peter's, who is now reading law at Exeter University is to be a member of the crew of the Sir Winston Churchill schooner when it crosses the Atlantic to take part in the bi-centenary celebrations of the United States. He was sponsored by the parish of Caversham when he had his first cruise in 1973.

ST BARNABAS

A special Carol Service for Scouts is being held on Sunday, December 28, at 3pm.

WONDERFUL RESPONSE TO STEWARDSHIP VISITING

THE STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL CAMPAIGN HELD THROUGHOUT OCTOBER MET WITH A WONDERFUL RESPONSE. A congregation of about seven hundred people crowded into St Giles Church on the evening of Sunday, October 5 for the special service when the Bishop of Oxford commissioned the team of visitors who, later in the month, went to nearly 1,000 homes in Caversham and Mapledurham.

Mr Alfred Martyn-Johns and Mr David Cooper spoke to the congregation about the achievements that earlier campaigns had made possible. Mr Eric Smith and Dr Owen Jewiss then outlined the present financial position and the future needs of the church. Lessons were read by Mrs Paula Andrews and Mr Peter Tipton. The combined choirs of the parish, under the direction of Mr John Dussek, led the singing and the anthem 'How Amiable Are Thy Dwellings' by Vaughan Williams was sung with beauty and great clarity. The Rev Martin Loveless conducted the orchestra.

Thanksgiving Service

The Bishop of Reading was unfortunately unable to be present at the Thanksgiving Eucharist which was held in the parish church on October 28. The Rector preached in his place and Mr T. D. Birtwhistle read a letter of congratulation which the Bishop of Oxford

ST JOHN'S STEPPING OUT

They thought it would be a youth ramble. In fact, it was a pleasantly mixed group of fifteen St John's members that trod along Grim's Ditch one Sunday afternoon before the hour changed. It wasn't all that strenuous — which was just as well, for some of their legs were very short. They sat at the Cart Gap, they stood to admire horses, they paused to investigate animal holes. The scent of pine, tunnels of leaves, late sunbeams against the autumn browns, red sky over the countless folds of misty

downs, good company and hot soup at the end of it all; they'll be doing it again ere long.

Bulbs galore were presented at the Harvest Offertory, with fuchsias, wallflowers and other plants. Hard spade-work ensued after the service, and the results of all the enthusiasm should be manifest next spring.

St John's are sorry to say goodbye to two church families at this time. Mr and Mrs Dighton of Piggotts Road have been Caversham residents for

many a year. They are moving to the Chippenham area, and will be missed by many friends. A change of job takes away Mr and Mrs Davy, of Monkley Court. Christine has been an active member of Shelter amongst other things — she was one of the key figures in the sponsored clean-up of a Thames backwater.

On Friday, December 19, at 7.30pm there will be an evening of enjoyment and worship in preparation for Christmas.

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TOTAL	£36,350	728

A farewell presentation was made to Mr Cox when he retired as caretaker at Caversham Primary School. He is seen here with Mr P. Shanks, Headmaster, at a gathering of managers, staff and parents in the school hall. Mr Cox replied by presenting the school with a weather vane.



— Walton Adams

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OBITUARY

WILFRID DENARO

"Hooray," he cried, "I was just going to send a boat down the river for you. You don't know how lucky it is, your turning up just now!" — Wind in the Willows — but it could have been Wilfrid Denaro speaking. His many friends will be saddened at the news of his death — especially after he seemed much recovered from his illness in the spring. When he came to Reading nearly 20 years ago he set up The Gallants in The Warren, which has since become a great centre for young and old, for Wilfrid has the ability to draw around him a diverse but always lively group of people. A summer afternoon would find 30 or 40 for tea, but the school holidays would always find a dozen or so children learning to "mess about in boats." Wilfrid loved to encourage the young to gain confidence and independence through the river.

He was a devout Roman Catholic, preaching his religion through his example — whenever he heard or saw anyone in need of help, whether through illness, bereavement or just a faulty outboard motor — he was off to their aid.

He will be much missed by all who knew him, not least for his great sense of fun and his gentle ridicule; those who never met him have missed much more.

ROUND THE CLUBS

Caversham Heights' Townswomen's Guild

"Any Questions" is always an extremely entertaining panelgame, to take part in and to listen to the opinions of the team. At our meeting this month Mrs R. Ballaster, a Federation Committee member who also teaches German, Mrs B. Lewis whose interests are all "country matters," the Rev D. Shaylor, a well-known figure in Caversham, and Mr D. Griffith, a University Lecturer whose work takes him to all parts of the world, were our panel and the varied questions brought some very amusing answers.

"A garden is a love-something?" It is to Mrs Lewis as she was brought up in the country and finds gardening very relaxing, whereas Mrs Ballaster found it very hard work and would much prefer to sit in the garden with a good book on a sunny day. Mr Shaylor enjoyed other people's gardens and Mr Griffith hoped we appreciated the butterflies which he claimed all came from his "conservation area!"

"What is the team's favourite meal?" brought lots of laughter, especially the Rev D. Shaylor's breakfast,

eaten alone and prepared from some fascinating ingredients.

"Who would you most like to be?" was quite a difficult one, but Mrs Ballaster thought Queen Elizabeth I was a great lady, and Mrs Lewis chose Helen Bradley, painter and writer, as she seemed to be a contented woman. Mr Shaylor has had such a happy life he thought he preferred being himself but chose as an alternative a poet in Tudor times. Mr Griffith would like to have been an Italian tenor as he enjoyed singing duets with his wife.

The questions put to the panel made us all wonder what answers we would have given had we been on the spot.

Mrs V. Birtwhistle gave the vote of thanks. The competition, for a knitted or crocheted article, was won by Mrs A. Bliss and Mrs M. Norman.

Emmer Green T. G.

Mr D. G. Green gave a talk entitled "Life Assurance" at the October meeting. He dealt briefly on the his-

Afternoon Caversham Townswomen's Guild

The October meeting was held in Church House: Mrs Smith presided and three new members were welcomed. Mrs Smith gave her report on the County

Federation meeting held in Reading. A very good demonstration on cake icing was given by Mrs Henry. Nominations were taken for 1976 for Annual Meeting voting.

Mapledurham WI

Mapledurham Women's Institute held its October meeting in Trench Green Hall, and had an exciting account of the work of police dogs used by the Thames Valley Police. Members were delighted that two beautiful Alsatian dogs were brought along, and Mrs Mortimer thanked the speaker warmly.

Mrs Hayward reported on a most interesting outing some members had made to the Whitefriars Glass Factory, and Mrs Martin announced a tea party she would be giving in aid of the Blind.

Mrs Griffith said that, as in previous years, working parties to make goods for the Christmas stall would be starting shortly.

It was suggested that, because of transport difficulties, future meetings should be held in

the Mapledurham Memorial Hall instead of at Trench Green.

Maplewood W.I.

The President, Mrs K. Bubb, welcomed four new members. Mrs J. Townshend was congratulated on having two scrap-board prints accepted for the new WI noticeboards.

A very successful outing to the Whitefriars Glass Factory was enjoyed by about 40 members. The group meeting at Grazeley was enjoyed; Mr Jowett talked about his visit to north Norway and showed slides. Mrs Kitcher and Mrs Le Mare took part in the quiz game which was won by Grazeley.

An appeal box is available at every meeting for contributions to NFWI funds.

Mrs D. Tittle gave a lively account of the Autumn Council Meeting which was held at Reading on October 16.

Mrs Fletcher spoke and showed slides on her visit to Australia for the ACWW International Conference; it was interesting to see the range of countries represented and the obviously good atmosphere there. Mrs E. Harden expressed the Institute's thanks for a very good talk.

Blagrove WI

At the October meeting, Mrs Wilkie welcomed two new members and presented the Birthday Posies. The Whist Drive run by Mr and Mrs Maddox was very much enjoyed by all and was not only a very happy evening but also a financial success! A date for another walk in the country was made and this was to be led by the Misses Chapman, and arrangements for the Harvest Supper for members and friends were finalised.

The speaker from the British Red Cross gave a most helpful talk on first aid in the home and gave some very practical advice on how to cope with some emergencies.

The competition for a necklace made from hedgerow material was won by a new member, Mrs J. Price.

tory of Life Assurance as we know it to-day, then gave examples of the best insurance cover for each member of the family "from the cradle to the grave" as he put it. Mr Green then answered questions from members about their own insurance cover for specific purposes.

The 23rd birthday party was also held in October, a buffet supper and entertainment being organised by members of the committee.

ST PETER'S WIVES

The Annual General Meeting of St Peter's Wives which was held on October 21st was chaired by the Rector. Three new members of the Committee were elected. The Secretary reported that it had been a good year for the Group, with several new members. Further new members and visitors are always welcome. (Details available from the Chairman; Dorothy Churcher, 46 Rotherfield Way, Reading 473353). The Play Group was functioning well, as was the new "Mother and Toddler" Group for younger children (Both are held in Balmore Hall. Details from Sue Hingley, 28, Oakley Road, Reading 471499).

A party of Wives visited the Berkshire Agricultural College on October 28 and greatly enjoyed an interesting demonstration on "The Use of Wine in Cookery." Those present had the opportunity to purchase the very tempting dishes which Miss Vowles had prepared.

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UPS AND DOWNS OF FOOTBALL

The result of a recent match between two of our local football teams highlights the way in which local football club fortunes can rise and fall just as they do at national level with teams like Chelsea, Manchester United and Leeds.

The match between Woodcote and Clifton ended in a 6-2 win for Woodcote, putting the home team firmly on top of the Reading Combination Premier Division and Clifton one step nearer to relegation from the top league of local football. Following several seasons of successful football in both Saturday and Sunday Leagues, the local club have had to withdraw from Sunday football and concentrate on Saturdays but have not had a very good start to the season gaining a total of only seven points from their first ten matches. But if, as is often said, the strength of a team is its Reserves, then Clifton may well climb again as their Reserve team headed the Premier Reserve League with maximum points at the end of October.

HIGH SCORING

In another local derby which took place recently between Caversham Park and Caversham Boys Under 15, the Caversham Boys had another of their high scoring wins gaining 15 goals to the Village team's 2.

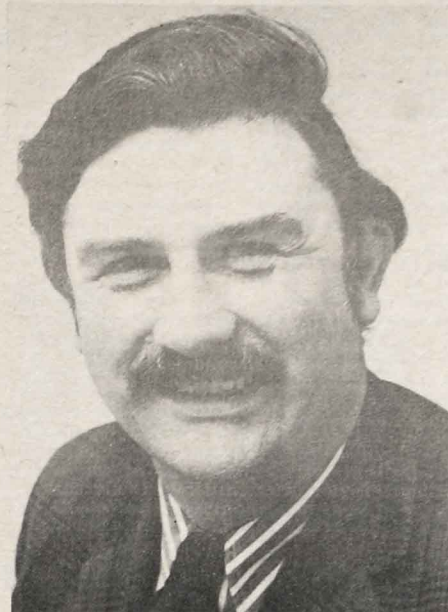
SPECIAL APPOINTMENT

The national badminton coach Ray Johnstone, who spent some weeks of the summer coaching in South Africa, has been appointed official coach to the South African badminton team who will shortly be playing in this country. He will be responsible for all their training and coaching during the tour.

SPACE AGE TENNIS RACQUET

Over the last 40 years or so many experiments have been made in the manufacture of tennis racquets aiming to produce the ultimate in perfection. Racquets have been made in wood, steel and fibreglass but with the possible exception of wood, all have produced problems as well as advantages.

The top racquet for 1976 is made from a real space age material called graphite and is both light and very strong, thus making a very well balanced tennis racquet with plenty of power. These racquets will, of course, only benefit the very best players and the price tag of a few pence under £100 will make them somewhat exclusive. However, if they prove successful they might well become much more economically priced over the next five years.



— Walton Adams

YOUNG CAVERSHAM

THE CAVERSHAM branch of the Junior Methodists have been busy hitting the trail again. Their Squash Club spent a 'bashing' week in the Scottish Lowlands. The real 'squash' began at the start of their ten-hours journey. The twelve members packed into the minibus, together with tents, bags, guitars, "Ewart" the Mascot, and would you believe it? — Teddy Bears! However, they all had a swinging time and showed the wee lads and lasses of Kirkcudbright how skillfully the Sassenachs can perform.

Another five members of the J.M.A., Toni and Clive Boorman, Ava Boulton, Linda Johnson and Jonathan Ward attended an Overseas Division seminar at Langbar, near Ilkley, when the theme discussed was "Our place as individuals in the community", and covered many aspects of overseas community projects and integration of immigrants in Britain.

Caversham were also represented at the J.M.A. youth conference at Esley College, Bristol, where visitors came

from as far as South Africa, Chile, Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

It was for the first time in my long history as a boys' club leader, that one of my members was selected as a candidate earlier this year for the National Boys' Club, the 'elite' organisation formed in 1951 to give national recognition to outstanding members of boys' clubs. Seventeen-year-old Malcolm Gray, of Queen Street, Caversham, a member of Caversham West club since he was eleven, was recommended by the county constituency. Membership is not easily gained, and a candidate must prove himself willing to accept responsibility, to put service before self and show potential leadership, not only in boys' clubs but in the community as a whole. Malcolm, with about thirty other nominees from all parts of the country, had to attend a candidates' week at Hammarbank, Windermere, in July, where apart from physical endurance tests, they had to undergo training sessions in a variety of subjects such

as club problems and administration, current affairs, programme planning, public speaking, and self-confidence, to enable each candidate's character to be shown in his response to unusual situations. Assessment is made by the staff at the end of the course, and the decision must be unanimous. Malcolm emerged as one of the successful candidates, and was duly awarded the honour of Membership of the National Boys' Club. Malcolm is at present a student at Stoneham School, and whatever his aims are for the future, his qualifications in leadership will undoubtedly benefit the community, as well as being an asset in the vocation he subsequently chooses.

by
PETER SHOCK



— Walton Adams

St Peter's and St Barnabas' Mothers' Union

Since St Barnabas' Mothers' Union united with St Peter's branch they have had quite a successful time together.

They started the year's programme again in September and are hoping for a varied number of topics and activities, ranging from music to hearing from a Police Woman about her duties.

As the Mothers' Union has now broadened its outlook they will welcome any woman who would care to join them on the second Tuesday in the month, at 2.30pm in Church House or would like to contact Mrs Betty Hutson on Reading 475786.

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TALKING POINT

THE BAKERY GIRL WAS HAVING A GOOD NATTER TO THE QUEUE. "And in the paper the other day. Did you read...?" The lady in front of me went very quiet. "I'm sorry, I can't read," she murmured, paid for a bread and retreated. A moment's sudden hush. The lady behind me broke it. "Aren't there some sad people," she said. I was ten, and it made a deep impression.

Wendy is a vivacious girl of 13. She went round our kitchen laboriously reading the tea towels, anxious to get everything right. On the side was "Baby's first book". "B-a-b-y — fairy — b-oo-k" she stuttered. None of Wendy's family will shine at school, but

Susie (11) does reasonably well. The older Wendy gets, the more she will be left behind by her classmates and her younger sisters.

Keith's sons are at primary school and his wife is now studying to be a teacher. In the early years of their marriage he found even a railway journey a trying experience for he had to alight at every stop to compare the signs with a note of his destination. By the time he had analysed such red herrings as "Way Out" and "Gent-

lemen", the train might have left and he would have to wait for the next one.

In one way, Keith is exceptional. He suffers from dyslexia, a condition recognised by most educational and medical authorities as hereditary. Letters and words may appear jumbled up in his mind, for no apparent reason. Now that he can read, he may see "date" quite correctly nine times out of ten, but on the tenth it may appear to him "etad", "bate" or even "idea".

Most dyslexics are, like Keith, very intelligent. For this reason, many illiterates from "good families" like to think they are dyslectic when the real cause may lie in dullness, laziness or psychological disturbance. Nevertheless, dyslexics and other adult illiterates share many common problems.

First is the feeling of foolishness, shame, rejection and being less than a person. Second is the lack of a sense of integrity. To cover up, the illiterate is constantly inventing all

sorts of excuses and "white lies". "I've left my glasses in the other coat." "I can't make out this bloke's writing." Before too long, deceiving other people — especially his own children — has become an unconscious habit. Third is the frustration of being confined to a job which in other respects is below his capabilities. Keith wants to be a priest. He has pastoral gifts, a sharp brain and a sense of vocation. He has progressed far in the last few years and can write interesting essays. But it will still be a long time before he can go to Theological College if he is to go through the standard book-reading and essay-writing process.

Six out of every hundred adults in the country are like Keith, Wendy or the lady in the bread shop. That probably means about 900 in Caversham, for illiteracy spreads through all sections of society. Reading's adult literacy scheme (Programme 2R) has helped 82 people in this its first year. Now

it plans to expand to 400, boosted by the BBC series "On the Move".

WHAT READING IS DOING

Reading employs 30 part-time teachers and over 50 volunteers. Each teacher, once selected for his special experience or aptitude in the field, is given a one-day training and then takes charge of a group of 5 or 6 students. He is helped by volunteers who have undergone four afternoon or evening training sessions before finally deciding to commit themselves to the scheme. As the year progresses, the volunteers play a larger role so that after about a year they continue the tuition with individuals and the teacher may take charge of a new group. Meetings are held weekly (or sometimes twice a week) and there are two or three centres in Caver-

sham.

From a Christian point of view, no one should feel second-rate. Every one person is worth a great deal and everything should be done to help him play his full role in life. The scheme is thus of great importance, and we should ask ourselves what we can do — encourage a friend to enrol as a student? Offer ourselves as volunteer or teacher? In conversation try to make others think about illiteracy, so that the stigma may be lessened?

Furthermore, the whole issue raises a large question for the church. This century, in spreading the Christian message we have laid great emphasis on the written word. Just how much of our population does this really reach? Besides our non-readers, there must be very many who have no great interest in reading and writing. True, we do use visual techniques in our adult outreach. But for the most part we think they are a pleasant luxury. Should they not be of prime importance?

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COMPANY REOPENS

THE 2ND CAVERSHAM GUIDE COMPANY reopened at the beginning of October after having been closed for just over a year due to no leader being available. However, Miss Susan Collins, who has recently moved to Caversham, has become the new Guider and her Assistant Guider is Miss Caroline Prew.

The company is formed of a few older Guides who originally belonged to the 2nd but mostly of ten and eleven-year-olds ex-Brownies who had been unable to move on to Guides because of the shortage of places. They meet on Friday evenings at St Andrew's Hall and have the makings of a very enthusiastic company. We wish them well. They welcomed their parents and friends to an open even-

ing at the beginning of November when, to help augment their funds, they had a sale of work.

The 4th Caversham Brownies also meet at St Andrew's Hall on Wednesday evenings and are a full and lively Pack with a long waiting list. They celebrated their sixteenth birthday in November with a party, when they entertained the 1st Caversham Pack. During the evening there was a competition for the best home-made fancy hats and many games were played.

On the first Sunday in November both the Guides and Brownies held the first Church Parade at the family service at St Andrew's. This tradition had lapsed in recent years and it is now hoped to become a regularly monthly feature.

CUBS/SCOUTS RAISE FUNDS

THE 22nd St John's Cubs/Scouts Troop held a sponsored walk on Sunday, October 5th, in Hills Meadow, in which a number of the Troop and friends took part.

The walk was to raise funds for repairs to the roof and structure of the Troop meeting hut in St John's Road, Caversham. The total sum raised was nearly £120.

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to run a second Cub Pack at St John's Church. The St John's Pack has a waiting list of over thirty. The hut is at present unused on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please contact Stephen Cousins, 18 Coldicutt Street.

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HALF-TERM

On October 29th it seemed to eighteen fearless travellers (plus one dog) that all roads led to Legge House, Wroughton, Wiltshire. In spite of this the driver of our coach managed to take us the wrong way but we arrived eventually. Legge House is a grey stone building in a corner of a churchyard.

THE AUTUMN half-term school holiday was the occasion when two more groups of young people from the parish of Caversham were able

to go away and explore more fully something of what it means to be a Christian today. We print reports written by two of them.

MATTHEW COOME WRITES

It was converted from the old church school with added sleeping accommodation. The main hall, which is used for conferences and leisure activities had adequate facilities for even the most enthusiastic of us. The dormitories were reached through a labyrinth of corridors. The iron bunk beds were vaguely reminiscent of a penal establishment. However, the spirits of the party soon dispelled any idea of imprisonment. Dinner was followed by an informative film of the life of an East Anglian rector, which was part of a short act of worship, including silence.

A brisk country walk the next morning enabled everyone to concentrate on the morning's subject, 'the place of pop music in modern religion'. Martin Loveless and family arrived for the day and in the afternoon a start

was made on a play that should be ready for performance soon after Christmas. Later on in the evening a series of slides 'The Global Christian' was shown. This raised serious questions concerning the priorities of the church's work. It was simple but effective and provoked serious thought among those present.

The first session Friday morning which was concerned with women priests was conducted in a suitable quiet atmosphere. Several interesting points were raised and a code of practice agreed upon. Lunch was followed by a simple Communion service. The coach came to collect us at four o'clock, and we were

home by half past six. The conference differed from others in as much as the food was cooked

by ourselves. Meals were simple and major culinary accidents infrequent. Who said "They can't possibly go wrong with fish fingers?" Our thanks go to the large number of people who made the conference so enjoyable.



■ Preparing meals at Legge House

— L. L. Burn



— L. L. Burn

DAVID MATTHEWS WRITES

ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 27th, thirty of those confirmed earlier this year went with three of the clergy by coach to Dorney, not far from Windsor. They stayed at the rectory,

now also a conference centre and used for the pre-confirmation course in April, that a number had already attended. The theme of this course was 'Life in Community'. Shortly after arrival,

separate groups were organised to discuss such things as 'The time for Light-Out and Getting-Up' and 'Who is going to do the washing-up and when?' Then all came together for an interesting meeting at which no one at first assumed the lead. To begin with there was chaos until gradually it was realised that a community needs law and order of some form, and so a chairman was somehow elected. A game after supper, outside in the dark, served to remind people that a community needs organisation. The day ended with Compline in Dorney Church, partly by candlelight.

The following day was spent 'working-through' a Series 3 Eucharist beginning with 'The Preparation' at the breakfast table. During the morning, 'The Ministry of The Word' took the form of Bible study and discussion in groups. When everyone came together after coffee, each group gave a summary of their discussions. One group acted out the parable of the 'Prodigal Son' and the 'Creation of Eve'. In the afternoon everyone went to Windsor to look for material for the 'Intercessions', which were later compiled and took place back at the conference centre. Two films that highlighted the existence of tension and strife between men, led to an exchange of 'The Peace', and after walking together into the dining room, singing to a guitar, the final part of the Eucharist took

place before the meal.

Wednesday morning was spent at Nashdom Abbey, the Benedictine Monastery at Burnham, where the conference attended two services and was told by one of the community about the life there. On returning to Dorney, a kind of open forum was held, in which there was very frank talking about the whole experience of the two days. Finally, a film was shown of a similar project to the Bridge Scheme, which is operating in Hertfordshire.

The course seemed to fulfill its purpose, for it was described by one of those who attended as 'very enjoyable and instructive'.

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A HAPPY NUN

SHE COULD HAVE STEPPED RIGHT OUT OF 'THE SOUND OF MUSIC' instead of out of the Visitation Convent in South View Avenue. I don't know if Sister Joseph is musical, but happy, loving and warm she certainly is.

Sister Joseph, who recently celebrated her Diamond Jubilee as a Professed Sister

of the Visitation, is a supremely happy person, in spite of the aches and pains which often accompany age. One cannot help thinking that this may be largely due to the fact that she is one of those fortunate people who chose her own vocation at the age of nine, while at an Ursuline Convent, and never looked back. Born in Ber-

chen, near Antwerp, she entered the Order in Ghent in 1913 and while there attended the Visitation Training College for teachers.

In 1919 she came to Caversham where, after further training at Sedgeley Park Training College, she took up teaching at St Anne's School, retiring 42 years later. She is remembered by many always with a group of young children happily gathered round her ample skirts — and she is still remembered lovingly and often visited by ex-pupils. This is a great delight to her as she loves children so much.

Rather deaf she may be, but dull —



■ Sister Joseph

— Evening Post

never! She is delightful to meet and I would like to

add my own congratulations to those I have been asked to pass on by her many friends,

coupled with a wish that she may continue in health and happiness.

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MAPLEDURHAM AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

THE Mapledurham Area Residents' Association was formed in 1972 to protect the amenities of the Mapledurham area and in particular its rural character. The membership is open to all who support this aim and, in fact, is drawn from Mapledurham Parish, Tokers Green, Dysons Wood, Chazey Heath, and that part of Caversham bounded by Shepherd's Lane, Kidmore Road, Richmond Road and St Peter's Avenue.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Association on October 30th, the Committee reported the activities it had carried out on

behalf of members. Of major importance have been the Association's representations with regard to possible sites for a primary school in Shepherd's Lane and the review by the Boundary Commission of the boundary between Oxfordshire and Berkshire to the north of Reading.

The Association has put forward a proposal that the area should be designated "green belt" and this proposal has been referred to the Oxfordshire County Council's Environment Committee, who are at present considering a draft Structure Plan for Oxfordshire.

The Association has investigated a number of matters of concern to its members and, where appropriate, has referred these problems to the relevant council.

The Mapledurham Area Residents' Association welcomes new members — the more residents it can speak for, the stronger will be its representations. Enquiries may be sent to the Honorary Secretary, Mrs R. Chapman, Greenacres, Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green, Reading. The subscription for the coming year has been set at 25p.

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

Cutting Public Expenditure

"AN EXPENSIVE exercise for Reading bringing no advantage." This was what W. H. Tee, Chief Executive of Reading Borough Council, gave as his personal view of local government reorganisation when he spoke at a meeting organised by Caversham Residents' Association. There could have been few of his audience, already suspecting that part of the increase in the rate demand currently landing on their doormats

could be attributed to this, who did not agree with him. Nevertheless, said Mr Tee, answering a questioner from the audience who was concerned that, as a result there were "too many Chief's and not enough Indians," proliferation of posts in Reading had not been of the order commonly believed by popular opinion.

Explaining that two thirds of local government expenditure came from the government support grant and

By WATCHDOG

only one third from the rates, Mr Tee went on to say that although the Borough collected the rates, they passed most of the money on to the County Council, who were the chief spenders. The District or Borough Councils were only responsible for housing, leisure, such as parks and museums but not libraries, environmental matters such as cleanliness, cemeteries and the collection, but not disposal, of refuse, Town Planning and local transport, which, however, usually breaks more or less even. All other local expenditure is the responsibility of the County.

No Growth

The Government has announced that there will be no increase in the support grant, so with rising prices, salary and interest increases, which cannot be controlled locally, the only way of coping is a policy of no growth and cut back where possible. And before a cheer arose from the ranks of those for whom cuts in public expenditure is an article of faith, Mr Tee spelled out what this could mean: closed swimming pools, reduced refuse collections, unswept streets, early closing of libraries. It certainly means that no new schemes, however necessary, however desirable will be started.

His audience looked glum. If this was unavoidable they would have to accept it, but they did not feel obliged to welcome it with the masochistic pleasure of their Victorian forebears who felt that if the medicine was nasty enough, it must be good for you. What, they asked, about the big costs? What about the new Civic

Offices, costing £4 million? These, said Mr Tee, were planned and commissioned before inflation hit us so savagely, but even so, they would give better service at less cost and their ingenious planning provided 30 per cent more floor space than a traditional building of similar size.

Cost

How, asked another speaker, had it come about that no one had looked far enough ahead to realise that the new Vastern Road bridge was too low to allow for the passage of the new Jumbo buses?

"What about the New Assembly Hall?" asked another. The cost of this was rising all the time, so that it would seem that its running costs would have to be subsidised out of the rates or no one would be able to afford to hire it. Whilst agreeing that this was so, Mr Tee sought to show

that the old Town Hall was hired out in a similar way, with local organisations paying less than the economic rate. All the same, his audience was not convinced that this splendid edifice was not

going to be an expensive white elephant.

Meanwhile, thank goodness for the extravagance of flowers in Broad Street. We may be poor but we don't need to look poor.

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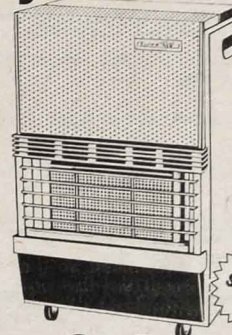
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The Rev Canon John Grimwade, The Rectory, 20 Church Road. Tel. 471703.

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.

HOUSE COMMUNIONS IN CAVERSHAM PARK

WEDNESDAYS at 10.30am.

December 3, Pat Gray, 20 Kingsway; 24th, no celebration; 31st, Elke Handford, 4 Livesey, 82 Lowfield Road; 17th, Margaret Lauder, 62 Redberry Close.

WE RECORD

BAPTISED

St Peter's
October 26
St John's
October 26

Carla Terry

Jade Parker
Simon Durrant
Martin Simmonds
Marc Adams
Daniel Summers
Daniel Higgs

November 2

St Andrew's
October 19

Michael Smith
Sarah Roberts
Robert Ricketts

November 2

St Margaret's
October 19
Caversham Park
October 12

William Hall

Rachel Vallender
Natalie Leng
Jason Payne
Colin Payne

MARRIED

St Peter's
November 1
St Margaret's
September 27
October 4

Alan Bowley and Georgina Wyatt

Kim Johnson and Jacqueline Palmer
Nigel Rowark and Linda Perring

FUNERALS

St Peter's
October 14
St John's
November 3
St Barnabas
October 21
November 5
St Margaret's
November 8

Dora Merton

Raymond Gordon

Betty Riley
Florence Allaway

Herbert Simmonite

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.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES

ANGLICAN

St Peter's

11.45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
9.15 a.m. Parish Communion
11.00 a.m. Matins
12.15 p.m. Holy Communion

St John's

11.45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.00 a.m. Family Eucharist

St Andrew's

11.45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
9.15 a.m. Family Eucharist
11.15 a.m. Holy Communion

St Barnabas'

11.45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
9.15 a.m. Family Eucharist

St Margaret's

11.45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
9.15 a.m. Parish Communion

The clergy would be glad to know of any sick or housebound communicants who wish to receive the Sacrament in their homes in the days following Christmas.

CAVERSHAM FREE BAPTIST CHURCH

10.30 a.m. Family Service

CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH (The School)

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Family Service

METHODIST

Caversham (Gosbrook Road)

10.30 a.m. Service of celebration

Caversham Heights

11.15 p.m. Midnight Communion
10.30 a.m. Service of celebration

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

CHRISTMAS EVE — Wednesday, December 24

St Peter's

4.00 p.m. Children's Gift Service with blessing of crib and lighting of Christmas tree.

St Andrew's

6.30 p.m. Solemn Evensong with blessing of crib.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

St John's

4.00 p.m. Carol Service.

St Andrew's, St Barnabas' and St Margaret's

6.30 p.m. Service of nine lessons and carols.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

St Peter's

6.30 p.m. Service of nine lessons and carols.

Lessons will be read by His Worship the Mayor of Reading, Mr A. Durant MP, and members of Caversham Rotary Club.

CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

7.00 p.m. Carol Service.

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

SPECIAL SERVICES

Sunday, December 14

11.00 a.m. Toy Service.

Sunday, December 21

11.00 a.m. Family Festival Service.
6.30 p.m. Service of Lessons and Carols.

Christmas Day

11.00 a.m. Morning Service.

FREE CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

11.00 a.m. Family Toy Service.
6.30 p.m. Service of Lessons and Carols.

METHODIST CHURCHES

Caversham (Gosbrook Road)

11.00 a.m. Morning Service.
6.30 p.m. Carols by candlelight.

Caversham Heights

11.00 a.m. Morning Service.
4.00 p.m. Carols by candlelight.

ST ANDREW'S DAY at ST ANDREW'S Tuesday, December 2, at 7.30pm

PARISH COMMUNION

Preacher:

THE REV F. W. DAWSON

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After the service a presentation will be made in the Church Hall to Mr W. H. Rowe on his retirement as organist of St Andrew's

7.30am: Holy Communion

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE SCHEME OF SOCIAL SERVICE

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Area Organisers:

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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.

Mrs D. Davies (Caversham Park), 81 Galsworthy Drive. Tel. 476181.