



CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

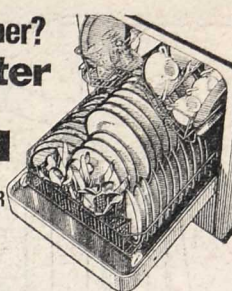
May 1969

8d.

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A lot of use - and lively too ?

THE NORTHERNER doesn't like what he calls "lah-di-dah." He judges a thing by its usefulness and, of course, he's right.

But, is usefulness everything? Men need beauty as well as function, and the total value of a thing can't be measured by whether it does its job, or pays. A man has a soul as well as a pocket.

Much of the North of England was built by men for whom 'brass' was a prime consideration. They drove their rows of back to back houses from the collieries in ugly straight lines because it was cheaper.

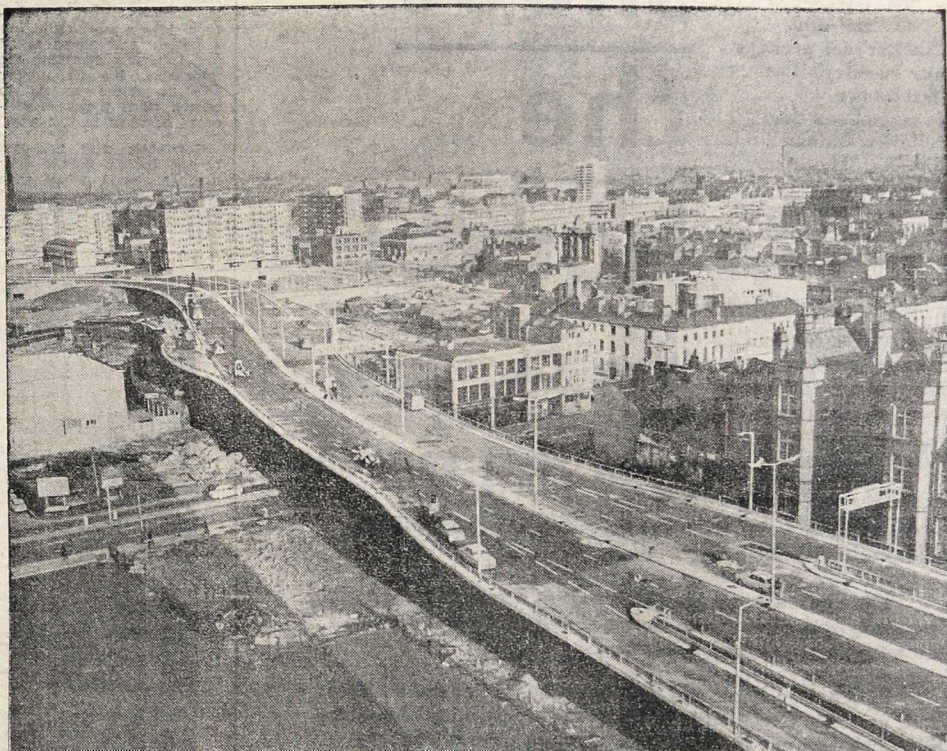
UNEXPECTED

Three cheers for the celestial golf balls waiting to be teed off on Fylingdales Moor, and for the Mancunian Way, Manchester's new link road.

THE WAY, WHICH IS 3,000 FEET LONG AND COST £9 MILLION IS VERY USEFUL . . . BUT IT HAS ALSO BEEN VOTED THE MOST GRACEFUL CONCRETE STRUCTURE RECENTLY PUT UP IN BRITAIN.

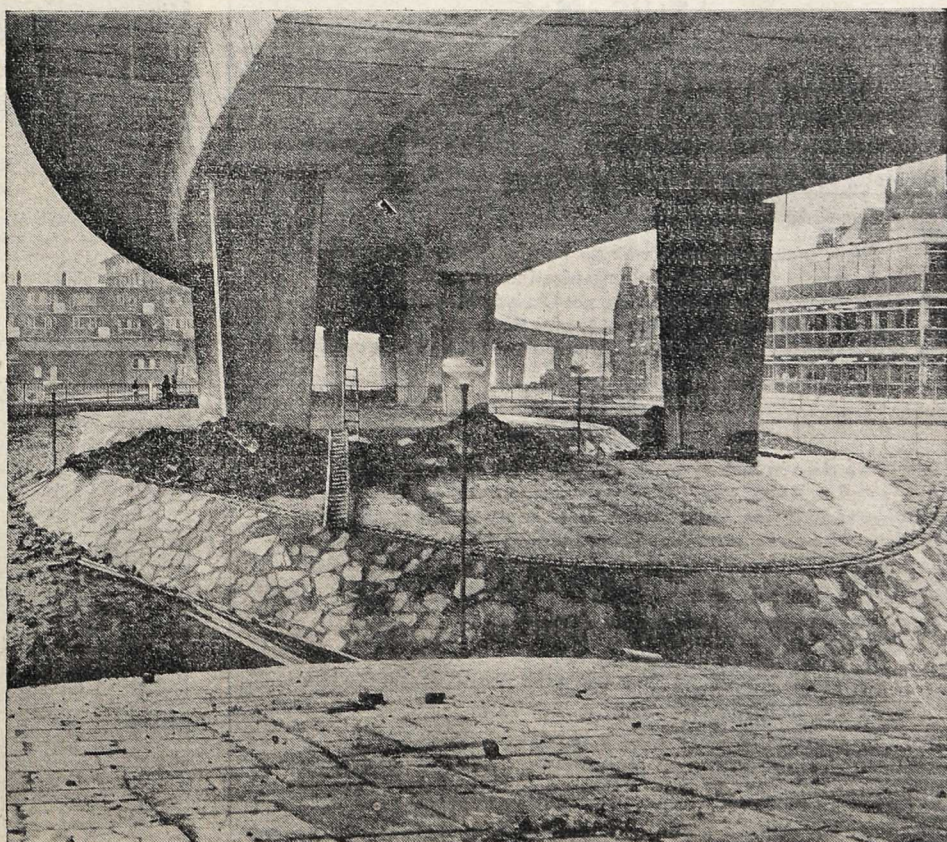
What is beauty in a technical age? It is not to build power stations which look like cathedrals, or put rustic fences along motorways.

It is to design buildings which express not only the Spirit of the Age but also man's striving to make visible the order and harmony lying behind the universe.



Above and below the MANCUNIAN WAY

REPRODUCED BY KIND PERMISSION OF THE GUARDIAN, MANCHESTER



D/EX 1758/6/5



'Oxfam' and 'Shelter' are perhaps our country's two best known organisations for relieving human distress. There are many similar organisations large and small, local, national and international.

They are a sign of the growing concern of man for man which seems to be a mark of our times, expressed not only in fund-raising but in practical action ranging from V.S.O. to 'meals on wheels,' from the Salvation Army to the Youth Club Social Service programme.

The Church has a long tradition of compassionate action in society both on our own doorstep and overseas through the work of missionary societies.

Hospitals, schools and the probation service can all trace their origin to Christian initiation. It is hardly surprising then, that Christians are involved in the present wave of service, both through participating in secular organisations and in founding such movements as 'Christian Aid' which we feature this month.

THIS IS GOOD

Christians are walking in the steps of Jesus the servant, with a new enthusiasm and dedication—and this is good.

But this aspect of the Christian life can be over-stressed to the point where some will over-simplify and say 'Christianity IS service.'

There are many people who are involved in service ranging from the work of international organisations to getting in coal for the old lady next door who are not Christians, and say so firmly. It would seem impertinent to give them such a label by suggesting, as some people do, that they are 'Christians really!'

THE SERVICE BAND-WAGON

At a time in history when fewer and fewer people seem interested in "God talk," Christians are tempted to find their fulfilment in trying to be useful. But simply jumping on the "service" band-wagon means that they forget their dependence on, and need for, a relationship with God through Christ. This is the essential heart of the Christian faith. Without it Christianity ceases to be dynamic or distinctive.

TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF THE WORLD WITHOUT GIVING AN IMPORTANT PLACE TO THIS RELATIONSHIP IS NOT ONLY PUTTING THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE—IT IS GETTING RID OF THE HORSE ALTOGETHER.

Let's not shoot the horse!

Why Christianity is something more than service

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sunday school by post?

FAMILY SERVICES are much in vogue now, but they leave me uneasy when it comes to the talk or sermon. What teacher would attempt to teach an age range of two months to 70 years?—But this is what happens often, and the shuffling and general disturbance underlines the inefficiency of this.

Worshipping as a family rather than the old "separated Sunday School for children" idea is meaningful, but a general talk aimed at all and sundry is expecting the impossible. It's no wonder children refuse to go to church when they've experienced boredom in this way.

Ours talk with nostalgia of the Family Service they used to attend, where each child, on entering, collected an envelope with his name on it, with a story and some-

thing to make or do about it, which he did at home and returned it to church the next week, and collected another envelope. This way, each child from three years or so up, had something that fitted his age group.

The envelopes were sorted after the service into "classes" of about 10, and home-bound wives and other "teachers" saw the child's work, wrote a note to each one and put in the next week's "lesson."

Wouldn't a "postal Sunday School" like this be a help for the Family Service set-up? The talk could then be kept very short, as no longer the only vehicle for teaching. (I know in some parishes that the children withdraw to age-groups taught in an adjoining hall, but this is not possible or wished for in all churches).

Is such a "Postal Sunday School" published in Great Britain? It exists in New Zealand.

HAZEL HILLS,
17 Highbridge Road,
Sutton Coldfield,
Warks.

Motorist's thanks for tips

How nice to see a motoring tip in this month's "Compass."

Write you are thanking Brian Favell, you might inform him that having passed through a pool of water on the road recently, my brakes failed to hold and I ran into the back of another car that pulled up suddenly, in front of me.

All motorists under these circumstances should touch their brake pedal while running, to dry out the brake drum by friction, after washing with a hose pipe, or going through deep water.

Wishing you every success.

E. LOVEKIN,

Winchcomb Cottage,
Hazler Drive,
Church Stretton.



What Christian Aid preaches.

In the long run, the solution to world poverty isn't filling stomachs with food.

It's filling heads with ideas.

To this end, we've helped build training schools in Africa, Asia, South America, and India.

Teaching people how to get the most out of themselves.

How to get the most out of their land.

And how to deal with the pests that the fruits of their labours attract.

The family planning programmes we've set up have taught thousands of women how to have smaller families.

With the obvious benefits of fewer mouths to feed.

However, how to make soil more fertile and wives less, aren't everyone's headaches.

Which is why in the Middle East we've financed workshops to teach young Arab refugees carpentry,

metal-work, and building.

That way they can get back on their feet by their own efforts.

In Thailand, we've taught people how to balance a diet.

And in Kenya, how to balance a book.

In Bolivia, we hired a trade union expert to study the labour situation.

It seemed the best way to find answers to the appalling unemployment problem.

Caused by the mass exodus of workers from country to town.

Of course, not all our activity is so long-term.

The Vietnamese, Nigerians and Biafrans have more urgent needs. And the doctors and nurses we've sent them have helped.

Though not as much as we'd like. We simply don't have enough money to help people all we could.

But we're praying you'll do a little something about that for us.

Christian Aid.

P.O. Box No. 1, London, S.W.1.
Giro Number 556 3151.

HOSPITAL ? — there's no need for all those butterflies

SO YOU ARE going into hospital for an operation? Well, don't worry, probably it won't be anything like the ordeal you anticipate. Until I had to face this, even the prospect of visiting someone in hospital gave me butterflies. But I will never be so foolish again.

I think it is the fact of not knowing what to expect (and so assuming all sorts of imaginary horrors) that upsets one as much as anything. And wondering what things one ought to take along, can be worrying, too. So my own experience will probably help you here.

First of all, your hospital will send you a list of essentials, but there are several other things I would advise you to pack as well. A box of face tissues, for instance, if only for wrapping up fruit skins and pips and wiping your sticky fingers. Several books if you are fond of reading—a mobile library service is not always available. Newspapers and magazines are usually brought round on sale, and often sweets and cigarettes as well.

COFFEE

Although I found hospital food quite good, the lemon cheese which one of my visitors brought, was a very welcome change from our tea-time jam. And I was glad I had packed some plain biscuits to eat with my evening drink. Although I had no need for any extra butter or sugar myself, I know several of the patients were glad of a little more.

But I did wish I had brought a tin of instant coffee powder—our morning cup was always served much too weak for my taste.

Stationery is another thing most people require, and of course a ballpoint pen. And do take a good supply of stamps. The nurses are always so cheerfully willing to post letters when they go off duty, that



'A PAIR OF EARPLUGS WOULD BE A SOUND INVESTMENT ...'

By Freda
L. Cookson

it hardly seems fair to ask them to buy the stamps also.

Finally, if you happen to be a very light sleeper, a pair of ear-plugs would be a sound investment. Most chemists supply these very cheaply.

DETAILS

And now for what happens when you arrive at the hospital—or to be more accurate, what hap-

pened in my case. I had to report at 10-30 a.m. with someone who would take my clothes back later. After a few clerical details were completed, I was directed to my ward. And my friend was allowed to come along too, and see me comfortably settled before she left.

When the house surgeon did his rounds, he gave me a routine check—heart and blood pressure etc. Then for the remainder of the day I was able to move about the ward more or less as I pleased. So in the evening I joined several of the other mobile patients round the TV. This, incidentally was switched on for about two hours every evening if there were no patients ill enough to be disturbed by it.

As my operation was booked for the following afternoon, I was permitted to have breakfast and morning coffee, but no lunch. About an hour before I was due to go down to the theatre, a nurse came to prepare me. That is, she exchanged my nightdress for a somewhat



unglamorous sort of night-shirt, tied my head up in a turban, and completed the ensemble with a pair of outside bedsocks.

RELAX

That done, she gave me an injection (which I scarcely felt) which, she said, would relax me. And it certainly did, for I no longer felt at all worried and dozed until they were ready for me.

However, I must confess that I kept my eyes shut as I was wheeled off in case I saw anything which might be food for my all too vivid imagination. But it was an unnecessary precaution, for instead of taking me straight into the theatre, we stopped in an ante room.

Almost at once, a friendly voice said, "Now, I'm going to give you an injection and you will be unconscious in a moment".

I remember feeling the tiniest prick and simultaneously saying, "Well, I'm not unconscious yet!" And the next thing I knew, was that I was back in bed again feeling sleepy and pleasantly warm beneath a soft woolly blanket. In fact, I was so comfortable that if it had not been for the slight smarting of my bandaged leg, I just couldn't have believed that it was all over.

NOT SICK

I dozed through most of the evening and night, contenting myself with only an occasional sip of water

as I had been told that if I didn't drink more than that for the first five hours or so, it was most unlikely I would feel sick—and it certainly worked.

Almost before I realised it, it was 5 a.m. and I was sitting up and enjoying a cuppa, and hoping that breakfast would not be late!

Seven days later I had my stitches out—another "ordeal" I had dreaded needlessly, for I scarcely felt a twinge.

And as I was so fit, and beds were urgently needed, I was allowed to go home the same day. So after saying goodbye to the sweetest bunch of nurses one could hope to meet, I left—a much wiser and more cheerful person than when I went in.

ROBIRCH

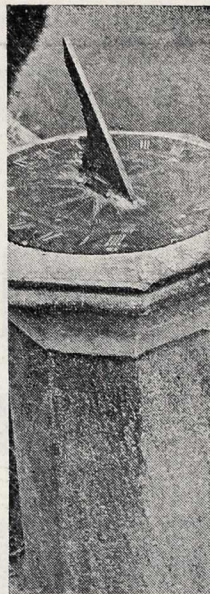
FAMOUS OVER A CENTURY
for

PIES, SAUSAGES AND
COOKED MEATS

Mum and dad go to school

Mum and Dad are at the local Secondary school which their son Peter attends. It is open day and they are wandering around the school looking at the exhibitions of work.

- Dad. Well all I can say is that they're all blooming lucky—never had schools like this in my day. Where do we go now?
- Mum. Well we really ought to have a word with Peter's form-master—see how he's getting on and all that.
- Dad. Right you are. Wait a minute—didn't young Pete say they'd just opened a new gym. I'd like to see that. We've got plenty of time.
- Mum. Well, as long as we're not too long about it.
- Dad. Here we are. By golly they've made a nice job of this. What's that over there?
- Mum. Looks like a sort of exhibition . . . Yes it is . . . see that sign "Sport through the eyes of the school."
- Dad. Let's have a look . . . oh I see, they've got all the school departments together to do something. Those photographs were taken at that match I saw the other day . . . I saw the bloke with the camera.
- Mum. That's interesting Dad. The science people have done a big chart to show how much energy you use up in running a mile.
- Dad. Now that's very true to life that is.
- Mum. What is?
- Dad. This picture.
- Mum. Oh yes, so it is. Poor lad—he looks fed up.
- Dad. That's how I used to feel on Cross Country runs. He's got the feeling very well—you know, the mud and the mist and the exhaustion. Better than a photograph could ever do it. Good painting that.
- Mum. Funny how sometimes something that isn't just like the real thing can sometimes be more true to life than a straight copy. Sort of gets the atmosphere.
- Dad. I only wish we'd seen this before we had that argument with Pete the other night.
- Mum. Which argument?
- Dad. You know, when Pete said that the Bible wasn't true in parts because some of the things it said couldn't possibly have happened.
- Mum. Yes . . . but I don't see . . .
- Dad. Well look at this exhibition. There are photographs right? Facts. And those charts from the science lads, also facts, right? But there's also our picture—which if you pull it to bits doesn't really look like a cross-country runner at all. It's not a fact. But it gets behind the facts to the truth in a way a photograph couldn't.
- Mum. You mean it gives you the real feeling of the thing—not just what's there on the surface?
- Dad. That's right. The Bible's a bit like this exhibition. A mixture of facts and things that try to get behind the facts to the whole truth. Here, they've got everything together to get an overall picture of sport. In the Bible it's all lumped together to give an overall picture of God.
- Mum. I expect you're right Dad—but we'd better get in or we won't have time to see Mr. Walters . . .



LET THE SUN TELL YOUR TIME

By Edith Harper

The old world charm of a sundial is not reserved for gardens in stately homes or churchyards. Any handyman can make one.

First of all dig out a circle three feet deep where you want your sundial sited. Fill this with cement—one part Portland cement, six parts aggregate, two parts sand. You can leave this as your base or make it more ornamental by covering with crazy paving, cemented into place.

The actual sundial face is best obtained by poking around antique shops, watching advertisements. You can of course design one yourself on a smooth piece of metal but it is not impossible to obtain a dial if you are persistent in your search.

The positioning of the dial is all important. Before you build up a brick plinth to the desired height to take your sundial, first adjust the first bricks on the cement base and put the dial on them. Do this in sunlight. Now adjust the bricks so that when the dial rests squarely on them the gnomon or pointer of the dial throws its shadow exactly at the spot marking the correct (sun) time by your watch.

Pencil round the position of the first bricks and build up the brick plinth on these using a spirit level regularly.

The next stage is to construct a cement block for the top of the plinth. Use a box, such as a seed box, divided to make a square. At the bottom put some pieces of wood so that when complete, on removal of the wood the block will have cavities in the base. These give good suction between brick-work and cement and ensure a better join of the two surfaces.

CEMENT

Then fill your box with cement made of one part Portland cement to four parts of sand. Keep the mixture damp but not sloppily wet and press it into each corner in the box to obtain sharp angles.

When dry, drill raw-plug holes to fix the dial to the cement block. Then fill the cavity with cement, put a lavish coating on top of the plinth and join the two together firmly. Minor adjustments may be necessary to ensure the gnomon is reading the right time but these should only be slight.

A sundial always attracts attention in a garden. When it is all your own work, you can justifiably point it out with pride and accept congratulations.

Car sense

You can always smell trouble

Do you notice smells when you're driving? Not country smells like hay or flowers or farmyard: the ones that come from your car. The ones that hit you in the face when you lift the bonnet after a long run—and the ones that seep in almost imperceptibly when you're on the road.

I remember reading about an elderly doctor who passed an ambulance just as a patient was being lifted out. "I smell typhoid" he said to a young doctor by him. And a few days later, the cumbersome machinery of medical science confirmed his diagnosis.

Perhaps the story's not true: I don't know. But I do know that smells can tell us a lot about our cars—though too often I've found out what they mean the hard way.

There's the smell of scorching rubber that means a tyre rubbing on something. Or the acrid smell of hot P.V.C. that means a short in the electrical system. The slight whiffs of hot rubber that ought to have told me to look at the fan belt.

The delightful smell of hot, clean oil that was with me through an 80 mile drive at night—and the cracked pipe I found next day, that had sprayed a patch of oil over that same 80 miles of road!

The peculiar stink of dirty steam after you've lost the water from the cooling system. The smell of too-hot metal when you finally realise something's wrong, and have to stop miles from anywhere. Smells that tell a story—if you're willing to hear it.

BRIAN FAVELL

Varicose Ulcers and Eczema

is your leg painful with wounds or ulcers which do not heal? Is your leg raw, sore, inflamed and burning? Do you suffer from dry scaly eczema or weeping eczema? Do you suffer from swelling, tiredness, heaviness and aching pain in the legs?

Why suffer from these leg troubles? Eczema relieves pain, heals wounds and ulcers, banishes itching and heaviness, soothes inflammation and irritation. Eczema weeping, clears dry skin, and skin troubles affecting the leg.

For over fifty years Eczema has brought such relief to sufferers and earned their gratitude and praise. Their experience should be your guide.

Good News for Sufferers

We have published an illustrated brochure which tells—Why slight knocks may cause years of suffering—Why a scratch refused to heal—How painful ulcers are formed—Why the skin becomes dry and scaly—Why the leg becomes sore and weeping—The cause of swelling and aching pain. Whether you have suffered for only a few weeks or whether you have suffered for years, the brochure is a revelation. It gives most useful information and records an amazing volume of personal tributes.

Think of what it means to you to be free from leg trouble and to walk in comfort. You will do your housework with ease and your shopping becomes a pleasure. No embarrassing anxiety when you are at work or with your friends. Banish your leg trouble and you can take part with your friends in sports, recreations and social life. You can share the freedom and happiness of holidays. A new life is opened up to you. Here is the opportunity you have sought. Send for the brochure. Do not despair and suffer needlessly. Write today enclosing one shilling in stamps. Address your letter to:—

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CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

THE NEWSPAPER OF ANGLICANS
FREE CHURCHMEN AND ROMAN CATHOLICS
IN CAVERSHAM

No. 56

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Mixed Bag

THE COLUMNS of this edition of the *Caversham Bridge* contain news and comment about many aspects of local life: two of our Caversham councillors have contributed articles. We have news of the Residents Association and of Mapledurham Parish Council. We review productions by local drama groups and publish reports from organisations for young and old people, together with news of many local residents. All this suggests that, in spite of what some people say, there is a thriving local life with many men and women taking an active part in our community.

Newcomers sometimes express surprise that the Christians of Caversham should be sponsoring such a paper as the *Bridge* "What" they ask have all these things to do with the Christian Church? They say this because Church magazines have often been full of matters which are of little interest to the non-church-goer who understandably is not interested in reading the names of those arranging the church flowers each week. It is worth noting that when the parish of Caversham started a magazine in 1884 the pages were not unlike those of the present day *Caversham Bridge*. They contained cricket scores (Caversham v Biscuit Factory) and reports of local entertainments as well as news of the schools and local dispensary. The Church and St. Peter's was then the only Church in Caversham and was clearly closely involved in the whole life of the community. But as the years passed the content of the magazine became more concerned with purely ecclesiastical and less with community affairs.

A balance of course has to be kept. One newcomer decided not to buy the *Caversham Bridge* because it did not contain the times of the church services. This is fair criticism: the intention is to publish such information each month but as more material arrives standing matter of that kind tends to be postponed from month to month. Our circulation has increased, and local business has come to realise that the *Bridge* is a wonderful medium for advertising: at the same time the secretaries of more local organisations realise that our columns are the best way of obtaining publicity. All this is splendid but it does mean that there is little room available in the eight centre pages for articles that are not directly related to the life of Caversham.

The Christian life should be a full one.

This edition appears while we are still keeping the great forty days of Easter. "I am come" said our Lord "that they may have life, and may have it more abundantly."

The Christian believes that life on this earth should be good and abundant: the Church therefore should encourage people to take a part in creating a vigorous local community.

Elsewhere in this issue the forthcoming visit of Sir John Lawrence to the Churchmen's Luncheon Club is announced. Few laymen have done more than Sir John to think out what it means to be a Christian in everyday life. Many Caversham men are regular attenders at this monthly gathering in St. Laurence's Hall and I hope will be present when Sir John gives his talk. The disciples did not at first recognise our Lord after the Resurrection because they were still thinking of him as they knew him before the Crucifixion. It is only when we, who are involved in the life of the Church look out to the life of the community and cease to be so concerned with the survival of our ecclesiastical machinery that Christianity will make sense to all who live in Caversham today.

John Grimwade

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, MAY, 1969 - ONE



Mr. and Mrs. Hobday admiring the oil painting given to them by members of the congregation.

Photo: Walton Adams.

BY THE TIME THIS is published, Mr. and Mrs. Hobday will have retired to Sussex, where they have gone to live to be nearer their daughter and three grandchildren. But they will not be enjoying the break from voluntary work which usually follows such a move.

Mr. Hobday will already be involved in the problems of caring for ex-servicemen

through the various organisations to which he belongs, a job which gives him a great deal of satisfaction. In his capacity as President of an international organisation which deals with the reclaiming of waste material, he will also be once again touring Europe. And it is unlikely that Mrs. Hobday with all her valuable experience, will remain aloof from local organisations very long. Mrs. Hobday, whose family

are City of London people—her brother was Lord Mayor of London during the war—has been very much involved in local affairs ever since she came here. President of the local branch of the Women's Institute for eight years, she was kept very busy organising national savings during the war, and helped to start the local clinic in the days when orange juice first became the order of the day.

In the meantime we would like to send them our very best wishes for the future.

W.D.

BUY PEACE OF MIND

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Or, call in at the shop and see the range we carry—compare our prices with anyone.

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Spirit of Adventure

PATRICIA ANNE COSLETT

Patricia, a member of Caversham Heights Methodist Church, was for three years a member of the staff of Barclays Bank Reading.

Born in a military family she has, in her short life, done a great deal of travelling—from Rawalpindi in Pakistan to many of the countries this side of the iron curtain, then to Singapore and Malaya. It is not surprising that in August '68 the urge to travel once more asserted itself.

After much "shopping around" she eventually decided to join the WRAF in October and in November she was sent for basic training to Spittlegate near Grantham. During the next few weeks she underwent several tests and interviews and was finally selected for training as an Electronic Mechanic Navigational In-

struments—here it might be said that she has to some extent broken into a man's world, because only a very small percentage of girls are picked for this trade.

She has found the life most interesting and her time fully occupied at Cosford where she went in January '69 to undergo trade training. In her off duty time she has been able to attend international athletics on the camp—been swimming—practised Judo—become quite adept on the trampoline and been "behind the scenes" in Radio Cosford. On Sundays she goes to church, which she thoroughly enjoys and she tells us of the joy she has in knowing she is not forgotten at the "Heights".

At the end of April she will finish her trade training and is looking forward to the next move.



MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Coun. Bristow (Labour) and Coun. Sage (Conservative), who are present representatives for Caversham and Thames wards, seek re-election at the municipal elections on May 8th. The Caversham Bridge asked them to contribute articles on their work as councillors.

COUNCILLOR BRISTOW

At the end of another three years in office, I feel it my duty to render an account to the voters of Caversham.

First let me say that I make no apology for having voted for a 3d rate increase. The plain hard fact is that we have to pay—at an increased rate these days—for whatever we want, whether it be new schools or clinics for our children, better traffic conditions for all of us, or meals-on-wheels and home helps for our elderly citizens.

There is much to be done in Caversham and without this increase all kinds of restrictions will be imposed, particularly on education, highways and health services. Even library services will have to be cut.

Nevertheless, some things have been achieved in my recent term of office. The new school is almost finished, a car park at the bottom of School Lane has helped to relieve the parking problem in the Prospect Street area, the M.O.T. testers' meeting place has been moved to a more suitable site in Ardler Road, but shelters are to be dealt with in order of priority, and I have been able to get the assurance of the Town Clerk that further development requiring access on the Henley Road will not be permitted until the road itself is improved.

The junction of roads at the Star P.H. is in need of serious study before a fatal accident takes place. And the general problem of heavy vehicles using residential side roads as short cuts is a dangerous one. The Cardiff Road experiment, restricting heavy through traffic in Washington Road and South View Avenue is worthy of consideration.

I would like to see consideration given to the possibility of moving Caversham Nursery School to larger premises in the vacated St. John's, and for the building behind Elizabeth Flats to be used as a clinic.

And it goes without saying that I would like to see considerable improvement in the bus services. This can only be achieved by improvement to traffic flow on the main roads.

Finally, may I say that I have tried to give my services to the best of my ability and to deal with any particular or personal problems concerning local affairs which have been brought to my attention.

COUNCILLOR SAGE

Many people ask me "What does it mean to be a councillor?" Some have interest in their voices, some convey a note of surprise and others say "I can't imagine how you find the time" etc. What does it all amount to?

It means that, first and foremost, you must have a sincere interest in your Town and in its future: be prepared to spend many hours in Committee discussing ways and means of planning and spending your money in the best possible way.

You hope that you bring a commonsense and balanced view to Committee table and to the Council Chamber and that you reflect the views of the people who have elected you as their representative.

You share, with pleasure, in the go-ahead and progressive schemes which are in progress or are planned for the future: and experience disappointment in the ones which are held up for lack of funds or matters which are beyond control.

You visit, many people in the Ward which you represent and, if asked, give assistance or advice in various ways. It may be dealing with enquiries about transport, education, housing difficulties, repairs or roads and footpaths, child welfare, care of the elderly or anyone of a number of matters which are of everyday importance to the residents of a large town.

You are taking part in a service to the community and you try to do your best to uphold confidence placed in you by the electors when they voted for you to be their Councillor.

In turn—frustrating, exhilarating, tiring, amusing, satisfying—is it worthwhile? Yes, I think so!

TEA AT CAVERSHAM PARK

The Bishop of Reading and The Revd. and Mrs. John Crowe chatting to some of the residents of Caversham Park after a brief service of blessing 2 Blackwater Close on Sunday, March 24th.

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AT HOME

PASSPORT

PHOTOGRAPHS

TRAVELS IN MONGOLIA

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, MAY, 1969—THREE

Mongolia is not only remote geographically but very little is known about it by most Westerners, unlike Alan Sanders, of Kidmore End Road, who has just spent three months there on a period of study under a cultural agreement between our two countries.

Leaving the UK on 20th September, he travelled by rail via Moscow; it took five days on the Trans-Siberian railway to make the rest of the journey to Ulan Bator, the capital. For the benefit of the 'Bridge' readers, he has kindly given us a brief description of some of his impres-

sions. Mongolia, situated between China and the Soviet Union, is on a high plateau; Ulan Bator is 3,000 feet above sea level. The summers are very short and the winters very cold, the temperature at the beginning of January being somewhere around -40 C. But the atmosphere is dry and bearable, except when strong winds blow in from the Steppe, bringing with them clouds of thick yellow dust. It is a largely rural country and Alan found it to be a country of tents. Ulan Bator is a city of tents, Ulan Bator tents. Ulan Bator tents. Ulan Bator tents.



Photo: Walton Adams

The economy depends on livestock — sheep, goats, cattle, horses and camels. But industries are beginning to develop, not only in Ulan Bator but in the new town of Darhan and in Choybolsan. Although it is a Communist country, many people appear still to

be believers and one often sees effigies of the Buddha in the tents. Lamalism—that is the Tibetan form of Buddhism—as it developed in Mongolia became extremely corrupt and today no-one seems to mourn its passing as a force to be reckoned with. Until the 1920s something like one-third of the male population were lamas; they kept serfs.

Now only in the Gandan Monastery in Ulan Bator do lamas live and hold public services. Alan says if it is a curious sight to see a Buddhist service in which the lamas chant Buddhist scriptures in Tibetan to the accompaniment of gongs, drums, horns and bells.

Alan's second trip took him to the northern part of Gobi, which is semi-desert. He visited the provincial town and two co-operative farms. The great emptiness of the countryside will be apparent from the fact that one of these farms with a human population of 2,000 occupies about 550 sq. kilometres.

Just before his trip Alan's textbook on Mongolia appeared in print and was received with considerable acclaim as being a very valuable reference work. Perhaps we can hope that he will now follow this up with more first-hand descriptions of this little known country.

W.D.



Photo: Walton Adams

Mr. and Mrs. E. Salter of 296, Kidmore Road, Caversham, who have just celebrated their diamond wedding were married at the Church of St. Laurence, Tidmarsh, on 20th March, 1909. They have twin daughters and one grandson: their only son was killed in the 1939-1945 war. Mr. Salter is a retired head gardener, and is still actively interested in his own garden. They have lived in Caversham since 1943 and Mrs. Salter has been a member of St. Andrew's Mothers' Union for many years.

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RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

An annual general meeting is scarcely calculated to draw in the crowds and when it occurs on a night more reminiscent of November than spring-time, queues are not expected. Nevertheless, although not packed to capacity the AGM of the Residents' Association reflected the interests of Caversham as a whole. The 'bus service of course came in for its share of criticism. For example, the bus that used to take passengers from West Caversham to well used places such as the University and Progress Theatre now ends up in the no man's land of Erleigh Road, so to get to either of those places involves one in a long wait or a long walk. And of course there were all the complaints that have frequently been aired in this column and elsewhere. Unfortunately there is little the transport management can do about them for they also have their problems. However, this does not mean that the public should not make their feelings known or it might be concluded that everyone is satisfied with the service. As for the argument that 'buses often run empty therefore the need is not there, this is usually because when the choice is between arriving half an hour early or half an hour late at one's destination or else freezing in the town centre whilst changing buses, intending passengers either stay at home or seek alternative means of transport and when that means getting a car of their

own, yet another nail is knocked into the coffin of public transport.

However, to get back to the AGM — kerb side parking. Residents in streets near the shopping area are prepared to tolerate this when the cars are there only for a short time but when they are left there all day or all night, there is justifiable resentment.

We have now drawn the attention of the police to cars whose owners persistently indulge in this practice and we hope to see an improvement in the situation. There is now a car park off Wolsey Road and although it was not at the time of writing sign-posted it should be by now.

There was more talk of the swimming pool at Highdown School and although some members felt we were shooting at a dead duck, nevertheless there was no real support for the idea of a small pool. Highdown School, by the way, is the rather attractive name of the new school on the site of the present Grove School. We are told there is no truth in the rumour that the school song will be "Hey-down, hi-down".

The present committee found itself elected for another year with the exception of Mrs. Jane Mitchell, who has left Caversham and whom we are sorry to lose. Her place has been taken by Alderman G. Mander whose experience of local government will be a great asset to the committee.

M.C.

THE EDITOR REGRETS

... that space has compelled the omission of some material in this edition. The latest date for submitting material for the June edition is April 29th. It will be published on May 22nd.

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— Old people's clubs —

On Wednesday, March 12th—the Caversham Derby and Joan Club held its Twenty-First Birthday Celebration at the Balmore Hall.

A MAGNIFICENT PARTY

Before the splendid tea the 85 people present were entertained for an hour by the son of one of the W.R.V.S. helpers Mr. John Barlow of Mayfield Drive, Mr. Barlow, who has appeared in cabaret and variety shows in London and the principal south coast resorts confounded them with his magic and received tremendous applause.

POPULAR SUPPORT.

"The club started in the old St. Peter's School in School Lane on March 10th, 1948," said Mrs. Lewington who has been a helper from the beginning. "From the beginning it was the Women's Royal Voluntary Service who ran the club. Our original leader was Mrs. Inward who was with us for 14 years. It was a good club — well attended from the start. When numbers increased we came to the Balmore Hall in April 1952."

AN ACTIVE CLUB

Encouraged by the W.R.V.S.

—there have always been handicraft activities. Toymaking, knitting and sewing are done for the Save the Children Fund —and last year the Club won several prizes in the regional finals of the W.R.V.S. National Handicraft Competition.

LINK WITH QUEEN ANNE'S

Three of the four girls from Queen Anne's School who had been helping at the Club during February as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, were able to be presented at the party. Their help in the previous weeks had been much appreciated.

LONG TERM SERVICE

Mrs. Nunn has been the Leader of the Club for the last 7 years. Those who assist her include Mrs. Lewington, Mrs. Hale and Miss Ethel Hole who have been helpers for 21 years. The others, Mrs. Dawkins, Mrs. Manning, Miss Hume, Miss Dorah Hole and Mrs. Masters have also been with the club for many years.

"We are most grateful to those who help with transport, Miss Hasluck, Mrs. Besley and Mr. and Mrs. Price" said Mrs. Nunn. "However we could do with 1 or 2 more people with cars to bring members for the

Caversham and its outlying districts contains a fair number of clubs for the "old in years" but "young in spirit". We are glad to have a short article about two of the clubs in the area covered by the "Caversham Bridge."

start at 2 p.m. and take them home at 4 p.m." Meetings are held every Wednesday. Offers for help for occasional transport would be welcomed by Mrs. Nunn at 195 Henley Road (phone 73184).

— :: —

The Jubilee Club, which meets on the second Monday of each month at Trench Green Hall, Mapledurham, has 47 members. It was founded in 1964, the Jubilee year of the Oxfordshire Women's Institute. Mrs. Waller, who was then President, suggested that a fitting way in which to celebrate the Jubilee would be to form an old people's club.

A SCATTERED AREA

Geographically, Mapledurham is a large area. "It's such a scattered district," said Mrs. Collins of Thatch Cottage,

Chazey Heath, "It's always difficult to get around in the parish." Now a Chiltern Queen bus brings some of the members, and the 13 ladies who come from the Dysons Wood Oxfordshire County Council Home come in the hostel minibus.

LOYAL HELPERS

Since Mrs. Waller's departure Miss Mary Kift has been the Club's Leader, Mrs. Tinson the Treasurer, Miss Redmayne, Mrs. West, Mrs. Brain, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Beacroft, and Mrs. Skinner have all been helpers from the beginning. Mrs. Rosegeer deals with the raffle every month and Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Baxter and Mrs. Millican help with the teas.

BARGAIN PRICES

Bingo—the constant favourite—and special outings are the

popular activities of the club. But there are other advantages in belonging. Friendship and an exchange of news of the previous month. Also, because the club is affiliated to the Oxfordshire Association for the

care of Old People, members are able to buy goods (e.g. Marmite, Ovaltine and Horlicks) at cost price. Miss Kift would like it to be known that the Club is always ready to welcome new members. J.Y.C.



(Walton Adams)

Bargain prices at the Jubilee Club.

MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

"The monthly meeting of Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday 13th March, 1969. In the absence through indisposition of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman of the Council, Lt. Col. A. G. Elliot presided.

Facilities will shortly be available for the use of the play area at Chazey Heath. Subject to planning permission for a change of use of the land as a Play Area the land will be available from the 25th March for the children in that area to use the land as a Playing Field.

The severe weather of the past few weeks is one of the reasons why no road improvements have been carried out in Geoffreyson Road. However, it is hoped Messrs. Gants will soon be in a position, with assistance from the Oxfordshire C.C., to carry out the urgent repairs that are required in this road.

The Council have decided that because of lack of information received from the Reading and District Sports Council they are not prepared to submit a nomination to the Sports Council's Executive Committee, nor is it proposed to make any further financial contribution towards the Sports Council's funds.

Although at present the Parish Council are not making any representations to the County Council having regard to the possible car parking problems that may arise when the County Council construct the turning area at the bottom of the village, the Council will keep a watching brief on the position of car parking, and will take any action as required by the circumstances at the time.

POSTBAG

Dear Mr. Editor,

I was amused to read in your April issue the letter from Fred Basset to your canine readers. Like Fred, I am not amused when the footpath, and in particular that outside my house, is fouled by dogs, a situation which occurs far too often. Things have come to such a pass that I am in a militant mood and shall not hesitate to take to task any owner whose dog I find indulging in what can only be described as a filthy form of vandalism. I urge others to adopt similar tactics thereby ensuring that the footpaths of the district are kept in a fit condition for law abiding pedestrians.

Yours sincerely,
H. J. PILGRIM

64 Highmoor Road,
Caversham,
Reading.
RG4 7BG

SIR JOHN LAWRENCE VISITING LUNCH CLUB

Membership of the Churchmen Luncheon Club has increased considerably in the last few months, and is now nearing one hundred. The May meeting takes place in St. Laurence's Hall on Thursday May 8th at 1 p.m. when the guest speaker is to be Sir John Lawrence. Sir John is editor of the quarterly journal the "Frontier." He has for many years been closely connected with the Frontier group, a small but influential body of Christians of different denominations who have been concerned to think out the implications of the Christian faith in different walks of life. Sir John was press attaché at the British Embassy in Moscow during the war, and he has an unusual knowledge of present day trends in Russian thought as well as of the Orthodox Church. Any man who would like to join the club should contact either the Rector of Caversham or Mr. Eric Few at 10 Gun Street, Reading.



(Walton Adams)

Mrs. Lensington cutting the cake.

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Local Productions

CAVERSHAM PARK THEATRE

In his postscript, Bill MacIlwraith, the author of "The Anniversary", performed by the CAVERSHAM PARK THEATRE on 20th and 21st March, says among other things, that he purposely used a farcical technique, "not in order to make the play more palatable to the audience, but in the belief that through laughter a facet of family truth can be accepted without loss of sanity".

I would submit that the only facet of family truth an audience has to accept in this play is the bloody-mindedness of "dear old mum", created by the author. This point needs to be stressed to understand the mentality and the behaviour of the three sons. I could not see any of her "undeniable charm" and I certainly do not subscribe to MacIlwraith's assumption that she would have been crowned queen. She might not have been "drowned as a witch", but she should have certainly finished on a psychiatrist's couch to have some of her nastier complexes sorted out. In other words, I could not draw any useful lesson from this play for the average family in the audience.

I would simply describe the play as a farce, crude at times, drawing "gasps and guffaws" (Jack Lewis in "Sunday Citizen") and leave it at that. As such it was extremely entertaining and ably presented by Caversham Park Players under the direction of Richard Howard. The stage was well arranged and we witnessed some really fine acting by Muriel Lord (Mum), Diane Summerfield, Jose Buck, Michael Wilkinson, Allan Morton and especially Martyn Read who was perhaps the most relaxed of the six characters. However, the prompters should have been more discreet, especially during natural pauses.

Mapledurham Repertory Association

A week later, the MAPLEDURHAM REPERTORY ASSOCIATION presented "The Shadow Witness" by F. L. Cary and P. Weathers. A rich but arrogant old man disappeared from his house in the French countryside and all circumstances suggested that he was murdered by his farmer-nephew in an argument over money. Had the nephew been convicted of murder and presumably guillotined, his cousin would have become the heir to a comfortable fortune. Unfortunately for the cousin, however, the old man's lady secretary, with whom he conspired the old man's disposal, slipped up in her evidence. . .

A good thriller which gave little away and even then not a minute too soon. It needed a good cast to do justice to the play and the MRA did very well in this respect. It was probably one of those rare roles which fitted Yvonne Taylor (as farmer's wife) perfectly — quiet convincing and charming. Frank Boshier was tough and to the point as a farmer should be. Ray Lacey's personality and confidence created a very likeable French police inspector (no more swaying on the stage which, alas, spoiled some of his past performances). Much credit for the success of the play must go to Patrick Ross, Kathleen Bubb, Joy Osburn, Catherine Gemmel and Eileen Wake. Richard Govett's interpretation of the cousin, however, was way off the mark and sometimes almost wrecked the harmony of the cast. Lack of direction in his case was almost cruel. Considering that he is a "resident producer" and consequently under permanent pressure, I wonder whether the assistance of a director would not ease her task? P.G.

CHRIST IN THE CONCRETE CITY

Having heard such glowing reports of this play, I'm afraid to say I was a little disappointed. It seemed to me that it said nothing new to active Christians and was not sufficiently strong to have much to say to anyone else. True there were some dramatic moments, but they smacked of pure theatre rather than cold relevant fact.

Nevertheless it was well worth seeing; the cast were first class. It must be a very difficult play to perform, switching violently, as it does, from one emotion to another. Yet these youngsters managed to bring out the more poignant moments to the full.

The narration was excellent, and the dialogue so well spoken that almost every word came over clearly. I, for one, very much look forward to seeing the Caversham Drama Group in other plays. W.D.

Film of Caversham

Are you a keen cine enthusiast? Interested in producing home movies? Do you like adding sound? Is your speciality editing? It is hoped to form an amateur film group to produce a 10 minute film about Caversham to be shown to the community at large this coming autumn.

3 or 4 camera (8 mm.) men will be needed and a sound recordist, and others to help with the script, and over-all production and direction.

Planning will have to start at once. Anyone interested should contact the Rev. J. Y. Crowe, 2 Blackwater Close, Caversham Park Village: Tel. Reading 75152, or Mr. Michael Paxton, 28 St. Peter's Hill, Caversham: Tel. Reading 72113.



CAVERSHAM GUIDE IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY SERVICE

Charmian Beard, a Patrol Leader in the 1st Emmer Green Guide Company was chosen to lead the Re-affirmation of the Guide Promise at the Thinking Day Service at Westminster Abbey.

CONFERENCE ON DRUG DEPENDENCE

On the 27th March the Reading Branch of the National Council of Women held a highly successful One Day Conference on this problem. Dr. Antony Wood, Assistant M.O.H. Bristol was the main speaker in the morning. In the afternoon the speakers were Mrs. M. Craven, Organising Secretary of A.P.A. and Mr. J. P. Porter, Principal of Bulmershe College. They were then joined as a panel by Dr. T. J. Nokes, a Reading doctor; Mr. J. B. Payne, Principal Probation Officer; and Detective-Sergeant E. Suter of the Thames Valley Constabulary. There were no dearth of questions and the Chairman of the afternoon session, Mrs. J. Belcher, J.P., displayed great skill in getting full co-operation from the audience, including quite a few young people.

Towards the end of the proceedings, Mrs. Belcher called on Mrs. J. Mair to tell the Conference how, if a Branch of A.P.A. were set up locally, she envisaged it operating. Mrs. Mair told the Conference she saw this as mainly educational; it would provide speakers to talk to parents either as members of the many associations in existence here or to advise any individual parents seeking their help; it could provide counselling for the many young people leaving school who did not belong to any youth organisation. (These two categories are not catered for at all by any of the existing arrangements). A.P.A. could also set up Study Groups for those who wished to go into the problem in greater depth, and it would hope to organise periodic public "Teach-Ins" on the lines of the very successful ones already held in Windsor. A local branch of A.P.A. would hope to maintain liaison with the various authorities in the district, and also with any groups, such as "Youth for Christ", already operating in this field. This would appear to be absolutely in tune with what Baroness Sorensen advocated in the Lord's debate on this problem the day before this Conference, that is a combination of voluntary organisations co-operating with existing authorities.

The Chairman then suggested that anyone interested in the formation of such a branch should give in their names, and Mrs. Mair was asked to convene a meeting of these people. From the names

obtained at the Conference and with the help of people previously known, it is certain that a branch of A.P.A. can now be formed.

Re-prints of the two special articles on "Drug Dependence" published recently in "The Caversham Bridge" were widely circulated at the Conference.



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News in Brief . .

The Rev. G. Shearer, minister of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church recently attended the 73rd National Free Church Congress at Cardiff, and was pleased to discover that the new moderator is the Rev. A. C. Neil, a Manchester Presbyterian minister. He was much impressed by a notable sermon preached by Dr. Ironway Morgan, and by the contribution in general made by Welsh Nonconformity.

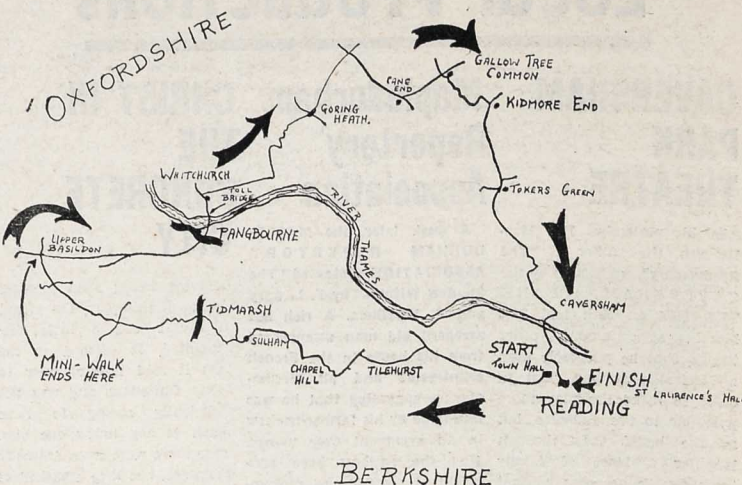
Walford Hall, Castle Street, Reading has recently been opened as a permanent social centre for blind people in Reading. During the next year the Reading Association for the Welfare of the Blind is aiming at raising £25,000 to clear the debt on this building. Mrs. K. Drew, Kylemore, The Warren, can supply further information about the work of Walford Hall and any contributions towards this can be sent to her.

Can Caversham do better?

Last year in Caversham and Emmer Green £514 was raised in Christian Aid week.

One hundred people from Caversham and Mapledurham took part in the ring Reading walk.

Could we double these figures this year?



An area as large as Caversham should easily be able to raise £1,000 in Christian Aid Week.

At least 200 from our congregations—quite apart from more volunteers from outside Churches—would be a more realistic number for this year's Two Counties All-Age Day Walk on Whit Monday, May 26th.

THE 'TOTAL RESPONSE' TO WORLD POVERTY.

Since last May—the fact that we all live in one small world has been brought home to us all by pictures from outer space.

From Apollo 8, Colonel Frank Borman and his fellow astronauts could see no division between black or white people, between rich and poor. To them, the planet Earth was truly One World.

Increasingly sophisticated communications bring our neighbours, in Zambia and Sarawak, closer to us. But the gap between

us, the rich people of our world, and the poor millions grows wider every year.

Our political attitudes—our trade policies—our control of the world's capital resources—all affect the majority who live in under-developed countries.

While we reach the moon in 1969, two thousand million people live in hovels, have too little to eat or die halfway through OUR normal life span. This is the biggest social problem of our time, whether we are Christians or not.



Cars... to take walkers home.

CHRISTIAN AID SHOWS THE WAY.

Since the problem of world poverty is so big, and so must be tackled by Governments—why does Christian Aid continue to seek more money? Because although the poverty gap will not be closed until the rich nations share their resources among the poor as well as among themselves, it is important to show the way with pilot schemes. Christian Aid's development "self-help" schemes have a value which is often out of all proportions to their modest cost.

At the same time an increasingly important job of pressure on the British Government is to increase British Aid to at least one per cent of our national income.

CAVERSHAM MONEY GOES TO FARM SCHOOL.

For the third year running our Christian Aid Week money will be part of the money from the Reading Area which will pay for the running costs of the Marangou Farm School in Tanzania. A total of £5,050 is needed.

Opened by President Nyerere—this project, entirely financed by Christian Aid, is doing very well. There are 60 students who do a two-year course in animal husbandry, crop production, farm management and book keeping. By 1972 this project will be self-supporting.

PLANS FOR CAVERSHAM.

There are more events for Christian Aid arranged in Caversham than ever before. We very much hope that people will make the effort to support them and encourage their friends as well.

Mrs. Yvonne Milne is organising a "Home-made" stall in the garden in front of her house at 267 Gosbrook Road. People willing to make bread, cakes, jam and sweets are asked to take their home-made produce to 267 Gosbrook Road on Friday evening, May 16th or early on Saturday morning, May 18th.

TWO COUNTIES WALK.

To make it more of an opportunity for families to witness their concern for the work of Christian Aid—and identify themselves with the millions of refugees who have to walk—this year's Walk will be a DAY WALK. Last year a fair number of middle-aged and elderly people took part as well as a large number of young people. We hope this year will be even more of an ALL-AGE WALK. The money from the walk will be used for short and long term relief in Biafra.

STAGGERED START.

There will be a staggered start from 7-30 —10 a.m. at the Town Hall. The route back to Reading is 25 miles long—but those who prefer a shorter walk can finish at Upper Basildon, 10 miles from the start. Cars will pick up walkers who decide they have gone far enough at all stages of the route—but there will be more cars available at Upper Basildon.

COUNTRY LANES.

Walkers will pass through portions of Berkshire and Oxfordshire flanking the Thames. Avoiding all main roads they will go through Tilehurst, Tidmarsh, Upper Basildon and Pangbourne. Here they will cross the toll bridge and go on through Whitchurch to Kidmore End and Caversham. The finish will be at St. Laurence's Hall.

CAVERSHAM VOLUNTEERS.

Besides providing a large number of walkers—we hope that Caversham will be able to offer a large number of helpers to act as marshals and car drivers to cover the route from Kidmore End to the finish at St. Laurence's Hall.

Walkers' and Helpers' forms will be available at the churches or can be obtained direct from the Walk Publicity Secretary, the Rev. J. Y. Crowe, 2 Blackwater Close, Caversham Park Village, Reading RG5 152.

Christian Aid recognises no barriers: if a man, woman or child or a whole community needs help, it is given regardless of race, colour, political or religious beliefs. Recognising the rightness of Christian Aid's policy of "need, not creed" the general public gladly join in, whatever may be their own religious beliefs or lack of them.

MAY EVENTS FOR CHRISTIAN AID

Wine and Cheese Evening with Films:
TUESDAY, MAY 6th: St. Barnabas' Hall

Bring and Buy Sale: Coffee:
WEDNESDAY, MAY 14th: Church House.
10-30—12 noon and 8-00—9-30 p.m.

Home-Made Produce Stall:
SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 17th:
Outside 267 Gosbrook Road.

Concert by The University Singers:
SUNDAY, MAY 18th, 6-30 p.m.: St. Barnabas' Church

Clothing Sale: Caversham Hall:
THURSDAY, MAY 29th 11-00 a.m.:
Coffee — Creche provided

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ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

Some two hundred people were present at the district meetings that were held on four successive nights during the week of March 10th, and a further hundred attended the annual vestry and parochial meeting on March 20th. Dr. E. V. Beale and Mr. C. V. Burnside were re-elected churchwardens. Parish income at £21,753 reached an all time record. Mr. H. Hitchman treasurer of the Caversham Missionary Union was able to report that £2,434 had been given to missionary work at home or overseas, this also being a record total. The district wardens at all four churches were reappointed but except at St. Andrew's voting for seats on the Church Council brought some alterations, and this year as many as ten ladies were elected. At St. Barnabas Messrs. R. Anderson, R. Bannan and L. Woolford did not seek re-election: Mr. R. Russell who had served till 1968 was elected together with two ladies for the first time—Mrs. M. Russell and Mrs. E. Alban. At St. John's Mr. Badger, who is to serve as treasurer replaces the former treasurer Mr. D. Jackson on the Church Council. Mrs. E. Evans won her seat back at St. Peter's. Mr. R. Hasluck who has served for many years is not a member for this year, and his presence will be greatly missed.

The annual parochial meeting ended with a valuable discussion on the growth of the parish, and a large map which had been specially prepared for the occasion by the Rev. M. T. Cooper helped those present to see how the pattern of work is changing with developments at Mapledurham and Caversham Park, and with part of the parish of Kidmore End likely soon to be incorporated into Caversham.

All the district meetings brought forth lively discussions and the results of the questionnaire about Series Two service of Holy Communion were circulated. At St. Barnabas a discussion took place about the possible re-arrangement of the furniture in church, but it was apparent that there was little likelihood of any easy solution of the problem. At St. John's a lively discussion ensued about spending money on adornments to worship in the face of the needs of underdeveloped areas.

The following were elected to the Church Council. (District Wardens). Messrs. H. Burton, W. Canning, C. Lorenc, P. South, F. Stephenson, Mesdames K. Besley, L. Cropp, K. Besley.

ST. JOHN'S: Messrs. C. G. House and K. J. Nicholls (District Wardens). Messrs. C. Badger, K. Deane, C. Fowler, G. Hansford, B. Wynn. Miss K. Harris.

ST. ANDREW'S: Messrs. F. Beetham and W. A. Vincent (District Wardens). Messrs. G. Canning, L. T. N. Hardy, P. Steer. Mesdames J. Debenham, G. Fowles, P. Nicholls.

ST. BARNABAS: Messrs. H. Gray and G. Page (District Wardens). Messrs. J. Bannan, G. Hall, R. Russell. Mesdames E. Alban, D. Gillings, A. M. Russell.

Parish Confirmation. The annual service of Confirmation will be conducted by the Bishop of Reading on Monday, May 12th at 8 p.m. at St. Barnabas.

ST. PETER'S: Messrs. S. A. B. Flack and F. C. Moore.

ST. JOHN'S NEWS

A NEW SOCIAL COMMITTEE

A new committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Mr. J. Houghton to plan St. John's social activities. Its members are Mr. D. Vince and Mr. B. Wynn, and Mrs. C. Neave and Mrs. B. Werrell. Its task is not to run each social event, but to shape the policy for the year, and then to invite as many different groups and individuals as possible to share in the running of the different occasions. They would value any suggestions or offers of help.

ASCENSION DAY

This is not only one of the greatest feasts in the Christian year, but this year it will also be the first Communion of those Confirmed on the previous Monday at St. Barnabas.

This year the feast falls on Thursday, 15th May. There will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 10 a.m., and a Sung Eucharist at 7.30 p.m., which will be followed by a social, which weather permitting will take place in the grounds. The funds unfortunately won't cover the cost of roasting an ox, but the organisers will do what they can.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

Before the days of wireless, television, cars and other forms of modern transport many people valued church services not only for worship, but as a form of social activity. Today we are surrounded by so many attractive and worthwhile activities, one has to be select-

ive in what one does. So quite reasonably, perhaps the majority of Christians are settling for one corporate act of worship a Sunday, instead of two or more.

This changing pattern of life means that all over the country the second main service of the day, in some churches a morning one, in others the evening one, is being less and less well attended. In St. John's this process is further advanced than in many places, so that there is now no longer any demand for a regular Sunday evening service, and therefore as from Easter, these will cease to be provided. Though as occasion arises, there will be special evening services.

ST. BARNABAS' NOTES

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Many children brought their parents to Church on Mothering Sunday to our Family Service at 11.00 a.m. Each child was given a packet of seeds so that he or she can grow flowers to present to mother later on and thus say "Thank-you." No doubt several fathers have been recruited to give assistance in this task. ... Looking forward to May there is to be another 30-minute Family Service on May 18th at 11.00 a.m., when the family worship God.

At 6.30 p.m. that same day we shall welcome the Reading University singers to St. Barnabas who will present music to mark Christian Aid week. I hope that many people will come to listen to this excellent group of singers.

300 TAKE PART IN BIBLE STUDY

More than 300 members of different Caversham churches—Anglican, Roman Catholic and Free Church took part in the different Bible groups held during Lent in houses all over Caversham. Mr. L. Wyeth, secretary of the Caversham Coordinating Committee, and a member of Caversham Baptist Church has sent the Caversham Bridge this report.

LENT BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

These groups have proved to be a helpful feature of our local church life. Some 35 groups met to study the Bible Reading Fellowship outline pamphlets on such topics as "Parables for Parishes," "The Great Feast," "Salvation," "Faith," and "Mission in the Bible." Gratitude is due to the Rev. C. T. Scott-Dempster and the Rev. J. Stevenson for their help in the initial stages of the preparation.

It has been requested that we ask the W.E.A. to organise a series of evening classes on the history of the New Testament, how the Gospels came to be written, the background of the writers, their way of life, etc., and six people have already said they would like to attend such a course. If arranged, the course would be held in the Caversham Adult Education Centre on a weekday evening next autumn. The W.E.A. require a minimum of 12 people to maintain a class.

A series of lectures has been arranged starting June 3rd in Reading with Dr. G. B. Caird on "Symbolism" and Canon Browning on "St. John's Gospel". Anyone interested in these ventures please inform me at 135 Hemden Road, Phone 71197.

L. WYETH.

The Marian Group

At their March meeting Mrs. Pat Crawford talked about the aims and methods of the Weight Watchers group. Although it was a very bad night, a good number turned up and were rewarded by a most amusing evening.

The Annual General Meeting is in April, and on May 20th Mr. North will give a talk about the history of Caversham. All ladies living in Caversham are invited to attend the Marian Group meetings. There is a charge of sixpence per meeting for non-members and annual membership costs 5s. ...

NEW WARDENS FOR ST. MARGARET'S

The parishioners of Mapledurham have not been in the habit of turning out in large numbers for the annual parochial meeting, but this year's meeting must have brought a record attendance. This was largely because it was also the occasion for saying farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Hobday before their departure for Sussex. Mr. C. Barnett, who also retired from the office of Churchwarden presented Mr. and Mrs. Hobday with an oil painting of Mapledurham church as a token gift from the congregation. Mr. R. Coates and Mr. B. A. Martyn Johns were elected as the new Churchwardens. The following were also elected to serve on the Parochial Church Council: Lord Thunlow, Messrs. D. B. Dean, H. M. Hutt, C. McCombe, G. W. O. Price, Miss M. Kiff and Mrs. B. M. K. Thompson. Refreshments were served by ladies of the congregation.

Blossom for St. Peter's Churchyard

Through the kindness of the University of Reading Wives Club a number of flowering trees and shrubs have been planted recently by their secretary Mrs. M. Foot in the Churchyard. It will of course be some years before much blossom can be expected from them but the many local residents who walk through the churchyard every day will look forward to the time when the extra blossom will enhance the churchyard which is so well kept by the Caversham Court gardeners.

MANY THANKS. Although Mr. and Mrs. Cleaver have been obliged to retire from their work looking after Balmore Hall after only fifteen months, yet in that time the interior of the hall has been greatly improved: this is largely due to the hard work put in by them. In a normal week several hundred people use the hall and all of them have reason to thank Mr. and Mrs. Cleaver for the improvements they have made.

WELCOME. Almost every month recently St. Peter's congregation has been welcoming newcomers. Among more recent arrivals are Mr. and Mrs. Smith and their family who have moved to 62 Woodcote Road. Mr. Smith was formerly churchwarden at St. Luke's Reading.

ASCENSION DAY. This great feast falls on Thursday, May 15th. At the Parish Communion at 8 p.m. the newly confirmed will be receiving the Sacrament for the first time. Holy Communion will also be celebrated at 7 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. and there will be the usual service for school-children at 10.15 a.m.

CONCERT POSTPONED. The concert that is being given by the New Elizabethan singers has been postponed from April 29th until May 6th.

BAPTIST GIVING

During 1968 the members and friends of Caversham Baptist Free Church donated nearly five hundred pounds to the various branches of missionary work at home and overseas in addition to gifts of knitted blankets and vests for which there is always an urgent need in the mission field. Such is the salient point of a recently published report compiled by Mrs. R. Alexander, the Church's Missionary Treasurer.

The Report indicates that the prime object of such giving is that of "outreach". It assists not only the preaching of the Gospel, but also the translation into practical terms Christ's concern for the sick, the hungry and the underprivileged in that substantial sums were given to medical and agricultural projects as well as to homes for the aged and the orphan.

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Women's world day of prayer

This was held at the Broad Street Congregational Church in Reading on the 7th March. It has been agreed that, in future, the Day will always be observed throughout the world on the First Friday in March, no matter when Easter falls.

The theme this year was "Growing Together in Christ". The theme, scriptures and prayers were proposed by women in Sierra Leone, Ghana, South Africa, Congo, Zambia and Kenya, and were co-ordinated by Miss Van Hoemstra, Secretary of the Department on Home and Family of the All Africa Church Conference.

The church was packed. The Mayor and Mayoress attended. The service was conducted entirely by women; the Salvation Army provided the choir and one of their officers, who had spent many years in Africa, gave the address. This was quite beautifully done; it was a careful and "mannered" performance, very different from the present fashion of speaking in a fairly informal manner from a few jotted headings.

In between whiles we repeatedly sang "Kum Ba Yah," which was just about my level as I did not know all the hymns. This worried the kind Methodist lady sitting next to me who kept plying me with sinister and repellent black throat pellets "to make you sing better, dear." Did she not know it, I cannot really sing anyway even though, with organ blaring and everyone else singing full blast, it is fun to have a go.

ST. ANDREW'S NEWS

The Church of England is not often noted for its social conscience, but one man who has done a great deal to repair this gap is Father Joe Williamson. Until his retirement a few years ago, Father Joe worked ceaselessly in the East End of London. He campaigned for slum clearance and better housing conditions. He was particularly concerned to help the "down and outs", the prostitutes and girls in moral danger. To this end he opened Church House, Wellclose Square, in Stepney, to give such people a temporary home base from which they could find suitable employment and eventually return to normal society. This work is still being carried on and is paid for by the Wellclose Square Fund, for which we hope to raise £400 at the Summer Fair.

Father Joe will be the preacher at the Family Eucharist on Ascension Day, May 15th. This is an opportunity which should not be missed. Those who would like to know more about Father Joe should read his autobiography called "Father Joe" published in paperback by Hodder and Stoughton.

BARN DANCE

There will be another Barn Dance in St. Andrew's Hall on Saturday, May 10th. Tickets (price 5s.) and further details may be obtained from Mr. Canning, 50 Highmoor Road.

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MAPLEWOOD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Annual Meeting was presided over by Mrs. Ridley who welcomed Mrs. S. Hill, VCO and Mrs. Sizer, Group link member. The Treasurer's and Secretary's reports for the previous year were very satisfactory. After the President's address, during which she thanked members for their help and support, the elections took place. Mrs. Ridley was re-elected President, Mrs. B. Lewis and Mrs. Wyeth, Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Alford Secretary and Mrs. Clamp Treasurer. A report on Drama was given by Mrs. Duckworth, Mrs. Lewis gave a report on Community Work which includes providing car drivers for spastic children, to supplement the hospital car service. We still have 23 members belonging to the League of Friends of Reading Hospitals, some of whom help in the Tea Bar, office, or with members of the knitting circle, or by selling goods at the Bargain Boutique at St. Mary's Hall.

Mrs. Hill gave a talk on the future of the W.I. and Maplewood W.I. in particular. Mrs. Hemmings thanked her. Mrs. Harden, our delegate to the Spring Council Meeting, gave a very interesting report. Mem-

bers were reminded about the Group Meeting at Beenham. Two burseries are to be allocated for courses at Denman College, one of £10 and one of £5. Easter Eggs are to be given to the boys of St. Benet's Home as usual.

MAPLEDURHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At the Annual General Meeting Mrs. Lacey was elected President, Mrs. Collard Secretary and Mrs. Deacon Treasurer. Tickers Green Institute provided the tellers; the competition cup was presented to Mrs. Collard.

As it was her last meeting before leaving the district, Mrs. Hobday, a past president provided a delicious tea for members. Mrs. Skinner, retiring president, presented Mrs. Hobday with a china ash tray as a memento from the Institute.

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

On their way home from their March meeting, Caversham Heights Townswomen could have been forgiven if they were on the look-out for cut-throats and footpads, and if they found themselves peering behind every tree for lurking assassins it was only because some of them, at any rate, had a sneaking desire to practice some of the arts of self-defence demonstrated to them by Miss Enid Baker. Miss Baker, a Black Belt 1st Dan in Kyushindo, Judo and Karate, and Ladies National Coach, told members that she specialised in Kyushindo—the

gentle way of Judo, which is based on co-ordinated movement and concentrates on maintaining suppleness of the body. She spoke of the long history of Judo and said that every move was based on the natural way the body moves. She used volunteers from her audience to demonstrate how even a slightly-built woman could react swiftly to sudden attack by blocking an oncoming blow, and at the same time co-ordinating it with an effective counter-attacking movement.

Later in their meeting members were pleased to welcome Mrs. Hilary Hinchcliffe, organiser of voluntary help to the St. Birinus Group of mental hospitals. She spoke of the need for extra individual care for each patient, and said that by taking part in this sort of voluntary work the community outside could help the community inside feel less isolated. In Borocourt there was a great need for more adults to work with children, and she felt that in sharing the burden of mental ill-health with a wider circle the public would have an easier acquaintance with it and the institutions themselves would greatly benefit.

The Social Studies Group had held an interesting meeting during the month when the Rev. Roger Packer had spoken on an A.B.C. of Music. Mr. Packer had explained many musical terms and had demon-

strated harmony and the use of pedals in the piano, and had given great pleasure by playing Chopin's Nocturne in E Flat.

MARGARET HILL.

CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

At the March meeting of the Guild there was a good attendance and four new members were welcomed by Mrs. A. Smith the Chairman.

Mrs. A. Quiller a founder member who is leaving the district was presented with a gift of two trays in appreciation of her work for the Guild and particularly as leader of the Chiltern group of knitters who work so hard for the babies of the Chiltern Nursery College.

The speaker was Miss Susan Hare, librarian to the Goldsmith's Company and she gave a most interesting account of the growth of the guilds from Medieval times to the present day when eighty-four still survive, the Goldsmiths being among the top twelve. The work of the latter Company formed a most absorbing narrative and fully justified a hearty vote of thanks to the speaker, given by Mrs. K. Rarety.

Members were then entertained by a performance of four Charades organised by Miss I. L. Davis.

SOCIAL STUDIES Thirty-three members and friends enjoyed a visit to McDougall's mill and warehouse at Andover

where they saw the processes involved in dealing with the wheat, from the grain to the finished product seen in the bag of finest self-raising flour.

of our heritage. The interesting details and slides of less usual aspects of well-known buildings aroused our wish to go sight-seeing in London once again.

ROSEHILL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Annual General Meeting was held on Monday March 3. Mrs. Sizer (President) presided. After the President had thanked her committee for their services rendered during the past year, Mrs. Booker, treasurer, presented the financial statement. Mrs. Neal, acting Secretary, read the Annual Report. The election of Committee Members was then announced and our new President will be Mrs. Green.

A talk was given by Mrs. Hill V.C.O. on good Institutes. The competition for "A four line verse on MY PET HATE was won by Mrs. Beasley. Runners-up Mrs. Keeling and Mrs. Young.

EMMER GREEN TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

Mr. C. Hard in his illustrated talk on "Unknown London" gave us a renewed appreciation

The Drama Group are to be congratulated on their excellent production of "The Showdown." They were the winners for the third time, at the Berks and North Hampshire Townswomen's Guilds Drama Festival.

BLAGRAVE W.I.

The Annual General Meeting held in March was presided over by Mrs. Sholl, who welcomed Mrs. Parnall, VCO. The president thanked all members for their support and help during the third progressive year. Miss Reynolds, secretary, gave a full report on a successful year; Mrs. Moore, treasurer, presented the financial report.

Mrs. Parnall, VCO, gave an interesting talk on the social life to be obtained from W.I.

The birthday posies were presented, including our oldest member, Mrs. Wright was elected the new president. The flower of the month competition was won by Mrs. Sholl.

MORE THOUGHTS OF A ROVING REPORTER

We are very sorry to report the death of one of Caversham's oldest residents, Mrs. Emily Strong of Westfield Road. Aged 93, she died on the 25th March.

Mrs. Strong lived and worshipped in Caversham ever since she was eighteen years old. Although almost blind, she spent many hours making shawls and dish-cloths for the Blind Association. She was full of life and always interested in the people around her and she will be very much missed by her family. Our thoughts go out at this time to her daughter, Sylvia.

A little late, I'm afraid—but I've only just heard of the engagement of Beryl Hutchinson of St. Peter's Avenue, and Matthew Sturman of Sheridan Avenue, Beryl, who has been connected with St. Peter's for many years, and has been a member of the choir is training to be a nurse at the local hospital. We would like to offer our very best wishes to them both and look forward to reporting on the wedding in due course.

More news from Mr. and Mrs. Hester who, you may remember, flew out to visit three of their children in Canada and the US. For the past four months they have divided their time between their son, whom they hadn't seen for 12 years, Toronto, and their daughter in Elyria, Ohio. In April they fly out to British Columbia to spend six months with another daughter who emigrated in 1966.

On their return to England yet another of their children will be missing from the family group. Their third son and his family are emigrating to Australia.

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May Sunday Services

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

St. Peter's

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9-15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION
11-00 a.m. Matins (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.

St. Andrew's

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9-15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.
11-15 a.m. Holy Communion.
6-30 p.m. Evensong.

St. Barnabas

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9-15 a.m. Family Eucharist.
6-30 p.m. Evensong.

St. Margaret's, Mapledurham

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th Sundays).
9-15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION.
6-30 Evensong (1st and 3rd Sundays).

SALVATION ARMY

Prospect Street

3-00 p.m. Young People.
6-30 p.m. Adults

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.

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It's happening all over

King Canute couldn't do it—and neither will Convocation of the Church of England or the Methodist Conference. Logic alone shows that you can't stop a rising tide—and whatever the outcome of debating and voting, the fact is that in more and more places and in more and more ways, Anglicans and Methodists are co-operating together as they never have before.

In many parts of the country formal re-union will only serve as a rubber stamp to something that is already a reality, and the Sharing of Churches Bill which is before Parliament and almost certain to be passed, makes the whole process easier.

What has been found true in the mission field is just as true at home. A divided Church is an ineffective Church. Arguing about theological niceties doesn't make it any the less ineffective. This is not something we say—but something which we see up and down the country.

LOCAL CHRISTIANS WILL NO LONGER PUT UP WITH A POINTLESS WASTING AWAY OF THE CHURCHES' RESOURCES.

On this page we look at just a few of the things that are happening—and which will go on happening—though not as happily or efficiently—even if formal re-union comes or not.

Here, it's a matter of unity on wheels

A new housing estate at Popley, Basingstoke, is served by a church on wheels. Recently dedicated by the Bishop of Winchester, Dr. Falkner Allison and the Rev. Cyril Wainwright the Chairman of the South West London Methodist District.

The Caravan Church of St. Gabriel is being used to serve the needs of people moving in. The Rev. R. G. Clarke, the Church of England Priest-in-charge, sees his church on wheels not only as a focal point for worship but as a symbol of the close co-operation that has existed from the very beginning between Anglicans and Methodists in this area.

"Once a month," Mr. Catholics and members of

a Free Church Service which is conducted by the Methodists and we have also had a joint celebration of the Eucharist. The whole thing was meant to be a joint effort from the beginning and I work very closely with Dennis Williams the Methodist Minister."

Every Friday morning the two clergymen meet to discuss their activities in the area, and their close co-operation has developed into a much wider ecumenical activity.

There is an ecumenical visiting team at work at Popley, which includes not only the Anglicans and the Methodists but also Roman Catholics and members of the Salvation Army.



Rev. R. G. CLARKE

Mr. Clarke said: "There needs to be the closest co-operation between neighbouring clergy of all denominations."

In Popley it looks as if it is working.

Newcastle church joins Methodist circuit

Looking ahead to the inauguration of Stage One of the Anglican/Methodist unity scheme, a Newcastle parish church has joined the local Methodist circuit for a three month period, from April to June 1969 with the permission of the Bishop, Dr. H. E. Ashdown.

The church is St. James and St. Basil, Fenham, which becomes church No. 11 on the quarterly plan of the Methodist North-West Newcastle Circuit. During the three months clergy and lay readers will preach in Methodist churches, while Methodist ministers and local preachers will participate in some services at St. James and St. Basil.

SCHOOL WITH A DIFFERENCE

DENNIS CAIRNS—THE HEADMASTER OF A BRAND NEW ANGLICAN/METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOL AT BRINSCALL IN LANCASHIRE WRITES ABOUT THIS EXPERIMENT.

"What a mouthful!" was the comment of one parent on hearing the official name of this new school—St. John's Church of England—Methodist (Aided) Primary School, Brinscall. I agree with him, and in the minds of many of us directly associated with

the school, the name has already become either "St. John's Church School" or simply "St. John's."

This is as it should be, for denominational labels mean little to the 240 children who are now attending the school.

I am proud to be the first headmaster of this school, but conscious also of the tremendous amount of work which lies ahead if this unique experiment in church co-operation at a very practical and essential level is to prove successful.

In the past, church schools have been of one denomination or another, imparting their own doctrinal and denominational

teaching. Now we have a voluntary school embracing two denominations which have much in common but which, nevertheless, are not without their differences.

What, therefore, is to be the attitude of the Anglican and Methodist Churches towards religious education in this school? For me, personally, this poses no problem. The spiritual, physical and mental facets of education are inextricably bound up one with the other.

To teach on strictly denominational lines (whether they be Anglican or Methodist) means that we shall simply be perpetuat-

ing the old differences and will have gained nothing by this venture.

So, quite simply, we must be prepared to teach these young children that in Christ's Church there are no barriers, except those of man's making, and that if the Church's mission to the world is to be fulfilled then it must be united in every sense of the word.

If this challenge can be accepted by the Church authorities, by the congregations of the local churches, and by the parents, and the Staff given the support that we will need, then all concerned will have good reason to be proud of St. John's.



Children in the playground of the new joint Methodist and Church of England School at Brinscall.

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Ready to be in the swim?

By DEE DOVER

Have you started to think about holidays on sun kissed beaches with lazy swims in deep blue seas? Sounds idyllic doesn't it, but are you really up to that swim in the sea? Most of us learn to swim as children then seldom go near the water except at holiday times.

Every year over 1,000 people are drowned. Now is the time to learn to swim or have a refresher course.

One should never learn to swim in the sea, this is far too dangerous. Most large towns have a heated pool where a qualified instructor gives lessons. If you have difficulty in getting lessons, your local education dept., may be able to help, classes are often run in conjunction with evening institutes.

Tuition is never very expensive. Usually there are separate sessions for men and women (if you feel sensitive) in addition to mixed bathing.

COSTUME

First of all make sure your bathing costume is comfortable. A one piece suit with built up straps is best. Ladies: don't choose one with a frilly skirt, this might be ideal for sun bathing, but will slow you down in the water. There are bathing caps on the market to suit all heads and hair do's.

Some public baths insist on caps being worn by everyone. It is only sense to keep your hair dry in cold weather to avoid head colds.

There are several swimming aids in the shops which will give you confidence. Arm floats which are inflated, cost around 6s a pair and are invaluable. You can also get a waist belt made up of small pockets. Both of these can have the amount of air in them reduced as you learn to swim.

There is no absolute first stroke to be learnt. Some find the crawl easier than the breast stroke. Others might prefer to float initially. This is why a good instructor is necessary, he knows that once you can move around in the water confidence is increased a hundredfold.

There is no age at which it is preferable one should learn to swim. Obviously the younger one starts the better. Mother and children sessions are wonderful. Having mum there is important to a slightly nervous child. It is best if mother can swim. This is why I, and at least half a dozen other mums I know first learnt to swim.

Swimming in an indoor pool without currents or tides is vastly different from being in the sea. You should be able to swim the length of your baths with ease before attempting the sea. When you have built up enough strength to do several widths or the length without stopping, you are ready for the big ocean.

CURRENTS

The buoyancy of the salt water is a help. Remember to keep within your depth. Don't swim out to sea but parallel to the beach. The first time you venture into the sea try to go out with a strong swimmer. If there are heavy currents stick to the baths. There is no point in becoming another statistic.

Swimming is a most exhilarating pastime. It can be enjoyed at any age. It is never too late to learn to swim. If you want to look like Esther Williams or Bobbie McGregor this Summer, now is the time to join a club and jump in at the shallow end.

FAMILY

Television

by Diana Dewes

Cops and robbers

THE LOCAL BOBBY, the parson, and the doctor—people hold them at arms length. They regard them as not quite human, as extra specially endowed establishment figures. The local bobby patrols his beat on foot, on horse-back, by panda car—the average citizen notices him around, solid and reassuring. He's a welcome if remote figure to the law abiding—and a threatening one to the criminal.

The violent and exciting side of the world of cops and robbers makes vivid films and hits newspaper headlines. Humdrum routine police work remains for most of the public behind the scenes.

Until that is, the force became the popular subject for television series—series that turn television police officers into stars, and mere constables into teenagers pin-ups.

"Z Cars" reveals the inside working of patrolling police cars, and "Softly, Softly" takes the lid off the crime squad organisation. Gripping excitement is only one of their ingredients. Criminals on the run, safe-breaking, police informed by radio, the chase in a stolen vehicle, police cars converging, a scuffle before arrests are made—all that could be a single case for a policeman on duty, a single episode on the television.

ROUTINE

The series show that behind the dramatic events that make the headlines lies routine work. Filing, reporting, and recording, interviewing suspects, checking witnesses, liaising with other departments, are some of the background jobs that lead to the prevention of crime.

In "Z Cars" and "Softly, Softly," it is obvious that men and women who earn their living as policemen and detectives are very normal people.

It is good to know that coppers have their local pub like other people and that they too get disillusioned, frightened, angry and tired. Their work can be intense sometimes for long hours, which puts extra strain on their domestic lives. "Z Cars" shows policemen's wives who can't stand it and their husbands who crack-up. Chucking it up as a career is sometimes mentioned but a sense of vocation for the job makes that seem unlikely.

Certainly unattractive moments are revealed. The crime squad in multi comes up against the temptations that face officers in positions of power. They can be tempted to turn to bullying when they need the truth from a witness. Tempted to make hours of close personal questioning into downright grilling.

MAY SHOCK

Tempted to make a showy, perhaps unnecessary arrest, in the hope of promotion. The policy of using paid informants may shock viewers who are ignorant of the practise. It is not attractive to see one man being paid for a tip-off about another.

Although the fight is against crime there is obviously a strong rapport between police and criminals. It is their world which "Z Cars," and "Softly, Softly" have made increasingly fascinating to the television audience which, thanks to those programmes, can have a realistic sympathy for the policeman and his testing job.



The Softly Softly men relax over a 'jar.'



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FOCUS

'IF YOU SAIL UNDER THE SKULL AND CROSS BONES'

MY FIRST attempt at character substitution was in the school playground when I became Jack Hobbs

The bane of my life at that time was a fast left arm slinger who on successive days had bowled me first ball. I decided to copy the great man's stance and mannerisms at the wicket, yet the outcome was the same as before.

I felt a good deal better about it all the same. After all if the Jack Hobbs couldn't cope with the demon bowler, how could I?

Not since those days have I desired to be someone else quite so much, as I would now like to be M. C. Cowdrey in time for the 1970 cricket season.

Very much an establishment figure, nothing short of a dramatic loss of form will prevent Cowdrey leading England against the South African tourists.

I OPEN

The scene is the opening day of the first Test match, overnight I have announced on the David Frost show that I intend to open the innings myself accompanied by the president of M.C.C. Sir Alec Douglas Home.

Having won the toss and elected to bat, Sir Alec and I, make our way to the wicket, followed by the tourists.

As pink gins are lowered in respectful silence the fielders take up their positions,

there is a prolonged hush as the great E. F. A. Cowdrey is seen to approach the tourists' captain. With all the effortless grace that one associates with a great batsman he fells the South African with a delicately executed late cut.

Sir Alec hurls his bat high in the air and using a wicket as a baton leads the crowd in singing "We shall not be moved."

I should hasten to explain that I have nothing personally against the Pollock brothers and company, but if you sail under the skull and crossbones you must expect to be treated as a pirate.

A lot of people including myself who lay modest claim to being enthusiastic about cricket under any circumstances are very unhappy about M.C.C. inviting the

Sport, by
Ernest
Adkins



Colin Cowdrey in practice at the nets.

South Africans to tour here next year.

CLICHES

The invitation was shrouded in cliches about 'keeping the bridge of cricket open'—'the game's the thing'—and 'keeping politics out of cricket'.

All this is in connection with a country that rejected an English touring team because one of its members was a coloured man, and has practised politics in sport for eighty years by restricting membership of its national teams to white members only.

The governing body of cricket, the M.C.C., embraces cricketers of all races within its domestic framework and we rejoice at their presence. By inviting the South Africans we are helping to perpetuate a segregation in sport that is not tolerated in the society in which we choose to live.

NOT AVAILABLE

My faith in humanity would be considerably restored if just one English cricketer announced as a matter of principle that he was not available for selection.

Just how do the players South African and English stand on this question? We don't know. Gentlemen, stand up and be counted.

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COMPASS N. MAY 1969 7



Junior Compass
by Brenda Holloway



Hello what's yer name?

'What's in a name?' asked William Shakespeare. 'A rose by any other name would smell as sweet'.

Right Mr. Shakespeare, of course it would. But we need names all the same. A fine old mess we'd get into if some people called a rose 'a rose', and some called it 'a gangly goo', and some called it 'a wally bamber', and other people called it 'an ushy-to-ta'. The rose would still smell as sweet, but nobody would know what on earth everybody was talking about.

PAIR OFF THESE FAMOUS NAMES

Christopher	Charles
Engelbert	Black
Jesus	Wilson
Prince	Humperdinck
Harold	Columbus
Cilla	Christ

(Answers below)

IS YOUR NAME HERE?

Hidden in each sentence is the name of a boy or girl. Example: I am a belligerent person. Answer: Mabel.

Some of them may do it.
Casual and easy steps.
This ally is very dark.

Kick a tennis ball.
Better ice cream.
I like this jam especially.
(Answers below)

THE NAME WENT WRONG

In Alaska in North America there is a famous goldtown with the name of NOME. It is said that in an early draft map of Alaska one cape was left nameless. Someone spotted this, and pencilled on the cape the query 'Name?' Later, the man who copied the map not only misread the word, but mistook the pencilled query for the name of the place, and carefully printed NOME. And by this name it has been known ever since.

A NAME AND A NICKNAME

Did you know that Jesus changed the name of one of his disciples? Peter's parents had given him the name of Simon. Jesus called him PETER, which meant 'a rock'. As for James and John, who were hot-headed brothers, Jesus nicknamed them BOANERGES, which means 'Sons of Thunder'!

MISSING VOWELS

Can you put the correct vowels in this sentence in place of the crosses.
x gxxd nxmx xs rxthxr tx bx chxxn thxn grxxt rxchxs.

(Answer below)

FOR COMPASS CLUB MEMBERS

Remember to cut out this month's emblem—No. 4. If you have collected the four different emblems you can send for your free ballpoint pen to the address below.

We were glad to receive your letters, and especially the letters from Sally Johnstone (201) and Sandra Brittain (245).

THIS MONTH'S CODE MESSAGE

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ANSWERS TO PUZZLES:

Pairs: Christopher Columbus; Engelbert Humperdinck; Jesus Christ; Prince Charles; Harold Wilson; Cilla Black.

Hidden names: Emma; Alan; Sally; Kate; Eric; James.

Missing vowels: A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches.

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Christian Aid : we KNOW but will we DO ?



High speed well drilling in India.

by John Goode, secretary of Birmingham Council of Churches and local organiser of Christian Aid.

WE'VE BEEN told often enough that there are two thousand million people who live in tin shacks, have little to eat or will die halfway through our normal life-span. We've been told it and WE KNOW IT.

The fact that we know does not always move us to do anything about what has been described as the greatest social evil the world has ever known. The gap between the 'haves' and 'have-nots' gets wider every day—the wider the gap, the more difficult it is to cross.

For the last twelve years the Churches of this Country have organised a Christian Aid Week in May. Christian Aid is a Department of the British Council of Churches linked with similar organisations at home and throughout the world.

It is therefore part of the world Church in action but it is not a 'Lady Bountiful' distributing her gifts to the poor or imagining that all the problems were overseas.

Christian Aid is identified with small projects in this Country. The facts that thousands of people are on the move all over the world provides an opportunity for Christian Aid to support the appointment of Community workers in Birmingham and other Cities.

The main thrust of Christian Aid activity is on the World poverty front and here it has a two-fold task: to meet immediate need and to provide for long term development.

Immediate need

A criticism often levelled at the Church is that she is too preoccupied with building hospitals at the bottom of the cliff and not enough with providing fences at the top. Christian Aid is well aware of this danger, but people are dying of hunger and urgent means must be found to prevent this and that means more money.

Then food can be flown into Biafra and mobile clinics to Nigeria; resettlement camps in Vietnam can be staffed and famine in India can be relieved. To this end Christian Aid will raise £2 million this year and the 'hospital' operation will continue to expand. But the fences are important.

The cause of most poverty is economic stagnation. Christian Aid's most important work is development—helping people to help themselves and their own communities. This means the provision of better seeds for the farmers, outboard motors for fishermen, more educational facilities, improved roads, trade and technical training. In short, development is the process by which people can be enabled to break out of the vicious spiral which traps them, and begin to live a new and fuller life.

THE PROBLEM OF WORLD POVERTY CAN BE RESOLVED IF WE GET OUR PRIORITIES RIGHT. IT WILL BE A GREAT ACHIEVEMENT WHEN MAN FIRST STEPS ONTO THE MOON BUT TO A LARGE EXTENT IT WILL BE AT THE COST OF THOUSANDS OF LIVES WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN SAVED. CHRISTIAN AID IS A REMINDER TO THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD THAT ALL OUR WORDS AND GOOD INTENTIONS ARE NO SUBSTITUTE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF JUSTICE.



A boy and a cup: What's his future?

QUAKER PEACE TESTIMONY

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WASTE of Blood WASTE of tears
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Alan Brash, director of Christian Aid

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A fresh look at some of the agencies at work in 1969

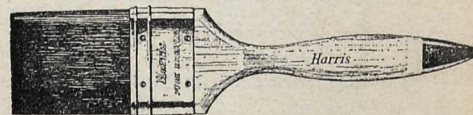
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