



CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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COMPASS, N. 7, NOVEMBER, 1969-1

November 1969

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TOUGH AT THE TOP



... Long striding beauty queens

Linda Goldstraw, winner of the T.V. Million Dollar Legs Competition, a former Secretary for the Church of England Social Work in Birmingham and a member of her local congregation.

WE'RE SURROUNDED, dominated, by the super-people. They walk tall through the world, jetting from capital to capital — successful, important people of our times. The sporting giants, the long-striding beauty queens, the fast-talking, nimble-witted politicians, the technical and scientific wizards of the space age. They are the trend setters, the decision makers, they make things happen. They stand in the spotlight on the centre of the stage.

Where do church people stand in this zip-zam scene? Nowhere at all, most people would say. Christians have a reputation for being dowdy, old-fashioned, out of touch, collecting half-pennies for good causes — usually the repair of the church's roof.

The image is not exciting. No matter — God's love often comes to us in unfashionable ways, through a stable and a cross for example, through the tireless work of a priest who has never 'made a name for himself', through a district nurse's years of bathing bed sores.

BUT NOT ALL CHRISTIANS ARE ABLE TO WORK UNKNOWN. MANY DO STAND IN THE SPOTLIGHT OF FAME. HERE, TO SHOW THIS SIDE OF THE COIN, WE PAY TRIBUTE TO THOSE MEN AND WOMEN WHO TRY TO FOLLOW CHRIST AMONG THE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES AND TEMPTATIONS THAT SURROUND THOSE IN THE PUBLIC EYE.



Photo: Peter Mitchell, Camera Press, London.

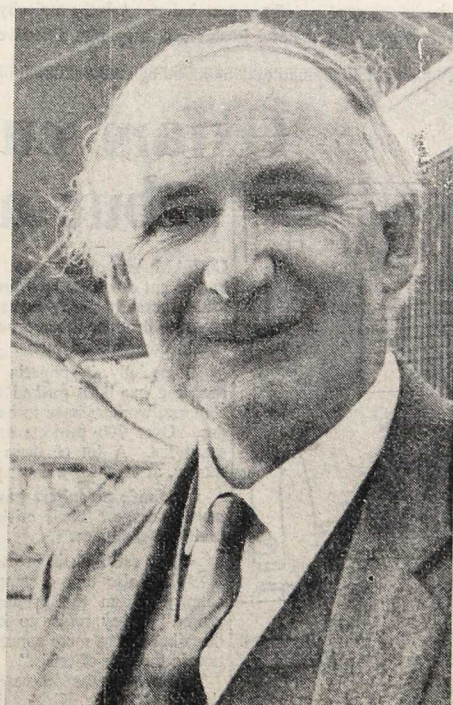
... Fast talking nimble witted politicians

Quintin Hogg, speaks out for his political beliefs, and his Christian faith.



... The sporting giants

David Hemery Olympic Gold Medallist and European Silver Medallist openly confesses his Christian convictions.



... Technical and scientific wizards

Bernard Lovell, Director of Jodrell Bank and world authority on Radio Astronomy is also a church organist.

Christians

in the public eye

D/SX 1758/6/11



SOAPBOX

There's a danger in democracy

When Guy Fawkes and his cronies hatched the Gunpowder Plot and nearly succeeded in blowing up the Houses of Parliament, they were making a protest against unfair government.

Roman Catholics in this country since the reign of Henry VIII had suffered under harsh and unfair laws. They were a minority group, and their only hope of altering the situation was the drastic step of blowing up the King and those who supported him in making the law.

Today we don't hold with such things. We know that there are other ways of righting wrongs, and instead of using a keg of gunpowder we write to our M.P.

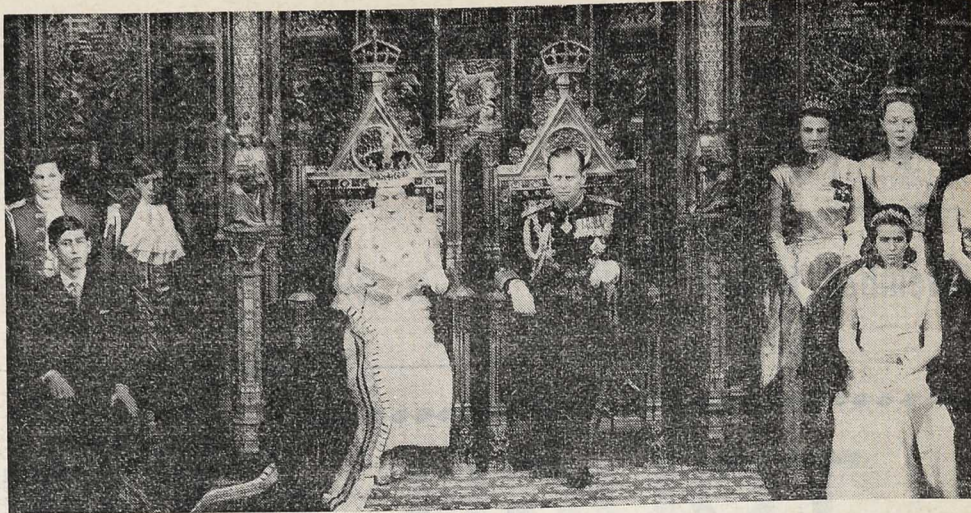
In fact we wallow a bit in the fact that we're a democracy. We're proud of our Mother of Parliaments. We, the free peoples of the Western world look down upon our downtrodden oppos behind the iron curtain or in some fascist state, and revel in our independence.

Of course to a certain extent we're right to do so. We have got a vote, we can criticise the government, public opinion still carries great weight. We do enjoy a large measure of freedom.

But there is another side—and we mustn't kid ourselves that it doesn't exist.

For all the talk about 'government for the people, by the people and of the people', most of us have very little say once the government—either national or local—is in power.

Ask any council tenants if they're free. Of course they're not. They can't put a nail in the wall or a fence round the garden without permission. Ask the majority of people in the hotel business if they like Selective



The Queen opens Parliament.

Employment Tax. Of course they don't. They'd abolish it tomorrow if they had the chance.

Democracy simply means that ordinary people have a say in who should stand in the corridors of power, and if things get too bad, some hope of pushing them out. They can't do very much about the situation in between. Once elected a government is all powerful for five years, and there's not a lot that Tom, Dick or Harry can do about it. If they could government might end in chaos.

BUT THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THAT THIS GOVERNMENT WILL BE A GOOD ONE IF TOM, DICK AND HARRY HAVE GIVEN A GREAT DEAL OF THOUGHT TO HOW THEY EXERCISE THEIR VOTE WHEN ELECTION TIME COMES ALONG.

If they make sure they know who the candidates are and what they stand for. If they put their X alongside a name because in their opinion this is the best

man for the job, and if they are prepared to let their views be known when the government or local council they have elected seem to follow unwise policies.

If they don't, then Democracy can turn out to be a fraud. They get a government that represents only a minority and which has no more checks on it than a dictatorship.

We tend to be disillusioned with politics in this country. Politicians must take their fair share of the blame but so must we. We don't take our democratic privileges — such as they are — seriously enough, and minority rule by extremists is often the result. It has happened in some of our Trade Unions. It could happen in Parliament.

THERE'S GREAT DANGER IN DEMOCRACY IF ORDINARY PEOPLE DON'T TAKE IT SERIOUSLY, AND THERE IS PLENTY OF EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT AT THE MOMENT THAT'S JUST THE SITUATION WE'RE IN.

Oxfam cut grants — but aim high



"And what is this wonderful discovery you've stumbled on, 798?"

OXFAM, one of the great voluntary aid organisations, has had to cut down on new grants for development projects in the desperately needy areas of the world. This is because of some drop in income but also because of the non-stop rise in demands on funds.

Especially in Nigeria and the Middle East Oxfam spending has been pushed up by crisis situations. Now its staff and workers have to be brutal in their choice of priorities. Over 700 projects are listed on a recent four-page grant list. A lot of these will have to do without extra money, at least for a short time.

Oxfam's organisers have grasped this nettle with their usual courage. Their crisis is an opportunity—an opportunity to challenge.

They call for still greater generosity to the aid societies. They also urge a stepped-up campaign to educate the country "from the primary schools to the corridors of power." They refuse to be what Director Leslie Kirkley describes as "a mere sop to the national conscience, a gesture in the face of crisis."

Alongside the decrease in governmental aid from the rich countries Mr. Kirkley detects a spreading public apathy about world poverty.

SO OXFAM FACES THE 1970'S DETERMINED TO BE, WITH THE OTHER VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, A WEAPON FOR ACHIEVING BY PUBLIC PRESSURE GREATLY INCREASED GOVERNMENT AID.

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BOYS IN TROUBLE

**For many,
approved school
is the best thing**
by A. NICKLIN

PARENTS who hear a magistrate tell their son that he is to be sent to an approved school naturally feel unhappy.

is warned the boy seems determined to get into trouble and inevitably makes his appearance before the Juvenile Court.

NOT PUNISHMENT

Let us follow the case of a boy who has been sent to an approved school and see what this entails. Perhaps at this stage it should be made clear that attendance at an approved school is for *corrective training* and not punishment.

The boy is escorted from the court by a policeman to an ante-room where he waits until transport is available to take him to the nearest grading centre. He travels there in his own clothes, taking nothing else with him. Clothes will be provided when he arrives.

The purpose of the grading centre is to decide to which approved school the boy will be sent bearing in mind the nature of his offence and where and when a vacancy occurs. Where possible he is sent to a school within reasonable travelling distance from his home.

On arrival at the centre the boy's parents are notified of his address and also told when they may visit him.

After spending several weeks at the centre, the boy is transferred to an approved school. He is usually taken there by a probation officer.

FIRM DISCIPLINE

Once the boy arrives at the school he is fitted out with clothes and assigned to various jobs. These are usually cleaning and clearing up duties under the supervision of one of the masters. The regulations of the school are sensible but not severe. In many cases boys are allowed outside the school premises for short visits to a shop but they are subject to firm discipline at all times.

After a boy has settled down he is given a choice of perhaps two or three types of work. It may be building, woodwork, engineering, depending on circumstances. At the end of the day when work is done, the boy may spend the evening in the games room or television lounge until bedtime.

At all stages reports are made on the boy's progress

by the headmaster and members of the school staff. If these are favourable, the boy may be allowed to visit home on Saturdays provided he reports back usually by about 8 p.m.

SMARTLY DRESSED

Once a month a boy may be allowed to spend a weekend at home returning to school on Sunday evening.

The boy is encouraged to take on responsibilities and to respond to trust placed in him by the Headmaster and his staff. Meals at the school are regular and the food good and plentiful. The boy is given a well-cut suit and raincoat, shoes, shirt and underclothes so that when he comes home he is always smartly dressed and well turned out. Every encouragement is given him to take a pride in his appearance.

A boy who really makes an effort to obtain good reports is usually called before a committee after he has been at the school for about 12 months. Subject to them being satisfied with his progress, efforts are then made to find him a job in his home town. After the boy returns home a probation

officer is assigned to watch his efforts to settle down to work and this is done in the friendliest possible way. The boy is made to feel that here is a friend to whom he can turn should he need any advice or encouragement.

There is no doubt that for many boys, attendance at an approved school instils in them a new-found sense of adult responsibility and accustoms them to discipline which is not always provided by their parents. Indeed, for many boys their approved school has laid the foundation to enable them to become responsible citizens — in fact, for some, it was the best thing that could have happened to them!

SENSE OF SHAME

No parent likes the idea of their son being sent to an approved school; they feel a sense of shame at the implied criticism of their ability to cope, whether this be true or not.

Should your son be sent to an approved school be comforted by the fact that it will do him no harm. The chances are that he will gain a great deal of worthwhile experience and return home with a new outlook on life.



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They have given us their names



Rudolf Diesel 1858-1913

by C. J. FRANCIS

Heavy haulage lorries, passenger locomotives and ocean-going liners are just some of today's varied forms of transport which use diesel engines as their source of motive power. The inventor of this internal-combustion engine which uses oil in place of petroleum was a brilliant German engineer named Rudolf Diesel.

In 1893 Diesel published a thesis which was to be the forerunner of his famous engine. Despite adverse criticism from some fellow engineers who claimed his idea was an uneconomic proposition, Diesel put his model engine on public view for the first time at the Munich Exhibition of 1898.

Convinced that his engine had vast potentiality in the commercial market, Diesel disregarded the cynics' advice and soon founded a factory to manufacture it. Although he spent a lifetime perfecting his invention, Diesel was never to see its world-wide application. On a September evening in 1913 he fell overboard from a steamer in the English Channel and was drowned.

TREMOL TREATMENT

for relief from the effects of PSORIASIS.

- PSORIASIS forms a white lustrous scale on a reddened area of skin. Both the scale and skin are always dry unless broken or brought away by too much scratching or combing. In most cases the reddened skin is of normal temperature and the scale thick and raised on the skin, especially on the scalp, elbows and knees. Where the skin is of a finer texture, as on the body, scaling takes place as thin flakes or a light powder.
- PSORIASIS may be hereditary, may occur with puberty, may follow injury, exposure, shock or worry, or may be due to faulty nutrition and faulty elimination. It may also be persistent and recurring and sufferers often despair of ever having a clear and healthy skin.
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When fire engine power starts to go . . .

Every few weeks I have to do a round trip of some 180 miles, and on these runs a car tends to show off endearing little tricks that you never notice in a month of twenty-mile runs. One such trick that my car

has makes itself felt about this time of the year. It's a fairly uncommon one nowadays, but worth bearing in mind—symptoms, cause and cure. First, symptoms. You drive for an hour or so one

frosty morning, and everything's going fine. Then for no obvious reason you begin to lose power. In a few minutes more you are hard put to keep rolling even in second gear. You stop: the engine dies at

once and won't restart. You suspect misfiring on one or more cylinders—possibly oiled-up plugs. You take them out and look at them. Not a thing wrong! You check the rest of the ignition—perfect. In disgust you switch on and press the starter again . . . she starts as if there had never been anything wrong at all!

No more . . .

Twenty, thirty, fifty miles later the same thing happens again. Or, if you're lucky, the sun comes out, the day warms up and you get no more trouble.

And there's the clue.

Your carburettor is designed to evaporate petrol, and mix the vapour with air in the right proportions for burning in your engine. Now you know what happens when you get a drop of lighter fuel or methylated spirits on your hand. It evaporates quickly—and chills your hand too!

CAR SENSE

by Brian Favell

Mixed feelings

There was talk of them moving back. But somehow the years passed and Jenny and her mother stayed put among the mean dreary streets which became ever more depressing as the area was cleared and new blocks of flats soared skywards. Lately they viewed with mixed feelings the prospect of being rehoused. Only Jenny made the odd reference to the possibility of moving to East Anglia if her mother died before her.

We frequently wondered why they stayed. Money was no serious bar; Jenny had a very good job across the river and could well have afforded a fairly high rent. Most of their old friends now lived miles away and Jenny herself was prevented, by the nature of her work, from making new ones.

Between herself and the neighbours—with whom they were on very friendly terms—was the great gulf which divides the educated from the uneducated those with wide interests from those without. The neighbours might be good, but they were not friends, we felt.

In recent weeks, members of the family have made the long journey to the East End, savouring the friendliness of the people, but grateful that we no longer lived in such a district. We visited—but all offers of help were refused. The neighbours, we were told were wonderful.

And indeed they were. They shopped, they accompanied Jenny and her mother to hospital, they did odd jobs in the house, they made sure the house was safely locked at night. When a drunk fell through the front window, the neighbours were there almost before the glass stopped falling, to clear up and board up, and later to put in new glass.

Finally, they helped with the funeral arrangements, they accompanied Jenny on her rounds to undertakers, insurance companies, banks, and so on. They prepared for visitors coming from outside town for the funeral.

I belong . . .

I went up for the occasion, anxious to find out Jenny's plans for the future, hoping to persuade her to return with me, for a time at least. There wasn't, of course, much opportunity to talk, but when I left Jenny accompanied me to the door.

"I've often thought of going back to Mum's home", she said, "but you know the people round here have been so wonderful, I can't help feeling this is where I belong".

A liquid needs heat to make it evaporate. The obvious example is a kettle boiling on your gas. Volatile liquids like methylated spirit or petrol are so eager to evaporate they steal heat from their surroundings—so your hand, and your carburettor, get chilled.

Normally this doesn't matter: but when the air temperature is already near to freezing point this chilling process can reduce the temperature inside your carburettor to below freezing. Air being drawn through it is cooled and moisture in the air freezes instantaneously.

In course of time a layer of ice builds up on that part of your carburettor where the petrol is evaporated from—the main jet assembly. And then it restricts the flow of petrol vapour. The engine begins to misfire because the mixture is too weak. And if you try to keep going matters get worse until you are forced to stop.

Sit and wait

The cure? Just sit and wait! Heat from the engine will soon begin to thaw the ice-cap from off the main jet. A five minute wait and you can restart as if nothing had happened.

A permanent cure? If your car is liable to this trouble I know of only one thing which can help. You try and raise the air temperature in your engine compartment in cold weather by blanking off part of the radiator with a blind—or even a piece of cardboard. This will have other advantages too—but do remember to remove your piece of cardboard when the warmer weather comes round again!

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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FREE CHURCHMEN AND ROMAN CATHOLICS
IN CAVERSHAM

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BILL GOOD WITH HIS TWO CARS

Photo—Walton Adams.

Bill Good has always been interested in anything that is hand-made. Human craftsmanship and skill have always fascinated him.

Customers at his shop in Church Street and passers-by often get a glimpse of this interest as they see one of Mr. Good's two "vintage" cars parked in the drive. But those who are "in the know" realise that only one of these cars is a true vintage model.

His own design.

The smaller of the two cars is in fact the product of over

3 years work. Bill bought a 1948 Bentley chassis and engine and then designed and built the body so that the car should appear to be a vintage model. "I did it out of my head", he explained. "I knew what I wanted it to look like. Now it's almost finished. There are a few minor details to be completed—for instance some of the upholstery—but my wife and I have already done 500 miles in her". Mr. and Mrs. Good intend to use their "new" car for holidays.

1924 Vintage Model.

The other much larger Bentley is a Red Label 3 litre Speed Model. It has had many owners. When it was originally bought in 1924 it cost £1,200, which would have been a considerable sum of money in those days. Bill Good has owned it for 14 years. He rebuilt it completely in his spare time over 6 years. It still has the original engine which has clocked up over half a million miles.

Bill belongs to the Bentley Drivers' Club and goes to the Vintage Car Racing at Silverstone twice a year.

His great-grandfather was a coach builder and his father was interested in cars in the early days of motoring. Clearly a lot of ability has been passed down from generation to generation.

Inherited abilities.

Why the interest in vintage cars?—"I've always been interested in hand-made things as opposed to mass produced articles. Every hand-made car had a different character. The old cars were made to last. It's all so different today. Cars lack character" said Bill.

Bill and his wife Vera have lived at 10 Church Street for nearly 30 years, and are well-known at St. Anne's where they have been going to Mass for over 40 years.

J.Y.C.



All Saints - and All Fools

[I]t is unlikely that the 20th century will go down as an age of faith.

And because we lack faith to-day there are few real saints around. The mark of a saint is not so much his goodness as his faith. The great hymn we associate with All Saints Day that I hope we will all be observing on November 1st has as its key line these words.

"Who Thee by faith before the world confest."

But faith is not a fossilised thing, it is a living and growing thing. It was because Mary Magdalen was looking for the Jesus she had known before Good Friday that she did not at once recognise him on Easter Day. And the Church of God is short of saints today because our faith is rooted in things connected with the Church that have now lost their relevance. Changes have to come though this does not mean that all the proposals made for change are necessarily the right ones. It is easier to point out the need for change than it is to find the right solution.

But it is sometimes better to make a wrong decision than make no decision at all.

If we are really going to try to live like the saints, by faith, then we will want to express in our lives the quality that seems so characteristic of them—the quality of joyous prophetic nonconformity. As I see them the great saints are the people with the courage of their convictions who do not mind being thought odd.

NO ROOM FOR REBELS

Our way of life today is such that it is becoming increasingly hard for the individual to be an individual. Party politics has killed individualism both in Parliament and the Town Council. There are so many of us that there is an understandable need for more rules and regulations in all departments of life. We are reduced to a kind of standard mediocrity. There is no room for the rebel. But the saints are just those who, because they had a firm and unshakable faith, were not restrained by the ecclesiastical systems of their age. St. Francis, Albert Schweitzer, Studdert Kennedy—these were natural rebels—and if England is to be a Christian country again then we need in the Church of God more men and women who are prepared to rebel against the system—but rebel not in a negative but in a constructive way.

We have to break out and make acts of faith, risking being cut off in the process. I believe that we Anglicans have got to make the act of faith our Methodist brethren have already made—we must go ahead with Anglican-Methodist unity, we must act in faith.

THE NEED FOR HUMOUR

And another mark of saintliness is a sense of humour and fun. I recently bought an excellent anthology of prayers. There are some 1,800 prayers in the book indexed under almost every possible subject—but there is no prayer in it for a sense of humour.

We Caversham Christians have got many things in our Church life that are very good. But we've got a mighty long way to go yet. "Rejoice and be glad" says our Lord in the Beatitudes that will be read for the Gospel at the Eucharist on All Saints Day. Can we make a sense of joyous adventurous freedom something of the hallmark of Caversham Christianity? Being a loyal rebel is surely a mark of saintliness—loyal to our Lord but willing to serve Him in a spirit of adventure.

"Nothing venture—nothing win—it's love that makes the world go round." That is what Jack Point, the jester, sings in the Yeoman of the Guard. And what we need is more men and women who will be jesters—fools for Christ's sake, willing because of their faith and love to venture forth to win the world for Christ. Until we are All Fools we shall never become All Saints.

John Grimwade

SOS

S.O.S.

Area Organiser's
A few extracts from one
"diary."

"On a routine visit found the householder in a very distressed state and all alone—a very near relative had died a few days earlier. Gave the necessary help".

Received a card saying Mrs. . . . wished to see me urgently. Found that the trouble mainly was loneliness, and made a couple of appointments for her to see a dentist etc. and fixed transport for these.

From March until his discharge in August, Caversham Bridge Scheme has taken Mrs. . . . to visit her husband in hospital, regularly once a week, got a night commode for him and been instrumental in finally getting a chair in which he could be taken out. Knowing he is able to go out makes a great difference to him.

Started a transport rota for taking Darby and Joan members to the Club.

Request received for an invalid to be taken for short outings in a wheel chair or for car rides. Someone has promised to take this lady for a drive soon".

In all the areas volunteer

drivers are desperately needed. If you can offer to drive someone in an emergency, for an essential appointment where no other means is suitable, or to a Darby and Joan Club meeting on a Wednesday afternoon, please give your name and address and telephone number to me or any Area Organiser.

If you would like to visit someone who lives alone and is possibly housebound, please also give your name etc., as above. Your help will be welcome.

K. P. BESLEY,
Central Organiser.

THE BRIDGE SCHEME A HELP-YOUR- NEIGHBOUR VENTURE

WHOM TO CONTACT CENTRAL ORGANISER

Mrs. K. P. Besley,
38, Priest Hill, Caversham
72374
Dr. E. V. Beale (North Caversham),
1, Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green, 71644
Mr. F. C. Moore (South Caversham),
52 Highmoor Road, Caversham, 72694
Mrs. W. Evans (East Caversham),
33 Derby Road, Caversham, 71755
Mr. P. H. Marsh (West Caversham),
12 Wincroft Road, Caversham 71183
Mrs. G. Thompson (Mapledurham),
205, Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham, 71328

LOCAL PRODUCTIONS

NEW SEASON OPENS IN CAVERSHAM

"Village for sale—95 per cent mortgage available" said the programme of the latest CAVERSHAM PARK THEATRE hit presented at Chiltern Edge School on 18th-20th September. After hearing the contents of this "intimate revue," I thought that a 100 per cent mortgage and a golden handshake would have been more appropriate. For the outsiders, it was a revelation that the residents of the Caversham Park Village can actually laugh at their luck in the hope that the developers may take notice?). For a while I only smiled, afraid of not being misunderstood by my neighbours in the audience. After all, how would an outsider dare to agree with all the damning criticism on the stage! Even here the Caversham Park villagers maintained their stiff upper lip.

However, the cat was out of the bag. Things that have been said in private have now burst out into a mighty protest, cleverly engineered

by John Adams, Jill Burland, Peter Cockman, Pip Parry and Cecil Hole. I must admire their courage as well as their taste. The sketches were never overdone, although a few could have been shorter and some 'intermezzos' cut out. The tempo of some of them—"The Black and Midnight Hags" for instance—was terrific. "Car Driver's Lament," "Housewife Dream," Alf Garnett's of the village and Marx Brothers baby-sitting service were most entertaining.

The success of the revue, in which about 60 people of almost all ages took part, was due to a large extent to the excellent three-piece band (Martyn Read, Phil Bridstocke and Spencer Tubb.) No slip-ups, perfect timing. There were many rousing tunes, with singers and choruses alert and lively. Three packed performances and spontaneous applause in between and at the end of each were well deserved.

A week later, CAVERSHAM DRAMA presented at St. Andrew's Hall "BONAVENTURE" by Charlotte Hastings with Heather Mumme in the title role. The story of Sarat Carn (Jane Sutton), a gifted artiste, sentenced to die for the murder of her brother and stranded

with the police escort at the convent on the way to the gallows because of floods, becomes the story of Sister Mary Bonaventure who has yet to find fulfilment in her mission.

Firmly believing in Sarat's innocence, but against the advice of the Mother Superior (Philippa Thomas), Sister Bonaventure re-examines the evidence presented at the trial in search of new clues. The setting is ideal: the convent doctor (Robert Harris) is also the doctor who attended Sarat's brother, a partially paralysed alcoholic, and who gave the vital evidence for the prosecution. The brother died from an overdose of drugs. With the doctor away on business and with her wedding approaching, Sarat was the only one who could have any motive for administering the fatal dose, especially after receiving a letter from a woman in California who committed suicide blaming her brother for her plight. But this affair was never mentioned in court, nor was

the fact that the doctor travelled to California for the woman's funeral. Putting two and two together, Sister Bonaventure's logic forced the doctor to admit that the dead woman was in fact his wife.

The rest was a matter of deduction. With the doctor in Sarat's place, the audience sighed with relief.

An excellent play with plenty of opportunity for good acting. As expected, CAVERSHAM DRAMA lived up to its reputation. In fact, it was the best production so far. Some of the more permanent members of the group are obviously finding their feet on the stage, which under Mrs. Debenham's able direction is not surprising. The satisfying part of this play is that each character has something to say and something important to contribute to its success. In this Clare Shepherd, Beth Akers, Peter Goodman, Howard Cudby, Shirley Thomson and Yvonne Jackson made a splendid contribution.

P.G.

RANDOM JOTTINGS of an R.C. LAYMAN

Having had a splendid holiday in two parts, I'm missing two issues of the "Caversham Bridge." I picked up the October issue and was delighted to see that Bishop Huddleston is coming to Caversham to preach at a special Ecumenical service to mark the beginning of our Mayday week. This will be a wonderful opportunity to hear an outstanding man who has never flinched from speaking out on subjects such as race relations, housing and poverty, and who not only has spoken out, but has made personal sacrifices to do something about them.

HOUSING

It is of course a disgrace that with all our modern technology we, in this relatively rich country, are failing to house our own people properly. The Government claim a good house-building record, but it is not good enough. I am pleased to see Shelter is to be one of the recipients of whatever money gets raised during Mayday week. The family unit depends on a home, but unless something on a big scale gets done to provide homes, the family as a unit looks like going to the wall.

THE YOUNG

During my second holiday I had to take my fifteen year old son and a friend to Ports-

mouth to get the Isle of Wight ferry for THE festival. This was hilarious: young people in various way-out garments, strung around with beads, beards and guitars, all converged on good old Pompey, watched with fatherly smiles by the local police, and were duly ferried over by British Rail to their Mecca. The sheer weight of their numbers appalled me, but the ones I saw seemed gentle and rather sweet, and so I gather the Isle of Wight found nearly all 150,000 plus of them. The whole thing was a wild success and everyone behaved beautifully. "Because," said my son's friend a trifle smugly, "It was organised by young people for the young."

These two camped on land belonging to the monks at Quarr Abbey, who were not uninterested in the Festival. I think the famous plain-song must have waged a losing battle against the amplified beat of the electric guitars.

FOOTNOTE: Except for mentioning the monks at Quarr, I have deliberately kept off R.C. news. Enough ink has been spilt over 'Ulster,' 'Priestly Celibacy,' 'Crisis of Authority,' etc. to float a battleship. I shall hope for better luck next month.

ON LOAN TO ETON



Walton Adams

Mapledurham Church Council have recently obtained a faculty from the Chancellor of the diocese of Oxford enabling them to lend the Savill flagon, their most precious possession to Eton College. This flagon which bears the hall mark of 1598 was one of a pair that Lady Margaret Savill, wife of the then Provost of Eton, gave to the college. Subsequently the college gave one of these flagons to the Surrey parish of Worpleston and the other to Mapledurham; it is not exactly known when the gift was made to Mapledurham, but the flagon is mentioned in the inventory of the Church plate that was made on Lady Day 1845 by Lady Sarah Fitzclarence whose husband was then vicar of St. Margaret's. Lady Fitzclarence's husband himself presented seven other pieces of plate to the parish and these have now been placed on loan to the Victoria and Albert museum.

Dated 1831 they bear the sacred monogram and cross, surrounded by a crown of thorns, and carry on them the Royal Arms. They are a very interesting example of their period but lack the beauty of the much earlier Savill flagon.

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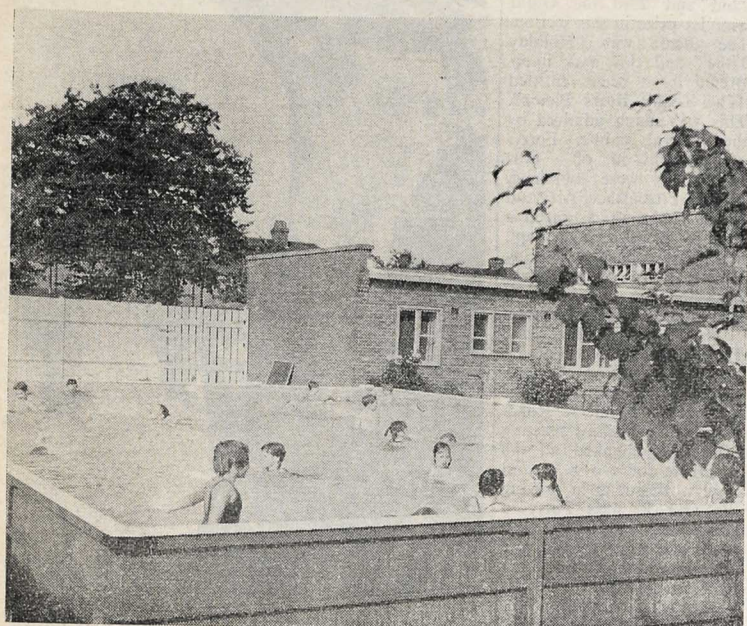


Photo: Walton Adams.

Many Caversham people will have heard of the new swimming pool at the Hill School.

How many, I wonder, realise that it was built in only two months, being started on 14th May and opened on 12th July.

This mammoth effort was the outcome of a decision by the Parents' Association, but it is no secret that the biggest share of the work was done by Andrew and Marian Mawby, of South View Avenue, who have two children at the school.

Andrew, whose trade is building, offered to super-

vise; actually he did the lion's share, ably assisted by Marian who did most of the paintwork.

It is a lovely large pool, three feet deep and constantly heated, fitted with all modern filters so that it never has to be emptied. There are changing rooms and showers.

While Mr. and Mrs. Mawby got down to the actual work aided by a small group of parents and half a dozen publicly-spirited people who had no actual connection with the school, others were busy fund-raising. Of the £2,000 which has so far been spent on the pool, a large amount has already

been collected. But other events are in the pipe-line and it would be a nice thought if people in the locality would support them as much as possible.

We have always maintained that the provision of swimming pools is of vital importance to our children, living as near to the river as we do. Thanks to Mr. Mawby and his small band of enthusiasts, the headmaster, Mr. Knott and one or two of his colleagues, not forgetting Charlie Brown the caretaker who so conscientiously changes the filters and regulates the heating, the children at the Hill School will start with a tremendous advantage.

CAVERSHAM NIGHT LIFE

Anyone who thinks television has stifled enterprise should have been in the scrum on enrolment night at Caversham Evening Institute.

It seemed the whole of Caversham were anxious to spend their evenings learning languages, dress-making, pottery and a hundred and one other things being offered. It was good to see Charlie Welfare back in charge again after his long illness, and I have been asked to mention that it is Mrs. Welfare and her happy band of helpers who turn out evening after evening to make cups of tea.

So thick were the crowds that it was impossible to

hazard a guess as to the most popular classes. Pottery, art, dressmaking and soft-furnishings are obvious favourites, keep-fit classes permanently popular and languages very much on the increase. There was the lady who was taking up German to keep up with her schoolgirl daughter and the very many with their eyes on next year's holidays. I met at least two Caversham people teaching languages and a pottery teacher who not many years ago was learning herself at the same Institute.

Later in the season we hope to send a reporter down to the school to see how they are all getting on.

W.D.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, NOVEMBER, 1969—THREE

Golden Wedding

Although Florrie and Bernard Howman have lived for many years in Swainstone Road, Reading, there was no shortage of Caversham reminiscences when they celebrated their Golden Wedding at the Oddfellows Hall in September. For Mr. and Mrs. Howman were married at St. John's Church and lived in Caversham until the last war.

At St. John's Church Bernard was a Sunday school teacher and a Server, continuing his activities at St. Andrews and St. Barnabas after they moved from Briants Avenue to Hemdean Road.

It was while living there that they took in as an evacuee the sister of Owen Clark, mentioned in a "Bridge" article recently in connection with the retirement of Miss Gibbons.

Keen readers of the "Bridge", Mr. and Mrs. Howman noticed this item and forwarded it to their other evacuee, Sylvia Ward. She in turn forwarded it to the Clark family and I understand it has now been sent on to Owen where he is working as a missionary in Africa.

Sylvia herself, now married, and her parents were at the party, together with many Caversham people and friends from the Oddfellows of which Mr. and Mrs. Howman have been enthusiastic members for many years. In 1938, 1940 and 1941 Mr. Howman was Provincial Grand Master at Reading West. Despite ill health, they have both managed to take an active interest.

Mr. and Mrs. Howman have two sons, two daughters and four grandchildren, one



Photo: Reading Chronicle.

of whom made the celebration cake. It was a very enjoyable evening followed by many of the family and friends.



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Application forms may be obtained at the office of the Clerk to the Trustees, Mr. P. M. Blandy, 1, Friar Street, Reading, and must be completed and returned to him not later than November 17, 1969.

Candidates will be notified when and where to attend for interview.

WEDDING



Walton Adams

Married at St. Margaret's on Saturday September 6th—Mr. Charles Solloway of East Cliff, the Warren to Miss Jennifer Else of Bognor Regis.

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ROUND THE CLUBS

Mapledurham Youth Club.

Some young people in Mapledurham entertained the older when the Youth Club hired a coach to take the Jubilee Club for an hour's ride by the Thames. A wonderful tea was waiting for everyone on their arrival back at the gaily decorated Memorial Hall, and this was followed by a rousing sing-song accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Ashcroft.

Mapledurham Youth Club thought up this very worthwhile idea and to raise money for the cost they held a jumble sale. Great credit to them. They gave many people a very happy afternoon indeed.

Jubilee Club, Mapledurham

At the September meeting members were very pleased to have with them three members who are not often able to come. Everyone was full of praise for the wonderful outing given them a few days earlier by the Mapledurham Youth Club.

On Monday, November 10th the Club is having an open meeting at which a small sale of work will be held in aid of Club funds. An open invitation is extended to anyone to come and meet members over a cup of tea. The coach leaves the junction of Shepherd's Lane and Upper Woodcote Road at 2.45 p.m. for Trench Green Hall, returning at 5 p.m.

Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild.

At the September meeting of the Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild Mrs. Jane Ellison described her journey across the Atlantic in a Catamaran. In thirty days she and her husband with two companions had sailed the "Misty Miller" from Providence to Plymouth. She delighted her audience by showing coloured slides, which included some very beautiful studies of the sun rising and setting over the sea. She had been in charge of the galley on the trip, and her descriptions of some of the meals she provided had a distinctly Cordon Bleu touch! In answering questions she brushed aside any idea of being in any danger on the trip, and said that as the weather had been very calm throughout it had in fact been a most enjoyable journey.

Caversham Afternoon T.G.

There was a very good attendance at the September meeting when the speaker was P.C. Titcombe, his subject being "A Day in the Life of a Policeman". He pointed out what a great influence Guilds could exert on the authorities, in getting improvements necessary in the life of the community. Miss N. Brown thanked him for a very interesting talk. There followed a "Quiz" conducted by Mrs. E. Fitzeustace.

As there was no meeting in August, Mrs. P. Tiffen, Hon. Sec. kindly organised an evening coffee "Get together" held in her garden. A farewell gift was made to Mrs. Racaty, a committee member, who was leaving the district.

Arts and Crafts. At the Reading Show on August

22nd and 23rd the Guild won 1st prize in this section. The theme was "Holiday Time" and this was interpreted by a scene entitled "The Teddy Bears Picnic". This was much admired by the general public. Forty-seven marks out of a possible fifty were obtained. Mrs. E. Fitzeustace, Arts and Crafts chairman, arranged a visit to Woodstock on Sept. 4th where a factory making leather glove patterns was inspected.

Blagrave Women's Institute.

The Vice-President Mrs. Price took the chair at the September meeting of Blagrave W.I. held in the Memorial Hall, Woodcote Road. During the business meeting Mrs. Price thanked all the members for the help and hard work put in in making the Old People's Party a great success. Mrs. Sholl then read letters of thanks and appreciation which had been received. Birthday posies were then distributed.

Praise was given to the members taking part in the Public speaking competition for winning the first round.

Bursaries for Denman College were won by Mrs. Griffith and Mrs. Plumridge. The County News Letter was read by the secretary and points discussed. Members were also reminded of the Harvest Supper which takes place next month.

The Rev. John Crowe was the speaker who gave a very interesting and informative talk illustrated with slides on work overseas and explained about Caversham Mayday week which is being held next July.

Mapledurham W.I.

The September meeting was held on September 12th at Trench Green. Mr. Rilder, Chief Assistant Engineer, Reading, gave an interesting talk on the new Road Development Plans in the Borough.

The monthly raffle was won by Miss Rowe and newly elected member, Mrs. A. Messer.

Rosehill Women's Institute.

At the September meeting, the President (Mrs. Green) took the chair and welcomed all members.

A talk on "Footcare" was given by Mr. Haworth from Milwards.

The competition for "A Novelty Shoe" was won by Mrs. Carter, runner up being Mrs. Green.

Maplewood W.I.

Mrs. Ridley, President, presided at the September meeting when the speaker was Mrs. J. M. Fletcher, who illustrated her talk on Associated Countrywomen of the World with colour slides. Mrs. Hemmings gave the vote of thanks. Mrs. Kitcher was appointed as delegate to the Autumn Council Meeting. An exhibition of "Your oldest penny" was appreciated.

Owing to very wet weather the first meeting of Maplewood Rambling Club had to be postponed until October 16th. Mrs. P. Duckworth directed the performance, on October 4th, of "The Brilliant and the Dark" at Reading Town Hall, and a number of Maplewood members were involved in it.

WEDDING



Hymor Photographers.

The wedding took place on Sept 13th at King's Road Baptist Church between Mr. E. M. Munro and Miss Heather Bradley of 7, Albert Road. Miss Bradley must be known to many children in Caversham (and some adults too) for her wonderful prowess as a swimming instructor, and many a child has learnt to swim after a course of lessons from Miss Bradley in the heated pool at 7, Albert Road.

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You'd be very wrong if you thought that about Harven's Nurseries. Take a stroll down to that hideaway at the top of Peppard Hill, particularly during school time, and the odds are the first thing you'll notice will be how quiet everything is. The odd voice issues from one of the vans, a baby cries—no more than you'd hear on any housing estate or block of flats. No through traffic, no workmen tearing up the roads and, when I was there at least, no radios blaring away.

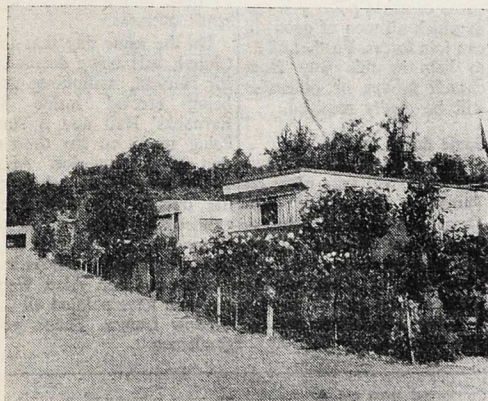


Photo: Walton Adams.

General View

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I called on Katherine Gordon who has been living in her beautiful compact van for three years. Recently she has added a large porch, giving enough room for a camp bed in case of visitors.

Obviously it is not the place for large families but most people agree that one or two small children present no problems. Indeed I saw one van containing two small but very attractive infants' rooms alongside the main bedroom. Mrs. Cole at 61 has only one complaint about caravan living with a small child—no high shelves to put things out of reach. Otherwise she and her small daughter seemed very happy in their very comfortable home.

I found Mrs. Withers and Mrs. Rumsey, both of whom have one child, holding a hair-dressing party with a friend. Again, no complaints.

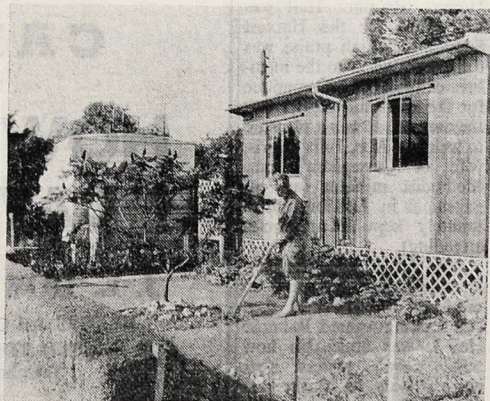
THE BIG ADVANTAGES

Most of these young families intend to move eventually as their families grow, but many seriously consider staying on the site and moving to a larger van or chalet. Certainly the one I saw, with two large bedrooms, a separate dining alcove and large comfortable lounge, is anything but cramped.

ALL MOD-CONS.

Actually there are three small sites. Mr. Harvey wisely having retained the original nursery garden walls. Each site is comparatively small with well-spaced vans set in very attractive garden plots. There is main drainage, calor gas for cooking and heating and electricity for lighting, TV, etc. Some vans have calor

One of the big attractions for newly-weds is that the vans, which range in price from just under £1,000 to just over £2,000, are equipped with all basic furniture, curtains and carpets. You could move straight in with the minimum of household goods. Maintenance is easy, and the rent for the site is



Gardening

Photo: Walton Adams.

gas central heating, others £2 a week which at the moment includes electricity; entrance is a launderette, showers, a telephone kiosk, however, for vans to be even chocolate machines. separately wired, which will

mean the owners paying their own bills but being unrestricted as to use.

DEPRECIATION

The biggest snag of course is depreciation. Caravans cannot be sold in situ to any retired couple, owner-occupiers of a large house no longer needed, here is the ideal answer. Nobody could to Mr. Harvey himself. This, as his daughter-in-law, the company secretary, was the first to admit, makes it an

Equally, of course, there is no doubt that for the couple, owner-occupiers of a large house no longer needed, here is the ideal answer. Nobody could to Mr. Harvey himself. This, as his daughter-in-law, the company secretary, was the first to admit, makes it an



Inside . . .

Photo: Walton Adams.

uneconomic proposition for third of their tenants are very short term residents. On the other hand there are obvious big advantages to a young couple faced with two living alone, it offers a won-

derful alternative to a back room in someone else's house.

Not surprisingly one of the best gardens—and there are many lovely ones—is owned by Mrs. Corbin and her husband. "Bridge" readers will remember Mrs. Corbin as the gardener at the Chiltern Nursery. She has a chalet at the entrance to the newest site and a garden that is a sheer joy.

Mrs. Harvey tells me the only regulation is that no cats or dogs are allowed—even this rule was introduced at the request of the early residents. But I noticed there was no shortage of smaller pets around the site.

I am told—and can well believe it—that this is one of the best kept sites in this part of the country. The fact that there is a long waiting list would seem to bear this out.

W.D.

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ST. JOHN'S

St. John's Admissions

To foreign parts

According to a well established custom, the Mothers' Union opened its autumn session with a service in Church. This year's service took the form of a service of enrolment at which Mrs. W. Masterman and Mrs. M. Neal were admitted to the Mothers' Union. They are neighbours from Valentine Crescent.

The following Sunday at the 9-15 Family Eucharist there was quite a celebration! not only was it St. Matthew's day, but it was also parade Sunday and in addition Nicholas and Clare Tipton were admitted to the choir in a short ceremony at the beginning of the service. The choir has been steadily growing in strength amongst the boys and girls, and recently we were pleased to be joined by Mrs. Loram, Mrs. Colley's mother to strengthen the ladies. Now although thin amongst the men, it becomes questionable how many more young people can be admitted for the time being.

After a longish period of ill health, Anne House, with her doctor's encouragement has taken a secretarial post abroad. On September 24th, she reported in Munich to her new employers the United European Exchange.

It is hoped she will be very happy in her new and interesting assignment. She speaks German fluently, and has a soft spot for them and their country, so it sounds very encouraging.

Autumn Fayre

The Fayre takes place this year on November 8th in St. John's Hall. The Fayre will be opened at 2-30 p.m. This year the initial arrangements were made by Mr. Ken. Nicholls; because of pressure of work he has had to hand this over and Mr. Cyril Werrill 90 Mayfield Drive is now responsible for the arrangements. Any offers to help or queries to him, please; his telephone number is Reading 77704.



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WEDDING AT HOME PASSPORT
PHOTOGRAPHS

Round the Anglican Parish

GOLDEN and SILVER. September has been a month when

many well-known church families have been observing 50 or 25 years of happy married life. In addition to Mr. and Mrs. Howman who are featured on another page the Caversham Bridge on behalf of its readers congratulates four other couples. On September 20th Mr. and Mrs. Walter Evans of 15 St. Barnabas Road, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Married in Bootle, Liverpool, they came to live in Emmer Green five years ago, since when they have become known to many in St. Barnabas' Church. They spent their anniversary at home, receiving their many messages of congratulations. Two other Emmer Green couples kept their Silver Wedding Anniversary a few days later. Mr. and Mrs. James Fennell of Knights Way on September 23rd and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Barnes of Courtney Drive on September 30th. Mr. Fennell is well-known as a St. Peter's sidesman and with his wife is a prominent member of the Welsh community in Reading; they were married at Wrexham. Mr. Barnes has served on the Church Council as a representative for St. Barnabas' where he and Mrs. Barnes and their family have worshipped for many years.

On September 26th, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Willis observed their Silver Wedding Anniversary. Married at St. Peter's they moved later to Eastbourne but have now returned and are living in Carlton Road. Mrs. Willis is a distributor of the Caversham Bridge. It is understood that 1970 will see several more husband and wives in the congregation clocking up their 25 years.

FAMILY CRICKET. The 6th inter-district cricket tournament which was played on the fields of Queen Anne's School on September 6th was very much a family affair. Among the players were three fathers and sons, one father and daughter, two husbands and wives, one brother and sister and an engaged couple. Mr. Leslie Moss is to be congratulated on seeing to the arrangements and drawing up improved rules. The standard of play seemed higher than usual. This was probably due to the fact that fewer clergy played. The Caversham Bridge is however able to report that there is no truth in the rumour that since there will be eight clergy in the parish when the Rev. Peter Atkinson arrives they intend to enter an eight in Reading Regatta next summer. It must be realised that even with eight clergy a cox would be lacking unless the vicar of Christ Church is prepared to come to the rescue.

Gifts to St. Peter's

Three kind gifts have been made recently to St. Peter's. At the Parish Communion on the Dedication Festival Mrs. Dare presented at the offertory a beautifully carved almsbox in memory of her husband. A member of the congregation has made a most lovely new frontal for the Lady Chapel altar, the result of many hours devoted work, while on the other side of the church much of the unattractive brown paint round the organ has been hidden as a result of a gift of some new curtains. All these gifts are much appreciated. They serve also to stress the need for redecorating the interior of St. Peter's, an undertaking that will cost a lot of money but which cannot be delayed indefinitely. Perhaps some generous donor may make this possible in the next few years. The oil-fired central heating is now working and although it has yet to be tested by some really severe weather there are high hopes that no longer will the congregation have to endure the cold of past winters.

Harvest at St. Peter's. Twenty three old folk in the district received baskets of fruit after Harvest Festival which were taken to them by children of the congregation. Fruit and vegetables were also given to St. Benet's Home. Balmore Hall was well filled for the Harvest Supper, and high praise was deservedly given to the members of the Social Committee for the admirable supper that they served. It was a pleasure to welcome Mrs. Julia Harris, wife of Caversham's new Methodist minister (an engagement in London unfortunately kept him from attending).

Also present was the Rev. Dennis Shaylor who had been ordained the previous day, and looking around Balmore Hall it was noticeable how many people present were new arrivals to Caversham within the last twelve months. Certainly the Harvest supper proved an excellent meeting for new and old members of the congregation.

Comings and Goings

Latest arrivals at St. Peter's are Mr. and Mrs. Smith with their three sons from near Epsom where Mr. Smith served on the Church Council. They have moved into Cherrycroft, Upper Warren Avenue, and were soon visited by members of the congregation.

On October 10th Mrs. Phillips and her daughter Caroline sailed for New Zealand where they intend to settle, and St. Peter's loses two regular communicants and Reading's Oxfam shop

loses a stalwart helper in Mrs. Phillips.

Also moving away is Mrs. I. Holbrook, who has served on the social committee, cleaned church brasses and distributed the Caversham Bridge. Her new address is The Hollies Flat, Erridge Green, near Crowborough, Sussex. She hopes however to be able to visit Caversham from time to time and will always receive a warm welcome from her many friends here.

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Oxfam Sale.

Towards the end of the school holidays Simon Charlotte and Caroline William-

St. Andrew's News

Harvest Sale

£60 2s. 6d. was the sum raised this year from selling the fruit, vegetables and other gifts from the Harvest Festival. This money will again be sent to support the work of St. Mary's Hospital in Ovamboland.

Presentation

Over coffee and biscuits on Sunday, September 28th, the Priest-in-Charge, on behalf of the whole congregation, presented a kitchen clock to Mrs. Wayman, in recognition of her services in looking after the Church Hall bookings until June of this year.

Hunger Lunch

The local branch of the Women's Institute have kindly offered to run the November Hunger Lunch in St. Andrew's Hall on Friday, November 28th. This is the second time a non-church organisation has made such an offer and we are very grateful to them for it. The cause of world poverty is one in which all men of goodwill can join forces. Further offers to help in this way from church groups or otherwise will be gladly received.

Some dates

The Sunday School Bonfire Party will take place on Thursday, November 6th. There will also be Community Hymn Singing in St. Andrew's on Sunday evening November 9th. This will be recorded and played to the Reading Hospitals later in that week.

Continued from col. 4.

son of 47a Church Road thought they would see if they could organise a small sale for Oxfam. They asked near neighbours for suitable goods and then arranged a stall in Toc H after the Parish Communion on September 13th. As a result they were able to hand £18 over to Oxfam — a splendid effort.

Bishop's visit.

When illness prevented the Bishop of Oxford coming to celebrate the Parish Communion on St. Peter's Day he

Harvest at St. Barnabas'

A day which will live long in the memory of many people was Harvest Festival. The Church had been beautifully decorated and more people than ever came to lend a hand. At the Family Eucharist on Sunday morning an act of worship on the theme of thanksgiving and dedication, specially written and led by members of the congregation, took the place of a sermon. Also, a new and larger chalice, given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ella May Atherton by her husband, was dedicated and used for the first time. In the afternoon a large number of children brought gifts to Church in their own Harvest Service. Evensong was marked by a harvest anthem which the choir had specially prepared under the guidance of Mr. Michael Dare their choir-master. All the produce brought to Church was sold five days later at the Harvest Sale and the proceeds added to that which this Church sends overseas.

On the same day that the Church was being decorated for Harvest, scaffolding was being erected inside St. Barnabas' Hall and a start being made on the decoration of the interior. After twelve months the whole of the outside has now been painted and looks very much better than it did. This task was completed by Mr. Arthur Phillips and Mr. Alan Webster who have painted all the window frames. Thank you gentlemen.

at once expressed a wish to come on his first free Sunday. He will therefore be the preacher and celebrant on Sunday, November 9th at 9-15 a.m. This will be the first occasion since his consecration as Bishop in 1955 that he will have celebrated the Eucharist at St. Peter's.

All Saint's Day.

As this falls on a Saturday this year (November 1st), there will be no evening Eucharist but Holy Communion will be celebrated at 9 a.m.

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BAPTIST CAPERS

As the season of mellow fruitfulness approaches the thoughts of many creatures turn to hibernation. This, however, is not the practice of the Baptist species in Caversham, their thoughts turn to feverish activity. Recently they held their Annual Gift Day when some two hundred pounds was raised by the members and friends. Such income is usually devoted to the maintenance of the Church's property but this year it was decided that as a thank offering for many blessings the proceeds should be used for the benefit of those less fortunate. It was agreed at a Church Business Meeting that twenty per cent should be devoted to Baptist Extension Work at East-hampstead, forty per cent to 'Operation Agri', the Baptist Missionary Society's Agricultural Project and a similar sum to Baptist Medical Missions.

On the Sunday following Gift Day the Church celebrated Harvest. The evening service being a combined Thanksgiving and Guest Service when the Church was comfortably full with members, friends and their guests. A very successful Harvest Supper, prepared by the

ladies of the Church, was held on the following evening and during the ensuing week the organisations of the Church held 'open house' when visitors were able to 'look in' and see the various groups at work.

On the first Sunday in October the Church celebrated its ninety-seventh anniversary which was coupled with the fourth anniversary of the induction of the minister, the Rev. L. S. Lewis.



METHODISTS' PLATES EMPTY

"HARVEST SUPPER" at Caversham Heights Methodist Church was different this year—NO SUPPER! Those who wished to purchase a photograph of an empty plate with knife and fork beside it were asked to pay half-a-crown. The money so raised will be sent to the Methodist Relief Fund in order that someone somewhere who does not have a supper very often would have the opportunity. Those who go without their supper may say, "Oh dear," but someone somewhere will be saying, "Thank God."

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JESUS AND THE WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY

The Reverend Terence R. Harris, the Methodist Minister in Caversham, is conducting a series of meetings in conjunction with the Wesley Guild at Caversham Heights Methodist Church on the theme of "Jesus and the Worshipping Community". He will address the Guild approximately once a month.

It has been the tradition to hold the Service of Holy Communion at the commencement of the Guild. This took place on Tuesday, October 7th when the Service was held in the Hall around a long table. The elements were taken blessed and broken and shared, and Mr. Harris spoke of the Reality of Jesus in the Worshipping Community. There followed a time of discussion and a sharing of Christian experience.

The second meeting in the series will be held at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4th when Mr. Harris will speak of "A World Prepared." He will briefly describe the world into which Jesus came and how preparation had been made for the greatest event and drama which has ever been staged in the history of this planet. It is hoped that discussion will follow. The purpose of the meeting is to see in what ways the "worshipping community" can prepare itself and the world around for the continual coming of Jesus today.

The next phase of the programme on Tuesday, December 2nd will take the form of a "Worship Workshop." Mr. Harris defines this term as a group activity when members of the "worshipping community" plan together an Order of Sunday Worship which can be enacted in order to present in a relevant form the points raised at the two previous gatherings. This will relate specifically to the Season of Christmas when the "worshipping community" is bringing to remembrance the first coming of Jesus to Bethlehem.

The reason for undertaking this experiment in group dynamics Mr. Harris explains in this way. He feels that many of the activities of a Sunday Service are entirely in the hands of the Ministry, or the one who is appointed to lead in worship. He hopes to see on occasions more people of the "worshipping community" taking an active part in preparation and conducting of worship in the life of the church. He feels that it is vital in this day and age for new forms of communication to be employed in church activities—forms which are relevant to the local situation. This he believes will be possible only if the "worshipping community" itself applies itself to the task in hand.

Finally, Mr. Harris requests that prayer should be made for this project, and that Jesus will make Himself real and the Church make itself relevant to the age in which it finds itself.

The Prodigal Son and the Harvest

Both morning and evening worship at the Harvest Festival at Gosbrook Road Methodist Church were conducted by the new minister, Rev. T. R. Harris. In the morning there was a family service, and the children brought their gifts, which were received by Mrs. Champion. Mr. Harris began his evening sermon by telling the Parable of the Prodigal Son in modern "beat" language. He likened the younger son to the present generation which, having "never had it so good," had gone off after easy living, and he called for a "harvest of the Spirit". The choir rendered the anthem "Sing O Heavens, Sing." On the following evening a large company attended the sale of produce and saw two interesting films, and the Harvest celebrations ended with a buffet supper.

Mixed voices at Christ Church

This year, when on Saturday September 13th, Caversham choirs went once again to sing Evensong in Oxford Cathedral, many members of the Baptist and Methodist choirs of Caversham accompanied their Anglican friends. The first lesson at Evensong was read by the Rev. L. Lewis and the second by the Rev. M. T. Cooper. Some sixty members of Caversham choirs took part in the service. While the choir were having a practice in the Cathedral members of Caversham Churches divided up into three parties for conducted tours of some of the Oxford colleges and then enjoyed a picnic in the Cathedral's lovely garden.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, NOVEMBER, 1969—SEVEN

St. Paul's News

After the Harvest Festival at the end of September the Presbyterians of Reading were visited by the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of England, the Right Reverend Norman Birnie, M.A., of Cardiff. The Presbyterians Churches, unlike the Anglican Church, have no bishops but, as every Church needs a spokesman and leader, a Moderator is elected by the General Assembly each year. Only a few selected churches can be visited by the Moderator during his year of office: for this reason the two Reading congregations united for Morning Worship at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on October 12th. Visits of this kind help Presbyterians to feel their unity for, being a small denomination, they suffer at times from a sense of isolation. Of course Church Union may be on the way but in the meanwhile it is good to share this kind of fellowship. During his year the Moderator gets around quite a bit, visiting Assemblies in Scotland, Ireland and Wales as well as the Waldensian Synod in Northern Italy. He acts as a sort of link between various Churches and so his visit is always an inspiration.

Caversham

Methodist Church

A CENTURY OF CARING

An appreciative audience in the Methodist Church Hall in Ardler Road saw the National Children's Home film "A Century of Caring". Presented by Mr. and Mrs. Eagleman, who organise the door-to-door collection for the Homes, the film began with the work of Thomas Bowman Stevenson among homeless children a hundred years ago, and the opening of the first Home in Lambeth, South London, in 1869.

A series of case histories showed some of the causes bringing children into the care of the National Children's Home — cruelty, bereavement, illegitimacy — and there were glimpses of the child in his new and happy environment. Also shown were the care of handicapped children, Family Aid assisting parents in their own homes, and the continuing help given to young people after they leave residential care.

The film ended with a look at the future, including new building projects both in England and abroad.

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RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

We are continuing to remind the Town Council that it is essential to give some thought to improving the already overburdened facilities of Caversham before the new housing estate, planned to be started in about four years time, is built and occupied. We've been told that careful consideration is being given to the planning of the estate itself and we do not for one moment doubt that but as for the ways in which it will impinge on the rest of Caversham—so far, only silence.

There has been some improvement in the time spent waiting for buses or queuing to get over the two bridges in the morning rush hour since Reading's one way system was extended, something that one hopes will not be cancelled out too soon by the annual increase in motor traffic. Certainly the addition of the extra traffic generated by the new estate would put the clock right back.

We are hoping to see a member of the Town Council or one of its officials shortly to emphasise our concern about this and to find out what, if anything is being planned.

We're worried about the

growing habit of parking cars and lorries on the pavement. It is one of the causes of cracked paving stones which cause pedestrians to trip up and it is a danger to blind people and mothers with toddlers and a pram to push. On the other hand, cars parked on the roadside cause traffic congestion and, the argument goes, since we are rapidly becoming a nation of motorists, free traffic flow is in the interest of the majority and must be a priority. It would be interesting to hear people's views on this.

It is good to see that the new car park, although not very conveniently situated for shoppers, is being used by motorists who have to park for a longer period. It might be useful to recall that at the public inquiry into the shopping precinct, it was stated that the shoppers car park was not for the exclusive use of shoppers in the precinct.

Everyone was sorry to hear about the car accident in which Sheila Clifton, our former secretary, with her husband and daughters was involved. Miranda and Kim escaped with only slight injuries but it will be a long

time before Mr. and Mrs. Clifton can once more take up their many activities.

M.C.

POST BAG

Dear Sir,

A recent article printed in the Caversham Bridge has renewed a contact with someone my family last saw 42 years ago. She originally lived in Caversham but moved to Cheam. Receiving a copy of the Caversham Bridge sent on by her sister, she read the article and immediately got in touch.

Now we have once again met, spending a most interesting evening exchanging news, looking at photographs and talking about old times, when, as someone remarked, a trip on the steamer to Tilehurst and back cost sixpence and was thought to be a great outing.

Yours etc.

M. KIFT,

7 Ilkley Road, Caversham.

We record

BAPTIZED.

Caversham Methodist Church:

Sept.

21 Ann Bryant.

Mark Lovegrove.

Caversham Heights Methodist Church:

Aug.

3 Tracy Gowing.

28 Nicola Liddell.

St. Peter's:

Sept.

7 Julia Richards.

Lisa Richards.

Oct.

5 Matthew Way.

St. John's:

Sept.

David Wyeth.

14 Graham Mortimer.

David Mortimer.

Lance Mortimer.

21 Charlotte Holmwood.

Nicola Harris.

Christine Harris.

St. Barnabas:

Aug.

31 Valerie Edwards.

Rachel Dove.

Andrew Turner.

Michele Nobbs.

Sept.

21 Stewart Wilcox.

28 Andrew Reed.

MARRIED.

Caversham Methodist Church.

Sept.

6 Spencer Eddels and Linda Price.

Caversham Heights Methodist Church.

Aug.

23 John Harris and Shirley Theobald.

Sept.

6 Graham Lascelles and Penelope Martin.

St. John's

Sept.

6 Terence Huddy and Elaine Howard.

13 Reginald Pearce and Jill Morris.

St. Barnabas.

Sept.

10 Johnathon Bone and Linda Hawkins.

FUNERALS.

St. Peter's.

Sept.

11 William Ireland.

14 Edward Shock.

St. John's.

Sept.

30 Frederick Moss.

MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday, 11th September, 1969. Mr. B. A. Fowles, Chairman of the Council presided at the meeting.

The Council are pleased to note that work to improve the footpaths and road surface in Geoffrey Road have at last commenced, even though progress is extremely slow, and the Council are to keep a watchful eye on the speed and manner in which the work is carried out.

Copies of a report prepared by local residents concerning road conditions between Trench Green and the Village were considered by the Council.

It is hoped that the submission of this document, together with the representations the Parish Council have been making for so long may move the County Council to take some positive action to improve the surface of this highway.

Among the Planning Applications the Council received was one for a nursery school in Chazey Road.

The Parish Council are to inform the County Planning Authority of their extreme dissatisfaction that the County Council had apparently disregarded the comments and observations previously made by the Parish Council and also by other local residents.

Concern was expressed during discussions of the Playing Fields Committee Report concerning the misuse of the football pitches particularly during the

school summer holidays by children using the pitches in an unauthorised manner, and the Committee warned the Council that it may be necessary next year to employ someone who would be responsible for the general discipline of the Playing Fields during the school holidays.

The Council are concerned at the heavy volume

of traffic using the Woodcote Road (B.479) to Oxford, bearing in mind its 'B' classification and the Clerk has been requested to obtain information from Reading and Oxford concerning its future use.

The Council have received a request that Boundary Lane should be closed to vehicular traffic, but the Council have re-affirmed their previous decision that this thoroughfare should remain open to residents.

SHELTER AIMS for £1,000

The Reading branch of Shelter is moving towards its achievement of its £1,000 target for 1969.

Two events in November will help in realizing this ambition.

The Elizabethan Singers are celebrating their tenth anniversary in November and have offered the whole of the proceeds of their Anniversary Concert to Shelter. They will give a concert version of *Hiawatha* on November 19 in the Co-operative Rainbow Hall, Cheapside, at 7.30 p.m. The reputation of the Singers and the needs of Shelter should ensure a full house. Tickets from any of the Singers or from Shelter chairman Mr. Charles E. Buck, 71 Blenheim Road, Caversham.

A Christmas Sale in Balmore Hall, Hemdean Road, will be held by Shelter on November 29 at 2.30 p.m. Offers of saleable goods and help will be welcome. Please contact Miss Linda Deal, 14 Langford Close, Emmer Green, or the Chairman.

If any schools or groups are considering carol singing or other Christmas efforts and don't know where to send the proceeds — Shelter's coffers are always open.

Methodist Churches

November Preaching Appointments

Notes: (1) Remembrance Sunday, (2) Holy Communion, (3) Overseas Missions.

Caversham	Caversham Heights.
2 Mr. R. G. Cook.	11-00 Rev. T. R. Harris.
Rev. T. Harris.	6-30 Mr. W. A. J. Clark.
9 Mr. R. Davies (1).	10-50 Rev. T. R. Harris.
Rev. E. S. Williamson.	6-30 Mr. C. E. Buck.
16 Rev. T. R. Harris (2).	11-00 Rev. S. M. Wendt.
Mr. C. Pape.	6-30 Rev. T. R. Harris (2).
23 Mr. J. Carpenter.	11-00 Rev. T. R. Harris.
Rev. P. G. Jarvis.	6-30 Mr. G. Dalton.
30 Mr. D. H. Wark.	11-00 Rev. E. D. Mason.
Rev. T. R. Harris (3).	6-30 Mr. H. Artist.

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Student Generation

Six people from Caversham Heights Methodist Church have left home this autumn for universities and colleges. Catherine Brown goes to Guys Hospital as a student nurse. To Sheffield University go Peter Frew and Gareth Goodier.

John Gayler goes to Wadham College, Oxford; Godfrey Hollingum to Birmingham University; and John Lindsey Whitfield to Bristol College of Commerce.

Ladies Sewing Circle

The Ladies' Sewing Circle at Caversham Heights Methodist Church are organising a sale of work in aid of the Methodist Homes for the aged. It will be opened at 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 22nd. There will be tea available. Please support this venture and this very worthy cause.

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A cake decorated from the garden

The birthday cake which my neighbour made for my daughter's ninth birthday was decorated with spring flowers from her garden. I blinked . . . violets and snowdrops in mid-July. Real ones? . . . Yes, for this is Australia where the seasons are reversed and where while folk in Britain are basking on beaches and winning Wimbledon, we are busy with mid-winter activities — like marmalade making.

I made my first batch from the grapefruit brought to me from her garden by an elderly member of our church—the church to which my husband came as minister from England bringing his family with him.

Oranges, mandarines and lemons have found their way into our new home for just now these fruits are ripening all around us. Before the citrus fruits—the vines. And before the vines, the peaches. These figured prominently in our harvest festival celebrations just before Easter! Yes, it takes some mental gymnastics to adjust to the seasons in our new country.

OUT OF DOORS

Australians revel in out-of-door life, and the whole family will go off to one of the many camping sites with their many amenities (including washing machines), at the drop of a hat. Everything shuts down at weekends—shops, garages, offices, so that all can enjoy the sunshine.

This doesn't mean that church-going is neglected. Indeed no! Many more people seem to attend church than in Britain, and on Sunday mornings we have between 200 and 300 folk at worship.

As far as we are concerned, this is a much appreciated change.

Life
'down
under'
by Dorothy
O'Neill

Plague and the parson's wife

Edyth Harper

Have you ever heard of Catherine Mompesson? Probably not, for she is one of many women whose names never appear in the history books but who in their time, were well known in a small area.

Catherine lived in the 17th century and, but for the plague, might never have achieved any degree of notice. You can see her table-like tomb in the village at Eyam in Derbyshire. The village Parson's wife it always active in the community but for Catherine, the year 1665 must have been a nightmare.

It was in October of that year, that plague suddenly hit the village, situated in what appears to be an extremely healthy part of the Peak district. The infection is said to have reached Eyam in a parcel of contaminated clothes from London. In the church vestry you can see a cupboard, said to have been made from the actual box which contained the clothing.

For twelve months, the epidemic continued. Imagine the panic it must have caused among the villagers. Imagine too the work it brought to Catherine, who nobly supported her husband, Rev. William Mompesson, in encouraging their parishioners.

QUARANTINE

Acting on the advice of the Rector and the Nonconformist Minister, Rev. Thomas Stanley, the villagers put themselves in quarantine. None crossed the parish boundary. True, trade with the outside world was carried on to a limited extent but only under conditions laid down by the clergymen. Supplies of food were taken by those outside to the village boundaries and placed by a stone trough filled with

vinegar. Any money that passed between traders was first dropped into the vinegar to be disinfected.

The self-sacrificing behaviour of the villagers certainly prevented the plague from spreading but it counted 259 of the inhabitants as victims. Their names can be seen in the Plague Register, kept in the South aisle of the church. You can also see plaques fixed to certain cottages, commemorating households who lived there and lost members through this dreaded disease.

DELL SERVICES

From October 1665 to the following Autumn, Catherine Mompesson not only helped care for the sick but she also helped to organise the open air services held in Cucklet Dell. Her husband wisely closed the church, preferring to preach in a less crowded atmosphere. His own chair can be seen in the church and was probably used in the dell for services.

Catherine Mompesson's life is an example of how suddenly, ordinary everyday existence is drastically altered through circumstances beyond control. When she married her William and settled down to the busy round of mistress of the Rectory, she can have had no idea of the demands to be made on her courage and loyalty.

The size of her tomb may be some indication of the affection and gratitude paid to her by the villagers. How glad she must have been when at last, no more people fell sick. As life returned to its normal round and no doubt the survivors joined in a service of thanksgiving for their escape, many must have prayed a special prayer of gratitude for the example of their parson's wife.



The Church at Eyam in Derbyshire where Catherine Mompesson is buried.

Thinking about the Prodigal Son - St. Luke
Chapter 15, Verses 11-32

What the neighbours said . . .

"Ted was such a nice, well-brought up lad. Thoughtful to his parents: tidy and nicely dressed you know. He was ever so clever and was working hard at his night school studies to get on. He used to take that nice girl next door to the pictures occasionally on Saturday night or for a ride on his scooter after Church on Sunday. A real credit to his parents was Ted!

But look at him now! Hair like a goliwog, beads and clothes you wouldn't be seen dead in. He hardly ever comes home. He's always around with those weirdies in London they say. It'll come to no good—you never know what young people get up to these days what with the Pill and drugs and all those demonstrations."

What Ted said -

"I woke up one day and suddenly couldn't stand home any longer. It was making me into a reflection of Dad, middle-aged before my time. I reckoned that if I didn't get out they'd have me married to the 'childhood sweetheart' and handing the plate round at church on Sundays before I'd turned round.

I won't say its not been rough though. Raving party after raving party, sex on the cheap and grotty digs—the novelty soon wears off. But the folk I knock around with aren't just wild, they really talk about important things. At home it was all the car, what's on the telly and the neighbours!—Now I talk about peace, music, love, God, myself.

Now I know myself better, I don't always like what I see but I know more what I'm really like. The home scene—parents, respectable district, girl friend, church, study—was stopping me finding out. I had to get away.

Somehow I've hit on a new way of meeting people, and, surprise, surprise, seem to have been given a quite new understanding of what God's love for me means! He loves me as Ted, not as a good church lad! Maybe we only find the love of the real God when we've found our real selves.

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Star
appeal
is the
secret
of
success
on TV
too

LULU—indefinable blend of guts, talent and personality

by Diana Dewes

When Michael Aspel "Star of T.V." opens a Supermarket thousands queue half way round the shop to get him to autograph their Green Shield stamp books.

They stand and stare at him. They say loudly that he's much nicer looking than on the Tele. In his friendly boy-next-door way he is something of a national star, a television star in the flesh in the Supermarket.

Star appeal, as Hollywood has always known, is the secret of success, you can't buy, borrow or steal stardom. You can boost it with publicity and nurture it with money but you've either got it or you haven't. In the world of television entertainment—acting or sport or pop—the stars shine brighter than the rest.

ATTRACTIVE

It is noticeable that an actor who has star quality can give a lift to a flagging serial and substance to a weak T.V. script. Z Cars was beginning to flag and to be overshadowed by Softly Softly when Derek Waring as Inspector Goss was introduced into it, a fine actor with an attractive presence, he has set Newtown Police Station buzzing again.

The writing for Dr. Finlay's Casebook varies with each episode but whether it is strong or trivial, Andrew Cruickshank maintains his solid characterization of Dr. Cameron. He is the warm and human focal point of every tale.

Not all Sportsmen who cross the T.V. scene come into the Star category. Their expertise puts them there but it is their personality that gives them the Star status that thrills the viewers. It is Tony Jacklin's jaunty exuberance as much as winning the Open Golf Championship that makes him a Star. It is the mystique of Lester Piggott, who gives nothing away, as much as the sight of him riding winners, that makes him a star.

CHARM

T.V. Commentators have Star appeal. David Coleman is one with personal charm along with his flair for sport and fixtures all over the world. Henry Longhurst another—delightfully 'old school tie' with his enthusiastic encyclopaedic knowledge of the game of golf.

Stars in the pop world live in constant limelight. Once More with Felix-Cilla-Lulu—these are television girls with international star billing. They command fabulous musical backing, fees and audiences because they are stars.

They can survive the intense grind of training and rehearsals, the pressures of fame, publicity and cut throat competition.

They are stars because they have what it takes—that indefinable blend of guts, talent and personality.

FAMILY

Retire Immediately

*In a
flurry
of sparklers
and
bangers*

ALTHOUGH we always associate fireworks with November 5, 1605, the day Guy Fawkes entered Parliament with the best intentions, they have in fact been used in England since early in the 13th century. A medieval friar recorded the manufacture of crackers and rockets from salt-petre and powdered charcoal.

By Tudor times spectacular displays had become popular; the best one being that in 1533 to celebrate the marriage of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn.

And in 1572 Queen Elizabeth—a devotee of fireworks—was responsible for one of the most spectacular displays on record. Held on the bank of the Thames opposite Richmond Palace, the main item was a mock battle in which a battery of guns brought from the Tower

of London added realism and spectacle to the scene.

James I was also an ardent pyrotechnician and the wedding of his daughter to the Elector Palatine occasioned a remarkable display which included a dragon, a magician, a collection of

fairy maidens and St. George.

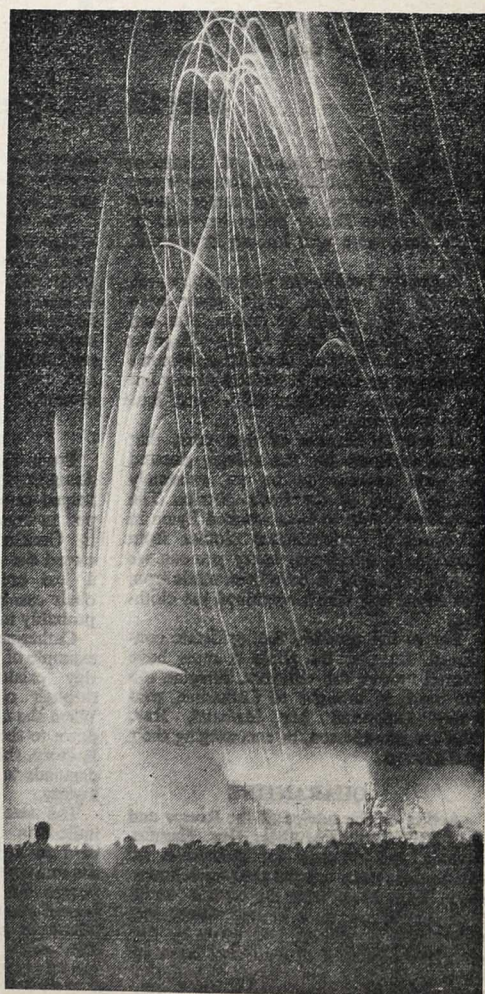
The 1697 Peace Treaty between England and France provided the excuse for letting off more than £12,000—£80,000 at today's prices—worth of fireworks in celebration.

Musical and literary works have also featured fireworks from time to time. Debussy's 'Feux d'Artifice', written for the piano, commemorated the fall of the Bastille. And Monsieur Jourdain in Moliere's 'Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme', considered no supper-party complete without a firework display.

Most famous of all is Handel's Music for the Royal Fireworks. Composed to celebrate the Peace of Aachen, the music was first played in London's Green Park in 1749 at the command of George II when the musicians were flanked by a huge representation of a Doric Temple with figures of Peace, Neptune, Mars, Britannia and the King himself.

But it is the attempt of Yorkshire-born Guy Fawkes, to blow up Parliament that occasions our present flurry of sparklers, catherine-wheels, bangers and rockets to keep alive the memory of 'gun-powder, treason and plot'.

ERIC KING.



FOCUS

Sport, by E. F. Adkins

The world's best losers—always the bridesmaid never the bride—a nation gone soft. These are just a few quotes from the sports pages less than ten years ago.

More recently the manager of the Hungarian national soccer team observes that we must learn to play like the English—'to win.'

For the first time in thirty years the American golfers have looked less invincible following Tony Jacklin taking the 'Open' and the success of the Ryder Cup team.

British tennis which for so long resembled a frolic behind the vicarage has gone 'open' and although still experiencing growing pains has received a massive boost from Wimbledon champion Ann Jones and the Davies Cup team.

SOCCER SCENE

Many of us may be unhappy about certain aspects of the football scene, but Sir Alf Ramsey's England is now the team that all the others strive to beat. At club level British teams have won every available honour in international competition.

It is not without significance that the 'Sportsmen of the Year' trophy went this year not to one of the 'jolly nice chaps' but to that epitome of dedicated endeavour—Lester Piggott.

Such has been the change in outlook that the fumbblings of M.C.C. and the Rugby Union are a source of embarrassment to the national ego.

RUGBY SCENE

It is quite clear that a more competitive element must be introduced into the domestic Rugby scene. Yet the old guard steadfastly cling to obsolete and obscure ideals centred on the amateur ethic.



Trevor Bailey—"would improve the performance of the English cricket team by 50 per cent".

Now they play like the English —to win

Rugby teams from the Commonwealth will continue literally to walk all over our national teams until the game in this country elects to join the twentieth century.

If M.C.C. were to appoint Sir Alf Ramsey as team manager he would improve the performance of the English cricket team by 25 per cent. Give the job to T. E. (Trevor) Bailey and he would improve it by 50 per cent.

As cricketer and administrator Bailey has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow cricketers.

His informative comments on radio and television are one of the highlights of the cricket season.

DISBAND

The England side is in the transitional stage with a healthy crop of young players on the threshold of a test career.

To M.C.C. I would say disband your selection committee: give Bailey complete autonomy in rebuilding and management.

Radio's loss would be nothing to cricketers gain.

Need for reform in Rugby and Cricket

COMPASS, NOVEMBER, 1969 7



Junior Compass
by Brenda Holloway



STIR YOURSELF

Can you un-jumble these special days in the year? The second half of each has got put on to the wrong first part.

CHRIST-YEAR
EAST-DAY
WHIT-ER
NEW-SUN
BOXING-MAS

Have you ever thought how people managed to keep track of time before diaries and calendars were printed, and there was a calendar in most homes? In very early times people did their reckoning by the moon. A new moon meant that a new month had started: full moon told you that you were half way through the month. Dividing the month into weeks hadn't been thought of in those days.

Those Christmas puddings

Years later, people who attended the services in their parish churches found the prayers a help in keeping track of the seasons. By that time, people reckoned time in weeks as well as in months and years, and there was a different prayer for each Sunday in the year, called a **collect**, to be said at the services in every parish church throughout the land.

Now take Christmas, for instance. The prayer for the fifth Sunday before Christmas Day: 'Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people'. Stir up! That reminded housewives that it was time to get busy in stirring the Christmas puddings. In those days all Christmas puddings were made at home.

There was a great ceremony in the kitchen when the puddings were made, and all the children in the family took a turn at stirring the mixture in the basin, and sometimes wishing at the same time for luck. This particular Sunday became known as **Stir up Sunday**—time to prepare the Christmas puddings! This year Stir up Sunday is on November 23rd.

Make your own calendar

Get a large sheet of white paper and rule it into about 60 small squares, leaving about 2 inches clear at the bottom of the sheet. Beginning with November 1, print the date in each square up to December 25. Put a red ring round the Sundays and Christmas Day, and add a blue ring also round Stir up Sunday. Find out the last day for posting parcels and Christmas cards.

Print these dates in the space at the bottom of the sheet and mark the dates on your calendar with a green ring. On the day you make your calendar, calculate how many days there are to Christmas and how many shopping days. Write these in pencil at the bottom of the page, and revise the number about every ten days. At the end of each day cross through the date on your calendar.

What shall I give them?

Get another sheet of paper. Rule it into three columns.

In the first column list the names of the people you're going to give presents to. Now pretend you've got a thousand pounds to spend. Look in the advertisements in newspapers and magazines, and at any gift catalogues you can find, and put down in column 2 what you would give each person in column 1 if you could afford it. Now in column 3 put down the presents you will be able to afford to give them. You may have to make some of the presents. There'll be ideas about this next month.

Meanwhile collect any other ideas you can from magazines and newspapers. You could make a file of stiffish paper, or use a very large envelope, and keep your calendar, list and cuttings in it. Print on the outside MY CHRISTMAS FILE. You could decorate it with coloured pictures you've drawn yourself or stick on any coloured small Christmas pictures you can find.

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NELSON IS TOO HIGH

By Edyth Harper

The Nelson memorial, one of London's best-known landmarks, visited annually by thousands of tourists who have their photographs taken feeding the pigeons in Trafalgar Square is, in actual fact, breaking the law.

It was first proposed to have a column 218 feet high, but the Government, for some reason, vetoed this, permitting 170 feet to be erected. When completed, the column measured 184 feet, making the last 14 feet illegal.

The actual column was the work of William Railton, but when he came to making the lions, he was not too successful. They were said to look insipid and the task was relegated to Landseer, a noted animal painter. Landseer's lions have dignity and are a well-known feature of the memorial.

Railton did not attempt to make the statue. This was the work of a Scottish sculptor, Bailey. Bailey made the 17 foot Admiral in several parts, as erecting the statue was not easy at such a height, on top of the column which was higher than it ought to have been.

First aid is as old as the Order of St. John



Alan Mullery, Tottenham captain and England wing-half, is carried from the field after sustaining a broken ankle in a game with West Ham at Upton Park recently.

First Aid is as old as the Order of St. John. And that's more than 1300 years old.

Way back there was a place in Jerusalem, which the Knights of the Order ran for pilgrims and Crusaders who were ill or had met with an accident.

Now, all these years later, the tradition is carried on all around us, all the time by the Order's voluntary uniformed foundation, the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

You've seen them at sports meetings, in theatres, on the beaches. They're there just in case. . . .

And when something does happen — an accident at home or at work, a major disaster even—you can often pick out their smart black and white or grey uniforms on the spot and ready to act.

GIVE UP TIME

They know what to do. They are trained. All the members give up time for training under the guidance of doctors and State Registered nurses. They are faced with staged accidents and learn how to deal with them. Again and again they practise what to do in the first crucial moments.

Other branches of this efficient voluntary service are home nursing and welfare care. Under a District Nurse's general supervision a member can give nursing aid to sick people confined to home. Meals on Wheels and library and handicraft services in many hospitals and institutions figure among their welfare work.

Many members take up opportunities for special training and experience in other nursing and hospital organisations.

VERY YOUNG

All this training can begin very young indeed. The Brigade Cadets recruit boys and girls from the age of eight. With uniforms and a military type of organisation in keeping with the ancient history of the Order, there is plenty to attract at least the younger children.

Nobody would like to think of a future without recruits coming along to continue the proud and skilful tradition of this brigade of volunteers whose 1300-year-old mottoes are "For the Faith" and "For the Service of Mankind."



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