

SEASIDE FUN FOR KIDS IN CAVERSHAM

This summer, kids can enjoy all the fun of the seaside – with a trip to Caversham!

Caversham Traders Association has organised a special Beachcomber competition to keep children amused during the summer holidays.

Just take a stroll along Prospect Street, Church Street, Church Road and to Caversham Court and search for the beach-themed items in the participating stores.

Andrew McCaulay, Manager of the Caversham branch of Waitrose and Chairman of Caversham Traders Association said: "Caversham is a lovely riverside village, with so much to offer in terms of shopping, leisure and eating out. Larger retailers like Waitrose trade alongside a wealth of specialist independent shops, award-winning restaurants, excellent cafes and a top health club. We hope that this promotion will encourage people into Caversham to discover just what we have to offer."

The competition is open to children up to the age of 11, and will run from 27 July to 31 August. Entry forms are available from Caversham library and all participating stores. The form will list the participating shops, and children will need

to find and write down the specially labelled beach-themed item that will be displayed either inside, or in the window of, each of the premises.

Once completed, entry forms should be handed in at Caversham library. All correct entries will be put into a prize draw and a number of lucky winners will be invited to a special prize-giving ceremony where there will be a host of goodies to be won.



INSIDE

Brownie celebrations	page 3	Churches	pages 6, 7, 8
From the Lookout Post	page 4	Environment	page 9 & 11
Miscellaneous.....	page 5	Clubs page 10

Caversham Clergy

ANGLICAN

Rev'd Derek Chandler, 20 St Barnabas Road.
Tel: 947 8239.

www.saintbarnabas.org.uk

Rev'd Nigel Jones, St Andrews Vicarage,
Harrogate Road. Tel: 947 2788

www.standrewscaversham.org

Rev'd Alveen Thoresen, 25 Ilkley Road,
Caversham.

RG4 7BD. Tel: 946 4786

Rev'd Keith Knee-Robinson, 8 Hewett Close,
Caversham, RG4 7ER Tel: 947 7868

Rev'd Jerry Tear, St John's Vicarage, Caversham
Tel: 946 2884

Rev'd Dan Tyndall, The Rectory, 20 Church
Road, Caversham. Tel: 0118 947 9505

CAVERSHAM PARK ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP

Rev'd Margaret Dimmick, 12 Lowfield Road,
Caversham Park. Tel: 947 0258

Heather Wilson, 15 Northbrook Road,
Caversham Park. Tel: 947 5152

METHODIST TEAM MINISTRY

Rev Jenny Dowding, 72 Highmoor Road.
Tel: 947 2223

Deacon Becky Lovatt, 1 Forge Close, Caversham
RG4 8BG. Tel: 948 2530

BAPTIST

Paul Rhodes. Tel: 954 5353

GRACE CHURCH (formerly Caversham Hill Chapel)

Colin Gault. Tel: 948 4151

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Fr Giles Goward, The Presbytery,
2 South View Avenue.

Tel: 947 1787.

Deacon Mike Walker, Tel: 07786 836146

Fr Christopher Bester, 18 Peppard Road,
Sonning Common. Tel: 972 3418

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St Barnabas Centre
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Tel: 947 6310 Website: www.saintbarnabas.org.uk

Caversham Bridge

Contributions for the September 2010 issue
should be sent to Caversham Thameside and
Mapledurham Parish Office by Tuesday 3rd
August. The date for the October 2010 issue
is Tuesday 7th September 2010.

Email address as above.

Advertising copy for the September 2010
issue should be sent to Mr A Wright,
Twigmoor, Upper Warren Avenue,
Caversham, by **Friday 30th July 2nd 2010**.
The date for the October 2010 issue is
Friday 3rd September 2010.

TALKING POINT

by

Colin Gault

Being called to account

It's the morning after the night before – England have made their exit from this year's World Cup after a bitterly disappointing campaign (I won't mention the score!) and now all and sundry are taking their place in the dock to be called to account for the early flight home. The players are blamed, Fabio Capello is blamed, even the referee, I wonder why, is blamed!

The problem with being human is that so often we fail to live up to the expectations others place upon us or that even we ourselves might have. Take Wayne Rooney for example – the reason Wayne Rooney walks out on to a football pitch is to score goals. That, after all, is what world-class strikers are supposed to do. Yet Wayne Rooney has failed to make any sort of impact or even score just one goal in an England shirt this summer.

This, of course, is why he and his team mates were booed off the pitch after England's game with Algeria – they'd not been faithful in doing the job that we'd all come to expect them to pull off.

There is, however, one who is always faithful. His name is Jesus.

The Bible tells us that Jesus is different. In a verse that I was actually speaking from on the morning of the England v Germany game – Hebrews 4:14 – it says that He has gone through the heavens! This tells us two things...

Firstly, it tells us that the man Jesus is outside of space and time. It's not just that He has gone into space but that He has gone through space and the heavens themselves. So clearly He is God of both time and eternity – past, present and future.

Secondly, it tells us that Jesus has completed the job God, His Father in heaven, gave him to do. This is why He's always faithful. Jesus proved His faithfulness when He left heaven above, became a man, humbled himself and became obedient all the way to death on a bloody cross. And when God the Father raised His physical body from the dead and took Him back up into heaven the declaration in effect being made by God was that Jesus, His Son, is faithful – He had done everything He had been asked to do.

So the question, I think, is this – how will you respond the next time disappointment really strikes, when life doesn't go your way?

Will you resort to casting aspersions or looking for someone to blame? Perhaps you might even decide to hold yourself to account? (And sometimes it's right – as many a footballer has often said – that we take a good, long, hard, look at ourselves.) Or will you trust in the one who is faithful and who always will be according to everything written in His word?

Jesus may not give an answer to all the 'highs' and 'lows' we experience now, but what He does give is clarity on our destination when the final whistle blows.

Colin Gault is Church Leader, Grace Church, Caversham

SUNDAY SERVICES

ANGLICAN

St Peter's, St Peter's Hill

8.00am Holy Communion
9.45am Parish Communion
6.30pm Evensong

St John's, Gosbrook Road

10.00am Parish Eucharist

St Andrew's, Harrogate Road

8.00am The Eucharist
10.00am Parish Eucharist (Sung)
First Sunday, Family Eucharist
The Eucharist
11.30am
6.30pm Evening Prayer (as announced)

St Barnabas, Grove Road, Emmer Green

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Family Communion (apart from 2nd Sunday)
9.30am Family Service (2nd Sunday only)

St Margaret's, Mapledurham

11.00am Parish Communion

CAVERSHAM PARK ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP

Meeting at Caversham Park School

11.00am Holy Communion (1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays)
Morning Worship (2nd and 4th Sundays)
All Age Worship (at Festival Times)

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

10.30am South Street
3.45pm Hymn Café (3rd Sunday)
6.30pm Usually at 191 Kidmore Road

GRACE CHURCH Old Peppard Road

10.30am Worship and Ministry, Children's Church
6.30pm Prayer Meeting

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN CAVERSHAM

Caversham Heights, Highmoor Road

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Gosbrook Road

10.30am and 6.30pm

Woodcote Parish Church

9.45am (second Sunday)

ROMAN CATHOLIC

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Sunday 10.00am and 6.30pm

Mapledurham House 6.00pm Mass (last Sunday of the month)

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NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD

Church Street, Caversham

9.30am Sunday School

11.00am Divine Worship

6.00pm Evening Service

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

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The Editors wish to make it clear that the views expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the board.

The Editors also would like to bring to readers' notice that the inclusion of advertisements in this paper does not mean an endorsement of the products or of the services offered.

Published by Caversham Christian News Ltd, Church Street, Caversham, Reading RG4 8AX Tel: 0118 947 1703.

Typeset by Caversham Print & Design, 2a Randolph Road, Reading RG1 8EB
Tel: 0118 939 1981 Fax: 0118 959 8090
E-mail: splat@cavershamprint.co.uk

Printed by Newbury Weekly News (Printers) Ltd, Newspaper House, Faraday Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2DW.



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BROWNIE CELEBRATIONS CONTINUE



On a rather windy June day, 2500 members of Girlguiding Royal Berkshire descended on Newbury Show Ground for a day of activities linked to the Centenary celebrations. There were four zones for everyone to try: Past, present and future, Activity, Craft and Music and Dance. The girls could have a go at knotting, dressing up as aliens & in old uniforms with long skirts and hats, making blow pipes from two straws, learning how the union flag is made up, meeting a real robot, climbing, bouldering, bungee ropes, giant twister, giant slides, drumming, African singing, street dancing, line dancing, electric guitars, morris dancing, making pipe cleaner snakes and so much more. Despite being there all day, there was only time to do a fraction of the activities on offer. After a finale with a live band and the handing out of goody bags, it was time to leave. The girls all had a fabulous time.

Caroline Smith

ROYAL GARDEN PARTY

What an exciting day! Three other leaders from Berkshire and I were nominated by our County Commissioner, Sue Kidd, to attend the Queen's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on 22nd June 2010.

So Jill, Tracey, Sam and I set off for London a very sunny day wearing our centenary uniform and neckers.

We joined the queue at about 2.30pm and didn't have to wait long before entering through the main gates. We strolled around the palace grounds until the Yeomen of the Guard held ground and Her Majesty appeared at the steps leading to the Palace Garden. After the National Anthem was played we were approached by an equerry who asked if we would like to be introduced to HRH the Countess of Wessex. Would we! Sophie is the president of Girlguiding UK. Then shortly after this we were approached by another equerry asking if we would like to meet Prince Michael of Kent and of course we said yes.

We were very lucky to have had the opportunity of speaking to members of the Royal Family considering there were over 6000 visitors there that day. We certainly stood out from the crowd with our raspberry pink polo shirts.

The afternoon flew by and we returned home very tired but with memories which we will treasure forever.

Debbie Tarrant

BROWNIE SPORTS DAY

On Tuesday 15th June seven Brownie packs from the Caversham District joined together for the annual Sports Day at Caversham Primary School. Events began with the running and skipping relay which were later followed by the beanbag-on-head event. This challenged the girls to accomplish something a little less conventional! Other events included the egg and spoon, skipping, running and the obstacle race. The evening finished with the sticker race, in which all the Brownies from the seven packs lined up and raced to stick as many stickers on the target as possible. As the weather was beautifully sunny a fantastic, fun-filled evening was had by all. Congratulations must be given to the 1st Emmer Green Brownies who took home the shield after a well deserved win.

Charlotte Bell (Young Team Leader 1st Emmer Green Brownies)



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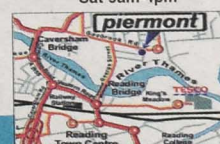
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From The Lookout Post

True Food

The official opening of the True Food Co-op revealed a wide array of foods and other products displayed in modern retail surroundings. The main products are organic, Fair traded and healthy fresh foods and whole foods (loose as well as packaged) also eco-friendly cleaning supplies and recycled stationery products. The store offers help to people with special dietary needs, such as coeliacs and diabetics. It also aims to serve small and medium sized businesses and community groups. You will find this not-for-profit community enterprise on Grove Road in the small retail precinct across from St Barnabas Church, Emmer Green. It is open:

- Monday 12noon - 8pm
- Tuesday to Friday 11am-5.30
- Saturday 10am-4pm

Evening Phone Calls

You may want to check the definition of 'evening calls' used by your telephone provider. Many including BT, TalkTalk and Sky, have recently extended the time period up to 7pm for their more expensive day time rates. 6pm to 7pm has traditionally been a very popular time to make calls and the companies will undoubtedly receive considerable increased income from the change. We would rather that was not at our expense so try not to be caught out by the change!

Courses 2010/11

After last year's panic, Reading folk who like to keep their brains active have, this September, one of the best choices of professionally-taught day and evening courses available anywhere in the UK. Besides 40 pages of courses from Reading Borough's "New Directions", the reborn Reading WEA branch go into their second year offering nearly 50 courses (mainly in the day) and now Oxford University will offer nearly 100 courses in Reading (mostly in the evening). Now's your chance - use it or lose it (that's both your brain and a range of courses from "Does God exist?" to "The Splendour of European Cathedrals"). Ask for all three brochures in your local library, or look them up on the web.

WEA: www.wea.org.uk.

Oxford University: www.conted.ox.ac.uk.

New Directions: www.newdirectionsreading.co.uk.

Lower Caversham at risk flood areas

A new flood forum residents' group is being started up and would welcome more members. If you are interested please email amersham@ntl-world.com for more details.

Policing in Caversham

Caversham has experienced particular problems with bike thefts. In one night in June, seven bikes were stolen from sheds and garages. Police advice is that you should make your sheds and garages secure and ideally also lock your bike. If the bike is subsequently found, there needs to be proof that it has been stolen. The advice is to keep a record of the make, model and frame number and if possible a photo. Our thanks to those who help to restore at least some of the bikes to their owners and enable prosecutions to be brought.

The two Neighbourhood Action Groups are now well established and looking at very specific problems which can be tackled jointly. For Lower Caversham, the current priorities are burglary and vehicle speeding where specific roads are being targeted for checks and enforcement.

How to run the Council?

Under the Local Government Act 2007, Reading Borough Council has to review its executive arrangements by the end of this year. New arrangements will come into place in May 2011.

The choice is between an elected Mayor or a revision of the current Leader and Cabinet model, termed a 'strong leader' model.

Previously, the Council appointed both the Leader and the members of the Cabinet. No delegations were allowed to an individual Cabinet member and the Cabinet was the sole member-level executive decision-maker. In contrast, the 'strong leader' would be elected by the Council and would then appoint his / her own cabinet. The Leader would also determine the degree of delegation of powers to individual Cabinet members.

Comments can be sent to John Painter, Head of Central Administration, Civic Offices, Reading RG1 7AE or by email to: Cttee.services@reading.gov.uk. The consultation period will end on **Friday 24 September 2010**. Comments will be reported to full Council on 19 October 2010 in an anonymous format.

The RBC statement of 'pros and cons' appears to favour the 'strong leader' over the elected mayor. There are notable examples of strong visionary elected mayors elsewhere in Europe. Could this model work for Reading? This is your chance to express an opinion.

With the formation of the new Council administration, Councillors north of the river, hold four out of the seven Lead Councillor roles as well as the role of Chairman for both Licensing and Planning. We have yet to see the full effect of the coalitions at national and local level. In terms of planning policy, initial guidance issued on backlands developments (the designation of back gardens as brownfield land) suggests that 'land locked' councils like Reading may be in a special position. Further guidance is expected in July but it is too soon to be optimistic about the implications for Caversham.

Reading Station - programme of roadworks

Following the road works in St Mary's Butts in June and July, the next phase will be in Friar Street and Station Road and is scheduled to finish mid September. More information is available on www.reading.gov.uk/station.

Reading in Bloom

Have you seen the hanging baskets on Reading and Caversham bridges and the hollyhocks which have established themselves in front of the library?

Our thanks to Jessica Cecil, Patron of Reading in Bloom, who sponsored the hanging baskets on both Reading Bridge and Caversham Bridge and to Councillor Jeanette Skeats who chairs Reading in Bloom and was the driving force behind the project, arranging necessary safety checks and finding matched funding for the three-year project. The contract is for three years which means the hanging baskets will be there through to 2012 which is the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Year and the year of the Olympics.

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MISCELLANY

Christian Aid

The 2010 Christian Aid street collection in Caversham, Emmer Green and Mapledurham raised £8,309.06. £3432.18 was declared for Gift Aid (40%) which would add a further £968 to the total. In addition three church collections (including the Christian Aid Service) were taken amounting to a further £513.63.

Seven walkers from the Caversham area took part in the Christian Aid Walk at Henley and they raised £523.50 – an increase of £206.50 on last year.

The street collection after two downward years went up in 2010 by 2%. In a difficult financial climate this represents a tremendous effort by the 150 collectors who valiantly walked the streets delivering envelopes and then returned for collecting. Once again a very big 'thank you' to all collectors and church representatives who brought about this excellent result.

HENLEY LADIES
BADMINTON CLUB

Henley Ladies Badminton Club is a very old established Club. The first Minutes recorded were in the year 1909 and originally it was a mixed club. The Minute Book makes fascinating reading – in 1913 the Club considered adding two gas jets at each side of the net to improve lighting. If a shuttle hit a gas mantle, it would be a point against the hitter. In 1934 a Mrs Browning volunteered that her chauffeur would paint the lines on the court and mend a hole in the wall to prevent a draught.

Over the years there have been many venues, The Town Hall, Trinity Hall, Henley Squash and Badminton Club in Friday Street and for the last 30 years, Shipplake College.

Like many clubs, we are now having difficulty in recruiting new members, so if there are any lapsed lady badminton players interested in joining a very friendly bunch on a Tuesday morning at 9.0 am, please get in touch with Joan on Reading 947 4772.

WORLD CUP FEVER HITS CAVERSHAM CHURCH

During the recent World Cup, St John's Church in Caversham screened all of the England matches. Using an 8ft x 6ft screen, with two non-alcoholic bars and plenty of decorations, the church was transformed into a community viewing facility. Over 120 people came to watch the four matches, the majority not from the church, and a good number without any regular church connection at all.

Speaking of the initiative, the church's community priest, Rev Jeremy Tear said, "It was great to be able to open up the church building for the good of our community and welcome many new people across the threshold. Whilst the England performances were mainly disappointing, it was encouraging to be able to reach out to those in our new parish and beyond."

In addition to screening the matches, the church gave away copies of a World Cup booklet and magazine which featured the testimonies of a number of international Christian players who played in the tournament including the Everton and USA goalkeeper Tim Howard and the Brazilian striker Kaka. The church also held an All Age World Cup service which included a number of well known football hymns and songs, prayers for the tournament, and a video featuring a variety of players speaking about their Christian faith.

Caversham Theatre

Caversham Theatre would like to apologise to anyone who arrived at St Anne's Hall on 10th July for its farewell production but found it had been postponed - this was due to a clash of dates with the Family Fun Evening at St Anne's School. The evening will now take place on 13th November at St Anne's Hall, Washington Road. Please put it in your diaries now; tickets will be available nearer the time. We look forward to your support for our final evening of entertainment.

DATE FOR YOUR
DIARY

Organ Recital

Ian May, President of the Berkshire Organists' Association, will give an organ recital on Saturday, 25 September 2010, 7.30pm at Caversham Heights Methodist Church.

The aims of the Berkshire Organists' Association are to promote the art of playing the organ; to encourage the appreciation of organ music; to provide help and advice to church musicians and to enable organists to meet each other.

Full details of this event will be issued later but the programme, lasting approximately one hour, will be varied and will be followed by tea/coffee and biscuits in the hall afterwards. There will be a retiring collection, half of which will be given to the church for hosting the event.

Please put this date in your diary and come along, giving support and encouragement to church organists.

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Christian Aid

The 2010 Christian Aid street collection in Caversham, Emmer Green and Mapledurham raised £8,309.06. £3432.18 was declared for Gift Aid (40%) which would add a further £968 to the total. In addition three church collections (including the Christian Aid Service) were taken amounting to a further £513.63.

Seven walkers from the Caversham area took part in the Christian Aid Walk at Henley and they raised £523.50 – an increase of £206.50 on last year.

The street collection after two downward years went up in 2010 by 2%. In a difficult financial climate this represents a tremendous effort by the 150 collectors who valiantly walked the streets delivering envelopes and then returned for collecting. Once again a very big 'thank you' to all collectors and church representatives who brought about this excellent result.

HENLEY LADIES
BADMINTON CLUB

Henley Ladies Badminton Club is a very old established Club. The first Minutes recorded were in the year 1909 and originally it was a mixed club. The Minute Book makes fascinating reading – in 1913 the Club considered adding two gas jets at each side of the net to improve lighting. If a shuttle hit a gas mantle, it would be a point against the hitter. In 1934 a Mrs Browning volunteered that her chauffeur would paint the lines on the court and mend a hole in the wall to prevent a draught.

Over the years there have been many venues, The Town Hall, Trinity Hall, Henley Squash and Badminton Club in Friday Street and for the last 30 years, Shiplake College.

Like many clubs, we are now having difficulty in recruiting new members, so if there are any lapsed lady badminton players interested in joining a very friendly bunch on a Tuesday morning at 9.0 am, please get in touch with Joan on Reading 947 4772.

WORLD CUP FEVER HITS CAVERSHAM CHURCH

During the recent World Cup, St John's Church in Caversham screened all of the England matches. Using an 8ft x 6ft screen, with two non-alcoholic bars and plenty of decorations, the church was transformed into a community viewing facility. Over 120 people came to watch the four matches, the majority not from the church, and a good number without any regular church connection at all.

Speaking of the initiative, the church's community priest, Rev Jeremy Tear said, "It was great to be able to open up the church building for the good of our community and welcome many new people across the threshold. Whilst the England performances were mainly disappointing, it was encouraging to be able to reach out to those in our new parish and beyond."

In addition to screening the matches, the church gave away copies of a World Cup booklet and magazine which featured the testimonies of a number of international Christian players who played in the tournament including the Everton and USA goalkeeper Tim Howard and the Brazilian striker Kaka. The church also held an All Age World Cup service which included a number of well known football hymns and songs, prayers for the tournament, and a video featuring a variety of players speaking about their Christian faith.

Caversham Theatre

Caversham Theatre would like to apologise to anyone who arrived at St Anne's Hall on 10th July for its farewell production but found it had been postponed - this was due to a clash of dates with the Family Fun Evening at St Anne's School. The evening will now take place on 13th November at St Anne's Hall, Washington Road. Please put it in your diaries now; tickets will be available nearer the time. We look forward to your support for our final evening of entertainment.

DATE FOR YOUR
DIARY

Organ Recital

Ian May, President of the Berkshire Organists' Association, will give an organ recital on Saturday, 25 September 2010, 7.30pm at Caversham Heights Methodist Church.

The aims of the Berkshire Organists' Association are to promote the art of playing the organ; to encourage the appreciation of organ music; to provide help and advice to church musicians and to enable organists to meet each other.

Full details of this event will be issued later but the programme, lasting approximately one hour, will be varied and will be followed by tea/coffee and biscuits in the hall afterwards. There will be a retiring collection, half of which will be given to the church for hosting the event.

Please put this date in your diary and come along, giving support and encouragement to church organists.

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CHURCHES

BISHOP OF READING CELEBRATES ST BARNABAS PATRONAL FESTIVAL

During the Revd Derek Chandler's absence on sabbatical leave in Canada the St Barnabas Church congregation has been pleased to experience the ministry of several Anglican clergy from Caversham and Mapledurham. The Patronal Festival, this year celebrated on the Sunday nearest to St Barnabas Day, is the highlight of the church's calendar. On this occasion we were especially privileged to have the Bishop of Reading, the Rt. Revd Stephen Cottrell, presiding at both of our services. He used the St Barnabastide reading telling us that it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians after a large number of non-Jews had become believers. He said what a change that had been for the early Church. Bishop Stephen asked the congregation how they would react if, when they arrived at 9.25 am for their usual service on the following Sunday, they found three coaches outside and the church full with people sitting in the congregation's favourite seats? He asked how welcoming would we be to a coach load of people from Asia, another with migrant workers from Latvia and Eastern Europe, and a third coach of elderly people who had got lost on their way to Bridlington? He left the congregation in Emmer Green challenged with the question of how ready are they to accommodate change as they seek to extend the Kingdom of God?

A notable part of the Family Service was the Bishop's interaction with the young people in explaining to them the symbolism of the bishop's mitre, which represents the gift of the Holy Spirit coming down on the bishop's head as flames of fire, as had been the case at Pentecost on the heads of the disciples. It was not only the children that learned something new that day. Those who have experienced Bishop's Stephen's preaching can testify to that gift.

In his six years as Bishop of Reading, Stephen Cottrell has left a challenging legacy, particularly through the Regenerate Mission where a very wide spectrum of Christians in Reading was challenged to embark on one new mission initiative. At St Barnabas the Encouragers, a puppet ministry, emerged from that and it continues to grow in strength and outreach. Near the end of his period as Bishop of Reading the people of St Barnabas were richly rewarded by this Episcopal pastoral visit that also enabled the congregation to thank Bishop Stephen for his ministry among us and wish him every blessing as he moves with the prayers of many in Caversham to a new phase of his ministry in the Chelmsford Diocese.



Churchwarden Robin Kent (left), Elizabeth Gash (Licensed Lay Minister) and Churchwarden Jim Dunkley with the Bishop of Reading at St Barnabas Church

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CHURCHES

CAVERSHAM ORDINATION



On a glorious sunny day, some 40 men and women were ordained by the Bishops of the Oxford Diocese. Among them Marion Pyke and Graeme Fancourt were ordained by Stephen, Bishop of Reading along with 10 others who will serve in the Archdeaconry of Berkshire. Marion and Graeme will be serving within Caversham as curates in the newly formed parish of Caversham Thameside and Mapledurham. Marion Pyke is a well known figure in the area whereas Graeme Fancourt has just moved here to begin his ministry as a deacon. Marion said "I was such a bundle of nerves beforehand but the service was amazing and so uplifting". Dan Tyndall, Rector of the Parish of Caversham Thameside and Mapledurham, said "It's a delight to see Marion ordained and to welcome Graeme amongst us. They will both be deacons for the year, ministering across the parish and helping to lead worship in St Margaret's, St Peter's and St John's."

TUMAINI - HOPE, TRUST, CONFIDENCE

It is humbling to see and hear how a few simple steps of faith taken by a young man from Emmer Green and his wife can bring such a transformation. One of the charities that St Barnabas Church supports is Education for Life in which Glyn and Jane Davies are the driving forces in Mombasa, Kenya. It was on a Sunday morning during June when Glyn enthusiastically told the St Barnabas congregation that it all began as recently as 1997, when on honeymoon in Mombasa, he and his wife saw the plight of the children of that city. Motivated by this and a call from God they returned to Mombasa in the year 2000. Armed with a gift of £5, supported by other gifts in kind, and the challenge from the children "Can your Jesus feed me?", they have moved from feeding 50 children once a week to 650 children every weekday. Then, after the gift of land, there was the provision of a nursery school, followed by the building of a primary school in 2004 and then onwards to a high school. Each enterprise has the Swahili name of Tumaini, which has the triple meaning of hope, trust and confidence.

Of the 600 children in the school 80% are sponsored. When a child is sponsored it is clear that someone cares; the aim is free education for all. The charity has also been able to provide affordable housing, and now they are working on a new complex called Stepping Stones. The 22 rooms will provide short term accommodation for young people and single mothers. Jane was able to enlarge on the story after the service through a display of photos at the back of the church.

Glyn's talk was supplemented by a DVD entitled "The Climb", and the congregation was left with the imperative to keep climbing to go beyond to that which only God can see. Glyn left the congregation with a quotation from 2 Peter 1. 3 - 10 that urges us to support our faith with a number of characteristics, including self control and perseverance, so that as a team we may be effective and fruitful. These acts of mission and service in Mombasa not only richly deserve our admiration and financial support but also our prayers. St Barnabas Church is privileged to be linked with this work for Christ. Further information may be found on the website (www.educationforlife.net)



Glyn and Jane Davies outside St Barnabas Church.

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August 8	10.30am	Mrs Una Chandler
	6.30pm	at Caversham Heights
August 15	10.30am	Rev'd Jenny Dowding
	6.30pm	Deacon Becky Lovatt
August 22	10.30am	Deacon Becky Lovatt
	6.30pm	at Caversham Heights
August 29	10.30am	T Rowell
	6.30pm	Rev'd Jenny Dowding

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August 8	9.00am	Holy Communion -
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	10.30am	Deacon Becky Lovatt
	6.30pm	Mrs Paddy Jose
August 15	10.30am	Local Arrangements
	6.30pm	at Gosbrook Road
August 22	10.30am	Holy Communion -
		Rev'd Jenny Dowding
	6.30pm	Rev'd David Ellis
August 29	10.30am	Mrs Sylvia Stalder
	6.30pm	Deacon Becky Lovatt

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August 8	9.45am	Rev'd Dr John Ogden
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ENVIRONMENT

SAINFOIN

Botanists seem undecided as to whether this attractive plant is native or not, but if it is native, its range is very much restricted to chalk and limestone in the south and east of Great Britain. I first saw it on White Horse Hill, but it grows on slopes above the Thames much nearer to Caversham than this, and I tend to see it about once a year. It begins flowering in May, and goes on until August.

The distribution pattern is confused because non-native varieties of the plant were brought in from continental Europe in the seventeenth century, as a food crop for animals. Some books say that the native plant is lower and more spreading, with flowers of a deeper pink, whilst the plant left over from cultivation is more erect, and has paler flowers.

Its French name was imported along with it – Sainfoin – meaning healthy, or holy hay. There were stories of its being in the manger at Bethlehem on the first Christmas Eve. The English name for it, across much of southern England, was French Grass.

It thrives on dry and barren soils which are too poor for other fodder crops like clover and lucerne. It has a deep tap root to help it resist drought, and like other related plants, when it is cut and the roots are ploughed back into the soil, they release nitrogen and increase fertility for the following crop. Animals like eating it, and because of the

chemicals in it, Sainfoin does not cause bloat. It was especially favoured for feeding working horses, and I have been told that the seeds of the Sainfoin are still harvested in some parts of the country, and added to the specialised feed given to race-horses.

It has copious nectar and pollen for the bees, and it looks splendid. One of the finest sights I ever saw was alpine pastures full of Sainfoin, with jagged mountains and sparkling glaciers in the background, though in this country the plants are comparatively few and far between. Except, that is, when the M25 motorway was new, and it had been decided to sow a mixture containing Sainfoin on the earthworks.

But it has its drawbacks, and once cheap “manufactured” animal feeds and fertilisers came in, Sainfoin went out of favour.

The tall-standing varieties grew vigorously for the first season, but then tended to die off. Grazing it too soon, or for too long, caused it to die off, and it was prone to some infections. Farmers had to keep sowing it, and the seed was expensive.

However, a trawl through the Internet shows that there is considerable interest in it from university departments of agriculture, and you can still buy the seed. Maybe it will make a comeback, and we shall see pink fields one of these years.

Happy Wanderer



Friends of Clayfield Copse



Butterfly Walk Clayfield Copse 27 June 2010
Sunshine, temperature in the high 20s, flowers and grasses galore up at Clayfield, there must be butterflies! And there were, within a few yards of the car park the field was alive with insects, moths, damsel flies, grasshoppers and of course butterflies. Grahame Hawker [Chief Ranger of Maiden Erleigh Nature Reserve] and 30 butterfly hunters of all ages had plenty to look at and learn. Soon the children were calling ‘Meadow Brown coming in!’ As it was so warm the butterflies were not sitting around, they were much too busy flying, which made identification more difficult, but we saw many varieties of butterflies from the common small skipper to the rarer white marbled. At the start Grahame showed us some useful guide books and gave out butterfly charts, which would help identification and he pointed out that butterflies all have their different seasons. So too late for orange tips but in early July look for the purple hair streaks and the white letter hairstreak in the oak trees and wych elms, and the ringlets and gatekeepers will be among the grass and brambles. There is always so much to see up in those fields and woods. In the next months there will be a walk looking at trees and a fungus foray during the half term in October. For details see www.econetreading.org.uk

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CLUBS

Probus Club

Members were joined by their ladies for the summer lunch and an illustrated presentation 'Women and their part in Special Operations Executive (SOE)' given by Hugh Davies. Intelligence, espionage, and resistance together with passive resistance were carried out by hundreds of woman, often with men as a cover on surveillance.

Intelligence was often gathered by women using 'women's ways' to gather information. Cabaret, theatres and follies had their 'stage door johnnies'. Ballet dancers were the officers' favourites!

WWI was the start of spying as we know it today. It continued between the wars using tourists and holidaymakers. That period also saw an increase in industrial espionage where money and rewards were the incentives. The inter-war years saw the rise of communism and its sympathisers resulting in The Oxford and Cambridge Rings, many of whom were involved with nuclear and atomic research. Recruitment by Russian agents resulted in a secrets scandal.

WWII spawned Resistance armies, which gathered intelligence. Women again played a big part. There were 63 women agents, many of whom were caught and shot. When Italy severed its alliance and declared war on Germany in 1943, once again women were behind the lines and continued their part - intelligence, espionage and resistance.

The 1970s saw internal conflicts in Yugoslavia and other eastern-bloc countries where women bandits continued to fight for their cause.

Postscript. Women in SOE and FANY (First Aid Nursing Yeomanry) also carried out many and diverse operations towards the end of WWII of which 'Foyle's War' on TV was a recent reminder.

The next Probus meeting is for men only. If any retired men would like more intelligence contact the secretary Ray Head, the code is 0118 941 1445 or www.readingprobus.talktalk.net

Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild

In June Nick Channer came to talk to the ladies of Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild about "A Waterside Walk in Berkshire". He showed a series of excellent photographs of a sixty mile walk from an area north of Newbury to Combe Gibbet, along canals, rivers and the Ridgeway. His photographs were taken in all seasons showing the variety of landscape and views in snow, summer greenery and everything in between. Various houses and churches were pointed out on the way with connections to John Betjeman, John Buchan, Jethro Tull, Kenneth Grahame and the Welsh poet Edward Thomas. We are fortunate in having 140,000 miles of public rights of way in England and Wales to enjoy and Mr Channer whetted our appetites to get out into the countryside and walk. The vote of thanks was given by Marion Cooper.

The annual competition for the Nora Pollard Vase was won by Pat Stevens with a beautiful red poppy. Peggy Tomlin was

welcomed as a new member and Ruth Witcher was presented with flowers on the occasion of her ninetieth birthday. All four groups are busy; the gardeners especially enjoyed a visit to Caversham Court where they had a guided tour followed by tea. Lots to look forward to with the Federation and so a busy summer is ahead for our members.

There will be no meeting in August and at our meeting on Tuesday 14th September, David Goodwin will talk about "The Royal Berkshire Medical Museum". Meetings start at 7.30pm and are held at St Barnabas Church Hall, Emmer Green where all ladies are welcome

Caversham WI

It was back to childhood for members when Mr Geoff Lambourne came to show us his collections of mechanical toys. Each one was unwrapped, wound up and set in motion to everyone's great amusement.

The competition, an old toy, was judged and Joyce Roberts was first, Ishbel Nicholson was second and Barbara McGregor was third.

After tea, the business was dealt with and progress reports on two members after recent operations were given. The raffle ended a fun evening.

Caversham & Chiltern Flower Club

A "Fun with Flowers" evening is planned for Wednesday 11th August, with Caversham & Chiltern Flower Club. Traditional and contemporary buttonholes will be demonstrated, then all those who wish to have-a-go can have a try. Don't forget to bring scissors! The fun starts at 7.30p.m. at Caversham Heights Methodist Church, Highmoor Rd., doors opening 6.45p.m. Entrance fee for visitors £4.50. A book stall, sales table and refreshments will be available. Hands-on meetings are always great fun, and give members and visitors a chance to chat as they work. For further details contact Berna Macdonald on 947 7400.

Caversham Horticultural Society

RG4 residents are invited to take part in and visit the society's Autumn Show which will take place on Saturday 11th September. Why not submit your plants, fruit and vegetables? There are also categories for flower arrangements, home produce and photographs. Special categories have been created for children's entries. For details of the show schedule contact the show secretary 0118 961 4561 or check the society's website. www.caversham-horticultural.org.uk. The show will be held at our regular venue Caversham Primary School in Hemdean Road (1pm to 4pm).

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COME TO CAVERSHAM COURT

A touch of Latin American 20th century flamboyance has been a talking point in Caversham Court this summer. The sinuous design and strong colours of the vinery border were inspired by the Brazilian landscape architect and garden designer Roberto Burle Marx, Head Gardener Emily Waters told the Friends of Caversham Court Gardens. Emily has used Sansevieria (popularly known as mother-in-law's tongue), Impatiens (busy lizzie) and Coleus, to create this stunningly exotic border which has been blooming throughout the summer.

The Friends volunteer guides will be continuing their First Sunday guided tours – on August 1 and September 5. Just turn up with your friends between

2.30 and 5.00. The guides will talk about Caversham Court's long and interesting history stretching back to before the Norman Conquest and

explain why all the flower beds are planted differently.

Don't miss the Heritage Open Days in Reading from Thursday 9 to Sunday 12 September, when free events will be taking place all over the borough, including guided walks. On Sunday 12th explore historic Caversham with local historian Joan Dils, who will be

leading a walk in the afternoon, starting from Caversham Bridge and ending in Caversham Court. You can find booking details in the Reading Borough Council Heritage Open Days leaflets, available from libraries.



St Peter's Choir member marries



Chris Fitzsimons, of St Peter's Choir, married Bryony Webb at St John's College, Oxford on 26 June 2010. Both Chris and Bryony are graduates of Oxford University, so it was fitting that they should choose to marry in Bryony's old college. A group of 10 choristers (there was no room in the organ loft for any more) from St Peter's Choir were invited to sing at the wedding where they led the hymns and sang two anthems, one of which had been arranged by the groom's father. The choir was invited to join the wedding party for drinks in the sunny college grounds after the ceremony.

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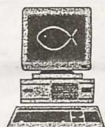
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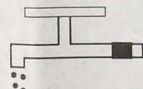
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