

## A WEEK AT TAIZE

A group of 13 people, eight Methodists and five Anglicans have just returned from a week's visit to the world famous Community at Taize in France. Leonard Burn writes a first report this month. More news about the visit will appear in the October edition.

# WE WENT TO TAIZE

by Leonard Burn

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE to express in words or pictures the experience of being in Taize for a week, which thirteen people from Caversham were privileged to enjoy from August 22 to 29. Hopefully different impressions from other members of the group concerning the life at Taize will appear next month, but two features stand out above everything else, namely worship and fellowship.

Over 1,500 people, mainly young, on their knees in silent prayer has a certain compulsion, and everyone was present at the worship three times a day. The beauty of the worship lies in its simplicity, using Psalms, Scripture readings in a variety of languages, familiar phrases such as Kyrie eleison and Alleluia, music and silence. One of the most impressive times was Saturday night. During the service of preparation for Sunday there is the great acclamation Marantha (the Lord has come) and instantly the candles which everyone holds are lit and the enormous Church is filled with light.

The sharing we experienced in Church was translated into tremendous fellowship in everything else. The day to day housework depended upon mutual cooperation and help and all went smoothly (there was not a single piece of litter to be seen — rather different from Richfield Avenue after the Pop Festival!). Progress in discussion groups was slow owing to the continual need to translate, but no one became impatient. There was a great deal of spontaneous singing, dancing and alughter.

All in all we releartnt that God is our Father, i.e. the basis of our relationship with Him is simplicity and trust, and that as his children we belong to one another whatever our colour, language or denomination may be.



■ Meals on wheels Taize style.



■ Two of the Caversham party trying out their German with German girls at Taize.

Sunday, October 3

## CAVERSHAM PARISH DEDICATION FESTIVAL

Festival Evensong in St. Peter's,  
6.30pm.

Preacher:  
THE REV PETER CORNWELL  
Vicar of the University Church of St Mary, Oxford.

## The Editor's Column

# NO, Mr Thorsen

THE QUESTION POSED A YEAR AGO BY THE ARCHBISHOPS OF CANTERBURY AND YORK was simply this: "What sort of society do we want?" It is always harder to be positive than negative but I hope that every reader of this paper, whether they would call themselves Christians or not, would say without hesitation "We do not want a society which seeks for entertainment a film which is a travesty of historical fact and which is concerned to portray Jesus Christ as both an adulterer and a homosexual." Appearing on television Mr Thorsen said that he supposed his proposed film about our Lord could be regarded as pornographic. Let us then make it quite plain to him and all connected with him that, without in any sense being Puritanical, we believe that there are bounds of decency which both Christians and non-Christians are not prepared to see transgressed. And I hope we can assume that the British Actors Equity Association which took a firm, and I believe a very proper stand in regard to apartheid, stopping its members from performing in South Africa, will equally in this matter defend basic Christian principals when our Lord is threatened with what millions of people can only regard as blasphemy.

### CENSORSHIP

Censorship is always a dangerous practice because it can seriously curtail genuine freedom. But just as it is only plain commonsense to impose restrictions on the bringing of animals into this country to avoid spreading rabies, it would seem reasonable to impose restrictions on the making of a film which could do real damage to our minds. And it is nonsense to argue that the film is endeavouring to speculate about the earthly life of Christ. Such speculation can be legitimately done in the lecture room or the columns of a serious journal, but not through the medium of a film which is out to entertain large audiences because it would be sensational.

### GET OUT YOUR WRITING PAPER

The Archbishops of Canterbury and Westminster have both made their voices heard. But their lead needs to be backed up by a great many ordinary voters writing to their Member of Parliament. Those of us in that part of Caversham within the borough of Reading should write to Mr A. Durant at Hill House, Surley Row, and those of us in Caversham Park or Mapledurham to Mr M. Heseltine at the House of Commons, Westminster, SW1. Members of Parliament do take note of what their constituents write to them and it is their responsibility to make it more than plain to the Home Secretary that we will not tolerate films of this kind. But if of course you think our Lord should be the central figure of a pornographic film, then take no action.

### WHAT SORT OF SOCIETY?

Let me now briefly outline the sort of society I believe we should want. It would be the kind of society where the sort of happenings reported in our columns were dominant, a society producing the Corrymeela Community, a society sending nurses to Angola with the Red Cross, a society whose young members were inspired by the ideals of the Taize Community (you can read about all these things in this issue), a compassionate and caring society sponsoring the Bridge Scheme of Social Service and the Link Group, a society that witnesses to faithfulness in marriage and not to adulterous practices — in fact a society based on the life and example of Jesus Christ as that life was and not as Mr Thorsen imagines it to have been. But if the proposed film helps us to re-examine our priorities Mr Thorsen will unwittingly have done some good. For his plans have sparked off a debate, and if Europe was still Christian neither he nor anyone else would be contemplating the making of such a film — nor would many of the other films, which have been shown in our cinemas of recent years and which have disgraced the film industry, ever have been made. So he challenges us to make up our minds — do we want a society that is influenced by pornographic films or by Jesus Christ? We have to choose, and when a choice is made many people in Caversham — many readers of this newspaper will have to come off the fence on which they sit and realise that the only honest course is to identify themselves with Jesus Christ by joining in the worship life and witness of the Christian Church.

*John Grimwade*

## CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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

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## ULSTER — CHRISTIANS — Corrymeela

The Corrymeela Community came into being ten years ago when a group of students from the Belfast University Chaplaincies which had made contact with Taize in France, Agape in Italy and Iona in Scotland decided there should be a similar community in Northern Ireland. Corrymeela is a group of Christians believing themselves to be called together as a community: TO BE an instrument of God's peace TO SERVE their society, and TO SHARE in the life of the Church.

### SURGEON, YOUTH WORKER, HOUSEWIFE

Corrymeela is a surgeon, a youth worker, a housewife, a minister, a priest, a retired railwayman, a student, a school teacher and about 70 others. Membership is open to all Christians who accept the statement of belief, undertake to play a part in the spiritual life of the community, to share in its work to care for other members and to give to its funds.

The Community has centres at Ballycastle, Co. Antrim and in Belfast. But the Community is primarily where its members are, in their lives and in their work. The centre at Ballycastle is a large barn-like building looking out to sea and Rathlin Island. Some years ago in order to help pay its way the community began organising a series of conferences. And with the troubles beginning with a vengeance in 1969 this group of people working for "reconciliation" — with a house and with an ecumenical commitment — plunged into emergency action. An intensive programme of caring for people from the areas of stress evolved, as families, the elderly, teenagers, children, all in need of a change, rest, a respite from the horrors and violence in the cities were brought out to Corrymeela and the peace it was able to provide.

### NO NEED TO WHISPER

"A place where people don't need to whisper" says one of the community's pamphlets, and this tells as much about life in Northern Ireland as it does about Corrymeela. Up at the Ballycastle house and in follow-up activities in Belfast and other towns and cities people can meet as people and talk to one another instead of at one another. Recent conferences and discussions have dealt with subjects such as Family Life in a Violent World, The Police and Community, Mixed Marriages, The Captivity of the Laity as well as Christian Life Styles, the theme of Corrymeela just after Christmas.

### LONDON CORRYMEELA VENTURE

The London Corrymeela Venture exists to support and help the community develop. It has undertaken to raise money needed for the building of a chalet village and community centre for the Ballycastle site.

How can one help? Everyone can pray for those working in the community and for the work they are doing. A contribution could be sent to the London Venture Appeal, or one could become a "friend" of the community.

"Remember the need for reconciliation is not confined to Ireland it does not just involve Catholics and Protestants, it involves the whole of creation."

For further information: Corrymeela House, 8 Upper Crescent, Belfast, BT7 1NT, or The London Corrymeela Venture, 48a Kendal Street, London, W2.

## POSTBAG

Dear Sir,

Congratulations to Stephen Bartlett. At last an article under the heading Talking Point has become just that (i.e. Gay Christians). If only we so-called Christians could descend from our ivory towers more often to think deeply about the real problems facing many people — not to sit in judgment, but to find understanding and to offer help.

Please may we have more Talking Points with real impact?

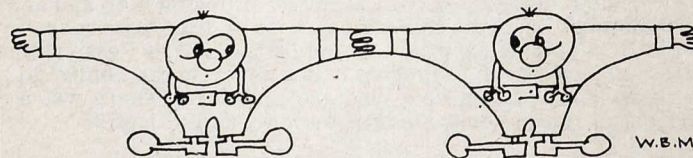
Yours faithfully

DOREEN BENNETT.

157 Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham.

### NOVEMBER EDITION

Any material for the November Edition of this newspaper must be sent to Church House by Wednesday, September 29.



## CAVERSHAM BRIDGE SCHEME OF SOCIAL SERVICE

### WHOM TO CONTACT

#### Central Organiser:

Mrs K. P. Besley, 10 Ashcroft Close. Tel. 472374.

#### Area Organisers:

Mrs A. M. Russell (North Caversham), 31 Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green. Tel. 472934.

Mrs M. Coombs (South Caversham), 5 Kidmore Road. Tel. 472689.

Mrs E. B. Evans (East Caversham), 50 Grosvenor Road. Tel. 473596.

Mrs P. Edwards (West Caversham), 4 Harrogate Road. Tel. 476893

Mrs C. Pynn (Mapledurham), 42 Geoffreyson Road. Tel. 476065

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

### HOW TO HELP

Please tick the appropriate space if you can help in any of the following ways:

- 1 Visit the sick, lonely and disabled
- 2 Provide transport for elderly or disabled
- 3 Look after children
- 4 Assist in the home

Fill in your name and address and post this slip to Mrs K. P. Besley, 10 Ashcroft Close, Caversham. Telephone 472374

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.....

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# Our loss — Selly Oaks gain

It's not always easy being a "Bridge" reporter. I mean to say, what can you do when, trying to elicit comments about departing members of Church staff, all you seem to get is the word "super." But I suppose that really sums up what so many youngsters of the parish feel about Leonard and Jennie Burns who are leaving us for pastures new.

Fortunately for me, one young lady was a little more coherent — in fact, she welcomed the opportunity to say an enormous thank you on behalf of so many of her friends for everything Leonard and Jennie have done for them in their four and a half years at St Barnabas'. Their house, she says, had an ever-open door; nobody was ever turned away, whatever domestic crisis prevailed at the time, and if the children's baths were a bit sketchy while other peoples problems were discussed, well that was all part of the wonderfully informal and welcoming atmosphere that the young people found at St Barnabas' House. Officially, of course, they were responsible

for running the Youth Fellowship Group and the Genesis Group, for the younger members; but it is for their unofficial welcome that they will be best remembered.

Nor was this confined merely to the youngsters; Jennie and Leonard found time for everyone who wanted them and this in spite of the fact that apart from his local church duties, Leonard also did a great deal of hospital work, including the organisation of interpreting for those who needed it and helping with the hospital radio.

#### Sellyoak Hospital

As most people will already know, Leonard is now going to work as full-time chaplain at Sellyoak Hospital — lucky patients! They will be living in a house on the premises, so it is difficult to imagine the ever-open door being closed, and though it is hard to say what they will actually find themselves doing, it requires little imagination to picture the house full of trainee nurses, many far from home.

## EMMER GREEN OLD PEOPLE'S HOMES

At the last meeting of the Council's Environment Committee approval was given for the provision of 27 two-person units for elderly people together with a house for a Warden. 2.9 acres will be left for future expansion of the school, for allotments and as a "green wedge" on the golf course side of the site. Because of the complexity and danger of the St Barnabas Road / Grove Road junction access will have to be via Eric Avenue — but, as many people have requested, Eric Avenue will remain a cul-de-sac. Despite representations no space has been allowed for future provision of Community Centre facilities adjacent to the present Youth Club.

#### Caversham Links

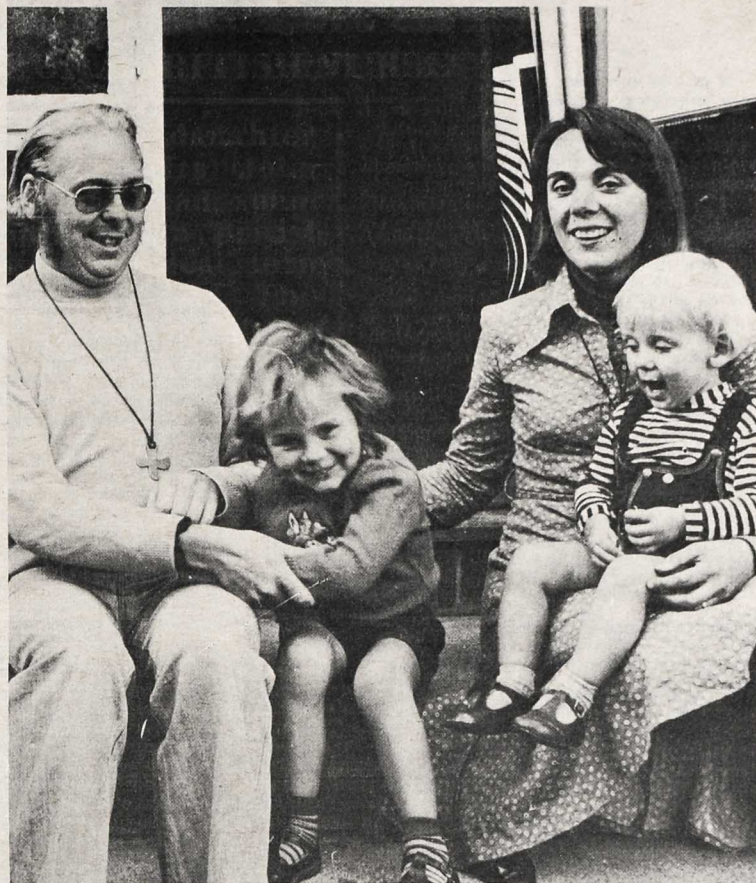
Naturally they have very mixed feelings about leaving. Leonard himself says how very happy he has been working with the Rector and his colleagues in the parish. And of course there will always be a very strong link with Caversham since both their sons, Simon, 3½ and Alexander, just one year, were born in the parish. Youth apart, the number of communicants has certainly increased since their arrival and the whole atmosphere of the church in their district is a very happy one.

It may sound trite, but it is nevertheless true that they will be hard to replace and we are sorry to see them go. We wish them every happiness in their new job, and remind them that Birmingham is not so very far away, so we shall look forward to return visits from time to time.

## MOVING

Caversham's Methodist Minister, the Rev Leslie Griffiths is returning to Haiti and is expected to leave Caversham next August when he will have completed three years here. Many other than Methodists will much regret that he and his family are leaving so soon.

The Rev Charles Danes, a former priest in charge of St. Andrew's and vicar of All Saints, Hanworth since 1965 is moving to Littlehampton to be vicar of St. James'.



— L. L. Burn

## THE BURN FAMILY

*DONALD FINDLAY — Why so glum?*

*MONDAY — Monday is always a bad day — disaster at every turn*

*TUESDAY — Burnt a hole in my new suit — must stop smoking*

*WEDNESDAY — Lost the cord out of my pyjamas*

*THURSDAY — Cynthia Lightbody said "No" (Twice)*

*FRIDAY — Paying my wages into the Abbey National today. If that big busty girl isn't on the cash desk, I think I'll kill myself*

Action cut to Abbey National Local Office, Caversham

*MANAGER: Hislop — Mr Findlay's coming; get out the inflatables*

*MISS HISLOP: Oh not again Sir — it's so humiliating . . .*

*MANAGER: It's all in a good cause Hislop*

**MOTTO:** Do like Donald and put your money in the Abbey National. One day the balloon may go up!

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## Talking point

by Leonard Burn

## ON CALL

If casual remarks, both direct and overheard, are anything to go by, many people seem to regard my imminent move to Selly Oak Hospital as a move towards lighter duties, even semi-retirement when in fact the reverse is the case. What then does the hospital chaplain do?

There is the obvious ministry to Christians in the hospital by administering the Sacraments and general pastoral care; just as medical responsibility passes from the GP to the hospital doctors so the responsibility for the spiritual needs of the patient passes from the parish priest to the chaplain during the stay in hospital.

Entering hospital for whatever reason always means some form of crisis for the person involved and their family, and many people at such times appreciate a visit from the chaplain. It is no use thinking that those who want to see the chaplain will ask because people are naturally shy and the high proportion of part-time staff means that it takes a long time for the chaplain to be immediately recognised by everybody. This means that the staple diet of the work is the ward round, that is visiting every patient in the hospital starting at bed one and going on to bed 600 and whatever, and then going back and starting

again. With the very rapid turnover it is impossible to see everyone but it is a mistake to think that short stay surgical patients need visiting less than long term medical ones.

The chaplain is chaplain to the whole hospital and a valuable part of his ministry is with the staff. He is the only completely neutral person who can move freely through grades and departments and be equally at home in the consultants' rest room as the kitchen. Anyone can go to the chaplain knowing that he has no departmental or medical axe to grind.

The chaplain generally takes part in the nurses training programme and has a special responsibility in making them feel at home in strange surroundings, especially those from overseas. At Selly Oak there is a further responsibility for

training as we have a month long course for clergy and ordinands.

A thing that many people do not realise is that the chaplain is always on call, day and night. If one goes away for a night then one must arrange for someone else to take calls. If one goes out for the evening or just into town then one must tell the switchboard.

Life in hospital is going to be different from life in Caversham. There will not be the pressure of public speaking, a relief in my case, not the burden of so many necessary evening meetings, a relief in anybody's case. The house will no longer be full of teenagers which will be an acute loss. But Selly Oak and Caversham will prove alike in one basic respect: of hard work and fun, and it is strange how the two seem to go together so often, there will be no shortage.

## GUIDE NEWS

Alison Jackson of the 11th Caversham Guides writes about the Summer Camp

## OXWYCH CASTLE FARM

42 Guides and six leaders from the Caversham West District went to Camp at Oxwych Castle Farm, Oxwych Bay, Gower, near Swansea on Wednesday, July 28.

The theme was "Welsh Castles" and each patrol was named after them. The first day was spent pitching camp and settling in, but the next day after camp duties we went down to the beach for a swim. We spent the afternoon making camp gadgets — some of which were really works of art being solid enough to hold all our luggage. The next day, Friday we went to Slade Bay for a swim and hiked back to the camp through the village of Horton. The Saturday we had a choice of either staying in camp to perform a "Challenge" or going for a hike. The challenge was 17 different projects set by the Guides. The people who chose the hike went across Oxwych Bay, climbed the Burrows, and over Cefn Bryn to find "King Arthur's Stone," hiking back through Penrice. I went on this, taking a packed

lunch, with the rest of my patrol and we had a lovely time.

Sunday we went to church in Oxwych Green, then continued with the Challenge. The afternoon was also spent on the Challenges or following a nature trail. It was very cold that day and most of us stayed in our tents.

On Monday we went on an outing to Caswell Bay where we swam, climbed the cliffs or just sat on the sand. We then went on to Mumbles for a packed lunch, and in the afternoon went into Swansea to do some shopping.

On Tuesday some of us went for another swim in Slade Bay and in the afternoon we started to pack up ready for our departure on Wednesday, August 4.

We all had a wonderful camp and would like to thank all the Guides, especially Miss Sawyer who was the Guider in Charge, for all their care and time which was given to make our camp so good.

ST PETER'S BROWNIES  
We followed The  
Yellow Brick Road  
by Brown Owl

After being spoiled at Foxlease in 1975 St Peter's Brownies went back to the Cotswolds for this year's Pack Holiday. They arrived at Macaroni Wood during the afternoon of Saturday, July 24, and promptly turned the "Brownie House" into the Land of Oz. The sixes became Winkies, Quadlings and Ozkins and Guiders, the Wizard, Lion, Tin Man, Dorothy and her dog Toto. The holiday theme was based on the book Wizard of Oz and activities included making little "Peg" Dorothy Dolls, Pin Cushion Scarecrows — Straw Scarecrows and foil-Tin men for a competition. On the Sunday we visited the little Church in Eastleach for the family communion Service and in the afternoon went to the Emerald City of Oz to give Bryonie Nye a birthday party. We visited the Wild Life Park at Burford on Tuesday, and on Wednesday played hostesses to the under eight year olds in the Pack whom Mr Philip Bowcock so kindly brought to visit us (The minimum age for a Brownie to go on Pack Holiday is eight).

Thursday was a most enjoyable day spent at the Farm for Rare Animals where the Brownies were given a film show and then allowed to feed and stroke the animals in the farm.

The Brownies were allowed into a corn field to look for a badger's set, and found a wasps' nest which had been opened by the badgers. They went on a trail in the beech woods, following "the yellow brick road," and spent one afternoon completing a challenge course of obstacles, performing leaps and acrobatics, just like the Lion and his companions did in their journey. They looked for new hearsts for the tin man and they built "Dorothy's" house in the woods. They spent one evening round a camp fire, carefully tended and guarded, eating toasted marshmallows, and another dressing a member of each six to look like one of the little people of Oz.

When asked by the visiting Camp Adviser if they would like to stay a bit longer the Brownies answered with a loud Yes, and our thanks go to all those who helped in any way to make their Park Holiday such a pleasant one.

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## OBITUARY

Mr Henry Thomas, who died suddenly in August, was with the Reading Area Telephone Manager's Office, and lived in Derby Road for eight years. He will be sadly missed by his colleagues and by his neighbours who found him a most kind and gentle friend. Our sympathy is extended to his widow.

■ Some participants in the Fancy Hat Parade at St Andrew's Church Fete.

# WHY NOT A FESTIVAL FOR SQUARES? asks Zoilus

Early on the first day of September. And the area between Richfield Avenue and the river a Saragossa Sea of castaway cans and bottles, plastic sheets and plastic cups, newspapers and every manner of throwaway artifact. A watery sun enfeebled by its roaring triumphs of July and August glints weakly on the scattered debris of pleasure past, all that remains to show the ending of that most ephemeral of all festivals, the annual worship of Rock and Pop.

But that is not quite right, on two counts. For three years that most significant and renowned ancestor of modern rock, the jazz of New Orleans and the deep South, the music of W. C. Handy and Louis Armstrong — has had no place at the Reading Festival. And on this last day of the Summer Bank Holiday there still looms over the deserted arena the two giant stages and the tower built for the sound and lighting equipment. So just as William Booth asked why the devil should have all the best tunes, so some regular visitors to the Festival are asking why should not the Monday of the holiday be given up to a day of music for the multitude of squares who have left their teens behind but still retain a love for the more estab-

lished popular music, for brass bands and Glen Miller, Gilbert and Sullivan and jazz.

Next year is the Queen's Silver Jubilee and Reading will mark the occasion, though like everyone else we will have to respect the economic realities and pitch our ventures in a low key.

Bit it need not be a muted key if advantage can be taken of the facilities and expertise of the Harold Pendleton organisation who have been so successful in promoting the Rock Festivals. Working in partnership, the Corporation and Mr Pendleton could put on a show on August Monday that would appeal to the residents of Reading and Caversham who feel the pop scene is not for them. In the afternoon and early evening there could be a series of concerts by some of our fine local talent — the Reading Youth Orchestra, the Les Lawrence Orchestra, the Salvation Army Band and choral groups, to name but a few, all set around the star attraction of a nationally famous military band. The evening could end with a session of real jazz, which no doubt Chris Barber, one of the Rock Festival organisers, would be only too glad to arrange.

This is the idea that has the support of some of

the councillors, press representatives and entrepreneurs who were involved with this summer's event. Objections there may be, not least from those who think the riverside should be a place of peace and rest and not given up to mechanical razzmatazz on a summer holiday. But they will realise also that the kind of entertainment proposed will be much more restrained than on the preceding days, appeal to a wider section of local residents and provide a fitting finale to a fortnight of outdoor Jubilee events starting with the famed Reading Show.

Outdoor? Well, yes that could be a problem if next summer reverts to our usual unpredictable weather, for though the kids may be prepared to sit and get soaked for a chance of seeing Black Oak Arkansas, it is doubtful if their seniors would be ready to do the same for the Sainsbury Singers, so part of the arena would have to be covered. But with the help of the Pendleton professionals the organisational snags could be overcome and Reading would mount a Bank Holiday musical entertainment that would have local and national appeal and provide something for everybody at a reasonable cost.

## TAIZE PHOTOGRAPHS



■ How do you pitch a tent on hard gravel?

— L. L. Burn



■ The friendship of Taize — singing and dancing in the rain.

— J. Williamson

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FRUSTRATED  
LONELY**



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# "THE BEST KNIGHT WHO EVER LIVED"

by M. K.

Those were the words used in 1219 by John Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury, when he buried 82 years old William, first Earl of Pembroke, Earl Marshal of England and Lord of the Castle of Caversham.

As the most powerful knights of the realm stood around the graveside in the Church of the Knights Templar, Cardinal Langton addressed them. "Lords," he said: "You see what the life of the world is worth. Behold, all that remains of the best knight who ever lived . . . we have here our mirror, you and I. Let each man say his paternoster that God may receive this Christian into His Glory and place him among His faithful vassals, as he so well deserves."

## CONKERS WITH THE KING

Great words. So who was this old man who apparently had such an immense impact and influence in England during some of her most troubled times.

Born in 1136, William the Marshal was a landless younger son of an English nobleman; who was himself Marshal to King Stephen. While still a lad he had been held hostage by Stephen when the latter had been barred from his castle at Newbury by the boy's father. So from an early age William had been involved in his country's power struggle. What must he have felt as he was led out under a tree in full view of his father watching, no doubt, on the battlements of the royal stronghold he had occupied? Did he think his last hour was near, for he must have seen, and certainly knew about, the barbarous ways of fighting men and realised his father was in revolt against his monarch. However, all was well and a few days later he was actually seen outside Stephen's tent playing conkers with the King. Perhaps this treatment he received at the hands of his father's royal enemy may have influenced him in later life, for he is recorded as being a simple, pious and courteous man, ever-ready to forgive others. He was probably the very embodiment of chivalry in the best sense of the word. He served many sovereigns in his long life and stood by each one steadfast and faithful. Stephen, Henry

II, Richard I, John and in his last years, John's young son and heir Henry III.

It was John who was the most difficult taskmaster, stretching his Marshal's endurance to the ultimate. But he recognised the old man's integrity and was known to have once remarked: "I deem him the most loyal knight who was ever born in my lands." It was William the old and experienced statesman, as well as soldier, who stood between the King and the Barons at Runnymede, acting as go-between at the signing of the Magna Carta. Before he died John said this to his followers: "For God's sake, do you beg the Earl Marshal that he pardon me the wrongs I did him, for which I do repent me fully, for he has always served me loyally and betrayed me never, whatever I might do or say in his spite. For God's sake, my lords, pray he may pardon me, and as I am more sure of his faith than any other's, I beg you will give my son into his care, for he can never hold his lands except through him." How much one can read between these lines. Perhaps, at last, John saw just how difficult he had been. Certainly he realised what support he had received from this most loyal subject, who harboured no bitterness or wish for revenge.

## A GOLD BRACELET FOR A CROWN

As the French had a strong foothold in England at the time and were endeavouring to gain the country for themselves, the child was crowned immediately at Gloucester cathedral. His crown, according to some, a gold bracelet belonging to his mother, but first he was knighted by the then 80 years old William. For as one wrote: "None other of us measure up to him. It is William who must gird the sword upon the knight."

For the next two years the Earl Marshal struggled on to rid the country of the French, freeing Marlborough, Southampton and Winchester. Then in spite of his age he fought yet another

battle. This time it was to be his last. It was also to be the turning of the tide in England's struggle with the invaders. Prince Louis of France had forces besieging Lincoln castle and although they were more numerous than the English William and his men were victorious. The Marshal was so enthusiastic to go into battle that he forgot his helmet and had to go back or send for it! There is no doubt about it he enjoyed a bit of a bash up at times for one contemporary writer said: "They discovered William kneeling with his head on the anvil while the smith laboured with hammer and tongs to draw off his helmet which had been beaten out of shape and driven on his head by the force of the blows received in the tournament." Apparently for him there was nothing like a good joust!

Early in 1219 the old man felt he could help England no more. He went to his young monarch and said: "Sire, I pray God that if ever I have done anything displeasing to Him, He will give you the grace to be a true knight. If it should happen that you follow the example of some evil ancestor, I pray Him not to grant you a long life." Henry III lived to the age of 65 and his reign of 56 years was the longest in the Middle Ages.

As spring came that year and the willows beside the Thames turned from gold to green and the grass on hill and valley became lush once more; when villagers turned out starving cattle into the mead and the cuckoo sang, the Earl Marshall died at his castle in Caversham. Perhaps this was his favourite home, for he must have had many estates, yet he ended his days near this little Oxfordshire village. His body was taken across the Thames to lie in state in newly built and still incomplete Reading Abbey. From there it was taken down to the Abbey's watergate and by boat along the Thames to London. William the Marshal, first Earl of Pembroke had fought the good fight and was finally laid to rest.

Surely here was a man who made as much impact in his day as Sir Winston Churchill in his greatest years. Over seven centuries have gone by and dimmed this life story. It is almost impossible to realise the man unless he is studied and fortunately there are plenty of sources from which to do so. This last episode will again reinforce what has already been said. On hearing his son Louis had been finally defeated in England, King Philip of France posed this question, "Does William Marshal still live?" When the answer came back in the affirmative, Philip paid his enemy the highest tribute, "Then I fear not for my son."

## WHERE, O WHERE

Just where the long vanished castle at Caversham was sited no one really knows, though a few have their theories. Could it have been somewhere in the region of Caversham Park? The Thames was as good a way to travel in those days, and probably safer, and it has been said that the original road from London came over the Chilterns from Henley via Dunsden down to the Thames. Perhaps there was a ford somewhere, as in those days there was to be no bridge for another seven years. If so the ford was probably near Caversham Lock, for it is in that area on the Reading bank that the great Abbey had its watergate. On the Oxfordshire bank is Dean's Farm about which I wrote a recent article and mentioned that the present tenant had never, in the last thirty years, known it to flood, the house and buildings being built on a slight rise which was almost certainly man made as there are signs of hard rubble and brick. These, too, are evident in the one field that separates the homestead from the river bank. Can there have been some form of causeway through this water meadow to the Thames to another watergate belonging to the castle? Perhaps we shall one day find answers. It would be interesting to know where the castle was; it is such a large building to have vanished so completely. The fact that it belonged to such a dynamic character as William the Marshal, and later his five sons, all in turn Lord of Caversham and two Earl Marshal, makes its discovery the more fascinating to contemplate.

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It is hoped to arrange another ecumenical party from Caversham. Further details will be published later but anyone interested in going should contact Mr John Williamson at 43 Ellesmere Close (Minimum age 18).

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## WITH KATHY IN CAVERSHAM

MY REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE OF CAVERSHAM looked like meeting with the usual lack of success had it not been for one young lady to whom I shall be eternally grateful for supplying me with details of at least a few of our youngsters who will be departing for college and university this autumn.

### LEAVING CAVERSHAM

Duncan Harris of Albert Road, is going to Bristol to study chemical-psychics, while Deborah Mander of Grove Hill is off to Bradford for social studies. Peter Walker, whose father was at one time the "Bridge" photographer, is also off to university to study science, while David Lewis of Emmer Green is taking a graduate course at the Royal College of Music. Mandy Vincent, daughter of our church secretary, is off to the Royal Academy of Music for a graduate course in violin and piano for three years, followed by a year at university. And Diana Bowyer of Kidmore Road is going to the Central College of

Art at Southampton. We look forward to hearing news of all these youngsters in the future and wish them well, together with the many whose names have failed to reach us. Several, it seems, are taking a year from studying before going on to university, while many are now embarking on their last lap at school and, with O-level results (many very good indeed) behind them, are now working towards A-level in a great variety of subjects.

### SEEING THE WORLD

In the meanwhile, her local friends will be interested to hear that Miranda Clifton of St Anne's Road, is just returning to her base in Kano, Nigeria, after a five weeks' holiday, travelling west through eight countries as far as Dakar.

Miranda, who spent some time teaching before leaving for Africa, works for the VSO and is helping with in-service training of Nigerian primary school teachers in and around Kano. She has been there a year and is enjoying it so much

that it is on the cards she will do more than the extra year required of her before returning home. Miranda is very enthusiastic about her work and her life and the chance to travel — her letters are full of interest, so we hope before long to cover her career more fully and perhaps entice other Caversham youngsters to take the plunge and see the world.

### WORKING ON A KIBBUTZ

Some, like Dafyd Thomas, ex-server at St. Peter's, are doing interesting holiday jobs. He is currently working on a kibbutz not far from Nazareth, acquiring blisters on his hands and feet and a great deal of experience. When he returns he will be leaving Aberystwyth University where he has been doing Celtic studies, to study mainly Hebrew at Cardiff.

### MORE PLEASE

It really is a joy to report even just a little news about people for a change — may we take this as a sign of better things to come. Let's have some more, please!

## DO YOU REMEMBER THIS?

We publish this month three photographs of the Sunday School Festival which was held in Caversham in the octave of St. Peter's Patronal Festival. We should be interested to hear from any readers who can identify themselves in these photographs or send us more details of this annual festival. These photographs were taken in 1913.



## PARISHES OF CAVERSHAM AND MAPLEDURHAM

### Arrangements regarding weddings and funerals

**Weddings:** Those wishing to be married in any of the five Churches of England should contact the clergy whose names appear on page 12. Dates for weddings are not arranged more than six months in advance. Weddings may only take place in the parish in which either the bride or bridegroom lives or is on the church electoral roll. The fact that a parent of the bride or bridegroom lives in the parish is not sufficient; one of those being married must have proper residential qualifica-

tions during the period that the banns are called.

**Funerals:** It is the responsibility of the clergy of the Church of England to conduct the funeral service of anyone resident in the parish who is not a member of a non-Anglican Church. Relatives are reminded that it is important that they contact the clergy before making any approach to an undertaker. Funerals have inevitably to be arranged at short notice, and failure to contact the clergy first can lead to misunderstanding in making the arrangement.

**Fees:** The fees which are charged in connec-

tion with marriages and funerals are statutory. They include charges for the use of the church and the payment of the vergers. Money received as clergy fees is made over to the Diocesan Board of Finance for the purpose of clergy stipends in the diocese of Oxford. The clergy do not themselves individually benefit from conducting any wedding or funeral services.

Additional fees are also charged for the services of an organist, choir and bell ringers when these are requested. A charge is also made if a request is received for the heating of the church.

## HOLLOWAY'S

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**ST JOHN'S NEWS**

**The work still goes on**

Although a great part of the church redecoration was completed in time for St John's Day, a large amount of less obvious, but nevertheless essential, work still remained to be done; and since then Cyril Badger, "Blossom" Butler and Jack Houghton have put in many hours on a variety of jobs.

Much time is being spent on the metalwork of the windows, and during the long spell of hot weather the congregation has found the

benefit of extra ventilation through windows which until now had not been opened for years; where possible the metal guards on the windows are being repaired and experiments made to see whether new "do-it-yourself" ones can be produced.

Various carpentry jobs have been tackled, and woodworm in chairs dealt with.

In addition to the work in hand, the South Porch is still in need of a coat of emulsion and the second set of gates remains to be painted. In fact, Cyril Badger

reports that every time he looks round the church he sees something else which needs attention... any volunteers?

**MAPLEDURHAM NEWS**

**Antique Church Treasure saved from decay**

A new, and yet very old ornament to St Margaret's Church will be seen at Harvest Thanksgiving this year. Last year, while getting the church ready for Easter, a beautifully embroidered and clearly antique altar frontal was found, after being hidden away for years. Though it was sadly faded and frayed, and tragically spoiled by damp, the beauty of the main central design of an urn with flowers in many colours of silk was still quite visible.

No record of the frontal could be found in any of the lists of church property, and it remained something of a mystery. Some thought it might be French, and early 19th-century. Others suggested it was late Victorian. But whatever its origin, its condition was now getting worse, and yet it was tragic not to use it. It was brought out once or twice for great Festivals last year, but so delicate was it that it soon became obvious that using it at all was doing it no good.

At this point, Mrs Margery Palmer stepped in. Mrs Palmer is a needlewoman with much experience in fine embroidery, and she offered to see whether anything could be done for the frontal. After consulting friends and colleagues, Mrs Palmer decided the fabric would not stand a needle at all. But even so she managed with careful use of glue and scissors, and by fitting a new edging, to halt the decay and so save the frontal for future use.

The work was finished soon after Easter this year, and the first major occasion of its use is

Harvest. By a happy chance, just as the work was nearing completion an old inventory from 1919 was found, and here was mentioned, "A white embroidered Italian frontal, early 18th century, given by Lady Mary Mills." Perhaps, then, this is the answer to the questions. All the members of St Margaret's give in any case their most grateful thanks to Mrs Palmer for of all her care in saving this lively piece of work.

**ST. PETER'S WIVES**

A few members enjoyed the two informal meetings of the St Peter's Wives Group, which were held in July and August. Both the Ramble and the Picnic took place on beautiful summer days and those present could enjoy the fresh air and Oxfordshire countryside.

The October meeting is the AGM and October 19 is the date for members to remember their opportunity to stand for or elect the committee for next year.

St. Peter's Wives is an open group welcoming any women, married, single, widowed or divorced and the Group's Chairman, Dorothy Churcher, will willingly supply programme details (Tel. Reading 473353).

**ST. PETER'S NEWS**

Their many friends in the congregation are sorry that Michael and Jennie Brewer have moved away to Basingstoke. Michael has given valuable service to St. Peter's Scouts, Jennie will be missed from St. Peter's Wives and both of them plus young Timothy will be missed from their customary pew in the north aisle at the Parish Communion. There new address is Plot 17, Oakley Lane East, East Oakley, Basingstoke.

**ST MARY'S CHURCH THE BUTTS**

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**Tuesday, October 19, 8pm —**

**Wednesday, October 20, 8pm.**

**MARRIED AT ST. JOHN'S**



Miss S. Lock of Gosbrook Road was married on July 31 at St. John's Church to Mr S. Stevenson of Brendon Close, Tilehurst. The bridesmaids were Miss B. Lock and Miss A. Shackleford, sister and niece of the bride; Master L. Shackleford was pageboy and the best man Mr S. Duffin.



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WEDDING AT HOME PASSPORT

# RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

## IS THIS THE RIGHT ROUTE?

Support is mounting daily for the meeting to query Oxfordshire County Council's proposal to designate the A4074 (the road from Crowmarsh via Woodcote to Caversham) a major lorry route and it is expected that Thameside School will be filled to capacity on October 11 at 7.45pm. Please apply for a window poster if you are not already displaying one (phone 477899 or 472300). It is important that local opinion makes itself heard on this subject. Evidence is beginning to emerge that informed public opinion is beginning to have some effect on road programmes.

## MARINA

Most Caversham people will agree with the Borough Planning Committee that a marina for 350 boats and parking for 500 cars on the site of worked-out paved excavations between Caversham and Sonning must be opposed on grounds of inadequate access via Star Road and doubt as to its need until the Waterways Group has reported on mooring facilities in the Thames and Kennet. Queues of boats at the locks throughout the summer, apart from the restrictions imposed by the drought, raise the question of how many more pleasure craft the middle Thames can adequately cope with.

A publication entitled "Central Berkshire

## BY WATCHDOG

Structure Plan: Report of Survey" is not calculated to attract a rush of readers in search of a bedside book. However, those overcoming their initial reluctance will find within its covers a mass of information on the state of central Berkshire in the mid 1970's. Central Berkshire is the area bounded on the north by the Thames and the south by the Hampshire border, and extending from approximately Streatley to Aldermaston, Ascot to Henley. The report is a useful work of reference for most aspects of community life in the area.

On population for instance, we learn that this is above the national average for children in spite of a falling birthrate since 1966, but below average for retired people. On housing, 25 per cent of Reading's housing lacks the exclusive use of the basic amenities. For transport, it concludes that "solutions requiring large scale investment may have to be found for some problems." It gives the opinion that large glass and concrete buildings rarely harmonise with the styles found in old market towns, to which many will give a fervent "Hear, hear." As for pollution, the area is below the national average, though

four tips need regular monitoring to see they do not pollute ground water supplies, but the worst pollution comes from the noise of traffic.

In an interesting appendix there is a list of the top thirty wards in the whole of Berkshire suffering from "stressful housing," meaning householders not having the exclusive use of the basic amenities. One is not surprised to learn that the older town centre wards of Reading are included in this number, but perhaps scarcely expected Slough to feature so strongly. Not only do Slough's wards occupy the top positions but they also take ten places out of the total. Most surprising of all is that Thames, the ward which is a byword for privilege and exclusiveness, should occupy the 24th place. The explanation of course is to be found in the larger old houses now in multi-occupation. Caversham does not feature in the list at all.

The whole survey is to be used as the basis for producing the Central Berkshire Structure Plan (groan, groan), which will affect all of us. It is unfortunate that this report became available at the beginning of July and comments were requested by the end of August, right across the holiday period. However, it is understood that comments can be made after that date. The Caversham Library has copies of the report or it may be purchased (£2.50) from Berkshire Planning Department at Alpha House, King's Road, Reading.

## ROUND THE CLUBS

### BLAGRAVE WI

The August meeting of Blagrave WI was held at the riverside home of Dr and Mrs Wilkie, and members and friends had a delightful afternoon. The President, Miss Chapman presented the birthday posies, and after a short business meeting everyone relaxed in the sunshine and thoroughly enjoyed having tea by the river. Husbands, who had very kindly acted as chauffeurs, had their own special tea party and one, Mr Sholl, was lucky enough to win one of the raffle prizes.

Mrs Wilkie gave a report on the Home Economics Day which had been attended by several members who had had a most interesting day.

Miss D. Chapman thanked Mrs Wilkie for her hospitality and for giving everyone such a really lovely afternoon.

### THE JUBILEE CLUB, MAPLEDURHAM

Another lovely summer for the meetings, four of which were held out of doors. Tea was taken in the garden at Bottom Farm in June, when Mr and Mrs Harvey were the kind host and hostess. In July old friends at Dysons Wood Hostel, Tokers Green were visited. It was good to chat with folk who no longer could get to the club meetings and everyone much enjoyed seeing them once more. August saw the club once again having a short trip on the Thames and then tea at Mapledurham House. September will find them back at Trench Green Hall. Later in the month some members hope to visit the Senior Citizens' Club at Checkendon.

An outing to Courage's Shire Horse Centre brought back many memories as members took a ride in a wonderful old waggon and went round the stables to see the magnificent animals which are now all too rarely seen.

### CAVERSHAM PARK WI

At the July meeting members enjoyed an illustrated talk given by Mr S. M. Gold of the Reading Centre of the National Trust.

The competition for a photograph of an old building was won by Mrs Williams. Twelve members participated in an evening of international folk dancing with Mrs Jill Harris at Chieveley.

At the August meeting, members visited Borocourt Hospital, after being received by Miss Jean Neale (Nursing Officer) and Mr Philip Dennis (Voluntary Ser-

vice Organiser), members were refreshed with a welcome cup of coffee and biscuits before touring most of the wards and day rooms, talking to some of the 500 resident patients, and meeting the Nursing and training staff on duty. It was enlightening to see some of the wonderful therapy work done by the patients from egg boxes, washing up liquid containers, plastic margarine tubs, greetings cards, wool, etc. Any of these items would be gratefully received by the hospital staff as there is a great need for them. Mr Dennis stressed the need for voluntary helpers however short the time given, to use their talents in conjunction with the staff of the hospital.

With the co-operation of the local manager of the London Provincial Poster Company of Stanshaw Road, Reading, a seat has now been placed in Donkin Hill, purchased from money raised by members.

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Emmer Green. Tel. 472934.

Mrs M. Coombs (South Caversham), 5 Kidmore Road, Tel.  
472689.

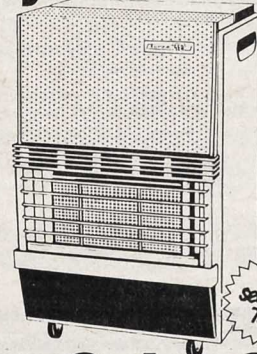
Mrs E. B. Evans (East Caversham), 50 Grosvenor Road. Tel.  
473596.

Mrs P. Edwards (West Caversham), 4 Harrogate Road, Tel.  
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# 'ANGOLA'

## EXPERIENCES OF A BRITISH NURSE

"In December last year, I was asked to join a British Red Cross medical team leaving on December 30 to work in Angola for three months. The team comprised an orthopaedic surgeon, anaesthetist, general practitioner and four nurses and was to work under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross. The ICRC had given a medical team to areas controlled by each of the three rival movements in the civil war. The British team worked at a Roman Catholic mission hospital in the town of Vouga some hundred miles from the principal southern city of Huambo (formerly Nova Lisboa), under the control of UNITA, the Union for the Total Independence of Angola.

### DISEASE AND SEVERE INJURIES

"The Portuguese and Spanish nuns and doctors had left the hospital prior to Independence, leaving some 20 Angolan nurses and ancillary staff. The team was to provide a medical service for the entire population including the war casualties from all sides in the conflict. While based at Vouga, we were to visit other hospitals in the area to do

**Miss Susan Carr, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs John Carr of Kidmore Road, spent three months with a British Red Cross medical team working in Angola. This report will give some idea of the difficulties which the team encountered.**

clinics as these had no doctors, although acute fuel shortage limited our visits. Severely ill patients were brought back to Vouga in our 'ambulance' — the Red Cross Land Rover.

"On arrival, we found the hospital full with patients in badly applied plaster casts, with severe infections and whose bones were not uniting correctly. A programme of corrective surgery and intensive physiotherapy was instituted. The hospital was relatively sophisticated for the area but obviously not up to our standards. The team treated patients with many types of tropical diseases, tropical ulcers, tuberculosis and various kinds of moderate to severe malnutrition among all age groups of both sexes. We also dealt with some complicated births. We sometimes had to deal with up to 70 malnourished and sick patients arriving together. Due to the acute fuel shortage, war casualties often did not reach us for 24 or 48 hours, therefore arriving in a critical condition.

### NURSING UNDER GUNFIRE

"As nurses we found ourselves giving anaesthetics and doing many other things we would not be expected to do at home. We also took charge of the nutrition and feeding programme.

"The surgeon left the team after six weeks and the anaesthetist two weeks later. Shortly after that, two nurses were transferred to other projects leav-

ing myself, another nurse and a doctor in Vouga.

"For the most part we were not involved in the war. However we did experience some gunfire when the town and hospital were taken over by the advancing troops of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, MPLA. Once it was realised that the team was working with the International Committee of the Red Cross, a strictly neutral organisation, we were treated with civility and respect.

"For the last three weeks of our stay, we had no electricity or running water. These had been somewhat erratic prior to this. We had a small generator to work our radio for our twice daily contacts with the ICRC delegation in Huambo and even this eventually broke down in spite of our doctor's efforts at repair! So we used torches, candles and oil lamps at night and the local village boys helped to carry water from the stream for us. Water had to be boiled over wood fires and operations performed by lamplight.

### RED CROSS AS A TRACING AGENCY

"After our surgeon and anaesthetist left, patients requiring major surgery had to be transferred, in the Land Rover and after initial treatment, to a Protestant mission hospital run by a Canadian doctor and nurse who had worked in the area for more than 25 years. The journey was 50 miles along a bad dirt road made worse by tropical rainstorms and which were rather treacherous in the dark.

"The marvellous work of the Red Cross in Angola in addition to medical help and the provision of supplies and equipment, also included a tracing agency helping to reunite families split by the war and we were able to help carry messages during our visits to other hospitals.

"It was very sad to see the results of civil war. There were many young men with amputated arms and legs who had no hope of obtaining the sophisticated artificial limbs available here and no chance of rehabilitation to help them adapt their way of life.

"We know that the ICRC operations in Angola were very much appreciated there and we all found that we gained a great deal from the mission."

## GWENDA WOOLLCOMBE

**THE BISHOP OF OXFORD'S WIFE DIED ON AUGUST 6 AFTER BEING ILL FOR SEVERAL MONTHS WITH CANCER. THE BISHOP HAS CIRCULATED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:**

"Our Lord Jesus Christ died for us so that we, awake or asleep, might live in company with him. Therefore hearten one another, fortifying one another — as indeed you do." (1 Thess. 5: 10-11)

INDEED you do: More than 1,000 letters have given me the courage I needed to live as one who "believes and trusts in the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins and the resurrection to life everlasting." I wish that I could reply to each one of you as personally as you have written to me, but obviously I must do my best with this page of print, or I shall never get back to work!

First let me thank you very simply but profoundly for your prayers and your letters, and all kinds of helpful thoughts and experiences. You have seemed very close to me these last few weeks, even if you live in Australia.

I do not think I could,

or should, attempt to tell you exactly how my Gwenda faced her death. But you must know that on the Eve of the Transfiguration she said:

"Please tell the diocese how marvellous it has been," and to our children: "Thank you for being you." Towards evening she became a little frightened and asked for Holy Communion, which I at once administered. She took part in the service in a clear and lively voice, and at the end of it she said: "That was a VERY good idea."

For her last journey, then, she prepared as practically and methodically as she had packed, only a fortnight earlier, for a week's holiday she was utterly determined we should have together in the Black Mountains of Wales. We thank her for being her, and we thank God for giving her to us.

On our wedding day the present Bishop of Newcastle gave her this prayer which she kept in her handbag. I think some of you may find it as helpful as I do now.

"The God of Heaven so join you now, that you may be glad of one another all your lives; and when He which hath joined you shall separate you, may He again stab-

lish you with an assurance that He hath borrowed one of you for a time to make both more perfect in the Resurrec-

tion, through Jesus Christ Our Lord."

With love and prayers,  
KENNETH OXON

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# YOUNG CAVERSHAM

BY  
PETER  
SHOCK

LONDON has its big red buses; Paris, the grand Metro; in Venice the scenario is the Gondola; and in Vienna the population circulates on the antique tramway system. This great city, stretching away on both sides of the Danube, welcomes all young people under 15 to tour its imperial attractions at no cost, during the month of August. Trams, buses and even trains within the city's boundary fall within the offer, with one stipulation; to politely vacate the seat if an adult is standing.



Not being accustomed to such generous democracy, I nervously accepted the invitation of the City Fathers, and took in tow a string of youngsters from the two Caversham Boys' Clubs. We boarded the Underground train to Schoenbrunn Palace, the ances-

tral residence of the Hapsburg dynasty. The ticket inspector watched amusingly. No fuss or bother, no identification nonsense. A kind smile, and — "English boys? Nothing to pay!" That was sufficient to reassure me the Under-15's had not aberrated in any way.

The exemption privileges took the party (the larger part, at any rate) to the village of Grinzing at the foot of the Vienna Woods. Steep vineyards surround the village, and it is famous for its many "Heuriger." These are taverns with picturesque courtyards in which you may enjoy a meal with a glass — or more — of wine of the last vintage, often to the strains of Viennese music. The Heuriger are recognised by a bunch of fir-twigs fixed over the entrance door. We did not forget we had been endowed with legs, and one of our most exciting rambles was the steep climb from Grinzing to the heights of the Vienna Woods. From here are panoramic views over the Danube region and it is often possible to see the mountains of

Czechoslovakia in the far distance.

No youngster ever goes to Vienna without visiting the Prater Amusement Park. The grounds cover a large area between the Danube and the Danube Canal, and contain the giant "Riesenrad," once the largest Ferris Wheel in the world. It is approximately 200 feet high and fine views over Vienna can be obtained from the suspended carriages. While the young are busy having their fun, the more senior generation sneaks off to one of the al fresco restaurants in the quieter quarters of the park. Having been abandoned and forced into this category, I, with my colleagues chose the Restaurant "Schulz," which served an appetising Hungarian menu, Cevapcici. Piled high with sausage-fingers, fried chips, garnished with paprika, onion, and a multitude of other vegetables and mysteries, the course was consumed in one hour flat. Followed naturally by the delicious Viennese

"Tart of your Choice." It was not so bad being deserted in that way, after all.

The majestic spire of St. Stephen's Cathedral rises above the roofs of Vienna. To ascend, you have to use the lift, and there were no free trips on this journey. A little bit of St. Stephen's I am proud to call my own. Twenty years ago, when the cathedral was under repair from the severe war damage, I bought one tile for the restoration of the roof. I pointed out the specific tile, a yellow specimen on the south face, row 4, the 23rd, from the left. I hope no-one else has claimed that particular one, also!

## BRIDGE COLLAPSE

Only three weeks before our arrival in Vienna, the imposing Reichsbrücke, the city's oldest bridge over the Danube had collapsed into the river. Much of the structure could still be seen above the waterline. A great amount of Vienna's bus and tram network crossed over the bridge, but for the time being these routes jolt to a halt at each end of the bridge. Passengers then have a long detour to make by alternative crossings to reach the opposite sides. The Reichsbrücke crumbled into the Danube at about 5 o'clock on Sunday morning, August 1. Fortunately casualties were very few. Had it been 5 o'clock on a weekday

afternoon the story could have been very different.

At Klosterneuburg, about eight miles from the centre of Vienna, the Danube flows between the Vienna Woods and the Bisamberg Hills. This was the spot where the boys' clubs stayed. My friends of many years, the family Seidl, had offered their two summer-houses for our sole use. Karl and Aloisia Seidl, now retired, sent one of their sons to Reading in 1952, and a grandson came in 1974. Both have stayed

with families in Caversham, and this was one way in which they felt they could respond to the kindness shown by people in Caversham.

I am not sure whether I shall be in trouble with my boys for reporting that they played a football match against Klosterneuburg Boys' Football Club. The result, 8-1 for Klosterneuburg; our goal of honour netted by Andrew Mutch from Emmer Green. With that I will comment no further.



Peter Shock

— WALTON ADAMS

## TEN YEARS AGO

We print this month some extracts from the Caversham Bridge of October 1966.

### MODERNISATION OF ALMSHOUSES

The Caversham Bridge is glad to report that once the necessary authorisations have been received modernisation will take place at the almshouses in Westfield Road. The work is expected to be undertaken by Messrs Reeds of Caversham and the existing eight rooms will be turned into six sets with bathrooms and indoor sanitation.

(The Caversham Bridge had given publicity to the deplorable state of the almshouses and focused publicity on the need to modernise them).

### WIMBLEDON NEXT?

Congratulations to Julia Woolley, the winner of the Lawn Tennis finals of the National Association of Youth Clubs held at Queen's Club on September 3. Representing Berkshire Julia defeated Somerset in the semi-final (6-2, 6-4) and N. Ridler of Yorkshire in the final (6-3, 6-4). Julia, a member of the Friday Coffee Club at Toc H is a well-known younger member of St. Peter's congregation.

(And is still of course well-known but as Julia Stanbrook).

### LADY CHAPEL KNEELER.

Some sixteen ladies of St. Andrew's have been working for nine months on a canvas-work embroidered kneeler for the Lady Chapel. All who are engaged in making the kneeler are grateful to the three men in the congregation who have assisted with their time and talents. To Mr Brian Fowles for spending many months drawing out the design on graph paper, to Mr W. Hole for making the special eight-foot embroidery frame and to Major Strange who advises on the stitchery techniques.

### BAPTIST FOOTSLAGGERS

In the August Bank Holiday walk from Reading to Oxford organised by OXFAM the Baptist Church was represented by two young men, Malcolm Fletcher and Geoffrey Miller. These stalwarts completed the 27-mile course in eight hours two minutes and were in the first 50 of a field of some 800 starters.

In the same number will be found an account of the Embley Park Holiday of that year (cost in those days only six guineas for the week) and old photographs of the Misses May and Florence Turner in their home in Hemdean Road in which they had lived since 1885 — both were glad to say are still alive ten years later though no longer living in Hemdean Road.

Another photograph shows the wedding on August 31 in St. Peter's of Caversham Bridge photographer John Anderson to Monica Hale.

### TIEN-TIEN HOUSE

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# WHO, WHEN, WHERE

## Clergy and Ministers of Caversham

### ANGLICAN

The Rev Canon John Grimwade, The Rectory, 20 Church Road. Tel. 471703.  
The Rev Brian Gardiner, St Andrew's House, Harrogate Road. Tel. 472788.  
The Rev Stephen Bartlett, Caversham Park House, 2 Blackwater Close, Caversham Park. Tel. 475152.  
The Rev Michael Kitchener, Mapledurham Church House, 222 Upper Woodcote Road. Tel. 471605.  
The Rev John Sumner, St John's House, 9 Southview Avenue. Tel. 471814.  
The Rev Martin Loveless, 25 Ilkley Road. Tel. 472070.

### BAPTIST

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

### METHODIST

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

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

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

### UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

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

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## SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN CAVERSHAM

### CHURCH OF ENGLAND

**St Peter's** — Balmore Hall, 11am (not 3rd Sunday of month).  
**St Andrew's** — St Andrew's Hall, 11am (9.15 1st Sunday of month).  
Superintendent: Mr J. Tomlin, 32 Kidmore Road. Tel. 473809.  
**St Barnabas'** — Church Hall, 9.15am

### CAVERSHAM PARK

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

### METHODIST

**Caversham Heights** — In Church, 11am  
Superintendent: Mrs P. Court, 3 Woburn Close. Tel. 471445.

### COMBINED CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND METHODIST

**East Caversham:** Caversham Hall 11am (aged three to seven). Superintendent: Mr P. Stephens, 24 Carlton Road. Tel. 477030. Secretary: Miss K. Harris, 4 Valentine Crescent. Tel. 472084.

### BAPTIST

**West Memorial Hall** — 11am, aged three years and upwards.  
Secretaries: Mr and Mrs L. Tyler, 162 Galsworthy Drive, Caversham Park. Tel. 476214

## TO HIRE A HALL

### BALMORE HALL

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

### CAVERSHAM HALL

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

### CHURCH HOUSE, CHURCH STREET

Secretary: Mrs W. A. Vincent, The Parish Office, Reading. Tel. 471703 (Mon-Thurs 9.30am-3.30pm)

### EMMER GREEN YOUTH CLUB HALL

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

### MAPLEDURHAM MEMORIAL HALL

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

### ST. ANDREW'S HALL

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

### ST. BARNABAS HALL

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

### TRENCH GREEN HALL

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

### WEST MEMORIAL HALL

Secretary: Mr K. Shield, 27 Albert Road.  
Tel. 473709

## SUNDAY SERVICES IN OCTOBER

### ANGLICAN

**St Peter's**  
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
9.15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION  
11.00 a.m. Holy Communion (1st and 5th Sundays)  
11.00 a.m. Matins (2nd and 4th Sundays)  
11.30 a.m. Holy Communion (3rd Sunday)  
6.30 p.m. Evensong

**St John's**  
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST

**St Andrew's**  
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST  
11.15 a.m. Holy Communion  
6.30 p.m. Evensong (Except 1st Sunday)

**St Barnabas'**  
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST  
6.30 p.m. Evensong (2nd Sunday)

**St Margaret's, Mapledurham**  
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th Sundays)  
9.15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION  
10.30 a.m. Family Service (2nd Sunday)

### NORTH CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

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

### CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

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

### CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH (The School)

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

### METHODIST CHURCHES

**Caversham**  
11.00 a.m. Morning Service  
6.30 p.m. Evening Service  
**Caversham Heights**  
11.00 a.m. Morning Service  
6.30 p.m. Evening Service

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

**St Anne's**  
8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m., 7.00 p.m. Mass  
**Our Lady of Caversham**  
8.30 and 10.30 a.m. Mass  
**St Martin's School**  
9.30am Mass

## WE RECORD

### BAPTISED

**St. Peter's**  
August 7: Wendy Beeton

**St. Andrew's**  
July 25: Nicholas Gardiner

**Caversham Park**  
July 18: Christopher Pynn

### MARRIED

**St. Peter's**  
August 14: Paul Hammond and Helen Davis  
August 28: Robert Viney and Maxine Cannon

**St. Andrew's**  
July 31: Nicholas Tarrant and Lynne Hancock

**St Barnabas**  
August 21: Nicholas Surman and Janice Godwin  
Gerald Crocker and Ann Neal

### FUNERALS

**St. Andrew's**  
July 30: Edwin Wheeler  
Constance Olley

August 12: Lucie Greenslade