

## COMMUNITY CARE IN CAVERSHAM

SITUATED on a small industrial estate by the River Thames in Caversham, Reading Industrial Therapy Organisation Ltd (RITO) at a glance, appears to be an ordinary commercial factory. However, what appears to be the incongruous word 'therapy' in its title entices the observer to take a closer look at the activities going on.

On the factory floor a wide variety of items are packed, from tins of tea to toiletries, the engineering room designs and produces the jigs and tools for the machines and in the print department the offset lithos busily churn out the orders which are then sent to the finishing room for despatch. Upstairs, in the computer room, adverts and leaflets are typeset; in the classroom next door a tutor teaches administration; whilst in the canteen, 70 or more meals are prepared.

What makes RITO so different from other factories is the workforce - **THEIR REASON FOR BEING HERE AND THEIR REASONS FOR LEAVING.** All 130 adults who come to RITO have a disability, such as a head injury, learning difficulty, a nervous disorder, a drug problem, epilepsy, schizophrenia, autism, a hearing or visual impairment, the list is endless. All these people have something in common, they need support and guidance in preparing for work and securing employment. This is exactly what RITO has been doing for over 27 years with support from local industry and as a registered charity is a pioneer of **CARE IN THE COMMUNITY.**

In order to prepare individuals for work, RITO offers training and qualifications in:

**GRAPHICS:** NVQ - Computer Applications, Reprographics - camera and darkroom

**PRINTING:** Offset Lithos, print finishing

**INDUSTRIAL:** NVQ - Machining, Assembly & Processing Skills, Basic engineering, Machine repair & maintenance

**CATERING:** NVQ - Catering & Hospitality

**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION:** NVQ - Business Administration, City & Guilds Word Processing, Pitman Intermediate Typing

**CLASSES:** Cookery, Literacy & numeracy

N.B. NVQ = National Vocational Qualification

Delivery of these programmes is a combined effort between Instructors, the majority from industry, who maintain realistic work pressures and the Welfare & Training Staff who organise assessments, training and work placements. Although, RITO depends on contract work for its main source of income, balance is always maintained between work and therapy.

Individuals who attend RITO have the title 'Trainee', they still claim their unemployment benefits and in addition, receive a nominal sum from RITO for their travel and lunch expenses. All trainees are expected to clock in at 8.30 a.m. and finish at 4.45 p.m., the majority attend full-time and on average stay for 18 months.

During the trainee's time at RITO their timetable will include:

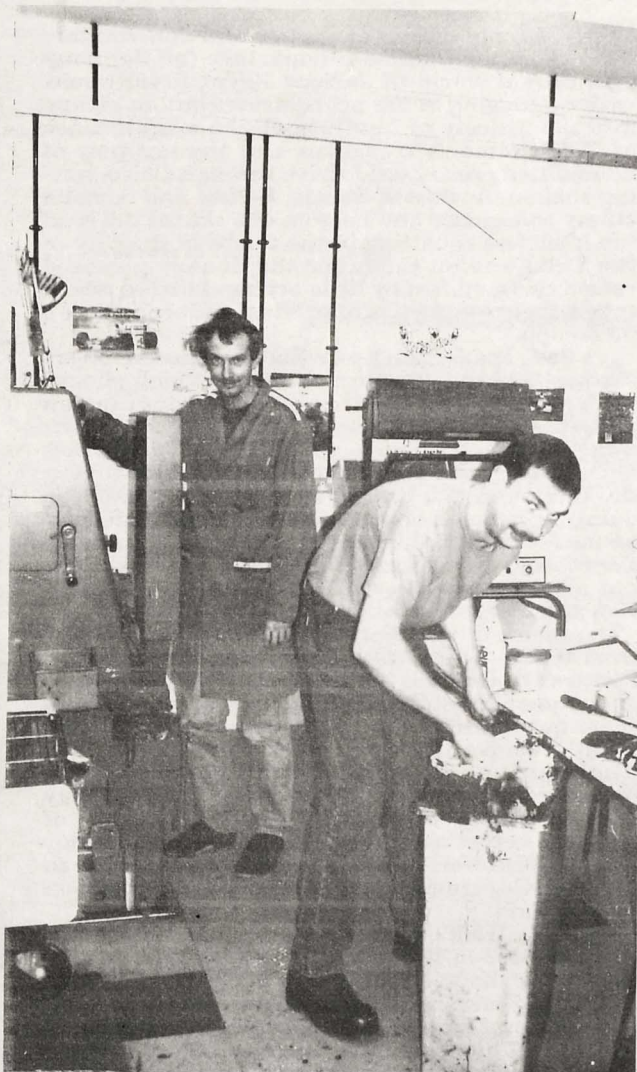
- working and training for a qualification
- an occupational assessment
- several appraisals
- welfare support, e.g. budgeting
- job club
- work experience placement

In the majority of cases this programme culminates in the trainee gaining employment and even then, RITO staff are at hand to monitor work performance and provide advice to the employer, often under the Sheltered Placement Scheme.

So, using all its resources, RITO successfully trains and places clients in employment. The combination of a realistic working environment and supportive surroundings enables an individual to realise their abilities, improve their motivation and encourages independence.

**TRAINING ADULTS IN A VARIETY OF OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS; PREPARING THEM FOR WORK, HELPING THEM FIND WORK AND RUNNING A CONTRACT PACKAGING AND PRINTING COMPANY, ALL AT ONCE! THAT'S WHAT READING INDUSTRIAL THERAPY ORGANISATION IS ALL ABOUT.**

If you know of someone who could benefit from RITO, or perhaps if you would like to help please contact Barbara Slaughter or Sonia Phillips on 0734 481944 or write to RITO, Unit 2, Paddock Road, Caversham, Reading RG4 0BY. More on RITO in subsequent editions.



Trainees at work in the Print Room



Trainees at work in the Canteen

## TALKING POINT

by

Martyn Allies

Co-ordinator of the Caversham  
Ecumenical 'One World Week' Group



## IT'S ONE WORLD WEEK AGAIN!

I CANCEL my daily newspaper and contemplate with relief my imminent departure for the long-ago, unreal world of ancient Egypt - two weeks with no tugging at the heart strings but an escape into the majesty of Abu Simbel, the magnificence of Tutankamen's treasures and the mystery of mummified crocodiles! I drive through Cairo, having shaken the dust of Bosnia, Belfast and Somalia off my conscience and I see on one side of the road the homeless squatting in the tombs of the City of the Dead and on the other the donkey powered refuse carts, staffed by little orphan kids for whom this is their sole means of survival. It seems there's no escape.

Back home again I soon find compassion fatigue setting in. I quickly turn the page which shocks with the latest statistics of world population growth and I guiltily bin the clutch of appeal letters. But then Irma appears on page one and a suffering child shatters my shield, obliging me to face the facts and ask myself what more I should be doing for people I do not know but who yet depend on me for help. Making me - making all of us - face the reasons why so many people in the world eke out a bare existence, suffering poverty, malnutrition and fear, is the task of One World Week.

The theme of One World Week this year, which is from October 17th - 24th, is 'Putting People in the Picture'. In fact it is 'putting people in the picture about people'. Statistics may, like ancient Egypt seem quite unreal, but they represent very real people whose lives we, often unwittingly, are diminishing. We may respond generously to appeals, but what we give with one hand we may well be taking away with the other because of what we select at the superstore, because of our bank's Third World debts policy or of our failure to take our Government to task when it cuts back on overseas aid.

From the Irma experience we should have learnt three matter of life or death lessons. The first is that when the need for action is clearly apparent it should be taken spontaneously without being pleaded for. The second is that procrastination is the thief of life; help must be given before it is too late. The third is that little is better than nothing. 'Because you can't help everybody doesn't mean you shouldn't help somebody' said Douglas Hurd referring to Irma. In his Thought for Today on Radio 4, the Reverend David Winter took the thought further, reminding his listeners of the woman of Bethany with the alabaster jar. She could not save Jesus from the cross, but she did all that she could and did it generously, anointing with costly perfume the one for whom she felt deep compassion.

## ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSITUION CAVERSHAM BRANCH

THE Caversham Branch of the RNLI held their flag Day, by kind permission of Reading Borough Council, on Saturday, August 14th. Eleven collectors managed to raise £517.11 for Lifeboat funds.

In the afternoon, the Mayoress of Reading, Mrs Naseem Sopal was welcomed and picked up a lifeboat collecting box, and sold emblems to the residents and visitors in Caversham.

Michelle Collins, a young girl from Micklands School, came to the depot, and enquired where she could send some money for the RNLI. She and her friend Sarah Lawson ran a Tuckshop during three school breaks, and raised £13.

Many thanks to the collectors, and all who supported the Lifeboat Service. They helped to save lives.

## CALLING ALL COOKS, CATERERS AND KEEN EATERS!

AS a fundraising event Caversham West Friends of Guiding has arranged a "taste and see" evening with a chance to meet and talk to ten brilliant cooks about their best cakes, 'puds', biscuits and nibbles, and of course to taste these delicacies.

This will take place at St. Andrew's Church Hall, Albert Road on Friday, October 15th from 7.30 until 10.00pm. It will be a tickets only event and these are available for £2 per person from Lis Rout (471738) or Shoonagh Brunnen (470959) before the event. Recipes may also be obtained during the evening when the Guides will be serving coffee.

## POST BAG

### BEECH TREES

I see that a beech tree at the entrance to the Stable block of Caversham Court has been felled. About four years ago a large specimen beech tree on the other side of the entrance was cut down as it was diseased. I was assured at the time by an employee of the council that there were plans to replace it when the weather conditions and the season were right. This has not been done.

I hope that there are plans afoot to replace both of these trees. Does

Watchdog know anything about this? In this conservation area it is such a pity to lose mature trees.

Yours etc.

(Mrs) J. Field  
1 St Peter's Avenue  
Caversham

### ROUNDBABOUT

Residents of Emmer Green offer thanks and congratulations to the designers, contractors and developers (who I understand met the cost) of the new roundabout at the Buckingham Drive and Evesham Road junction. The work was completed well within the time allowed and the inconvenience to the public was kept at a minimum. The result is the provision of a much needed improvement at a junction which has seen many accidents and narrow misses in the past.

Yours sincerely,  
Bernard Miller

## DRIVERS - DO YOU WANT TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR?

CAVERSHAM Good Neighbours have been active in Caversham for over twenty-seven years, and, as most readers will know, our main "work load" is to help the elderly and/or disabled who cannot conveniently use public transport, keep hospital, doctor, or dental appointments etc.

If you have an hour or two to spare (perhaps only once a month) and a clean Driving Licence (!), and would like a little more information, please telephone Esther Youens on Reading 479048.

## TO BE CULTIVATED

RECENTLY the Caversham Bridge printed the Gardener's Hymn. This month we offer you a few suggestions for your garden of the future. They come from a church in Vancouver.

First plant six rows of peas...  
pardon patience  
preparedness promptness  
perseverance politeness

Then plant six rows of Lettuce

Let us be faithful  
" " unselfish  
" " loyal  
" " love one another  
" " truthful  
" " read our Bibles

Next to them four rows of squash

Squash criticism  
" gossip  
" indifference  
" laziness

No garden is complete without Turnips

Turn up for Church  
Turn up with a smile  
Turn up with real concern  
Turn up with a willing spirit  
Turn up with encouragement

### PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

Open the furrows of our heart must be ploughed deeply in preparation for these seeds. To produce growth it necessitates daily watering from the tears of heartfelt prayer for the seed to germinate.

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2. Visit and offer help to the sick, lonely and/or housebound.
3. Provide transport on essential journeys for the elderly & handicapped.
4. Give information regarding the many local charitable & caring organisations they have on file.

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## THE "POP-IN" CENTRE

A place to relax quietly, find someone to talk to or obtain help. Coffee available. Open: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am to 12 noon.

Please note - Offers of help always welcome by both organisations.

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

EDITORS: Mrs Margaret Bailly, Mr Eric Chappell, Mr John Mullaney, Mr Kevin Corrigan, Mr Bernard Miller, c/o Church House, 59 Church Street, Caversham. Tel: 471703.

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All contributions for November issue should be sent to Church House, by noon on Wednesday 6 October.

All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham by 4 October.

The dates for December will be Monday 1 November and Wednesday 3 November.

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

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# KATY IN CAVERSHAM

## "The Milkman told me"

QUITE the top of my list for thank-yous this month has just got to be the Cliffords delivery milkman in the Westfield Road area. Actually I've heard of him before - don't know his name I'm afraid - from a couple of housebound ladies who are so grateful for his help in seeing their milk gets indoors or even into the fridge, but it wasn't until somebody alerted me to the fact that another friend had suffered a very bad fall, that I realised just what a valuable member of the community he is. Over the next couple of weeks several mutual friends told me about Edna's accident and when I asked how they knew they simply replied "The milkman told me". It seems this gentleman has gone to know his customers fairly well and was anxious to pass on news. In this case it resulted in a number of people calling on my friend to see if they could help. We don't always get to hear about things like this but Edna tells me any number of people, including her personal friends, called on her. And I know she would like to send a special

thank-you to her nextdoor neighbour who helped her to cope - with an arm in a sling and various stitches and bruises, life wasn't easy. Fortunately she is beginning to pick up now.

## Pets and more Pets

I see our friends, Jill and Jerry, in Prospect Street, have opened up the back of the shop to house such things as hutches. It has always been fun to go into the shop, and these days to see youngsters crowding in to choose pets and homes for them, it is a very jolly place to visit. Life for small shopkeepers isn't all that easy these days and I do take off my hat to those who work so hard to make our part of Caversham - there may be others and we'd like to hear about them - a very pleasant place to shop in. They deserve to do well.

## The Emporium

I had been told there were some new shops in Caversham, so I made it my business to call in at the new Emporium in Bridge Street. We do have two very good antique shops in the district, but this is a bit different - a collection of stalls set up by vari-

ous people consisting of all manner of attractive items, often at low prices. Besides the usual collection of china and glass, there are such things as ornamental 'Easter eggs', quilting and so on. I guess most of us women like shopping, but there isn't always the opportunity or the money to browse. I must be honest and admit that I never tire, when I have time, of simply calling in on various shopkeepers. None of them have ever chucked me out yet and on the whole they are the friendliest people, always ready to advise me on the latest books which might possibly interest me.

Please, please, let us have news from other parts of Caversham.

## South Street in Bloom

It has to be said that some of our smaller gardens are hardly a thing of beauty, but if you find yourself in the region of South Street do walk along the south side of the road where you will see a number of adjoining houses each with a beautiful display of hanging baskets, boxes etc. No doubt by the time you read this some of them will have been replaced by other plants, but I'm sure they will continue to be a joy to all who pass that way.

## Leslie Griffiths

I'm afraid I don't listen to the radio as much as I should, so I had quite missed the fact that one of our

ex-Methodist Ministers was a regular contributor to Radio 4's 'Thought for the day' programme. I often wondered what happened to Dr. Griffiths; at a time when we were all very ecumenically minded, much aware of what other churches were doing, I constantly came into contact with him. He left Caversham in 1977 and now I hear he has become President-Designate of the Methodist Conference of 1994. I wonder if he ever gets to Caversham - it would be nice to see him again.

## Caversham Community Association

I was only in hospital for three days,

but one often makes friends quickly in these circumstances. All the same, I was surprised and delighted to receive a letter from Maida Feast who lives in Elizabeth House and who had been alerted by her friend, Mrs. Harris from Wooshill, that I might be interested in going along to the Community Association meetings. I'm sorry I've not been able to get along yet but hope to do so one day and in the meantime, for anyone interest-

ed, I'm pleased to pass on the fact that the Association meets every Monday evening, from 7.30 - 9.30 at the Arthur Legge Centre; with a very full programme of events, it might be a help to other people. It seems one can go as a visitor at 20p an evening for a few weeks before joining at £8 a year. Judging by the reports in the 'Bridge' they do seem to have a jolly good time. And, in the meantime, my thanks again to Maida Feast and Mrs. Harris.

## SUN AND FUN AT SANDROYD

1993's Caversham Group Holiday at Sandroyd School, near Shaftesbury, Dorset, was blessed with beautiful weather and a full house - 104 at a dinner sitting must be an all-time record!

Despite relentless pursuit of leisure in the sun, swimming pool, sports hall, tennis and squash courts, bowls and croquet lawns, it was a surprisingly disaster-free week. The Lord was thanked with three formal services and daily grace before meals.

Sandroyders 'do their own thing'. Frances Taylor flew in from Canada for the week. Roger Hopkinson flew to the Scilly Isles and back for dinner. Margaret Notton butterflied and knitted in her sleep. Lina Baker played a mean game of Bridge and set off the fire alarms at dawn the first day. Simon Pinchen moved pianos and the Bursar to tears. Andy Radford drank a wasp and mooched about eating frozen peas. First-timers quickly found their way around, espe-

cially Ian Walker to 'The Museum', the nearest hostelry ("Anyone want to view some artefacts?"), and Berliner Cornelius Wilke to the girls' dorm. Several received fine A level grades while others fretted over forthcoming GCSE results. A fiercely contested cricket match was played, as were rounders, netball, water polo etc.. How so much activity was crammed between meals is part of the Sandroyd mystique. Even the Rector made it to breakfast once.

It was good to have Melanie and Nick, two disadvantaged Reading children with their carers, as part of the holiday, although the degree of their integration left a bit to be desired.

Special thanks to John Kavanagh, Margaret Hill, John and Sue Martin for looking after us beyond the call of duty, to Matthew Thomas (5) and Regula Adams (21 again) for having birthdays, to Andrew Hill for just being himself, and to

Nigel Stanbrook for fiddling the tournaments and awards.

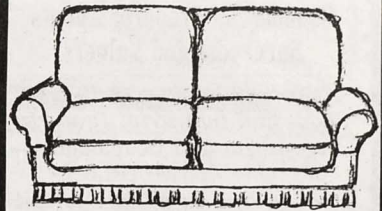
Participants, from all Group Parishes, reluctantly returned home after the usual last night party (ably compèred by Charles Baker) tired, sunblocked and happy. It was a good week.

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## TO THE GLORY OF GOD

### The Restoration of an Ancient Spire

FOR several weeks this summer a barn at Mill farm, Mapledurham has echoed to the sounds of sawing and hammering. Inside Dan Miles and his team of young craftsmen, whom he has trained himself, were busy reconstructing the frame of an ancient wooden spire of St John the Baptist Church, Hatherleigh, in Devon.

At mid-day on January 28th, 1990 at the height of the dreadful gale that wreaked havoc over most of the county the old shingle clad spire collapsed through the roof of the nave, wrecking two thirds of the barrel vaulted roof. There were many such disasters that day but this one made national news as there are only three such spires in North Devon.

Now with the help of English Heritage,

the people of Hatherleigh and Dan and his enthusiastic young team this spire from the fourteen hundreds has been pieced together again, using all the old timber where possible and the ancient methods of carpentry that were used to make the original. Where new timber has been needed tall, straight stocks from the estates of Mapledurham and nearby Hardwick have been used, some from the latter coming from Nuney Wood. Several trees were needed to produce forty foot lengths, not easily obtainable, so it is wonderful to know that some of our local oaks have been used to help restore this ancient spire and will remain for centuries in this lovely old Devon Church.

On Saturday, July 24th, a coach party from Hatherleigh

and other people involved in the project came to Mill Farm to see the frame of the partially completed spire and meet Dan and his young craftsmen and some people from Mapledurham. It was a very happy and interesting occasion.

Now the spire, each timber marked, has to be taken to pieces, transported to Devon and reconstructed again on site. This will involve a very delicate operation needing special scaffolding and very careful planning. Let us hope all the great endeavour, patience and skills put into this fascinating project will come to a satisfactory and happy conclusion.

When it stands proudly to the sky once again all that remains to be done will be to clad it with over twelve thousand oak shingles as before. Many of these



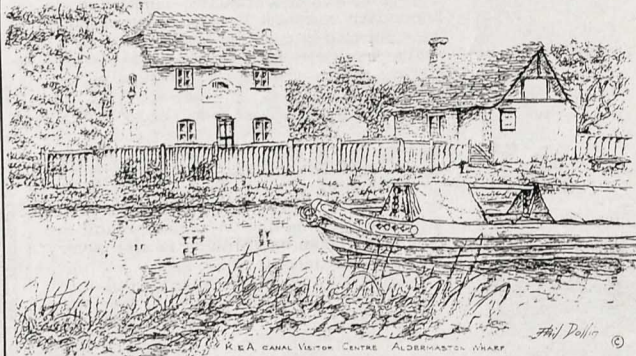
Last minute touches

have been donated by the people of Hatherleigh and their friends, including their new ones from Mapledurham. Each shingle will bear the name of the giver on the underside in indelible ink, a memorial that will last for centuries.

Dan and his young team must have felt,

as did the first builders of this ancient spire, a deep satisfaction in creating something of such beauty, strength and durability by the sweat of their brow, the use of their hands and hours and hours of slow careful patient work. Indeed it has been work well done to the glory of God.

## THE PEACE OF OUR CANAL



K & A Canal Visitor Centre, Aldermaston Wharf

THE River Thames is a familiar part of our landscape. Less well known may be its tributary, the Kennet, which joins its "big sister" just east of Tesco's new store, beyond the railway station.

The quiet River Kennet is closely associated with the Kennet and Avon Canal, and together they provide a most attractive "linear park" stretching eighty-six miles to the Avon at Bath. In Berkshire it provides some of the most pleasant walks, as it makes its way to Newbury. The abundance of wild flowers and the gentle cruising of the occasional narrowboat adds to the peace; the High Speed Trains are surprisingly infrequent and soon pass, allowing the tow-path to return to its tranquility.

The Kennet and Avon canal was opened in 1810. It joined up and incorporated two older navigations; the Kennet Navigation in the East which carried water-borne traffic between Newbury and the Thames, and the River Avon at Bath. The Kennet and Avon Canal Company, which owned the canal, was eventually bought out by the Great Western Railway, who maintained the waterway until nationalization in 1947.

Aldermaston Wharf is one of the most attractive areas along the canal, very popular with boaters and walkers alike. It has a long history associated with the canal and the earlier navigation. Strange & Sons' Brewery was located next to Aldermaston Lock,

and the associated malthouse has been converted into most attractive residences. Traces of the exchange sidings with the railway can still be seen and the canal entrance to this complex now forms a useful basis for boats just below the lock.

The newly sited Padworth Lock (built just above the original turf-sided lock) is admired by many and Aldermaston Lock is one of the best restored features along the eastern end of the waterway. There is a mile-long attractive nature and history walk exploring the Wharf area; a published guide is available.

The visitor Centre, reached shortly before Aldermaston lift bridge, which carries the A340 over the canal, is situated in a two hun-

dred year old Wharf keeper's cottage, originally built for the Kennet Navigation. This much admired centre is open Monday - Saturdays (except Bank Holidays) between the beginning of April and the end of October and is a resource for information as well as becoming renowned for its traditional cookies, freshly-brewed tea and coffee. There is also a picnic garden and a small shop. All visitors are assured of a warm welcome.

Can there be many such idyllic places to rest awhile?

John Martin

### Aldermaston Wharf

Two minutes walk from Aldermaston Station. Three minutes walk from the 102 Reading-Newbury bus stop. Car Park off the A430 (Basingstoke turn off A4). Light refreshments, hot and cold drinks, Maps, guides, guided walks and extensive range of canal books.

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## A SERIOUS LIVER DISEASE

**Bungee jumping in aid of this form of liver disease in the young was featured last month. The following has been submitted by the family of Natasha Taylor who suffers from this serious complaint.**

LIVER disease is not confined to adults as those reading about Laura Davis in the press will realise. There are more than one hundred different types of liver disease affecting infants and children. These are very frequently serious disorders, particularly those beginning in babies. At least one child every week dies from liver disease in the U.K. and many more children will develop permanent liver damage which requires constant treatment under supervision.

Biliary Atresia is the most serious of these. Between forty and fifty babies are born each year in Britain who develop this condition and the causes are unknown. In this disorder the bile ducts which carry bile from the liver to the intestine become completely obstructed or destroyed. Within a short time the liver

itself becomes gradually destroyed and replaced by scar tissue. Until twenty years ago these babies virtually all died of cirrhosis by two years of age. Now if skilled surgery is performed before eight weeks of age eighty percent of infants may be saved from such death. Only twenty to thirty percent are helped by later surgery, and near zero by twenty weeks.

If cases were identified earlier, the results of surgery would improve but more research is needed to identify the causes of this condition if more children are to be helped and to prevent the progressive liver damage which still occurs in the majority of sufferers. Early warning signs of liver disease include:  
-Babies who remain jaundiced or yellow for more than two weeks after birth.

-Urine which is persistently yellow or discoloured.

-Pale coloured stools. Parents spotting any of the above symptoms should visit their GP for advice.

The Children's Liver Disease foundation has a number of aims:  
1. To raise funds for research into the causes, cures and treatment of children's liver diseases and to provide equipment and staff.  
2. To create awareness of liver disease in children through education, public relations and a variety of literature.  
3. To provide an emotional and a family support service.

If there is anyone else who would like to contribute to the Foundation, the address is:  
The Children's Liver Disease Foundation  
138 Digbeth  
Birmingham,  
B5 6DR

## KITING FOR RAPTORS

OF the birds of prey which overfly Caversham, seldom will any be seen 'making a kill'. Usually one is more likely to witness the 'meal' mobbing the 'consumer', as the latter flies on its way with an air of, 'Anything for a quiet life'.

Recently, distant raucous voices of Black-headed Gulls drew my attention to an unidentified raptor, high on the wing, which was receiving considerable harassment as it tried to cross Caversham's boundaries without offence to man or beast.

Sometimes such onsets are conducted almost in silence and may pass unobserved, unless one happens to be looking aloft at the time - and who but a birder or plane-spotter would be doing that?

Flying a high-altitude, ultra light-wind kite during recent years has provided some very fascinating experiences indeed.

Flocks of pigeons, finches and starlings have regularly circumnavigated the kite and perhaps even more remarkably, Kestrels, Sparrowhawks, Hobbies (twice), and on two separate, very memorable occasions, a Goshawk and a Red Kite (the latter NOT in the Reading area), have all shown an equal curiosity towards the 'tethered stranger' in their midst.

A Canadian friend with similar enthusiasm for kite-flying and birds, and who was an assistant to a once well-know Radio and Television personality with his bird-photography and recordings, has had similar experiences with North American raptors, including eagles, which have 'examined' his kites with careful scrutiny. As he is able to fly them higher than here in Britain, he takes a small pair of binoculars with him to watch both his kites and the birds.

It is my own belief that the numbers of raptors which pass over Berkshire on migration, may be greater than is generally reported.

A sharp eye in Spring and Autumn could be rewarded with some very significant sightings, perhaps even a 'First' for the County.

For any potential kite-fliers, the height-limit is TWO-HUNDRED FEET, unless special permission is obtained from the Civil Aviation Authority (C.A.A.)

Flying pieces of fibre-glass rod or timber, if out of control, could inflict serious injury, and a grounded flying-line entangled around the legs of children or animals, is also a very unhappy experience to be avoided!

Before flying any kite intended for adults, it is essential to acquaint oneself with existing rules designed to protect the general public, as well as the kite-flyers.

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A correspondent has sent us this recipe for an Old Testament Bible Cake. Kings James's version is best to use. We don't aim to have a 'Recipe of the Month' but anything in a similar vein would be welcomed by the editors.

\*\*\*\*\*

### INGREDIENTS:

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. 1/2 lb Judges 5: 25         | 7. 4 oz Numbers 17:8 blanchd and chopped |
| 2. 1/2 lb Jeremiah 6: 20       | 8. 1 lb 1 Kings 4:22                     |
| 3. 1 tablespoon 1 Samuel 14:25 | 9. Season to taste with 2 Chronicles 9:9 |
| 4. 3 of Jeremiah 17:11         | 10. Pinch Leviticus 2:13                 |
| 5. 1/2 lb 1 Samuel 30:12       | 11. 1 teaspoon Amos 4:5                  |
| 6. 1/2 lb Nahum 3:12 chopped   | 12. 3 Tablespoons Judges 4:19            |

Follow Solomon's prescription for making a good boy, Proverbs 23: 14 and you will make a very good cake. Beat 1, 2 and 3 to a cream. Add 4, one at a time, still beating, then add 5, 6 and 7 and beat again. Add 8, 9, 10 and 11 having previously mixed them together. Lastly, add 12. Bake for 2 to 2 1/2 hours at 300F, 150C, gas mark 2.

## DIARY DATE

Public Meeting organised by Caversham and District Residents' Association, Monday 18th October 8.00 p.m. Church House, Church Street.  
Subject - Public Parks, Gardens and Open Spaces, particularly in Caversham. Their care, maintenance and use.  
Speaker - Cllr. David Sutton, Chairman of Reading Borough Council Leisure Committee.

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# ONE WORLD WEEK

17 → 24  
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## THE INDIAN WHO LOST HIS HOME - FOR PAPER

by John Madeley

THIRTY-three year old Jose Luiz is an Tupiniquim Indian who lives near the Brazilian town of Vitoria, some 300 miles north of Rio de Janeiro. I met him at a conference in Vitoria last year, just before the Earth Summit.

Jose is one of 300 million indigenous people who live in countries from the Artic regions to Australia. 1993 has been designated "The International Year for the World's Indigenous Peoples" and Jose hopes that the "year" might help to awareness and support for indigenous groups. His story is probably not unusual, it might even be typical of the sufferings of indigenous peoples.

Until Jose was seven years old he lived in a tropical rainforest close the Atlantic Ocean. In 1967 it seems that a company called Aracruz Celulose S.A., acquired large areas of tropical forest that was inhabited by Indian Tupiniquim people and local smallholders. Aracruz is a Brazilian

woodpulp company, part owned by the two European-based multinational corporations, which turns trees into woodpulp, most which subsequently becomes paper.

For Jose the company's acquisition was the beginning of a night-



Photo: John Madeley

mare. "We had no idea what was going on", he told me, "I was only seven at the time but I remember that heavy equipment suddenly appeared and my parents were told that the company had bought the forest from landowners".

His family was one of several thousand that had to leave their homes and drift into nearby towns to try to make a living. "We

were too disorganised to fight the company", says Jose.

What did the company use his forest home for? The tropical forest was torn down to make way for eucalyptus trees, which grow quickly in the area - to height of almost 40 feet within seven years. Every seven years the trees are cut near the base and then re-grow, giving the company a regular supply of raw material for its factory. But the trees achieve this rapid growth by using large quantities of groundwater, impoverishing surrounding vegetation and water courses.

For years the displaced Indians pleaded their cause with the state government, and some, including Jose, eventually won the right to return to their former land. But on returning home, they found that the eucalyptus had destroyed the forest foods which were a central part of the Indian's diet, dried up their water courses, destroyed fisheries and

## SAN FRANCISCO LIBRE - Reading's Twin Town in Nicaragua

WHAT is it like living in San Francisco Libre?

How do people there enjoy themselves? What gives them pride in their families, homes and community?

From visits between the two towns, from reports and photos, we have a picture of life in SFL. This is a rural community, hot and often suffering from drought. Although only 60 miles from the capital Managua, it is very isolated and communications are difficult. It is difficult to earn a decent income from farming or fishing or other activities. Cutting and selling firewood is a major source of income, despite the known disastrous effects on the environment.

But people invest energy in trying to earn a living: Dolores Sequeira, who visited Reading in 1992, is a leading member of several producer cooperatives, raising poultry, dress-making, running a local shop; other women are organising tree nurseries; one woman makes tortillas, fried beans and rice to sell to the paid workers in the town council offices.

The community is justly proud of its primary schools (32 in SFL district, which has the area of west Berkshire), and its one secondary school. These have mostly been built since 1979, when at the end of civil war, the dictator fled and the new national government promoted local democracy, primary



health care, clean drinking water as well as education for all. The secondary school has just been extended with financial help from friends overseas, including RSFLA. Unfortunately there are no teachers for the classes, so pupils have started fund-raising to pay teachers. RSFL will support this initiative also.

Father Antonio Bismarck, the Nicaraguan Catholic Priest working in SFL until March this year, initiated many projects to help people work together to improve their lives. He also re-established traditional processions such as those for Holy Week. He had laid plans for a community music band to be established. That plan may now vanish without trace, but a dance group has just started meeting each evening reviving the traditional dances of the area.

SFL is a small close-knit community. As outsiders we will never understand the complexities of the relationships there. But it is a privilege to have a link such as this and a wonderful opportunity to try to put ourselves in other people's pictures - and consider what they might see in our picture of Reading!

At a meeting at Caversham Heights Methodist Church on Friday, 22nd October at 7.30 pm, Sue Errington of the SFL Association will Put People in the Picture about San Francisco Libre. Tickets, price £1.50 including refreshments, are obtainable from church Once World Week representatives or by phoning Reading 472007. We will use photos, stories about the families and discussion to try to put ourselves in their picture. If you have a small photo of yourself, please bring it to the meeting.

made land cultivation extremely difficult.

"If I could eradicate the eucalyptus tree I would," Jose told me "because it has eradicated us. A hell has been created in our region, even the birds don't go where eucalyptus grows".

Aracruz is the world's largest woodpulp exporter, shipping 70% of its output to paper-making factories in North America, Europe and Japan. In a protest against the company's activities, the environment group, Greenpeace, blocked the entrance to the port of Aracruz for 32 hours just before the Earth Summit, using its ship the Rainbow Warrior.

A company spokesman agreed that

fewer Indians now live in the area but said there had been a general decline in the Indian population. There has been a decline in the populations of indigenous groups all over the world. The survival of many is threatened because of "modernity" carried out in insensitive ways.

The International Year for the World's Indigenous Peoples was requested by indigenous organisations who want to communicate their concerns to the wider world. Jose Luiz's life has been severely scarred, but it is just possible that the year might lead to a greater sensitivity on our part to the needs of people like him.

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By Zeiss Christian Dior

## WE SUPPORT SULAYMAN!

WE, members of the 11-14 Youth Group of Caversham Heights Methodist Church, are at the moment sponsoring, through Action Aid, a small boy in the Gambia call Sulayman Ceesay. Sulayman is six years old and he lives with his mum and dad and four brothers and sisters who farm a small four acre plot of land in the mid-north district of the country.

Each week every member of the group contributes twenty pence towards the fund. We chose to do this because we wanted to do something practical to help others who are worse off than ourselves.

Our money does not go to help Sulayman alone but several other members of the community are also sponsored. In this way larger amounts of money can be used for bigger projects, such as clean water, health care and education, which benefit the whole village.

(If you would like further information on sponsoring children in Third World countries, telephone Martyn Allies on 472007.)



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# PUTTING PEOPLE IN THE PICTURE

## TRAIDCRAFT - TRADING FOR A FAIRER WORLD

MANY readers of the Caversham Bridge will be familiar with Traidcraft products, bought perhaps from their church stall, from a Traidcraft rep at a friend's house or through the Traidcraft mail order catalogue. What Traidcraft itself is, what it stands for and how it operates are probably less well understood.

Traidcraft is not a charity, although it does have an associated charitable trust, but a business enterprise, importing and distributing handicrafts, fashion goods, stationery, beverages and foods sourced in the 'third world'. Founded in 1979, Traidcraft plc employs 120 staff at its Gateshead headquarters and markets its products through mail order catalogues, its network of some 2000 voluntary representatives and through other retailers. Where it differs from other commercial companies is in its 'people before profit' motive: in an international trading system dominated by the rich and powerful, where injustice and exploitation are rife, Traidcraft aims to 'expand and establish trading systems which are more just and which express the principles of love and justice fundamental to the Christian faith'.

Traidcraft trades with over 100 producer groups in 30 Third World countries, mainly cooperatives and

community groups, which must be organised for the benefit of their producer or grower members, concerned for their personal welfare, and pay wages at or above the average for the locality. Traidcraft's fair trade policy also includes a long term commitment to the producer groups - seeing them through problems caused by economic, climatic or political circumstances; product design and development or technical assistance where appropriate; often prepayment of orders. Provision of information regarding 'northern' markets is a further tool of empowerment to 'southern' producers, so often denied them in an unjust trading system.

Not only, though, are the producers given more control over their own lives and futures where fair trade operates; at the other end of the chain purchasers are given the opportunity of participating in a trading relationship which is mutually beneficial rather than exploitative. Buying Traidcraft products is one positive way of using our consumer power. If enough people supported fairer trade with the 'third world' a real impact could be made on the unjust imbalance of world trade. A recent initiative taken by Traidcraft together with 3 other fair trade organisations has brought Cafedirect to supermarket shelves: the producers and their communities bene-



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With acknowledgement to 'The Independent'

fit from the significantly higher price paid to Central American Coffee farmers than would be obtained on the world coffee market and UK consumers can enjoy high-quality non-exploitative ground coffee.

So Traidcraft is concerned about people; indeed it is 'putting people in the picture' by helping to create opportunities - for the poor in the 'third world' to work their way out of poverty and for people in the UK to use their purchasing power to say 'yes' to a fairer, more caring world.

### Our One World Week Competition

WHY not enter the One World Week Competition? All that you have to do is to colour the picture below, either in water colours or with felt tip pens and make up a title for it, using the first three words "Food is precious.....". There are two age groups, 5 to 7 and 8 to 10 inclusive. The winners in each group will receive a voucher which they can present to the Caversham Bookshop. Send your entry to the Caversham Bridge, Church House, Church Street, Caversham, not later than 20th October, 1993.



ONE WORLD WEEK  
Artwork by Annie  
and  
Ken Meharg

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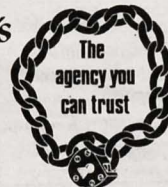
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# ONE WORLD WEEK

Journalist John Madeley has visited around 40 developing countries in the last 15 years. He writes about some of the problems of accurately getting across the real picture.

## TELLING IT AS IT IS — BUT WHAT IS IT?

I earn my living by writing about life in developing countries and about events and processes, North-South trade and aid relationships for example, that affect lives. Uppermost in my mind is to present the picture of life in developing countries that I see. And that is fraught with difficulty.

For a start, how do I know that what I see is in any sense an accurate picture of what is going on? How can I present the picture when I see only a tiny part of it? A few years ago I was taken to a village in Mali, West Africa, that was benefiting from a foreign aid-funded rural development project. There was laughter, there was joy, the crops were thriving, there were smiling faces, it all seemed to idyllic. Here were people who were benefiting from aid. I wanted to write something about how wonderful it all was.

But I guessed this was a "show" village, laid on for my benefit. So I asked to see other villages and here a very different picture emerged. I visited a village where the crops were not doing so well and where the men were holding a meeting under a large tree. Nearby a number of women were hauling water from a well. The exhausted expressions on their faces said a great deal. "Excuse us, we are too tired to talk" said one. I asked if I could haul up a bucket. They agreed and I can tell you that it was a hard slog — and the women were doing it every day.

This is the next "picture" I want to get across — *there is gross exploitation of women by men in the developing world*, especially in Africa. Many women in the rural areas work a 16-hour day, in the fields, fetching wood, drawing water, cooking, cleaning, looking after their families. When you hear about a development project, ask — what does it mean for the women? Will it be good news or bad news?

Another problem I have "with telling it as it is" is that I have to make it interesting, or no one will read it. In July this year I visited Senegal, again in West Africa, to look at some rice research. Rice is booming in Senegal, not least because it is much easier to prepare than traditional African foods such as millet and sorghum, which have to be pounded by hand. Rice is simply put into a cooking pot — it can save women as much as 4 hours a day. So the boom in rice is to be welcomed.

But there are problems — much of the present output is not sustainable unless management of the crop is improved. I wrote an article about the problems, and the importance of rice, for a national newspaper. The editor came back to me and said "its boring, you need to pep it up." My problem was how could I dramatise it, without exaggerating and distorting it? (It's a fine line, believe me!). On this occasion, I just about managed it but it's an on-going problem.

There are exceptions, but many newspaper, television and radio programmes only deal with developing countries when there is a famine. As a result, people in Britain may get the impression that Africans and Asians are *always* suffering from famine, and are always in need of help from us. This is demeaning and inaccurate, and far from the real picture. For most of the time, for most of the people there are no famines in the Third World; there are people getting on with

their lives, sustained by the good Earth that God created.

And this is a picture that rarely comes across in the mass media. *God has created an incredibly rich Earth for us to enjoy*. Take a look at Psalm 65, verses 9 to 13. It sums up what I have seen many times. And yet I have also seen the effects of the wrong use of land; I have seen tropical forests torn down and the forest areas no longer able to sustain people. I have seen dried up land where people told me rivers once flowed. Mankind has damaged God's creation, and unless we take steps to put it right, the good Earth is not going to sustain us in the way God intends — and our most vulnerable brothers and sisters will suffer most.

I may travel a lot but I would not claim to see more than a tiny part of the real scene. I have come to appreciate that a lot of poverty is hidden. I have seen smiling children the world over, playing in the streets, kicking a football, enjoying life. Yet like their parents, many are undernourished, many are in poor health. And in Africa, the poorest continent, we should remember that things are getting worse rather than better.

If you want a "feel" of what is happening in Africa, I suggest you buy the magazine "West Africa" for a few weeks. A recent issue was called "Africa in Crisis". "The continent is dying" it said. Africa has foreign debts it can only afford to pay if it diverts money from health, education and agricultural purposes. Many of the primary commodities it sells to the West are fetching rock-bottom prices, and many African economies are poorly managed.

I know that behind what I may see in an African village lies this wider crisis. It is a crisis in which we are all involved because we are all citizens of this one world. We have much to give people in developing countries and we have also much to learn. Their generosity, even when they have so little, their hilarity and joy are truly gifts from God. If we can share, give and take, there is hope.

## ACT ON THE FACTS!

### FACT

People in Third World countries suffer poverty, homelessness and ill health partly because they do not get a fair return for their labour and partly because the heavy burden of debt repayments to the industrialised countries leaves the Third World countries with little money to improve the living conditions of their people. A Jamaican sugar worker cuts each day enough sugar cane for 250 bags and earns £1.90. To buy this amount of sugar in our country would cost over £150! In real terms the sugar cane workers are now paid a third less for their labours than they were 10 years ago for the same amount of work.

### ACTION

In this Caversham Bridge you will find copies of Christian Aid's 'Time for Change' coupons. Please hand them in to your local supermarket store. And why not buy Traidcraft products? Ring Margaret Brown (479628) or Phil Chatsfield (472444)

who will supply your needs.

### FACT

When, in 1975, money poured into the banks from the newly rich oil producing countries they were anxious to invest it and encouraged Third World countries to borrow. Then came a fall in the price of the food and raw materials which Third World countries produce, and recession hit the industrialised countries so that the import of Third World manufactured goods was reduced and restricted. Repayment of

debts forced essential imports to be cut, with expenditure on health and education in Jamaica being slashed by over 35%

### ACTION

Christian Aid believes that the debts owed to the commercial banks by the most highly indebted Third World countries should be reduced to a level which permits sustainable economic growth, and that the debts of the poorest countries of all should be cancelled. Write to Christian Aid at PO Box 100, London SE1 7RT for information on their Campaign Against Third World Debt to learn what action you can take. And why not write to your MP and ask him to sign, if he has not already done so, the Early Day Motion calling on the Government to work for the cancellation of more Third World debt. One hundred MPs have already signed.

PEOPLE WE KNOW AND PEOPLE WE DON'T KNOW  
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# the CLUBS

## STAR Students of the Third Age

### August Activities

NOT so many this month as many groups closed down

for the holiday month. There was a full meeting though at the Kennet Room to hear Dr Ken Wray's talk on 'Ageing - the facts'. Answering many points interlaced with good jokes, he explained that deterioration of function was not inevitable,

strongly recommended HRT treatment, reminded listeners of the check-up at seventy-five and insisted that a positive attitude to ageing was all important.

The summer outing was over-subscribed and most enjoyable. After the beautiful drive to Alresford there was a half-hour's nostalgic trip on the Watercress line, then a pub lunch and time for a walk round the delightful town.

The Music group heard Tom Speakman on 'Both Ends of the Stick' - his humorous experiences as a drummer and conductor. The Writers produced an interview with a famous person living in the past. The Travel group heard talks on the USA and 'Luxor revisited'. Conversational German had two meetings this month.

Twenty-six members enjoyed a woodland walk round Sonning Common. The month ended with a successful Coffee morning in Emmer Green.

for instance. There are high fibre, high calcium, elimination, diabetic diets. After training and study one can become state registered and work in hospitals, commerce or industry.

The speaker said that the intensive care unit might be the first place to visit in the day, where there is a patient who is unconscious, with broken bones. He has to be fed artificially, so a decision must be made about amounts required for treatment. A woman in a medical ward with kidney failure would need a diet low in potassium and protein, as the kidneys normally remove potassium and excess protein from the blood. A premature baby who was not gaining weight might need a special supplement. There is a great variety. People are often removed from diets. All patients have to be referred by a doctor, and as far as in-patients are concerned there is consultation with the catering staff. A boiled potato contains the same calories as an apple. Make sure there is iron in a diet. Sunshine gives vitamin D. A vote of thanks was given by Norma Jones.

## Caversham Heights TG

### Role of a Dietitian

An interesting subject explained by a young working dietitian drew a large group to the main guild of Caversham Heights Townswomen at St Andrew's hall in August. Sarah Harvard described a day in her life as a senior dietitian in Ashford hospital in Middlesex, bringing along samples of the remedies used to help patients.

There are all sorts of diets, and it is certainly not a case only of trying to make fat people thin, a common mistake. Appropriate feeding patterns have to be devised in a low fat diet or for lowering a level of cholesterol

## Caversham Community Association

On August 2nd the members met for a whistdrive. Doreen Crawley was in charge of the proceedings and, as usual, ready to give advice on the rules of the game to any of her fellow members. The first prize winner was Joyce Roddy. Bring and Buy evening took place the following week. Members were asked to bring articles for auction, a lively meeting followed

with bidding for a wide variety of groceries, soaps, cosmetics, cakes, etc. The proceeds were given to the club funds.

Mrs. Pauline Beck visited the club on the 16th August to show the members a selection of her fine collection of beads, necklaces and earrings. Over the past few years Mrs Beck had collected a wonderful assortment of beads from many sources and has made beautiful earrings, necklaces and scarf pins from them, many of these were on display. During her talk Mrs. Beck explained the origin and composition of the beads, some made from jet, pearl or crystal. She also demonstrated her method of making an earring and passed round samples of her art. At refreshment time the members soon availed themselves of the opportunity. Others were able to admire and, if they wished, to purchase some of the jewellery, made by Mrs. Beck, which was on sale. At the end of the evening, Beryl Latcham, the Chairman, thanked Mrs. Beck for a most interesting evening.

A Gypsy Party was held on the 23rd August. Member Dolly Usher commenced the entertainment by singing gypsy melodies in her usual charming fashion. A competition for the member wearing the best gypsy costume was judged by club President Ted Howard. He chose Maida Feast and Brenda Strong in first and second place respectively, both were awarded a prize. During the break for refreshment jam tarts were served to everybody. It was then time to welcome to the club, magician Alan Mac, who is a member of the Magic Circle. Firstly, Alan moved around the clubroom stopping at each table, showing the various groups of members clever tricks with cards, elastic bands and coloured balls that appeared, as if by magic, from the air. He then performed further examples of his skilful sleight of hand to the assembled audience and caused some amusing moments when he asked members to participate in his tricks. After appreciative applause to Alan, everyone departed homeward at the end of a pleasant evening.

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The Editors regret that it has been necessary to hold over several items submitted for publication because of pressure on space.

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## AROUND THE CHURCHES

### "EUREKA!...

### WE'VE DONE IT!"

Victor and Vera Smith who have worked so hard over the past eighteen months organising fundraising events to raise money for the roof and organ fund at St Andrew's, so happy at finally having reached their target of £12,000 plus.

"It was worth all the hard work" said Victor, "and the people of St Andrew's have been marvellous in their support."



## St. Andrew's Fellowship

On a grey and threatening morning an intrepid party from St Andrew's Fellowship set out to visit the Butterfly Farm near Southampton. Their journey took them past the dreadful devastation of Twyford Down which caused long traffic jams, but they reached the Farm in

good time for late coffee or an early lunch.

The threatened rain held off until everyone was on the coach for the journey home, so the party was able to enjoy seeing the beautiful butterflies and birds.

The grounds were attractively garden-ed and there was a lovely woodland

walk past a cage of very decorative pheasants. A good shop provided souvenirs, and some hardy members went on a tour of the estate in a horse wagon.

Altogether it was a very enjoyable day, particularly as the return journey was by scenic route.

## U.R.C. 21ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

On Sunday 10th October St Paul's United Reformed Church, York Road, is hosting worship on behalf of the U.R.C.s in Reading to celebrate the twenty-first Anniversary of the Inauguration of the United Reformed Church. The service, which is open to Christians of all churches, is at 6.30pm.

The United Reformed Church is the only union of churches across denominational lines in this country. Originally formed by a union of the Presbyterian Church in England and the Congregational Church in England and Wales in 1972, it was further strengthened by the Reformed Association of Churches of Christ in Great Britain in 1981. There are eight member churches in the Reading area, and forty in the Reading and Oxford District.

In October 1972 a

service to mark the inauguration of the URC was held at St Paul's which attracted over four hundred people, the church being full to overflowing. Whilst it is not expected that quite such a large congregation will be present on this occasion, churches all over the area will be represented, many of them contributing out of their experience to the worship.

A warm welcome is extended to all to share in this celebration, and to pray for the URC and for all moves to greater Christian unity.

## "ALL AGE PRAISE"

A new series of family services has already begun at Caversham Heights Methodist Church under the title of "All Age Praise", with a new creche for children of 3 years and under. The ¼ hour service begins at 9.30 a.m. on the THIRD Sunday every month. This new-style worship for all the family is lively and easy going, modern in concept and includes movement, drama and visuals. If you have been thinking of coming to church, this shortened and lively service may be the answer for you. Do come! Those who came to services in the earlier series will be delighted to use the new creche and also to see the way the service has progressed. Dates for your diary are:—

17 October 16 January  
21 November 20 February  
19 December 20 March

## WORLD CHURCH DAY 1993

Caversham Heights Methodist Church will be remembering particularly the work of the world church on 7 November 1993 when guest speaker Martyn Drewry, World Affairs Secretary with the Methodist Association of Youth Clubs (MAYC), will lead morning service at 11.00 a.m. During 1993 Caversham Heights has taken a special interest in the work of the church in Latin America, so we look forward to hearing about Mr Drewry's experience earlier this year in Chile, where he visited a community project run by the Methodist Church among the Mapuche Indian people.

### BAZAAR 1993

The Latin American focus which Caversham Heights church has maintained in a variety of ways during 1993 culminates in its annual Bazaar, which will take place this year at the church on Saturday 13 November. Put the date in your diaries now, as, in addition to the traditional range of stalls and activities, it is planned to include in this year's Bazaar some exciting new gift ideas which will help you with your Christmas shopping!

We hold the Bazaar each year primarily to raise funds for a designated cause chosen by our Church Council. Usually the money is assigned, in alternate years, to needy causes in this country and overseas. This year the money will go to a project called "El Hogar del Nino" (A home for the child) to support the vital work of the Methodist Orphanage in Santa Cruz, Guatemala. The orphanage cares for, rehabilitates and tries to find homes for children who are innocent victims of the long drawn-out civil war in Guatemala.

Often the children are too young — or too traumatised — to know their names, or it may be because it is judged too dangerous for them to retain their names in case the evil people who murdered their parents trace the children in order to murder them also. The work of rebuilding love and trust in the hearts of children who have lived through such horrors can be long and hard, but how vital it is that it should be done!

So, in supporting the Bazaar on Saturday 13 November at 2.30 p.m., you will be doing your bit for the children of Guatemala who so desperately need your help.

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## AROUND THE CHURCHES

## GROWTH AT THE VINE

Many of you may have noticed a "new creation" appearing recently amongst the trees at The Vine, on the corner of Kidmore Road and The Mount. Various called "The Tree House", "The Wendy House", "The Swiss Family Robinson House", the newly completed wooden structure, built over the existing garage, is in fact a large 'amenity room' for use by the family, but more particularly by visitors to The Vine on Teaching days and Fellowship days.

The Vine has now been open as a Place of Christian Listening for just over a year, and such has been the response from Christians seeking quiet and retreat to hear the healing power of God's voice, that pressure built up for more space than is available in the house. So the idea came to me to build "The Upper Room" over the

garage. We shared the idea with Christian Architect Tony Horne, a good friend of The Vine from Tilehurst, who immediately empathised with the concept and drew up plans based on a Canadian construction technique. The timescale for the project was very tight, with the main pressure coming from the need to complete the building work during the summer holidays.

Planning permission was granted just as The Vine "broke up" for the Summer and the contract was awarded to Dick Smith, a local builder from Henley Road, Caversham, who had previously built the traditional low flint and brick wall round the boundary of The Vine. Dick and his joiner, John, started work on July 6th with a maximum of eight weeks to complete the job and on 31st August the final internal decoration was being

carried out - Praise The Lord! Not only was it finished in time, but the quality of workmanship, management of the job and relationship between client and builder were all of the highest level, a credit to Dick and John and worthy of the Lord, to whose work the room is dedicated.

The first group who met in the room were the Caversham Acorn Healing Prayer Group, who held an all day Conference at The Vine on September 11th, and it is hoped that other Christian Groups in the area will also benefit from using it in the future. Teaching days at The Vine recommenced on September 23rd with the first of a two part Mini Course on Christian Listening (Part Two on October 21st).

The rest of The Vine programme for the Autumn is as follows: (Bookings - Reading 483965.)

**Quiet Days:** October 7/13; November 4/10; December 2/8.

**Teaching Days:** November 18th. Discernment: How do I know it's God's voice? Reverend Anne Long. (Day fully booked but waiting list operating).

**Fellowship Days:** November 24th; December 15th. No booking required for

## ST. BARNABAS SAYS GOODBYE TO PETER MUNDAY



Sadly during the summer St. Barnabas Church had to say farewell to Peter Munday, one of its Readers, who was moving into a house in the Newtown area of Reading. Although Peter was already a Reader, previously licenced in the Birmingham Diocese, when he first moved into Emmer Green, he only resumed his Reader ministry last October. Since then the congregation has greatly appreciated his contribution to the leadership of worship and not least his rich baritone voice as a cantor on festival occasions. We wish him well as he continues his lay ministry elsewhere in Reading.

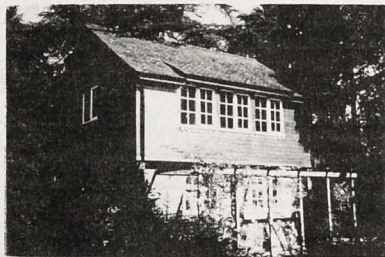
Our picture shows on the left the Vicar (the Revd Nigel Hardcastle) making a farewell presentation to Peter Munday during his final service, an occasion which was followed by coffee and cake in the Church Hall.

these days of informal fellowship, Communion Service and Bible Teaching with the Reverend Jeremy Anderson. All are very welcome.

We pray the Upper Room will be greatly

blessed and much used in His Name, and we look forward to sharing it with many over the coming months and years.

Andy Radford



## "WOODBINE WILLIE"

This one-man play portrays the Revd Studdert Kennedy, an Anglican Priest, who felt uneasy in his pulpit preaching on the love of God while men were dying in the trenches of World War I. He became an

army chaplain to join the troops in France in 1915 where he gained the nickname of "Woodbine Willie" because he offered Woodbine cigarettes with a New Testament. His part is brilliantly

**A play by Revd David Hill of Poplar Mission at Caversham Heights Methodist Church, Woodcote Road, Reading (A4074) Friday & Saturday, 26/27th Nov. 1993 at 8pm Programmes - £3 (concessions £2.50)**

played by Methodist actor Bill Wiesener who became well-known in West End appearances such as "Oh Kay" and "The Plumbers Progress" and on T.V. with "Dr Who" and "The Last of the Mohicans".

In this moving and powerful play we see Woodbine Willie seeking to answer the age-old question, which I remember was posed by Dr Leslie Weatherhead in his book "Why do Men Suffer?" It is a theme which is just as pertinent now as it was in war-time and as such will give us much food for thought. Studdert Kennedy was not only a great preacher among many but also a poet, and his poems in "The Unutterable Beauty" are still read today. Several are quoted during the play as Bill Wiesener switches roles between country vicar and Forces chaplain.

David Hill, writer of the play, has been in the

Methodist ministry since 1965 serving in a number of places and currently in Poplar Mission in the East End of London. He has written several musicals and plays including "Never Stand Still" to celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of John Wesley's conversion, and it was for this that NSS Productions was formed by him and Bill Wiesener.

Caversham Heights Methodists have sought for a number of years to support a little Methodist Church in the East End of London and it is to it, St George's Stepney, that the proceeds of this production will be given. It has developed from being a men's day-care unit for the homeless to a Church with a membership of about twelve, but with a tenuous future as its various sources of income from grants dry up. Among its outreach is a play-group

and supervised activity for "latch-key" children, this in an area of many problems.

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John Frew.

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