

## “LEST WE FORGET”

DID you know that there is a branch of the Royal British Legion in Caversham? Many people don't, which explains this article. We have a flourishing branch in this area, but like any outfit it needs new members. All ex-service men and women are entitled to join as Ordinary Members, but (and not a lot of people know this!) even if you haven't been in the Services, you can join as an Associate Member.

Why do we keep going? What do we do besides march on Remembrance Day? Isn't the British Legion a bunch of old men fighting old wars?

We keep going because as long as any former British Soldier, Sailor or Airman is found to need help and comradeship for themselves or their family, then we'll be there! Yes, we do march on Armistice Day; Yes, we do recall old times; but ALL the time the benevolent work of The Legion goes on, and this is what some of us in the Branch are busiest with — looking after ex-servicemen and women or their surviving dependants who need a hand.

We'd like you to join our Branch — you will be helping just by joining and paying the small sub. We meet once a month at the Conservative Club (by kind permission of their Committee) — you might like to come along, you'll certainly recognise someone there. We run Jumble Sales and Boot Sales, Coach trips, Dinners, join in the Legion competitions (darts, bowls etc.), and raise money for the Poppy Appeal and the Christmas Parcel Scheme.

The Service Committee carries on the work of finding and visiting needy ex-Service personnel or their widows, etc., so as to obtain Grants or medical equipment or whatever is needed to help. Even if you don't want to join, if you know anyone who might need the Legion please let us know **QUICKLY**.

### **SERVICE, NOT SELF**

The Legion's motto. If you'd like more information ring or write to the Secretary at 98 Chiltern Road, Caversham RG4 0JD (Tel: 481147). We've got about a hundred Members, men and women, younger and older, so you'll certainly fit in somewhere! Come on, join us.

## ALDERMASTON MEMORIES

MR. John Martin's interesting article, 'The Peace of our Canal' in the October issue of 'Caversham Bridge' brought back memorable experiences from before and during W.W.2.

When seven years old, I caught my first fish, a 2 1/2lbs tench, between the dilapidated Aldermaston lock-gates, alongside Major Strange's Brewery.

Several years later, whilst at Reading School, I caught an 18lbs pike in Sir Williams Mount's waters, behind the Butt Inn. Chatting to him one day, he registered surprise that such large pike existed there. He told me that his wife often fished the lakes but had never caught one in excess of 10lbs at that time.

During the London Blitz, I was a junior-clerk in the General Manager's Office of the G.W.R. at Beenham Grange, on the north side of the A4. Clerical staff from London daily commuted by special train to Aldermaston, many working in nearby huts provided by the Sterling Cable Company.

One morning, danger was stoically met by the staff as their train came under aerial machine-gun fire when entering the station. Moments later, we received an agitated phone-call from an early arrival, advising us that a cannon-shell had penetrated the roof of his hut and then passed through his desk-top, missing him by inches.

Within minutes, the perpetrator of the incident, an American pilot flying a British Spitfire from his U.S.A.A.F. Base 'on the hill' (now AWE premises), arrived in his jeep, full of apprehension and remorse. He had, it transpired, intended to make a 'mock-attack' on the train but failed to realise that his firing-button was in the 'ON' position.

The well-peppered locomotive pulled out later, spurting water and steam in all directions. Fortunately, there had been no casualties.

A further incident concerned a parachute-mine dropped from a German aircraft, no doubt destined for the Air-base. It fell into a field opposite the Butt Inn and killed a rabbit - Aldermaston's only known local war-casualty.

On another occasion, a Dakota (DC3) aircraft was returning to the Base in a wide circle, with its port engine ablaze, still with a glider on tow, apparently quite unconcerned about any personal danger — oh happy days!

The 'Peace' to which Mr. Martin refers, has long ago returned to the birds, the poor dead rabbit's descendants, and the cows of the fields. It is, once again, a fine area for birder, boater, fisherman and walker.

**SCOPS OWL**

### **CAVERSHAM CHRISTIAN NEWS LTD**

THE Board of Directors at their last meeting agreed to make a donation from the small profit made during the year. Accordingly, the sum of £200 has been sent to a National Charity whose headquarters are in Caversham, FEED THE CHILDREN.

It is thanks to all our paying readers that we are able to make this gift, so please keep up your subscriptions and try to encourage your friends and neighbours to become regular readers.

## TALKING POINT

by

Rev. Mike Holmes  
Minister, Caversham  
Hill Chapel



## WHO'S AFRAID OF THE BIG, BAD ABSOLUTES?

OVER the last year or so I have had the privilege of travelling to Russia three times to do missionary work in one of the cities of that vast nation. It is interesting to witness the hunger and seeking after 'pravda' - truth - particularly in the area of religion. In fact in some ways there is more religious freedom in Russia at the moment than there is here, evidenced by the freedom I had to preach the gospel in schools, colleges, the university, hospitals, a prison, on the streets and even in a small football stadium. Most people had a genuine interest in what I had to say and certainly hundreds wanted to repent and accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. After seventy years of religious desert it is hardly surprising that there is a thirst for God.

The converse seems to apply here. After more than seventy years of religious freedom there is very little hunger and seeking after 'pravda'. Instead, people do what is right and true in their own lives. Truth is no longer black and white, absolute and clear, but grey, subjective and blurred around the edges. The truth cannot be nailed down anymore for fear of offending someone.

Just how free are we to express our views today? It seems to me that those holding to absolute views on anything are being marginalised and made to feel abnormal in a society in which the whole framework of thinking and philosophy is rapidly changing away from Christian foundations into the ether of humanism. According to various polls, the majority of people have some belief in a supreme being, but as soon as God's absolutes are mentioned - values that have actually been the fabric of our society for decades - the shutters come down, the hackles go up and the unflattering labels are applied. After all, without a clear knowledge of God, who needs biblical values anyway? Whether it be homosexuality, adultery, sexual permissiveness, abortion, euthanasia or other moral and ethical issues, to have an absolute view based on the Bible is regarded as arrogant, bigoted or at best old fashioned. Even more worrying is the pressure to see other faiths just as valid in finding God as Christianity. "How do you know YOU are right?" "Surely there are many pathways to God". "There is only one God and all faiths in one form or another worship that supreme being". Tolerance and understanding are the order of the day, but whilst they may sound very appetising, they can be a very expensive choice on life's menu.

The Bible is full of absolutes. God's absolutes, designed to help nations and individual lives. Some of these are not popular with our society today. The Bible has a lot to say about sexual morality and ethical issues, which, along with its most important message, that the ONLY way to God is through Jesus Christ because he is the Way the Truth and the Life, should not be ignored. If we do shy away from biblical absolutes, we will find our lives getting more and more in a mess, just like our nation.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

### ANGLICAN

#### St Peter's

8.00am Holy Communion  
9.15am Parish Communion  
11.15am Matins  
6.30pm Evensong

#### St John's

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday School  
6.30pm Evensong (1st Sunday)  
6.30pm Informal Worship (3rd Sunday)

#### St Andrew's

8.00am The Eucharist  
9.15am Family Eucharist (Sung) (10am first Sunday)  
11.15am The Eucharist (with hymns) (not on first Sunday)  
6.30pm Evensong (followed by Eucharist on first Sunday)

#### St Barnabas'

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

#### St Margaret's, Mapledurham

8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday)  
11.00am Parish Communion

#### CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH (Caversham Park Primary School)

11.00am Family Communion (1st and 3rd Sundays)  
Morning Worship (2nd and 4th Sundays)  
Family Service (5th Sunday)

#### CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

10.30am and 6.30pm

#### NORTH CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

10.45am and 6.30pm

#### CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

10.30am (in Chapel)

#### METHODIST

Caversham, Gosbrook Road  
10.30am and 6.30pm

#### Caversham Heights

9.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday)  
9.30am Family Service (3rd Sunday)  
11.00am and 6.30pm

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Anne's Saturday 5.30pm, Sunday 9.45am and 6.30pm

Our Lady of Caversham 8.30am and 11.15am

St Martin's School 9.15am Mass

Mapledurham House 6.00pm Mass (last Sunday)

#### UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, York Road

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#### SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers), Church Street, Reading 10.30am

Caversham Church House - Meeting for Worship 7.30pm. (last Sunday)  
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Tel: 475783

## POST BAG

Dear Editor,

Calling all volunteers!

Every Thursday evening a group of adults meets for an evening class at Chiltern Edge Community Education Centre. Nothing so remarkable in that you may think! But this group is special. The members of the group are adults who are sorting out the problems they have had with maths - problems which may have prevented them from furthering their careers, or from coping easily with life in this metric world, or from giving their children the help and support they need with their school work.

The course is called 'Maths for the Terrified', and has proved very popular. So popular, in fact, that I am writing this as a plea to anyone who would be interested in coming along as a volunteer tutor. The work is fun and very rewarding. Volunteers come from all walks of life and work with the students on a one to one basis. You need to be able to communicate well so as to share your own skills with the students. For the maths course, volunteers obviously need to have confidence in maths, but you don't need a degree in it (!) or a teaching qualification, as training will be provided.

In January I will be running a course called 'Improve your Spelling', for which volunteer tutors will also be needed.

Both these courses are provided free of charge by the Oxfordshire County Council Adult Basic Skills Service.

If you are interested please call me - either at home (Reading 474757) or via the Community Education Centre (Reading 723362).

Maggie Bointon

12 Longhurst Close,  
Caversham,  
Reading RG4 0ER.



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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 Baily, 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 December issue should be sent to Church House, by noon on Wednesday 3 November.

All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham by 1 November.

The dates for January will be Monday 29 November and Wednesday 1 December.

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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# COMMUNITY CARE IN CAVERSHAM

Readers of October's 'Caversham Bridge' will recall the activities of RITO, the Reading Industrial Therapy Organisation. The following two items on Greenboro Ltd and Greenshoots look in more detail at some of their activities.

## GREENBORO LTD

Greenboro Ltd, the country's first social firm, was formed by Reading Industrial Therapy Organisation to provide employment and training for people with disabilities.

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Greenboro is continuously developing its cleaning and maintenance division to offer a fast, competitive and efficient service with the aim to give value for money, whilst providing rehabilitation, training and real work opportunities for our staff.

## GREENSHOOTS

Another exciting initiative which is underway is the development of a horticultural unit. Based on the same philosophy of both R.I.T.O. and Greenboro, this initiative is aimed at creating a viable self supporting horticultural unit providing non-pressured employment and training opportunities for some twenty staff, drawn from the R.I.T.O. client bank. Based in Upper Basildon, we have four trainees establishing a fine organic horticultural garden, concentrating on quality vegetables and supplying seeds and plants. In Caversham we have some 4 acres of land where we are establishing a horticultural unit which will undertake gardening and landscape work alongside regular contract work.

A vegetable plot to supply produce locally is to be created, as well as a division to cultivate and nurture seeds and plants on behalf of clients, to produce bedding and pot plants and shrubs and to grow products to supply the gardening and landscape division.

To establish Greenshoots, we have gone out to an appeal to national and local contracts which has been well received.

We do, however, need new grants and funds, equipment and voluntary labour to help us over the initial hurdles towards our aim to be a viable, self supporting project.

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



Greenboro Ltd



Greenshoots



E. S. Archer

SWAN LIFELINE AGM was held on Sunday, 22nd August at Eton Village Hall. After formal matters and election of Officers had been dealt with, Mr. Tim Heron, Chairman, announced that a well known personality and business tycoon, Mr. Richard Branson, had agreed to become Patron of Swan Lifeline, which was very exciting news! Not such good news was the report that, in spite of restrictions, there had been an increase of lead poisoning in some areas. Maybe this had been caused by the dredging of the river-bed in these areas, disturbing lead weights already buried there. Also, discarded fishing lines continued to be a danger to swans.

After the meeting most of the people present went to Cuckoo Weir Island Treatment Centre, to see how work on the Centre had progressed. Thanks to the efforts of quite a number of volunteers, work certainly had progressed! Instead of the rather overgrown site of last year, there were wooden buildings, (on stilts because of possible flooding) as shown in the photograph. The larger building houses Mr. Heron, who now lives on the site, and also the office. The smaller building houses the treatment centre — two swans were already in temporary residence there! There are also treatment ponds and pens ready for future patients. The work done is very impressive but more equipment is needed to have a complete treatment centre — and more money for the equipment and for running expenses!!

# CAVERSHAM COMMUNITY LUNCH

UNDER the auspices of Caversham Library, representatives from local organisations meet in the Library from time to time, when there is always a very interesting speaker and the opportunity to exchange views over a snack lunch.

On 27th September the venue changed to Chiltern Nursery Training College, at the invitation of the Principal, Elizabeth Sadek. Students were on hand to show small groups round the extensive and very well equipped premises. Babies from the age of four months can be accommodated in the Day Nursery, and those in the Nursery School obviously have the time of their young lives, as well as learning all manner of interesting things prior to going to "school proper" at the age of five. A small Primary School has recently been opened and it is possible for children to transfer to that up to the age of eight.

Mrs Sadek gave an interesting short talk on the excellent training the students receive on their two year NNEB course, and the help given to enable them to obtain interesting posts and further their careers. A lively question and answer session followed. It was interesting to learn that a number of students come from overseas, and to hear of the help being given to two students from Romania.

All in all both students and children, who attend the Training College are most fortunate.

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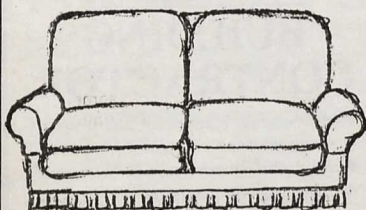
## SCF QUIZ

AFICIONADOS of the summer quiz set by Lindsay Mullaney of the Caversham Bookshop were delighted that after a two-year gap she had set another brain teaser this year. The total raised to date is £780 - £40 of which goes to prizes — which still leaves a splendid profit of £740 for Save the Children Fund. The Mullaneys are disappointed that many people taking the quiz did not send in an entry with a donation to SCF (there is still time to do this).

The quiz takes a great deal of time to prepare and to mark and it would give the Mullaney (and the Fund) much encouragement if £1,000 could be the target — certainly for the next occasion!

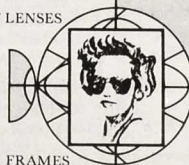
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# RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

## By Watchdog

RESIDENTS' Viewpoint failed to appear last month because Watchdog was holidaying at the end of August and had lost all sense of time. Triumphantly rushing up with manuscript in paw, complete with the guest columnist's contribution, the poor creature was dismayed to find that the deadline had been missed by a whole week. As however this left room for a full coverage of One World Week, this very worthwhile project should have benefited.

Here then is most of what should have appeared, starting with guest columnist Doris Thomas on a matter of great importance to Caversham and Reading, the laying to rest of Cross Town Route Phase 2.

### COMMON SENSE PREVAILS

At last we can relax. We are no longer threatened with a noisy, ugly, polluting, brightly lit motorway, visible from the Thames, stretching from East of Kennetmouth to a hideously obtrusive concrete fly-over at Reading Bridge Roundabout. Originally referred to as the Valley Road, this monstrosity has hung over us for decades as if Reading, with its Apex Plaza and huge reflective glass office blocks, has not been made ugly enough already.

But now C.T.R. II is dead. And that's official. Maybe the residents of Caversham and the rest of Reading would have been prepared to accept the environmental damage of the road had they believed that it would solve local traffic problems. But it would have given only short term relief. Schemes such as widening the Cow Lane bridges, a third Thames bridge, for local use, Park and Ride and Public Transport subsidies to encourage its use, will do far more good and some of these schemes are at last being actively considered. Only Tesco will lose by the scrapping of C.T.R. And should we plan our town round the interests of a supermarket chain?

Caversham Residents' Association, represented at every session of the fifteen day Public Inquiry in Autumn 1991, must claim some credit for the final outcome. The Secretary of State for Environment, while agreeing with the road scheme, turned it down on the technicality that the Exchange land at Scours Lane, in place of the Public Land to be lost, was not acceptable. This gave the County Council time for a re-think. Not that the Residents' Association was alone. Speaking against at the Inquiry were such diverse groups as the Civic Society, Friends of the Earth, Newtown and Bath Road Residents, the Victorian Society, the Green Party, Transport 2000, a dozen or more Reading Labour and one Conservative (all credit to him) councillors (speaking in an individual capacity) and over 80 local electors who gave up their time to voice their opposition. Incidentally there were only two supporters -- one from the British Road Federation, and the other (surprise! surprise!) from the Chamber of Commerce -- plus of course, the paid witnesses for the county council, paid for with council taxpayers' money.

So cheers for the local councillors involved and even louder cheers for the Liberal county councillors who have now withdrawn their support for the road. It sometimes takes great courage to stick to one's principles, but on occasion it can take even more to listen to the people and be prepared to reconsider an issue.

Let any reader should think that Caversham Residents' Association has ceased to be strictly non-party political, which it definitely is, we can give assurances that we will continue to work with anyone, party politician or not, on any particular scheme that is for the good of the local community and continue to oppose any plan that is detrimental.

Would that on the C.T.R. plan all the political parties had been united in opposition. Then the something like a million pounds spent on planning the road and on the Public Inquiry could have been put to better use for that local community.

Although she does not say so, Doris Thomas herself was the Caversham and District Residents' Association representative who was present for almost every sitting of the long Public Inquiry, closely following all the arguments and updating the CDRA case, which she very ably presented.

### BUGS BOTTOM

The promotional magazine of Higgs and Hill, sent out to all their shareholders (of whom there are quite a lot in Caversham) contained a report on the housing development which they insist on calling Caversham Farm, although on this occasion they did admit that the natives call it Bugs Bottom. After extolling the high building standards of their homes, they went on to say:

'This was formerly farmland and inaccessible to local people other than by a fenced track along the bottom of the valley, a situation that has been changed to the benefit of all local residents.'

What an arrogant claim! Hands up all those who think Bugs Bottom looks better than it did a year ago. Higgs and Hill clearly believe that they know what is good for us better than we do ourselves.

### END OF SUMMER

August news would also have contained a mention of the Edwardian picnic held in Caversham Court and the visit later in the same day of the excellent Mikron Theatre Company who tied up their narrow boat by the river's edge and gave a lively performance of a play based on the great period of canal building. There would have been little to say about the Pop Festival which seems to have passed without cause for major complaint. Indeed it was in North Yorkshire where complaints were heard from people tetchily inquiring why it was so difficult to find seats on south bound trains because they were full of young people and their baggage travelling south. Where could they all be going? Where indeed.

### TREES

A correspondent in last month's Post Bag refers to a beech tree recently felled at the entrance to Caversham Court. Caversham and District Residents share her concern and have urged its replacement as soon as possible. They have also made inquiries about why the earlier one has still not been replaced. Part of the problem seems to be that now that the Borough no longer employs a full time arboriculturist, follow through becomes difficult as the job is shared by a succession of officers.

Sadly, just inside the gates of Caversham Court the lovely old mulberry tree has lost one of its huge limbs, as far as can be seen from natural causes. It is not yet clear whether the rest of it can be saved. This tree was very old, probably dating back at least to the Loveday's occupancy of Caversham Court.

Caversham has some splendid copper beeches, with their wonderful colours right through from spring to autumn. One of these on the edge of the allotments behind the houses in Hemdean Road has died, and another in Priest Hill looks

as if it is also starting to die. It is one of a pair which were damaged when building operations were carried out in the garden of the large house in which they grew. Both had large limbs removed but this particular one had its roots severed when drainage was laid. This unauthorised act is now taking its toll.

At the junction of Kilmore Road and the Mount a diseased plane tree which was felled two or three years ago has never been replaced. The island on which it stood used to have the tree, a seat and an old finger post pointing the way to Tokers Green. All have gone, leaving the island bereft of interest.

After that sad catalogue of losses it is pleasing to note that the black poplar planted by Caversham Residents' Association in Christchurch Meadows at the end of Wolsey Road is flourishing and with luck is past the stage when it is an attractive target for vandals. The Residents' Association proposes to plant a companion nearby in the coming planting season.

The Civic society also planted a black poplar in King's Meadows which is also flourishing and they plan to put two more nearby. These trees are becoming rare, so this is a useful contribution to bringing them back on to the scene. Reading has lots of good trees but to keep it like that it is necessary to plant for the future.

### MORE BUILDING

A planning application for sixty-two dwellings at Abbotsmead and on the waste former allotment land between Church Street and Caversham Promenade has met with considerable opposition. This is far too high a density for a development so close to one of the town's major assets, its riverside. The resultant traffic congestion, particularly if access and egress is on to Bridge Street would be unacceptable, and not much better if it were via Wolsey Road. Part of the application includes an extension to the shopping precinct car park, a mixed blessing.

There is no question that this piece of land will ultimately have to be developed. It would be nice if it could become open river side amenity land, but the market does not think in those terms. Something more acceptable than the current application must be produced.

### SPIN-OFF

Bernard Miller, in last month's Post Bag, reflects

continued on page 5

## PICTURES

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& FRAME MAKERS

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# 'BUTTERFLY WALK'

On Sunday 1st August, about 20 people met in Clayfield Copse Car Park to go on a 'Butterfly Walk' through the Copse, organised by Reading Park Rangers. After a short talk by Mr. Staines, the party set off to see how many butterflies could be seen. Unfortunately it was not butterfly weather, being rather dull, but nevertheless quite a number were spotted. In any case, the walk was most enjoyable.

This was just one of the activities arranged for everyone by The Park Rangers, who can be found at Caversham Court Gardens (Tel. 477917) between 10.00 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Tuesdays - Thursdays. Call in and get a copy of their magazine 'Evergreen' listing all coming events (issued quarterly)!



Mr Staines talking about butterflies

- E. S. Archer

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## 'WATCHDOG' Continued from Page 4

the opinion of many, that the roundabout at the Buckingham Drive - Evesham Road junction has improved road safety there. That is one useful spin-off from the building in Bugs Bottom, but not come about from generosity on the developers' part. Planning requirements were that they should pay for all road alterations necessitated by their development. It is true that the work there was carried out with the minimum of inconvenience, which is more than could be said of the disruption of Hemdean Road, which still bears the marks of the many months of upheaval.

## ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION - CAVERSHAM BRANCH

The result of the house to house collections and Flag Day in August was £3,368.97p. Heartfelt thanks to our Collectors and "Customers".

Prior to the Jumble Sale, held on Saturday September 18th at Caversham Hall, Michelle Collins and Sarah Lawton (story last month) were presented with smart certificates of thanks for their combined effort. The presentation was made by the Caversham Branch President Dr John Foley-Fisher.

Quote by the Archbishop of Canterbury at the naming ceremony of R.N.L.B. "Good Shepherd" April 1988: "I thank God for the R.N.L.I., for the discipline and spirit of those who man the lifeboats, those who support it by raising funds, and those who staff its offices. The R.N.L.I. is one of the great voluntary organisations of this country".

## CAVERSHAM CLERGY

### ANGLICAN

Canon Richard Kingsbury, Caversham Rectory, Church Road. Tel: 479130.

(Parish Office: Monday-Thursday 9.30-12.30 Tel: 471703)

The Rev Bill Carpenter, St Andrews House, Harrogate Rd. Tel: 472788.

The Rev Nigel Hardcastle, 20 St. Barnabas Road. Tel: 478239.

The Rev Christine Allsopp, 25 Ikley Road. Tel: 472070.

The Rev. Stephen Rowe, The Rev. Christine Rowe, The Vicarage, St John's Road. Tel: 471814.

### CAVERSHAM PARK ECUMENICAL PROJECT

The Rev. Philip Abrey, 51 Galsworthy Drive, Caversham Park Village. Tel. 475152.

### METHODIST

The Rev David Moody, 72 Highmoor Road. Tel: 472223.

The Rev John Boakes, 9 Woodlands Grove, Caversham. Tel: 482530.

### UNITED REFORMED

The Rev David Clark, 41 Highmoor Road. Tel: 471909.

### CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

The Rev Chris Justice, 119 Peppard Road. Tel: 474529.

The Rev Michael Holmes, 13 Carlton Road. Tel: 474138.

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

The Rev Thomas Meagher, The Presbytery, 2 South View Avenue. Tel: 471787.

(For Caversham Park Village)

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**AROUND THE CHURCHES**

**THE BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP**

Brixton was the place where a tiny seed was planted in 1922. At St Matthew's, an apparently lively church with good attendances at meetings and flourishing groups, some began to sense that something else was needed to "get a move on spiritually". The machinery of the church, the committees and meetings, were all running smoothly, but was this enough?

They decided to go back, in order to go forward - back to "the fundamentals" of their faith - the need to grow in understanding the Bible and its message, prayer, and Holy Communion, "the dynamic of personal religion". A monthly leaflet with short daily Bible readings, brief background notes, some well-aimed questions, and prayer topics was produced. A mid-week service was started to explain the readings further and answer questions about them. It also provided an opportunity to talk and pray about the spiritual life of the church, and helped members prepare for the weekly Communion Service.

It started with 100 people - the "Fellowship of St Matthew". In three years it had tripled. The idea spread to other churches, who also began to take the leaflets. After five years the tiny seed became a movement - the "Bible Reading Fellowship" - and three years on, no less than 20,000 copies of BRF leaflets were being printed each month. Today, BRF has readers in many denominations and in over 60 countries world-wide.

Canon Leslie Mannering wrote the original leaflets for his church in Brixton. These days, a variety of people contribute to BRF notes, including Gerard W. Hughes, Joyce Huggett and Adrian Plass. BRF also publishes books to help adults gain a better understanding of the Bible, material for House Groups, and books in a format that young people enjoy. To discover more about BRF notes and publications, ask your local Group Secretary, Book Agent or Christian bookshop. Or telephone BRF on 0865 748227.

**CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH**

Variety is the spice of life at Caversham Park this Autumn. The season began with a "traditional" Harvest celebration incorporating a Saturday night Barn Dance to the music of The Rocky Mountain Boys and a Harvest meal followed the Sunday morning service, when gifts of food were brought for distribution to families in need.

Most of the morning services will have a different preacher this quarter, with many visitors from outside of Caversham. The weekly housegroups have a number of options for study, from a Bird's Eye View of the Bible to Confidence in Evangelism.

**Get Up and Go** This is the young teenage group who have been cooking up a programme including muddy walks, crafts, trampolining and computer games, to name but a few items on the list of activities.

**Workshop on Worship.** The afternoon of the 7th November will be given over to groups exploring different media for worship, including dance, drama, music... culminating in an evening act of worship. This is not restricted to members of Caversham Park church - others are very welcome, indeed, invited to join in.

**A First for Caversham Park**

The first ever Confirmation service to be held at Caversham Park will take place on Sunday, 19th December at 3.00 p.m. A very special service for some very special people.

Who said church is boring? Not a bit of it - especially not at Caversham Park!

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

**NEW POST FOR CAVERSHAM CURATE**

The Reverend Christine Allsopp has been appointed as Team Vicar designate at St Paul, Harmanwater, Bracknell. Her last Sunday at St Peter and St Margaret will be 9th January 1994. Her installation to this challenging new post will take place on 3rd February 1994.

Christine has served in the Group Ministry for over four years and given fine leadership. Caversham and Mapledurham will miss her but we wish her and the family all joy as they contemplate the move to a new home in January.

*Informal*

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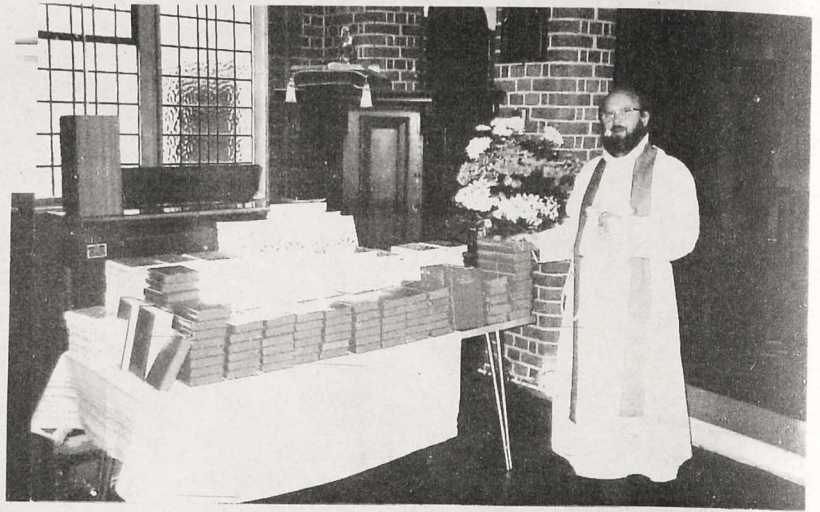
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**DEDICATION OF NEW HYMN BOOKS AT ST. BARNABAS**



- O. Jewiss

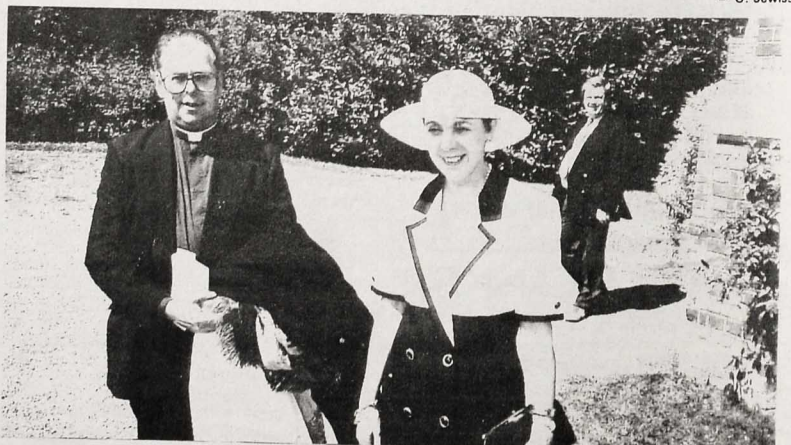
After more than 30 years of faithful service at St. Barnabas, Hymns Ancient and Modern (Revised) and 100 Hymns for Today (with little more than 20 years' use) were retired at the beginning of September in favour of two completely new sets of Hymn Books at a service of thanksgiving and dedication, when the entire stock of the old and the new were gathered together at the foot of the chancel step. Our picture shows the

Vicar, Revd Nigel Hardcastle, with the pristine copies of the replacement Hymns Ancient & Modern New Standard and Mission Praise. The congregation are now challenged with the dual task of getting to know its new repertoire of 1,331 hymns, plus 15 Taizé Choruses, and making the new set of books last another 30 years, when the Vicar has threatened to return for their possible decommissioning!

**SUMMER WEDDING AT ST. BARNABAS**



- O. Jewiss



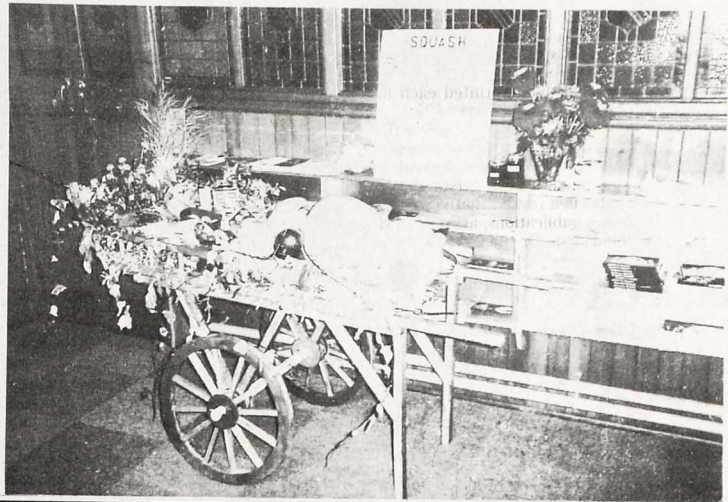
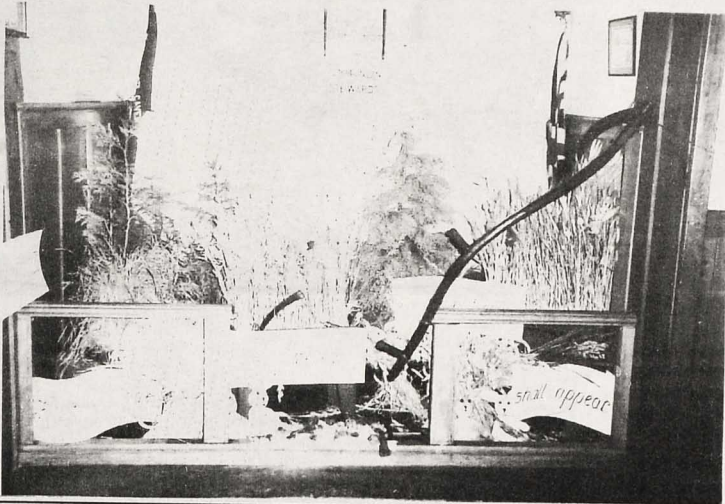
- O. Jewiss

Our picture shows Debra Miles and Tim South after their wedding at St. Barnabas, where for several years Debra helped with the Sunday School. She is the daughter of David and Marina Miles; David is a member of St. Barnabas PCC and Chairman of Emmer Green Residents' Association. Officiating at the wedding was the Revd Leonard Burn (photographed with his wife Jenny), who was Priest in Charge at St Barnabas between 1972 and 1976.

AROUND THE CHURCHES

# CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH - HARVEST FESTIVAL

EACH group within the church family decorated a window or space in the church to illustrate harvest hymns. These two pictures were taken in the vestibule to welcome worshippers. The sign to the left of the Communion Stewards' display read "CHILDREN! - Look for the mice but do not touch. At this time of year they are feeding up for the winter and might bite fingers!" The wheelbarrow was filled and decorated by the Squash (the young people's group). The preacher at both services was Revd David Moody and just over one hundred people enjoyed the Harvest Supper after the evening service.



## CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

A celebration dinner on September 16th in honour of the twenty-first birthday of the Women's Fellowship was enjoyed by fifty ladies. Events of the past twenty-one years were recalled by the two ladies who, throughout these years, have steered the fellowship into the successful meeting that it is today. Meryl Beek spoke of fifteen years as Secretary from 1972 to 1987 and Freda Thompson added her comments on the period from 1987 to the present day.

It was in 1972 that nine ladies met together to form a fellowship group under the guidance of the (then) minister's wife, Julia Harris so it was a joy to welcome her back with her husband, Revd Terry Harris from their present Circuit in Cornwall. Another previous minister's wife, Monica Sanders, came from Derby for the celebrations which were presided over by the present

minister's wife, Joan Moody, in her capacity as President.

There are now over sixty names on the register, fifty of whom attend the fortnightly meetings held on Thursdays. The Network Singers are part of the fellowship and their work of mission to country churches and others ladies' gatherings is invaluable. It is hoped that this work, which extends a warm welcome to all ladies, will continue for many more years to come.

\*\*\*\*\*

There was another celebration at the Women's Fellowship on October 7th when a cake was cut and congratulations were extended to Wyn Davis on the occasion of her ninetieth birthday. Wyn is still a very familiar figure in Caversham as she drives herself around in her electric mobile chair.

## METHODIST NEWS - WEDNESDAY GROUP

THE ladies of both Gosbrook Road and Caversham Heights Methodist Churches will be very glad to welcome other ladies to the following meetings at 7.45pm on Wednesdays at Caversham Heights Methodist Church, Woodcote Road:

November 10th "Corn Dollies" - Ron Hawthorne of Woodcote

(Bring and buy stall for funds)

November 24th "Decorated Eggs for Christmas" - Judith Frazer

\*\*\*\*\*

### "ALL AGE PRAISE"

The next 9.30am All Age Praise service at Caversham Heights Methodist Church will be on 21st November with new style worship for all the family. It is lively, easy-going and modern in concept. There will be a creche for children three years and under and the service will be led by Mrs Viv Morrissey.

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP 21st Anniversary Dinner



Top table: Left to right, Freda Thompson (Secretary), Julia Harris, Rev David Moody, Rev. Terry Harris

### GUATEMALAN BAZAAR!

Caversham Heights Methodist Church's Annual Bazaar to be held on Saturday 13th November, 1993 at 2.30pm in aid of the El Hogar del Nino Orphanage in Guatemala. Cakes, Sweets, Plants, Toys, Books, Christmas Gifts, Groceries, Bric-a-Brac and Crafts, as well as Teas, Sideshows and Father Christmas!

### "WOODBINE WILLIE"

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

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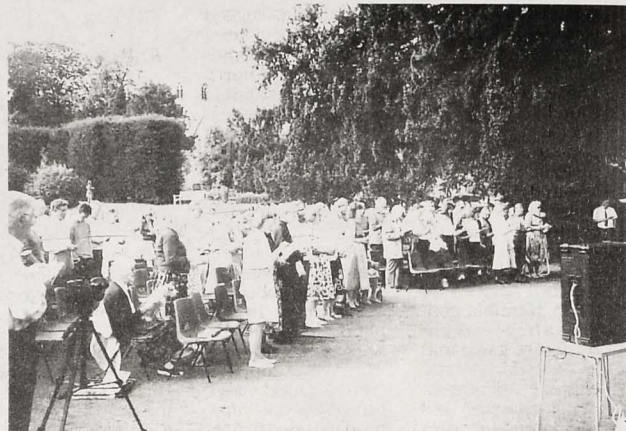
Reduced prices for senior citizens Tuesday and Wednesday. Late nights Thursday and Friday

**AROUND THE CHURCHES**

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN  
CAVERSHAM Celebrates in Caversham Court**

On a gloriously warm and sunny afternoon at the beginning of September, Churches Together in Caversham celebrated the third anniversary of their foundation, which coincided with the introduction of Churches Together nationally. This has widened the denominational base of our ecumenical activity and has moved the ecumenical movement in the British Isles from co-operation to clear commitment to each other, in search of the unity for which Christ prayed and in common evangelism and service to the world. The thoughtfully constructed service was notable for the address by the Right Revd John Bone, Chairman of Churches Together in Berkshire and Bishop of Reading, and the contribution of two sketches by Keybunch, a drama group from Caversham Hill Chapel. The celebration made a unified proclamation of the Gospel to all who happened to be on the river front.

Our two pictures show a section of the congregation, and the Bishop of Reading in conversation with the Revd Phil Abrey, Chairman of Churches Together in Caversham, after the service.



Photographs by O. Jewiss

**INTER-CHURCH QUIZ**

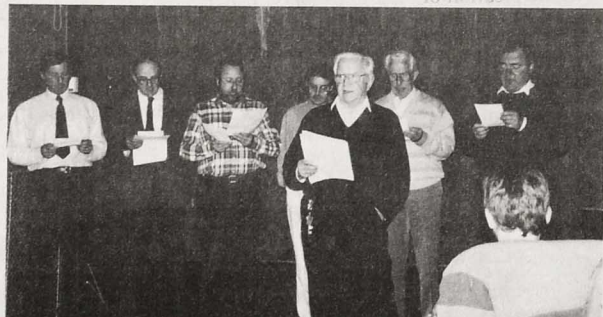
The annual inter-church quiz was held on Saturday 25th September at its usual venue of St Andrew's. The six team event had been reduced to five due to the last minute withdrawal of St John's. However, a 'scratch team' was soon made up from volunteers from the audience. The quiz was made up of four rounds of general knowledge questions, with the teams playing three at a time. The winner of each game, and the highest scoring runner up, went on to contest the final.

The first game comprised the Caversham Methodists, St Barnabas and St Peter and St Margaret. After a very close three rounds St Peter and St Margaret ran out winners with the scores St Peter and St Margaret (54), St Barnabas (47) and Caversham Methodist (33).

The second game comprised the 'scratch team' who became known as 'the Others', St Andrew and St Anne, the winners of the past two events. 'The Others' got off to a great start but were soon overhauled by the other two teams. With just one point separating the first two teams the last round of quick on the buzzer proved to be the settling one. The final scores were St Anne (55), St Andrew (44) and 'The Others' (41).

The final was held after a break for tea and biscuits. St Barnabas got off to a fine start with a five point lead after the first round. An excellent buzzer round saw St Peter and St Margaret take a twenty-one point lead, whilst round three saw St Barnabas come back into contention only five points adrift. However, an excellent final round on the buzzer saw St Peter and St Margaret run away with the event. The final scores were St Peter and St Margaret (116), St Barnabas (81) and St Anne (65).

Congratulations must be given, not just to the winners of the quiz, but also to the organiser, Mrs Kitcher, as well as the rest of the teams for providing an excellent evening's entertainment. Why don't more local churches enter, or why not have 'A' and 'B' teams next year?



Part of the excellent local talent which entertained at St Margaret's Harvest Supper. As usual, it was a very happy evening with good food, good company, a wonderful atmosphere and everyone enjoyed it tremendously.

**If the spirit says "go" you must go!**

These are the words of one of the numbers in "SPIRIT", to be performed by an ecumenical group under the auspices of the music/drama society called "Visions", at the Salvation Army Central Hall, Anstey Road/Castle Hill, Thursday to Saturday, 25th to 27th November 1993. This is by way of being a precursor, or introduction to T.V.A. (Thames Valley Alive), the Reading Ecumenical Mission for 1994. Come, See and

Listen! It tells the story of the growth of early church, from the Ascen-

sion to the conversion of St Paul. It is entertaining, toe-tapping, stimulating, with a challenge in the words of the final song:

"What does the Spirit say to the churches? What does the Spirit say to you?"

If you have ears then from the Spirit, Do what the Spirit tells you to."

Tickets: Stalls £2.50; tiered seats £3.50 (concessionary prices £1 off in each case), or Family tickets at £10 may be obtained by ringing 474460.

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# RALEIGH INTERNATIONAL EXPEDITION TO NAMIBIA

6th July-21st September 1993

Namibia, in south west Africa, is a vast dry country with a stunning variety of natural habitats. These include the Namib desert, a rugged mountainous plateau area in the interior and lowlands in the east. It is a developing country having recently gained full independence from South Africa in 1990. Namibia contains a huge concentration of game and is inhabited by eleven ethnic groups living separately and speaking different languages. English is the official language although Afrikaans is most widely known.

I and some hundred other Raleigh Venturers spent this summer helping with conservation and community projects in the remote areas. We were divided into groups of twelve and each group helped complete a total of four projects.

The trek was my first project. This took place in a

fascinating, rugged and beautiful area called Koakoland, situated in the north west of Namibia along the Angolan border. The trek was designed to be both a physical challenge and an opportunity to collect plant samples for the Namibian Herbarium who were interested to observe the changes in the plant life as the season changed. With my group of twelve, I trekked for ten days, one hundred and fifty-six kilometres, along the Kunene river; the border between Namibia and Angola. Everything I needed had to be carried. It was tough going, forty to fifty lb rucksacks, the intense heat, and mountainous terrain made the whole situation almost unbearable. Blisters and the heat became our main problem.

The five litres of water each of us carried needed to be rationed carefully. Two of the group

by  
**Anne Wilson**

suffered badly from heat stress, another hurt his back and one person had to leave the trek altogether because of blisters. However, the sheer fact of being there, seeing the fantastic scenery and having the great opportunity of meeting the Himba tribe, made it all worthwhile. The Himba are an amazing people, who live as they have always done, semi nomadic, breeding goats and cattle, living simple lives. They cover themselves in ochre to protect their skins and wear various types of jewellery, each being symbolic of, for example, marriage, whether they have children, and so on.

The trek ended at the Marien Fluss Valley, an incredible, vast, flat open expanse which suddenly hits you in the middle of the mountains. Finishing here and seeing the Marien Fluss soon made me forget all the problems I had experienced and made everything seem worthwhile.

Otjikondo School was the location of my second project. The school is situated near the small town of Outjo in central Namibia. It was set up by Mr and Mrs Stommel, a German couple, for under privileged children aged five to fourteen years. Whilst here I had the enjoyable task of building an adventure playground for

the children, as well as having the opportunity of teaching them various activities such as sports and clay classes. I also managed to teach English to some of the adults at the school and had great fun helping them count from one to a hundred. During the two weeks I was there we managed to build a climbing frame, two sandpits, shaded seating areas and benches, and some monkey bars.

My third project took place in the Kaudom game reserve, which lies to the north east of Namibia, approximately twenty kilometres from the Botswana border. The task here was to build a number of solar panel frames for water pumps. The frames were also to incorporate a small game hide to enable twenty-four hour water hole watches to be carried out. Working in a game reserve meant that I was able to see some of the wild animals of Namibia such as elephants, lions, hyena and giraffe for the first time.

My final project was at the Waterberg Plateau game reserve. This is a fantastic natural plateau situated in central Namibia, and is home to the endangered species of Namibia, black and white rhino, sabel, roan antelope, giraffe and cape vultures. I helped to build wilderness trail camps, which involved bricking and camouflaging huts. The camps

enable tourists to come to the plateau, walk the wilderness trails and see the animals. By doing this, the tourists bring the money to the reserve which is then put to good use. I was also fortunate enough to take part in the bush burning. This is where a section of the plateau is burnt to prevent uncontrollable bush fires and to encourage new growth. A total of fifteen hundred hectares was burnt. It was a brilliant experience striking the matches and watching the bush explode into flames.

Game counts over a period of twenty four hours were carried out, observing the types of animals visiting a water hole, and a vulture watch at a hide which Raleigh had built on the previous Namibian expedition. It was during the vulture watch I was lucky enough to see the rare Cape Vultures.

Overall, the expedition was a huge success, certainly an experience I shall never forget. It has made me realise my own capabilities, and has inspired me to want to do more of the same type of things in the future. I would like to thank those many people who made it all possible by sponsoring me and making donations of different kinds.

One day, after completing my degree course, I hope to do another expedition with Raleigh, but this time as the expedition artist.

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## CAVERSHAM CAMERA CLUB

September heralded not only the end of summer, but also the start of Caversham Camera Club's new season. The 1993/94 programme offers a wide and varied programme of interest to all enthusiastic photographers; including competitions for Club trophies; "teach in" sessions on photographic techniques and talks and lectures from visiting speakers.

The aim of the Club is to foster a greater interest in all aspects of photography and, in particular, to encourage those new to photography to develop their skills in an enjoyable way.

Our members are a friendly bunch and come in all shapes, sizes and ages. So don't be shy - if you take pictures (it doesn't matter what type of camera you have) or are just interested, come and have a look. New members and visitors are always welcome to the Club.

Meetings are held every second and fourth Wednesday at the Caversham Dance and Fitness Centre, Gosbrook Road, Caversham (near Waitrose) at 8.00pm.

Further information may be obtained from Simon Meeds. Tel: 668362 or Glyn Storey Tel: 478677.

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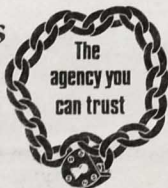
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### Caversham W.I.

September's meeting was a Harvest Supper with everyone enjoying the bring and share food. August's coffee evening raised £70 to help fund a local teenager's trip to Lourdes, and her sister Tracey gave members a most moving account of their journey and its impact.

After supper the harvest produce was auctioned and the flower competition judged, Mrs Jenkins being the winner.

### Caversham Darby & Joan Club

During the last six month Club members have been transported by magic carpet to many interesting and far-flung places. Mr Kirby took us to Zimbabwe, Mr & Mrs Bennett to Borneo and Mr Martyn Allies to Seville where Expo 92 was held. In June Mrs Diana Faulkner brought a large selection of herbal remedies to illustrate her talk entitled "Herbs for Health". Poems & Songs from The Network Singers and the Silver Liners brightened another two Wednesday after-

noons. We listened with great interest to the Rev. Christine Allsopp's account of her early life and the decisions which led to her present Ministry in the Parish of St. Peter & St. Margaret. It was a sunny day for our visit to Poole in early July but rather chilly for the Garden Party later in the month. Amongst talks (with slides) yet to come, are subjects on The Western Front Association, The Isles of Skye & Mull and The Crystal Palace. The Autumn Outing is to The Three Swans at Hungerford for lunch followed by a visit to Marlborough. The Christmas Luncheon will be at The Miller of Mansfield at Goring and the delightful Peppard W.I. Singers will once again entertain us at the Christmas Party on Dec 15th. The Club meets every Wednesday at Church House Caversham between 2pm & 3.30pm where a warm welcome awaits any new members.

### Caversham Ladies Club

Mrs Harwood, Chairman, opened the meeting with a warm welcome to members after the long break through August, though in the middle of the month and by the kindness of Mrs Brenda Strong, a garden party was held in the grounds of her bungalow. The proceeds were to be given to Sue Ryder Home. It was a great success and members enjoyed sitting around the garden amongst all the beautiful flowers, while also enjoying purchasing bargains at the various stalls. The grand sum of £80 was raised. A fine gesture from Mrs Strong in organising the event and the members for supporting it.

The September meeting was 'Harvest' and tables were looking very fresh and tempting with all the usual harvest goodies that members had so kindly brought along. Members were reminded of the time

of the coach leaving for their outing tour of Enbourne Valley, then back to Marlborough for tea. They were also reminded that the next meeting would be their 'Autumn Fair.'

Meeting then closed at 4pm with members saying how enjoyable the afternoon meeting had been, and it was good to be back to usual monthly meeting.

### Maplewood W.I.

Maplewood members enjoyed a talk with slides by Mr Bill Dear, on the history, usage and beauty of Brownsea Island. The Island lies in Poole Harbour, all five hundred and sixty acres of it, and you can get there by boat from Sandbanks. It is open from Easter to 30th October each year. It has a fascinating history and belongs to the National Trust. The land is shared by the Scout and Girl Guide movements, who have a training camp there, a Nature Reserve, and the Castle and Gardens are owned by the John Lewis Partnership, whose staff use it as a holiday retreat. It boasts masses of daffodils, red squirrels, deer, peacocks and ants, so you are advised to take an insect repellent with you.

Berkshire members are keeping their fingers and toes crossed, and send good luck wishes to Mrs Jenny Moss, of Burghfield W.I. who has reached the finals of the W.I. Driver of the Year Competition, sponsored by Vauxhall. The competition for a wild-life picture taken from a magazine was won by Mrs Joyce Beacroft, with a handsome stag, and Mrs Mona Idendon was highly commended for her portfolio of her own wildlife sketches. It was Joyce Beacroft's day, as she also won the flower of the month competition with a pink nerine.

### Caversham Heights T.G.

There was a good attendance at the September meeting, new members being present. Mr and Mrs Rayson taught history through showing many commemorative pieces of china, from 1809 to the present time. Slides were shown and a display laid out for close examination. There you could find a reminder of the investiture of the Prince of Wales at Caernarvon in 1969, or ponder over Prince

Albert's efforts in the diplomatic field while inspecting the collection.

Forthcoming activities included an invitation to the community lunch at Chiltern Nursery Training College, organised by Caversham library. Those who went along enjoyed a welcome from the Principal, Elizabeth Sadek. Both the equipment there and the range of ideas were appreciated, as far as caring for children between birth and eight years and the training of students are concerned. Tickets were selling well for the skittles evening arranged as an alternative to the customary autumn jumble sale. At social studies Mrs Grover spoke about Basildon House.

### Emmer Green T.G.

The Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild meeting was held in St Barnabas Hall in September. The meeting started with a talk by Mrs Campbell-Preston. This was the second part of her talk on "The Scented Garden." The first part of her talk members heard at the May meeting. The talk was again very informative as well as interesting. Mrs Campbell-Preston had again brought along many plants and flowers for members

to look at and smell the different perfumes. There was a short competition to test members' knowledge on bulbs. This was won by Mrs Pauline Young.

After the talk on the scented garden the meeting started with the minutes and future matters were discussed. There was also a sales table of harvest goods which had been brought along by members. The Garden Party held in August by the members was again a great success and seemed to have been enjoyed by everyone there.

Arts and Crafts. Members had brought along samples of their favourite recipes to their last meeting so they had lots of pleasure tasting these. There will be a talk on a "Holiday in North America" at the next Arts and Crafts meeting.

Words and Music. Members enjoyed their evening on "Music for Voice" and are looking forward to their Ivor Novello outing. At their next meeting there will be a talk on Jane Austen.

Ramblers. There have been four walks since the last Guild meeting. These have been around Henley, both sides of the river and two more walks around the area of Cockpole Green. On these walks the ramblers have picked

turn to page 11

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# the CLUBS

from page 10

blackberries and also come home with freshly picked beans.

There is to be a Jumble Sale in St Barnabas Hall in October and members will be required for morning and afternoon to help.

The Emmer Green Guild birthday party will be held in October and a group of members are organising the food and entertainment.

## Caversham Afternoon T.G.

Opening the September meeting Mrs J. Spall welcomed members and visitors and reports were given on the Guild's activities during the months of July and August. One event enjoyed without fail by all members is the annual Garden Party. Mrs H. Adair was once again hostess opening her home and lovely garden to the Guild on a warm but cloudy day. Competitions and raffles were soon under way and a delicious spread had

been organised and served by the Committee, both to those members opting for the cosy "indoors" and those harder souls enjoying the peaceful garden. A happy and friendly afternoon.

The Rambling group, led by Mrs G. Gale, had enjoyed a walk by the Kennet in August ending up at Tesco's for a welcome cuppa! Another group had visited Blake's Lock Museum followed by a boat trip on the Kennet with many interesting landmarks being highlighted by the guide. The new Berkshire Museum of Aviation at Woodley had been visited by a large group including members' husbands, an interesting and worthwhile afternoon displaying Berkshire's part in the history of manufacture and maintenance of aircraft during and after the last war. This new museum is set to expand into larger premises on the existing site in the near future, giving space for many more of their exhibits.

The Speaker this month was Miss J. Sawyer who brought with her fascinating slides of Tonga. Many people, she told members, will immediately call to mind Queen Salote at the Queen's coronation in 1953. Tonga's ruler nowadays is the Crown Prince, Queen Salote's son. Much about their customs

and mode of dress was learned and Miss Sawyer brought along examples of many of the goods manufactured on the War Years. The Writers began a story with 'I climbed the stairs to the attic' with entertaining conclusions. The History of Art group watched a video on a walk through the London Tate Gallery and saw slides of Highlights from St Ives.

An all-day outing to Cadbury's World at Bournville had been arranged by Mrs E. Odey for the near future. The next Guild meeting was to be a "Harvest" programme with the competition being a "Harvest Basket".

This month's competition "Funniest Holiday Snap" caused much merriment amongst members.

The Guild meets on the third Thursday in each month at Church House. New members and visitors most welcome.

definite conclusion on 'Have we too much freedom for our own good.' The Local History group concentrated on the War Years. The Writers began a story with 'I climbed the stairs to the attic' with entertaining conclusions. The History of Art group watched a video on a walk through the London Tate Gallery and saw slides of Highlights from St Ives.

New members are always welcome. Phone the Membership Secretary Mrs Grace McGregor Reading 866037.

## Caversham Community Association

### Star

Reading branch of the University of the Third Age

#### September Activities

The Open Meeting at the Kennet Room had for its speaker Detective Constable Buckley. He began by revealing how thinly spread the police were, three hundred on duty at one time over the whole county and twelve only in Reading at the weekend. This made it essential for everyone to guard against burglary. He especially recommended NACOSS burglar alarms, five lever mortice locks and above all, Neighbourhood Watch. Twyford has seen its burglaries reduced by fifty per cent since they began the scheme.

The Music group were given information on every type of amateur music making in the area, the name of the person to contact and related practical details. The Books group continued its discussion on Anthony Trollope. The inaugural meeting of the Crafts group was a great success. Many plans were made, including one to subscribe to a suitable magazine.

A general meeting at Pegasus Court heard Dave Skilton talk on "Bomber Command - Works and All." The Playreaders read 'Look Back in Anger' by John Osborne and found out why the play caused such an uproar in the early 60s. Twenty-six walkers enjoyed rambling in Pangbourne College grounds and were amazed at the amount of wild flowers, particularly water mint. The Travel group heard talks on 'The John Ridgeway Adventure School' and 'Tonga'.

The Discussion group came to no

held and members, who braved the stormy weather, enjoyed the time spent with friends. The members on the 20th September were met with a lovely array of Harvest Goods. An appetising meal of various sandwiches, apple pie and cream, scones with jam and cream, was arranged on tables attractively decorated. The Rev. Stephen Rowe was invited to share in the meal, and gave a talk on the meaning of Harvest time and how fortunate the people in the Western World are compared to the peoples in the Third World. He pointed out how grateful we should be for the food we receive and the many friends we have. The Harvest Hymns were sung and after the meal, which was very much appreciated by the members, the produce which was given by the members, was auctioned. The amount of £36 was raised towards club funds. The Chairman, Beryl Latcham, presented the Rev. Stephen Rowe a bouquet of flowers to take home to his wife, the Rev. Christine Rowe, who was unable to attend with him, and thanked the members for participating in a successful and very happy evening.

Monday the 27th September, the members held a debate on general affairs and local problems. It was an interesting evening and many members voiced their opinions.

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