

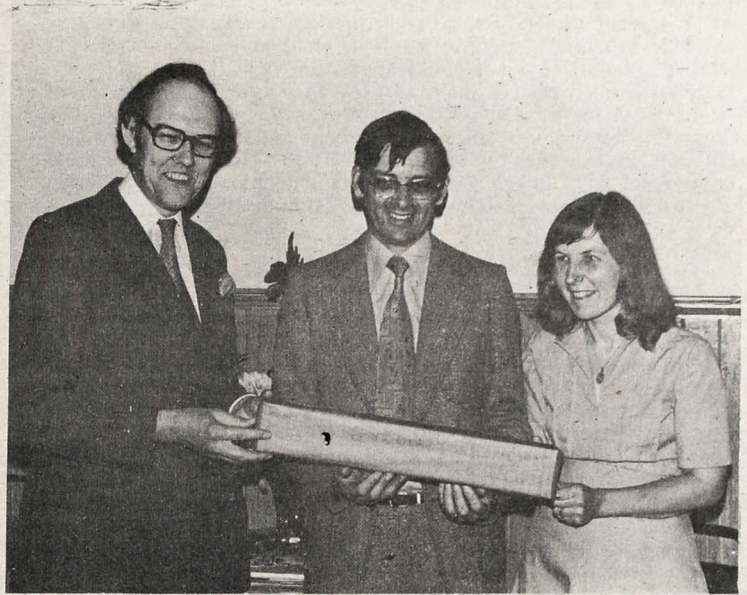
PICTURE PAGE

Photographs by John Williamson



ARRIVAL

Anne Sear, wife of Peter Sear, priest-in-charge of St Barnabas', with her baby, Catherine Frances, born on July 23.



DEPARTURES

Chris Nicholls makes a farewell presentation to Leslie and Margaret Griffiths at Caversham Heights Methodist Hall on July 30, prior to their departure for Haiti.



DEPARTURES

A farewell presentation was made to Michael and Christine Kitchener of a cheque and a painting of St Margaret's after the Parish Communion on Mapledurham's patronal festival, July 20.



GENESIS AND YOUTH BARBECUE

Kathleen Hardy and her daughter, Dusan, preparing refreshments for the barbecue held in their Darell Road garden on July 17. "Three in Accord", the Christian Gospel folk group, performed during the evening.

The Editor's Column

LET'S BE POSITIVE

WHEN I WAS TAKING PART RECENTLY in an Any Questions Session I was struck by the fact that so many of the questioners seemed to be wanting the Church to condemn rather than to give a positive lead. Of course, it is at first sight very attractive to deplore this or that aspect of modern life. But what in fact is achieved if this is all that we do? Such an approach serves only to reinforce the opinion of those who think all Christians are much what they imagine (in fact, quite unjustly) the Puritans were like in the 17th century — people who saw the world as evil and were therefore anxious to avoid contamination by it.

So however much we may admire the energy of Mrs Mary Whitehouse I for one believe that she does the Christian cause little good. The Old Testament is concerned with law: in it we find negative commandments "Thou shalt NOT". The New Testament is concerned with grace. Instead our Lord changes the negative commandments into positive ones — "Thou shalt love".

NEW TESTAMENT SOCIETY

The difficulty of course is that the New Testament perhaps pre-supposes a more mature society. Life as we know all too well is not wholly made up of the black and the white, but of a mixture. The Church today has the difficult task, not of saying that certain things are evil, but that many things are good, though they must be used in a proper and responsible manner. And when I come across Christians wanting church leaders to speak out against vandalism or some such social problems I feel we are being asked to search within ourselves to see what it is that we are doing to remove the conditions in which, for example, vandalism flourishes.

Boredom on the part of the young is one such condition. How positive, then, are we in our approach to providing healthy activities? What sort of response will the plea which we publish on this page from the leader of the Emmer Green Youth Centre produce from our readers? It is good to report that an earlier plea from him got several helpers for the centre. Let us hope that this one will meet with a similar response.

A SUGGESTION

It would perhaps be a healthy exercise for all of us to write down what we believe are the three most serious social evils facing society in Britain today, and then to consider what positive steps we can take to remove the conditions which produce those evils. When as Christians we have given thought about this we might then consult with our very receptive Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Durant, and our local councillors who represent the wards of the parish, make our views known to them, and see what we can do as members of the Christian Church.

Our Lord taught that great things can come from very small beginnings. It does not hurt us to remind ourselves that the resources of the Christian Church in Caversham are in fact quite considerable — indeed we are the largest organisation in the area, and I have a feeling that with the talents available to us we could achieve a very great deal. What shall we start on?

John Grimwade

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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

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EXPANSION OF THE EMMER GREEN YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

After two years of heavy concentration on the community area of our work with an effort to bring support by the local community for our Centre's work with young people, we are now in a strong position to expand the youth work side of our endeavours from September, 1977.

As most readers will know, our normal workforce is volunteers, who work one evening a week. However, our present staff are stretched to their limits and therefore to expand our work, new volunteers are urgently needed.

From September a minimum of 30 new volunteers are needed. A new part of our work

programme needs 14 of these; this is "detached work"; where it is intended that two people will work each evening with young people on street corners, in playgrounds and in shopping centres,

by JOHN JENKINS

making contact, helping them to identify their needs and helping them to find resources to meet these needs. This will be very demanding work. However, training and personal support will be carefully provided for each worker.

In addition the work in the Centre is also expanding, and volunteers are needed every evening of the week to

enable contact to be made with young people. Workers needed include coffee bar helpers, informal and formal group workers who will work with small groups of young people, activity instructors and individual councillors.

Training will once again be provided, although concern for young people is a must for all who work in this area.

This need is now urgent

If you are interested, or would like to know more, please contact John Jenkins, Youth and Community Centre, Grove Road, Emmer Green, Reading. (Tel. 476794).

S.E.S. JUBILEE CLUB

Dear Editor,

You made mention of activities in Emmer Green since the Jubilee in the last issue of Caversham Bridge and I feel it will be of interest to recount the success we have had in setting-up the S.E.S. Jubilee Club.

Ann Welch and Judy Batty of Stuart Close could never have conceived the outcome of their notion that a Street Party be held on Jubilee Day. In this they were to receive immense help from Marilyn Bedworth who had connections with the Emmer Green Youth and Community Centre.

Many offers of help came along, and it was not long before great interest was being shown in adjacent Evesham Road and Southdown Road.

A combined "do" was decided on for over 60 children, and a programme of both wet and fine was hammered out.

Starting with a Crown Competition, the youngsters would take tea around the "Maypole" (bullring of Stuart Close), games following in the capable hands of Roger Bedworth, MC. Mugs and Jubilee Scrolls would be distributed, and a special cake produced by Kay Smith, Emma Lovejoy and Grace Sergeant, would set the scene.

In the evening Angus J. would act as DJ with music for dancing, for the grown-ups. The children would be allowed to stay up late and enjoy Walt Disney cartoons and sample fish and chips.

The weather was indeed kind, so that the "fine" programme was undertaken, and by the close of the evening many seeds of future friendship were sown.

The Jubilee mushroom has produced a properly-constituted

club set up for the three roads involved, and as I write, 65 families have been enrolled.

Already a disco for July 30 is undoubtedly a successful fund-raiser (approximately £70) for a children's outing to Southsea in September,

while at Christmas a kids' party followed by a grown-up party, is scheduled for January, Emmer Green.

Yours etc.,

Ted Smith

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VICTORIA RULES — OK?

by Zoilus

When the world is putting you down, that is the time you find who are your true friends. An arguable point to some, but the proposed demolition of Reading Town Hall certainly gave support to the old saying and discovered a vast number of residents who feel their lives will lose something if that typical example of 19th century municipal architecture should disappear.

Once the decision was taken to move the local government offices from Blagrave Street to the Butts it was well on the cards that Waterhouse's Victorian gothic creation would be made redundant, as one of the main features of the original plan put forward in the swinging 60s was that the site would be sold to help finance the building of a grand new Cultural Centre in Oxford Road to take the place of the old Museum and Library.

But the 60s stopped swinging and many people thought that culture on such an advanced scale wasn't quite the thing in the sombre 70s. And a lot more people suddenly realised that although the Town Hall wasn't all that old it was something with which we had all grown up, the image that came to mind when you heard the word "Reading" in far away places, and that anyway we were now taught by sages like John Betjeman that the architecture of the Town Hall, Pearl Buildings and the station was no longer old hat, fussy and pseudo-ornate, but was a thing to be cherished as part of our heritage. Victoria Rules — and nostalgia is OK!

So egged on by conservationists, sentimentalists (and what's wrong with sentiment?) and the Civic Society, a feasibility study was commissioned to set out proposals for the retention and re-use of the main buildings. This was produced to a recent meeting of the Policy Committee and it was recommended that these schemes should be accepted in principle and negotiations continued with developers with a view to disposing of the rear portions of the complex in order to refurbish and upgrade the existing buildings on the Blagrave Street-Valpy Street frontages.

It is probable that this will mean converting the present libraries into an extension for the museum, making the council chamber into a reference library, and using the large and small town halls as an upgraded library. The fate of our famous Father Willis organ is not quite settled, but the large town hall is so lofty that it should be possible to fit a mezzanine floor below the balcony to act as ceiling for the new library and keep the upper area as a concert hall, complete with organ.

The cost of these works, including fittings and new furniture, should be under a million pounds, largely to be recouped by sale of the back areas and the old police station. A new cultural centre would be nearly twice as much — it seems there is a reasonable case for conservation with economy.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

It's a bit surprising that Reading Borough Council have agreed to the principle of a town lottery, with only two voices raised in dissent. Without being stuffy, it doesn't seem the proper business of the council to encourage the spirit of gambling, hardly one of the more acceptable faces of present-day society. In any case a lottery seems to be a very secondhand kind of way to risk your 50p, just as hanging around a drab betting shop to hear a radio announcement of the winner of the 3.30 is a very different thing from actually watching your horse come a cropper at the last fence, amid the excitement and colour of a race course. Nowadays we even indulge in our vices by proxy!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

By the time this issue is delivered the annual Pop Festival will be in full swing to the delight of thousands of youngsters and the aggravation of hundreds of residents in either Caversham Heights or Tilehurst, according to the prevailing wind. This year there is an added attraction in a concert of Folk and Country music in the afternoon and traditional jazz in the evening. But as this will be held in the smaller enclosure at the rear of the stages, with an audience restricted to a few thousand and without the need for electronic amplification, it should not cause disturbance outside the arena.

Nearly a year ago this column floated the suggestion of a jazz concert, with an opportunity for local talent to perform in the afternoon. Well, a good part of this has come to pass, for the Frank Jennings Syndicate, a local group who have made top grade on the country and folk music scene are featured in the afternoon, whilst Sonning Common-based Dave Morgan and his Jazz Band, firm local favourites, take part in the evening shenanigans, alongside such great jazz starts as Humphrey Lyttelton, Chris Barber and Ken Colyer. Let's hope there will be bumper support for promoter Harold Pendleton in his attempt to cater for those who go for something more than the electronic stimulation of pop and rock. And the Silver Jubilee Fund will benefit from all the profits.

2nd CAVERSHAM GIRL GUIDE COMPANY



— Walton Adams

For the second time in this Jubilee Year St Andrew's Church Hall was the setting for a Queen's Guide Award party for the 2nd Caversham Guides.

It was held on Friday, July 15, and once again Miss Janet Shumer, the Division Commissioner, presented the awards. This time it was a double celebration as two Guides received the certificates that have been awarded as a result of four years' concerted effort.

The two Guides were Christine Garrett, one of the regular Guides, and Frances Gardiner, who is a lone Guide and has had to do most of the work for her badges while away at school and during her holidays.

Both Guides would like, through the Bridge, to thank all the testers who have helped them. The rest of the 2nd Caversham Guides are now working hard so that the next celebration will not be too far away.

Put yourself in

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THE GOLDEN LEGEND

Children at Emmer Green Primary School recently performed "The Golden Legend" — a musical adaptation of the legend of St Christopher. The legend tells of Christopher's search to find a master worthy of being served. After years of fruitless searching Christopher set about earning his living carrying travellers across a river.

One day he is called upon to carry a young child across the swollen river. With great difficulty he reaches the other side where he discovers the true identity of the child — Christopher has become the "bearer of Christ". He has found his true master.

Congratulations to Mr Doyle, the headmaster, who conducted the performance, and to all the children who took part — actors, acrobats (they were marvellous), dancers, choir, percussionists (what a variety of sound effects they managed to produce). A good half-hour's entertainment.

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

MAJORITY DECISION

Commonsense prevailed at the Policy Committee meeting of the Borough Council when it decided to recommend that the Old Town Hall be refurbished to provide a "cultural centre" (library, museum and art gallery in old-fashioned parlance), at a somewhat lower cost than building a smaller new one.

Although not affecting this decision, it so happened that in that same week the result of the referendum held by Caversham Residents' Association as to whether or not the Association should be actively associated with the Save the Town Hall committee was announced with a vote of nearly ten to one in favour of joining the committee.

This does not mean that the minority against the decision will be gagged, drummed out or forced to toe the party line. As individuals, they are perfectly free to advocate what they like, but the association itself will support the work of the Save the Town Hall committee.

The committee in no way feels that its work is now over. The decision with regard to the building is still not final, and moreover there are a number of unsatisfactory aspects to the plan. The chief of these is that if the large assembly becomes the main lending library with a sus-

pended ceiling installed, its use as an assembly hall as an alternative for local organisations to the expensive Hexagon will be lost, and it will also no longer be possible to play the Father Willis organ, at least to an audience, though the plan does not envisage its demolition. Perhaps a rethink about the function of the historic Hospice might provide a solution to that problem.

FORWARD TO 2,000

Berkshire County Council has, over the past few months, been making a real effort to find out public reaction to its Central Structure Plan, even if one of these months, August, is generally regarded as a somewhat dead time for public involvement.

Both at the public meetings and at the representative forum, Caversham residents have made clear their opposition to a new road link from the Peppard Road-Henley Road junction to Reading Bridge, and this, combined with constructive suggestions from the Civic Society about an alternative route for Phase III of Reading's Inner Distribution Road has at least registered with the authorities.

A prompt decision is now required so that what set out as a laudable attempt to forewarn should not become the cause of needless anxiety to many.

BY WATCHDOG

The Pop Festival will be over by the time this issue of the Caversham Bridge appears, and the usual complaints will have been voiced. Allotment vandalising will, we hope, be out this year; long hair and jeans are now accepted wear, and drug-taking seems to be on the wane. Noise (or music, depending on your tastes) will bring its quota of complaints, but a pop festival can hardly take place without music (noise), it does last only for one weekend, and the organisers really do make an effort to minimise it, although there is usually one sector of the surrounding areas that suffers unduly.

Litter is another nuisance which seems to vary. Usually adjacent roads are kept exceptionally tidy, but the site itself usually becomes a tip that sometimes takes a very long time to clear up.

However, whilst litter is not an essential ingredient of a pop festival, the average British citizen is not himself a model of propriety when it comes to dropping litter, so pop fans are only following a national tradition.

There is, however, another objection which has not previously been aired and that is the unsightly corrugated iron, rusting and

covered with torn remains of fly posting which stretches for hundreds of yards round the site. This year it came into position in June, which means it will be there for nearly three months.

These are the three months of summer when people can reasonably expect to enjoy the

Thames-side scenery. Yet from Richfield Avenue, instead of a view of the wooded escarpment, there is this ugly screen. As it is temporary it does not require planning permission, but when temporary means the three summer months there should surely be a condition attached to the terms of letting that does not deprive local citizens of one of their few good views.

REMEMBER, REMEMBER

... the fifth of November, not the 19th, as you dutifully noted in your diaries for the date of the evening of Hardy's Wessex in St Andrew's Hall, in aid of the Gazebo Restoration Fund. The alteration is due to an unforeseen clash of dates. Further details will appear in next month's issue.

WEDDING



—Broadway Studios, Thatcham.

Mr Michael Burton and his wife, Angelique, with the two priests who married them in St Andrew's Church. The Greek Orthodox Priest is Fr. Panteleimon Kalpakides who is working at the University of Oxford.

Mapledurham Parish Council

A meeting of Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday, June 30, 1977. Lt-Col. A. G. Elliott, Chairman of the Council, presided at the meeting.

The Council discussed a number of topics that concerned countryside matters. A letter is to be sent to the County Surveyor regarding the overgrown grass verges on all the roads, which results in a reduced width of the road and therefore a reduced vision, with a request that the cutting of the grass verges is carried out as soon as possible.

The Council are to ask the Southern Electricity

Board to reconsider a request made by the Parish Council some years ago for the overhead power lines in Rokeby Drive to be put underground.

The need to fence off the Chazey Heath Play Area in Rokeby Drive was also agreed as a necessity, bearing in mind the number of children that use the road and play area since the recent housing development in the vicinity.

The Council have again written to Oxfordshire CC regarding the diseased elm trees in Rokeby Drive, and it was reported that there had been some evidence that the matter

was being pursued by the county.

The Council noted the resignation of the Rev Dr M. A. Kitchener from the Council upon his departure from the district. Because of the changed size of the parish, the Council is having correspondence with the District Council in matters relating to its future size and matters relating to the co-option of members to fill vacancies.

The Council expressed their delight at the success of the Silver Jubilee event that took place on the Mapledurham Playing Fields in June, and a letter of thanks and appreciation has been sent to the organisers.

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Mrs Buckle welcomed members and visitors. The meeting was then addressed by Mrs Chapman, Blagrove, Link Delegate to the AGM at the Albert Hall, who gave her report.

An interesting talk by a member of the Samaritans (anonymous) followed.

Mrs Bannon was congratulated on her floral arrangements at Englefield House. The monthly competition, three roses, was won by Mrs S. Buckle.

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Off to Yorkshire

It is just three years ago that Michael and Christine Kitchener came to Church House, 222 Upper Woodcote Road, Mapledurham, with baby Clare, then only one year old. They arrived young, full of energy and enthusiasm.

It was a tonic to see Michael cycling round the parish with his cask tucked up to avoid entanglement in the machine. There would be his bike, leaning against the car park wall at St Margaret's at 9am on a Sunday.

This was something new and it seemed to emphasise the change that was taking place as members of the congregation caught his and Christine's infectious drive for tackling fresh projects, trying out new ideas and waking up what was perhaps becoming a rather drowsy village church.

READY FOR NEW VENTURES

Talking to Michael, he says he feels he has been at Mapledurham during a very interesting time. The Church School had just closed a year before he arrived and there was now no Mothers' Union or Young Wives' Group. By the time he and Christine came on the scene it seemed as if the church in Mapledurham was ready to start all over again with new ideas and

new ventures.

But first Michael felt that there were two things which had to be done. To establish a regular pattern of family worship each week and secondly to lay the ghost that perhaps St Margaret's was going to close. For as he said: "It is perfectly clear that St Margaret's is going to carry on."

And this appears more and more so as the months go by. For the young there is now a well-attended Youth Group, many of whom are in the choir, and also a monthly Saturday Family Workshop, both thanks to the hard work of Michael and Christine who allowed their home to become Open House to so many of the juniors in the parish.

A missionary committee has been revived and a new project supported. More people are becoming very willing to join actively in church affairs.

LIVING AT THE DOUBLE

Life has been lived at the double at 222 Upper Woodcote Road with Michael also working for the Reading Council of Churches and having other ecumenical commitments, including local radio. No wonder he was always dashing here and there.

Christine must have

wondered what would happen next sometimes, but like the stalwart she is, she took it all cheerfully in her stride and backed Michael up magnificently. It was Christine who took over the choir and did so much with the Thursday Club and the Workshop.

Perhaps life will be a little less hectic at Mirfield when the Kitcheners go there at the end of August. Michael is to teach doctrine to some of the 45 ordinands at the College of the Resurrection, which belongs to a missionary and teaching Order, founded towards the end of the last century.

Certainly life will be different, for they will be living in an ordinary house in an ordinary road, and Michael will leave each morning at 6.30am for college where he has his study. Both he and Christine hope to get in some gardening and lead the "Good Life" in Yorkshire.

Their going will be Mirfield's gain. We are happy to have it this way, for we in Mapledurham have had the great good fortune to share with Michael, Christine and Clare for three years, the Christian life of the parish. It has been a good time together and we are very grateful for it, and thankful to them for all they have inspired in us and all the hard work they

have done for St Margaret's.

I venture to think that of the 50 or so parish priests in the past years at Mapledurham since around 1150 Michael has been one of the ones that have made the most impact, especially with his sermons. He, Christine and Clare will be greatly missed. We wish them every happiness and hope they will come to see us whenever they can manage it.

The Kitcheners' address from September 1st is 27 Crowther Road Mirfield, Yorkshire. Those wishing to visit them should find Robin Hood's grave and 27 Crowther Road is a mile down the road from there.

— M.K.

CENTENARY PLANS AT ST PETER'S

Although it is known that a church has existed on the site of St Peter's at least since 1162, and although the Norman doorway must date from about that period, no exact date for the foundation of the church in Caversham is known.

But in 1878 major alterations were made to the parish church, the south aisle was added and the nave got its present appearance. With the redecoration completed it is intended to mark the centenary of the Victorian enlargement with a four-day festival beginning on St Peter's Day, Thursday, June 29, next year, and concluding with a special service on the evening of Sunday, July 2.

Mrs Doreen Bennett is chairman of the Centenary Committee.

There will be an exhibition of the history of Caversham, a flower festival and special musical and other events. As plans take shape they will be announced in the Caversham Bridge.

Anyone who has documents, paintings or photographs relating to the past history of Caversham is invited to get in touch with Miss Mary Kift at 2 Darell Road. Tel. 471143.



— Walton Adams

TALKING POINT

by MARTIN LOVELESS

ORDINARY OR EXTRAORDINARY?

One of the most refreshing things about being on holiday, as a clergyman, is that people treat you differently. As long as you are not wearing a dog-collar or as long as the people you meet don't know who you are, you find yourself treated just like anyone else. I should imagine that the same goes for anyone else whose work entails the wearing of a uniform.

THE ORDINARY PERSON

From my own experience I sometimes find it quite disturbing. When they are not aware of your professional identity people treat you as

"ordinary". It's not assumed that you hold any particular political or religious views, and so as these become more apparent, the person with whom you are relating begins to see them as part of the unfolding personality, which began with an ordinary person.

The ordinary person gradually emerges as being different from other people until they become quite individual.

What this of course emphasises is this: The clergyman, like the policeman or the local doctor or anyone with that sort of relationship with the community, is rarely able to relate to other people in the way

other people relate to each other.

It means that the clergyman, if he is not careful, may begin to see himself as so special and extraordinary, that his very ordinariness is something he loses touch with. And yet it is his ordinariness that is in fact very precious to him. The reminder of his ordinariness prevents him from getting a distorted view of himself, of other people, and the world. (His somewhat detached position does enable him to see things and comment on them in a detached enough way to be of advantage to everyone else though.)

What I suspect is that if people remembered that he is as ordinary as anyone else, they might find that his words and his life had more credibility than they had given credit for. It also means that very few people perhaps see that they, too, are called to the same kind of work. But of one thing I am certain: When God calls anyone to serve Him, in whatever way, the response is always the same — "What, me? Incredible!" The people God calls are all ordinary people; it is because he appeals to our ordinariness that we feel it's absurd. But those who are most useful to God are the ordinary sort. What He does is to give us extraordinary work to do!

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HAROLD BURTON

The Caversham Bridge is sorry to report the sudden death due to heart failure of Mr Harold Burton of 2a Matlock Road, on Sunday, July 24. We print below an appreciation of him by Mr George Darlow, formerly Town Clerk, and the address given by the Rector of Caversham at his funeral in St Peter's which was attended by a very large number of people on Monday, August 1.

An appreciation by George Darlow

The sudden death of Harold Burton will have saddened his many friends and admirers. I have lost an old friend and a trusted and valued colleague to whom I owe a very real debt of gratitude.

When I took up my appointment as Town Clerk of Reading in 1945, Harold Burton was my Chief Administrative Assistant and in that capacity we worked together for more than 22 happy, and I hope, fruitful years.

His knowledge of local people and local affairs, coupled with his

wide experience, devotion to duty, reliability and complete loyalty were of immense help.

In his time he served all the Committees of the Reading Borough Council, and Elected Representatives and Officers alike looked to him for the help and wise advice he was always ready to give. Nothing was too much trouble, and he enjoyed the respect and affection of all those with whom he came into contact.

In short, he was the ideal public servant who for small reward,

apart from the satisfaction of a job well done, have for many years been the backbone of our local government system.

The ratepayers of Reading, to most of whom by force of circumstances he was probably unknown, have every cause to be grateful to him.

In all he did he had the support of a devoted wife and the immeasurable benefit of a happy home.

The sympathy and thoughts of his many friends will be with Mrs Burton and her family in their bereavement.

THE RECTOR'S ADDRESS

Harold Burton will be remembered with affection by many people in Caversham and Reading. Brought up as a boy in Hampden Road he went to George Palmer School and later joined the Town Hall.

In due course he became Chief Administrative Assistant and as such will be remem-

bered by many people. He gave loyal service to the different committees of the Borough Council and councillors and staff alike turned to him for help and advice.

Reading had in Harold Burton one who gave the town many years of faithful and conscientious service. He had, however, many

other interests: there is the well-kept allotment in Caversham Court: there was involvement in the activities of NALGO, and there was the pleasure he derived from his membership of the Festival Chorus and Monday nights for him was regularly practice night.

And, of course, the



■ An interesting photograph of the Griffin Inn taken about 1909 before the present building was erected.

life of the parish of Caversham was dear to his heart. He was, till the time of his death, a member of the Parochial Church Council and also treasurer for St Peter's District.

More particularly I should recall that he has sung in this choir for 60 years. He seldom missed two services on a Sunday. Originally he had sung at Matins and

Admiral Coffin's Almshouses, Caversham

NOTICE is hereby given that the Trustees will meet shortly to elect two persons of good character, who are members of the Church of England residing in Caversham, Lower Caversham or Emmer Green into a vacant Almshouse in Westfield Road, Caversham.

Applicants must be prepared to produce sufficient testimonials and other evidence of their qualifications for appointment and unless physically disabled, to attend in person for interview by the Trustees.

The successful applicants will be required to contribute a weekly sum of £3.50 each towards the cost of maintaining the almshouses of the charity.

Application forms may be obtained at the office of the Clerk to the Trustees, Mr P. M. Blandy, 1 Friar Street, Reading, and must be completed and returned to him not later than August 31, 1977.

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

Caversham Community Association

A whist drive was held on June 20, and although not all skilled players, the members had a pleasant evening. Two trips were made during the month, with good weather on both occasions. The annual evening trip was around the beautiful Berkshire countryside and villages; the day trip by train to Teignmouth.

On July 11 a speaker from the Samaritans gave an interesting talk. He explained how a day and night service was maintained by helpers in order that anyone in distress could telephone and talk over their troubles.

Evansong; in more recent years he sang at the Parish Communion and Evensong, and this willingness to accept a change in the life and worship of the church was characteristic of him.

He was one of a band of devoted laymen like Cyril Burnside, Reginald Hasluck and Walter Canning who have all died but whom I found in this parish when I arrived as rector 15 years ago. They all gave great support and encouragement to me, and, though senior in years, never opposed developments in the life of the church, but accepted the changes that those developments inevitably brought.

But any tribute to

Harold would be incomplete without it being said that he had had from the day of his wedding in this church, a happy married life, and our thoughts go out to Connie and to their daughter, Christine, at this time.

So we are here this afternoon, as we would be at the funeral of any Christian, to give thanks for the victory of Christ and to assert our belief in the Resurrection. And as we assert the victory of Christ we give thanks also for the life and Christian witness of Harold Burton, and we pray that his family will find comfort and strength at this time as we commend a faithful Christian into the loving hands of Almighty God.



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The Link Group held its AGM at the end of June, and reconsidered the wording of its prayer, part of which is quoted above. The members felt that this was still appropriate to the Group's aims, which are to try to break through some of the barriers which exist between age groups, churches, the handicapped, the lonely, aims which evolved during Family Festival from which the Link Group grew.

Valerie Birtwhistle, Chairman for the past year, recalled that, at the Quiet Day last Sep-

tember, members had thought deeply about those aims, and had discussed many new ideas. In her report on the year's activities, she spoke of the way in which those ideas had been carried through.

SPEAKERS. In trying to find out as much as possible about the problems of the people it was trying to help, the Group had had lively and thought-provoking speakers from the Partially Sighted Society, Mencap, Corrymeela, and Berkshire Women's Aid. In each case, the Group had given financial con-

ducted two inter-denominational Communion Services, one after the carol-singing in Caversham Park, and the other at the conclusion of the Group's social evening in June. The Chairman said that, as always, these were very meaningful occasions. The Group was also very grateful to the Rector for taking up its suggestion of a public Ecumenical Eucharist in Caversham Court for the Queen's Silver Jubilee, and for making it such a memorable event.

CONCLUSION. Mrs Birtwhistle concluded



— Walton Adams

Miss Janice Watts of The Ridgeway and Mr Chris Ham of Oxford Road, Reading, who were married at Caversham Baptist Free Church on July 30. Janice is a member of the church and a teacher in Junior Church, whilst Chris is a member of Grovelands Baptist Church. They have both been active in the Caversham Church Sunday Evening Youth Group and its vocal group. Their home will be in Southcote.

tributions as well as some form of practical help.

Members had heard about the progress of the Day Centre run by the Baptist Church, and had been provoked into lively discussion by Dr Michael Kitchener's talk on Ecumenism.

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES. On-going help had been given to the Richmond Fellowship; furniture and clothing had been donated and distributed to a number of local families; help was given with a party for Gingerbread; and a very great deal of work had been done in cleaning, decorating, and equipping the house in Priest Hill now opened for single-parent families.

FUND-RAISING. To help in furthering all these projects £254 had been raised during the year by a Good-as-new Sale, Carol-singing, plant sales and a concert.

WORSHIP. The Rev Stephen Bartlett had

her report by thanking all members for their support and friendship during the year, particularly mentioning Cath Pynn, the retiring Secretary. Regret was expressed at the departure from Caversham of the Rev and Mrs Stephen Bartlett, and the Rev Dr and Mrs Michael Kitchener, all of whom had helped the Group.

THE FUTURE. Plans for the coming year were discussed, and new officers elected.

The meeting concluded with detailed plans being made for the first event of the new season, the Concert, on September 30, in Caversham Heights Methodist Church, in aid of Link Group charities.

The first of the regular monthly meetings was announced as being on Monday, September 26, when new members from any church would be welcome — details from the new Secretary, Paula Andrews (tel. 478430).

DETAILS OF MONETARY DONATIONS MADE BY THE LINK GROUP

To Reading Partially Sighted Society.....	£115
To Mentally Handicapped Children's Society.....	£80
To Richmond Fellowship.....	£40
To Smith Hospital (autistic children).....	£25
To Home for battered wives.....	£25
To House in Priest Hill.....	£18
To Churches in Northern Ireland.....	£10
To Citizen's Advice Bureau.....	£10
To Youth and Community Service.....	£5

Young Caversham

Last month I told you of British Rail's generous offer to convey accompanied bicycles free of charge — subject to some irksome conditions. I am glad to say there have now been further relaxations due to the popularity of the new idea.

There is no need to complete forms any more; all you do is to buy your passenger ticket and present your bike to the ticket inspector who will tell you where to place it.

Restrictions have also been lifted on the Portsmouth and Lynton ferries to the Isle of Wight. Once you reach Ryde, you've got your wheels, so push off and ride!

Talking of wheels, nowadays I sometimes think we would be better off if we were born

with them. The latest craze from the States has reached us; the Skateboard Age! The parking problems alone give us headaches at the boys' club.

BOYS' CLUB

Gary arrives on his high-speed "Gusto"; Steve's "Straddler" is not usually far behind. Then space has to be allocated for the arrival of Colin's "Clipper" and Dave's "Dragonfly" (the pilots have paper rounds before club).

I hesitate to guess how one tests the competence of the owners in their new-found abilities, but I would like to see proper facilities provided for this fresh and fast recreation.

The streets and pavements are not the place for it. There is no money



by Peter Shock

for a stadium. Perhaps it will become a national pastime to be reckoned with in the imminent future.

In the meantime I will stick to my bike.

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Embley Park '77

Ninety people enjoyed yet one more happy week at Embley Park School near Romsey, the site once again of Caversham's Parish Holiday. Forty-three of them were having their first holiday there — the others had all been at least once before, and many of them have hardly missed a Parish Holiday since the first visit to Embley in 1965.

We print below the impressions of two newcomers: Frank and Eunice Lewis who hope, with their daughter Naomi, to be back there next year. The holiday is provisionally fixed for July 22-29, 1978. Full details will be announced early in the new year and early application is advisable.

SUMMONED BY BELLS

Rolling acres, croquet lawns, heated open-air swimming pool and three large meals a day — The Ritz? Club Meditteranee? — No. It was Embley Park School, Romsey, which provided these and many other amenities.

The first bells we met were the unusual quarter chime in the clock turret marking the passing hours but there were more to come... the electric bell shrilled its warning and in five minutes it sounded again: time to storm the dining room for the first meal of the Caversham Parish holiday. Then children to put to bed — now up which flight of stairs was our room and where did we see a bathroom? Five (or was it six?) flights of stairs to confuse newcomers and

uncountable fire doors, too.

The regulars had seized Scrabble boards and playing cards and the Rector (or as one four-year-old would have it, the Rectangle) was seen heading for the croquet lawn armed with mallets and a bunch of unsuspecting novices to the game. Others went exploring and discovered that there was too much to take in one session and some got themselves lost up woodland paths (a few on more than one occasion).

Sunday — and those still in bed were roused by the raucous clamour of the Rector's handbell announcing early tea. More electric bells heralded breakfast, and later the sound of the fine eight bells of Romsey Abbey wafted up from the town. As these ceased the school chapel bell called "Come" for our own family Eucharist. By lunchtime the party of 90 was complete and those who wished to compete in the various tournaments were urged to sign up and once the draws were made the "sport" began in earnest.

6.30am

The early-morning brigade were reported to swim at 06.30 hours whilst the rest of us preferred to wait for the sun to shine and perhaps for the belles to appear. Other dedicated souls were seen dashing round to the squash

by Frank and Eunice Lewis

courts in their whites, only to find another equally dedicated pair already sweating it out.

The less energetic tried the gentler game of croquet or bowls or even sat in the sun browsing over a crossword or two. A cricket match arranged between the A-K's and L-Z's might not have been regarded by the purists as being quite Lords. The Laws of Embley Park (made up as we went along) would have horrified the MCC but the EP decision allowing both batsmen to be given out with one ball might prove useful in a future test match.

However, entrants in the children's sports found that sweets all round, win or lose, were perfectly fair. Skating parties drove to Southampton, beach seekers to Bournemouth, and those who enjoy other people's houses took in Mottisfont or Wilton. Some, old enough to know better, discovered that it takes the expertise of youth to stay upright on a skateboard let alone go four up over the sleeping policemen in the drive.

All too soon it was the last evening with the children's party (more sweets); then sherry and a turkey dinner preceded the final Eucharist. The adults' party rounded off the day when the tournament winners received their prizes, and various entertaining talents were uncovered.

Saturday morning brought the handbell for the last time, followed by all the other regular tintinnabulations, mechanical and electrical, which regulated the days. Time for a last dip in the pool, a last game of croquet and finally goodbyes all round. Our thanks go to the Rector, the staff of Embley, and to all who came and helped to make a most memorable week.

A case for its usefulness AUXILIARY PASTORAL MINISTRY

The Editorial of the June issue of the "Bridge" was concerned with the sort of Ministry the Church can expect in the latter third of this century. Some readers may not be aware of the Auxiliary Ministry within the Church of England.

It is not to be seen as replacing the full-time ministry or in any way diminishing the urgent need for men to be called by the Lord to full-time parochial work. But on the other hand, there is good scriptural and theological justification for priests who continue to be engaged in "secular" employment, and that there are advantages in having many such priests in our church today.

I quote a statement made at the 1958 Lambeth Conference: "While the fully-trained and full-time priesthood is essential to the continuing life of the Church, there is no theological principle which forbids a suitable man from being ordained priest while continuing in his lay occupation."

PAID AND UNPAID WORKERS

Each Christian, as part of the Body of Christ, has a ministry to perform which is determined by the particular gift Christ has given him. This is vital to the total work of the Church. The Ordained Ministry is seen as being special and privileged work for God.

The Auxiliary Ministry has received much attention since the publication of the Bishop's Regulations in 1970 which arose out of the Welsby Report "A Supporting Ministry". The whole scheme is of course dependent on a suitable training scheme. Prior to 1958 a few men were ordained to work in this particular capacity.

Despite the Southwark Ordination Course

having started in 1960 the auxiliary ministry is still regarded by many, both cleric and lay, as an innovation within the Anglican Church.

Whilst it is true that the New Testament does not give a blueprint for the ordained ministry and church government these prin-

by Brian Woolgar

ciples are to be found in St Paul's writings. The Apostle recognised the justification for a paid ministry. On the other hand Paul himself continued to earn his own living during his ministry. Thus in the New Testament we find reference to both paid and unpaid ministers — some local others peripatetic.

MINISTRY AT WORK

It is within his place of employment that the auxiliary priest perhaps finds his most important sphere of pastoral work. He does not arrive from "outside" as the Vicar, Rector or Curate, their lives and gifts unknown to the congregation.

The people whom the auxiliary priest serves at work have already experienced his ministry and so his Ordination is partly an acknowledgment of what is already seen and appreciated. Likewise, his presence on the staff of his church can bring a continuity especially in times of interregnum and

change of assistant clergy.

The auxiliary priest will have particular insights, as well as gifts, to bring to his work. First by understanding the area and the people in it. Secondly, there is often a better understanding of secular occupations with the attendant pressures and problems. Thirdly, contact with certain people that the full-time clergy rarely meet.

THE OXFORD SCHEME

The Bishop of Oxford, along with his Suffragans, sometime ago expressed the hope that suitable qualified men would be Ordained into the Auxiliary Pastoral Ministry in this Diocese. In consequence a training scheme for candidates has been established at Oxford with the help of theological colleges and members of the Faculty of Theology within the university.

The course lasts for three years, each year being divided into three terms each of nine weeks' duration. Academic work takes place one evening a week with residential weekends. There are also weekends for private study and individual tutorials. The residential periods amount to two Sundays in each term and ten days' continuous residence at a college.

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OBITUARY

ELLEN GOODWORTH.

Mrs Goodworth, who died on July 4, will be sadly missed by the many children and adults who have benefited by her wonderful piano playing for their ballet classes, and entertaining.

Older members of St Barnabas' Mothers' Union will remember her playing the organ for their hymns.

The yearly party for the patients at Borocourt Hospital was always such a success through her versatile playing. She will be sadly missed, but memories of her and her music will remain.

A silver rose bowl is to be presented to the Oxford Music Festival in

her memory, to be awarded to the Young Musician of the Year.

ALBERT ASHER

Many of the older residents of rural Mapledurham will be saddened to hear of the death of Mr Albert Asher on July 16. Mr Asher worked for the late Mr Maunders of Chazy Court Farm for about 40 years, living in one of the cottages at the end of Upper Warren Avenue.

Bronchial trouble forced him to retire early to a bungalow at Rotherfield Greys. He will be remembered by many of the older generation of the village with affection.

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METHODIST NEWS

Reflections on Stewardship

On March 19, 1977, 240 members of Caversham Heights Methodist Church sat down to roast beef and Yorkshire pudding followed by Black Forest cherry gateau. The object of this splendid meal was not to celebrate the success of Christian Stewardship but to mark its inception, for experience has shown that the congenial fellowship of a family meal is the best environment in which to tell members something of the objects of the Campaign and invite their wholehearted support.

Every guest had been invited to the meal by one of 30 trained hostesses who met them on arrival, introduced them to other guests that they did not know and ensured that none experienced any lack of hospitality.

At the end of the meal the hostesses gave each guest an envelope containing a brochure that showed in diagrammatic form the range of the church's activities and what it needed in money, time and talents to maintain them. Also in the envelope was a Money Pledge Card and a Time and Talents Leaflet on which the recipient, having studied the needs of the church, could record the amount he was prepared to contribute each week and indicate the fields of church service to which he was willing to offer his time and talents.

MONEY

In the days that followed the Family Meal, each guest received a call from one of 20 trained visitors, whose task was to collect the Money Pledge Card and the Time and Talents Leaflet, having first provided any information or explanations required and advice on what might be considered an appropriate response in money or time.

by Martyn Allies

Giving advice on completion of the Money Pledge Card was no easy matter. Account had to be taken of both what the church needed and what the individual was likely to be able to afford.

One solution suggested was to divide the current annual financial requirement of the church by the number of members, establish this amount as a norm and then invite each member to consider how little less or how much more than the norm he could contribute, having taken into account his estimate of life's necessities.

Such a solution had two shortcomings, however. One was that pegging the norm to the current financial requirement implies pegging the financial level of church activity and hence its total activity and influence. The other was that freezers, operas, package tours and prep schools can all look like necessities of life and upset this mode of calculation.

There remained the concept of the tithe: a tenth of net income once tax and an allowance per head of family for basic food, clothing and shelter had been deducted. For most of us this would fall short of our present response, and during the period of peak family expenditure could well demand sacrifices that could only be made at the risk of family tensions. It may be that the visitors' advice should have been to start at half tithe and work up to a tithe as circumstances allowed.

TIME AND TALENTS

It was to the Campaign organisers rather than to the visitors that the Time and Talents Leaflet presented problems. When the many offers of help of all kinds, rang-

ing from washing-up to giving professional advice, had been listed, the result was only a raw score that needed careful analysis. Some offers indicated only a willingness to continue a task already being undertaken.

Others, from members already deeply involved in church and community life, indicated a willingness to squeeze a few more minutes out of every day if there was a job to be done for which their help would be invaluable.

Finally, there were offers from those who had not previously seen clearly how they might make a greater contribution to the work of the church and were now anxious to accept the challenge that Stewardship had presented.

So from the analysis were derived, in effect, two lists. The first was a nominal roll of those who were willing to be called on, when required, to undertake a variety of tasks, and this will be a valuable aid to the effective functioning of the church.

The second was a collection of volunteered talents that indicated new directions in which the church might develop its activities if the full fruits of Stewardship were to be gathered. Drama has been dormant in the church for ten years; Stewardship has revealed the possibility of it again playing a part in the church's life.

From the Stewardship has come a big increase of 70 per cent in the Sunday collections, which has ensured a firm financial basis, at least for a while until inflation erodes the difference between income and expenditure, so enabling all special efforts to be devoted to charitable causes.

It has determined the full resources of the church in regard to musical talent, willingness to collect for charity, experience in youth work and so forth, whilst disclosing hidden aptitudes and enthusiasms that can be harnessed in the service of the corporate life of the church and the community.

Not least of the benefits of Stewardship has been its significant enhancement of the spirit of fellowship in the church.

Hostesses and visitors put faces to names, developed slight acquaintances into friendships and drew towards the heart of the church family those who were formerly on its fringe.

When the Review Campaign comes round in a year's time it will be no chore but a welcome opportunity to consolidate all the gains made in the spring of 1977.

Leslie Griffiths' farewell



■ The Rev Leslie Griffiths talking to some of those who attended his farewell presentation on July 30.

New Methodist Minister appointed

The Methodist system works so that when a church loses its minister, his replacement arrives immediately. So, the Caversham Bridge welcomes the new minister of the Caversham Methodist Churches, the Rev Ralph Rogerson, together with Elsie, his wife, and Deborah and Andrew, their children, and trust their stay will be happy and fruitful.

Mr Rogerson has spent all of his time in the ministry in the north of England. It has been a varied ministry and has included years in the Manchester mission and a tour of duty doing Overseas Missions on the Isle of Man. At present he is a minister in the Birkenhead Circuit, with oversight of the Irby sec-

tion of the circuit on the Wirral.

In all his ministry there has been an emphasis on social affairs. Mr Rogerson has been a prison chaplain, and has served an industrial chaplaincy. Also, he has identified very closely with the Probation Service, and has been deeply involved with young people in difficulty.

In these difficult days when there is so much unemployment, especially in the Liverpool area, he has co-operated in job-creation schemes to help alleviate the problems. Mr Rogerson will soon find himself involved in the area of social responsibility once his family settles

amongst us.

Mr Rogerson has recently completed work for the Open University degree in Social Sciences.

Mrs Rogerson supports her husband in his various tasks. Debbie will begin her studies in the third year at Highdown, and Andrew in the second year at Reading. We wish them well as they settle in Caversham. They look forward to a full participation in the ecumenical dimension of church life here.

Best wishes at the outset of their work come not only from members and friends at Gosbrook Road and Caversham Heights Methodist churches, but from all the readers of the Bridge.

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ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

TWO NEW PRIESTS FOR THE PARISH

The Rev David Milling has been appointed to the staff of the parish of Caversham and will serve as priest-in-charge of Mapledurham.

Married with three children we shall be publishing a photograph of him and his family with fuller details next month. He will be moving to the parish towards the end of September.

The Rev Graham Lynch-Watson, at present vicar of St Barnabas, Purley, in the diocese of Southwark, will be the successor to the Rev Stephen Bartlett at Caversham Park. Married with two children he will hope to arrive during the autumn but the exact date depends partly on the completion of the purchase of a different house at Caversham Park.

AND ONE RETIREMENT

After giving many years of valuable honorary service to the parish the Rev Dennis (Bindi) Shaylor will shortly be retiring. He will be the preacher this year at the Parish Dedication Festival Evensong in St Peter's on Sunday, October 2.

An appreciation of his

work will appear in the next edition of the Caversham Bridge.

HARVEST T.A.P.

Harvest Festival is being observed on different Sundays in the parish of Caversham. St Peter's starts on Sunday, September 11, St Barnabas follows on September 18, and the following week it will be the turn of St John's and St Andrew's.

Harvest Festival at Mapledurham is being delayed until October 9 so that the new priest-in-charge who starts his ministry here on September 25 will not miss it. It has been decided that Harvest Festival would be a suitable occasion for giving collections to the Church Times Fund known as T.A.P.

This stands for "Train a priest", and is a special fund which exists to give grants to the very large number of married ordinands who frequently experience very severe financial difficulties during their period of training. So please come prepared for collections this year at Harvest.

Caversham is unusually fortunate to be such a well-staffed parish and has a

responsibility to see that there are adequate funds to provide both for the training priests and for their families.

AND NEWS OF FORMER CAVERSHAM CLERGY

The Ven Derek Eastman, who served as priest-in-charge of St Andrew's from 1951 to 1956, has been appointed a residentiary canon of St George's, Windsor. He is at present Archdeacon of Buckingham.

The Rev Colin Scott-Dempster who came to Caversham when ordained deacon in 1966 and is now vicar of Chieveley, is to be rural dean of Newbury.

Caversham's other former curate, the Ven Raymond Birt, who is Archdeacon of Berkshire, is resigning from that post on December 31, but will remain vicar of Woodhay. He is to be succeeded as archdeacon by the Rev John Brown, vicar of Bracknell.

CHURCH NEWS

therefore brought out from base and, except for two hardy men who set off to walk by road, the party drove back to Caversham. The two intrepid walkers were eventually persuaded to accept a lift along the narrow Sonning Eye road which by then was not too safe for walkers.

What at first had looked like being a disappointment because of the weather turned out, after all, to be one more in the growing list of enjoyable and companionable evenings spent by the Fellowship.

ST BARNABAS' NOTES

"See the streams of living water..." Thieves have again stripped the lead from the roof of the baptistry at St Barnabas. The loss was discovered after recent heavy rain came through into puddles on the floor. To prevent further loss the roof will be replaced with felt rather than lead.

The choir of Limburg Roman Catholic Cathedral in Germany has recently been performing in this part of the world. Members of the choir have been staying in homes in Caversham Park Village. They have been using St Barnabas' Church to practise in and as a way of saying thank-you they sang during the 9.15 Eucharist on July 31.

In place of the sermon they sang works by Orlando di Lano and Heinrich Schutz, and during the communion they sang two more works by Schutz and Agnus Dei by de Vittoria. Grateful thanks to them for such a wonderful and beautiful addition to the worship at St Barnabas.

And while on the subject of overseas visitors, St Barnabas is becoming quite an international community. Amongst the congregation in recent weeks have been people from Canada, USA, France, Holland, as well as that 50-strong choir from Germany.

ST ANNE'S NEWS

Parish Council

A Parish Council is in the process of being formed. A steering committee has been active for some weeks and now 21 members have been appointed with C. Rogers as Chairman and John Epstein as Secretary.

Barbecue

The Chapel of Our Lady in Richmond Road has not been decorated for 15 years. Members of the parish agreed to do the work if money could be raised to buy the paint. It was decided to hold a barbecue in the chapel garden on Saturday, July 16, as a social/fund-raising event.

The evening was well attended and very enjoyable, and £66 was realised. Many people worked hard but particular mention should perhaps be made of Sheila Hill, the Nelsons, the Kinross and the Mac-

kens, of Ian Kane, who provided the music, and of Ann and Colin Clark, who did the cooking. In the following week more hard work was done and by Sunday, July 24, the chapel was transformed.

The new scheme of sunshine yellow behind the altar and primrose yellow on the side walls is most successful, and the whole parish is extremely appreciative of this venture.

New Graduates

Congratulations to Margaret Kramer who has recently graduated with First Class Honours and to Kathleen Bonney, Bridie Murphy and Mark Tredder, who all gained Second Class Honours. We shall be glad to know more news of young members of the parish.

ST MARGARET'S REJOICES

The flag was waving from the new flagpole, a recent gift from friends in Mapledurham. The ancient church was filled with lilies, roses and all manner of summer blossoms.

The Savill flagon, Mapledurham's finest piece of church plate, graced the altar in all its splendour, fetched from the vaults of Eton College just for the occasion. St Margaret's Day had come round once more.

This time it was not just a gathering of the congregation with friends from the Caversham churches to celebrate the Patronal Festival. It was also saying farewell to Michael, Christine and Clare Kitchener.

From the very outset of the service it seemed that not only was the congregation giving thanks for St Margaret but also for Michael, Christine and Clare, too, and their time spent in Mapledurham. It could not have been a happier or more joyous occasion.

After the service everyone remained in church for a presentation to the Kitcheners and of course the usual few words from the Churchwardens and Ken Bennett of Caversham — interesting and lively comments, amusing stories and sincere thanks for all that Michael and Christine had done whilst in Mapledurham — the latter spoken on behalf of everyone.

It is hoped that Christine and Michael will remember their years here when they look at the oil painting of St Margaret's which had been especially painted for them.

Afterwards, of course, there were the usual refreshments. This time Mr Eyston and Lady Anne had very kindly made the Old Tudor Hall of the original Tudor manor available. This is already partially restored. Grateful thanks to them. The gathering feasted in grand surroundings.

WEDDING



—Hymor Photographers

Colin Ballard and Sylvia Cooper after their wedding in St Andrew's on July 23.

ST ANDREW'S NEWS

Ewelme, a pretty Oxfordshire Village, had its Rose Festival on Sunday, July 10. The church looked wonderful — despite that is the invasion of nearly 50 children of the St Andrew's Sunday School. Ewelme was the spot selected by Mr John Gazzard as being suitable for a most interesting quiz for the children.

They had to explore not only the church but village as well. In all there were 30 questions for them to tackle. All did very well. The six prizewinners were Valerie May, Lisa Tylee, Paul and Philip Vickers, Roy Ivens and David Payne.

On the way to Ewelme the children, under the guidance of teachers and parents, visited the Maharajah's Well at Stoke Rowe. This proved a most fascinating place.

Following on from Ewelme the party went off for tea and games, returning home at 6.30pm tired, but happy. Most appropriately as the coach drew up at St Andrew's Hall the children were singing the National Anthem.

As in previous years members of the Junior Choir joined the Sunday School for the afternoon.

The family of St Andrew's joined in a happy family event of July 23, the occasion of the marriage of Sheila, eldest daughter of David and Sylvia Cooper, to Mr Colin Ballard. The wedding of Sheila and Colin was a most happy occasion, the church having been decorated especially for the event.

The reception was attended by representatives of the congregation and likewise at the party in the evening.

July was the month of

another very happy wedding at St Andrew's, this time between Christopher Coope and his very lovely French bride, Brigitte. Again members of the St Andrew's family were in church to witness the ceremony.

The St Andrew's Women's Group start again after the summer recess by using home talent in the form of a talk given by a member of the congregation, Mr Elmsley Perkins.

The evening will consist of a demonstration on the preparation of ingredients for making wine. The evening promises to be a good one so remember the date — Thursday, September 22.

The St Andrew's Fellowship will be having their Annual General Meeting on Thursday, September 8. As this is the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin the meeting will be preceded by a celebration of Holy Communion at 7.30pm.

A report, and we hope photographs, on the annual district outing will appear in the next issue of the "Bridge".

ST JOHN'S NEWS

St John's Fellowship — In spite of heavy clouds and earlier rain on the day of the July social meeting about a dozen members went for an evening walk along the river to Sonning, meeting at "The Bull" for rest and refreshment before returning home.

It had been intended that the majority would walk both ways, with a car already waiting at Sonning for those not so inclined. However, unsettled weather had caused a delay in setting off and early darkness made the return walk impracticable.

Two more cars were

Nicholas.

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Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild

"Saved by her Crinoline" — this was the title of a delightful story told by Mrs Cecilia Millson in her talk on "People of Berkshire" at a recent Guild meeting.

Mrs Ball was the wife of a tobacconist whose shop was situated at the junction of King's Road and Duke Street. She was busy in her husband's shop one day when to her horror, with a resounding crash, the floor gave way beneath her and she found herself falling into a void below.

She landed, not on solid ground, but in the waters of the Holy Brook which flowed beneath the shop.

Luck was with Mrs Ball that day, she fell upright and her crinoline opened out to keep her afloat as she was carried into the darkness. Having reached the Abbey mill, her poise still in tact, her cries were heard by passers-by as they walked in the Forbury.

She was quickly dragged to the safety of the bank, unharmed but very shocked, as well she might be, for she was pregnant at the time of this unfortunate experience. In due course the baby was born, and Mr and Mrs Ball decided that the name of Holybrook would be appropriate for their small son.

In childhood Holybrook Ball was inclined to be chesty and the family had no doubt at all that this condition was due to his poor mother's untimely adventure.

Members heard many more illuminating tales of some of the eccentric people of the past in Berkshire. They can all be found in a delightful book, published recently, by Mrs Millson, called "Tales of Old Berkshire".

On June 16 members

celebrated the Guild's birthday in true Jubilee fashion with the theme for the evening taking in the period between Elizabeth I and Elizabeth II. Mrs Marion Kitcher, chairman, welcomed Mrs M. Livingstone, Federation chairman, and many other guests.

Some members dressed in the costumes of Elizabeth I, Victoria and Queen Anne, whilst others dressed in costumes suited to the period mentioned.

The cake, made by Jan Brown, and decorated by Mrs Gosling, was cut by Mrs Durbin, who has been a T.G. member for 43 years. She joined the movement in Liverpool when there were only five Guilds in the United Kingdom.

A group from the Wokingham and West Forest T.G. presented the musical entertainment.

A pleasant evening trip on the Kennet and Avon Canal on June 27 was enjoyed by the Social Studies group.

At the Guild meeting on July 21 Mr E. Burkett talked about "The Life of a London Cabbie". He gave an interesting account of the strict procedure and tests a potential cabbie has to go through before being given a licence to operate. Mrs West gave the vote of thanks.

Forthcoming event: A Christmas Bazaar is being held on October 29 at St Andrew's Hall, Albert Road, Caversham Heights. The Arts and Crafts group has a very energetic and enthusiastic working party, and they have been meeting weekly during the past two years, making a variety of articles in readiness for the bazaar.

The Drama Group con-

tinued to have weekly meetings. They were hosts at a very successful "drama evening" which included two other Guilds, and one WI at St Andrew's Hall earlier in the year.

Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild

The excitement of expeditions came to life for members when, with the aid of slides, Mr Richard Snailham took them to the Blue Mountains of Jamaica to find Nanny Town.

The two faces of Jamaica were illustrated by the popular concept of tourism on the North Coast with its extensive beaches, and the rain forest hill and mountain peaks where the explorers were headed.

This presented extra problems of persistent rain and mud in which the party had to work to find the evidence they were seeking of the 18th century occupation of Nanny Town by the British Army after its capture from the native Maroons.

These had originated from the African slaves who farmed for the Spanish after they had invaded in the early 17th century and then fled when the British regained the island under Cromwell.

Mr Snailham was afterwards asked to judge TV snacks prepared by members for 25p. Surprising variety was achieved despite the economic climate.

Blagrave WI

Summer had come when the July Meeting was held, but even so some 30 members came along to the hall. The Competition for the Flower of the Month was very well supported and made an extremely colourful corner. Mrs M. Wright was the winner with a lovely rose. Mrs Haigh, the President, took the chair and was warmly welcomed after her sojourn in hospital.

The meeting followed the usual pattern and included a report on the National Federation Annual General Meeting in London by Miss D. Chapman, the Berkshire Denman College Representatives' Day held at the college, also by Miss D. Chapman, and on the Birthday Party of Rosehill WI by Miss M. Latham, which was much enjoyed by herself, Mrs Rawlings and Mrs Nicholls.

The speaker was Mr A. J. Clark who gave a very informative and interesting talk on the care of the mentally handicapped, and particularly his work at Borocourt Hospital.

A vote of thanks was given by Mrs Dean. The meeting ended with tea and scones. The tea hostesses were Mrs Wilkie and Miss M. Chapman.

Caversham Park WI

Mrs Olive Harris presided at the June meeting and welcomed two new members.

Mrs Thelma Castle gave an interesting and discriptive report on her visit to the Royal Albert Hall for the

Annual General Meeting.

Members were delighted to congratulate their Secretary, Miss Rosemary Powell, on receiving the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal for her work in the Health Service.

The competition for a decorated egg was won by Mrs Hilda MacKenzie with Mrs Betty Atherton second and Mrs Elsie Morris third.

At the meeting on September 15, there will be a demonstration on Artificial Flower Making, given by Mrs Thelma Castle.

The competition — An Artificial Flower.

Mapledurham WI

A garden party was held in Mrs Gillespie's garden in Chazey Road. The President wel-

comed visitors from Blagrave, Checkendon, Goring and Maplewood Institutes and, thanking Mrs Gillespie for her kind hospitality, presented her with a basket of peaches.

When the business of the meeting was concluded, the members were pleased to walk round and admire the lovely garden before tea, which was provided and served by the committee.

The flower of the month was won by Mrs Stacey, with Mrs Butler second.

Maplewood WI

The July meeting was presided over by Mrs K. Bubb, who introduced the guest speaker, Mr Leslie North, who gave a very interesting talk about "Caversham's History".

A lively discussion followed in which members added their own information and recollections of Caversham.

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CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE HOLIDAY CLUB

"... and now the Good News"

Starting on Monday, August 1, the Holiday Club attracted several boys and girls from the immediate surroundings of the church. The four age-groups concentrated on making a newspaper each of Good News based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

As the week progressed, the numbers grew, and the children took part in both the morning session in the West Memorial Institute and the afternoon session in the park, where games were played.

On Sunday, August 7, the children's work was on display in the church and the service was based on the theme "and now the Good News". The children also contributed to the service with singing and readings.

The week was enjoyed by all, and the Holiday Club gave children an opportunity to learn more about the good news of Jesus Christ.

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The Rev Martin Loveless, 25 Ikley Road. Tel. 472070.

The Rev Peter Sear, St Barnabas House, 33 Grove Road. Tel. 473095.

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BAPTISED

St Peter's
July 24: Gavin Potter
August 5: Andrew Hunt

St John's
July 31: Richard Garnett
Andrew Dourdil-Diniz

St Andrew's
July 3: Allan Turtill
July 10: Susanna Horton
July 31: Alexander Richardson

St Barnabas
June 5: Sarah-Jane Higgs
Helen Higgs
David Penfold
Sonia Fitzpatrick
July 31: Lawrence Newman

Caversham Park
May 29: Nathan Pardoe
Clare Thomas
Gareth Thomas
Jonathan Dobson
July 24: Matthew Barnes

St Anne's
July 17: James Gomes
Mary-Jo Wheeler

MARRIED

St Peter's
July 9: John Godber and Sally Wigmore, Paul Geehan and Alison Orr

July 16: Stephen Clamp and Deborah Spash, Garry McHale and Heather Ford, William McCagherty and Jane Ayres

July 23: Andrew Nicholson and Rosalind Harris
July 30: Philip Hill and Irene Schatunowski

St Andrew's
July 2: Michael Long and Christine Barnes
July 9: Anthony Buckley and Rosemary Jones
July 16: Christopher Dyson-Coope and Brigitte Bonnet
July 23: Colin Ballard and Sheila Cooper

St Barnabas'
July 30: Susan Anthony and Kenneth Plumb

St Anne's
July 23: Peter Kelly and Kathleen Bonney

Caversham Baptist Free Church
July 30: Janice Watts and Chris Ham

FUNERALS

St Peter's
July 14: Margaret Young
July 20: Lucy Harris
August 1: Harold Burton

St John's
July 14: Ellen Woodage

St Andrew's
August 5: Cyril Belfield-Smith

St Barnabas'
July 11: Evelyn Poole
July 25: Ronald Lewis

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SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN CAVERSHAM

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St Peter's — Balmore Hall, 11am (not 3rd Sunday of month).

St Andrew's — St Andrew's Hall, 11am (9.15 1st Sunday of month).

Superintendent: Mr J. Tomlin, 32-Kidmore Road. Tel. 473809.

St Barnabas' — Church Hall, 9.15am.

CAVERSHAM PARK

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

METHODIST

Caversham Heights — In Church, 11am.
Superintendent: Mrs P. Court, 6 Woodcote Road. Tel. 471445.

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BAPTIST

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

SUNDAY SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

ANGLICAN

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

St John's
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST
6.30 p.m. Evensong (1st and 4th Sundays)

St Andrew's
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST
11.15 a.m. Holy Communion
6.30 p.m. Evensong

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

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

NORTH CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

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

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

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

CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH (The School)

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

METHODIST

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

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

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Anne's
8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m., 7.00 p.m. Mass

Our Lady of Caversham
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St Martin's School
9.30 a.m. Mass

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