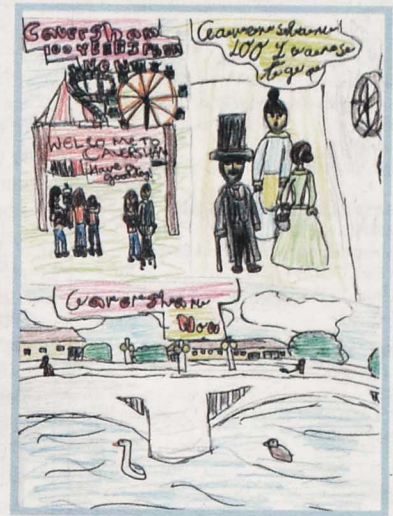
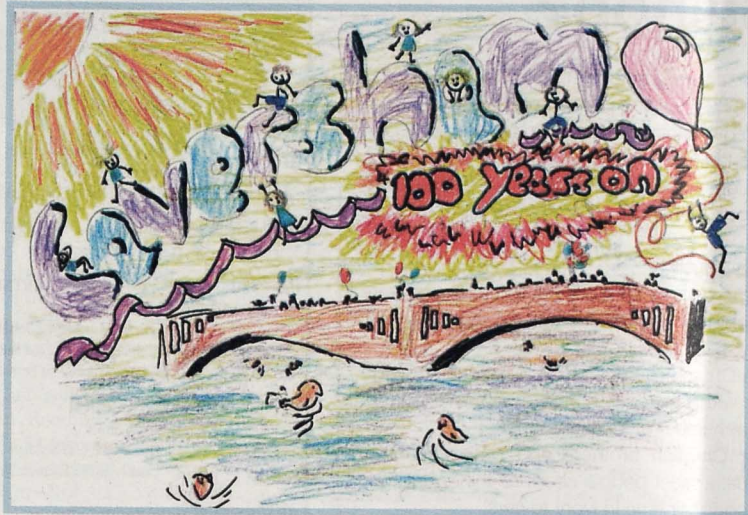


CAVERSHAM 100 YEARS ON



There was an excellent response to the logo competition with over 50 entries from primary schools and Brownie packs. St Martin's Catholic Primary School, Caversham Park had the winning entry and also a second entry which was highly commended for its historical detail. The overall standard was so high that, in addition to the winning entry, many others have been used to illustrate the new website, www.Caversham100yearsOn.org.uk. The number of partners to the project is now 33 and rising. More offers are coming in for events and exhibitions. The first event in the programme will follow the CADRA AGM at 7.30pm, Tuesday 5 April at Thameside School, when there will be an introduction to the project followed by a talk, 'Caversham Park and its Owners', courtesy of the BBC Monitoring Unit. Caversham Park has a long history. One interesting fact, for example, is that Charles I was taken there shortly before his execution. The meeting is open to non members and you may like to take the opportunity to join.

Lindsay's Quiz raises a bumper total



Once again local supporters, along with those from further afield, have helped Lindsay Mullaney to raise money for a good cause. This year's quiz was in aid of the Newman Holiday Trust, which provides holidays for children with special needs from disadvantaged families.

The total this year was £2400, an excellent result. Included in this was a generous donation of nearly £300 from the final performance of Caversham Theatre. Lindsay is particularly grateful to parishioners from St Peter's church who bought a record number of quiz sheets and to Deirdre Smith, of WordPlay Book and Toy shop, in Prospect Street, who was extremely supportive in promoting the quiz.

WordPlay once again hosted the prize-giving ceremony. The quiz was won by Elaine Farrand, from Earley. She is seen receiving her prize of an Oxford Dictionary and Thesaurus from Lindsay.

Also in the picture are John R Mullaney, Lindsay's son, who is a Newman Holiday Trust committee member and who accepted the money on behalf of the Trust, and Deirdre Smith, the proprietor of WordPlay



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OUR
READERS A
HAPPY
EASTER



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01627 581414

Caversham Clergy

ANGLICAN

Revd Derek Chandler, 20 St Barnabas Road.
Tel: 947 8239.

www.saintbarnabas.org.uk

Revd Nigel Jones, St Andrews Vicarage,
Harrogate Road. Tel: 947 2788

www.standrewscaversham.org

St Peter, St Margaret, St John
Revd Dan Tyndall
The Rectory, 20 Church Rd, Caversham RG4 7AD
Tel: 947 9505

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

Revd Jeremy Tear

St John's Vicarage, St John's Road,
Caversham RG4 5AN Tel: 946 2884

Revd Graeme Fancourt

18 St Peter's Avenue, Caversham RG4 7DD
Tel: 947 8450

Revd Marion Pyke

26 Priest Hill, Caversham RG4 7RZ Tel: 947 5834

CAVERSHAM PARK ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP

Revd Margaret Dimmick, 12 Lowfield Road,
Caversham Park. Tel: 947 0258

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

METHODIST TEAM MINISTRY

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

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

BAPTIST

Church Secretary Tel: 947 9772

GRACE CHURCH (formerly Caversham Hill Chapel)

Colin Gault. Tel: 948 4151

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Fr Giles Goward, The Presbytery,
2 South View Avenue.
Tel: 947 1787.

Deacon Mike Walker, Tel: 07786 836146

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

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Rev H R Gayle Tel: 946 3009 (contact)

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

Caversham Bridge

Contributions for the May 2011 issue should be sent to Caversham Thameside and Mapledurham Parish Office by Tuesday 5th April. The date for the June 2011 issue is Tuesday 3rd May 2011.

Email address as above.

Advertising copy for the May 2011 issue should be sent to Mr A Wright, Twigmoor, Upper Warren Avenue, Caversham, by Friday 1st April 2011. The date for the June 2011 issue is Friday 29th April 2011.

TALKING POINT

by

Dan Tyndall

What is the point of a Bishop?

Now that Bishop Stephen has taken up residence in Chelmsford and Bishop John has had time to think, pray and ponder, we are on the verge of welcoming the new Bishop of Reading into our midst. Andrew Proud is to be installed at a service later this month at St Mary Butts in the centre of Reading. It will be a great and grand occasion. It will be full of pomp and circumstance. Hopefully there'll be room for a bit of fun and laughter as well.

But ... what is the point of a bishop?

Historically, going back to the days of the early church, bishops were much more like parish priests: looking after, leading and teaching local groups of men and women who followed in 'the way'.

Ecclesiologically, within the Church of England as it is now, they are called to be the focus of unity within the church and to have oversight of a large (sometimes, very large) number of local churches.

Ecumenically, most of our Christian brothers and sisters manage without them; and, sociologically, most people seem to think that they live in ancient castles and spend their time in ivory towers.

So ... what is the point of a bishop?

For me, it is nothing more and nothing less than being a Brother in Christ (or, in some parts of the world, a Sister in Christ):

- in whom has been seen certain gifts, certain charisms, of leading and serving, of teaching and learning;
- who feels called by God and has had that calling affirmed by the church to the particular office and work of a bishop;
- who shows by word and deed, within a wide range of communities and churches, how to be a disciple:
 - o how to live by love amidst fear
 - o how to live by faith amidst certainty
 - o how to live with joy amidst cynicism
 - o how to live with hope amidst despair

Bishop Andrew will be in Caversham just days after his installation as Bishop of Reading when he leads the traditional Three Hours Service at St Peter Caversham on Good Friday, 22 April. The service will probably be made up of hymns, talks and periods of silence, though whoever leads this service is offered the freedom to use the time as they wish. Similarly, some of those who attend will remain for the whole service whilst other people will come and go as they need. The service begins at 12.00 noon, the time when, traditionally, Christ was crucified and ends as Christ dies at 3.00pm.

Dan Tyndall is Rector of Caversham Thameside and Mapledurham

SUNDAY SERVICES

ANGLICAN

St Peter's, St Peter's Hill

8.00am Holy Communion
9.45am Parish Communion
6.30pm Evensong

St John's, Gosbrook Road

10.00am Parish Communion

St Andrew's, Harrogate Road

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

St Barnabas, Grove Road, Emmer Green

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

St Margaret's, Mapledurham

11.00am Parish Communion

CAVERSHAM PARK ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP

Meeting at Caversham Park School

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

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

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

GRACE CHURCH Old Peppard Road

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

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN CAVERSHAM

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Gosbrook Road

10.30am and 6.30pm

Woodcote Parish Church

9.45am (second Sunday)

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Our Lady and St Anne's, Southview Avenue

Saturday 5.30pm,
Sunday 10.00am and 6.30pm

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

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers)

Church Street, Reading

10.30am

(House study groups Sept-June Tel: 9475783)

NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD

Church Street, Caversham

9.30am Sunday School
11.00am Divine Worship
6.00pm Evening Service

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

EDITORS: Mr Eric Chappell, Mr Alan Bradbury, Mr Philip DeVillie, Mrs Myra Emerson, Mrs Rhona Flower, Mrs J. Offord, Mrs Pat Williams.

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Tel: 947 3713

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

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

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GEORGE FOLLAND DAVIES 1922 – 2011



St Barnabas Church was full for the funeral of George Davies in mid-February. For the past 39 years, since moving to Emmer Green from Cambridge, George has been a very faithful member of the Church and active in the wider community. Born in Cardiff, he spent his early life there enjoying rugby, soccer and that symbolic Welsh vegetable, the leek. At the beginning of World War 2 he joined the Home Guard and in later life enjoyed "Dad's Army". In due course he served in the Royal Navy as a Petty Officer and his subsequent career was in telecommunications with BT.

Much of what George did was in partnership with his wife Gwynneth, also from Cardiff, whom he married in 1945 and predeceased him in 1995. After their arrival in Emmer Green they very quickly became part of the St Barnabas family at which time St Barnabas was part of the Parish of Caversham and he soon became a member of the Caversham PCC and the St Barnabas District Committee; when St Barnabas became a separate parish he continued to serve on the PCC until 1999.

For several years George and Gwynneth managed St Barnabas Hall, looking after the bookings, cleaning and any odd jobs. Indeed quiet service was their hallmark; they organised the coffee rota after church, often doing most of the work. This task paralleled their role in organising tea every Saturday afternoon for the families visiting prisoners in Reading Prison (now the Remand Centre), a task they carried out faithfully for 14 years until shortly before (sadly) Gwynneth died.

George's involvement did not stop there. He was Stewardship Recorder for several years, a member of a Fellowship Group at St Barnabas since its inception, general handyman around the church, always present on the tools stall at the annual Handyman Sale as part of the Church's effort for overseas mission. He was a Caversham Bridge distributor for 18 years.

In the wider community George served on the Emmer Green Residents' Association for many years and helped at the Sue Ryder Charity Shop in Emmer Green for 14 years. Despite increasing lameness he was regularly seen in Emmer Green on his "scooter".

This much loved man will be greatly missed in the locality, not least at St Barnabas where he was faithfully singing with gusto week by week. He enjoyed his garden, his food, golf and laughter and we were privileged to enjoy his company. We share the loss of his passing with his son Peter, daughters Ann and Jill and their families, including six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren to whom all those who knew George will wish to extend sympathy. He was indeed a great Christian soul.

Eric Smith memorial plaque dedication

More than 40 people gathered in St Peter's Church on 5th February for the dedication of a plaque in memory of Eric Smith, who died in August 2008. Eric worshipped at St Peter's for almost 40 years fulfilling several roles including that of churchwarden from 1991 to 1998.

Following that, he spent much time tending the churchyard keeping it neat and tidy for the enjoyment of all who passed by. Several years ago, with Mary his wife, he presented the clock which strikes out hourly from the church tower. So well does the clock blend with the building that many people think that it has been there much longer.

The memorial plaque was dedicated by the Revd Dan Tyndall in a moving, though informal service attended by family, friends and church members. Readings and tributes were given by Eric's three sons, Tony, Martin and Nigel and by Michael Crosbie, churchwarden at the same time as Eric. A hymn was sung and some of Eric's favourite music was played on the organ by Ian Westley.

All present stood silently as the clock struck 12 during the service. A floral tribute was placed beneath the plaque by Kathryn Smith, Eric and Mary's granddaughter, acknowledging Mary's loving and vital support in his life and her many years' service being responsible for the floral displays at St Peter's.

Refreshments were served after the service giving chance for everyone to mingle and share memories and anecdotes.

Fairtrade sales soar

Despite the tough economic times, sales of Fairtrade products soared by 40% in 2010 to reach £1.17 billion compared with £836 million in 2009.

The Fairtrade Foundation, which awards the Fairtrade label, says that every day in Britain we consume 9.3 million cups of Fairtrade tea, 6.4 million cups of Fairtrade coffee, 2.3 million chocolate bars, 530,000 cups of Fairtrade drinking chocolate and 3.1 million Fairtrade bananas.

Over 1 million cosmetic products using Fairtrade ingredients were also sold in 2010. This has opened up new opportunities for producers.

Juliana Sampana, a shea nut gatherer from the Akoma Co-operative in Ghana, which has recently started selling shea butter into the Fairtrade cosmetics market, says: 'The women who are from poor communities like Pusu-Namogo are blessed. Many women in our region and elsewhere have over the years worked so hard to put food on the tables for their families through farming and other odd jobs but end up with an unfair income leading to several deficiencies as a result of poor dieting. The majority of their money is spent on treating deficiency-related illnesses such as kwashiorkor, beriberi and skin rashes. With Fairtrade the women are assured of receiving a fair wage for their hard work.'

With the Fairtrade premiums they have now earned, the women have been able to provide health insurance as well as buy school uniforms for their children. Juliana visited Britain during Fairtrade Fortnight in March to speak at the fortnight's events.

An increasing range of Fairtrade products is now available in local shops and from Fairtrade stalls in our churches.

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From the Lookout Post

CADRA AGM

The Caversham and District Residents' Association annual general meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 5th April, at Thameside School on Harley Road (from Gosbrook Road, turn into Wolsey Road). There is some parking at the school or it is a short walk from the Waitrose car park. Following the brief AGM business, there will be an introduction to the programme, 'Caversham 100 years on', followed by a talk on Caversham Park including the history of the park, the houses and their owners. Thanks are due to BBC Monitoring for providing speakers and material. Non members are also welcome and will be able to join at the meeting.

Planning policy

In the light of revised government policies, the Council have produced a fresh draft of the document which sets out detailed policies for deciding planning applications, identifying sites for future development, and protecting land from development over a 15 year period. Changes include new local policies on development of private residential gardens, the protection of local heritage and a revised proposals map and sustainability appraisal. All of these have great relevance for Caversham as individual planning applications come forward.

The consultation period lasts from 21st February to 4th April 2011. Full copies of the documents can be viewed on the council website. The page can most easily be found from a link on www.cadra.org.uk or you can enter: <http://www.reading.gov.uk/environmentandplanning/planning/localplanningpolicy/localdevelopmentframework/General.asp?id=SX9452-A7849023>

Public exhibitions were held around Reading, including in Caversham Library, shortly after the copy deadline for this column.

Bus changes

In preparation for the re-construction of Reading Station the council are making alterations to bus routes in the centre of Reading. All buses will be removed from Station Hill and re-routed into Friar Street and Station Road. All buses between Caversham and the town centre will use Vastern Road. When the station works are complete there will be new stops for buses from Caversham close to the new northern entrance to the station.

Currently Station Road, Reading is closed for road works so buses have been re-routed for the duration of the works. Some buses are using a temporary stop outside Apex Plaza adjacent to Reading station. In addition St Mary's Butts is being resurfaced and this is affecting bus services. Station Road is due to reopen on 17 April. There will then be a major switch in town centre traffic flows, scheduled to go live on 18 April with the overall works due to be completed by May 2011.

Look out for other road works for Thames Water to replace the Victorian water mains in central Reading. This is a £2.7 million project, scheduled for completion in August 2011. It will include Caversham Road and The Forbury.

Local Transport Plan

Consultation for the Reading Local Transport Plan (LTP3) for 2011-2026 closed on 12 November 2010 and the results were reported to Cabinet on 17 January 2011. Comments from neighbouring councils, residents and other local and national organizations were received and amendments made to the draft for consideration by the full council. LTP3 is a statutory requirement and must be approved by council so that it can come into effect in April 2011.

Each year the council produces an Implementation Plan for the Local Transport Plan (LIP). The LIP sets out the programme for the next three years with an outline for subsequent years. The draft LIP was also reported to Cabinet on 17 January 2011. The three tables that outline the plan have been withheld until the budget has been set and will define the programme for the next financial year.

You will find links to the documents from www.cadra.org.uk.

Local traffic Lights

As part of the review of traffic lights across the town, the lights at the junction of Westfield Road and Gosbrook Road were removed at the end of February. The junction of All Hallows Road with Henley Road is still under review.

Mapledurham Pavilion

The 2009/10 accounts for the above show a net revenue cost to Reading Borough Council, who are the Trustees, amounting to over £36,000 for the year.

In addition to the Management Committee a new group known as the Sports Users Changing Facilities Bidding Team has been established to explore any grants available from sports bodies such as the Football Foundation.

Another new group known as the Fundraising Team has been set up to motivate local support to raise the money necessary to bridge the gap between the funds available to build either a modular prefabricated building with modern sports facilities and a small meeting/function room, or a larger version with a hall similar in size to the existing one.

Both groups are supported by officers from Reading Borough Council and our local councillors. The tennis club is considering a number of options for its future accommodation.

The council holds £100,000 of Section 106 monies from local developments earmarked for a replacement pavilion. This, together with the £50,000 generously donated by Festival Republic gives £150,000 which it is hoped can be matched by grants from sports orientated organisations. However, the cost of the smaller new build option is estimated at £450,000 giving a shortfall of at least £150,000 and the larger new build option would give a significantly higher shortfall to be funded.

If you would like to be involved or contribute please contact Carolyn.Jenkins@reading.gov.uk



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Join us to celebrate St Andrew's Centenary!

St Andrew's church in Caversham is planning a fortnight of events to celebrate the centenary of its consecration on April 29th 1911.

As more houses were built on Caversham Heights, residents started a fund to build a local church in 1909. Grass did not grow under their feet! A 22-strong building committee was set up and building of the new church started in 1910, with completion within a year. It cost just over £5500. Around the church today you can see the names of benefactors in windows and memorials.

Since then, St Andrew's has been the centre for worship for many local people and been important to many families as the scene of christenings, marriages, and funeral services, as well as everyday worship. In 1924 the foundation stone was laid for the original hall, a modest building, now called the small hall. The large hall was built in 1961, allowing for much larger gatherings. When the cloister link was built in 2006, the congregation was very happy to be able to walk straight from the back of the church to the hall, no longer having to battle through cold, wind and rain for cups of tea and coffee!

As part of the centenary celebrations, there will be an exhibition of photos and memorabilia collected from members of the congregation past and present. It will be open from the evening of Wednesday 27th April until 8 May, and will give a fascinating glimpse into local life, celebrations and fetes of the past.

What's going on?

During the fortnight of celebrations the highlight will be a Dedication Service led by the Bishop on Sunday 1st May. For a full programme of events please look at the St Andrew's website <http://www.standrews.caversham.org/centenary>. We start with a parish walk to Mapledurham on Easter Monday, then tea, when we return, in the church hall. The tea urns will be busy, with history and art exhibitions, a viewing of the Royal Wedding, a concert by the Reading Male Voice Choir with the Caversham Primary School Choir, and an organ concert given by Paul Manley.

Double Anniversary in Song

Two anniversaries will be celebrated in one evening when the Reading Male Voice Choir visit St Andrew's Church, Caversham, on Saturday 7th May at 7.30pm.

The concert is the finale of a festive fortnight of events celebrating the church's centenary.

News from Our Lady and St Anne's Parish

For the last few months, the St Anne's parish Youth Group has been running various events to raise funds for a trip to World Youth Day in Madrid next summer. Our latest event was a Salsa evening on the 29th of January. The event was organised over a period of many months, and it was a big challenge for us to fit the organisation around our busy timetables - which included school commitments and January A-level exams. In the end, the night was a huge success and we raised over £1000 from tickets, drinks and a raffle. This would not have been possible without the hard work and generosity of every member of the group and the help received from friends, family and local businesses. We have since moved on to new fundraising events such as the auction of a very valuable

This year also marks the 40th anniversary of the choir, which will be conducted by their founder and musical director, Gwyn Arch. Also Caversham Primary School choir, conducted by Helen Willis, will be singing a selection of songs about our infinitely variable weather.

As a climax to the concert the audience will hear the special sound of men's and children's voices raised together. Gwyn Arch says: "It's very rare that 80-year-olds and eight-year-olds can do the same thing at the same time and do it with equal enjoyment and mutual respect." The concert will include songs from opera, shows, gospel, folk and much more.

Tickets costing £10 (£8 concessions and under 16 free) including refreshments are available from Regula Adams on 0118 947 4166 or from WordPlay in Prospect Street, Caversham.

Spend Time at This Time - Contemporary Art Exhibition

This year's contemporary art exhibition in St Andrew's falls in the middle of the centenary activities. This is the third year of the exhibition in which contemporary art works are placed in the church. For the 2011 exhibition the theme is "This Time", and six to eight Reading based artists will take part.

This Time is a contemporary art exhibition in a religious space, and not a religious art exhibition.

Enjoy fine organ music

Paul Manley was St Andrew's organist for a number of years, and we are glad to welcome him back for a recital on Wednesday 4 May, starting at 7.30pm. He is now spending a year at Chichester Cathedral, before becoming an organ scholar in Oxford next October. Tickets are priced £10 on the door, £8 in advance and for concessions, under 16s free. Tickets can be bought from Regula Adams on 0118 947 4166 or contact regulaadams@btinternet.com



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CHURCHES

Good Friday at St Peter's Caversham

Just a few days after his Installation as Bishop of Reading, the Rt Rev Andrew Proud will be in Caversham on one of the most significant days of the church year.

It is the custom at St Peter's Caversham to hold a service on Good Friday for the whole of the three hours that, traditionally, we understand Jesus to have been on the cross. The service is led by one person who chooses a theme and gives a number of talks around that theme.

This year, Good Friday falls on April 22 and Bishop Andrew is to be the preacher for our Three Hours service which will start at 12.00noon. It is open to anyone of any denomination or faith, and particularly to those who would like to get to know a bit about our next bishop.

Bishop Andrew comes to Reading from Ethiopia where he was an area bishop from 2007. Before that he was chaplain at St Matthew's in Addis Ababa for five years, after serving in four parishes in the Chelmsford and St Albans dioceses for over twenty years.

It is not surprising to learn that one of his great interests is Africa and African affairs. He also enjoys a wide taste in music, likes to cook, to write narrative poetry and walk in vast open spaces. Andrew is married to Janice, a plant physiologist, and they have two grown-up children and a granddaughter.

ST BARNABAS CHURCH - FISH AND CHIP SUPPER

It is said that laughter is the best medicine and certainly much mirth and merriment were in evidence at the annual Fish and Chip supper held at the end of February in St Barnabas Church Hall. After the customary meal, the audience settled back to witness a variety of talent from within the congregation. The proceedings were gently guided through with good humour by the Master of Ceremonies who had stepped into that particular role for the first time. The cornucopia of entertainment included duets, a solo, an adaptation for the clarinet of music from Buggy Malone, a sketch and a monologue written as

a tribute by a former member of the congregation to someone who has now moved away from the area. However, the *piece de resistance* was the pantomime Robin Hood which was performed by a group of young people from within the church. Their confidence was comparable to some professional performers and the costumes reflected the skill of a talented seamstress. The evening showed evidence of teamwork both in front and behind the scenes. To list those who had contributed to make the occasion such an enjoyable success would be to risk overlooking someone, but you all know who you are.



Photo John Nutton

Mothering Sunday - 3rd April

St Barnabas Church Emmer Green is holding an informal all age family service at 9.30am to celebrate and give thanks for mothers.

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Whether any of these interests will be explored as part of his preaching on Good Friday, only time will tell. Come along and find out .. and bring your family and friends. You may attend all or part of the service. Regular opportunities will be given during the singing of hymns to enter or leave the service.

Good Friday, Three Hours, 12.00noon, St Peter's Caversham with the Bishop of Reading.

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CHURCHES

EASTER SERVICES IN CAVERSHAM

St Andrew

Palm Sunday	10am	Sung Eucharist
Monday in Holy Week	7.30pm	Quiet Hour
Tuesday in Holy Week	7.30pm	Taizé service
Wednesday in Holy Week	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross
Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Last Supper & Eucharist (need to book in advance)
Good Friday	2.00pm	Liturgy of the Cross (1 hour)
Easter Eve	9.00pm	The Fire, the Vigil and the Easter Liturgy
Easter Day	10.00am	All-Age Eucharist

St Margaret, Mapledurham

Palm Sunday	11.00am	Holy Communion and giving of Palm Crosses with The Passion readings from St Marks Gospel
Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Passover Supper in Trench Green Hall
Good Friday	11.00am	Meditation on The Stations of the Cross (about 30minutes) followed by an Easter Walk and Picnic returning to Mapledurham by 3pm
Easter Day	11.00am	Easter Holy Communion

Caversham Park LEP

Tuesday in Holy Week	7.30pm	Passover Meal at St Barnabas Centre
Wednesday in Holy Week	10.30am	House Communion led by Jenny Dowding at 3 Almond Drive
Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Foot-washing service led by Paula Andrews at 5 Gifford Close
Good Friday	11.00am	Good Friday meditation led by Heather Wilson at 15 Northbrook Rd
	2.00pm	Afternoon event at St Barnabas led by Margaret and Robert Dimmick
Easter Eve	morning	Hymn singing at St Martin's Precinct
Easter Day	11.00am	Easter Day communion led by Heather Wilson at Caversham Park School
	3.30pm	Easter Hymn Café at Milestone Centre

St John the Baptist

Palm Sunday	10.00am	Parish Communion (with procession of palms)
Tuesday in Holy Week	7.30pm	Holy Communion
Wednesday in Holy Week	9.00am	Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion
Good Friday	10.00am	All Age service
Easter Day	10.00am	All Age service

St Barnabas

Good Friday	2.00pm-3.00pm	Good Friday Reflection
Easter Day	5.15am	Dawn Eucharist
	8.00am	Said Communion
	9.30am	Parish Communion

St Peter

Palm Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.45am	Festal Eucharist with Parade from Caversham Court
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong
Monday in Holy Week	9.30am	Holy Communion
Tuesday in Holy Week	9.30am	Holy Communion

Wednesday in Holy Week	9.30am	Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday	8.00pm	Eucharist and stripping of the altar, followed by a vigil until midnight
Good Friday	12 noon	Three hours devotion with the Rt Rev'd Andrew Proud, Bishop of Reading
Easter Eve	8.00pm	Tenebrae, a Service of light and darkness
Easter Day	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Easter Day	9.45am	Festal Eucharist
	6.30pm	Festal Evensong

Grace Church

10 April	10.30 - 11.45am	Easter Celebration Family Service
Good Friday	10.30-11.30am	Good Friday Communion Service
Easter Day	10.30-11.45am	Easter Sunday Celebration

New Testament Church of God

Good Friday	11.00am	Morning Service
Easter Saturday	7.00pm	Baptism Service
Easter Day	11.00am	Morning Service

Caversham Baptist Church

Maundy Thursday	8.00pm	Evening Worship at 191, Kidmore Road
Good Friday	10.30am	Joint Service with the Methodist Churches at Caversham Heights Methodist Church
Easter Day	10.30am	Morning Worship at South Street
Easter Day	6.30pm	Evening Worship at 191, Kidmore Road

Our Lady and St. Anne, Caversham

Palm Sunday	10.00am	Mass
	6.30pm	Mass
Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday	12.00	Children's Stations
	3.00pm	Liturgy of the Passion
	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Holy Saturday	10.30am	Morning Prayer
Holy Saturday	8.00pm	Solemn Easter Vigil
Easter Day	10.00am	Mass
	6.30pm	Mass

St Michael's, Sonning Common

Palm Sunday	9.00am	Mass
	10.30am	Mass
Monday in Holy Week	7.00pm	Service of Reconciliation
Maundy Thursday	7.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
		Watching at the Altar of Repose until 10 pm
Good Friday	10.00am	Walk of Witness from Christ the King Sedgewell Rd
	11.30am	Stations of the Cross
	3.00pm	Solemn Liturgy
Holy Saturday	9.00pm	Vigil and First Mass of Easter
Easter Day	9.00am	Mass
	10.30am	Mass

Caversham Methodist Churches

Maundy Thursday (at Caversham Heights)	7.00pm	Passover Supper and Holy Communion (book in advance)
Good Friday (at Caversham Heights)	10.30am	United Free Church Service
(at Gosbrook Road)	7.30pm	Meditation - led by Deacon Becky
Easter Sunday Gosbrook Road	10.30am	Morning Worship and Holy Communion at Caversham Heights
	6.30pm	
Caversham Heights	8.00am	Holy Communion followed by Easter breakfast
	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	United Service with Gosbrook Road

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ENVIRONMENT**Local conservation News**

Friends of Clayfield Copse spent several hours clearing brambles from the bluebell areas of Blackhouse Woods. Not a pleasant job, but one that has to be done every year to ensure a good display of bluebells. Friends hope to have a bluebell walk in April and possibly a tree walk later. Look for details on the Econet website or the St Martins Precinct board.

Friends of Mapledurham Playing Fields have replaced a few stakes that were missing from the newly planted orchard and are pleased with the new board up there with information about the fruit trees. The trees will need watering later in the year and Friends hope to have a system up and ready for that. More bramble clearance was needed around the young trees planted by Brownies near the Elm Shaw last year.

CROW, the Reading midweek volunteers, have been down at the Kings Meadow willow beds, harvesting the many coloured stems for use by local willow workers and gardeners..



The products from the willow beds will be in evidence at the bean pole day at Caversham Court Gardens on Saturday 30 April. This day is to promote local environmentally friendly garden products. As well as bean poles and willow plant supports, there will be stalls including Ways & Means and Caversham Horticultural Society selling plants and a swap plant & seed stall. Friends of Caversham Court will do

CORRESPONDENCE*Councillor Fred Pugh writes:*

In your March issue, *Ex Libris* criticised the withdrawal of Reading council's grant to RCRE. He claims to present both sides of the story, but seems to have swallowed the propaganda from RCRE without talking to the councillors. The fact is that RCRE, having done very good work over the years, has been coasting for the last three or four. Some of its work has been taken over by the Citizens' Advice Bureau, and all of it could be delivered by other agencies.

And please don't put all the blame on the coalition now running Reading. The RCRE immigration work was transferred to CAB by the previous Labour administration two years ago, and they were planning to cut the funding still further if they had remained in power.

Although the core grant has been withdrawn, the RCRE still enjoys rent-free accommodation in a new office near the town centre. This was purchased by the council specifically for them, and is worth £35,000 pa. The council has also continued the grant of £22,500pa for a further six months to Alafia, which is run by RCRE, and supports children with disabilities and their carers. RCRE will be invited to engage in the bidding process for a new contract beyond the six months.

There are many other ways RCRE could seek funding, such as sub-letting some of their office space potentially raising £25,000pa. This is allowed for in the lease agreement. The previous tenant left some time ago and RCRE have not looked for a new one. They cannot just sit back and let Reading Council fund them year after year, with less and less to show for it.

Editors' note: Ex Libris welcomes robust comments. Readers may also like to visit www.rcrc.org/index.shtml for further information.

Date of publication of the May issue

Since there are three Bank Holidays between 25th April and 1st May the editors regret that the May issue will not be printed until 3rd May at the earliest. It is anticipated that copies will be available by that weekend.

guided tours of the gardens and allotments, RSPB will bring a stand, BBOWT are doing a 'bio-Blitz' to see what's there, the tea shop will be open, and there will be children's exploring nature activities. Proceeds from stalls will go towards supporting local conservation volunteers and local sustainable crafts.

More info www.econetreading.org.uk

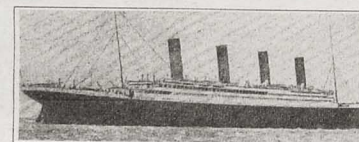
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on the 99th anniversary of the sinking of the *Titanic* an illustrated talk by Michael Naxton, maritime historian, entitled **Titanic, Myths and Mysteries** will take place at the Church of Our Lady and St Anne, Southview Avenue.

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ENVIRONMENT**TOOTHWORT**

The island of Great Britain has been fairly well botanised for a long time, and I sometimes find it interesting to look at written records to see how long wild plants have been found growing in the same place. Of course, an expert botanist with a microscope can look at the remains of pollen grains trapped in the earth, and tell what was growing where for thousands of years back.

It's interesting to see how non-native plants have spread, sometimes from a single identifiable place, and it is sometimes sad to find that plants which were once common are now rare or wiped out from a particular area, for whatever reason.

My finding this, one of the strangest of our native plants, in 2009, by a path next to a golf course just north of Caversham, had me turning up the local records at Reading central library. It had been many years since I had last seen Toothwort, in the Manifold Valley in the Peak District.

George Claridge Druce, author of the 1897 *flora of Berkshire*, doesn't mention Toothwort as growing anywhere in the county. Maybe this isn't surprising, since at the time Caversham was well and truly in Oxfordshire. Moving on to the little book, compiled by members of the Reading Natural History Society, *The Flowering Plants, Ferns, &c. of the Country round Reading*, published in 1900, I found two locations given – Caversham and Pangbourne. This society, from the 1950s onward, published its records in an annual journal, *The Reading Naturalist*, and from this it appears that the plant has been found along the same path on a number of occasions for the last 50-odd years! It has also turned up at nearby Chambers Copse.

As soon as you see Toothwort, it strikes you as being bizarre and slightly repulsive. The plant has no chlorophyll, and in colour it's somewhere between pink, yellow, purple and greyish-white, changing as it grows up and then withers away. No wonder that in Yorkshire they call it the Corpse Flower! It hasn't any leaves either – just fleshy scales, shaped a bit like teeth, hence the name, according to the textbooks.

Like the Broomrapes, to which it is related, Toothwort is a parasite. When I saw it near here, it was living on an old hedge, of the kind which must once have had elms in it, but now had only spindly suckers of elm, and a lot of dead wood. It was towards the end of May, and for the most part the plants were dried up and brown and hard to see among the leaf litter. The flowers had dried to a papery white, and from a distance resembled sets of dentures – maybe another reason for the plant being called Toothwort.

April is the best time to see it in flower and if not exactly beautiful, it's certainly curious. I see from *The Reading Naturalist* that there's a showier and even more rare related plant, the Purple Toothwort, which sometimes turns up among the old trees in Prospect Park. Now there's a challenge for me in April 2011!

Happy Wanderer

April in Caversham Court

Spring in Caversham Court is always beautiful with the spring bulbs in the borders and down the steps from St Peter's churchyard. The fresh green of the new leaves is magical and if it is a mild season the first of the wisteria may be showing signs of flowering before the end of the month. In addition, there are events for everyone taking place in Caversham Court!

On Easter Saturday 23 April, between 2pm and 4pm, the Friends of Caversham Court Gardens are organising an Easter Egg trail based on a wildlife trail, so bring your children, your grandchildren and your friends' children. Younger children will enjoy it most, though very young ones will need a little adult help! There will be a small Easter Egg for all competitors. Entry is free, but donations to the Friends of Caversham Court Gardens will be appreciated.

The Friends' volunteer guides will be welcoming visitors to Caversham Court on Sunday May 1, between 2.30 and 5pm. As on each first Sunday from April to October, they will be on hand to answer questions about the gardens and offer tours to all who are interested. Tours are free and no booking is required – so come with your friends, neighbours and visitors!

The tea kiosk will be serving their delicious refreshments five afternoons a week, Wednesdays to Sundays from Thursday, March 31. This year they will be opening earlier, at 11am, so come and enjoy the wonderful vista over the gardens and support local charities.

Look out for further information about the St Peter's Royal Wedding picnic and, on the following day, the Econet Spring event: beanpoles and more, between 11am and 3pm on Saturday April 30.



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St Peter's Wives Group

Mary Bryant spoke at the February meeting. We thoroughly enjoyed her account of an epic cycling trip around the world that she undertook with her husband, Warren, in 2002, to 'live their dream', when she was 58, overweight and unfit.

They were away for two years and Mary became slimmer and fitter as the miles passed! They started their journey on the Dover to Calais ferry and then rode 1000 miles down to Marseille. From there they rode through Italy, Corfu, Greece and Turkey, eventually reaching Istanbul in the snow. They managed to get to India for the winter visiting the Golden Triangle of Delhi, Jaipur and Agra, spending Christmas Day at the Taj Mahal. After a 38-hour 'express' train journey to Goa, they went south, and across to Sri Lanka, and then on to Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Japan.

Mary showed photographs of the places they had visited and told fascinating stories of their experiences. In all they cycled 9,000 miles, and visited 15 countries in three continents.

Our next meeting will be at Church House on Tuesday, 19 April at 8.00pm. when Tony King will talk about 'Things we cannot do without'.

New members and visitors are always welcome.

Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild

In February we shared hilarious memories of the 20th century with Kate Bradford and also paid our annual visit to the Mill at Sonning for a play and a dinner.

March was our AGM with cheese and wine.

In April we look forward to some art, with Christin Helen Auth, who will give a presentation of oil painting.

The Guild usually meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm at St Andrew's church hall. Unfortunately we have had to change this to Wednesday the 20th April, and Wednesday 18th May, but thereafter we will be back to our regular slot of the third Thursday of the month.

Visitors and new members are always very welcome

Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild

The February meeting of the guild began on a sad note with the announcements of the deaths of two former long serving members and the closing of the Guild, because falling membership, age and infirmity and the lack of new, younger members means we can no longer form a strong working committee.

The speaker for the final meeting was Mr Tony King who took us through the growth of shopping, beginning with the Great Exhibition of 1851, the development of the railways and the explosion of Victorian inventions and entrepreneurs. The Victorian Age produced a wealth of firsts such as plate glass shop windows, advertising (especially glamour advertising) public toilets and browsing without buying. The Great Exhibition saw the birth of consumerism as we know it today. Mr King's talk, backed up with slides, was much enjoyed. Julia Perry gave the vote of thanks.

Caversham WI

Nursing in the 50s was the subject of Mrs Jean Dyer's talk to members. The fascinating title *Every fork, every bottle* became clear when she explained that everything had to be counted at the end of the day shift. Mrs Dyer also worked as a midwife in London so that produced more interesting stories. The meeting ended with a raffle and reminders of future events. We meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Church House and would welcome any new members.

Rosehill WI

After conducting the business part of the meeting, Brenda Caborn introduced the speaker Pauline Salter and her Pyrenean Mountain dog to talk about *Pets as Therapy*, a charity started in 1983 by Mrs Scott-Ordish who was also involved with Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. Since *Pets as Therapy* started, 23,000 dogs and cats have been registered and there are about 4600 active pets visiting hospitals, nursing homes and schools for children with special needs. The visits by both dogs and cats are a great help to patients who have become very withdrawn and can start some people talking. It has been proved that just stroking a dog will reduce blood pressure. Members really enjoyed this talk and making a fuss of the beautiful dog Carla afterwards.

Meetings are held at St Barnabas Church Hall on the first Wednesday of the month starting at 2pm. Visitors are very welcome.

Caversham & Chiltern Flower Club

Caversham & Chiltern Flower Club is holding an evening of *Fun with Flowers*. Once again a hands-on session is being organised for Wednesday 13th April, and all that is required of those attending is a pair of scissors! The Club will provide all materials. These evenings are very popular and greatly enjoyed by all, as they provide an opportunity to chat as one works. All visitors are very welcome. Entrance fee is £4.50. A bookstall, plants stall, sales table and refreshments will be available. The venue, as always, is Caversham Heights Methodist Church and the fun starts at 7.30pm - doors opening 6.45pm. For further information contact Berna Macdonald on 0118 9477400.

Reading & District Probus

It was 'Any Moans and Groans' time again (otherwise known as the AGM) when the old guard were due for retirement. Not so. They were again returned en bloc (nothing new there then). The president, Charles Tucker, then relinquished his collar of office and installed Mike Hewitt, the new president, into the hot seat for the year ahead.

Committee members, especially the secretary and the speakers' secretary, David Laird, who arranges the programme for up to 6 months ahead, were thanked. Subjects to come are very varied: tuberculosis - the threat ahead; WAMSDAD; Rudolf Hess cover up; global warming; coaching in townships (whether this is with coach and horses or teachers and pupils is anybody's guess).

If any retired men take a fancy to any of these and a Monday off once a month at Probus, contact the secretary, Raymond Head on 0118 941 1445 or raymond-head@supernet.com

Caversham Heights Society

Since the last report, the Society has enjoyed two excellent and contrasting talks. Dr Chris Conti gave an insight into the Gold industry, with a description of how the gold is mined, turned into exquisite jewellery and now helps in the field of medicine and science. David Barber, Swan Marker to the Queen since 1993, took us through the annual ceremony of Swan Upping and showed the delight school children experience when attending this annual event with the opportunity to meet Her Majesty.

A report on Mass Hassan's talk on Water Aid will appear in the next issue and the season will end with another visit to Caversham Heights Society from Martin Salter who spoke to us in 2002 on his early experiences as a Reading MP.

The last outing of the season is to Layer Marney Tower, farm and gardens, a Tudor palace, near Colchester, Essex with buildings, gardens and parkland dating from 1520. There are still spaces for this day out so do contact Jill on 959 5307 if you would like to come. It will be a fascinating visit.

The Royal British Legion - Caversham Branch

In 1921 several ex-service organisations united to form the British Legion, a comprehensive welfare organisation to help ex-service personnel and their families. The perception that the Legion helps only old (in the sense of age and previous wars) soldiers is far from the truth. With all the conflicts since the end of World War II, the Legion tries to help personnel and families that have suffered. During the 20th century and up to date, there has only been one year when a person on active service has not been killed. The injuries suffered by our current service personnel can be horrific and their lives are changed forever.

With the advance of science and medicine many more survive terrible injuries and they and their families need on-going support. With this in mind the Caversham branch is putting on several events during 2011 to mark the 90th Anniversary and to highlight the permanent need for support. The branch raises a lot of money - the 2010 Poppy Appeal is topping £38,000 thanks to the generosity of Caversham people. As a branch we take fundraising and help seriously but we also have occasions which are light-hearted and help our own members enjoy a full social life.

In February members enjoyed a superb menu at the Peking Palace put on just for them, and in March the usual social took place with a visit from 'Chocolates for Chocoholics'. In April members are going to visit the Clarks Outlet Village and Minehead. At the beginning of May the branch will be holding a lunch for its 90plus year-olds to celebrate the Royal Wedding and 90th anniversary of the Legion.

Want to know more about the Legion, especially in Caversham? Ring either Ron 948 1147 or Pauline 947 5345.

The editors regret that, because of the amount of space available this month, all club reports have been condensed.

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NOTICES IN BRIEF**Caversham Horticultural Society**

Learn how to brighten up your garden by growing sweet peas. The society's first talk of the year, on this subject, will be given by gardening expert Graham Talbot at Caversham Primary School on Wednesday 20th April starting at 7.45pm. The society always welcomes new members.

Details about it can be found on the website www.caversham-horticultural.org.uk. To join please contact the membership secretary by email membership@caversham-horticultural.org.uk or phone 947 0510.

Concerts in April
(for full details see the March issue)

9th April Parenthesis 7.30pm at St Andrew's Church, Caversham
16th April South Chiltern Choral Society 7.30pm at the Falklands Chapel Pangbourne College.

A Breakage

The glass slid off my kitchen table and crashed to the floor, landing in a thousand fragments. There was nothing to be done but to sweep it up into the bin.

Amazingly God hasn't discarded the Christian Church in all its thousand fragments, but continues to use it in marvellous ways. We as individuals aren't responsible for these divisions, arriving as we do in a world burdened with a lot of baggage from Christendom's long history. But what should we do with it?

A few years ago I decided to participate in as many churches' Sunday worship services as possible, over a period of a couple of months. The welcome I received in each church was warm and friendly and I was thrilled to discover the genuine presence of Christ in each. Some elements in each were helpful in my own worship, whether it was spontaneity in prayer or a true feeling of family or an atmosphere of awe in the presence of God.

The style of music, the role of the clergy and the prominence of the Lord's Supper or Eucharist – all were different, but all had something to contribute to my appreciation of the whole church in Caversham. I commend wholeheartedly a similar dipping of one's toes into the range of Caversham churches by making an experiment as I describe either on one's own or in a very small group.

As I come to the end of my five years as secretary of Churches Together in Caversham, I'd like to offer what I have learned of the nature of the church and of the local churches in particular. I wouldn't advocate physically reuniting the churches after all this time, at least not in the foreseeable future. But far more important is an attitude of mutual tolerance, of co-operation and dare I say of love. Each year we do indeed work together to deliver Christmas cards to the whole neighbourhood and we collect cash together for the world's needy at the time of Christian Aid Week. Other opportunities for Christian fellowship are the united services held twice a year. I urge those reticent about attending a service in an unfamiliar building to take advantage of this means for Christ's presence to be known to them.

There's one way of putting the glass perfectly back together again – take a film of it breaking and then play it backwards! A virtual reconstruction, no less. However God can actually use us, His church, in our divided state. So join in the action. Try coming to a study group in Lent, if it's something you've never embarked on previously. Contact John Madeley (947 6063) to take part. Get to know some other Christian believers and know the joy of fuller Christian fellowship.

Sylvia Chumbley

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