



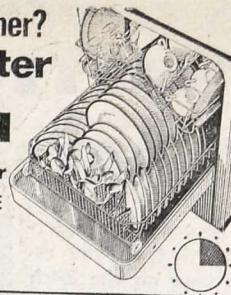
CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

NOVEMBER 1970

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MODERN MAN *the clever loser*

Our problems get smaller, it seems; our lives pleasanter, easier. The surgeon's skill does apparent miracles. Science and technology beat famine, cut down domestic drudgery, root out slums. Education opens up new opportunities. Travel gets faster, easier. Certainly we're clever.

And we are.

Social workers cope with problem families and old people. Local authorities and voluntary organisations work to crack the housing problem, to tackle drug addiction. Young volunteers and government aid help developing countries.

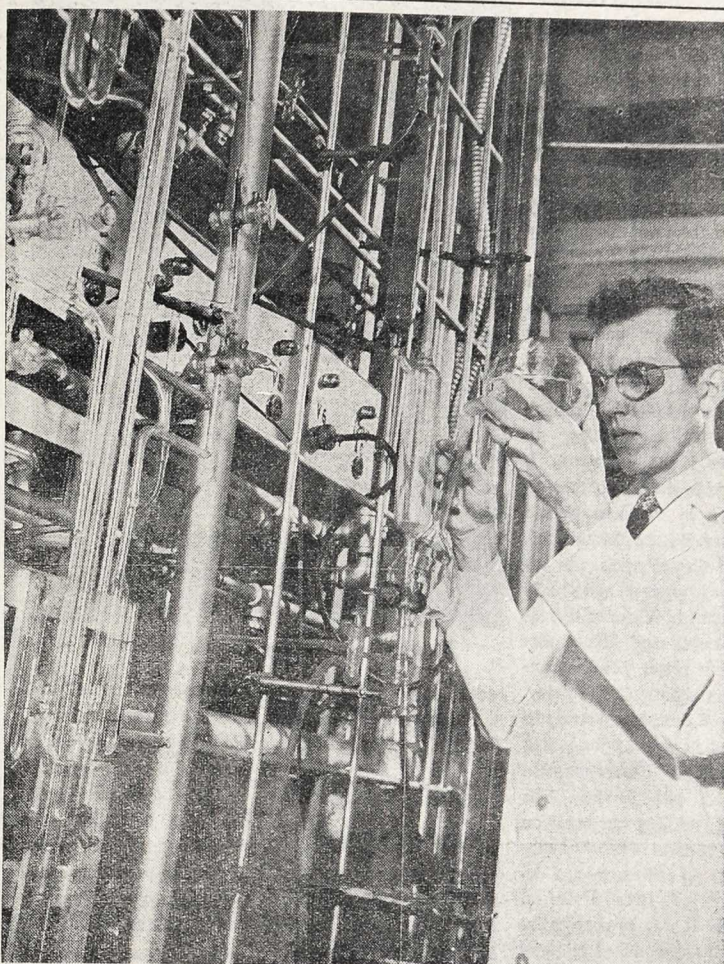
And yet we can't win. Our best laid plans misfire. Age-old problems spring back and hit us, breaking our confidence and happiness.

The doctor often has to admit defeat and we must face incurable illness, life-long neurosis, death. Greed, wanting to be top dog, concern for Number One—the old enemies are still there and so we still have crime, violence and war. People are exploited and made to feel small.

Try as we may, try as we must, a lot of this world's evil and sadness will not go away.

Jesus Christ met evil not only by trying to beat it. He also met it with quiet patience, forgiveness and love, rather than with anger and bitterness. In that spirit he died on the cross, forgiving that evil event. There evil was put in a new light. We say he redeemed the human scene.

Christians are not only asked to put the world right; in the end that is impossible. They are asked to share in redemption by soaking up evil and suffering in the patient spirit of Jesus. In doing this they share his cross.



*We're clever
and we care.*

Science and Technology in
the service of man.



*"Soaking up evil and
suffering in the patient
spirit of Jesus"*

A sister at Mother Theresa's
Home for Dying Destitutes
Calcutta, helps an old
woman with her meal.

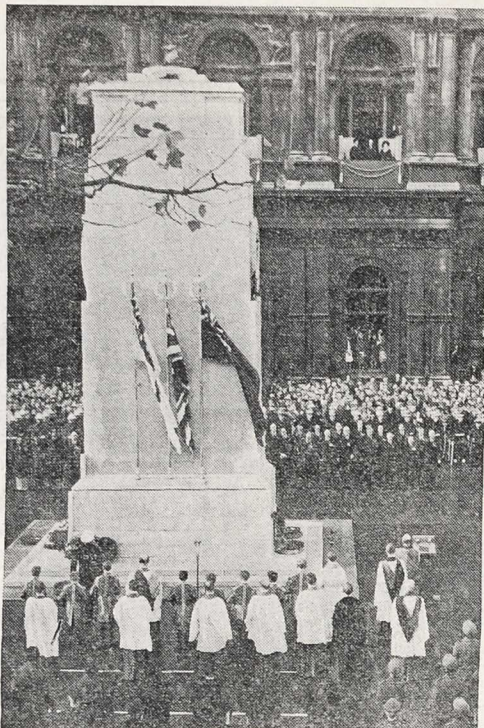
remember, remember..

As a matter of interest, what do you remember on the Fifth of November?

Do you recall the details of the incident which made the date so famous? The incident which happened so long ago, yet which was so modern in form that it could well appear in tomorrow's press. As the story goes, there was this minority group which felt itself underprivileged, so it decided to put a bomb under the Establishment and change the whole way of running things. It was a political and social plot with enough religious sectarianism to make it really vicious. It could be the story of the situation in Northern Ireland today. But the plan misfired, and Guy Fawkes was arrested, tortured, and cruelly executed. Violence breeds violence, and those who throw petrol bombs complain about police brutality. The Establishment strengthened its grip by instigating a ritual commemoration which still survives. The effigy of Guy was burnt on the bonfires to tell of victory over an evil enemy and deliverance from a fearful fate. It was as provocative to the discomfited minority as the Orangemen's Parade or the Apprentice Boys' March is now in Ulster.

Are they necessary?

Is this what you remember on the Fifth? Or has the political hatred and religious bigotry gone, and do you just remember the bonfires, the fireworks, and all the associated goodies you enjoyed when you were young. There are some things which ought to be forgotten; and some of the stupidities of our forefathers are amongst them. I wonder how long it will take to forget the battle of the Boyne and the siege of Londonderry? But it would help the process of forgetting if we could dispense with the rituals which are associated with the events. Are the marches and parades really necessary? And if we must expose ourselves to the dangers of bonfires and fire-



Remembrance Day at the Cenotaph

works do we really need to link them with a better-to-be-forgotten Popish Plot?

One race—one planet

Some things we ought to forget. But some things we need to remember. We are what we are because of what others have achieved and suffered. Remembrance Sunday is intended to remind us that our present state of liberty and peace was bought by the countless

numbers who suffered and died in the two world wars. We need peace if we are to survive. We need freedom if we are to be human. We are one race occupying one planet; and no man, or for that matter no nation, is an island. These are things we must not forget.

But is this what the ritual of Remembrance Sunday helps us to remember? Some think its present observance is too militaristic; it glorifies war instead of extolling peace. Some think it promotes the wrong kind of national pride; we were the 'goodies' who beat the 'baddies'. Some, who were born after the end of the war, find it unrealistic to 'remember' those who died.

Deliverance

We need to look carefully at our rituals of remembrance. We don't want a ceremony which has lost all connection with the events which inspired it. Nor do we want something which continuously provokes bitterness and animosity. We want something which reminds us of genuine deliverance from the evil which besets us all into a life which is full and free.

Perhaps the answer is to have our two minutes' silence on Good Friday and our fireworks on Easter Day.



The Charles Hodgson Column

Sir,

What really gets me about Ken Hill's "The Welfare Workers" in the August edition of Compass is the cartoon, which to me seems to imply a small army of smirking petty government officials at a hapless child's door, going through the motions of offering help. Some misconceptions call for blasting, too.

The social workers round here get on amicably together and receive excellent co-operation from all in responsible positions. We are local authority employed and not civil servants. As trained specialists we know our particular functions and try not to overlap. Where a common long-term problem emerges, a decision is taken on which service will do the home visiting. There is a limited interchange of information, as necessary; consistent with the client's over-ruling right to privacy. Most of us are no strangers to schools; and so the teacher yearning to discuss his pupil's problems, has only to pick up the telephone.

I have yet to meet one of us staking a claim for our own service to do the job

—the difficulty is to find enough hours in the day to meet incessant demands and problems. When inappropriate they are referred courteously to the appropriate service. We try not to be caught up in problems of car ownership, income tax, householding and pigeons. Spiritual carving is left in the capable hands of the Church.

The "applause" handed out consists of snide references to "woolly-do-gooders" in the Press or chatty comments on "the rewarding work" (a good star in Heaven, perhaps!). This manna is leavened with abuse.

The point at issue is that the social worker at the door is a trained human being, come to do his or her level best to help. If the community want to help, too, that's fine—let's get together and talk about how they can.

Yours sincerely,

M. F. V. PEARSON,
Probation and After-Care
Service, High Green, Cannock.

letters

Sir,

Your September issue carried a front page article headed Come Clean on Comprehensives. It argued that Grammar Schools and Comprehensives cannot co-exist on equal terms. The author implies that Grammar Schools must be absorbed into Comprehensives.

Believers in Comprehensive Schools are either moderates or totalists. Your contributor is a totalist.

Moderates want less assertion and more enquiry. Let planned observation over several years take place at least in a number of Comprehensives which are and which are not near Grammar Schools.

Let us then be told what really happens in all the schools concerned.

The totalists complain that selection is (a) unfair to pupils because it is so inefficient and (b) unfair to Comprehensive Schools because **creaming** is so efficient. These complaints are contradictory, but they are addressed to different audiences. Your contributor stresses the

argument from creaming, which is condemned as undemocratic.

Look further. Universities select students and cream technical colleges. Thus they form an elite. Our totalists are silent about that. They demand co-existence on equal terms, but not at the stage when careers take shape. Why is that? What do they think of university selection and some of its results?

Ought they not be demanding multi-versities, polyversities or comprehensiversities? Or should they join the moderates in asking for more facts?

Come clean, brothers! Have you thought it out?

Yours faithfully,

F. V. MERRIMAN,
Caversham, Reading.

With respect to Mr. Merriman, our article did not imply that Grammar Schools must be absorbed into Comprehensives. What we said and will continue to say is that they cannot exist side by side on equal terms. Editor.

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ever so nice . . . by Dee Dover

It takes courage for parents to admit, even to themselves, that their child is E.S.N. (Educationally Sub-Normal) and is in need of specialised education. Even in this enlightened age we cling firmly to the hope that our child is just like everyone else's, maybe a bit slow, but normal. Paul's parents were reluctant to accept him as he was, but eventually his headmaster convinced them that Paul would be happier in another school.

Paul's school is tucked away behind a comprehensive school. He and his friends use the same gate as the other boys and girls. The school is bright and modern both in outlook and decor. The atmosphere is relaxed and warm. Within the stable environment less fortunate children than Paul can learn to live again. With careful training these injured minds can unfold and may even blossom.

Simple Subjects

The classes are basically divided into age groups, although this doesn't have any bearing on the child's mental ability. The youngest children, those around 6 or 7 are taught by methods similar to those used in any infants' school. Reading, and other academic subjects, are simple but purposeful. Many of the children are awkward and lacking in co-ordination. Once a week they are taken to the baths and in the water everyone is equal. Physical education and games play a large part in helping towards better developed co-ordination. Dance and drama under the encouraging eye of actors from a local theatre not only stimulate movement, but also creativity. One of Paul's classmates was terrified by constant nightmares. He played out his fears in mime under the watchful eye of his teachers and the actors until eventually he was able to sleep soundly.

Because children are thoughtless and cruel many of the children had been teased by their fellows in 'normal' schools. Paul had suffered badly, and was withdrawn and anti-social. Gradually he began to play his part in group activities. He enjoys school meals which are taken at small family sized tables. His special responsibility and love is Snowy, the school's white rabbit. He tends her needs daily, and lavishes so much care on her that everyone who visits the school is automatically whisked off by Paul to admire the beautiful Snowy.

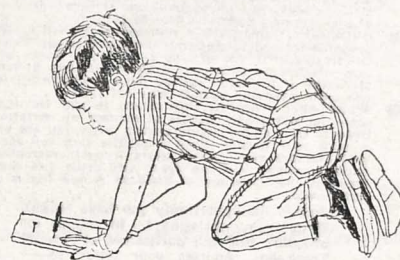
The aim of Paul's school is to teach the children at their own pace. There is no question of competition, each child is an individual with his own personal needs. The staff are fully aware of every child's special problems. We tend to lump all these children together under one label, but many of them suffer from multiple handicaps and are both physically and mentally disabled. Their happiness comes first, but they are asked to use the potential they have to the full.

Good with their hands

One of the first points Paul's headmaster made to his parents was that children with a low I.Q. can still be trained to be useful members of the community. Some of the children are particularly good with their hands. They can learn a great deal through play. As they get older the boys and girls are taken round some of the local industries where jobs are available. Laundries and catering are possibilities for both boys and girls. Horticulture and some types of farming are another possibility. Many teenagers would find the work offered to these children dull and unrewarding, but many E.S.N. children find comfort and a sense of security in doing a repetitive job.

When Paul eventually leaves his school there will be no roll of honour acclaiming his achievements. There is, as yet, no yardstick to measure the almighty effort that these children put into mastering simple subjects. Only their teachers and the few understanding parents can marvel at their struggle for comprehension and the slow painful progress that finally brings its own reward.

Handicapped children have now been recognised as individuals capable of being taught and earning their own living. They ask for no special concessions except to be accepted as they are. Over 90% of those capable of receiving training go out and work in open industry. They are willing to learn and eager to help in so many small ways. I now fully understand why one young teacher said that in her opinion E.S.N. stood for Ever So Nice.



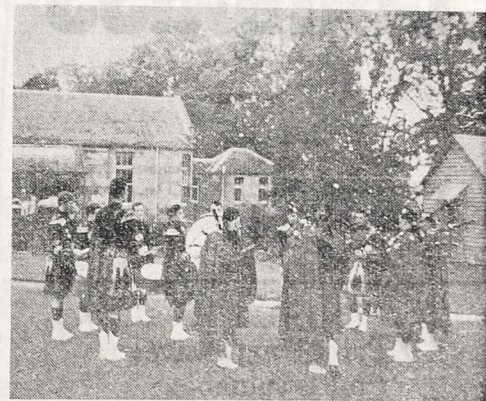
THE INVALUABLE FRIENDS OF THE HOSPITAL

BY ELSPETH BAXTER, A HOSPITAL MATRON

Provide home comforts for the hospital patients and voluntary workers are always needed



The trolley Shop sets out on its visit round the wards



Entertaining patients in the hospital grounds.

The advent of the National Health Service did not end the great need for voluntary work in the health service. The State provides the essential services, accommodation, food, and medical and nursing care.

Voluntary help is needed to give additional comfort to hospital patients who are dependent upon voluntary associations providing their "home" comforts such as the mobile trolley shop or the bedside telephone.

Energetic ladies man the mobile trolley shop twice a week as it circulates round the wards. It gives a wonderful service to the patients confined to bed. This trolley is laden with bottles of soft drinks, sweets, paper handkerchiefs, writing paper, soap, toothpaste and other essentials.

Once patients are discharged home, it may be necessary to arrange the "Meals on Wheels" service for the handicapped or elderly people living at home, or to

book a W.R.V.S. car to bring them back to the hospital for treatment. This is a great boon to the patient and relatives.

Entertainments for the long-stay patients are a welcome relief and keep the patients in touch with the outside world. Concert parties with folk music, pipe bands, Sunday singers, carol singers and bellringers are only a few of the welcome hospital guests.

There are numerous ways in which "thankyou" for good health or the restoration of vitality is expressed. Contributions can be given to the "Friends of the Hospital Society" or to the amenity fund allowing many comforts.

Words cannot express the gratitude we in the hospital service have for all the help we receive for our patients. Voluntary helpers are always needed in the local hospitals. The time given is satisfying as it is patient-centred team work giving excellent results.



The Menin Gate, Ypres.

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CITY OF REMEMBRANCE

by Edyth Harper

We came by chance to Ypres when touring on the Continent. Its impressive Cathedral square and equally striking Town Hall tempted us to stop. Crossing on the car-ferry from Dover to Calais, after an early start, made us ready to call a halt, so tentatively we inquired about a suitable 'pension' for the night.

The people of Ypres are extremely friendly and helpful. Possibly enduring two world wars have made them so. In no time we were directed to the Hotel Regina, a clean small building across the cobbles from the Town Hall—No. 43 Grote Market.

The Eigenaarster, or proprietor proved to be an active middle-aged woman who spoke fluent English, though as she told us later she had never had a lesson in her life. Mevrouw De Smul quickly installed us in her clean rooms, and promised us a meal, as soon as we were ready for it. As we ate a delicious meal, she urged us not to miss the ceremony at the Gate, just up the road.

Every night, at eight o'clock, a simple ceremony of remembrance is carried out at Ypres. Thanks to the citizens, a bugler sounds the "Last Post" under the archway of the Menin Gate and has been doing so, except during the Occupation, since 1928.

The Menin Gate Memorial is unforgettably impressive in its simplicity. The arch, which spans a busy road, is covered in row on row of names—men who died in the Flanders mud of an earlier war. Above the arch a lion gazes out across the battlefields. On the far side from the town, the canal with swans, and weeping willows makes a beautiful setting for the massive memorial.

We reached the archway, to join a few people similarly bent, as a bugler, accompanied by a policeman, appeared. They

stood to attention—paused, then the soldier raised his bugle and the notes of the "Last Post" rang out, echoed and were lost upwards through the circular holes in the roof.

This must surely be one of the most moving remembrance services held daily. But the custom is typical of the people of Ypres. Immensely proud of their city, so painstakingly re-built after being razed to the ground, they are slow to talk of their experiences.

We learned that Mevrouw De Smul had been in the Resistance and had hidden British airmen above the rooms where we slept. Each year a party of British Legion visitors come to her hotel, and she when possible visits the homes of her former "guests".

We came to Ypres by chance but took away with us deep respect for its citizens and a grateful memory of their continued remembrance of our dead.

Should you find yourself on the N20 from Popperinge to Ypres, spare time to spend one evening in the battle-scarred city. You will never regret it.



THEY'VE GIVEN US THEIR NAMES

by C. J. Francis

SIR

GEORGE DOWNING

1623-1684

One of London's biggest tourist attractions is undoubtedly a visit to Downing Street, official home of the British Prime Minister.

This famous street takes its name from the man who built it, soldier and politician Sir George Downing. Although it remains more or less on the site where he originally built it, over the years, of course, both street and buildings have undergone change in material and style.

One time M.P. for Dunwich, Suffolk, Downing served as scoutmaster-general in Cromwell's Scottish Army and was one of his foreign policy advisers during the Protectorate.

During his life, however, he was largely renowned for his selfishness and treachery; factors which ultimately led to his downfall.

It's interesting to note that in certain parts of New England where Downing had family connections, the proverbial expression 'A George Downing' refers to a person of untrustworthy character.



WINTERPROOFING YOUR CAR

If you haven't already given your car a once-over for the winter, better do it now. It's nearly too late.

Anti-freeze we all know about—but don't gamble on the weather staying mild a bit longer. It doesn't need a heavy frost to crack a cylinder head or block if you have to keep your car out of doors. And if you had to give the radiator the occasional top up during the summer then look around for leaks first—especially at hose joints.

Do check over the electrical system. There are more systems than a duff battery that can keep you stuck in your front drive on a cold morning. Keep an eye on things when you're driving at night. When you've stopped for a moment do the headlights brighter noticeably as you accelerate away? Or if you're standing at traffic lights waiting to turn to right or left, and then pull away, does the turn indicator light start flashing much quicker? These things suggest that for some reason your battery is not being kept fully charged. With the engine stopped (of course!) press your thumb into the fan belt midway between the generator and fan pulleys. If without much force you can press it in more than half an inch or so check your instruction book and adjust the belt.

Look at the side of your fan belt. Are there threads flying loose; is it tending to delaminate (split into layers!) or are there cracks across the thickness of the belt? Then get a new one!

CAR SENSE



Finally don't forget the ignition system. Damp combined with dirt can keep you grinding away with the starter all morning, even though she goes well for the rest of the day. Check the sparking plugs and their gaps—too wide a gap can be as big a fault as too little. When you've put them back, wipe the insulators clean with a clean dry cloth. Wipe clean the outside surfaces of plug caps and the distributor cover—also the top of the coil. Make sure that the H.T. leads stay away from any metal and from each other. After doing all this a few seconds' work with one of those ignition waterproofing aerosols is a good idea—with some cars just about essential.

BRIAN FAVELL.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

THE NEWSPAPER OF ANGLICANS
FREE CHURCHMEN AND ROMAN CATHOLICS
IN CAVERSHAM

No 74.

November, 1970.

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A STEP FORWARD

A MODEST STEP FORWARD TOWARDS CHRISTIAN UNITY will be taken on Sunday, November 15th in Caversham. On that evening Anglicans and Methodists will begin an experimental scheme as they have agreed that on the third Sunday evening of each month members of these two churches will worship together. On November 15th there will be no Evensong in any of the four Anglican churches of Caversham, but evening worship will be held in the two Methodist churches. On December 20th the congregation of Caversham Heights Methodist Church will visit either St. Peter's, St. Andrew's or St. Barnabas' whichever is most convenient for them.

By far the greater number of Anglicans worship on Sunday mornings mostly at the Eucharist at 9-15 a.m., rather than in the evening, and the main congregation at Caversham Heights Methodist Church is in the morning at 11 a.m. The evening congregations in these churches are much smaller. For this, as well as for other reasons, it is more practical to worship together in the evening rather than in the morning. On the other hand the evening service plays an important part in the life of Caversham Methodist Church, Gosbrook Road, and there is also normally no evening service at St. John's, and so this arrangement will not apply to Caversham Methodist Church who will continue with their present arrangements on Sunday evenings.

Some people may find they have a few yards further to go to Church once every two months—but others will also find they have a few yards less to go. Perhaps few of us realise how fortunate we are in Caversham in having so many churches so close to our homes. Christians in many lands have to travel many miles to get to any place of worship on a Sunday.

This may seem but a small step towards growing together but nevertheless it is evidence of further progress, and on another page we are able to report news of the formation of a combined Anglican-Methodist youth club in East Caversham. Unity may not be here yet but there are signs that it is getting nearer.

John Grimwade

THE PACKER FAMILY

IT WAS NO EASY TASK FOR JILL AND ROGER PACKER to take over the St. Andrew's community from two such popular people as Rita and Guy Armstrong, and it says a great deal for them that they settled in so well and so quickly. And this despite the confused nature of their arrival from Chippenham, when they were delayed by Roger having scarlet fever. It comes as rather a surprise that five years have flown by since then and the time has come for them to move on; as most people will know, they are now moving to Sandhurst where Roger is taking over the parish.

A quiet young couple, they have contributed a great deal to St. Andrew's. Many people will have cause to remember Roger's lucid preaching and organ recitals. His organisational ability has served to make the parish parties an unprecedented success in recent years. Jill, a lass of considerable talent, has been teaching part-time since baby Helen joined the family; she is known to be a very good teacher and it is fortunate for the Abbey School that she intends to keep on this work for the time being at any rate.

But perhaps more than anything, they have established a reputation for being a likeable, kindly and happy family. As one member of the congregation says, "St. Andrews will be very lucky if they get someone half as good as Roger." He and his family will be very much missed in the district and we wish them well in their new job.

W.D.

POSTBAG

Dear Editor,

The residents of Hemdean Road, Oakley Road and Rotherfield Way are very disturbed at the increase in traffic at these crossroads, particularly as a large proportion of the children attending Highdown and Caversham Primary Schools use this route.

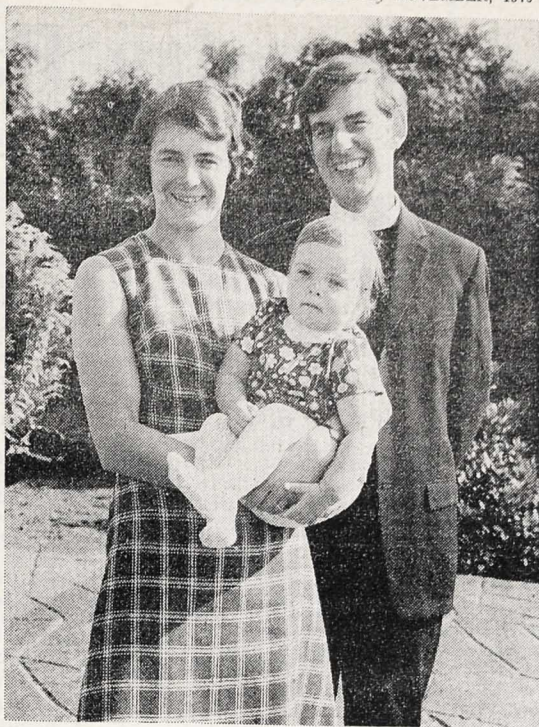
In view of the number of minor accidents recently, a petition for Traffic Lights has been organised. This is available for signatures at 'The Corner Shop', (Mrs. Frostick), 326, Hemdean Road.

Please help keep death off the road by signing it.

Yours truly

Barbara A. Mudd,
219, Hemdean Road, Caversham.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, NOVEMBER, 1970—ONE



A happy family picture.

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Community Page

CAVERSHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Did you know that some- where near the present traffic crossing Church Street there was, in the last century, a tunnel linking Mr. Knighton's school at Caversham House with the playing fields where the library now stands? Were you aware that stocks and a whipping post once stood on that corner?

You would have heard all this and more had you been present at a very interesting evening at the Community Association in September, when our well-known authority on Caversham history, Joe Rampton, gave a talk and produced interesting postcards and photographs.

This is only one of many interesting evenings for the members of the CCA this winter. The Association, which meets every Monday at 7-30 in the School Lane centre, plans talks, social evenings, whist drives, etc. It caters for all ages, includes a drama group which produces a pantomime every year, and only charges 3s. a year for membership.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard of Elizabeth House, the chairman and secretary, would be very glad to meet new mem-

Residents' Association

It has really happened at last. No longer will the smell of frying peanuts assault the noses of Caversham people as they shop and go about their business in the "village." No longer will a permanently loading lorry block the entrance to Gosbrook Road. The peanut factory has at last moved and few tears were shed at its departure. We must now hope that a more suitable use will be found for the premises or the site, for the buildings can scarcely be described as being of architectural merit.

TRAFFIC

If "Thames Ward Voter" (see October's Postbag) were present at the public meeting on Caversham traffic problems, he must have been pleased to hear the speaker, Mr. T. Clarke, of the Borough Traffic Manage-

ment Department, say that in his opinion, (and he hastened to add that it was his personal opinion and not that of the Town Council) free public transport was, in the long run, the only solution to the traffic problem, Caversham's or any one else's. Traffic management schemes can do so much to relieve traffic congestion but ultimately a saturation point is reached.

Caversham should find some benefit when the new Valley road is built. Much emphasis was placed by speakers from the floor on the need to isolate the traffic problem. "Stop thinking in borough terms," someone said. "What about a commuters' bus from Caversham to Twyford?" Was there any consultation between the housing department and the traffic department about the new housing estate in East Caversham? The answer was 'No'.

Gasps of amazement went up when, in order to illustrate a possible traffic management scheme for Caversham, Mr. Clarke produced the controversial map showing Phase III of a suggested development plan for Caversham, the very map that some four years ago, sparked off the trouble when it was realised that the new road shown, would mean the demolition of an uncertain number of houses and shops. Since then the map has not been seen, 'mis-laid'.

A Tudor Evening At Mapledurham

Many sighs of relief must have been breathed by the producer and organisers of A Tudor Evening when each of the six open-air performances at Mapledurham took place without a drop of rain from often threatening clouds.

The setting was a field on the Estate sloping gently down to the village. Here the audience waited until the twilight faded. A fanfare of trumpets rang out across the darkening valley and announced the opening of the entertainment. In the 90 minutes that followed the meeting between the French and English kings at the Field of the Cloth of Gold was enacted, giving some impression of the revelry and feasting which accompanied this splendid encounter.

Torches flickered among the trees and the dull thud of horses' hooves on the turf was heard as the two monarchs and their attendants processed into the arena. Here, dancing, jousting, archery and a masque of peace took place before Henry and Francis. The singing was especially to be commended. Finally, as the audience left, the ancient manor and church could be glimpsed floodlit among the trees.

inquirers were told, but there it was again, with its new road carved through Caversham and Church Street pedestrianised. The questions and comments once again flew thick and fast. Perhaps the speaker from the floor who told the property owners there was no need to worry was right when he declared, "This map is a fake." It was, he declared, hastily drawn up so that a way should be found of complying with the Minister's ruling that a shopping area should not be permitted with a main road running through it. Now the precinct was built, the map had served its purpose.

Another speaker asked: "Why open a garage and filling station on a road about to be pedestrianised?"

And of course the old problem arose about the third bridge. Where will it be? The only sure answer is that no one knows. M.C.

Mapledurham Parish Council

The monthly meeting of Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday, 10th September, 1970. Mr. E. F. Dawe, Chairman of the Council, presided at the meeting.

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter from Oxfordshire C.C. dealing with the turning circle at the bottom of the village and also the construction of passing bays along the approach road to the village. The letter had stated that as agreement had been reached in connection with the proposed Country Park it would seem prudent to proceed with the construction of passing bays and the turning circle at the same time, and the County Surveyor anticipated the work should commence during the middle of this month and they would remain to complete both jobs.

With regard to the opening of Mapledurham Country Park, the Parish Council were advised in a letter from the County Council that conditional planning permission had been granted. The conditions were reported to the Parish Council. However, the Council again expressed their strong views that the road improvements along the approach road must be carried out before the opening of the Park. The Council have already informed the County Council that road improvements must be carried out before the opening of the Park, and they are writing to the County Council again to ensure the County Council will remain aware of the Parish Council's real concern over this road.

The Council were disturbed to learn that the re-surfacing of Geoffreyson Road is taking so long. Whilst they appreciate the efforts that are being made by the County Council, they are concerned that Messrs. Gant's are taking such a long time to attend to the carriage-way in Geoffreyson Road, and that in fact nothing has yet been done in Hilltop Road, one of the other roads for which Messrs. Gant's are responsible.

Although this is a matter which chiefly rests with the County Council, the Parish Council will continue to watch the situation and will press the County Council should Gant's discontinue their working on the roads and footpaths.

The Council were informed that Henley R.D.C. will shortly be filling in the potholes at the Rokeby Drive garage site.

The Council expressed their thanks to the residents in Chazy Heath who have recently held a successful fête and provided a children's slide entirely from funds raised by themselves which has been erected on the Chazy Heath Play Area.



Mrs. Livingstone and Miss Hall.

—Photo: Walton Adams.

SERVICE TO THE ELDERLY

If you are what is known as a senior citizen, don't be surprised if one of these young ladies calls on you during the coming months and asks questions about your health and circumstances. She is not being nosy; her task is more serious than that.

You may be a very healthy active 65-year-old with virtually no problems, financial or otherwise; but you have only to read the papers or watch TV to realise that there are still far too many elderly people in the country trying to cope with all kinds of problems without the help they could receive from professional or voluntary services.

Mrs. Livingstone (left in the photograph) and Miss Hall are taking part in a research project being carried out under the auspices of the Nuffield Operational Research (Health Service) Unit

of the University of Reading into the needs of older people in the town. Caversham has been selected as the starting point for this project and our two health visitors have been appointed to work closely with the Borough Nursing Staff already allocated to Family Doctors' practices in the area.

Both of them have been very carefully selected not only for their considerable nursing and health visiting experience but also for their more personal qualities. Interested in people and their problems they are very enthusiastic about their task. They enjoy meeting people, and Chandra Livingstone, who lives in Caversham with her husband and has been working on this task for some time, tells me she has been mostly kindly received in the great majority of cases.

This is a pilot project, but it is hoped it will form the basis of the continuing Nuffield Operational Research scheme for the care of this section of the community.

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Harvest in Caversham

Harvest Festival continues to appeal to thousands of people who do not worship regularly. Perhaps an urban society finds comfort in reminding itself, not all that long after summer holidays spent in the country, that when all is said and done the human race is still dependent upon the annual harvest for its well being. Once again at the end of September Harvest Festival was observed in Caversham with large congregations, and in many cases a social gathering followed later in the same week. On this page the Caversham Bridge gathers up reports of how Caversham gave thanks in 1970.

METHODIST HARVEST

The Harvest Festival at Caversham Methodist Church began with the morning service conducted by the Rev. H. John Stevinson, of Mapledurham. The children of the Sunday School entered in procession with gifts of fruit, vegetables and flowers which were received by Mrs. Joan Farrell, and added considerably to the produce already decorating the church, which had been arranged under the direction of Mrs. Eileen Flint. The children further contributed by singing a song about a farmer. The congregation was augmented by members of St. John's Church, of which Mr. Stevinson was formerly priest-in-charge. His address was on the theme of helping God to help the world.

Before the evening service the chorister Mr. G. J. Prior led the congregation in practising two new harvest hymns out of the New Supplement to the Methodist Hymn Book, and these were sung in the course of the service. The choir sang the anthem "Harvest Blessings Richly Poured". The minister, the Rev T. R. Harris, preached on God's relationship with his people as symbolised by the Rainbow.

On the following evening, after gift parcels had been made up for the sick and elderly, the remainder of the product was sold. Members then sat down to a Harvest Supper of meat salad and apple pie, organised by Mrs. G. Curling, and the various components of this excellent

meal provided illustration for the talk by the Rev. John Wallace, Regional Director of Oxfam, who drew the contrast with the monotonous diet of rice and vegetables eaten by the people of Sierra Leone. Not only our food was better, but also our family customs, for in that country where Mr. Wallace had formerly served, the adult males, fathers, cousins, uncles ate their fill first, and then the women and children had what was left.

ST. JOHN'S HARVEST

Harvest is of course a time for giving thanks for the benefits so richly enjoyed in an affluent part of the world. But in recent years alongside the harvest thanksgiving there has developed a deepening awareness of the terrible poverty endured by the greater part of the world's population. Members of St. John's were reminded of the plight of the world's poor during the course of their recent harvest thanksgiving. At the Family eucharist, Dr. John Conn presented a report of the Stewardship and Mission Committee. Set up two years ago, the committee was asked, among other things to study the implications of world poverty for the Church's understanding of mission and stewardship. Dr. Conn said that from their reading and discussion the committee had found that the world's resources, though sufficient to support all men, are shared unequally, resulting in a divided world; one part rich the other poor. It was also found that the

gap between the two is growing wider each year. The committee had decided that its main task is one of education, teaching church members and others the facts about world poverty. To that end Dr. Conn reported that he and other members of the committee would be pleased to discuss the matter with any groups who may be interested. Among the recommendations for discussion were the suggestions that St. John's missionary giving should include some money from the planned giving income as well as the funds raised by the Autumn Bazaar (which please note will be held on Nov. 7th in St. John's Hall); and that House Church groups may be asked to donate any balance of income to Christian Aid.

In the evening, as part of the harvest celebration, 120 people met to sing evensong at St. John's. Once again the need to share wealth was the main sentiment. This was demonstrated in a series of readings and comment on the theme of harvest, as it used to be and as it is now presented by Susan Nicholls, Jenny Bartlett and the priest in charge. The service also included a hymn tune specially written by the organist, Mr. R. Jackson.

BAPTIST HARVEST

The Baptist Church was most beautifully decorated for its Harvest Festival Services which were conducted by the Minister, the Revd. L. S. Lewis. The Children's Service in the afternoon was wonderful, the address being given by the Revd. Malcolm Cooper of St. Barnabas Church who, to the children's delight, displayed a 'prize' cauliflower and a comical looking potato to illustrate his theme that we all need 'The Light' to grow in Christian grace.

The Services were followed on the Monday Evening by the customary Harvest Supper at which some ninety-five members and friends gathered. This was considered to be the most successful supper for many years and the ladies of the Church are to be congratulated on their organising ability, no mention being made of the skill with which the Deacons washed up afterwards. The proceeds from the supper and the sale of produce were devoted to 'Operation Agri', the Baptist Churches Agricultural Missionary Project.



Evening Post.

EDWARDIAN HARVEST SUPPER

St. Peter's new social committee made a big hit with their Edwardian Harvest Supper on Sept. 29th. Tickets had to be limited to 120 and many more people would have liked to have been present. It is understood that the social committee have something special planned for Tuesday, Dec. 1st. Make a note of that date now and watch for further details in the Church notices.

HARVEST IN ALBERT ROAD

This year the Supper at St. Andrew's took on a new form. First there was Festal Evensong for Michaelmas Day in church, and then the congregation moved to the Church Hall for a Buffet Supper. The food was very good and attractively presented. A glass of wine did much to stimulate conversation. The informality helped the 100 people present to move round more freely, and the evening was much enjoyed by all.

NEXT STOP ZAMBIA

Canon John Kingsnorth, who earlier this year spoke at the final meeting of May-day Week, spent his last Sunday in England before returning to Zambia, preaching in Caversham Churches on Harvest Festival. In the morning he was at St. Peter's for the Parish Communion and Matins. In the afternoon he went to St. Barnabas where he found another large congregation and he ended the day at St. Andrew's. For several years the parish of Caversham has supported the diocese of Zambia and his vivid description of the poverty of the rural community in Zambia set many people thinking as they sat listening to him surrounded by the products of local gardens and allotments. On his return Canon Kingsnorth hopes to meet Jeremy Kynaston, a member of St. Peter's congregation, who is now teaching in Zambia.

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Alive and Kicking!

What goes on in our Sunday Schools these days? Many adults have memories of being 'sent' as children. Are things the same today? If not, why not? Are Sunday Schools outmoded anyway? If so, what do we think should replace them, if anything? These are the sort of questions I hope to raise in a series of articles about Sunday Schools.

Starting Points

In the old days, Sunday Schools used to see their task in pretty simple terms—to convey 'Religion' to the children by direct teaching of Bible stories and other 'religious' material—even though this often didn't match up with the child's every-day experience at all. Not any longer! Educational insights of modern day-school teaching are being utilised. Teaching is now more a matter of drawing out a child's own experience of the world around him and building from this towards religious insights—not the other way round!

Take a theme intended to lead up to the idea of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Most of our time will be taken up with getting the children to think of different kinds of mechanical and human power which they are already familiar with. A session on 'things that move', one on 'wind-up' power, one on engines, one on electricity (note the subtle shift from 'seen' to 'unseen' power), one on 'man-power' and finally one on God's unseen power in the Holy Spirit.

Up and Doing

So the approach has changed. So too has the method. When most of us were at Sunday School, our classes took the form of a teacher surrounded by a group of children and most of what was done took the form of talking or writing. More and more now the emphasis is on 'doing' and making things. Partly because it's more interesting for the kids. But mainly because they remember things far better when they've 'done' them and not just talked about them. St. Peter's Sunday School have made everything from model space rockets to balsa wood speed-boats (to illustrate the

theme of power) and in September they prepared an exhibition to illustrate a Harvest theme. (See photograph).

In Sunday Schools where the approach is more traditional, too, the 'doing' aspect of classwork is more and more important—expression work follows Bible stories to tie them up with the child's experience.

Our resources

This new approach is employed pretty fully in two Sylabus books used in Caversham Sunday Schools. St. Peter's and St. John's (both with attendances of around 40 children each Sunday) use one called 'Alive in God's World' and the Methodist Sunday Schools (with attendance of 90-100 altogether) use 'Partners in Learning'. The very flourishing Baptist Sunday Schools (weekly attendance of about 150 in all) follow more traditional Bible teaching, but with a good deal of expression work to bring it alive for the children. St. Andrew's also use a more traditional approach, but with individual worksheets for the children to complete at the end of each session.

Worship.

Most of the Sunday Schools take part in some form of worship. Either by joining with the rest of the congregation of their church for part of its service, then withdrawing—or by having a short service of their own. 'Alive in God's World' plans the worship to follow the teaching and 'flow' out of it.

Family Worship.

Two churches, St. Margaret's at Mapledurham and St. Barnabas, have abandoned the Sunday School in the interests of emphasising the family as the growing point for religious development. Both have special family services once a month. St. Barnabas' encourage children to come along once a month to the Family Communion with their parents and on other weeks to join in a Sunday Club while their parents are in church. (There is a Sunday Club too at St. Peter's, on the same lines.) The family is seen as the proper context for a child's religious development, as that is where he develops in other ways as well. This approach is based on a very mature theory of child development. But the Sunday Schools score in terms of outreach and mission. (A large proportion of the Baptist's 150 attendance per week come from 'non-Church' families.)

The Sunday Schools in Caversham, then, are alive and well. More than that, alive and kicking! Next month we shall have a look at the people who lead and organise them—the Teachers.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN CAVERSHAM

Church of England

St. Peter's—Hemdean House School, 11 a.m. age 4-7 years.

Baltimore Hall 11 a.m. age 7 upwards.
Superintendent: Miss R. Eves, 6, Wrenfield Drive.

St. John's—St. John's Hall 11 a.m. age 4-9 years.

Superintendent: Mrs. A. Yates, 39, Field View. Tel. 477895.

St. John's Church 11 a.m. age 9 upwards.

Superintendent: Miss K. Harris, 4, Valentine Crescent, Tel. 472084.

St. Andrew's—St. Andrew's Hall 11 a.m. age 4 years and upwards.

Superintendent: Mrs. P. Steer, 13, Hemdean Hill, Tel. 477568.

Methodist Church,

Gosbrook Rd.—In Church 11 a.m. age 3 years and upwards.
Superintendent Mr. R. Hodgkinson, 22, Church Hill, Sonning Common. Tel. Kidmore End 2785.

Caversham Heights—In Church 11 a.m. age 3 years and upwards.

Superintendent: Mrs. P. Court, 3, Woburn Close, Tel. 471445.

Baptist Church 11 a.m. age 3 years and upwards.

Also West Memorial Hall 2-45 p.m. age 3 years and upwards.
Superintendent: Dr. J. Rothwell, 16 Albert Rd., Tel. 474478.

Sunday Clubs in Caversham (for children whose parents are at church).

St. Peter's—In Toc H, Church Rd., (begins in Church at 9-15) except for 2nd Sunday in month. Age 7 years and upwards.

St. Barnabas—Church Hall at 9-15 a.m. except on 1st and 2nd Sundays of the Month.

Fred Dawson, Curate at St. Peter's Church, takes a look at the Sunday School Scene in Caversham.



Children modelling at the Baptist Sunday School.

Walton Adams.



St. Peter's children show their exhibits to their parents.

Walton Adams.

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Round the Anglican Parish

Two visits to St. Andrew's. November will begin and end with the rest of the parish visiting St. Andrew's for special occasions. On All Saints' Day, Sunday, Nov. 1st a combined Evensong will take place there and a presentation will be made in the hall after the service to the Rev. and Mrs. Roger Packer.

The Wardens of any district will be glad to receive contributions towards this. Mr. Packer will be instituted to the living of Sandhurst on Tuesday, Nov. 10th at 7-30 p.m. and a party will be going from Caversham.

St. Andrew's Day falls on Monday, November 30th and the preacher at the Parish Communion at 7-30 p.m. will be the Rev. Cope, vicar of St. Laurence's and rural dean of Reading.

Church Council plans for 1971. When the Church Council met on September 30th it carried a stage further plans for a second Stewardship Renewal Campaign in the autumn of 1971. It will by then be five years since the last campaign was held in 1966. This time no professional assistance is being sought but the Diocesan Adviser will help with the training of the visitors. The Town Hall has been booked for Sunday night, Oct. 3rd, when the visitors will be commissioned and the financial and other needs of the parish for the next five years will be put before the congregation of all districts. The parish of Mapledurham will also be taking part in this campaign. Mr. S. Flack has agreed to be chairman of the Campaign Committee.

The Council also set up a working party to consider whether, in view of the success of Mayday, a combined parish fete might be held every two or three years. It was agreed to inform the churches of other denominations about this in the hope that anything undertaken might be done ecumenically. The Council will be devoting the next meeting on Nov. 26th to considering the Diocesan report on Christian Initiation.

St. Peter's Column

Their many friends may like to know that Mr. and Mrs. Hargreaves' new address is 175 Kimbolton Rd., Bedford, and Mr. and Mrs. Way are now living at Apple Tree Cottage, Flowers Farm Hill, Pangbourne. The Caversham Bridge extends best wishes to them in their new homes.

Congratulations to St. Peter's Organist and his wife who on Sunday, October 3rd, celebrated their Ruby wedding Anniversary. Mr. Brind is rejoicing also at the moment in having a vastly improved organ to play now that the alterations to it have been completed.

CAVERSHAM PARK VILLAGE

HOUSE COMMUNION: 10-30 a.m.—Wednesday, November 11th at 2 Blackwater Close: 10-30 a.m.—Wednesday, November 25th, at 1 Mallory Avenue.

CHURCH HOUSE

Every Saturday morning from 10 a.m. until 12-30 p.m. one of the Anglican clergy of Caversham is in the Committee Room on the first floor of Church House, 59, Church Street (over Morgan's Chemist Shop) to see anyone who wishes to discuss anything with them.

St. Margaret's STEWARDSHIP—AN OPEN MEETING

It is some years since the previous Christian Stewardship Campaign, and it is time for the people of St. Margaret's carefully to reconsider and renew their practice of Christian Stewardship. The Church Council has decided that the autumn of 1971 should be devoted to this task, along with the parish of Caversham. On the previous occasion, the Church employed a professional company to organise the campaign for them: this time it intends to seek the advice of the Bishop's Stewardship Advisor, and not employ a professional company.

Before making detailed plans and arrangements for this campaign a number of questions have to be thought through, such as what are the congregation's responsibilities to God as steward of his creation? which responsibilities should be included in the renewal campaign? and which aspects have been or are being dealt with adequately already? what form should the campaign take next year?

Of course some ideas are beginning to take shape already, but an open meeting is being held at 8 p.m. in Church House on November 3rd to consult members of the congregation while these ideas are still in a fluid state.

THE PARISH SUPPER

For some years now a very popular Parish Supper has been held in Trench Green Hall each autumn. This year the Supper will be held on November 14th, beginning at 7-30 p.m. Tickets will be on sale from members of the Church Council. After Supper it is hoped to show a short film illustrating the history of Mapledurham.

GUESTS OF THE MOTHERS' UNION

One Tuesday afternoon in September, the St. Margaret's M.U. were very pleased to entertain the branch from St. John's, Caversham. Together they nearly filled the church for their service, then after showing their guests round, they all returned to Church House for tea, stretching the seating capacity beyond the limit. It was a very pleasant and enjoyable afternoon.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, NOVEMBER, 1970—FIVE St. John's News

For some time now there has not been a youth club at St. John's. This does not mean that young people have been forgotten. The point at issue has simply been to decide the best way forward. At a time when many churches of different denominations are trying hard to overcome their differences in order to serve the wider community, it seems right to follow the principle of not doing alone that which can be done together. For this reason it is not proposed to start a separate youth club at St. John's.

Instead the young people of St. John's and their friends between the ages of 14 and 20, have been invited by the younger members of Gosbrook Road Methodist Church to join with them in forming a combined club. The club meets at the Methodist Hall in Arden Road on Saturday evenings between 7-30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Further details from the priest in charge: Tel. 471814 or from Mr. P. Stephens, 301 Hemdean Road: Tel. 477030.

Weddings



Photo: Walton Adams.

Mr. Taylor and Miss Warner were married at St. Andrew's Church on September 19th.



Photo: Walton Adams.

and so were Mr. Holme and Miss Burton.

Quiet at Emmer Green

Every Saturday evening, from 9-10 p.m., what is called a quiet hour is held in Church. Those who come gain enormously from this spiritual exercise and it enriches the meaning of the Eucharist the next morning too. Silence is kept for up to 45 minutes (a few words of introduction usually take some of this time) when those present learn to cultivate the art of total stillness and simply to be with God, to commune with Him and to receive Him. Complines is said together to close the hour. If you think that your Saturday evenings or Sunday mornings need to be enriched then this quiet hour is for you.

There have been two suc-

cessful social events during the past month at St. Barnabas'. The first was the Charity Cricket Match held at the B.B.C. Caversham Park when a B.B.C. XI played Caleb Smith's XI. The B.B.C. XI won by five wickets in a game that was enjoyed by players and spectators alike. The weather was glorious, the setting was very pleasant indeed and the event, with donations raised the £100 to buy an irrigation pump and engine for the Mpongwe Farmer Training Centre in Zambia. Since watching the match, Caleb Smith's wife, May, has presented him with a fine son but it is thought that he may still be too young to play should there be a match next year.

help pay for the work. But with the co-operation and support of all the families who use the building in some way or another, it is hoped that the work can be completed before too long. Perhaps others should take a cue from the children of Grave Hill. Again this summer, Nicholas, Rachel and Guy Brain, Phillipa, Victoria and Richard Bousfield and Jacqueline Bush have had a stall and raised £67d. which was added to the sum raised at the cricket match. If you were among the fortunate people who came and let their hair down a little at the Hat and Scarf Dance last June, then book November 6th, when a 'Pig and Cider' dance will give you a similar opportunity to enjoy yourself.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15th. EVENING WORSHIP AT 6-30 p.m.

at CAVERSHAM METHODIST CHURCH, GOSBROOK ROAD and CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH.

There will be no Anglican Evensong that night in Caversham and Anglicans who normally attend Evensong are asked to worship with their Methodist brethren in one of the two Methodist Churches that evening.

ST. ANDREW'S

The Hall

The Large Hall has recently been redecorated. This was done by voluntary labour and thanks are due to those who gave their time and energy to this work:—Mrs. J. Debenham, Mr. R. Goodman, Mr. J. Tomlin, Peter Goodman, Maritza Baumeister and Jane Sutton. Help in advisory and practical ways was also given by Mr. M. Stevens and Mr. N. Kent and family. Many thanks to them also.

Now that both the Halls are so clean and attractive, it is hoped that all who use them will do their best to keep them in this condition.

Womens Group

July 22nd hailed the end of the second full year of St. Andrew's Women's Group and members took to the hills and dales in their cars to take part in a Motorized Treasure Hunt. After having been given a set of clues they found themselves looking into bus shelters, peering into woods, searching churchyards until we finally landed in St. Peter's churchyard where the famous William Crawshaw took some of them a long time to find. After a spell of good weather it was unfortunate that it was a rather dull evening and then ended the Hunt in St. Andrew's Hall with a Barbecue and the evening was voted a success.

The Boshier Family Move

St. Andrew's congregation is very sorry to lose Frank and Jill Boshier, who moved to Hemel Hempstead early in October. They have been regular worshippers at St. Andrew's for many years and recently Frank has been in charge of the servers. Their two eldest children, Eve and Catherine will be much missed in the choir. They take with them the good wishes of their many friends at St. Andrew's who hope they will find every happiness in their new home.

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TALKING POINT

by Roger Packer

CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Before moving to St. Andrew's in 1965, I looked forward to working in a parish with a definite policy on baptism. Now, five years later, what have I learned? Three things stand out in my mind. I record them here not as final conclusions, but as parts on the ongoing discussion of this vast and delicate subject.

My first point concerns the need to challenge parents who ask for the baptism of their children. The unhappiness which many clergy feel here is this. A large number of parents who ask for baptism have little or no regular contact with the church. According to traditional practice, baptism is simply arranged by a telephone call to the Vicar, or else the baby is brought to church on the appropriate Sunday in the month. Baptism then takes place and that is that. I have oversimplified here, but the main point is clear.

CHALLENGE

Surely this pattern is too mechanical, too easy-going and a denigration of the sacrament. Consequently it is the priest's responsibility, where necessary, to challenge parents who ask for baptism. He should ask such questions as 'Can you make the promises sincerely?' or 'Do you think the Church sufficiently important to make some kind of practical commitment to it?'

So far, I agree. I think that the traditional pattern is unsatisfactory and that a challenge to the parents is perfectly justified. To this extent, I have been able to support the Caversham baptismal policy wholeheartedly.

The two other points, however, are matters about which I am less sure. The first is the insistence on administering baptism publicly at normal Sunday services. This is an ideal with which, again, I agree. But if baptisms are held too frequently in this way, regular worshippers are disgruntled. Whatever the rights and wrongs of this disgruntlement, this is a practical problem.

EXPERIMENTS

Caversham has seen a number of experiments here. We've had Evensong in the afternoon. We've had additional public services once a quarter to facilitate public baptism. These have been honest attempts to cope with the difficulties, but success has been only partial. All this forces me to ask this question: If the priest has challenged the parents as I believe he should, is it wrong to administer the sacrament in the traditional manner on a Sunday afternoon at least sometimes?

The other matter about which I feel uneasy is the proposed abolition of infant

baptism as such, thus restricting the sacrament to adults only. It is intended that this should be applied to Christians and non-Christians alike and that in place of the sacrament there should be a service of naming and blessing. This is not a formal proposal from the Church as a whole, but it is the view of quite a lot of clergy. I shall long remember a P.C.C. meeting in Caversham when all present (myself included) felt that this was right.

GOOD REASONS

But is it? On reflection, I think that there are good reasons for the retention of infant baptism in cases where one or both parents are practising Christians. For the sacrament of baptism carries with it great truths about God—His love for us, His acceptance of us in Christ and His initiative in dealing with us, to mention just three. The sacrament itself is part of the Church's witness to these truths and a proclamation of them. What's more, this, the theological, aspect of baptism is unaffected by the age of the baptised.

Five years in Caversham has given me much valuable experience in dealing with this whole matter. For that I am grateful. But the subject isn't closed yet. A lot more teaching, discussing and experimenting lies ahead of all of us.

ROUND THE CLUBS

ROSE HILL W.I.

The president, Mrs. Green, welcomed all members, including one new one, to the September meeting. A coffee morning at the home of Mrs. Keeling realised £28.0. Mrs. M. Munday gave a most interesting talk on "My doll family and some of their life stories". The competition "A dressed milk bottle" was won by Mrs. Currie, runners up being Miss Wellman and Mrs. Booker.

THE JUBILEE CLUB, MAPLEDURHAM

The Club continues to flourish. Three new members attended the September meeting and one in August. On Monday, November 9th the Club holds its Open Meeting and small sale of work which begins at 2-30. Do please come along and meet members over a cup of tea—they love a chat. Proceeds from the sale will go to Club Funds.

BLAGRAVE W.I.

At the September meeting of the Blagrove W.I. Mrs. Howard Cusworth gave a very interesting talk, with samples, on "The Story of Linen" and this was very much enjoyed by members and friends. Mrs. Plumridge gave the vote of thanks. Miss Reynolds won the Flower of the Month Competition.

It was announced that Mrs. Sholl would hold a Whist Drive at her house on 21st November in aid of funds.

CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

At the September meeting

the chairman, Mrs. A. Smith, welcomed Mrs. B. Morley, the Federation chairman. She then reported that although there had been no Guild meeting in August, it had been a very busy month. An entry in the R.H.S. show had won second prize. A garden party in the garden kindly lent by Mrs. Bale had been very successful and a visit to Hambledon Vineyard had been very enjoyable in spite of inclement weather. Members were reminded of the Autumn Fair to be held on November 9th in Balmore Hall.

A very lucid and helpful talk on "Decimalisation" then followed. This was given by Mr. H. Hayes of Macfisheries Ltd. demonstration team. A vote of thanks was given by Miss E. Baker who was responsible for contacting the team and also for setting up a "Decimal shop", which was subsequently "opened", where members were able to buy actual goods using the new money kindly supplied by Macfisheries, together with a cash register operated by Mr. H. Hayes.

EMMER GREEN TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

The exhibit which took first place in the "Out of this World" competition at the Reading Show was on display at the Guild meeting in September when the speaker was Miss Cecilia Wolseley, whose subject was "Law from the Woman's Angle". During August a successful visit had been paid to the Globe Theatre. Mem-

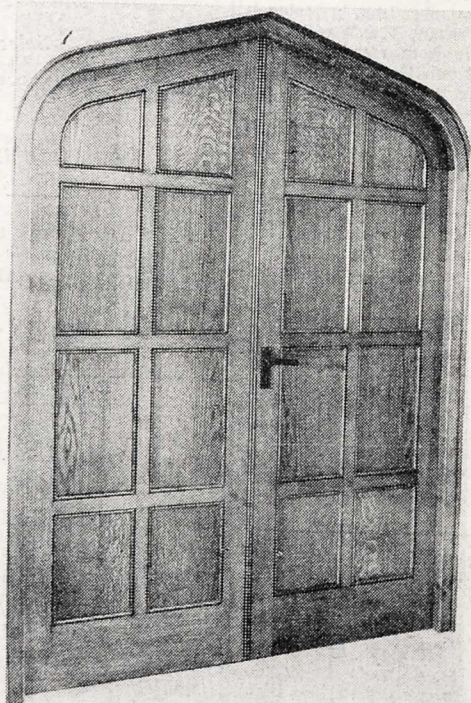
bers are now busy preparing for the "Autumn Fair and Bazaar" to be held on the 28th November.

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

Caversham Heights Townswomen were grateful this month to the Committee of the Methodist Hall in Highmoor Road who kindly lent their hall when St. Andrew's Hall was being used for the local elections. Every effort was made to let members know well in advance about the change of venue, and about the change of date of the usual Guild meeting due to a change in the date originally announced for the polling day, and over sixty members were present to hear Mr. J. Barnes, F.R.H.S., and Mr. C. King, F.R.H.S., both from Sutton's Seed Establishment, speaking on Flowers and Vegetables respectively.

Mr. Barnes and Mr. King showed many slides, and there were wistful sighs to be heard from many of the gardening enthusiasts present at the splendour of the products shown. Many useful tips about cultivation and choice of plants were learned and both speakers were inundated with questions. Mrs. Hammond thanked the speakers for their most useful and interesting talk.

During the month Guild members had taken part in outings to Kodak's photographic works at Harrow and also to Waddesdon Manor, and the Committee had also arranged two tea parties for some of the ladies from Warren House.



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THE YOUNGER GENERATION

GUIDE ACTIVITIES SUMMER 1970

1970 is Diamond Jubilee Year for the Guides and there have been several activities to celebrate this event. In June, Berkshire Guides converged on Newbury Race Course for a Rally. The morning was spent rehearsing for the afternoon's massed colours and the demonstrations illustrating the Eight Point Plan, the programme culminating with the presentation of a Mobile Eye Unit to the Commonwealth Society for the Blind for use in Pakistan.

With the Rally over, attention was turned to contributions for the Mayday Week Shop. What could the Guides make for very little outlay? Egg cosies and "turtle sponges" were started but then it was decided to make jam as well. A few keen guides picked, topped, tailed and washed gooseberries one evening and then went on to make the jam. There was a strict rota for stirring the jam, writing and sticking on the labels but putting tops on hot jars was not so popular.

Camp was the next major event. This year some ninety guides and guiders from Caversham camped near Swanage. Getting the equipment together and sorting it afterwards was a mammoth

task but well worth the effort. The weather co-operated quite well and it was dry for pitching camp and then after a few damp days improved and there was glorious sunshine. Highlights of the Camp included visits to the Blue Pool and Lulworth Cove; the walk to Corfe Castle over Nine Barrow Down on a sunny day showed the ruins in a perfect setting. The fancy dress parade showed incredible ingenuity and the Guides' Own Service on the site was wonderful—it did not seem to matter that the hymn books—had they been remembered—would have been all different.

At the beginning of September the Diamond Jubilee Spectacular was staged at Wembley Pool. Two coach loads of Guides went from Caversham to the Saturday evening performance. The first part was based on the theme of a circus into which the history of guiding was cleverly woven and after the interval the theatre workshop depicted the growth and destruction of a community followed by its rebirth. H.R.H. Princess Margaret was present and the Caversham Guides were particularly fortunate as their seats were above the refreshment area for V.I.P.'s and during the interval some of them were presented to the Princess.

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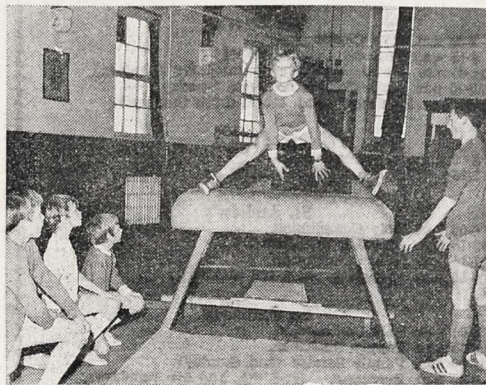


Photo: Walton Adams.

1st CAVERSHAM BOYS BRIGADE COMPANY

A company of the Boys' Brigade has been in Caversham for over 30 years, and during this time its H.Q. has been the Methodist Church in Gosbrook Road. The company was founded to meet the need of evacuees from London during the war. These lads moved to the area, and one of their first concerns was to link themselves with a B.B. company, and, unlike London, they found that no company existed in Caversham.

At that time a young man, Jimmy West, a member of the Methodist Church, heard of the need, and it was only a short time before a new company of the B.B. was formed. Along with B.B. officers from the Reading district the 6th Reading Company came to life. The nucleus of the company being the London boys.

From that time Jimmy West led them as Company Captain. Many hundreds of boys have passed through the ranks of the company, and many "old boys" throughout the world have cause to be grateful for the influence of Christian living and guidance from the 6th Reading Company and Jimmy West.

The object of the Boys' Brigade—"the advancement of Christ's Kingdom among boys, and the promotion of habits of obedience, reverence, discipline, self-respect, and all that tends towards a true Christian manliness", is

still held high in the Company today. The present captain, and the lieutenant in charge of the Junior Section, are both old boys of the company.

Last month the company changed its name, and is now known as the 1st Caversham Boys' Brigade Company, and still meets at Gosbrook Road Methodist schoolroom. The age range of the B.B. is 8 years to 19 years and splits into 3 sections. Junior Section 8 years—11 years, Company Section 11—17 years, Senior Section 17—19 years. The Junior Section meet every Wednesday evening from 6—8 o'clock, the Company and Senior Sections meet on Fridays from 7-15 p.m.—10 p.m.

Activities of the company are many. The photograph shows part of a P.T. session. There are also swimming, football, first-aid, expedition work, handicrafts, etc. The B.B. is a modern organisation for the "with it" boy. It develops self-respect, discipline, a sense of responsibility and provides Christian education to fit with a modern world. Many people are not aware that Sir William Smith, who founded the Boys' Brigade movement in 1883, was an adviser to Baden-Powell when he founded the Boy Scout movement in 1908.

During the months of October and November recruits will be welcome in all sections, and further details are available from Mr. A. Champion—telephone Reading 474034.



Photo: Walton Adams.

Mr. Rowe and Miss Purvey were married at St. John's Church, on September 26th.

Caversham District Girl Guides Swimming Gala Results

Brownies:

1st — 2nd Emmer Green	18 points
2nd — 1st Caversham	16 points
3rd — 3rd Caversham	11 points
4th — 1st Caversham	
5th Caversham	1 point
6th — 4th Caversham	5 points
7th — 2nd Caversham	
6th Caversham	7 points

Guides:

1st — 2nd Caversham	38 points
2nd — 12th Caversham	36 points
3rd — 1st Emmer Green	31 points
4th — 11th Caversham	19 points
5th — 6th Caversham	9 points
6th — 3rd Caversham	4 points

CAVERSHAM BOY TO SING IN VATICAN

11 year old Richard Thomas of Kidmore Road, Caversham will be a member of the choir which is flying to Rome to sing in St. Peter's for the canonisation on 25th October of the Forty English and Welsh Martyrs.

Richard, who was a pupil at St. Anne's Primary School for three years, is now at Westminster Cathedral Choir School. This is believed to be the first time that a foreign choir has been invited to perform on a papal occasion and so is a great honour for the Cathedral Choir and its conductor, Colin Mayby.

The BBC is filming the ceremony for showing on television at a later date.

CHEESE AND WINE PARTY

The Caversham District Girl Guides Local Association are holding their annual Cheese and Wine Party on Friday, 4th December in the Church House.

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November Sunday Services

ANGLICAN

St. Peter's

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9-15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION.
11-00 a.m. Matins (Holy Communion 3rd Sunday).
12-15 p.m. Holy Communion (1st Sunday).
6-30 p.m. Evensong (2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays).

St. John's

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9-15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.

St. Andrew's

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9-15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.
11-15 a.m. Holy Communion.
6-30 p.m. Evensong. (not 3rd Sunday).

St. Barnabas

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9-15 a.m. Family Eucharist.
11-00 a.m. Family Service (2nd Sunday).
6-30 p.m. Evensong. (2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays).

St. Margaret's, Mapledurham

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th Sundays).
9-15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION.
6-30 p.m. Evensong. (3rd 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

METHODIST CHURCHES

Caversham Heights

11-00 a.m. Morning Service.
6-30 p.m. Evening Service

Caversham

11-00 a.m. Morning Service.
6-30 p.m. Evening Service

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ROMAN CATHOLIC

St. Anne's

8-00 a.m., 9-30 a.m., 11-00 a.m., 7-00 p.m.—Mass.
Our Lady of Caversham
8-30 and 10-30 a.m.—Mass.

MRS. MIRIAM
STANFORD

The Baptist Church has lost one of its older members by the death of Mrs. Miriam Stanford following an accident at her home in Cromwell Road. The 'Caversham Bridge' extends sympathy to Mr. A. E. Stanford and family on the passing of a loved one. Mr. and Mrs. Stanford featured in the January issue of the 'Bridge' on the occasion of their Fifty-fifth Wedding Anniversary.

It is regretted that due to unexpected circumstances the choral and orchestral concert which was to be given by the King Edward VI School, Southampton, at St. Andrew's Hall on October 31st has had to be cancelled. TOC H extends sincere apologies to all intending patrons.

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Two people who thoroughly enjoy retired life in Caversham are the Miss Sidfords. They came to Morecambe Avenue from Hampstead in 1939 and are still in the same house. Both belong to the League of Friends and the Townswomen's Guild and both help with the Red Cross Handicapped Club in St. Andrew's Hall.

Barbara Sidford was educated at the Study, Wimbledon, where she also took a teacher's training course. She then went to China for three years and helped to start a private school out there. On her return to England she opened her own school, the Crescent, which is still flourishing, at Christchurch Hill, Hendon. Several years later she and her sister lived in Well Walk, Hampstead, opposite the famous Long Room. During the war she worked for Kinghams and later at the Shire Hall. Then back to teaching—first at Portway College till it closed, then at Waverley School, Crowthorne and Presentation Convent. Seven years ago she went to Hemdean House, finally retiring from teaching last July. Now she finds more time to work in the garden and enjoy reading.

Doris Sidford has been retired nearly six years from her work in the Public Health Service with the Greater London Council. She retired primarily to take up Red Cross work and other outside activities in which she was interested. Trained at King's College Hospital she first went into various branches of nursing, then worked in Dockland and Paddington with the Greater London Council. She came down with the evacuees for a year in the war and helped settle them into the Mapledurham area. Twice a week she cycled to Goring to help at clinics and attended others in St. Andrew's Hall, Micklands School and further afield at Sonning Common and Trench Green Hall. After a year back in London she returned to Reading for twelve months and when most of the evacuees had returned home she resumed normal duties in London again, this time travelling up daily to her work in Paddington, a journey she made daily for 31 years. Somehow she also managed to fit tutorials for several courses in mothercraft at a High School and dental nursing at Woodley Hill. Caversham Bridge wishes both these energetic sisters many happy and active years of retirement.

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August 30
Darren Lye
Nicole Lord
Graham Doyle

Sept. 27

Shawn Hunt
Mark Willis-Fleming

St. Andrew's

Sept. 6
Gorran Gilkerson

Sept. 20

Sally Pearce

St. Barnabas

August 30
Karen Head
Klin Head.

Sept. 13

Kenny Winslett

Married

St. Peter's

Sept. 5.
John Force and Jennifer Mackay.

Sept. 12

Allen Cole and Mary Eastman.

Sept. 26

Richard Palmer and Sandra Granville.

Peter Bruce and Celia Farrow.

St. John's

Sept. 26.
John Rowe and Susan Purvey.

St. Andrew's

Sept. 5

Kenneth Martin and Adrienne Slade
Peter Tomlinson and Carole Pigg.

Sept. 19

Michael Taylor and Gillian Warner

Richard Hulme and Patricia Burton.

St. Barnabas

Sept. 5

Christopher Pope and Vanda Jamroz.

St. Margaret's, Mapledurham

Sept. 5

Terence Webb and Linda Durrant

Christopher Edwards and Prudence Palmer.

Funerals.

St. John's

July 8

Thomas Higgs

July 10

Rosie Chivers

August 11

Thirza Pugsley

Sept. 16

Beatrice Gibbons

St. Barnabas

Sept. 11

John Walker.

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Many tributes have been paid to Dr. Leonard Wilson, the late Bishop of Birmingham and a trustee of Compass Newspapers. Here we publish a tribute to him from someone who shared his imprisonment during the War.

A recollection of BISHOP WILSON

Last week, looking back through a veil of years, I saw Bishop Leonard Wilson again in the Singapore Internment Camp. The news of his death has just reached me and, in my sorrow, I groped with my memories for I had been interned with him.

First I thought of the gripping way in which he took Communion services in Changi Gaol. No celebrant before or since has ever brought home to me the significance of Holy Communion as Bishop Wilson did.

I recall, too, how an atheistic fellow-internee had a talk to him one day and told me afterwards: "By God! he has convinced me. There is something magnetic about that man". Many people in Malaysia and in Birmingham will remember that magnetism.

He was tolerant and understanding, of course, but his sense of humour was remarkable and he could enjoy a joke or a situation with the best of them. He stimulated us in our hopeless-seeming situation and encouraged us enormously in our devious ways of passing time.

He suffered greatly in Changi Internment Camp, as all the world knows, but Leonard Wilson, Bishop of Singapore at that time, could not be daunted by the actions of man however evil.

B. NEYLAND.



People I've known

by R.C.R. Adkins

The Sailor

John Hoskins did not like parsons.

I had been told about him by a parishioner—"a poor old fellow, nearly 'pegging out'." Would I go and see him. I went round to the small dingy room where he lived, or rather existed, and found him crouched over a small fire; he was obviously very ill with bronchitis. When he saw my clerical collar he turned away and, without a word, gazed into the fire. We hardly had what could be called a conversation for he did not speak one word to me.

I continued however to go and see him and, in the intervals between coughing, he gradually 'opened up' and told me something about himself. In his younger days he had been a sailor and had been round the world more than once. He had taken to drink, had been to prison more than once and now—had come to this. He was desperately lonely, he had never married and, so far as I could find out, had no relatives.

I read, at times, passages from the Bible to him. He made no comment about these but did answer "Amen" to the little prayer I offered up each time I saw him.

I found out that he was very fond of meat and arranged for a parishioner, a butcher, to send him regularly a lamb chop. This he really enjoyed.

I was away, for a short time, on holiday and, when I returned, found that he had died suddenly. The woman who 'did' for him, she lived on the floor below told me that he had left a message for me. "Tell parson", he said, "I'm all right, I'm sailing home to God and tell him that it was not his preaching that did it, it was the lamb chops!"

letter FROM AUSTRALIA

BY DOROTHY O'NEILL

"It has opened up a whole new world..." said one member.

"It's good to know that I am no longer completely alone; that somebody cares..." said another.

"The day no longer stretches endlessly before me..." commented a third.

Who are they, and what has made such a difference in their lives?

Briefly—they are members of the Red Cross Telephone Club, a newly established Adelaide club designed to bring companionship and comfort into the lives of elderly folk, invalids and housewives. People of all ages, ranging from 17 to 86, belong to the club, finding friendship through the telephone.

The South Australian Red Cross Telephone Club is unique in Australia—and possibly in the Commonwealth. It is based on similar schemes being operated in Norway and Canada, and is designed around two systems. One, the "telephone chain" is for those who would like to have two social contacts each day, and who can afford to make one telephone call each day. In the telephone chain four to six people will be linked together. Each will make one call and receive one call each day.

The other is for those who only want one contact a day and who can only afford one call every other day. In the "couplet" system, two people are "matched" by the honorary organiser of the Club, and ring each other at pre-arranged times on alternate days.

Mr. Furness, a retired house decorator, plied with Mrs. Pauline Wark, honorary organiser of the Club, is happily linked with another elderly gentleman. Their friendship is flourishing, and they celebrated Mr. Furness's last birthday by meeting for lunch in town.

Another happy liaison has been formed between an elderly woman, completely alone in Australia, and a woman whose family has now become interested in Mum's telephone friend. Recently they took Mum and friend by car for an outing to the seaside.

Young British wives who have emigrated to Australia readily find friendship in their own age group, but this doesn't prevent them from missing Mum. By linking the young wife with an older woman, the Telephone Club is helping to meet a particular need.

Warm-hearted Mrs. Wark is particularly thrilled when she herself receives a call from people who tell her just how much the Club means to them. The wife of a Club member suffering from a speech defect rang up joyfully to say how her husband's speech is improving since he gained a telephone friend. A man rang up to say that his wife, a stroke victim, has at last begun to take a real interest in life—and all because of the Telephone Club.

And so meaningful companionship is driving loneliness from the lives of folk and giving purpose to their day. Occasionally it supplies instant help. For instance, the telephone partner of one member who didn't answer her phone at the pre-arranged time, immediately alerted the Red Cross, who sent a social worker on an emergency visit to the home. Finding her ill, he at once arranged for hospital treatment, and for follow-up hospital visits.

So here is a friendly service which is enriching the lives of the lonely and giving fulfilment to those who wish to serve others through friendship. It is a new lifeline which fights off the dread of a disabling accident that haunts elderly people living alone. It is a comfort to sons and daughters living away from their elderly parents to know that the Red Cross is caring for them in this particular way. It is a most benign service.



Mr. Furness with Mrs. Pauline Wark, the Club organiser.

NO BANANAS

by Olive Parker

The family found it a big change from a well-heeled suburb of an American city to the most under-developed part of an under-developed country.

Father was soon happily plunged into useful work. The children found it all highly exciting. Mother had a problem.

"The children round us have nothing to eat but bananas and sometimes not many of those. Every day I wonder what I ought to do."

"Our intention was to make ourselves one with the people here. So do I give my kids bananas and not many of them? Or do I import the sort of food they're used to?"

Of course I go on feeding the four kids as usual. So Bill and I eat our usual food as well.

"But I wonder all the time".

If we take seriously the literature urging us to give aid to the hungry, it ought to be everybody's problem. We cannot see with our physical eyes the starvation we know with our intelligence is rampant in great stretches of the world. But they are our neighbours though unseen. So is it enough to write out a cheque now and again, making sure that we leave enough in the bank for that summer holiday or those meals out and the other things that give colour to our lives?

Am I justified in arguing that, even if I gave my all, it would in fact provide only one or two extra bananas for a very few children?

This is a problem that must be solved and fast. There's a concert coming up and I would love to hear that Monteverdi. We ought to be booking a hotel for the holiday. And I must have something decent to wear when I go to the in-laws.

The only thing is to devise as good a system as possible and stick to it. There's an old tradition of giving that comes in handy here. First of all, give away a tenth before too many deductions have been made. Then apportion the rest in ways that make for joy in living. Because it doesn't help anybody if we all mess about in a mire of misery, having lost the art of enjoying a world that has been given us to enjoy.

All the same, those bananas gave me a twinge whenever I went to the greengrocers'. I went right off them. I think I must try to squeeze out a bit extra for Christian Aid. It would be nice to enjoy bananas and cream again.

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RUGBY-the players' game

Rugby Union is not a spectator's game. It is a game for those who play it.

Of course, we all know some gentle old lady, who may not be able to tell Twickenham from a knitting pattern, but who will rise cheering on rheumatically legs in front of her telly as a latter-day Obolensky or Hancock—all beauty and poetry—slices through the opposition to score in the corner.

Such sights the spectator can drink to and mull over for ever; partly because they are as rare as a bikini in winter.

For most of the match our gentle old lady must wait in hope eternal as action halts every five seconds for half of each team either to crash together in a heaving huddle looking for something on the floor or to line up for an interlude reminding her of that other great game, Queenie. There is the constant threat of a final, fatal thrombosis.

The only spectator likely to be enthralled all through is an out-of-work player. He will appreciate the non-stop stops, the mauls, the scrums, the tackles. He will feel at home when the weather is wet (90% of the season) and the forwards have to play it tight with the backs merely acting as chaperones.

Facts about Rugby's origins and character encourage this situation. It is an amateur game and everyone, from top to muddy bottom, is in it together. There is no league championship or club cup to play for, so there is that much less crowd appeal. The traditional ideal (in spite of squad-training) is still to pick 15 chaps who will turn up on the day and play a blinder.

No craving here for the heady atmosphere of Brazilian football and brighter cricket. Rugby football's contribution to the sporting scene is different. If you've played it, you'll know. If not, then you might as well rest content with the clips of the glamorous try-scorers on the T.V. News.



COLLECTOR'S PIECE



By Dinah Lawrence

It used to be said that no matter how hard the working day, or whatever business worries had worn a man (or woman's) nerves to shreds, once home from work a man could unwind and relax with the aid of his favourite hobby.

Alas, it is not so today, for so often a man carries his business life into the realm of his hobby, as is the case with such hobbies as collecting stamps, coins or antiques.

For instance, a year ago I renewed my interest in coin collecting. I was first a collector of coins way back in the 1940's, and at that time one collected coins, or to put it more correctly one was a Numismatist because one LIKED coins.

I still LIKE coins, and I thought fellow enthusiasts liked them too, so I joined a numismatists' society.

What a shock I received. No one, it seemed, collected coins because they liked them, because they were interested in the history of the coins concerned, far from it, coins were collected for their INVESTMENT value only.

It didn't matter a hoot what the coin was, its history or story behind it, all that mattered was "How little can I pay for it now, and how MUCH will it be worth in a year or two's time?"

And this was the only consideration.

At the Society I joined we often had most interesting speakers, men and women who really did like coins for their own sake,

but hardly any of the audience listened to them. During the whole time the speaker was talking, various little 'sales' and 'auctions' were going on all around the room, and earnest discussions about what a mint or proof set would be worth in X-number of months or years.

Finally, in disgust I left the Society, for it was clear that hardly anyone there was interested in collecting coins, only in collecting more money.

I have since learnt from friends that a similar state of affairs exists at other societies concerned with philately, and so forth. No one collects anything for the fun of it anymore, just for the finance of it!

What a sad state of affairs this is.

When the rat-race of everyday business life invades one's leisure hours how can one possibly relax? For when this happens one's hobby has become merely an extension of one's business, and thus it is no longer a hobby, but a secondary business.

In these days of ever rising costs it would be foolish indeed to suggest that money isn't important, or that one should not work hard in order to obtain it, but when the working day is over one ought to relax and refresh the mind and soul with something that has nothing whatever to do with making money.



So you want a Guitar?

For some time now the guitar has been one of the most popular musical instruments for the do-it-yourself musician, and there is no sign yet that it is going out of favour. With the 'what to get them for Christmas' season just round the corner, here are a few basic tips about buying a guitar and doing something with it when you've got it.

New guitars vary tremendously in price, and you'll find a range in most shops from £10 to £150. This of course is for the Spanish and Folk 6-string variety—not for the solid guitar of the pop groups. If you're going to buy new then it's wise to ask your dealer to show you the Japanese range. As in so many other things, the Japanese have managed to produce a quality product at a much cheaper price than their competitors.

If you're not buying new, then there's a lot to be said for a tour round the second hand shops that specialise in exchanges. Very often they have instruments for sale at very low prices. Look for two things, lightness and tone. Don't be taken in by fancy patterns and decorations. A heavy instrument is not likely to be a good one, whatever it looks like.

If the person who wants the guitar is a beginner then it is more sensible to buy a Spanish guitar with gut strings—it's easier on the fingers until they harden up. But remember that you can't put steel strings on guitars made to take gut.

For the folk singer the steel strung guitar is often preferred, played with a plectrum, but the classical guitar is always played finger style with gut strings.

The beginner who wants to play classical guitar will not be able to manage without a teacher unless he is a musical genius, but the budding folk singer can get by with one of the many teach-yourself manuals that give basic instructions and chord shapes. The best combination on the market is probably "Teach Yourself Folk Guitar" by John Pearce of the B.B.C. series "Hold Down a Chord". This consists of a 12" L.P. and a 40 page book that gives all that's needed—apart from the will to practise. It's produced by SAGA in conjunction with the English Folk Dance and Song Society.

One last word—every beginner thinks the whole thing is impossible and that hands were never meant to distort into the shapes necessary to hold down a chord. There's no harm in thinking it as long as he doesn't believe it. What's needed above everything else is the kind of stickability that will keep going for six months in spite of all odds—and then the rewards will flood in and this wonderfully versatile instrument will give a great deal of pleasure.



A well known girl and her guitar—
Julie Felix

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COMPASS CLUB



We'd like to write a special welcome to every new Compass Club member, but we can't. The Editor says there's not enough space! But we're making enough space to say a special 'Hi there' to Brian Faulks, our first overseas member. Brian is ten years old and lives at Parma, Idaho. We'd love to hear something about you and about Parma, Brian. So please write and tell us. The same goes for any other Compass members who'd like to write and tell us something about themselves and their home town and village. Extracts from your letters will appear on this page!



Make yourself at home!

I read within a poet's book
A word that started the page:
'Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor iron bars a cage.'

Yes, that is true, and something more:
You'll find, where'er you roam,
That marble floors and gilded walls
Can never make a home.

But every house where Love abides,
And Friendship is a guest,
Is surely home, and home-sweet-home;
For there the heart can rest.

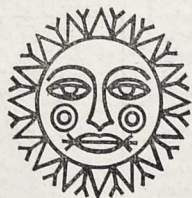
HIDDEN HOMES

Hidden in each sentence below is a different kind of dwelling place. Can you discover all six of them? (Answers below).

'Is it raining again?'
I gloomily asked.
Was Scott aged thirty when
he wrote Kenilworth?
Cut up a lace curtain, dear,
to make a wedding
train.
Albert entered the arena.
The TV forecast less rain
for tomorrow.
Please shut the door.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLE

1800; cottage; palace;
lent; castle; hut.



OUR WEATHER

West Indian: 'I like your climate. You have four seasons in one day!'

NOT WHAT HE MEANT TO SAY!

Fussy old gentleman, seated at the head of the dinner table, and trying to make his guests feel welcome: 'I'm at home, and I wish you were!'

NATIONAL COMPASS, NOVEMBER, 1970—SEVEN



ON GLANCING BACK

People say this is the age of great discoveries and inventions. Well, we've seen some stupendous ones in our time, we admit—man landing on the moon, Jumbo Jets, coloured TV, and what-have-you. But glance back over your shoulder into time past and imagine what a thrill people must have had when they first got things that we take for granted nowadays. They probably thought they lived in an age of great inventions too. And so they did! Imagine when indoor loos were first invented and you could pull the chain and down flushed the water washing the pan clean. Or what about the people who first had the thrill of switching on the electric light, instead of groping around with oil lamps and candles. Or the first people to have a telephone ringing in the house. It must have seemed sheer magic.

Makes you think a bit! We aren't the only clever ones!

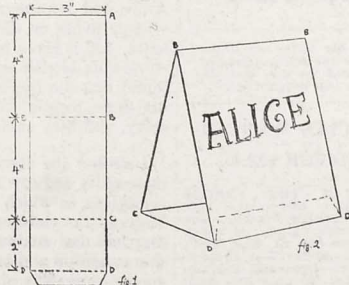


COMPASS MESSAGE

Here is this month's silly story in code for members. You receive a copy of the code when you become a member.
5 6I378?4B4X 9TX T5XQ L5J 5295IX 5 T3B4I 691 ?84 631J? ?3A4. "X9 J83CJ T3*4 ?83J J3B* K4IQ 96?4B" J84 5J*4X 5 X4Y* 85BX. "B9, T5XQ" 84 I4CT34X, "9BTQ 9BY4".

MAKE A STAND-UP CARD

Cut a strip of stiff paper 10½ ins. by 3 ins. Divide it as shown in fig. 1, and fold along the dotted lines BB, CC, DD, to make a stand (fig 2). It is best to have the distance from BC a little shorter than AB as this will make it stand better.

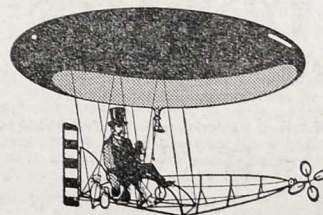


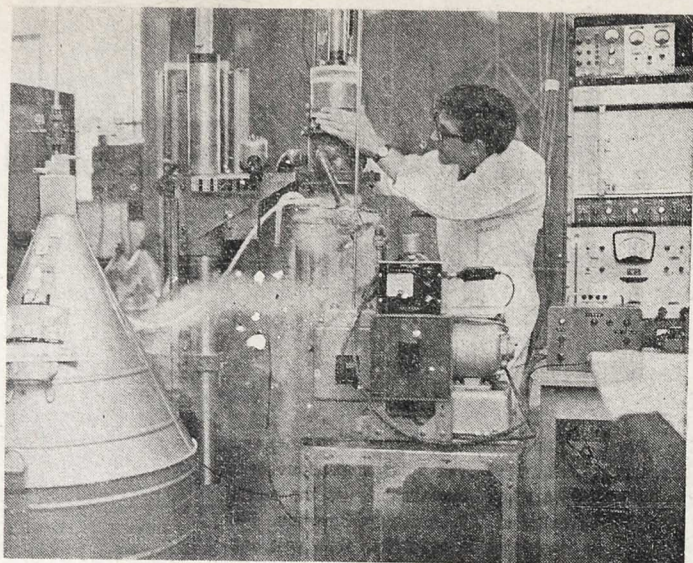
The card can be used as a mount for a favourite picture, or you could decorate the front and paste on a calendar tab (this would make a good Christmas present). Smaller versions of the card would make the table look gay at a tea party. Have a card for each guest and print his or her name on it. Place the appropriate card where you want that guest to sit. (You could use this idea at Christmas too!)

FLYING HIGH

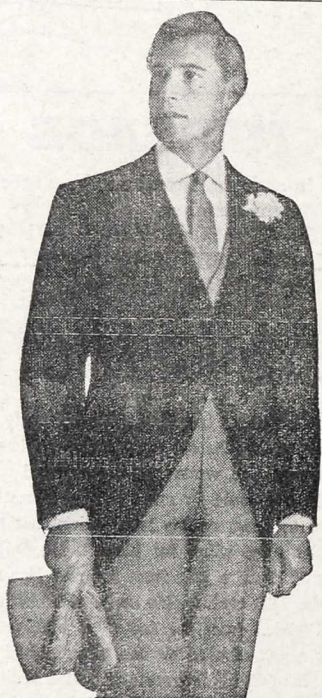
It seems that man has always wanted to fly through the air. Even one of the old Psalm writers, when he was a bit fed-up with life, wrote: 'Oh! that I had wings like a dove! Then I would fly away and be at rest!' But it didn't seem to dawn on his imagination that he might try to invent some wings for himself. He only wished that he could pinch a pair from a dove! Not so a librarian in the 11th century. He designed himself a pair of wings and glided from the top of a high tower. Unfortunately a gust of wind hit him when he had travelled 300 yards. It upset his balance and he fell to the ground and broke both his legs. Despite his fall he lived to a good old age and he always maintained that he wouldn't have failed if he'd fixed a tail plane to his machine.

Another man to have a shot at flying was an Italian, Violante. In June, 1727, he descended head first, arms and legs extended, from the top of the steeple of St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church in London, swept over the houses which in those days were near the church, and landed on the further side of the Royal Mews—a distance of 300 yards in half a minute!





The Technologist



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**Man
in the
street**

by Ken Hills

The teacher in a Welsh valley was questioning his pupils:

"Who gave us our lovely school?"
Class: "Nye Bevan."

"Who gave us our fine community centre?"
Class: "Nye Bevan."

"And who gave us our beautiful valley?"—came a lone voice: "God".—
Rest of class: "Who's that blooming tory?"

It's a bit like the one about the child in a city centre school who was asked by his teacher: "Where do we get milk from?" and answered: "Out of a bottle."

I suppose that in the Welsh valleys they're still training future Labour politicians—and in the city schools our future technologists.

There is sure to be one in your street. He, or she, may be a scientist of some kind, laboratory worker, engineer, designer or suchlike. They're the people who make useful the host of scientific discoveries of our modern age. They are not required to consider whether their useful things and techniques are actually of value.

They are skilled technicians working and developing new synthetics, new man-made substitutes for scarce natural resources, new fertilizers, new methods (e.g. of agriculture, animal raising, carriage of goods etc.), new modes of transport (plus new roads and new vehicles to fill the roads plus new roads for them!), new things, gadgets, devices (which you don't yet know you desperately need—and a few of which may actually be necessary), and so on.

Probably, the personal dream of the technologist you know is—or once was—

to use his skill to produce the necessities of life for everyone—to produce food, shelter, clothing, heating, education with such integrity, ease and engineering cunning that no-one need be without—to help achieve something which is not only "useful" but "valuable".

Yet his life's work hasn't produced much to impress an old age pensioner, or those who are forced to retire before they can afford dignity, or the inadequately housed (tens of thousands in Birmingham alone) or those who live near airports or their approach and departure corridors, or near motorways or polluted rivers and seashores, or those who find their old firm suddenly an insignificant part of a huge organisation, and on, and on.

We all share the same advantages—if we're middle class—and certainly the same disadvantages. Maybe a technologist sometimes wonders if, just because we know "how" to do things as never before, we necessarily should, or whether man has the values to use his useful technology well.

As a technologist he is required only to ask the question "How?" and produce a useful answer.

As a human being both he and his neighbour must begin to ask the question "Why?" and aim for something which is of human value.

We must ask ourselves: "In what am I seeking security and value and meaning—things? Or persons?"

There is something sad about the naive confidence of our society. The boy in this conversation is surely a budding technologist:

Little girl: "Isn't that a beautiful little oak tree?"

Little boy: "Yes it certainly is."

Little girl: "Isn't it a pity that we won't be around when it is fully grown?"

Little boy: "Why, where are we going?"

Where are we going?

IT'S NO HOLIDAY FOR THEM

Malcolm Blaymire, an Oxfam Specialist on the Palestine Refugee problem spotlights part of the Society's aid in the Middle East.

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Casablanca and Marakesh. Those names conjure up visions of glorious holidays and exotic tourist attractions, but not for the Jews who live in those cities. Because of the conflict between Arabs and Jews many of them are starving or living on the borderline of existence. Aid is given to them by their own worldwide Jewish organisation, but they found that the financial burden of helping these people was far too much to carry, and they asked for Oxfam's help.

I visited the Jewish Centres in both these cities and saw for myself the awful conditions in which many of them live. Many of the children were underweight; they had that anxious, drawn look, poor skin condition and lack-lustre hair which are outward signs of malnutrition. Many of the adults showed clearly the signs of acute hunger, despite the fact that their own organisation was doing all that it possibly could.

All that I saw pointed positively to a dire need existing, and hence I recommended that Oxfam make grants totalling £4,440 for the Jewish Centres in both cities. This has brought extra food and improved services particularly for the 1,000 infants and toddlers involved.

It is not a big scheme, it is not worldwide, but it is another example of the excellent use to which Oxfam's funds are put in helping to meet desperate human needs.

GOOD FOR A LAUGH

