



# CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

DECEMBER 1970

8d.

Buying a dishwasher?  
Go one better

the new  
**Swanmaid**  
De-luxe  
Top Speed Dishwasher

- 15-25 MINUTE PROGRAMME
- STAINLESS STEEL INTERIOR
- GUARANTEED TWO YEARS

BULPITT & SONS LIMITED, BIRMINGHAM 1.



## *A letter to the Christmas Con Man*

Dear Father Xmas,

I'm fed up to the back teeth with the sort of Christmas you foist on us every year. I don't mind seeing your grinning face around just before December 25th — but six or eight weeks of it turns me over.

From October you expect me to start building up to Christmas, crushing into shops spending all my cash.

The scale of preparations you kid me into bogs me down. I want to be more free to celebrate the birthday of Jesus. And I can't do that unless we slow the pace down a bit.

Christmas may be one great boozy, busy, pricey knees-up for you and your mates. And good luck if that's really all you want. But I've had enough. I'm jumping off the sleigh, jingle bells and all.

Your disillusioned friend,  
Xmas Drop Out.



*Victims of the Christmas Con Trick. A none too happy crowd of Christmas shoppers outside Selfridges.*



## little things mean a lot

**I**N the controversy which has raged about demonstrations against apartheid in South Africa a very interesting argument has been used. It was used, you may remember, in some of the correspondence published in this paper. The argument goes: "If you demonstrate against racial oppression by white against black, you ought equally to demonstrate against the racial oppression of black against black and brown which exists in parts of Africa; and if you protest against a political tyranny in Greece, you ought to be similarly violently opposed to the political tyranny of communist regimes."

This argument is, in part, an appeal to consistency. And that's fair enough! It is a good policy to try to be consistent, to avoid double standards, to let goose and gander share the same sauce. It's not easy, but it does make sense, and it is a sign of maturity when people practice it.

The argument is also, in part, a stick to beat an opponent. Those who are politically biased towards the right habitually accuse those who are politically biased towards the left of being politically biased. And vice-versa. Since we are all to some extent illogical and inconsistent, it is quite an easy and effective



**The  
Charles  
Hodgson  
Column**

of adding, "And if you can't do it for all, you mustn't do it for any." And this is precisely what some of the controversialists sometimes seem to be saying: either omnipotence or impotence; either solve all the world's problems or none at all.

We can't do everything. None of us can. But what we can do we should do, even though it may be partial, biased and inconsistent. Somebody else may then do something which supplements our action and redresses the balance. It is useful to have wise guidelines to avoid excesses and to maintain equilibrium. But it is essential to have drive and initiative to establish momentum. It's rather like riding a bicycle. You have got to start pedalling before your sense of balance becomes important.

Every little helps, provided it is offered. Of course it should be the biggest little we've got, but it must be offered. Christmas is a time when little things mean a lot; a little present conveys a lot of love, a little Child brings hope to the whole world. But the present has to be given, and the Child had to be born. And even that Child couldn't do everything. When he died there was still slavery, oppression, intolerance and greed. But what he could, he did, and the world has not been the same since.

weapon for our opponents to use.

On the face of it, this argument seems at worst, harmless, and at best, sensible. Indeed, who could criticise the saying, "What you do for one you should do for all." But it can so easily become disastrous if it is allowed to lead on to the very short step

## letters

*Names and addresses of all correspondents have been supplied.*

Sir,

In swinging circles I'm generally regarded as a reactionary old square, but a couple more articles in the vein of Charles Hodgson's anti-drink effusion will see me signing up with the permissives—pot and all.

I don't smoke cigarettes, my alcohol intake averages a glass of sherry a week and I can't afford to keep a mistress. So I have no axe to grind.

According to the Hodgsons of this world—and their female counterparts the Mary Whitehouses—prohibition is the panacea. Hodgson would ban all drink adverts and even stop comedians making jokes about drunks. He would even seek to stop that ancient custom of 'standing around'—the man must be demented!

Ye Gods, what a dreary and dreadful world to look forward to if the Hodgsons ever come to power. Where will they stop their prohibiting? People die on the roads—will they ban motor cars? People fall down stairs—will they make us live in bungalows? Women die in childbirth—will they halt procreation?

Take the risk out of living and most of the pleasure dies. Even now much that adds spice to life is either immoral, illegal or fattening. The Hodgsons would turn us into a nation of teetotal, non-smoking, vegetarian, pacifist wet-nellies—not to mention the sexual frustrations.

I'm all for freedom. Provided they only harm themselves, I'm all for letting people go to hell in their own way—and at their own expense. Bad cess to Charles Hodgson and his dreary band of dogooders.

Praepondero

Sir,

May I thank you for your article on alcoholism in the October issue of Compass, which I found most enlightening. I am an alcoholic and a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Alcoholism is a disease, very similar to diabetes, in that as a diabetic cannot tolerate sugar so an alcoholic cannot tolerate alcohol, even one drink. There is a saying in A.A. that "one drink is too many but 100 is not enough", for the alcoholic that is. The alcoholic is never, nor ever can be, a social drinker because of this. Whilst he may appear to be a social drinker, under the surface he is not, because usually before he goes out for a social occasion he tops up before he goes to give himself 'courage' and always tucks a bottle somewhere for next morning. The disease is progressive, even when the alcoholic is not drinking; and should he take a drink after many years of sobriety, then the manifestations of the disease are that much worse.

Nevertheless an alcoholic cannot face a complete future without alcohol so he faces his problem a day at a time. This is why the 'Pioneers', a Roman Catholic organisation who pledge a lifetime of abstinence, or Church Temperance Society cannot help the alcoholic. They can however help the heavy drinker—who is not an alcoholic.

Thank you again for your article.

Frank.

Sir:

Charles Hodgson's article on Alcoholism rather missed out on the real causes of the disease, which in my opinion are sexual frustration, loneliness and overwork.

My suggestions to counteract may shock some readers, but as they work in such cities as Hamburg and Amsterdam.

*I feel they are worth considering.*

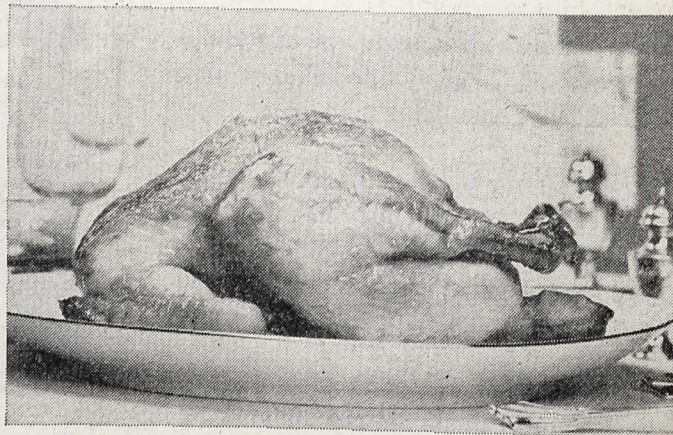
The introduction of Ministry of Health supervised brothels and homosexual clubs, which at the same time would provide a control of Venereal Disease. A sweeping introduction I grant you, but if alcohol is killing tens of thousands of people, mainly male, surely it is worth considering?

J.C.W.



**BUXTED**

**Britain's Finest  
Chicken**



The Buxted Chicken Co. Ltd. Buxted, Sussex. Buxted 3291-6



Children are eager learners, but there are some things that they should not know about too early—and sex is one of them says Dr. Louise Eickhoff in her article.

## Don't teach about sex too soon

says Dr. Louise F. W. Eickhoff

Dr. Louise F. W. Eickhoff is a consultant child psychiatrist who in this article argues that just as a baby is protected in its mother's womb from all harmful outside influences, so a child needs to be protected from the wrong sort of emotional experience before its second 'birth' at adolescence.

There is a world which only our bodies remember. A dark world where time was marked by the rhythms of our mother's breathing and pulse beat. A world called Womb. A perfect Heaven, giving security, nourishment, warmth and protection and a supremely intimate relationship, as well as a flexible but firm restriction of our freedom which kept our limbs and head from dislocating. A Heaven which always provided us with the fullest chance of life.

We knew little of the world waiting for us. All the living necessary outside the security of the womb was done for us by our mother. She did the eating and breathing for us and she monitored through her own body anything that came to us from the outside, translating it into a simpler, undisturbed language, easy for us to take in.

Freed from all responsibility for living, unaware of what lay round the corner, we went ahead in peace with the business of growing and developing. We were getting ready for the test, the transition from the Womb to the World. Only our mothers knew when it was time for us to enter the world and no one could forecast how long it would take.

When we first saw the light of day and faced reality we howled to be put back where it was warm, cosy and home. But with the first touch of the world a control lever was once and for all pushed over, switching all our body systems from Womb to World operation. If we were premature there was no going back, for in the new born child what is already planted will proceed to develop, and what is not there never will be.

Long before birth the body sets up an intelligence service which will last it a lifetime. Each body cell whispers back to a central bureau all sorts of information. By the time a baby is born it has a real knowledge of warmth, security, nourishment, protection, and restriction. The Womb is the world and the teacher.

When we are born this same intelligence service tells us that the new world is very like the old but this time our impressions come from an enormous giantess with the same vibrations and rhythms as we knew in the

womb. Felt, not really seen, this giantess seems a vast source of all that we enjoyed in the womb. In addition to this giantess—our mother, there is the giant—our father. Between them they give more exciting vibrations, and the immense impression of their love forms another womb in which personality is developed. A womb in which we are fed with love, standards of behaviour and knowledge of relationships, both worldly and heavenly.

In order for the child to grow emotionally in this new womb it needs the same conditions as its previous world. It needs womb peace and freedom from all involvement in the next stage of development. It must be kept free from the adult's world so that it can mature for the next 'birth' which is adolescence.

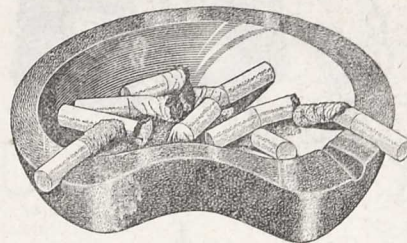
Just as the mother alone is aware when the time for the birth of her baby has come, only parents know when their child is ready to be let into the 'secret' world of the adult, and no one can tell how long adolescence will take. Normal babies stay in the womb an average of 280 days and through the ages the average period of innocence has been recognised as 12 years.

Once a child is born into the adult world there is no going back. The premature baby cannot go back to the womb to be completed and neither can the child born into the emotional world of the adult go back to dependent innocence. In both cases the control switch has been thrown once and for all. What is not laid down in morals, standards, attitudes, relationships, disciplines and love will remain deficient and the most disastrous defect is a retention of the love system of childhood. It needs the whole time of adolescent struggle to convert the self satisfying, cupboard love of childhood to the sacrificial quality of true love and any short cut harms the conversion. Sex education although a well meaning attempt to equip the child for adulthood in fact does the opposite by damaging the pregnancy, by causing a premature birth.

When a baby is born its health depends upon a full pregnancy however wearying and uncomfortable that might be for the mother. The personality too needs a full term pregnancy, a time of total dependence in the womb of love and innocence, when parents carry on the necessary life in the adult world, monitoring everything before passing it on to the child.

Adolescence is no more pleasant than birth but if a whole and living adult person is to go forth from the home into the world, en-route for the Kingdom of God, there must be a full term of childhood and adolescence before Reality's dawning, with no interference from outside the love bond. He who does so interfere, even in the name of Education, risks grave damage to the structure of the person, more to be feared than killing the body.

## YOU, TOO, CAN GIVE UP SMOKING



Smoking is a bad habit! Doctors are united in telling us that cigarette smoking is the prime cause of the alarming increase in deaths from lung cancer and other respiratory diseases.

Those teetering on the brink of trying to do something about the smoking habit will be greatly helped by an attractively produced, amusingly illustrated and nevertheless hard hitting pamphlet produced by the Chest and Heart Association called "How to Stop Smoking".

The booklet is full of pertinent statistics from the observation that a 20-a-day man spends roughly £100 per year on cigarettes to the fact that in 1968 29,675 people died from lung cancer. We are told that though non-smokers do develop this disease only 1 in 300 are affected—but 1 in 25 of the 10-a-day group, and 1 in 8 of the 20-a-day group of smokers are victims.

Most people think they will be among the lucky ones to escape. One doctor quoted in the pamphlet asks what people would think if on boarding an aeroplane the hostess's greeting was "Welcome aboard the aircraft. We hope you will have a pleasant journey and I am glad to be able to tell you only 1 flight in 8 actually crashes".

Having by sheer force of logic made us acknowledge the foolhardiness of smoking the pamphlet goes on to give some words of advice to the faint-hearted who only feel able to kick the habit by degrees. These titbits vary from "never smoke in bed" to "never smoke within an hour before a meal". The final hurdle apparently is to decide which is the most enjoyable cigarette of the day, and then give it up. When you've done that, you've won.



"How to Stop Smoking" and similar pamphlets can be obtained from the Chest and Heart Association, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9JE.

This is a

# compass

Newspaper

Does  
YOUR Church  
want one?



Write to:  
Compass Newspapers  
319 Gazette Buildings,  
Corporation Street,  
Birmingham 4.





## A CATALOGUE of CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS

by Anne Phillips

Christmas cards are the descendants of decorated sheets of paper called Christmas Pieces. These were sheets on which schoolboys wrote just before the Christmas holidays to show their parents how they had improved in composition writing during the term. These so-called 'Pieces' were popular in the early nineteenth century. About 1845 some people adopted the idea of sending personal greeting cards to their friends, and soon after printers began to prepare special cards which were on sale to the public. Lewis Carroll, the author of "Alice in Wonderland", is said to have drawn the first of these.

In Holland Christmas festivities begin on December 6th with the arrival of St. Nicholas. According to tradition he goes round on a white horse, attended by a black servant. He wears the red robes of a Bishop and carries a huge sack of presents for the children and a birch for the naughty ones. Children hang up their klompen, or clogs, on St. Nicholas' Eve, putting into them sugar and hay for his horse. In the morning these are gone, and in their place are gingerbread cakes, sometimes over two feet tall.

Traditional fare varies in different countries. Canadians eat *touffieres*, or meat pies which have been made the week before and frozen.

In Australia, where it is hot on Christmas Day, plum pudding is eaten with ice cream.

The French Christmas Eve supper is a great tradition. There are oysters, black or mealy pudding, goose or turkey with chestnuts and foie-gras with salad. A punch is made from rum poured on sliced oranges and then set alight.

In Poland a typical menu consists of soup of varying kinds, such as beetroot, fish prune and almond. Fish is prepared in many different ways and there is cabbage with noodles made from poppy seed and honey.

Needless to say, many lovely legends have been woven round the Christmas Story. Let me tell you one of them about that delicate yet hardy flower known as the Christmas Rose.

Outside an Inn a shepherd girl stood watching the splendid Magi bringing their gifts to the Holy Child. She wept bitterly, for she too loved the Christ Child, but alas she was poor and she had no gift to offer. It was a severe winter too and there were no flowers. An angel passing by saw her distress, stooped and threw aside the snow. There underneath were the roses.

"Nor gold, nor frankincense nor myrrh is more meet for the Christ Child than these pure winter roses" he said.



## A Matter of GEOMETRY

CAR  
SENSE

by

BRIAN FAVELL

I am constantly surprised at the number of motorists who act as if they were guided by a special homing radar when they get near their destination. They just point their bonnet at the place they want to get to—be it front drive, garage or parking space—and forge straight ahead until they get there. My instinct is quite the reverse—I like to back in every time! Of course, this may be due to a simple desire to have an escape path, like the burglar who opens a window before he starts work.

On the other hand, I like to think that my habit is the result of appreciating the geometry of the business. And if that language is too technical, just look at it this way.

Every ordinary car has the front wheels steerable: the back wheels can only roll straight ahead. This means that however accurately you position the front end, when moving forward in a curve the back end tends to drag all to one side like a sack of coal. Suppose you are entering a car park in which you have to make a sharp right turn to park in a seven foot wide gap between two cars. You swing round on full lock and get your front end rolling in exactly down the centre of the space. Then you become aware that all is not as it should be at the back: your offside rear wheel is just on the point of removing the rear wing of the car to your right.

At this point you stop, reverse straight out across the flow of traffic: left hand hard down when you've got clearance, so as to get your rear end in line with where you want it, then right hand hard down to get your front end back where it should be. Then you try again hoping that you've got it right, because once your front end is in the gap you've got no room to steer.

Now think of it the other way. As you approach the space, keep close to the cars parked on that side. When you're abreast of the space, left hand hard down until you are in a position where, by reversing with right hand hard down, the back end will neatly enter the gap. If you've made an error of a few inches at this stage, no matter. You've got all the room in the world to swing the front end around until you're on the right line; then, straight back in. No trouble. And you're all set for a quick getaway too.

Of course, you won't make a quick getaway because of all the other mugs madly manoeuvring to get in or out the wrong way.



## He put the Bang into CRACKERS

by Edyth Harper

Children who lived before 1848 never knew the fun of pulling crackers at a party. Today the boxes of pretty coloured crackers are a part of Christmas, thanks to a man called Tom Smith.

Tom Smith founded what is now the large factory that makes most of the crackers in the world. He kept a sweet shop and he also kept his eyes open. He liked to close his shop once a year and travel abroad. In 1847 he went on holiday to France. Naturally he took special notice of the French sweets, particularly one variety wrapped up in a twist of paper. These "bonbons" seemed so popular with children that Tom decided to copy the idea.

A year later he made some in England. They sold well but still Tom was not satisfied. He wanted to make them even more popular, so he experimented by putting some mottoes and tiny novelties inside the paper wrappings. This new variety sold even better than he expected.

1849 proved a most successful year for him. People went out of their way to visit his shop in order to buy this new kind of sweet.

One evening Tom was resting by the fire. He stretched out his foot to kick a log into place. It hissed and crackled, throwing out a shower of sparks. Tom

sat up suddenly. If only he could put something in his sweets that would go "pop"! What could he use that would be safe, easy to make and not frighten his customers?

For some months he experimented until finally he found a chemical that was safe yet would produce a mild "bang". Tom had his customers very much in mind when he introduced the bang into his crackers. The slip of paper carrying the chemical was so fixed that it could easily be pulled out. Those who dread the noise can still enjoy the cracker once this thin strip is removed.

At first Tom employed only a few dozen people but soon he had to engage more. Today Smith's factory employs 500. £3,000,000 is spent each year on crackers, some of which go all over the world. A special consignment is even sent to the British Embassy in Moscow.

The favourite colour for crackers is red, though they can be bought with all sorts of elaborate decorations. The most popular "fillings" are small toys and novelties such as rings and brooches. Sometimes people have ordered special crackers, to be made to enclose gifts for special occasions but most people are quite happy to buy an ordinary box or two.

Tom Smith would be amazed to see what has developed from so simple a beginning.

## THEY'VE GIVEN US THEIR NAMES

by C. J. Francis

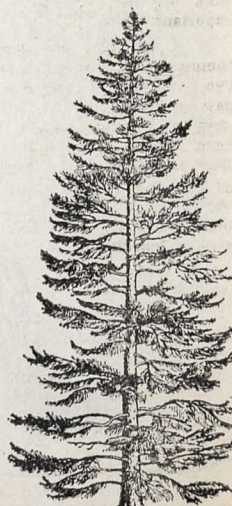
### David Douglas 1793-1834

At this time of year snow-covered Douglas fir trees provide us with a delightful Christmaside setting. These tall trees were first introduced into Britain by Scottish born botanist David Douglas.

After several years employed as a gardener, Douglas was invited by the Royal Horticultural Society to visit and do research work in America. Working mainly in the immense State forests of North America, Douglas discovered many new plants, shrubs and trees.

The tallest tree in Great Britain is reckoned to be the 185 feet high Douglas fir at Powis Castle, Montgomeryshire. But even this tall tree cannot compare with some of similar species found in Oregon State, U.S.A. Many trees, excluding shrubs and bushes, which can be found 12 feet in trunk diameter.

It's interesting to note that there are over 300 different trees, excluding shrubs and bushes which can be found in our woods—most of them brought back to these islands by explorers and travellers such as David Douglas.



# CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

THE NEWSPAPER OF ANGLICANS  
FREE CHURCHMEN AND ROMAN CATHOLICS  
IN CAVERSHAM

No. 75. December, 1970.

**EDITOR:** The Rev. J. G. Grimwade,  
The Rectory, Caversham, RG4 7AD. Tel. 471703  
**ADVERTISMENT MANAGER:** Mrs. E. Maule,  
18 Albert Road, Caversham, RG4 7PE. Tel. 471816  
**CIRCULATION MANAGER:** Major N. J. Coslett,  
9 Aldenham Close, Caversham Park, RG4 0RR. Tel. 475360  
**COMPANY SECRETARY:** Mr. H. J. Pilgrim,  
64 Highmoor Road, Caversham, RG4 7BG. Tel. 474017  
**POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER:** Mr. H. Hitchman,  
153 Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham, RG4 7JR. Tel. 472542

## A Matter of Communication

**THE TRAFFIC** jam is a common feature of town life to-day, and we are all aware of the importance of a good system of communications. The recent work in Church Street, Caversham, brought this home sharply to many of us locally. But a much more important problem facing so many of us concerns not physical communication but the communication of information and ideas within a community.

It is a welcome feature of modern life that far more people are involved to-day in different ways in the making of decisions. The Christian Church in particular is undergoing a revolution in this respect. As a result of Vatican 2 the laity of the Roman Catholic Church are taking a part in the life of that Church in a way that is entirely new. Fifty years ago the Church of England set up a national body called the Church Assembly as well as Parochial Church Councils in every parish. Now this year what is known as Synodical Government has been established—this carries the whole process of decision making and consultation much further at four levels—national, diocesan, deanery and parish with the need for matters to be referred up and down from one body to another. The conception of leadership which at one time was expected from the clergy and which was in their hands has now changed to one of partnership.

But if this partnership is to be effective we must attend to this problem of making our channels of communication really effective, and see that we use all available means. Life to-day is complex and in an extraordinary way I am constantly discovering how so many of us go about our work with little knowledge and understanding of what other people with similar roles are doing or thinking. A few days ago some social workers met at the Rectory for an informal gathering. I assumed that they would know each other but was astonished to find that this in fact was not so in a number of cases. Not the least valuable aspect of the gathering was the fact that they did meet and discover each other, and it may be worth noting that it was the Church that brought them together.

The workings of a large parish such as Caversham are complex, and approaching the matter merely as an Anglican I sometimes feel like a telephone operator who connects people up to each other. Obviously the weekly meeting of the Anglican clergy is an essential gathering in the life of the parish but this only concerns the clergy—equally important are the occasional informal district and parochial meetings and the more official meetings of the Church Council. But in this ecumenical age it is vitally important that we have a simple but effective machinery for communication between the denominations; an operation so complex as Mayday week would have been much easier to carry out if we possessed effective machinery in our local community for consultation. The Caversham Churches' Co-ordinating Committee is a small body. It meets three times a year and sometimes the business transacted at meetings may not seem wildly exciting. Yet if we are to work together, attendance at it must be seen by those concerned to be an important matter.

I am sure we could make better use of other existing channels of communications of which the Caversham Bridge itself is the most important. Our two hundred and forty distributors are themselves placed in a unique position to pass on information to those whom they call upon monthly as well as letting the clergy and ministers know of newcomers or of cases of illness. Then we Anglicans have our weekly duplicated notices given to us each Sunday—the requests to include so many items on them suggest that these are of real value but how many of us go a stage further and read our own Oxford Diocesan Magazine or take a weekly church paper? I believe our Free Church and Roman Catholic friends put us to shame in this respect and the circulation of their denominational papers is far greater than that of any weekly Anglican journal.

Experience has taught me that when communications are poor misunderstandings so easily arise.

I hope all of us, as we enter into this phase of partnership in our common life, can give more thought to this matter of passing on information and ideas at all levels. For a community to have a vigorous and healthy life there must be an effective system of communication among ourselves.

*John Grimwade*

## THE BIRCH BROTHERS

This is not, perhaps, the time of year when your thoughts turn to lolling about in the garden. But, as is said each day that passes is one day nearer summer.

Summer and gardens. Gardens and warm lazy days. What price a garden pool! Darting fish, lively plants, timeless stone and just a whisper of water . . .

Not so much really. For brothers Don and Roy Birch, recent winners jointly with F. G. Harris, of Woodcote Road, of a first prize award from the Reading Horticultural Federation, know they can convert any odd corner

of a garden into a focal point. This is because of the confidence they have, confidence in themselves and in what they have to offer. Confidence through experience, and through the conviction that they are fulfilling an ambition.

When on holiday from their jobs in South Africa, they would often discuss the merits of becoming 'their own bosses'. This became reality when they took possession of their own premises in Church Road, Caversham. Originally, they owned

only the one shop. The Hardware Shop. But later, when the premises next door became vacant, they were able to go ahead and realise even more of their ambitions.

With knowledge and know-how gained from The Hardware Shop, they re-arranged and adapted the premises to suit their own particular requirements and the Garden Centre was fashioned, complete with a small 'show pool' to the rear of the premises.

Don and Roy, together with their wives Iris and Gillian, really enjoy working

with and for their clients. People are important. That is mainly why they left impersonal industry for this more gratifying personalised way of life.

They agree that the people of Caversham help enormously. "They are so very friendly and have made us feel at home here", says Don. "We are kept very busy, retailing as we do such a wide selection of wares. Fortunately, gardens are important in this area, and we do our best to help keep them so."

B.G.



Walton Adams.

## fitted carpets

Carpet  
re-fitting

Carpet  
adaptions

Carpet  
Shampooing

Suppliers of  
**AXMINSTER-WILTON-TUFTED  
CORD CARPETING**

**NO DEPOSIT TERMS**

or

**DISCOUNTS FOR CASH**

or

**GREEN SHIELD STAMPS**

Laundry and dry cleaning by Chiltern Drycleaners.

**john's**

**READING 76464 DAY — 72861 NIGHT**

**BAYLIS CORNER, 5 CHURCH ROAD, CAVERSHAM**

Will call anytime, anywhere. 24-hour service. All estimates free

## NEED FOR YOUTH LEADERS

IT IS ALMOST THREE YEARS SINCE THE OPENING OF THE EMMER GREEN YOUTH CLUB. The subsequent use of the fine club premises provided by the Reading Borough—was much appreciated by many hundreds of young people—until July of this year. Then, because of the difficulty of finding a Youth Leader to succeed Mrs. Jane Morris, the club had to be closed.

### Nationwide Problem.

Since the beginning of November, with the aid of part time help, the Club has been open two nights a week. It is hoped that a new full time Leader will soon arrive. Ratepayers who may wonder why this valuable asset isn't being



The coffee bar at the Emmer Green Youth Club.

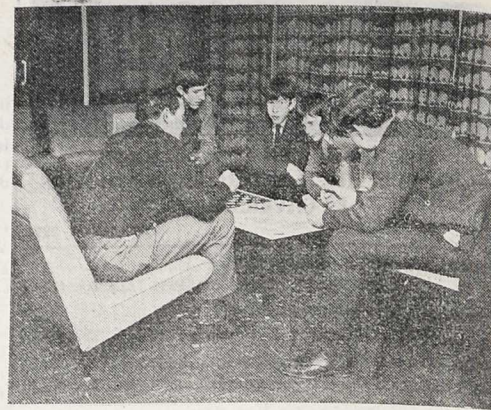
Photo: Walton Adams.

used to the full would be wrong to criticise the Borough for the time it has taken to find a successor to Mrs. Morris. It isn't for want of trying. Considerable effort is put into recruiting youth leaders for the Reading Youth Service.

The situation at Emmer Green illustrates a nationwide problem—the shortage of suitably qualified men and women willing to do the job. It isn't just a matter of increasing the salary—necessary as this is proving to be or of increasing the grants for potential youth leaders while they are in training (a recent Government report stated these were scandalously low).

### It's a Vocation

The problem is to attract the right sort of people to a job which is certainly no 9-5 p.m. job. The situation requires a large amount of understanding, tact, imagi-



A corner of the main hall.

Photo: Walton Adams.

nation and the type of leadership which can help club members take the initiative themselves as much as possible.

Furthermore, it should be remembered that the job will finish when the youth leader is middle aged. The policy of local authorities lays down that no youth leader should be older than the mid 40s. So this results in the need to be flexible enough to change jobs at a critical time of family responsibility if the leader is married.

Those who are doing the job in Reading and all over the country find it is very satisfying and rewarding—but it is certainly a vocation, and in the future we shall need many more youth leaders. Let us hope there may be some potential ones here in Caversham. For the responsibility lies with us all,

and not just with the Borough whose task it is to recruit for this most important job.

### Youth Counselling Service

The plan to start a Youth Counselling Service in Reading is most welcome.

While some young people in the past in need of counselling help may have found their way to various individuals and organisations—many must have hesitated and have been too shy to approach such organisations as the Samaritans, the Association for the Prevention of Addiction or the Family Planning Association.

Now with a house open specifically for young people help will be more available. The centre will open early next year—and we shall have more details of its aims in a future issue of the "Bridge". J.Y.C.

## NICHOLAS

Est. 1892

Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents

T. Vincent, F.A.I. (Consultant)

W. E. Duncan Vincent, F.A.I., B. P. Colston, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.S., F.A.I.

R. J. Wade, F.A.I.

P. J. Mitchell, F.R.I.C.S., F.I.A.S., F.A.I., M.R.S.H.

W. J. Dalborough, F.R.I.C.S., F.A.I.

C. M. S. Crombie, F.S.V.A., G. H. King, F.S.V.A.

1, Church Road, Caversham

Reading 475854

Head Office at 147, Friar St., Reading — 56511  
and also at Woodley, Wokingham and London W.1.

## HOLLOWAY'S

HENLEY ROAD, CAVERSHAM, READING

Tel: Reading 472776/7

B.L.M. MORRIS AGENTS

Any make of car supplied and serviced.

Crypton Tuning. Self drive hire.

Craftsmen Butchers Since 1824

## H. R. STEVENS & SON

of 177 CAVERSHAM ROAD, READING  
Telephone: 52595

TOP QUALITY ENGLISH MEATS AND POULTRY  
Branch: 101 London Street, Reading — Telephone: 52369

BACON AND COOKED MEATS

## T. C. CHAPMAN (Builders) LTD.

Phone. KIDMORE END 2243

We built St. Andrew's Hall

## THE THINGS THEY DO by Roving Reporter

On 29th September last, the cathedral at Bury St. Edmunds was the scene of a consecration service for the new Quire and crossing. Mr. Sear, our well-known embroidery expert from Prospect Street, received a special invitation; none deserved it more.

For months he has been busy working a beautiful kneeler for the front of the High Altar. As our readers may remember, he previously made a similar one for Westminster Abbey, and a summer visit to Bury St. Edmunds found him again offering his services to Mr. Dykes Bower, the architect in charge of the extension project.

Coinciding with the year which saw the 1100th anniversary of the martyrdom of St. Edmund, the service was a truly magnificent one. Over the weekend Mr. Sear was entertained to coffee by the provost and received a beautifully illustrated copy of the official guide.

Those of you who haven't already done so should take the opportunity of seeing some of Mr. Sear's work; we can't all go to Bury St. Edmunds but most of us find ourselves in London from time to time and a visit to Westminster Abbey to see his kneeler there would be well worth the trip.

A recent, and very wel-

come, arrival in our neighbourhood is young Douglas Caleb Smith, born in September. Many will remember the wedding of May Burger and Caleb Smith at St. Barnabas' last year; if young Douglas is half as popular as his parents he will be doing well. Our best wishes to them all.

Meantime, back in America, Isabel Seward, whose wedding at St. Peter's last year was such a pretty Anglo-American celebration, has given birth to Andrew Gordon. Perhaps his grandmother, Mrs. Evans of St. Anne's Road, will be kind enough to pass on our best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Seward.

Somewhat in the rush of summer holidays, we forgot to offer our very sincere congratulations to Gerald South on getting his Ph.D. He and his wife Jenny have now moved to Bradfield where Gerald is teaching maths and physics. But they have not forgotten their Caversham friends. Jenny still teaches at Grovelands and most Sunday evenings finds them at St. Peter's Youth Club.

Many people are glad to collapse on the nearest beach at holiday times. Not so Edda Thomas of Albert

Road. Last year she went on a 3,000 mile camping trek through Tunisia, Morocco, Libya and Algeria. This year she decided to see the other side of the picture and, through the Jewish Agency, obtained an assisted passage and three weeks' work in a kibutz in Upper Galilee, Kefar Blum to be precise. Edda tells me it is just under the Golan Heights. When asked if it wasn't too near the firing line for comfort, she replies airily that it hasn't been hit since June and that anyway one gets used to it. For her keep and a little over for pocket money, Edda picked fruit for three weeks before taking time off to visit the holy places, climb Massada and swim in the Dead Sea.

If her visits haven't exact-

ly solved the Middle Eastern problems, they have given her a very fine and intelligent understanding of feelings on both sides, a thing which would benefit many of our youngsters.

One word of warning though. They do need workers in Israel, but please don't volunteer unless you are prepared to give value for money. Though the Israelis won't say so, it must be awfully hard to provide food and shelter to people who merely want to see the sights. You could, of course, do both, like Edda, who will be glad to talk to anyone interested in such a venture. I might add that Edda herself is just about the most enthusiastic and interesting raconteur it has ever been my pleasure to talk to.

## The Sainsbury Singers

at

St. Andrew's Hall, Albert Road, Caversham, Reading.

on

Thursday, December 3rd, 1970 at 8-00 p.m.

Tickets 5/- from Mrs. J. Harper, Reading 474472  
or at door

## Walton Adams & Son Ltd.

Photographers

1 PROSPECT STREET, CAVERSHAM

Phone Reading 477904

WEDDING

AT HOME

PASSPORT

PHOTOGRAPHS

# Man or Superman?

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, DECEMBER, 1970—THREE

## SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN CAVERSHAM

The second of a series of articles about the Church's work with children in Caversham.

by Fred Dawson

LAST MONTH WE THOUGHT ABOUT SOME OF THE DEVELOPMENTS IN SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHING AND SUNDAY CLUB WORK IN OUR CHURCHES. It was a reasonably optimistic picture—one which led us to declare that Sunday Schools etc. in Caversham were 'Alive and Kicking!' So—after an encouraging start—let's take a candid look at some of the real problems which face us in actually putting our plans into operation. Who is going to do the actual teaching? Many of us cheerfully 'send' our children off to Sunday School without giving a lot of thought to this problem.

### DEMANDING

Considerable demands are made of our Sunday School teachers. By and large, Sunday School teachers are not day-school teachers, who ought to be 'let off' at weekends unless especially keen to do the job. So, our teachers have not had any kind of professional training and yet they are expected to be able to cope with the latest techniques of 'project' work and to be able to 'understand' their children as well as if they had studied educational psychology. You only have to pick up a copy of a syllabus-book like 'Alive in God's World', discussed in last month's article, to see that this is so. A lot of the more 'mod' forms of Sunday School teaching seem to expect the time and talents of a fully trained day-school teacher — and there are those among us in Caversham who argue forcibly that it is in the day school, not the Sunday school, that religious education should properly be carried on. Besides all this

'technical' ability, the Church teacher is also expected to be a nursemaid (all of our Sunday Schools, either officially or by default, seem to take children from the age of three!) or, better, a sort of 'play-group' mum who can keep the children interested in all eventualities. And to top it all, the Church teacher is expected to have the kind of 'eye' which will watch very carefully the realm of ordinary objects and experience and interpret them all in the light of our belief in God and the Gospel. Quite a tall order! Do we want Man or Superman?

### SUPPLYING

It certainly looks as though we are expecting Superpeople! (In fact, they are more likely to be superwomen than supermen, statistically.) The backbone of the Church teaching service is made up of devoted lay people who have often given many years to acquiring just these very skills. This is the

stuff Superintendents are made of! But probably a larger numerical group than these are the teenagers who teach in the Sunday Schools, who are very often not long out of Sunday School themselves. It is certainly much more difficult for someone scarcely out of adolescence to achieve this 'Superman' ability, though the teenage teachers often have a warmth and freshness of approach which makes up for almost any amount of inexperience. "We're not so much teachers as friends," as one said to me.

### BE PREPARED!

The preparation class, in view of this 'Demand-Supply' problem, is particularly important, and most of the Caversham Sunday Schools seem to do some kind of preparation with their teachers. This can either be done by 'spoon-feeding' the teachers with material which they in turn can 'spoon-feed' to the class (probably not the best way). Or it can be done by the group putting their heads together and deciding what resources to use, which bits of the work to tackle, how to relate completely 'ordinary' bits of experience to what the main Christian theme of the lesson is. Or even more important and basic—when time allows—by the group of teachers working out for themselves what the ideas they are trying to put over mean in their own lives. What does the

birth of Jesus as a man mean for me? What does it mean in my own experience that He died and rose again? And so on. And it's only so long as we—the teachers—can go on knowing we've got a grasp of these truths that we can hope to share them. At a conference for Sunday School teachers I was at last spring this need was really faced up to. Instead of just talking about techniques, the teachers (ranging in age from 13 to middle age) undertook a Bible Reading Fellowship course on Prayer together, to great advantage. So we must 'be prepared' together in our task of teaching.

### HOPES AND FEARS

The picture of Sunday School teaching I've painted this month is more of a tribute to the work our teachers are actually doing than an attempt to ward prospective teachers off! In the end, as I believe, God gives us the wherewithal to carry out the tasks He wishes us to do. After discussing all these difficulties with several of our young teachers, I asked why they still went on doing it and what they hoped to achieve. One replied without any hesitation at all: "For the same reason as all Sunday School teachers—to help the children understand more about God." A thoroughly 'Trad' and 'Mod' answer at the same time, and probably as much as one can say.

### THIS MEANS YOU!

I hope I've said enough to show just what stimulating work this can be. And whether you are man, superman or superwoman, if you feel this is something you would like to be involved in, your local minister or priest would almost certainly be delighted to hear from you.

### 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 Road (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.

ST. MARTINS CENTRE, CHURCH STREET

Tel. 476415

## KNIGHTS

We offer the largest selection of Newspapers,

Periodicals, Tobaccos, Cigarettes,

Confectionery and Stationery in the area

### RECORD DEPARTMENT

the full range +

Green Shield Stamps

### TOY DEPARTMENT

all leading makes +

Green Shield Stamps

### CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Stockings, Tights, Gloves, Lingerie, Bed Jackets and Bed Socks, Hankies, Scarfs, Knitwear, Dressing Gowns, Knitting Bags and many other smaller gifts at

## VERA FLETCHER

9, PROSPECT, STREET, CAVERSHAM

Tel: Reading 472414

GREEN SHIELD STAMPS

### BARBARA

LADIES' HAIR STYLIST

Shampoo and Set 7/6

30 CHURCH STREET, CAVERSHAM. Tel. 473564

Late night Thursday and Friday.

## JULIANS

Distributors For

TRIUMPH

RETAIL DEALERS  
FOR

ROVER  
LAND-ROVER

27, KINGS ROAD  
READING

PHONE 52494-56255



# SOS

### WHOM TO CONTACT

#### CENTRAL ORGANISER

Mrs. K. P. Besley,  
10, Ashcroft Close, Caversham.  
472374.

#### AREA ORGANISERS

Dr. E. V. Beale (North Caversham).  
1, Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green,  
471644.

Mrs. M. Coombs (South Caversham).  
5, Kidmore Road, Caversham.  
472689.

Mr. P. H. Marsh (West Caversham).  
12, Wincroft Road, Caversham.  
471183.

Mrs. G. Thompson,  
(Mapledurham),  
205, Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham.  
471328.

## THE BRIDGE SCHEME

A  
HELP-YOUR-  
NEIGHBOUR  
VENTURE

## Talking Point

by Rev. Terence R. Harris

## ARE CHRISTIANS UNVIOLENT ?

It would be easy to get the impression that Caversham Christians are violently opposed to unviolence! In the October issue of "Caversham Bridge" there was an article entitled, "For Christ's Sake". It advertised a meeting on "Christian Pacifism" and ten churches in the Caversham area received notices. There were ten people present including four speakers and myself in the Chair. The reason for this poor attendance may be due to many factors. Is one of them that Christians are becoming violently opposed to unviolence?

John Arlott writing in "The Guardian" last December said, "The demonstrators, by their action against the Springbok rugby tour, have in a few months achieved more than the cricket officials have done by 15 years of polite acquiescence." Can change in fact come without the use of force? Is the Christian faith a revolutionary movement that must be dissociated from the revolutionary movements of our time? Maybe folk feel that Colin Morris is right when, in his book "Unyoung, Uncoloured and Unpoor," he makes out a case for being a freedom fighter rather than the Prince of Peace!

Some scholars have sought to show that Jesus was a

this may well be a misunderstanding of Iscariot, i.e. Sicarii, a dagger man—a brigand with political aims. But we are faced with such texts as John 10.8—"All that came before me are thieves and robbers (false revolutionary Messiahs). I am come that they might have life." We get a picture of Jesus the Unviolent.

The Palm Sunday story and the Cleansing of the Temple, outstandingly is shot through with political tension.

These must be regarded as "prophetic acts." The difference between Jesus and his zealot followers stands out with vivid clarity in their bitter disappointment at his behaviour. The teaching of Jesus must have exasperated his followers and the crowds of Messiah-seeking Jews—"Resist not evil, Give unto Caesar . . . Love your enemies, My kingdom is not of this world." In the Garden of Gethsemane he asked, "Are you come out against me as an insurrectionist?"

Is it true to say that Malcolm X they might have understood, but not Martin Luther King and, least of all Jesus? On Thursday, 15th October, 1970 I could hear again the words of Jesus, "He saw the city and wept over it, saying, 'Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace!'"

But now they are hidden from your eyes." (Luke 19.42). Surely, the loneliness of being misunderstood shows in his disappointed words when the people said, "Look, Lord, here are two swords," and he replied, "It is enough." Do we still not understand after nearly two thousand years?

Recently I heard a recording made by Simon and Garfunkel (SBPG 62860), which included an item entitled, "7 o'clock News/Silent Night." The old familiar Christmas carol, written by Joseph Mohr with music by Franz Gruber, sounded forth. Then one could hear the voice of a newscaster giving up-to-date information about the world of today. What a contrast!

"Still the night, holy the night!  
Shepherds first saw the light,  
Heard resounding clear and long,  
Far and near, the angel-song,  
Christ the Redeemer is here!"

What was the song which the angels sang? Something about "peace on earth". Have we still not understood the way, the truth and the life, which Jesus brought to the world? Are Christians unviolent? "Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace!"

## MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday, 8th October, 1970. Mr. E. F. Dawe, Chairman of the Council presided at the meeting.

The Council were informed by the Oxfordshire County Council that a sum of £2,000 had been set aside which had been estimated as the cost of providing passing bays on the access road between Trench Green and the village of Mapledurham. The County Council have advised the Parish Council that they anticipate carrying out this work at the same time as constructing the turning circle and this work should start during the coming week. The County Council have also stated they will bear in mind the Parish Council's great concern regarding general improvements to the same road when considering matters relating to the opening of the Mapledurham Country Park.

The Parish Council have for some time been pressing the Oxfordshire Education Committee to obtain representation on the Chiltern

Edge School Managers, particularly as many children from the Parish attend the school. A request was recently made by the Parish Council for representation again to be considered, but the County Council have replied stating the Education Committee have already appointed representatives for the three year period ending in July, 1973. This decision by the County Council was a matter of disappointment to the Parish Council, particularly as in March, 1968, the Education Committee had intimated they would consider a nominee from the Parish. The Council are pursuing the matter further with the County Council.

Having regard to a statement made by the Southern Electricity Board that they are anxious for all their overhead cables to be routed underground, the Clerk was requested to write to the Board drawing their attention to overhead cables in Chazey Road and Rokeby Drive, to ask that such cables should be removed, if possible, at an early date.

The Council were informed of the Thames Valley Water Board's intention to construct a new reservoir north of the Parish, which although not affecting the Parish in a physical sense, will be of great indirect advantage when it is operational.

## RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The agenda at Caversham that the cost shall not deter more active capacity.

Residents' Association Committee meetings is always a well as supporting members, very full one and a glance at we need active members. Do the contents of any typical not let your natural modesty one is enough to show how prevent you from offering to much a residents' association serve on our committee in a

is needed. Yet the committee on whom most of the work devolves is, through removals, illness and such like reasons, very small and unless more members prepared to give some kind of active help, come forward, there is a real danger that the Association may have to wind up.

Moreover, our currently paid-up membership in no way reflects the support we have. Yet at a public inquiry, for instance, the only way we can indicate the strength of our support is by quoting currently paid-up membership and as a percentage of the population of Caversham, this sounds very small.

If Caversham Residents' Association is to continue and be effective, we must have more members. We deliberately keep our subscription low, at five shillings per household per annum so

## THE COFFEE INNE

St. Martin's Precinct  
Caversham

Monday-Saturday 9.0 a.m.—5.30 p.m.

Closed Wednesday at 1.30 p.m.

Telephone 478814.

Luncheon Vouchers Accepted.

(Caversham Branch established 38 years)

## MARTIN &amp; POLE

Auctioneers, Estate Agents, Surveyors and Valuers

23/24, MARKET PLACE, READING

(Tel. Reading 50266-9)

4, BRIDGE STREET, CAVERSHAM

(Tel. Reading 472877 and 477561)

Also at:

PANGBOURNE, GORING, THATCHAM, WOKINGHAM and HIGH WYCOMBE.

Furniture Sale Rooms: READING and WOKINGHAM

## D. &amp; M. DUDDEN

Grocer and Butchers

46, CONISBRO AVENUE, CAVERSHAM

Farm Poultry and all varieties of

Frozen Foods.

Telephone: 472582

## CAKES

HOWARD'S  
of CAVERSHAM

J. E. HOWARD & SON

BAKERS and CONFECTIONERS  
32D, CHURCH STREET, CAVERSHAM

Telephone: 471834

MAPLEDURHAM  
REPERTORY  
ASSOCIATION

presents on  
DEC. 3rd 4th & 5th  
at 8 p.m.

'I'll Get My Man'  
by Philip King

A play of amusing and often embarrassing situations when an absent minded cleric and his straightlaced sister follow an ill-conceived advertisement for a wife. The arrival of his nephew, a hero of a television series, pursued by a horde of worshipping women, as well as a resurrected romance between the parson's Bishop and a wealthy widow add to the fun.

Performances will be, as usual, at the Memorial Hall, Upper Woodcote Road, and the tickets can be obtained from either Eileen Wake, 126 Kidmore Road, Caversham, tel. 472733, or Yvonne Taylor, 29 Woodcote Way, Caversham, tel. 474398.

The cast includes Ray Lacey, Eileen Wake, Yvonne Taylor, Kathleen Bubb, Patrick Ross, Shirley Curtis, Heather Mumme and Albert Wake. Producer: Joy Osbourn. Looking forward to seeing you!

THE PROPRIETORS AND STAFF OF

THE HARDWARE SHOP &  
GARDEN CENTRE

7a, 9, CHURCH ROAD.

TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OF SENDING TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS AND THE PEOPLE OF CAVERSHAM OUR SINCERE GOOD WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR.

## WALTER DAVIS &amp; SON (Builders) Ltd.

BUILDERS, DECORATORS AND PLUMBERS

81 RUSSELL STREET,  
READING

Telephone: 56691 and 61364

## MISS E. DAY, L.R.A.M., A.T.C.L., A.L.A.M.

TEACHER OF PIANOFORTE AND SPEECH TRAINING

45, OXFORD STREET, CAVERSHAM

# RANDOM JOTTINGS from an R.C. Layman

## THE FORTY MARTYRS

I must confess I belonged to the group of people who had been less than lukewarm about their canonisation. Not exactly a canonisation enthusiast at the best of times, I considered the timing of this particular effort tactless and was sympathetic to the Archbishop of Canterbury's gently voiced objections.

But a day or two before the actual canonisation took place, I happened to be listening to the B.B.C.'s "Thought for the Day". It was given by a layman, a reporter from the "Daily Telegraph" — Douglas Brown I think — on the English Martyrs. He made out such a good case for the canonisation that I found myself viewing the whole matter in a different light and with a different understanding.

Very briefly, the gist of what he said was that of a known 300-400 Catholics who had died for their Faith, these forty had been chosen. They had been chosen not

only for the general excellence of their lives but because they formed a good cross section of society: there were certainly the important and eminent in the group, but there were also the ordinary, like the housewife and the labourer. He said that it was never intended that these should be lauded by the R.C. Church at the expense, as it were, of those who suffered for their Faith under the persecutions during the reign of Mary Tudor.

Both groups were formed of people clear sighted enough to recognise a cardinal principal and strong-minded enough to live up to it; the principal that the State should have no right to interfere in an individual's religious beliefs. In fact, earlier in the year, Father Clement Tigar, S.J., who has done much to promote the cause of the Martyrs, led a large group of Catholics on a pilgrimage through London to Smithfield as an act of reparation for the cruelty, intolerance and injustice meted out to 273 fellow Christians who were burnt to death in the reign of Mary Tudor.

Another point made by the speaker on the radio was that it is an inspiration and a help to us to know and identify individuals in our own country, part of the historical tapestry of only a few centuries ago, who were capable of behaving with such heroism. He then reinforced his argument by citing the persecution of the Jews during the last War; how we knew this had gone on, but our minds boggled at the numbers and the cruelties involved so that very often the full realisation of what was suffered did not strike home. It was, he maintained, the diary of Anne Franck which really for many people turned the nightmare into an historical reality and, in knowing what she went through, we can more readily accept the knowledge of the sufferings of the countless others.

I hope that now that the canonisation has taken place, someone will get out short biographies of the Forty so that we may get to know about them all and draw the inspiration from their lives which the Church evidently intends we should.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, DECEMBER, 1970—FIVE



Walton Adams.

## QUEEN'S GUIDE AWARD

Congratulations to Alwynne Bowyer on her achievement of gaining the Queen's Guide Badge. On October 8th. Mrs. Moss, the District Commissioner, visited the 11th Caversham Company to present the Badge and in her remarks, commented on the high standard Alwynne had achieved in the work she had done for the individual qualifying badges. Many friends and parents of the Guides joined in the celebrations which included competitions, showing of camp slides and excellent refreshments.

## CAVERSHAM DISTRICT SCOUTS AND CUBS

| Cubs and Scouts                                  | Meeting Place                                 | Day and Time             | In charge                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cubs 3rd Reading<br>St. Peter's,<br>Caversham.   | Balmore Hall,<br>Hemdean Road                 | Wed.<br>6-7-30 p.m.      | Mrs. B. Chapman,<br>Old Pastures,<br>Kidmore End.<br>325 2243.   |
| Scouts 3rd Reading<br>St. Peter's,<br>Caversham. | Balmore Hall.                                 | Wed.<br>7-30-9 p.m.      | Mr. W. Nicholls,<br>82 Blenheim Road,<br>473912.                 |
| Cubs 22nd Reading<br>St. John's,<br>Caversham.   | Iron Room,<br>St. John's Road.                | Tues.<br>6-30-8 p.m.     | Mr. A. Emmons,<br>33 Woodcote Way,<br>Mapledurham.               |
| Scouts 22nd Reading<br>St. John's,<br>Caversham. | Iron Room.                                    | Friday<br>7-30-9 p.m.    | Mr. W. Hulse,<br>15 St. John's Road,<br>473423.                  |
| Cubs 67th Reading                                | St. Andrew's Hall,<br>Albert Road.            | Friday<br>6-15-7-30 p.m. | Mr. R. O. Wright,<br>48 Woodcote Way,<br>Mapledurham.<br>473703. |
| Cubs 75th Reading                                | West Memorial<br>Institute,<br>Gosbrook Road. | Friday<br>6-15-7-30 p.m. | Dr. J. Rothwell,<br>16 Albert Road.<br>474478.                   |
| Scouts 75th Reading                              | West Memorial<br>Institute,<br>Gosbrook Road. | Friday.<br>7-30-9 p.m.   | Mr. P. Batley,<br>18 Hemdean Hill,<br>472982.                    |
| Cubs 83rd Reading                                | St. Anne's Hall                               | Wed. 6-7-30 p.m.         | Mr. F. E. Barter.                                                |
| Scouts 83rd Reading<br>St. Anne's                | 2 Washington Road,                            | Mon. 7-30-9 p.m.         | Washington Road                                                  |
| Cubs 89th Reading<br>'A' Pack<br>Milestone Wood. | Kiln Road<br>Emmer Green.                     | Wed.<br>6-30-8 p.m.      | Mr. P. Whitby,<br>43 Stuart Close,<br>Emmer Green.<br>475005.    |
| Cubs 89th Reading<br>'B' Pack<br>Milestone Wood  | Kiln Road<br>Emmer Green                      | Thurs.<br>6-15-7-45 p.m. | Mrs. J. Anderson,<br>22 St. Barnabas Road<br>474124.             |
| Scouts 89th Reading                              | Kiln Road<br>Emmer Green                      | Friday<br>7-30-9 p.m.    | Mr. E. R. Price,<br>20 Tower Close.<br>476286.                   |

There is no guarantee that boys of cubs and scouts ages can be taken into the groups. This is because of the shortage of assistant leaders—men and women who are interested in the movement and prepared to do a little training should contact any scouter listed above.

F. KNIGHT, A.D.C.

## Obituary

### FRANK STEPHENSON

The sudden death on October 27th of Mr. Frank Stephenson came as a severe shock to his many friends in Caversham. A retired civil servant, Mr. Stephenson, who was born in Harpenden where he was a choirboy, settled in Caversham about fifteen years ago. A keen musician he sang as a tenor both in the Reading Festival Choir and in the choir of the parish church. He was a member of the Parochial Church Council and in addition to looking after Church House had been closely identified in the stewardship movement of which he was a keen supporter. But he will be remembered not only for what he did but also for his great kindness and service to so many people. The Caversham Bridge extends its sympathy to his widow Miriam, to his sister at Harpenden and to his son, daughter-in-law and three grandchildren at St Alban's. The large congregation in St. Peter's for his funeral service was in itself evidence of the affection in which he is held. May he rest in peace.

### MR. BARNES

Caversham Bridge readers will be sorry to learn of the sudden death of Mr. Barnes who must have served fish to thousands of customers in Prospect Street over the years. Mr. Barnes had retired only recently and went to live in Wales. The Bridge extends sympathy to his family.

## MORTGAGES and INSURANCE

Mortgage Funds now available for House Buyers.

Bank Loans arranged on Second Mortgage for any purpose. No fees.

Insurance contracts for School Fees, Estate Duty mitigation, Children, Pensions, Investments and all forms of Life Assurance.

If you seek advice on any of the above, please contact us.

### G. E. DAY & CO.

INSURANCE BROKERS AND MORTGAGE CONSULTANTS

14, CHURCH STREET, CAVERSHAM,  
READING, BERKS.

Telephone: Reading 478103

"CHATEAU DU RHIN" — GERMAN — 16/-  
"EVENING GOLD" — ENGLISH — 6/6  
"SCHLICO-HERTZ" — GERMAN — 15/6  
"GOLDWELL GINGER" — ENGLISH — 6/6

are all ideal drinks for  
Wedding Toasts

In Champagne Bottles — alcohol-free of course

THE AMETHYST CLUB  
PALMER HALL, WEST STREET  
READING

## PATRICK F. WILLIAMS AND PARTNERS

Auctioneers and Estate Agents, Valuers, Surveyors,  
Arbitrators and Planning Consultants.

Over 35 years experience in local values.

305, OXFORD ROAD, READING. Tel. 53579/57481

Office open Saturdays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Vocal St. Peter's Meeting

About seventy members of St. Peter's congregation attended a stimulating open district meeting on October 20th and a wide range of topics was discussed. Meeting in Balmore Hall it was perhaps natural that some thought should be given towards further improvements to the hall and it is hoped that it may be possible to make major alterations to the kitchen in 1971. A discussion followed about youth work and Mr. and Mrs. Handy pleaded for help with the Friday night club which meets in Balmore Hall—another urgent need is for a Guide Captain as the company is without one since Mrs. Leech moved to Yorkshire.

Mr. David Welch spoke about the importance of a prayer group and one is now meeting in St. Peter's on the second Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. (Next meeting December 9th). It was also apparent that following on the Rector's sermon at the Dedication Festival, a lot of people wanted to study certain problems at greater depth and a programme is being prepared. Mr. Birt-whistle appealed for a reserve panel of people who would distribute the Caversham Bridge when a regular distributor is ill or on holiday. Mrs. Margaret Coombs outlined the nature of some of the many calls made upon

the Bridge scheme and asked in particular for more car drivers and for more people who would visit the house-bound and elderly. Musical matters were not forgotten and some minor changes were discussed regarding the Parish Communion. Mr. S. Flack reminded the meeting about plans for a stewardship renewal campaign in 1971, and some members of the band of ringers present warned the congregation that unless well over £1,000 was available the bells would be silent in another two years time. Certainly in the space of two hours plenty of people "had their say" and a lot of ground was covered.

**Welcome back.** Her many old friends in Caversham are glad to see Mrs. Cheyney back here. Mrs. Cheyney went to Canada after the death of her husband, Dr. Cheyney, but she has now after ten years come to live at the Flat, 71, Peppard Road and is looking forward to sharing once again in the church life of Caversham.

**Be early.** One of the most popular services of the year is the annual carol service on Advent Sunday when the girls of Queen Anne's School join with the congregation of St. Peter's. This takes place at 6-30 p.m. on November 29th but the church is sure to be very full and it is as well to arrive by 6 p.m. to be sure of a seat.

## St. Barnabas' Church

The walls of St. Barnabas' resounded with the voices of children and young people on two memorable occasions in October. On the 4th October the church was filled by Brownies and Guides, Cubs and Scouts and their families in a specially prepared act of worship in which they looked again at the life of St. Francis of Assisi whose Anniversary it was.

On the following Sunday hundreds of daffodil bulbs were planted in the Church grounds by the children who had each brought a few. Together with those planted last year, and the snowdrop bulbs planted by the Brownies, the show of flowers next spring should be most beautiful.

At the evening service that day, the sermon was replaced by thirty minutes of hymn singing by request. Everyone had the chance to choose a hymn and say what memories or associations it had. This will be repeated on Sunday, 22nd November, at 6-30 p.m.

### New Faces

This autumn there seems to be a large number of new faces at church. A warm welcome is extended to all who have recently moved here and it is hoped that they will come to love St. Barnabas' Church as much as many have done in the past. Some older members of the congregation remember not only the building of the church but can also remember the Church Hall being built as the church in the late 1890's. But they are few because many people seem only to live here for a few years. Two such families have recently left. Kit and Dick Booth and their sons Ian and David and Gilbert and Betty Hall have now gone to live elsewhere after a few years residence. But while they were here they made it their home and gave a tremendous amount to the community, both Church and secular. St. Barnabas' thanks them for what they have given, and it is hoped that others will come to fill the gap they leave in the common life.

## NEW PRIEST FOR ST. ANDREW'S

The Rev. Michael Atkinson at present curate of St. Hugh's Church, Lewsey, Luton is succeeding the Rev. Roger Packer as priest-in-charge at St. Andrew's, Mr. Atkinson was trained for the priesthood at King's College, London, and St. Boniface, Warminster. He was ordained in 1963 and served first in the parish of Halton, Leeds before spending some months on the staff of Trinity Church, New York. He is married and his wife Elizabeth was formerly a nurse. They have a baby boy, Timothy who is eight months old. Mr. Atkinson has been associated with the Samaritan movement and is very anxious to develop links between the clergy and doctors. The Atkinsons hope to move to Caversham towards the end of January.

## THE CHURCH AT CAVERSHAM PARK

An informal meeting, held at 2 Blackwater Close on the evening of October 28th, enabled a number of topics to be discussed.

### Need for Family Worship.

Those present supported the idea that a weekly Family Service on Sundays would be a means of encouraging families to start a pattern of corporate worship. It was decided to take steps to see if such a service could start in January at the new Caversham Park Primary School—depending on permission being given by the Oxfordshire County Council Education Committee.

### Focal Point.

Other aspects of Christian witness in a new community were then discussed—the need for discussion groups, the possibility of a club for young people (in the 11-14 age group) combining recreation with growth in the Christian life, and the opportunity for outreach to the wider community.

As these and other subjects cropped up, it became clear that if the Family Service became well established it would provide the focal point from which these activities could flow.

### Desire for Evening Communion.

Numbers had increased at the twice a month morning house communions. It was suggested that hymns could be used, and that readings could be done by the laity. To enable those at work during the day to come to weekday house communions it was decided to have an Evening Communion at 8-30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.

### Carol Service.

Last year a large number had come to a Carol Service at 2 Blackwater Close on Christmas Eve.

This year there will be a Family Carol Service—at which all will be welcome—at 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 20th at Caversham Park Primary School.

### December House Communions.

8-30 p.m. Wednesday, December 2nd and 10-30 a.m. Wednesday, December 9th at 2 Blackwater Close. There will be no service on Wednesday, December 23rd.

## St. Margaret's Mapledurham

The experiment of involving more people in reading the Old Testament and the Epistle at the Parish Communion seems to be going very well. The quality of reading has been very good, sometimes profoundly moving, and the proportion of the congregation who have contributed to the worship in this way has been very high. During the first twenty weeks of the experiment, the Epistle has been read by a different woman or girl each Sunday. It now seems so natural to those listening that it is hard to recall that it wasn't always done this way. Each reader though will have to read several times before it comes as easily to read as to listen.

## ST. JOHN'S NEWS

### CHORAL GROUP

People at St. John's are uninhibited; where singing in church is concerned, that is. No feeling here that enjoyment, or the slightest suspicion of a smile will be punished by hell fire. As a direct result of this pleasure in music, Caversham now has a new choral group. It meets in St. John's Church on Thursday evenings at 8 o'clock. The group is looking for new members, and anybody in Caversham who enjoys singing can be sure of a warm welcome. Don't let your bathroom have the best of your vocal activity; come along on Thursdays. Or if you want further information get in touch with Mrs. R. Milne at 267, Gosbrook Road.

### HARVEST SUPPER.

Combining pleasure and concern for others, the annual Harvest Supper in St. John's Hall produced over £5 for the work of the Church overseas. After a buffet supper prepared by the Wednesday Group, the money was raised by auctioning the harvest produce from the church.

### CRECHE.

Children are not a reason for not coming to church. St. John's believes, like many other churches, that children are as much a part of the worshipping church as anybody else. For this reason children are welcomed at the 9-15 a.m. Family Eucharist. However if you feel that it is impossible to bring your baby or small children to church

with you, a creche is provided for them every Sunday morning at 9-15 a.m. in St. John's hall, where they will be in safe and experienced hands.

### MISS PUGSLEY MEMORIAL.

Following the death, earlier this year, of Miss Thirza Pugsley, a donation of money was made to commemorate her in some small way. The gift, therefore, has been used to purchase a copy of the complete version of the New English Bible, for use in church.

### TOY SERVICE.

St. John's Sunday School has very kindly been asked by the Methodists to take part in their customary Toy Service, to be held this year at 3 p.m. on Sunday, 13th December, at the Methodist Church in Gosbrook Road. Each year the children take part in a presentation of the Nativity story. This year it will be presented in the form of a shadow graph. St. John's children will be taking part in a scene depicting the telling of the good news of Christ to the shepherds.

### BISHOP'S VISIT.

A welcome visitor on the last Sunday in October was the Bishop of Reading, who presided and preached at the Family Eucharist. Afterwards the bishop was able to have coffee with members of the congregation. It was particularly good that he could meet some of the young people who had been confirmed by him earlier in the year.

## "HANDYMAN"

Gerry Gardner Kay Gardner

208 GOSBROOK RD., CAVERSHAM

40 years Professional Experience in Joinery Trade

HARDWOODS, SOFTWOODS, PLY, FORMICA, MOULDINGS, PAINTS, WALLPAPERS, GLASS CUT TO SIZE

Large selection of container grown Herbaceous Plants, Fuchsias and Roses. Wide range of Garden Tools.

PHONE 472314. DRIVE-IN FOR CUSTOMERS

## RUSSELL CHILDRENS WEAR

FARNHAM DRIVE, CAVERSHAM PARK VILLAGE. Reading 476495

LADYBIRD

BABYCHIC

MAJOR-MINOR

STRETCHING

BANNER

ROB ROY

TRUTEX

Ample Free Parking

Closed Monday Afternoon

FOR YOUR PARTIES, WEDDINGS, ETC.

HIRE  
MAPLEDURHAM PARISH HALL  
TRENCH GREEN

Enq. Mrs. Brain, Kidmore End 2534

## WORTH FINDING PLATTS HOME COOKED HAM

368 Gosbrook Road  
Caversham

at

OR

49, Donkin Hill  
Phone 472175

Curtains

Pellets

Fitted Carpets

Loose Covers

## John Kitcher & Son Ltd.

Carpets Cleaned on Site by the latest Foam method, also Protasil protected

5a CHURCH ROAD, CAVERSHAM

Telephone: 472306

## THE FAMILY Fruiters and Greengrocers

21, Farnham Drive, Caversham Park Village  
Tel: Reading 476 418

Deep Freeze.

Orders Delivered

Orders Welcome

## VANDERPUMP AND WELLBELOVE

Auctioneers, Land and Estate Agents, Surveyors and Valuers

(and Wellesley-Smith and Co.)

40, PROSPECT STREET, CAVERSHAM

Tel. 474540

also at

5 Station Road, Reading, and Pangbourne, and Wallingford, Berks

(D. PICKERSGILL)

Typewriters — Adding Machines — Cash Registers

## HENLEY TYPEWRITER CO. LTD.

Office Supplies and Stationery

12, BRIDGE STREET, CAVERSHAM. Phone 473077.

## CAVERSHAM SHOE REPAIRS

38a, CHURCH STREET, CAVERSHAM

(opposite St Martin's Precinct).

NOW OPEN.

All types of footwear repaired on the premises while you wait.

## W. N. & E. FISHER LTD.

Building Contractors

RENOVATIONS IN ALL TRADES DECORATIONS

EMMER GREEN . READING . Tel: 471595

## Another Record Total at Gosbrook Road



Walton Adams.

The Annual Gift Day was held at Caversham Methodist Church on Saturday, 24th October. The Minister, the Rev. Terence R. Harris welcomed Mr. and Mrs. David Brozaitis, who were Chairman and Opener for the occasion. Gifts from the various Departments of the church's life were received by Mrs. Julia A. Harris. The Hostesses were Mrs. Walters and Mrs. Wooldridge. After the ceremony in the Church the congregation visited the stalls in the schoolroom which had been organised by the ladies, the men and the Youth Club. Tea followed for just over a hundred people. The day concluded with a concert and games organised by Mr. John Clark. The newly appointed Treasurer Mr. G. Alderman announced that all the same he is expecting more next year!

## ST. ANNE'S NOTES

### Covenant Scheme.

In September Mr. B. J. Waddell, the Diocesan Covenant Scheme Organiser, visited Caversham and explained the Covenant Scheme to the congregations at each of the six Masses one Sunday. As a result, and thanks to the hard work of a group of parishioners, about 100 families have now signed covenants which will enable the Diocese to recover tax on their weekly contributions to the Church.

### Our Lady of Caversham

Attractive silver brooches depicting Our Lady of Caversham are on sale for a few shillings at St. Anne's Church. As many readers may already know, there was a shrine to Our Lady of Caversham in a Chapel of St. Mary in the Manor of Caversham before the 12th century, and when a bridge was built across the Thames about 1230, chapels were built for the benefit of travellers. The one actually on the bridge was dedicated to St. Anne, the Mother of Our Lady. Countless pilgrims visited the shrine over the years and it became as famous as the shrine to Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk. The chapel was probably pulled down in the 16th century and when the present Caversham Bridge was built some of the stones of St Anne's chapel were found under the central buttress on the small island on the Caversham side of the river. These were presented by the Reading Archaeological Society to the then Rector of Our Lady and St. Anne's —Fr. William. In 1955 it was decided to build a new Lady Chapel reminiscent of its famous predecessor and Fr. O'Malley has had stones from the ancient chapel on the bridge used in the construction of the new shrine.

## Baptist Minister's Retirement

The Baptist Minister, the Revd. L. S. Lewis, announced at a recent Church Meeting that he wished to retire in March next. The announcement came as a shock and whilst it was received with regret it was accepted with understanding. Mr. Lewis was ordained on 10th August, 1930, and prior to coming to Caversham held pastorates at Ledbury, Upton-on-Severn, Kidderminster and King's Heath, Birmingham, the latter for some 19 years, which is a relatively long period in the Baptist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, who will be retiring to Shanklin where they have had a bungalow built, will be sadly missed in Caversham and District. During their Ministry they have served their Master faithfully and have endeared themselves to many, both inside and outside Church circles.

Arising from Mr. Lewis' announcement the Deacons of the Church have lost no time in seeking the guidance of the Area Superintendent in the matter of appointing a successor. They have had informal discussions with a potential candidate and will be making a recommendation to the Church at an early date.

Coupled with the retirement of one minister and the appointment of another the Church has considered it desirable to seek a new manse more suited to the present day requirements of its Minister. To this end a sub-committee has been appointed and charged with the task of finding a suitable residence within easy reach of the Church and of disposing of the existing manse in Kidmore Road.

## THE CHRISTIAN ATTITUDE TO WAR

The meeting held on Oct. 15th at Gosbrook Road Methodist Church to discuss our attitude, as Christians, to war attracted only five persons, apart from the chairman and engaged speakers, although churches throughout the Caversham area were well informed about the meeting.

It appears that we Christians, apart from the Society of Friends, have not yet grasped the seriousness of this matter, the renunciation of war, it being contrary to the teaching and example of our Lord. There are many "roads" to the Kingdom. This is one which cannot be bypassed and sooner or later will have to be trod by the Christian Church if it is to remain a dynamic force in the world.

We are often accused of not living up to what we profess; here is one way of proving that we are trying to do so. Now let each Church accept the challenge and talk this matter over.

H.D.M.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, DECEMBER, 1970—SEVEN

## Wedding at St. Peter's



Walton Adams.

Mr. George Mewlands and Miss Gwendalyn Oates were married at St. Peter's on October 3rd.

## STAN ELDON SPORTS LTD.,

ST. MARTIN'S CENTRE, CAVERSHAM

Tel: 473588

Come and See Our Very Large

Selection of

BOYS AND MENS FOOTBALL BOOTS

also

SHIRTS, SHORTS, SOCKS etc.

— o —

We have a good range of Table Tennis Bats, Hockey Sticks and Boots, Badminton and Squash Rackets and Clothing including Tracksuits in Nylon and Cotton.

Now give you Green Shield Stamps

## M. HILL (Insurance Brokers) LTD.

26 Cross Street,

Reading, Berks.

(Tel: 583140)

Come to us for professional impartial advice in connection with Life Assurance, Annuities, Pensions, Estate Duty Mitigation, Investment problems.

Discussions are conducted in a friendly and informal atmosphere, and we make no charge whatsoever for our advice.

## Hemdean Stores

GROCERIES & PROVISIONS Early Closing Saturday

47, HEMDEAN ROAD, CAVERSHAM. Telephone 471632.

(A. F. & J. L. WATSON)

ORDERS DELIVERED



If your hair isn't becoming to you, you should be coming to us.

For a new you, see our latest styles in wigs and hairpieces.

Wigs and Hairpieces quickly redressed.

**Gillian Leslie**

169, Caversham Road, Reading.

Tel: Reading 53325

15, High Street, Theale.

Tel: Theale 317

## L. W. YEATES LIMITED

Central Heating and Plumbing

Complete systems designed and installed by Qualified Engineers.

21, STAR ROAD, CAVERSHAM, READING. Telephone Reading 471016.

## Christmas Services in Caversham

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND

## ST. PETER'S

Christmas Eve  
4-00 p.m. Children's Gift Service with Blessing of Crib.  
11-45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist.

## Christmas Day

7-00 a.m. 8-00 a.m. and 12-15 p.m. Holy Communion.  
9-15 a.m. Parish Communion.  
11-00 a.m. Mattins.

## ST. JOHN'S

Christmas Eve  
11-45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist.

## Christmas Day

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.  
9-15 a.m. Family Eucharist.  
11-00 a.m. Carol Service for Children.

## ST. ANDREW'S

Christmas Eve  
6-30 p.m. Solemn Evensong and Blessing of Crib.

11-45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist.

## Christmas Day

8-00 a.m. and 11-15 a.m. Holy Communion.  
9-15 a.m. Family Eucharist.

## ST. BARNABAS

Christmas Eve  
6-00 p.m. Nativity Play.  
11-45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist.  
Christmas Day  
8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.  
9-15 a.m. Family Eucharist.

## ST. MARGARET'S, MAPLEDURHAM

Christmas Eve  
11-45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist.  
Christmas Day  
9-15 a.m. Parish Communion.

## CONFESSIONS

## BEFORE

## CHRISTMAS

## Church of England

Times when clergy will be available to hear confessions will be given in the church notices on December 13.

## CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

Christmas Day  
10-30 a.m. Morning Service.

## METHODIST

## CAVERSHAM

Christmas Day  
11-00 a.m. Morning Service.  
Preacher: Rev. T. Harris.

## CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS

Christmas Eve  
11-45 p.m. Christmas Communion.

## CYRIL H. LOVEGROVE Ltd.

Funeral Directors : Monumental Masons

114/116 OXFORD ROAD, READING

Telephone: 52016 (Day and Night)

Branch Offices at:

High Street, Bracknell. Tel.: 21949

## FUNERALS AND CREMATIONS

## A. B. WALKER AND SON LTD.

36, Eldon Road, Reading, Berks.

Telephones.  
Day: Reading 63650  
Night: Reading 63763 & 61539

PRIVATE CHAPELS OF REST

## A. H. WHITE

(N.A.F.D.)

Funeral Directors

11, THE GROVE

READING

Tel. 54334

Late: 63921

## W. R. BOURTON &amp; SON

— FUNERAL DIRECTORS —

1 PRINCES STREET — READING

Tel. 53825

Night 63917 and 39-4283

## A. F. JONES MASTER MASONS

Craftsmen in stone  
BEDFORD ROAD  
READING

Tel. 53537

## TOMALIN &amp; SON

(N.A.F.D.)

Funeral Directors

28 NEW STREET

HENLEY-ON-THAMES

Tel: 3370 Day and Night



## DOWLING HOPES LIMITED

Land and Property Agents Planning Consultants

PROSPECT HOUSE, PROSPECT STREET  
CAVERSHAM, READING

Reading 477563

## ROUND THE CLUBS

## ROSE HILL W.I.

Mrs. Green, the President, welcomed all members to the October meeting. An illustrated talk on "Knitting for Pleasure" was given by Mrs. Stainforth, many useful hints were noted. The competition "An estate agent's description of a house for sale in the Antarctic" was won by Mrs. Booker; runners up: Miss M. Stevenson and Mrs. Gribble.

## MAPLEWOOD W.I.

The President, Mrs. Betty Lewis, welcomed the Revd. Roger Packer who spoke on "An A.B.C. of Music". Mrs. Barbara Justham gave the vote of thanks on behalf of all members for such an enjoyable and informative talk and recital. Mrs. Bubb, who was our delegate at the Autumn Council Meeting, read an interesting report. Mrs. Duckworth gave some details of our plans in connection with the Berkshire 'Green and Pleasant Land' Exhibition. The social half-hour was cheerfully spent in programme planning.

## BLAGRAVE W.I.

Mrs. Ann Markham surprised members by telling them that when they joined a W.I. they automatically became a member of Associated Country Women of the World. While explaining the functions of the association and how closely they work with U.N. she mentioned some of the projects taking place in underdeveloped countries and how Institutes can give financial help to this work.

Final arrangements were made for the Jumble Sale at Balmore Hall on 24th Oct. The scone making competition was won by Mrs. Waite with Mrs. Marshall second and Mrs. Scholl third.

## Christmas Family Film Service

The third in the series of special Family Film Services will take place at Caversham Methodist Church, Gosbrook Road, on Sunday, 20th December, at 6-30 p.m. The film is appropriate to the occasion.

"The Birth" was filmed by a BBC team travelling over the country looking at places associated with Jesus. Shrines to His memory are everywhere and represent every denomination of the Christian faith. But none of them was to Malcolm Muggeridge's liking. Come and see the film and hear what Malcolm Muggeridge has to say. It fulfils one of his life's ambitions and is an imaginative testimony of his own belief.

## CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

At the October meeting of the Guild, Mrs. N. Morgan, the Federation Education Chairman, was present and explained the procedure for the election of Officers and new Committee at the AGM to be held on November 19th. Ninety-three small garments made by the Children group of knitters were on show and these will be divided between two children's charities.

Those members who visited the John Groom's workshops at Edgeware were very impressed by what they saw of the work of patients and also the buildings set in delightful surroundings. A demonstration was given by Miss Olive Webb on how to make "Flowers from Fabric and Crepe Paper". Mrs. B. Stratford gave a vote of thanks.

## TRENCH GREEN

At the October meeting at Trench Green a demonstration of Ikebana flower arrangements was given by Mrs. Sherwood, who had lived many years in Japan and studied the art while living there. A competition for an arrangement of three flowers and foliage was judged and commented on by Mrs. Sherwood.

## CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

The austere interior of St. Andrew's Hall (minus its curtains for renovation) took on an air of Christmas gaiety this month when Mrs. J. Weatherlake, speaking to Caversham Heights Townswomen, demonstrated the art of making Christmas decorations. Under Mrs. Weatherlake's hands fairy trees and scarlet poppies and poinsettias grew and blossomed, and with the deft but deliberate movements of the true exponent of Floral Art, silver fronds, real and plastic flowers, tissue paper and metallic paint took shape and became the most exquisite table decorations or house adornments. Mrs. Pauline West voiced the thanks of all the members for the useful and enjoyable demonstration.

Later in the evening Lady Palmer, Chairman of the League of Friends of Reading Hospitals, spoke to members and explained the purpose of the League, describing many aspects of its work. She pointed out that with so many hospitals within its territory the resources of the League were often severely strained, and felt that in a town the size of Reading a membership of many more than the present 600 loyal members should be possible. Many patients who had enjoyed the comforts provided by the League had told her how much these had meant to them during a stay in hospital, and often their suggestions had led to new projects being undertaken by the League. The installation of telephone trolleys, making it possible for patients to speak to their families, had been particularly appreciated, and the splendid room where a mother could stay to be near her child had also been fully equipped by the League. The latest big project to be undertaken by the League of Friends was the Swimming Pool for arthritic patients and it was hoped that this would be completed shortly.

## Caversham Baptist Free Church

Sunday Dec. 20th:

11 a.m. Family Service.

2-45 p.m. Toy Service.

6-30 p.m. Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

THE SOCIAL STUDIES SECTION of the Guild had met during the month when Mr. Galloway spoke on "The Changes in Architecture" and showed how new and old styles of building were being incorporated in towns.

## THE INTERNATIONAL SECTION of the Guild

also met and had been pleased to welcome the Rev. J. Y. Crowe, who had spoken on "Sarawak". An outing to "The Horse of The Year Show" had also been greatly enjoyed by Guild members during the month, and two tea-parties had been arranged for the Guild's friends at Warren House.

## EMMER GREEN

## TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

At the October meeting Miss B. Baker received nominations for next year's committee and the speaker, Mrs. Howard Cusworth, stressed the importance of the gift of speech in communication and advised how best to use the voice to give added pleasure to others. The competition for the best edible necklace was won by Mrs. Edna Barnes and the produce stall raised £3. The eighteenth Birthday Party was also held this month, the main attraction being Barn Dancing.

## SERVICES IN METHODIST CHURCHES

## CAVERSHAM METHODIST CHURCH (Gosbrook Road)

Sunday, 13th December

11-00 a.m. Parade Service.

3-00 p.m. Annual Toy Service.

6-30 p.m. Evening Worship.

Sunday, 20th December

11-00 a.m. Morning Worship.

6-30 p.m. Family Film Service, with carols.

"THE BIRTH".

## CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH (Woodcote Road)

Sunday, 13th December

11-00 a.m. Morning Worship.

6-30 p.m. Young People's Service conducted by a group from Wokingham Methodist Church.

Sunday, 20th December

11-00 a.m. Morning Worship.

4-00 p.m. Family and Carol Service.

6-30 p.m. United with the Anglican Churches in Caversham.

NO SERVICE AT CHAPEL.

## TO HIRE A HALL

## BALMORE HALL

Secretary: Mr. H. Briggs,  
49 Woodcote Road Tel.  
473327.

## CAVERSHAM HALL

Secretary: Mrs. C. H. Jordan,  
7, St. John's Road.

## CHURCH HOUSE CHURCH STREET

Secretary: Mr. V. T. Smith,  
62, Woodcote Road.  
Tel. 476388.

## ST. ANDREW'S HALL

Secretary: Mrs. F. T. Rix,  
28, St. Andrew's Road,  
Tel. 477281

## ST. BARNABAS HALL

Secretary: Mr. C. H. Cox,  
160 Hemdean Road.

## ST. JOHN'S HALL

Secretary: Mrs. O. Stockwell,  
89, Briants Avenue,  
Tel. 477465.

## WEST MEMORIAL HALL

Secretary: Mr. N. S. Ide,  
3, Ibstone Avenue,  
Tel. 477007

## TIEN TIEN RESTAURANT

Chinese and English food to take away.

Parties welcome.

27 PROSPECT STREET,  
(Post office side)  
CAVERSHAM.  
Tel: 472565

Monday-Friday  
12-2 p.m.: 5-30-midnight  
Saturday 12 noon-midnight  
Sunday 6 p.m.-midnight

## KAREN

Children's Wear, Hosiery and Haberdashery

6 Prospect Street  
Caversham

Tel: 472013.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CAVERSHAM? IF YOU WANT A SAY JOIN

CAVERSHAM AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION  
Secretary—Mrs. Jean Koba,  
15 Prospect Street,  
Caversham. Tel.: 471479.

## Percy C. Beech

Electricity Contractor

2, CHESTER STREET, CAVERSHAM

Telephone: Reading 472247

## Peter Shock

Motor Coaches

131, Hemdean Road,

Caversham, Reading

Tel. Reading 473793

## THE YARD

PROSPECT ST., CAVERSHAM  
Open each weekday except Wednesday for—Used Furniture Victorian, Pictures, China, Bygones and Antiques.

WE BUY! WE SELL!  
Saturday is Open Market Day.

## SWEETMAN

PRINTING OFFICE

SUPPLIES

DUPLICATING

Enquiries

110, PEPPARD ROAD,

CAVERSHAM. Tel.: 472604.

## C. WISE

Florists

Wreaths and Sprays,

Pot Foods, Bulbs, Plants,

Green Shield Stamps

9 Church Street,  
Caversham. Tel.: 474246

by R.C.R. Adkins

## The Street Musician

The vicar leant over the pulpit and threw out his hands in a dramatic gesture, "And now," he declaimed, "after this event . . ." the congregation did not hear what happened 'after this event' but they did hear, very clearly, the strains of, "After the ball is over." A street musician had got going on his barrel organ just outside the Church.

The music continued, so did the vicar but no one heard a word he said.

The ball ended and the vicar's voice once again could be heard, "Now there were," he said, "Two little girls in blue" came from the barrel organ. Judging from the vicar's expression he was not at all interested in the 'two little girls in blue' but, directly they had gone on their way and the music had momentarily ceased, the vicar seized his opportunity, "Mr. Jones," he said, "please give him a shilling and tell him to . . ." The music of "Daisy, Daisy, give me your answer" filled the Church while Mr. Jones, a portly churchwarden hurried out to give the vicar's answer. The music came to an abrupt halt and, a few moments later a rather breathless Mr. Jones came hurrying back into the Church.



The vicar continued with his sermon but, sitting back in the Curate's stall, I could see that the congregation were no longer with him, their thoughts had been diverted!

After the service was over I asked Mr. Jones about the street musician. "He didn't like being stopped, he didn't like it at all," he said.

This worried me, I didn't like the thought of this man being turned away by the Church. I determined to go and see him.

It took me three days to find his address and then, on a hot June day, I trudged through North London streets and, eventually, found the musician in a stifling little room.

He did not, at first, seem at all pleased to see me but I tried to get over to him that his music came at rather an unfortunate time but that the Church did care for him. He didn't seem very impressed and so, to change the subject, I asked him if his barrel organ played "Danny Boy" — having Irish blood in me I love that song.

Rather to my surprise, he said it did and we went down to a shed where the instrument was kept and, after fiddling with it for a few moments, out came the music of "Danny Boy."

It moved me nearly to tears and, in my emotion, I pressed ten shillings into his hand when I had meant to give him only five.

I went to see him twice more, each time we had a little prayer to which he mumbled an "Amen," and each time he played "Danny Boy."

The next time I went round, he had gone, leaving no address behind.

I never saw him again but, standing on that London doorstep, I remembered his last words to me, "God bless you, Danny Boy" and I felt that my visits had not been in vain.

# CHRISTMAS in OBERAMMERGAU

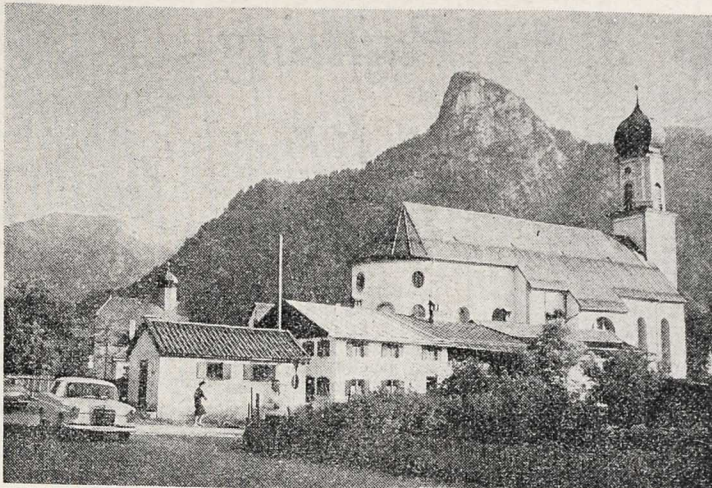


Photo courtesy German National Tourist Office.

*Traditional Seasonal Customs described by Gwendoline Kinghorn*

There is stricter observance of old customs in Oberammergau, world famous for its Passion Play, than in any other Bavarian village, and this is especially so at Christmastide, beginning in early December.

The Festival of St. Nicholas, who was Bishop of Myra in Lycia in the 4th century, is celebrated on December 6th. He is the Patron Saint of Russia, of children, and also of merchants and sailors, and the custom of giving presents on the eve of this day is common in many European countries.

In Oberammergau, the Saint in the form of Santa Claus travels through the village in his sleigh, accompanied by little angels who assist him. Santa has a large book from which he reads out to the children a list of sins they have

committed, leaving behind a birch as a warning against further disobedience etc., but also distributing apples or sweets as a reward for good behaviour.

On the Thursday before Christmas, the children go from house to house singing carols, politely asking for a small gift, and are given either apples or sweetmeats by the householders.

Christmas Eve is a very busy time for everyone, for Christmas trees are lit in every house, whilst a huge tree with numerous candles is placed in the village square, this being considered a communal tree.

Many homes possess sacred old cribs inherited from their ancestors, and these are displayed in the parlours, to be visited by friends and neighbours, especially children. In addition, of course, many homes display more modern cribs carved by themselves. The old ones are small masterpieces presenting scenes of the Christmas story, the Nativity, the Shepherds, or the Adoration of the Kings, and they have movable figures dressed in the most elaborate costumes.

Great numbers attend Midnight Mass, some of these place small Christmas trees on the snow covered graves of friends or relatives in the churchyard resulting in a collection of lights twinkling through the trees. At Midnight Mass it is usual for the church choir to perform the Pastoral Mass of Rocher Dedler, an Oberammergau schoolmaster, who composed the Passion Play music in 1815, this being still in use with only minor alterations.

The Christmas season concludes with an unusual custom when the inhabitants of Oberammergau follow a star on New Year's Eve. A large illuminated star with the image of the Christ Child is attached to a long pole, which is carried through the streets with a procession forming behind it. This consists of the village band, the chorus of the Passion Play, and many villagers all carrying torches or Chinese lanterns. Whenever the Star halts, one of the seven ancient 'Star Hymns' of the Ammergau people is sung. Young boys go from house to house following a small star, and, when they have finished singing, they wish everyone a 'Happy New Year'.

## THE ANCIENT FEAST of HANUKKAH

by Edyth Harper

While Christians celebrate the birth of Christ, about the same time, Jews all over the world keep Hanukkah or the Festival of Lights.

This festival is kept in remembrance of a troubled period of Jewish history. More than 2,000 years ago, the Jew's chief enemies were the Greeks who stopped the use of synagogues and tried to suppress Jewish faith.

As so often in their history, the Jews banded together and drove the enemy away. The Temple in Jerusalem was re-dedicated during which time a miracle occurred. Undeified oil was needed to light the ever-burning lamp but only one day's supply could be found yet when lit, it burned for 8 days. As a boy, Jesus would hear of this miracle from those actually living at the time.

In memory of this, candles shine in Jewish synagogues and houses for eight days at Hanukkah. One candle is lit on the first night, two next night, and so on until the eighth night sees 8 candles burning together with another light

used to light them all. The Menorah is a special holder or candlestick to take all the candles.

Usually Father lights the candles every evening then all the family sing old Jewish songs. Since work is forbidden while the candles are burning, games are played using a top that spins, called a Dreidel.

Just as Christmas fare forms a big part in our Christmas celebrations so

special food is prepared for Hanukkah. Potato pancakes or Latkes are very popular while gifts and presents of money also delight adults and children.

The message of Hanukkah is one that their ancestors demonstrated centuries ago against the Greeks. Faith and determination can solve all difficulties, a message that is also common to Christianity.



Photo by Simon Livingstone.

## try Harris Cleaning

THE BEST VALUE FOR DRY CLEANING IN THE MIDLANDS

With over 180 years experience

**HARRIS CLEANING OFFERS SAME DAY SERVICE**

at nearly all branches

**Joseph Harris Ltd.**

Aldridge Road, Perry Barr

Birmingham 22b

Telephone 356 4512

Printing . . .

By rotary letterpress, flatbed letterpress or lithography, your local edition of this newspaper can be accommodated. Enquiries to:

**Blackburn Times**

(United Newspapers Publications Ltd.)

NORTHGATE, BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE

Telephone: Blackburn 52345

# time off



BBC Radio Birmingham. From left to right, Terry Doughty—Producer of Religious Programmes, Jack Johnston—Manager and Bryan Harris—Programme Organiser.

## LISTENING IN to LOCAL RADIO

There was a time when it was thought that Big Brother television would see the death of its ancient parent—steam radio. The fact is that the viewer has never entirely replaced the listener and in recent years there have been many indications that sound broadcasting is coming back into its own.

Now radio has been given a new lease of life in the establishment of local stations.

When BBC Radio Leicester went on the air some two years ago as the first of eight new experimental stations it ushered in a new era of broadcasting. At this stage local radio was experimental and running on a shoestring, but the pilot schemes proved so successful that in 1970 another twelve have started transmitting with a bigger budget and more personnel. Local radio now covers the country from Teesside, Middlesbrough, Leeds, Newcastle, and Manchester in the North to Southampton, Brighton, London and Radio Medway in the South.

In general local radio is about the news, views and events of a comparatively small area. It is concerned with presenting local people to local people. It is community broadcasting concerned with the production of local news bulletins and the coverage of local sport, leisure, culture, education, religion and community service.

Each station produces its own particular flavour. One of the new stations, BBC Radio Birmingham is geared to give religious broadcasting a new look. Terry Doughty, who produces the religious programmes—along with those concerned with gardening, and reviews of music, drama and the cinema—is a young man, an ex-member of the "Today" team, and amongst other things is a church organist.

"We want to widen out the conventional scope of religious broadcasting", he says, "the BBC is traditionally thought of as dealing with Christian church services and conventional discussions about Christian matters. We want to include other mainstream religions and provide a platform for such people as Jews and Moslems as well as Christians. We also want to give minority Christian groups such as Quakers and the Salvation Army a chance to air their views. We particularly want to bring out points of view on local topics and to allow our contributors to be as free as possible. If someone has prepared a talk on one subject and some big local event takes place we hope that the first talk can be scrapped and the contributor given a chance to give his views on what has taken place. Religion will be given every chance to communicate with the public, but our purpose is NOT evangelistic. It is simply to let people know what is going on and what people are thinking."

You can listen in to your local radio on VHF, and by now nearly all of them are in full swing presenting the people to the people.

## Painting for Pleasure



In days gone by, a little water colour painting was regarded as a suitable leisure activity for ladies. In these days of busy housewives and working mums there are very few ladies of leisure. Skill in drawing and painting, once a fairly common ability, is less and less common. Even some people who have had an art training find that the busy run of life gives them little time for continuing their work.

Yet there are still a number of talented, little-known, often part-time artists, developing their skills on paper and canvas, capturing the way people and things look—sometimes in fresh and arresting ways. We can see their work in the little galleries in small towns; and some cafes, pubs and theatres display the work of local artists from time to time. Usually most of the pictures will be for sale, their prices, often under £10, being mentioned in the catalogue. Such a picture—an original—chosen because it particularly appealed to us, will, for us, have a charm and lasting value which the print of a well-known painting by a well-known artist, which we might see on anybody's wall, can never have.

One such artist trained at the Royal Academy who reads and sometimes contributes sketches to a local edition of this paper, Stretton Focus, is Mrs. Lochhead, or M. Brake Baldwin as she signs her pictures. They have been shown in several Midland towns. Her particular skill is in watercolours and drawings of everyday things from country scenes like sheep shearing to domestic subjects

such as mothers and children. She has a particular skill in portraying children.

Artists like this deserve support. Paintings do not have to be by well-known artists to give pleasure. A local artist is just as likely to present a subject in a way which gives us pleasure—and he might even encourage some people to polish up their rusty artistic abilities and again do a little painting themselves.



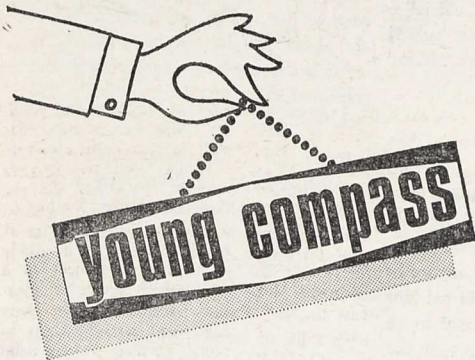
"Peg with Sebastian" by M. Brake Baldwin.

## good for a laugh



*Winds through the Olive trees softly did blow  
Round little Bethlehem long, long ago.  
Sheep on the hillside lay white as the snow;  
Shepherds were watching them long, long ago.  
Shepherds were watching them long, long ago.*

*Then from the happy skies Angels bent low,  
Singing their songs of joy, long, long ago.  
For, in his manger bed, cradled, we know,  
Christ came to Bethlehem long, long ago.  
Christ came to Bethlehem long, long ago.*



## PRESENTS FOR THE FAMILY

You can make all kinds of Christmas presents from clay — animal models for the younger children in the family, ashtrays and small flower pots for the grown-ups. You could even make a model farmyard or a Noah's Ark. You will need a large basin.

- 2 cups of plain flour
- 1 cup of cooking salt
- 1 tablespoonful of powdered alum
- (You can buy this from a chemist)
- About a cup of cold water.

If you're going to remain friends with Mum, best put all the clobber on an old tray, and under and round the tray put lots of sheets of old newspaper. Mix the dry flour, salt and alum in small quantities and mix it well, until the clay is firm enough for modelling. Be sure not to make it too wet. Now start the modelling. It is best to start with a small plain dish until you get the hang of the thing. When you have made your shapes and animals, leave them to harden. If you want to, you can then colour them with dyes or inks or cake colouring. Keep any unused clay—which must be stored while still damp—in an airtight jar.

### ANSWERS TO PROVERBS:

A friend in need is a friend indeed; there's no smoke without fire; new brooms sweep clean; one good turn deserves another; one man's meat is another man's poison; enough is as good as a feast.

## BOXING DAY AND AFTER

When the washing-up is all done and Dad begs for "a bit of 'ush", and it's too wet or dark to play out-of-doors, try putting in the missing vowels to these six well-known proverbs.

FRNDNDSFRNDND  
THRSNMKWTHTFR  
NWBRMSSWPCLN  
NGDTRNDSRVSNTHR  
NMNMTSNTHRMNSPSN  
NGHSSGDSFST

Answers below:

## Having a baby in 1 A.D.

### BIRTHS:

December 25. To Mary, wife of Joseph, the carpenter from Nazareth, at The Inn, Bethlehem, a son.

Yes, we know perfectly well that there were no newspapers in the year 1 A.D. But this is the kind of announcement we might have expected to find, if there had been newspapers.

Today when Mum is expecting a baby she makes all kinds of preparations for it. Out comes the wool and the knitting needles, months before the baby is expected. She trots off regularly to the Clinic, and books a place in the hospital, where the baby will be born. There were no clinics, knitting needles or hospitals in Mary's day. When the baby arrived—usually at home—he would be washed in water, and then rubbed all over with salt. Next he was wrapped in swaddling clothes—long strips of cotton material wrapped tightly round his body—from the mistaken idea that if he kicked his limbs would not grow straight and strong. When he was eight days old he was given his name.

And what did Mary's baby look like? One thing is certain, he wasn't pink and white like English babies. He was probably quite dark-skinned—olive is the colour we usually call it—and looked much more like an Asiatic than a European baby.



## CHRISTMAS Is it Bunkum?

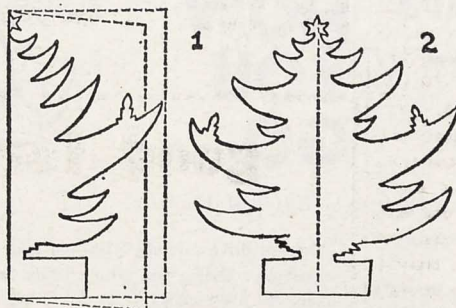


*Christmas is coming, and the goose is getting fat.*

*Please to put a penny in the old man's hat.*

What's Christmas all about? Just eating and presents? And is all the old religious stuff just bunkum? YOUNG COMPASS says it's certainly not bunkum. We agree that as we get older we have to discard some of the old legends about Christmas—you-know-who and all that kind of thing. But if it's all bunkum, all we can say is that it's pretty strange that the bunkum should have persisted for one thousand nine hundred and seventy years, and that intelligent men and women still believe in Christmas. YOUNG COMPASS maintains that something pretty wonderful DID happen that first Christmas.

## DECORATE THE TABLE



Look carefully at this sketch of one half of a tree. (1)

Draw a copy of it on thick card, making the tree about 8" tall, and use the card as a pattern. Double some sheets of firm paper. Put the fold against the centre of the pattern (the straight edge). If you are sure-handed you can cut round the edges right away. Otherwise, trace the outline and then cut out. When you open the sheet, you will have one flat tree. (2) Make another tree exactly the same. Place one on top of the other and staple or pin the centres together, in about three places. Then open the tree, and you will have four sets of branches, and the tree should stand quite steadily on the table. (3) If you can make a whole set of trees in bright green paper, they look very gay on the Christmas dinner table.



## Fashion Notes for Dolls



Make no mistake about it, girls. The midi and the maxi are here for party gear. If you're short and plump, with not much of a waist line, best go for the maxi. The midi will be murder for you, and make you look a bit of a comic dot. Likewise if your ankles are a bit thick and heavy, the midi will show just enough leg to draw attention to the thick part. Maxis on the other hand cover up all the faults, especially a straight maxi, which can look quite fabulous whether you are short, tall or just middle height.

Whether you wear maxi or midi, remember you must wear a good quality slip underneath. Nothing looks more horrid than to see a dress clinging lovingly to and between a pair of legs, as if it's a pair of trousers gone wrong! As for trousers, some dolls might consider having a trouser suit in a light material for a party. But please, oh please, not if you're a plump little tub!

## Comment for Guys

We like some of those fabulous floral shirts and matching ties we've seen in the shops. But watch you get the right colour, guys. The other day we saw a handsome, olive skinned chap in a pink floral shirt. The pink of the shirt made his skin look a horrible dingy yellow. We wondered that his latest bird hadn't torn him or the shirt to strips!





**Man  
in the  
street**

by Ken Hills

# The Public Servant

There must be about one public servant in every five employed persons so, if you are an 'average' person, one out of every five of your friends and neighbours is a Public Employee or Civil Servant.

Brought up in New Zealand in a society notorious for its easy-going individualism but famous for the first thorough-going welfare state in the world, I inherited a lively suspicion of any kind of 'official'—but, also an approval of what they worked at! Consequently, the lot of an 'official' was always ambiguous.

## LEG PULL

The very title 'civil servant' was always seen as a quiet little dig—"whoever heard of a civil civil servant?" But, at the same time it was an affectionate leg-pull. Nevertheless—just let such a man throw his weight around, lord it over anyone or show himself more interested in red-tape than the people he was supposed to be serving, and all the resentments of the ordinary citizen against "them" would come pouring out.

A civil servant is the public's man—and while he must adopt all kinds of roles not marked on his office door ('diplomat' amongst them if he's any good), there is one role he shouldn't have to accept, ever—scapegoat!

It isn't just the public who 'get at' the public or civil employee. He is also very vulnerable to partisan policies of any government. In some ways he's an 'aunt sally'. A government, though, can make a fundamental mistake—it can 'lord it

over', suppose it owns the civil servant and use him as a 'thing', an example, manipulate him as a person. Yet, in the end it's this kind of behaviour which the ordinary citizen deplores.

In the end, a civil servant is the chap down the street, and he is our neighbour. He is doing a job like your job. We, the State—not this or that government—employ him. The government is our agent—and we have a responsibility to see that our agent is acting towards our neighbour as we would wish to be treated ourselves.

If we don't take a responsibility and personal interest in these men in our street, we can hardly complain if they don't care much about another matter which should be—and will be—worrying us. That is our fear that an institution as vast as the "Public Service" begins to have a life of its own, with its own needs and its own authority and its own will.

## PUBLIC MACHINE

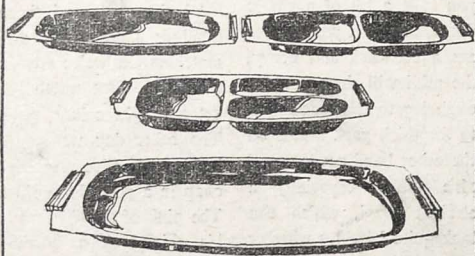
We can choose, maybe, either a public service composed of people who know they are neighbours, both at home and at work.

Or a vast impersonal public machine which has no neighbours.

"Who is the more important—the man dining in the restaurant or the waiter? Surely, it is the man sitting at the table! Yet Christ comes amongst us as a servant!"

## Beautiful

These Old Hall dishes with Rosewood Handles belong on your table. Smooth, gleaming stainless steel. Never chips, never wears out. And so beautifully easy to keep clean.



**Old Hall** first name in stainless steel

OLD HALL TABLEWARE LTD.,  
BLOXWICH,  
WALSALL, WS3 CHH  
STAFFORDSHIRE.

## mini ADS

Rate 6d per word 15/- minimum £2 for four insertions of 30 words or less. Box No. 2/- extra. All prepaid.

## ARTICLES WANTED AND FOR SALE

**PENFRIENDS WANTED URGENTLY.** All ages. S.A.E. and requirements to Pen Society (RG1) Chorley, Lancs.

**TIGHTS IN THE LARGER SIZES.** Buy direct and save money! British made. Top quality, crepe nylon, run resist. Three sizes—to fit hips 40-42, 44-46 and 48-52. Two fashionable shades—light and medium. Three pairs for only 20/- post-free. Money back guarantee. Send P.O. or cheque and state size and colour to Stocking Centre Bureau 32, Devonshire House, High Street, Birmingham 12

**ALL PENS, DIARIES, NOTE PADS** Keyfobs, Pencils, etc. 10/- stamped with Church name raise funds quickly easily. Competitions. Quick delivery. Details: Northern Novelties Bradford 2.

**ONE-SIZE TIGHTS.** Save up to 3/- a pair! Buy direct. Leading British maker. Top quality crepe nylon, micro-mesh. To fit 8½ to 11. Three pairs for only 12/- post-free. Money back guarantee. State shade—light, medium or dark and send P.O. or cheque to Stocking Centre Bureau A2, Devonshire House, High Street, Birmingham, 12.

**NEED MONEY.** Our Pens and Badges have raised many thousands of pounds for Churches and other worthy causes. Free catalogue or three 5d stamps for sample.—Westfield Ltd., Dept 102, 135/9 Lennox Street, Birmingham, 15.

## MIND HOW YOU GO

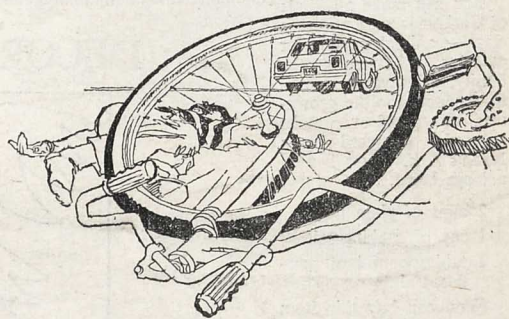
by Ellsye M. Finnie

Do you drive carefully? Do you drive prayerfully? Or are you always ready to blame the other chap?

It is estimated that every day there are 22 people who leave their home for the last time and 1100 people who are injured through road accidents. During 1966 there were over 390,000 casualties, including nearly 8,000 deaths.

This is a matter of concern for everyone for no one is immune from accident. It needs the co-operation of all road users if this tragic state of affairs is not to get worse. A Christian citizen has a duty to take the utmost care not only of himself but of his neighbour.

Careless driving costs lives, but so can careless walking. Pedestrians, motorists and cyclists should all be involved in seeking to avert accidents. It is for this reason that the Christian Road Safety League came into being in 1937 when a group of young motorists gathered together to pledge themselves to do all in their power to stop the slaughter on the roads of Britain. They dedicated themselves and their cars to God's service in this matter. 'Be careful—Be



prayerful' was their slogan.

The Christian Road Safety League has grown until its membership has stretched from this country to thirteen other countries. It is a voluntary organization composed of all types of road users, drawn from every denomination.

Members serve on Road Safety Committees, train child cyclists under the National Cycling Proficiency Scheme, organize Road Safety Sundays and Road Safety Services and Campaigns. They are prepared to give road safety instruction at public meetings, Sunday Schools, Clubs etc., and to help form Junior Branches of the League. They maintain that if children learn in early life to be careful and prayerful in their travelling they are more likely to travel safely to old age!

There are transparent strips available from Headquarters and also personal lapel badges.

If you are interested in helping in this worthwhile endeavour to cut down the number of road accidents, further information and literature can be obtained from the following address:—

Christian Road Safety League,  
136 Old Christchurch Road,  
Bournemouth,  
Hants.