

Baskets from Caversham's Hedgerows

If you see a lady in Caversham carrying armfuls of trailing creepers and long twigs, it will probably be Mrs. Hens bringing back material for her latest project; for Mrs. Hens, of 210 Kidmore Road, practices the ancient craft of basketry.

One of the first skills splitting or snapping will acquired by ancient man, it is now virtually ignored in this country. Only one book has been written about it and that is out of print, though there is a W.I. pamphlet on the subject.

Choosing Material

The beginner, advises Mrs. Hens, should start with cane work, which she has been doing since 1960, and then graduate to basketry, which needs more understanding as the thickness and texture of the twigs used varies greatly. Having kept a list of the various materials she has used she finds a total of twenty-four. Anything that is long and will bend around the wrist without

Her Own Designs

Mrs. Hens has completed quite a number of baskets during the three years she has practised the craft. She designs her own shapes for waste paper baskets, hanging baskets, flat flower gathering baskets, dishes and bowls — all of them costing nothing to make. Some are used to illustrate talks and lessons given to Women's Institutes and Townswomen's Guilds. Others have won prizes at the Reading Festival and the Reading Horticultural Show.

Always ready to try some new aspect of the subject, Mrs. Hens is now having a go at cane seating, and has just finished re-seating her fourth chair.



Walton Adams



WHERE IS IT? — This photograph was taken in Caversham many years ago. Can you tell the Editor where it is?

Caversham Head Teacher Retires

In July Mr. H. W. Turner, Headmaster of Caversham Primary School, will retire. We intend to feature Mr. Turner in the next issue of 'Caversham Bridge'.

A presentation will be made to Mr. Turner on Tuesday, 17th July, at 7.30 p.m. in the school hall. Old scholars and old parents who wish to be associated with this presentation are asked to send their contribution to Mr. B. Wright, c/o Caversham Primary School, by 30th June, and at the same time indicate whether they would like to attend.

A (P) PEAL

For the restoration of Caversham's Bells

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The Editor's Column

THURSDAY, MAY 31st

For most people May 31st will be just another Thursday. But for Christians it is the Thursday that is different — it is Ascension Day, the day when we shall be thanking God that Jesus Christ completed all that he came to do on this earth.

There are many reasons why the Ascension is important. It puts the seal of completion on what happened at the Resurrection: in withdrawing his bodily presence from them our Lord commissioned the apostles to go and make disciples throughout the world. Some words of St. Teresa are appropriate at this season "Christ has no body now on earth but yours: no hands but yours: no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes which are to look out Christ's compassion to the world: yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good: yours are the hands with which he is to bless men now".

WORKING THROUGH US

These words teach us that a consequence of the Ascension is that Christ now works through ordinary men and women. So it is necessary for us to ask ourselves from time to time how in fact we are allowing him to do just this. And there is no obvious answer: if there were we should presumably be doing our best to implement it.

We can, however, learn a lot from what we see of the apostles and other Christians in the book of the Acts, and we can take heart from the fact that our Lord left only a tiny group of followers. They themselves achieved what they did primarily because of what they were. And the first thing we learn about them after the Ascension is that they returned to Jerusalem with great JOY.

PEOPLE OF JOY

Jesus never promised his followers that they would be successful, nor did he promise escape from difficulties and suffering: but he did promise the disciples that no-one would be able to rob them of their joy. The world sets great store by happiness. There is little, however, in the Bible about happiness, but a great deal about joy. If therefore we are going to be able to fulfil Christ's command to make disciples, we must be less concerned with seeking pleasure and happiness and more concerned with joy. When the Christian Church is really seen to be a community of loving and joyous people we may expect men and women to turn again to Him who is the source of all true joy.

And Ascension Day serves to remind us of this very important, but frequently neglected, truth. Certainly among Christians in Caversham it has been better observed in recent years, partly because it has been the occasion when the newly confirmed receive Holy Communion for the first time after their confirmation earlier that week. And I hope that they will feel they are welcomed with joy into a joyous community on a day which must be for all Christian people a day of great rejoicing.

John Grimwade

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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

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Picture by Peter Handford

Growing Confidence

Parish of Caversham

ASCENSION
DAY

THURSDAY, MAY 31st



HOLY COMMUNION

6.30 a.m. — St. Andrew's
7 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. — St. Peter's
10 a.m. — St. John's



SUNG EUCHARIST

7.30 p.m. — St. Andrews, St. John's
8 p.m. — St. Peter's, St. Barnabas'



The newly confirmed will receive the Sacrament for the first time on Ascension Day evening. All communicants should endeavour to be present at Holy Communion on this principal feast day.

DUNSDEN FLOWER
FESTIVAL

The parish church of All Saints, Dunsden, is holding a Flower Festival on Friday and Saturday, the 29th and 30th June. Bulmershe Girls Choir will give a concert with additional musical items at 7.30 p.m. on the Friday; and on the Saturday, also at 7.30 p.m., there will be a recital given by piano, clarinet and violin trio. The evening will also include poetry readings from Mr. and Mrs. David Henschel of Henley. Refreshments will be available on both occasions. On Sunday, July 1st, the gardens of Hampstead Farm, Binfield Heath, Radbrook Cottage and Dunsden Farm House will be open. Teas will be available. The Festival closes with a special Evensong at Dunsden Church when there will be a guest preacher.

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Mayoral Viewpoint

by ZOILUS

There must be something rather special in being the County Borough of Reading's first lady, and when I had a talk with Alderman Mrs. Silvia Blagrove, who retires as Mayor on the 24th May, I realised what I had always suspected, that she, too, is a very special person.

There has been a Mayor of Reading since 1252, but it wasn't until Miss Edith Sutton took office in 1933 that the ladies were allowed a look-in. Since then they have made up for lost time and there had been eight women mayors in the last forty years.

STRONG PERSONALITY

Silvia Blagrove first came on the Council in 1959 and it was soon realised that her charmingly feminine air of diffidence cloaked a strong personality and a determination to be of service to the Town of her adoption. When she relinquishes the mace she can look back on a decade during which she has achieved honour as a chairman of committees, a magistrate and a tireless worker for many charities. But, knowing Silvia, she won't be looking back but planning further ways in which she can help her fellow townspeople.

DIFFICULTIES

I asked her if she found any disadvantages in being a woman mayor amongst a majority of men. She didn't think it made any difference nowadays, although she admitted there could be difficulties in running a house as well as heading a municipality. Still, she said, she was lucky in having an understanding husband who acted as her escort at many functions, and a grown-up and self-reliant family.

I would have thought that the dress problem may have been a bit daunting for a lady Mayor, for while a man doesn't mind ringing the changes on three or four suits, a woman's natural vanity — even in a Mayor —

might demand something on the Jacky Kennedy scale as a wardrobe. But I suspect that Mrs. Blagrove is a resourceful dressmaker among her other talents, so she made her costumes both chic and changeable.

VOLUNTARY SERVICE

One of her main interests during the year was the encouragement of voluntary service. "After all", she told me, "if people are prepared to give up time to do something for nothing to help others, they deserve a little thank-you", and she has entertained in the Mayor's Parlour all kinds of voluntary workers, both from churches and clubs, the old and the young, political and business organisations — in fact anyone who has been giving a helping hand to a good cause.

Of course, I wanted to know what was the highlight of her year of office and was a little surprised at the answer. "Oh yes — when I went up to Sunderland and saw Reading draw in the F.A. Cup", replied Silvia. I had not known she was a soccer fan, but it seemed she had often been to Elm Park and was thrilled to see her team almost topple the giants who went on to play in the Cup Final, and win. She went as the guest of the Mayor of Sunderland, and was only sorry that he had to refuse her invitation to Reading for the replay. Not visualising the possibility that the journey would be necessary, he had made another appointment for that day!

WILL THE OFFICE CONTINUE?

One feels that for Silvia Blagrove the last twelve months have been not only an important year, but a happy one. She likes people and people like her, and that is a very necessary quality for the post of first citizen. When the new District Council comes into being it will have to decide whether the office of Mayor shall continue. Being something of a traditionalist, I hope it will, and that many other townspeople will have the opportunity to follow the example of Alderman Mrs. Silvia Blagrove and serve as Mayor of Reading.



Walton Adams

Postbag

WARTIME DRIVER

Were you in the Forces during the last war? Did you drive a car, ambulance or any type of lorry or tractor? Do you have snapshots of any of these vehicles?

If you can answer 'Yes' to all three questions, then I should like to hear from you.

Since 1950 I have been studying war-time Allied Military Transport, and have had a number of books published on this enormous subject, and am trying to obtain photographs of any vehicle (no matter how commonplace at the time the photo was taken) to illustrate my historical writings.

Official photographs are limited in number and consequently appear over and over again in books, articles and T.V. programmes. I am trying to get away from these much-used photos by this request to war-time drivers. There must surely be a vast number of snapshots lying in family albums or gathering dust in the attic. I will return any photos you can lend me. Any photographs used will be fully acknowledged in the book by printing your name under the relevant illustration; in addition you will receive a complimentary copy of the publication.

Michael Conniford,
12 Westdene Crescent,
Caversham.

ST. ANNE'S —

NEW ASSISTANT PRIEST

Members of St. Anne's departure, Father Dennison church bade farewell at the son's replacement arrived, beginning of May to Father He is Father Plunkett Thomas Dennison. Father Shannon. With several Dennison had served as as- years of experience in the sistant priest for almost diocese, he comes to St. four years and now moves Anne's from Wolverhampton to Birchen Coppice, near ton. His first impressions Kidderminster, to be parish of Caversham are good and it is hoped that he will soon be better known to its people.

Within a few days of his people.

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June Patronal Festivals

TUESDAY, JUNE 19th

St. Barnabas Day at St. Barnabas'

7.30 p.m.

PARISH COMMUNION

Preacher:

The Rt. Rev. Colin Winter,
Bishop of Darroland-in-Exile

□

SUNDAY, JUNE 24th

St. John's Day at St. John's

5.30 p.m.

FESTAL EVENSONG

Preacher:

The Rev. Dr. Rupert Davies
Principal of Wesley Methodist College
and Past President of the Methodist
Conference

□

FRIDAY, JUNE 29th

St. Peter's Day at St. Peter's

7.30 p.m.

PARISH COMMUNION

Preacher:

The Rev. Ronald Gordon,
Vicar of the University Church of
St. Mary's, Oxford.

□

At St. Barnabas' and St. Peter's refreshments
will be served after the service. On St. John's
Day tea will be served from 4.30 p.m.

On St. Barnabas' and St. Peter's Days Holy
Communion will be celebrated at 7 a.m. in St.
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JUNE SUNDAY SERVICES

ANGLICAN

St. Peter's

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION.
10.30 a.m. Family Service (3rd Sunday).
11.00 a.m. Matins (not 3rd Sunday).
11.15 a.m. Holy Communion (3rd Sunday).
12.15 p.m. Holy Communion (2nd Sunday).
6.30 p.m. Evensong (not 4th Sunday).

St. John's

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.
5.30 p.m. Evensong (4th Sunday).
6.30 p.m. Evensong (1st Sunday).

St. Andrew's

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.
11.15 a.m. Holy Communion.
6.30 p.m. Evensong (not 4th Sunday).

St. Barnabas'

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.
11.15 a.m. Family Service (2nd Sunday).
6.30 p.m. Evensong (not 4th Sunday).

St. Margaret's, Mapledurham

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th Sundays)
9.15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION (4th Sunday Matins).

NORTH CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

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

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

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

CAVERSHAM PARK SCHOOL

11.15 a.m. Ecumenical Half Hour Family Service.

METHODIST CHURCHES

Caversham Heights

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

Caversham

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

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ROMAN CATHOLIC

St. Anne's

8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m., 7.00 p.m. Mass.

Our Lady of Caversham

8.30 and 10.30 a.m. Mass.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN CAVERSHAM

Church of England

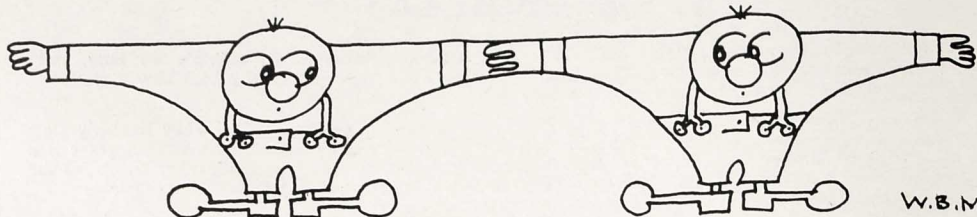
- St. Peter's Hemdean House School, 11 a.m., aged 4 to 7 years.
Superintendent: Miss R. Eves, 6 Wrenfield Drive. Balmore Hall, 11 a.m., age 7 upwards.
- St. John's. St. John's Hall, 11 a.m., age 4 upwards.
Superintendent: Mrs. A. Yates, 39 Field View. Tel. 477895.
- St. Andrew's. St. Andrew's Hall, 11 a.m., age 4 years and upwards.
- St. Barnabas' — Church Hall, at 9.15 a.m., except on 1st and 2nd Sundays of the month.

Methodist Church

- Gosbrook Road — 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. 474478.

Baptist Church

- 11 a.m., aged 3 years and upwards.
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TALKING POINT

... AND THE CHILDRENS TEETH ARE SET ON EDGE

by LAURENCE STEVENS

It is fashionable today to blame society for the wrongs of the individual. The criminal, we are told, must be understood as the victim of a poor social environment. So, the mother of the Birmingham youth recently given a twenty year detention for "mugging" (that is nearly killing an innocent passer-by, and probably damaging him for life by hitting him over the head with a brick), blames it all on the fact that her son was brought up in a "poor area" of bad housing and poverty. Those who know Handsworth would not wish to deny that description. But is it a sufficient explanation? It seems that the response of more and more people to more and more social problems is to make "society" and "environment" the scapegoat.

The last half century has seen a complete switch of emphasis in morality. Evils today are in society rather than in the individual. It would be foolish to deny that character is affected by poor environment. But, if anything, the environment is better for most people in this country than perhaps it has even been. The fact is that we are still in the throes of an over-reaction to the smug Victorian individualistic morality which did not take social evils seriously enough, and, of course, there is still a danger that the affluent, secure and well-provided members of society will not really consider how they might have reacted in different circumstances and environment.

DANGEROUS EXTREME

But this can be pushed to a dangerous extreme. Today we can easily take away the responsibility of the individual. It is too easy an alibi to blame circumstances or society for every misdeed. We are in a situation which the prophet Ezekiel recognised in his Old Testament times. Then people blamed the previous generations: "The fathers have eaten sour grapes and the children's teeth are set on edge". Ezekiel saw that this attitude meant virtual acquiescence in the wrongs of society. "It's not our fault" has always been a favourite excuse, but the Word of the Lord for him meant a re-discovery of the responsibility of the individual in society.

There are many problem areas of life today where the recovery of individual responsibility is an essential part of the answer. Every year the B.B.C. loses millions of pounds because people dishonestly avoid buying a TV licence. The sum lost is large enough to completely alter the B.B.C. financial situation. The amount of petty thieving is eating away the foundations of trust on which true society is built. It is almost taken for granted when even the Police have asked of those reporting a burglary, "Do you want us to do anything about it?"

DOOM WATCH PROPHETS

There are not lacking preachers and prophets today who are calling us to recognise individual responsibility. They are the scientists who tell us that our extravagant use of natural resources, our wasting of nature's substance in riotous living, will bring us doom, unless more and more individuals are content with a simpler way of life, asking for fewer things. Most of today's problems, in fact, bring us to the need for a change of heart and will in individual men and women. It is right for us (churches included) to embark on crusades to change society, provided that we do not forget that Jesus emphasised the importance of individual responsibility. "If

(Continued in column 3)

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we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us". For all our concern with structures, it is worth remembering that Jesus dealt with individuals. Perhaps it is time for the churches once more to say lovingly to the world that Jesus Christ is relevant to our present-day society, not because he provides instant solutions to any of our major problems, but because he calls every man to face his own responsibility for his actions, and to face the evil in his own heart.

Society will not be renewed until we have new men and new attitudes. That is what Christianity is all about.

HER CROCHET WORK WINS A COUNTY CUP

The Maplewood branch of the Women's Institute must be delighted, for one of their members has recently won the Berkshire County Cup for craft work. This year the chosen hand-craft was crochet.

Mrs. Sheila Smith, of Woodcote Road, submitted a dress in multi-pingouin wool which had been de-stranded, for which she was awarded a double silver star, grade 95 to 99%, as well as gaining the silver cup for the year.

Uses no patterns

Sheila has been doing crochet work since a child. Taught by her mother, she prefers not to use a pattern, finding it easier to make the design up as she works. The only training she has had was a two-day course for the more advanced.

Winning the trophy was quite an achievement for Sheila. As there are more than a hundred branches of the Women's Institute in Berkshire, there must have been a considerable number of entries now that crochet work is so popular.



Walton Adams

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AWAY from the madding crowd, yet only about three miles from Caversham, is the fine Elizabethan manor of Mapledurham. Since the end of the fifteenth century it has been the home of the Blount family, ancestors of the present owner, Mr. J. J. Eyston.

Originally known as the manor of Mapledurham Gurney, this part of Mapledurham belonged, according to the Domesday Book, to William de Varine. Later, through marriage, it came into the Lynde family, who sold it in 1490 to Sir Richard Blount of Iver, in Buckinghamshire. At the time of the purchase the manor was a much smaller Tudor dwelling which can still be seen today, though it was probably larger than it is now, lying to the South of the Elizabethan mansion and closer to the river. It was this first Sir Richard Blount's grandson who began building the present house, and his great-grandson who completed it, with the exception of an elegant private chapel added in 1789.

At one time the manor was fortified against the Roundheads when the castellations were added to the front parapet by Sir Charles Blount, who was an ardent supporter of the King and was killed at the Battle of Oxford in 1644.

LITTLE HAS CHANGED

To be seen at its best one should approach the house and village from the walk along the Warren from Caversham, much of which is still a private carriage-way through the estate.

Set in the water meadows below the Chiltern beechwoods, the manor and its adjacent dwellings have changed little in the past hundred years.

To the north-west are the ancient village homes. Simple cottages; the Almshouses, now modernised without being spoilt; the blacksmith's house dated 1691 with its handwrought iron arch over the front gate; the com-

modious mill house, reminder of the importance and standing of the village miller in days gone and the more recent Lodge, now the post office.

Beside the river are the ancient mill and church. The former is the oldest remaining mill on the Thames, and part dates from the sixteenth century. Work is now in hand to restore this historic monument and bring it back into working order.

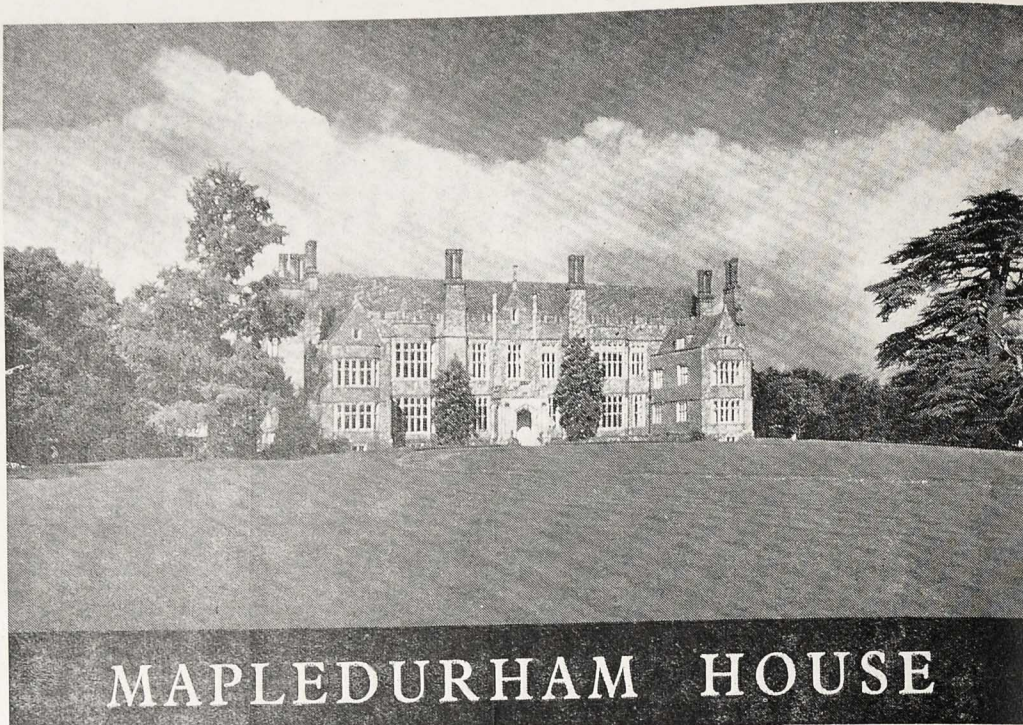
The ancient church of St. Margaret contains the Bardolph Aisle, a memorial chapel containing family vaults of the Blounts and dating from pre-Reformation days. It is hoped the Bardolph Aisle will in time be restored. At the moment it is not open to the public.

Inspiration for a poet

The poet Alexander Pope was a frequent visitor to the Manor at the beginning of the seventeenth century and his early works are full of references to the inspiration he found amid the peaceful beauty of gracious parkland, wooded hills and lush water meadows beside the Thames.

Much of this tranquility remains today. Smoke still curls lazily up from cottage chimneys. In the summer swifts, swallows and martins wing over this ancient settlement by the river. Voices still sing out their praises to the Creator each Sunday from the tiny village church. Visiting Mapledurham is like entering the past, capturing some of the unhurried simplicity of country life which is now fast slipping away for ever. M.K.

Mapledurham House is open to the public each Saturday and Sunday, and Bank Holidays, from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., from Easter until the end of September.



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Caversham Singers Ladies' Choir

Congratulations to the Caversham Singers Ladies' Choir, who, in gaining the highest marks awarded to any choir at the Shinfield Festival, won the Senior Shield for the third year in succession.

This was followed by the award of the 'Wise Trophy' for the highest marks gained by any choir at the Woodley Festival, which they hold for the second year running.

The choir was previously under the conductorship of Mr. Martin Fogell, with Mr. Chris Griffiths as their

pianist. Then in September 1972 Mr. Fogell left Reading to take up a new appointment in Chester, and Mr. Griffiths replaced him as conductor, while Mr. Davies became the new pianist.

Following these changes, the recent successes are the outcome of considerable effort and the co-operation of all concerned, assisted by the happy atmosphere which prevails among the members.

New members, preferably with a knowledge of

music, will be welcome at the start of the September term. The choir meet in Thameside School, Wolsey Road, on Wednesday evenings at 7.30. For further particulars see 'Focus', which is available in the Public Library, or get in touch with the choir secretary, Mrs. A. Cowlard (tel. Reading 471019).

The choir has been invited to sing at the concert at St. Peter's Church on Saturday, June 9th, in aid of the restoration of the bells — why not go along and hear them there?

WEDDING



Walton Adams

Miss Susan Jacobs and Mr. Michael Scott were married at St. Peter's Church on April 14th

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MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Wednesday, 11th April, 1973. Mr. B. A. Fowles, Chairman of the Council, presided at the meeting.

Further letters from Oxfordshire C.C. and Reading Corporation were submitted regarding the proposed school development off Shepherd's Lane, but as none of them gave any positive information, and only briefly mentioned the proposed representative meeting that is till to take place, the Council are to inform the Director of Education at Oxford of its concern about the delay in arranging the meeting, particularly as the delay is causing local disquiet because of the lack of information.

The Council were informed that the County Council have agreed to remove the words 'car park in village' from the road sign at the Trench Green cross-roads. The Council have been urging this, because there are no car parking facilities in the village, apart from private parking facilities.

The Parish Council asked the Area Surveyor to provide a footpath to be laid between Upper Woodcote Road and the new houses off Hewett Avenue, but the Council were informed that because there were no funds available at present the work could not be carried out.

The need for an alteration of the actual pick-up point in Shepherd's Lane for the school bus had been requested at the Annual Parish Meeting, and enquiries have been made regarding an alternative point, but it appears that if the proposed change was made a subsequent hazard would occur, and the Council agreed to take no further action.

The Council are hoping to obtain a detailed list of collecting times for all the pillar boxes in the parish, and if possible these details will be displayed on the notice boards.

Information relating to decisions made by the Area Planning Committee were reported, and it was noted that the request to build five bungalows in Blgrave Lane had been refused by the Committee.

The Council are anxious that dogs should be kept under stricter control by their owners, and the Council are to write to Henley R.D.C. asking that the proposed bye-law that is to impose a form of control suggested by the Rural Council last year should be put into operation at an early date.

Mr. F. H. Gardner was elected to the Council to fill a casual vacancy that has recently occurred.

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CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH

ANNIVERSARY

A former minister of the church, the Rev. T. Brian Coleman, conducted both services for the Caversham Heights Methodist Church Anniversary on April 8th, when members and friends gave thanks for the 'church on the corner'. Mr. Coleman remarked especially on the growth of the Sunday School, and he was pleased to learn that the schoolrooms are to be enlarged to meet the needs of the remainder of this century.

A social gathering on the previous evening welcomed Mr. Coleman on his return to the Heights. After general conversation, the Tadley Caledonian Society gave a dancing display and encouraged friends to take the floor!

A happy evening was enjoyed by all those present, and their pleasure was all the more when Mr. Coleman gave an impromptu organ recital to round off the event.

On Sunday, 29th April, the Young Peoples Squash at the Caversham Heights Methodist Church laid on an excellent lunch in the schoolroom at 50p per head in aid of the Improvement Fund. About 60 members and friends sat down to



Walton Adams

'One Way' Singers

Our picture shows, from left to right, Sally-Ann Ousley, Jeanette Ide, Pamela Ide and Joy Ousley, who attend the Baptist Church. These young ladies have formed themselves into a guitar group called 'One Way' and are already making a name for themselves as singers of Gospel songs. In the recent past they have performed at the Reading Temperance Festival in the Town Hall and at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Kentwood.

roast turkey and trimmings, mashed potatoes and mixed vegetables, followed by ice cream, jelly and fruit, and coffee. All this was prepared, including the cooking, and served by the members of the Squash, who were highly congratulated on an effort which would have done credit to professionals.

What Happens at 11.15 a.m. on Sundays

We continue our story of the activities which take place in the Baptist Church Hall on Sunday mornings. This month the spotlight is on the Junior Department — the seven- to ten-year-olds.

ACTIVITY IS THE KEYNOTE

Considerable emphasis is placed on activity so that the children are fully involved and grow to understand the significance of the Christian message which is being taught. When the children leave Church following the first part of morning service they disperse into classes for some thirty minutes. The way in which this time is used varies greatly from week to week, but practical work is always a part. Recently the theme was 'God feeds us' and this resulted in the making of jam tarts and chocolate cornflake cakes. From this exercise the children went on to consider the importance of sharing God's gifts fairly, with particular reference to food. On another occasion the children were asked to bring coloured holiday slides and photographs, and a pleasant time was spent with the projector, after which the young people composed prayers of thanks for the joy of holidays.

CHILD-TEACHER RELATIONSHIP

It is important in the Junior Department that the children should be able to build a happy relationship with their teachers, and through that relationship to learn that there is care and concern for them. In this way they experience the real meaning of Christianity — it is not the wish of the teachers to impose an artificial faith but to encourage the children to develop a true one of their own.

TREMENDOUS POTENTIAL

The Juniors have great enthusiasm, they are very creative and curious, and these attributes, together with unflagging energy, present a tremendous potential. It is the prayer of all who work in this field that this potential may lead to a greater understanding of God's love, and that when the time comes for these youngsters to leave the Junior Department they will be eager to explore the Christian faith further.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Women's Fellowship celebrated their anniversary with a service at 11 a.m. on Sunday, April 1st. This was conducted by Miss Edith Corsie, of the Salvation Army, and members of the Women's Fellowship read the lessons, whilst their choir sang the anthem 'O be Joyful'. To conclude the anniversary weekend the ladies held their annual coffee evening on Tuesday, April 3rd, when they showed their holiday slides and all enjoyed a buffet supper.

A concert will be held at Caversham Heights Methodist Church, Highmoor Road, on Saturday, 2nd June, at 8 p.m. The concert is to be presented by leading voices from the Sainsbury Singers and the proceeds will go to the Overseas Department of the Methodist Church who, along with Christian Aid and Oxfam, work wherever there is need in the underdeveloped countries of the world. Tickets for the concert (25p — children 10p) are available from the Rev. T. R. Harris (Reading 472223) and Mrs. D. Goodrich (Reading 472509) or at the door.

gether while having their lunch. The amount of £6 was raised for church funds.

HOT LUNCH

On April 14th the Young Wives of Gosbrook Road served between 60 to 70 lunches to their members and friends. Although it seemed very hectic, the young wives enjoyed waiting on their friends and were pleased to see them enjoying the fellowship to-

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STREET NAMES OF CAVERSHAM

by F. MALPASS

Until the 1832 enclosure, much of Caversham was in great open fields. An individual's land was scattered in parcels of varying size over these fields. The enclosure meant that the land was redistributed in compact blocks, making for more efficient farming. The open fields went, but some of their names are still with us as street names.

Ashcroft was a field covering the area around Richmond Road. This came under one owner in 1832, and later Ashcroft Farm was built. From about 1890 houses began to cover the land, and in the 1930's the farm buildings were demolished and replaced by the Grosvenor House. The field name was then revived a few years ago for Ashcroft Close.

Balmer's Field reached from Hemdean Road to Chilton Road; the top of Prospect Street, and the beginning of Surley Row were its southern and northern limits. Estate which was that part of the former field west of In 1861 Balmore House was built at the centre of an Peppard Road. Now this estate has nearly all gone for housing, including Balmore Drive.

Hemdean Road was originally called Bottom Lane; the field called Hemdean ran along the west side of the valley from Priest Hill to well past Sheridan Avenue. "Dean" comes from the Old English word for valley.

The field known as **The Warren** was bounded roughly by St. Peter's Hill, Upper Warren Avenue and Boundary Lane; now we use the name for the ancient track to Mapledurham.

Westfield Road was laid out soon after 1870, but for twenty years it was called New Road. The West Field lay between South View Avenue and Henley Road and between Elizabeth House and Prospect Street.

The Mount occurs as a field name in 1585, but the field was enclosed before 1832. It lay to the south of the present road, which itself is ancient.

The Horse Close was built in a field called in 1844 the Upper Horse Close. This must have been part of the field called the Horsecroft in 1674, but this, too, was enclosed before 1832 and we do not know its boundaries.

All these fields were mediaeval in origin; the streets that are named after them can indeed remind us of the continuity of history.

In 1898 much of the land of **Toots Farm** was auctioned as the "Caversham Heights Estate". The land had belonged for over two centuries to the Blount family of Mapledurham, and Darell Road commemorates the

maiden name of Henrietta Blount, wife of the lord of the manor of Mapledurham in 1898.

The estate reached from Woodcote Road to Kidmore Road, as far north as Harrogate Road, and the name Kidmore Road appears at this time instead of Tokers Green Lane, as it had been called till then. **Albert Road** also appears now, though it had existed as a footpath from The Mount to Shepherd's Lane for a very long time (the northern end of this is still a footpath, crossing Silverthorne Drive). The name was a good choice in the year after Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

Other roads "projected" in 1898 were **Highmore Road** and **St. Andrew's Road**. The former (spelt originally thus) is named after the parish to the north of Peppard. The latter was named years before the church was built; certain gentlemen apparently practised their

golf in the area, and this is the reason for the name.

In 1902 more land was auctioned. The catalogue claimed that "on account of the altitude and its pure and invigorating climatic qualities" the district was "much commended by the medical profession as a health resort", so that we have **Buxton**, **Harrogate**, **Ilkley** and **Matlock Roads**, all named after spas in the north of England. Only recently **Dovedale Close** has been built, named after the celebrated beauty spot in the Peak District, near Buxton and Matlock.

To the north of the original Caversham Heights **Richmond Road** had been laid out in the late 1880s, named after the Yorkshire town; this was then joined by **Conisboro Avenue**, after another town in Yorkshire. In the 1930s **Morecambe Avenue** was built; the Lancashire town keeps up the "northern resorts" theme.

Uplands Road and **Oakley Road** complete the Caversham Heights scene (apart from some recent small roads). **Uplands Road** merely underlines the "heights" idea, while **Oakley Road** is named after Baron Cadogan of Oakley — this was one of the titles of the great Earl Cadogan, builder of a palatial house in Caversham Park in 1718.

ROUND THE CLUBS

Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild

Mr. Thomas, from the National Trust, explained how the Trust had been founded in 1895 to preserve the countryside from the possible effects of increasing industrialisation. He went on to show slides of the various properties acquired by the Trust. Many activities are undertaken — one of them the clearing of canals so that they can be enjoyed by all. Another very successful project is **Enterprise Neptune**, launched in 1965, through which about one-third of our coastline now belong to the National Trust and can thus remain unspoiled.

He concluded his absorbing talk with a short description of Acorn Camps, through which young people mix the enjoyment of a holiday with the useful activity of clearing ground which has become overgrown through neglect.

The Social Studies speaker this month was Mr. J. F. Johnson, who gave an interesting account of the life of a registrar in a University. They also enjoyed a conducted tour of the Houses of Parliament. The Drama Group are entering three festivals this year. Mrs. Corbin will be talking to the Arts and Craft on 'Gardens through the Year'.

Maplewood Women's Institute

Mrs. B. Osborne, the

new president, took the meeting for the first time and welcomed the speaker, Mrs. M. Crowther, who gave a very amusing and interesting talk on "What the hands can tell". Mrs. E. Alford gave her report on the spring council meeting, which was held in Newbury. A full coach-load went from Maplewood. An outing was arranged to visit the premises of the Merrydown Wine Co. in May.

Blagrove Women's Institute

The newly-elected President, Mrs. Wilkie, presided over the April meeting held at the Memorial Hall, Upper Woodcote Road. One new member was enrolled. Miss Reynolds gave a report on the Spring Council Meeting, held at Newbury.

Mrs. Price gave a report on an enjoyable evening spent at the Group Meeting and asked for names of members wishing to attend a theatre outing in April. An interesting talk on 'Surprises during a visit to Australia' was given by Dr. Reed. Members were told how they could assist at 'The Appeal for Bells Concert' for St. Peter's Church.

The competition for flower arrangement in egg-cup was well supported. The winners were: (1) Mrs. Messent; (2) Mrs. Bartlett; (3) Miss Reynolds. The raffle was won by Mrs. Bartlett.

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Obituary

MARJORY HASLUCK

Marjory Hasluck died peacefully but suddenly on May 1st in her Caversham home. She grew up in a generation that must seem strange to most people today. Her childhood was spent in a country vicarage at Sixpenny Handley in Dorset: the very name of the parish suggests another world. Nearly fifty years ago her father retired and the Hasluck family came to Warren House in St. Peter's Avenue. Now a corporation home, the garden in those days stretched down the avenue to the corners of the churchyard.

Her death severs a link with the past: after the death of her parents she

and her brother, for many years churchwarden, moved to a modern house in St. Peter's Avenue, and there many people were entertained. Since then death of her brother in 1971 Marjory Hasluck has not led an active life, but Caversham will be the poorer without a member of the Hasluck family among its residents. In her way she personified a way of life which treated each person as an individual. Marjory had a contentment which perhaps is given to few people today: she loved music, flowers and birds, and had a simple but deep faith in the love and mercy of God. May she rest in peace.

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ST. ANDREWS NOTES

St. Andrew's Summer Fair will be held on Saturday, 23rd June, 1973, when the proceeds will be given to the "Save the Children Fun".

THE LENT PROJECT

Once again the Lent Project was for Maranghada Hostel in Chota Nagpur, N. India. This Hostel has been built by a most dedicated and courageous person called Joan Barker.

She began with a few very poor Indian girls and now has about seventy. She is engaged in building a school and further additions to the Hostel.

The Sunday School were shown a film of her work and heard of her wish to keep pigs, in order to provide occasional protein meals. You will have read how wonderfully the children responded.

In a letter Joan asked if St. Andrew's congregation could help to provide the cost of cures from hookworm, from which most of the girls suffer. Joan herself suffers from this.

Marmalade and Easter eggs and Coconut Ice have been sold in the hall after the Family Communion. With donations this effort raised £29. The Lent boxes will bring in still more.

ST. ANDREW'S CHILDREN

On Wednesday, 25th April, two coachloads of mums, dads and children set off in blazing sunshine for the Civic Theatre at Camberley to see the famous "Hogarth Puppets".

This was the annual outing for the children of St. Andrew's. They were treated to String Puppets, Shadow Puppets and Rod Puppets, not to mention a personal appearance of Muffin the Mule. How many parents can remember him from his T.V. fame days? During the interval there was ginger pop, ice cream, crisps, and sticky sticky sweets, and all agreed it was great fun. As one child asked "What are we going to see next year?"

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ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

June brings with it three of the parish festivals. On St. John's Day, which falls this year on a Sunday (June 24th), tea will be served at 4.30 p.m. and the preacher at Festal Evensong will be the Rev. Rupert Davies, Principal of Wesley College, a distinguished former president of the Methodist Conference and author of many books on Methodism. The Band of the 1st Caversham Boys' Brigade, which is attached to Caversham Methodist Church, will be parading and playing. Other visitors that day will include the Rev. John Crowe, who will be bringing with him a party of parishioners from his parish of Hampton, Evesham. A former curate of Caversham, he pioneered work at Caversham Park and was the organiser of the highly successful May-day week in 1970.

A controversial churchman visits St. Barnabas for their patronal festival on Tuesday, June 19th. He is the Rt. Rev. Colin Winter, who last year was expelled from his diocese of Damaraland, and who is at present serving for a year as priest-in-charge of St. Margaret's, Oxford. Another Oxford visitor comes on St. Peter's Day (Friday, June 29th), when the preacher at the parish church will be the Rev. Ronald Gordon, who is vicar of the University Church.

On St. Barnabas and St. Peter's Days the newly authorised Series Three service of Holy Communion will be used, and the musical setting will be the work of St. Andrew's organist Mr. Hugh Rowe. The combined choirs of the parish will sing.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The annual deanery service of the Church of England Children's Society will be held this year, for the first time, at St. Barnabas Church. It will be on Sunday, June 3rd, at 6.30 p.m., when children from all parts of Reading will be presenting donations on behalf of the work of the society. The preacher will be the Rev. B. Durden, who is the Society's organising secretary for the dioceses of London and Chelmsford.

THE Rev. BERNARD METCALFE'S ORDINATION

Mr. Metcalfe, who was ordained deacon last June, will be ordained to the priesthood in Oxford Cathedral on the evening of St. Peter's Day. The service was originally to have taken place on the morning of Sunday, June 24th. The change of date is unfortunate, as the ordination now clashes with the patronal festival service in St. Peter's, but it is hoped that some members of the congregation will attend. The new priest will celebrate Holy Communion for the first time on Sunday, July 1st, at 9.15 a.m. in the parish church.

GOOD FRIDAY FOR CHILDREN

Enthusiasm rather than solemnity was the keynote of the children's Three Hours held on Good Friday at Caversham Primary School, for both children and teachers. Teachers from all the Sunday Schools in Caversham united to produce a three-hour activity. Each child made up a book describing the events of Holy Week and Easter, a classroom being set aside for each page. In addition a film strip was given a continuous showing and a room was set aside for model making. One hundred and fourteen children took part, helped by about twenty teachers.

ST. JOHN'S —

CHANGE OF KEY

Easter marked the retirement of Richard Jackson as organist at St. John's. David Butler, from Caversham Park Village, took over at the beginning of last month. Having recently moved to Caversham musician but also as a friend whose cheerful manner will be missed. He was presented with a cheque from the members and a record token from the choir. Mr. Jackson and his wife will shortly be moving to Scotland to be nearer their daughter and her family. The good wishes of all at St. John's go with them. Fortunately the church

Holy Communion Series Three

The new order of Holy Communion is being used experimentally throughout the parishes of Caversham and Mapledurham at certain services during the coming weeks.

Sunday, May 27th — 8.00 a.m. St. Andrew, St. Barnabas,
St. Margaret.

9.15 a.m. St. Peter, St. John.

Sunday, June 3rd — 8.00 a.m. St. Peter, St. John.

9.15 a.m. St. Andrew, St. Barnabas,
St. Margaret.

Sunday, June 17th — 8.00 a.m. St. Andrew, St. Barnabas.

9.15 a.m. St. Peter, St. John, St.
Margaret.

Tuesday, June 19th — 7.30 p.m. St. Barnabas.

Sunday, June 24th — 8.00 a.m. St. Peter, St. John, St.
Margaret.

9.15 a.m. St. Andrew, St. Barnabas.

Tuesday, June 29th — 7.30 p.m. St. Peter.

There will be a parish meeting in Balmore Hall for the parish of Caversham on Wednesday, July 4th, at 8 p.m., and for the parish of Mapledurham on Tuesday, June 26th, at 8.15 p.m. at 222 Upper Woodcote Road.

SERVICES AT CAVERSHAM PARK

Sundays at 11.15 in the School Hall:

Fourth Sunday (June 24th): Family Communion
(Creche for under fives)

Other Sundays: Family Service.

First Sunday (June 3rd): Bread and Cheese
Lunch.

Wednesdays at 10.30 a.m.:

June 13th — 18 Holyrood Close

June 27th — 5 Kendal Avenue

ST. PETERS NOTES

Folk Dancing Evening

The Misses Turner

The Reading University Folk Dancing Society will be giving an evening of like to know that the Morris and Folk Dancing Misses Turner are now living in Blagrave Farm House, after eighty-five freshments will be served years in the same home in Hemdean Road — a record that is likely to stand for a very long time.

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THE ANNUAL ST. GEORGE'S DAY SERVICE FOR CAVERSHAM SCOUTS WAS HELD AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH ON SUNDAY APRIL 29



BEST FOOT FORWARD !

Walton Adams

VOTE FOR...?

The District Council Elections take place on 7th June, when we shall be voting for a Council of forty-six elected members to govern the truncated affairs of the former Reading Borough, so we shall have more councillors to do less.

With housing, local roads, parks and amenities being about all they have left to look after, they should have plenty of time to devote to it. If at County Council level the accusation of remoteness and of people having insufficient time to devote to the problems might be justified, this should not apply at District level.

Here in Caversham we shall be voting for four representatives in Thames Ward and two in Caversham Ward. If all three parties put up candidates, we should find twelve and six names respectively on our ballot papers, excluding any independents.

At the County Council elections there were complaints from many voters that they didn't know the candidates or what they stood for. To avoid this on a second occasion, the Residents' Association is organising a public meeting to which all the candidates will be invited to meet the electorate, briefly to introduce themselves and to answer questions. This will take place on Friday, June 1st, at 8 p.m. at Church House.

RATES

The new rates demands came as a great shock to many, although early warning had been given. That it is an enormous increase, which is going to bring hardship to many, is not disputed by any of the political parties.

The Residents' Association is non-party political (though its members belong to all parties — or none). Nor is it a ratepayers association, but it is deeply concerned about this problem. One thing that it does feel is that the present method of assessing rates is neither fair nor equitable. There have been many suggestions for improved ways, but most of them contain disadvantages, although few as many as the present method.

It is therefore planned to have a meeting on Rates Reform in the early autumn (date to be announced later). Of course, this can only be one salvo in a campaign which must be conducted at national level, but with Reading not being the only place to suffer, it may well set something off. M.C.

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SPORTS SPECIAL CHARITY WALK

by
**STAN
ELDON**

Last month I had the pleasure of taking part in the Variety Club of Great Britain sponsored walk. The Variety Club is not quite the organisation its title suggests, but is in fact an association of people from all aspects of the Entertainment World — Fairgrounds, Television, Sport, Films, Holiday Camps, Press, etc. — whose sole purpose is to raise money for all Children's Charities and to help any underprivileged child anywhere in the world.

This walk was to be a little different from most, the basis being that a limited number of well-known people from sport and entertainment would set off for London from different points around Great Britain, each walker having considerable sponsorship from his area.

From Middlesborough, and walking over a period of ten days, came former England footballer Wilf Mannion. Quite an achievement for a man of 56 years who has not enjoyed the best of fortunes since his footballing days. Also from the North came international cross country runner John Hillen, who jogged and walked from Newcastle over a period of ten days, but he was lucky being a good class athlete in full training. Birmingham sent the Rev. David Collyer, Chaplain to all the Youth Clubs in the City, a former athlete and broadcaster, who has just had his first book published. He did it the really hard way, walking unaccompanied he covered 25 to 30 miles each day and then returned to Birmingham each night from wherever he was in order to carry out his pastoral duties.

Among other people arriving in London by foot and various other means of transport were ex-Yorkshire cricketer Freddie Trueman on horseback, and from Blackpool came ex-footballer Stanley Mortenson — by minibus and accompanied by a 2½ cwt. stick of Blackpool rock. The rock, which stopped normal production at a Blackpool factory, took a whole week to produce

and is now being entered in the Guinness Book of Records. Auctioned during later proceedings, it raised a further £2,500 towards the Fund. Miss World, otherwise Belinda Green, started in Scotland, and, by attending various functions en route to London, collected over £7,000. Jimmy Savile and Jimmy Hill were among other well-known personalities present.

MARCHING TO LONDON

Originally I was approached by the organisers to start as their representative from Windsor, but then several Reading firms and the Evening Post offered generous sponsorship if I would increase my walk to start from Reading. Thinking 'It's only 45 miles to the centre of London from Reading — I can do that easily' I agreed to start from Reading at 8 a.m., call at Windsor Castle en route by 11 a.m., and so on to London. The first problem occurred when it was nearer 9 a.m. than 8 a.m. when I left Reading, so I had to do something I had not done for about seven years — run all the way to Windsor. Luckily, and very surprisingly to myself and those who accompanied me, I managed to run and arrive in Windsor after about 2½ hours. Carrying three stones more than in my fitter days, my legs were like lead when I arrived, but I managed to march out from Windsor accompanied by the Band of the Grenadier Guards and with a good crowd to cheer me on my way. The rest of the journey into London was at a more leisurely walking pace, arriving at Tottenham Court Road at 4 p.m.

The following day we all attended a special luncheon at Grosvenor House Hotel, where the guest of honour was H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh. It was announced that the walk had raised the magnificent sum of about £90,000, and so made the efforts of all concerned really well worthwhile.

FOOTBALL PITCH WANTED

A group of Caversham youngsters and their fathers are anxious to find a football pitch available anywhere in the Reading area for use at weekends as they wish to form themselves into a team to take part in local Youth Football competitions. Anyone able to assist, please contact me or Mr. Bailey of Jennings Butchers, Prospect Street.

YOUNG CAVERSHAM

by **PETER SHOCK**

An invitation was sent to spring season, some hum-dred-odd mentally-handicapped patients from the tial block of St. Athan Welsh industrial valleys. Boys' Village, in South The Warden, Mr. Ivor Wales. The ceremony took place on April 7th, and the hand which turned the key was that of Sir Maynard Jenour, President of the Boys' Clubs of Wales. Unfortunately I was unable to attend this important event due to a previous engagement. However, many Caversham boys and girls have spent some jolly times at the Boys' Village in recent years, and will be glad to know that in addition to the erection of the new dormitory block, much of the existing complex has been reconstructed and redecorated during the past few months. With a lot of tidying-up to be done, the week-end following the big occasion, I took a working-party of five Lowfield members to the village, Paul Mackrory, Glen Pringle, David Waltham, Malcolm Macken and Peter Nathan, who put in a tremendous effort in preparing parts of the grounds for re-turfing. They also helped in making ready the dormitories for the arrival of the first of football field again for a large parties of the few months.

For six long weeks the residents of Abingdon Drive, Caversham Park Village, have missed seeing that cheerful smile of young Kevin Morton, who lives at Number 34. At the end of February he sustained a serious injury to his thigh after a footballing accident, and was confined to bed at Dingley Ward, Battle Hospital. Kevin is a keen chess player, and he used to look forward to Thursday evenings when his friends would pay him a visit and challenge him on the chess board. Kevin was obliged to celebrate his thirteenth birthday in hospital. However, he is happy to be around again, even if he cannot get on to that first of football field again for a few months.

WE RECORD...

BAPTISED

St. Peter's

March

11 David Doggett (and Confirmed at Warfield)

St. John's

April

1 Jane Hatcher

St. Andrew's

March

11 Stephen Jefferis

April

1 James Kitcher

22 Peter Rosser

St. Barnabas'

April

22 Sarah Taylor

Joanne Ashmore

Jane Ashmore

Caversham Baptist Free Church

March

18 Pamela Ide

MARRIED

St. Peter's

April

7 Michael Barnard and Linda Crisp

John Cook and Jill Baker

14 Michael Scott and Susan Jacob

Trevor Jenkin and Ann Pickersgill

26 Leslie Crawley and Lilian Shepherd

28 Colin Leggett and Jennifer Smith

St. John's

Richard Snell and Davina Chivers

May

5 George Cook and Sheila Jewell

St. Barnabas'

March

3 Sandra Mills and David Ellis

24 Michael Brigenshaw and Valerie Taplin

31 Robert Povey and Elizabeth Bennett

Trevor Hearn and Linda Pither

Alan Whitbread and Christina Barton

FUNERALS

St. Peter's

March

15 Peggy Reeves

April

17 Eileen Morrison

May

2 John Howden-Ferne

4 Marjory Hasluck

St. John's

April

4 Walter Burnham

Robert McNally

12 Elsie Castell

St. Andrew's

May

7 Marjorie Cole

St. Margaret's, Mapledurham

March

10 Peter Stenning

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