

MR. TURNER RETIRES FROM CAVERSHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

It will be a sad last day of term this July for children of Caversham Primary School, and also for the staff and parents, for they will be saying goodbye to Mr. H. W. Turner. After nineteen years as headmaster he is retiring.

Ever since he began teaching in 1933 he has worked within the borough of Reading, so he is a well-known figure in local educational circles. In fact most of his family are well-known in Reading's educational world. In 1937 he married Vera Davis, who was a teacher in Reading for many years, and their daughter has also worked for the Authority.

Wide Experience

Mr. Turner's first appointment was at New Town Junior School and six years later he moved to Battle Secondary School, which no longer exists. After the war he went to E. P. Collier Primary, returning to New Town in 1951 as Deputy Head. He took on the Headship of Caversham Primary in 1954. At that time there were over 500 children and many classes had forty-eight children. Today numbers are a little less to comply with the local authority's ruling that there be no more than 39 children to a class.

Apart from his work in Caversham, Mr. Turner is a committee member of Reading Teachers' Association and was their president in 1962. For many years after the war he was treasurer for Reading Schools' Athletic Association. A member of Reading Education Committee, he has been their Primary Schools representative for the past five years. At one time he was head of Battle Evening Institute.

At Queen's Road Methodist church he has been circuit steward and has held most offices in the church.

Future Plans

After such an obviously

busy life Mr. Turner looks forward to having more free time. As one of his hobbies is gardening, he will no doubt be able to spend many more hours in his large garden in Shinfield Road. He is also keen on carpentry. However, he does not intend to keep all his time to himself and after settling down to a new way of life hopes to become involved in some form of voluntary service.

Caversham Bridge thanks him for all he has done for children in Caversham and wishes him a most happy retirement.



Mr. Turner at ease

— Walton Adams

1st CAVERSHAM BOY'S BRIGADE PLAYING AT SOUTHCOTE YOUTH CLUB FETE ON SPRING BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY



— Walton Adams

MORE MONEY FOR CHRISTIAN AID

Caversham produced less money in this year's Christian Aid Week than in 1972 when the total reached £1,041. Although it is difficult to give an exact figure, the total appears to be about £1,123. The house-to-house collection for the area (including Caversham Park, Emmer Green and Mapledurham) amounted to £913 against £876 in 1972. A sale held by members of St. John's congregation produced £50 and a Methodist coffee morning a further £8. Helped by the publicity of his photograph in the 'Caversham Bridge' the Rev. Bernard Metcalf's feet brought in £88 on the walk and the priest-in-charge of St. Barnabas and the district wardens raised another £60. At a United service at Caversham Heights Methodist Church the University Singers gave a recital and half of the collection was for Christian Aid.

With over 9,000 households, Caversham's effort does not compare favourably with many less wealthy areas. What about trying to reach £2,000 in 1973?

Caversham Methodist Church SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

On Sunday, May 13th, the Sunday School at Gosbrook Road held their Anniversary Services. During the morning service the children sang, acted, and played recorders on the theme of mission. Linda Shoesmith, Paul Champion and Tony Cooper took part in a little play entitled 'Can I join the J.M.A.?'. Dr. and Mrs. J. Hewitson were interviewed in the pulpit by the Rev. T. R. Harris, when they answered questions about mission work in Kenya. This was helpful to the children, who were able to learn a little more about where their money goes which they collect every week.

The evening service took the form of a teachers dedication service.

HEMDEAN HOUSE SCHOOL

As a result of recent reorganisation a Council has been established to manage the affairs of Hemdean House School. The Rector of Caversham, the Rev. John Grimwade, has agreed to serve as chairman. Miss Knighton, whose grandfather founded the school over a century ago, and Miss A. I. Olivey, who was headmistress for forty-six years until her retirement last autumn, are among the members. The Rev. D. F. Shaylor, an old boy of the school, and Miss M. Gardiner, until recently principal of Chiltern Nursery Training College, have joined the Council, and other members include Mr. A. Barlow, Mrs. M. Brow, Mr. K. Cocks, Mr. R. Cottrell, Mr. P. Drummond, Mr. A. James, Mrs. D. I. Splash, and Mrs. M. Wood, J.P. The secretary is Mr. R. L. Davis. New classrooms have recently been erected, and other improvements are being planned.

The Editor's Column

FACE TO FACE

An important gathering took place recently in Church House when, over a sandwich lunch, some fifty people who are involved in different ways in the life of our local community in Caversham met together. Doctors and head teachers, clergy and police, the wardens of residential homes for children and old people, and voluntary workers in the Bridge scheme of social service, probation officers and health visitors, and a number of other people representing different aspects of our community life were all present.

Such people are all too often only known to each other by their voice on the telephone or their signature at the end of a letter. Often in the past there has also been suspicion between the statutory and the voluntary worker; the one has been regarded as a bureaucrat and the other as just a well-meaning amateur.

Community role

All of us, whether priest, doctor or social worker, have a ministry to individuals which is personal and confidential. But it is fallacious to suppose that this is the only aspect of our work. If a priest or a doctor has no other role he neglects a most vital side of what he should be doing. The priest must see to it that the Church is involved in, and influencing, the whole life of the community; the doctor should want to create a healthy community; it is of little value to prescribe more and more tablets to people under stress unless steps are taken to put an end to the conditions which cause the stress. So it is essential for the good of the community that such people as met together in Church House should know and trust each other, understand what each is trying to do, and take common council. It was a pity that at this first gathering only one of the Councillors for Thames and Caversham Wards was able to be present. It has been decided that lunch meetings should be held every two months and it is much hoped that more councillors will be present, whether they represent us on the existing Town Council or have been elected to the new county or district councils. There will be few better opportunities for our local representatives to gather information about the needs and problems of our community than from attending these informal lunch gatherings.

The influence of the Church

That such a meeting took place in May was due in part to the initiative of the Rev. Laurence Stevens, and in part to the help given by Mr. V. Landor from the Department of Social Service. But it was also due to the fact that we are fortunate to have in Caversham a strong community sense. On a number of occasions visitors or new residents have commented to me on their awareness of this feeling as they cross Caversham Bridge from Reading. It is not, I hope, too presumptuous to claim that the Christian Church is largely responsible for this because it has among its members many men and women who see it as the Christian calling to be involved in the life of the community in different ways.

It is hoped, at a subsequent lunch meeting, to speak about the Caversham Development Plan.

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.

EDITOR: The Rev. J. C. Grimwade
59 Church Street, Caversham. Tel. 471703.

ASST. EDITOR: The Rev. P. D. Atkinson
St. John's House, 9 South View Avenue,
Caversham. Tel. 471814.

ADVERTISEMENT 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,
RB4 7JR. Tel. 472542.

From Westminster to Caversham

Three missives from Westminster have recently provoked marked reactions in Caversham.

The letter dealing with the longest case of all of them was from the Parliamentary Commissioner (more publicly known as the Ombudsman) in reply to the complaint put to him about the way the Inspector's report recommending that the wrongly sited supermarket be moved back, was over-ridden by the Minister of the Environment. The Ombudsman's report, in upholding the residents complaint, was a damning indictment of the Department of the Environment's handling of the affair. But he did not insist that this wrong be remedied and so far the Department of the Environment have given no indication that they intend to take steps to do so. Small wonder that all those groups who comprise the joint action committee feel a sense of burning indignation and almost of despair of the institution of democracy. A last attempt to get justice done is being made through Dr. G. Vaughan, but with all the democratic processes producing the reply, "You're right but we don't intend doing anything about it", the outlook is black.

The second letter came from Mrs. Thatcher to the local education authority to say she was not prepared to approve their plans for, amongst others, a new primary school in East Caversham. With space in existing primary schools under heavy pressure, what is the position going to be in a few years time when the lower Caversham and the Thames Side housing developments are built and occupied? Already children from East Caversham have to walk a long way beside dangerous roads to school, or be brought by parents at a time of peak traffic congestion. Soon more still will have to make this journey to a school that will be overcrowded when they get there. Again Dr. Vaughan has been asked, this time by the Residents' Association, to impress the urgency of the situation on Mrs. Thatcher.

The third letter, though less closely connected with Caversham, was rather more welcome. This one was from the Department of the Environment concerning

the third stage of the Inner Distribution Road. The Inspector's report following the Public Inquiry had recommended that planning permission for Stage III should not be granted because of the environmental damage it would cause. He recommended that alternative routes, or a tunnel, were worth further consideration, and he mentioned the effect a third Thames bridge could have on the whole scheme (this last point being the one put by Caversham Residents' Association). He also said that the Maiwand Lion should stay where it was. The Minister has, in fact, gone against his Inspector (again, be it noted), and granted permission, but only if the section of the road by the Forbury is below ground level and covered over. He agrees that the Lion should not be moved.

Much credit for organising and putting the opposition to this scheme must go to Mrs. Doris Thomas, of Caversham, though, as she points out, there is still no certainty that this sensitive area will go undamaged.

The one remaining question is, can Reading really afford this grandiose scheme, even with Government grants, when its rates have already suffered an astronomical rise and other far more socially desirable projects are competing for a slice of the cake? M.C.

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7.30 p.m.

PARISH COMMUNION
Preacher:

The Rt. Rev. Colin Winter,
Bishop of Damaraland-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.
Barnabas' and St. Peter's Churches
respectively.

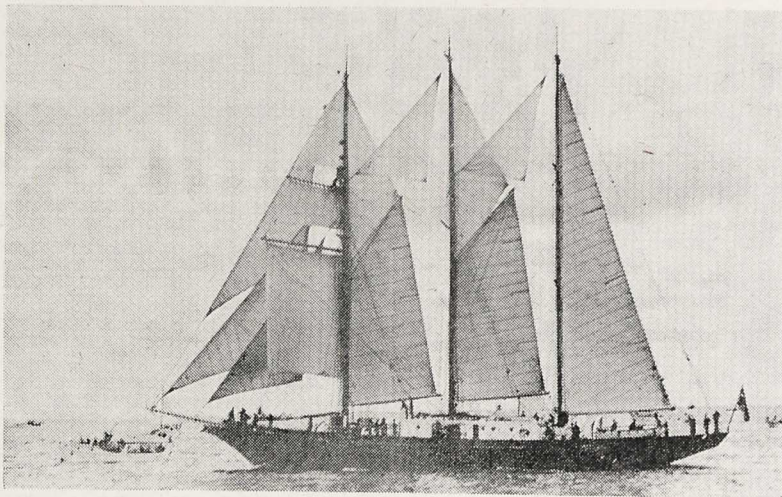
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On The Ocean Wave

Remember the "Onedin Line", a serial on television about the days of sail? Well, the ship used for this film was the "Sir Winston Churchill", one of two schooners especially built for the Sail Training Association and which was made possible by the Sir Winston Churchill Trust Fund. The second schooner is the "Malcolm Miller", and Mr. Len Habbitts, of 7 Woodcote Road, took part in a week's shakedown cruise on her early this spring. In 1972 he went on a similar voyage in the "Sir Winston Churchill" and enjoyed it so much he applied for this second trip, this time on the "Malcolm Miller".

Safety First

A shakedown cruise takes place each February on both ships. It is for adults only and those who join form part of the crew and give both schooners a good spring clean and thoroughly check the gear so that all is in excellent order after a winter in dock. At the end of the week both vessels are then ready to receive the young people who act as crew for two-week periods throughout the summer and early autumn.

The Captain is hand-picked and both ships are manned by professional crews. Both schooners are very seaworthy and although life on board is bound to be cramped there are the added luxuries of hot showers and central heating and the food is excellent.

Each vessel is 300 tons, 135 feet in length and has a mainmast of 98 feet. As well as sail the schooners carry two auxiliary diesel engines. Thirty-nine sea-

men are needed to keep the three watches, 13 in each. **A tough experience but it pays dividends**

Life at sea in a sailing ship is traditionally one of the hardest that a man can undertake, but in spite of a rigorous week on board Mr. Habbitts is as enthusiastic as ever. It is not meant to be a holiday cruise and all those who take part in a trip have to work hard and soon see the need for discipline and obedience. Living in a confined space also teaches tidiness and cleanliness and makes for comradeship and give and take among members of the crew. Looking through the notes for trainees, one of the notes is: "Don't whistle

— it is unnecessary noise irritating to others, and important sounds (orders, fog signals, etc.) could be misheard or not heard at all." It seems a very severe rule, but when you think about it — very correct and sensible.

The aim of the Sail Training Association is to provide young people with an outlet for their spirit of adventure and an opportunity to develop a sense of responsibility, self-discipline and, above all, an ability to work as one of a team, which will help them throughout their lives.

Mr. Habbitts would be delighted to give further information to anyone interested in the cruise.

SAILS TALK AT ST. ANDREWS FETE

If you have not already done so, make a special note of June 23rd, 1973. From 2 p.m. that day, at St. Andrew's Fete, there will be a display of Schooner information accompanied by a number of Reading men who have shipped as trainees with the Sail Training Association and can tell all about it. Special guest Captain Patrick Collins, who was master in the Sir Winston Churchill when the girls' crew won their class in last year's Tall Ship Olympics, will be there.

At 7 p.m. that evening in the Church House he will be showing a film, "New Horizons," and giving a talk about the schooners.

As reported in the March issue of the 'Caversham Bridge,' the Caversham churches are sponsoring two young men this year in the Malcolm Miller, sailing from Portsmouth on October 21st and returning to

Fowey on November 3rd. At present there are three applicants. Each cruise costs £80, of which the trainee is asked to pay £20. Next year it is hoped to sponsor two young men and two girls. Come and find out all about it on June 23rd.

Caversham Hall

Dr. E. V. Beale, Mr. L. Slade and Mrs. J. Blyth have recently retired from the post of trustees of Caversham Hall and have been replaced by Mr. F. C. Moore (chairman), Mrs. McQueen and the Rev. J. G. Grimwade. Mrs. Jordan, of 7 St. John's Road, continues to serve as a trustee and all inquiries about bookings for the hall should be addressed to her.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WEDDING AT HOME PASSPORT

Postbag

Dear Sir,

I think the photo on page one of the June issue is of Hemdean Road, near Hemdean House School.

Our own deeds show that the road was then known as Hemdean Lane around the time the picture was taken.

Yours faithfully,

R. C. Horsnell

WERE YOU RIGHT?

The photograph on page six is of St. Peter's Hill School which made way for development in St. Peter's Avenue and Scholars Close.

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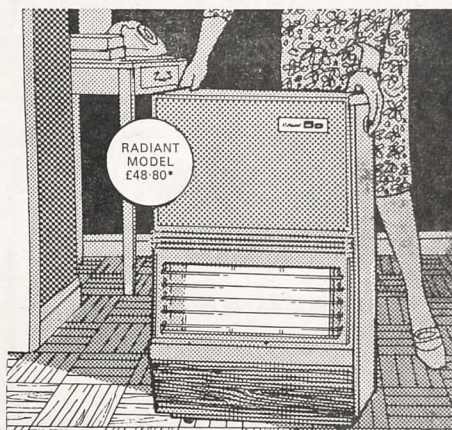
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June 30 The Rev. S. Bartlett

July 7 The Rev. H. J. H. Stevinson

July 14 The Rev. J. G. Grimwade

July 21 The Rev. L. L. Burn



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JAZZ VIEWPOINT

by ZOILUS

Faint but unmistakable came the sound — a bold and brassy rendering of the "Red Flag", welling up from the bowels of the earth, it seemed, and this in the unlikely setting of the Butts Shopping Precinct. What was going on? Revolution on the march — a meeting of the Shadow Cabinet...? Neither fantasy seemed very likely, but it didn't take long to trace the strains of the mysterious Orpheus down a flight of steps and discover that the Underworld he inhabited was a jolly pub named "The Target", an attractively designed cellar bar, and that the music came from that famed establishment figure of the jazz scene, Mr. Acker Bilk and his Paramount Jazz Band. And that the piece they were belting out wasn't the People's Hymn but a jazz traditional called "Maryland", both pieces being based on the same tune — an old German folk song, "Tannenbaum".

May was the first time a big name band had played. The large and enthusiastic attendance should encourage the experiment.

The great thing about jazz is that it appeals to all ages and types. In the audience were teenagers, grandfathers, building workers, students and solicitors, many of them knowledgeable about the more academic points of the music, as was shown when some of the lesser known early classics of jazz got as much applause as Acker's well-known "Stranger on the Shore" — a pretty, evocative tune, but scarcely real jazz.

Preacher's son

Acker Bilk is one of those lucky men whose work is also his pleasure. He leads the band on clarinet and obviously enjoys every minute. His combination is to some extent a show band, so Acker has to horse around a bit, just as Louis Armstrong did in his stage appearances; but although with his beard, his jolly rubicund look and his Somerset brogue, he might seem everybody's favourite uncle, his dedication to his music is obvious in the solo's when his phrasing and tone put him in the top rank of clarinetists.

Chatting to Acker before the show, I found he was a genuine product of the West Country. His father was a Methodist preacher in Somerset and didn't entirely approve of a show-biz career for his son. But with his brother as business

manager, he started in the fifties to make a name for himself and found a formula that was both worthwhile and commercially successful. "It's all a matter of improvisation, is jazz", he explained. "You take a tune and weave it around, and each time you play it it will be a bit different". He looks forward to a jazz revival and we both agreed that, whatever the future, jazz has made a solid place in the history of music. Mr. Bilk (and Bilk is his real name) is a popular feature of the hospitals' broadcast service, and he hoped that it would soon be possible for him to be heard on the Reading circuit.

Alive and well

Reading talent was very much in evidence during the evening, for Dave Morgan, who lives at Sonning Common, was sharing the stage with Acker Bilk. Dave has made a name for himself and his band since they started twelve years ago and has a regular date at "The Target". He plays trombone somewhat in the style of Kid Ory, and his band is made up of local lads. He tells me there is a steady demand for his style in Reading and the Home Counties, and for my money the sort of sound his outfit makes is at least as good as many of the more publicised bands.

Altogether it was a stimulating evening and nice to find that Old Man Jazz is still alive and healthy, though coming up to his one-hundredth birthday. It's not only the lank haired, guitar toting twits that can pack 'em in, thank goodness.

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MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday, 24th May, 1973. Mr. B. A. Fowles was re-elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year and Mr. E. J. Sell was elected Vice-Chairman.

The Council received a letter from the Defence Land Agent at Oxford regarding the Ministry of Defence properties in Chazey Road. The letter stated that the Estate has now been re-allocated to other entitled Service Officers, and therefore the Estate will not be disposed of in the near future. The Parish Council were interested in acquiring two small plots of land near the Estate, which also belongs to the Ministry of Defence, but this is also not available for disposal.

The Council noted with regret that because of the small numbers of children attending Mapledurham Church of England School (it is likely that there will only be nine children at the school in the autumn). The School Managers have therefore reluctantly agreed that it would be more beneficial for the children to receive their education at a larger Church School. The children will therefore be transferred to Kidmore End School. Mapledurham School is one of the oldest in South Oxfordshire, and it is understood that the present school has existed since about 1830.

A planning application that the Council will wish to give much thought to was received, but no decisions have been reached. The application is for the development of approx. 230 mixed residential units, covering some 30 acres on land east of the A.4074 near the 'Pack Saddle' Inn. Because of the implications of such a development, a special Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday, 21st June, 1973, in the Memorial Hall, Upper Woodcote Road.

The Parish Council did not consider the application in any detail at this meeting, as it considers that because of the importance of this proposal, it should obtain the views of as wide a field of residents and local interests as possible.

To prevent a re-occurrence of the problems that occurred last year relating to the cutting of the hedges and verges of the B.4536 — Goring Heath Road — a letter has been sent to the County Council requesting them to take action to keep these areas free from overgrowth. It is understood that some remedial action has already taken place on the part of the County Council.

A special meeting of the Mapledurham Parish Council was held recently to discuss three particular planning applications. These related to:

(a) The proposed development of an area of land on the north side of Shepherd's Lane for educational purposes. Two sites, one off Shepherd's Lane and the other off Tokers Green Lane, has previously been considered by the Parish Council. A planning application from Oxfordshire C.C. had recently been received that related to a third site, and proposed the development of a piece of land on the corner of Shepherd's Lane and Tokers Green Lane.

The Council adhered to their previous decision that the site north of Shepherd's Lane was unsuitable, and of the other two sites it was considered that for various reasons the corner site would be a more practicable one for development than the area in Tokers Green Lane.

Whilst agreeing to this

(Continued in page 7)

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COUNTRY NATTERS

Although it is now several weeks since I went to chat with Mrs. Collins in the centuries-old thatched cottage at Chazey Heath where she has lived since 1916, I can remember it well. It was the second afternoon of the gas strike and the sun had shone from an almost cloudless sky since eight in the frosty morning. By two in the afternoon it was warm in the sun, but the air was still crisp. Walking up the garden path, already gay with a border of early crocus species, I was welcomed inside Thatchcott to quite the cosiest room I have been in for many a long day. In spite of the front door opening directly into the living room, it was really warm, with a large convector stove glowing on the far side of the room. The declining afternoon's sun was streaming in through the small windows, bringing a sparkle to the brass and copper in even the darkest corners.

Never a Frosted Window

The cottage is low. There are no stairs and the thatch roof comes down to four and a half feet from the ground. Almost three feet thick — I measured it — it Pack Horse, where her hus-

band's father was the land-lord. Young Mr. Collins had a milk round. She can

Evening Lamp Light

The gas strike wasn't worrying Mrs. Collins, nor did the electricity cuts last year. She has neither. Used to paraffin lamps years ago, she is quite happy with them still. However, she does cook by Calor gas as

the old Victorian fireplace and oven in the far older chimney-piece are now blocked up. She did use this many years ago, heating the laundry water, fetched with a yoke and two buckets from a pump across the road, in a large black iron pot over the fire.

History Repeats Itself

Mrs. Collins began her married life in 1906 at the Pack Horse, where her husband's father was the land-lord. Young Mr. Collins had a milk round. She can

remember the mailcoach going by daily from Oxford to Reading at 6 a.m. The mail in the past two years has begun to use this route again, only now it is huge scarlet container lorries that rush almost hourly between Oxford and Reading; their noise can be heard in the cottage in spite of a small grove of trees between it and the now busy main road. To go into Reading then meant transport by wagonette. Later Mrs. Collins used a bicycle, which she gave up riding

when she was 82.

Well-stocked Garden

The Vicar of Mapledurham until 1919 was the Rev. Francis Thackeray, related to the famous writer. Mrs. Collins remembers him visiting her at the age of 92 when he was still the incumbent. Although she was born in Reading, Mrs. Collins has become a countrywoman over the years. She got from the many springs

was even a small pond at the far end of her long country garden which she could use in winter. Rabbits were often on the menu, cooked in various way. The large garden was always well stocked, as it is now. Mr. Collins still salts down pounds and pounds of runner beans for all her family every August and September. Sitting by her cottage door in the summer sunshine, she slices them up by the basket and stores them in jars.

Like most country folk she is an early riser and even in her 87th year she gets up at 6 a.m. for a cup of tea. She enjoys her little home and does not wish for any other. Until the end of the last war there were several cottages similar to Thatchcott. We counted them up and could remember them in Chazey Heath. These have since been replaced by newer Council houses. Several more old cottages have also disappeared in the surrounding district, so Chazey Heath must have been quite a little community even centuries ago. Today Thatchcott remains one of the ancient links with the past — a reminder of the heathland cottages of the Chilterns in years gone by.



Ready for the milk round — Mr. Collins outside the Pack Horse.



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FACING FACTS

by Geoffrey Goldsmith

A study document recently issued by the Oxford Diocesan Pastoral Committee, called 'The Diocese Looks Ahead', aims to provide a basis for discussion of the use of the church's resources in a rapidly changing world. We asked Geoffrey Goldsmith to give a personal view of the document.

I read this booklet with considerable interest, being a comparative newcomer to the Diocese, but there is no doubt that the problems that are outlined in the booklet are very relevant to the Church generally, and will become even more relevant in the near future.

I think one might be excused in this parish in saying, after reading the report: 'I've heard some of that before'. Some of the questions that arise, concerning team ministry, use of buildings and the question of the role of the laity, are matters with which we are familiar, having been discussed in the autumn study groups and at the Caversham Park Conference.

LAY INVOLVEMENT

One of the points that came through very strongly in the report was the proposed role of the layman, both in the administration of parish affairs and in connection with worship itself. In this parish the degree of lay involvement is comparatively high, but in some parishes, for a number of reasons, there is not the degree of participation by laity that might be expected. In this parish, no doubt the Rector would welcome some assistance in a kind of 'Bursar' role, to deal with matters such as negotiations with the local authority and other matters which, certainly at the early stages, could be

dealt with by a layman. But it is also clear that the report lays great emphasis on the witnessing role of the Christian layman and goes so far as to say, and here I quote, "that the layman may be in a better position than the parish priest to communicate to people outside the church what is the real significance of Christianity". The sharing in the taking of services is also emphasised, and this leads on to the question of the supplementary ministry, both for retired men over 58 and for men over 30 who continue their everyday job. We have in Mr. Shaylor an example of the former, and I need not stress the valuable part he plays in the team. The second scheme calls for considerable dedication.

WORKING TOGETHER

With the decline in manpower and resources, situations have already arisen where one man is responsible for two or more parishes. The report comes out in favour of team ministries such as exist in some places already. I feel Caversham can be distinguished from the situations described in the booklet as it was already, with the exception of Mapledurham, one parish with a number of churches and as such the formation of a team ministry was perhaps made that much easier. The booklet seems to be looking towards co-operation between parishes; why, for instance, should Caversham not join in such a scheme with Dunsden if the opportunity arose? I feel this is an area in which the experiences that have been gained by the ministry working as a team in Caversham should be available through the Deanery Synod to other parishes.

ACROSS THE RIVER

Let us consider the churches in the town of Reading across the river. Many have small congregations, some of which come from outside the town. What, for instance, is to be the future of St. Laurence's Church, the civic church, when the Town Hall moves to the other end of the town? It is a fine building from an architectural point of view, but its upkeep is high. Could it, or any of the other town centre churches, be put to some other use. A deanery Youth Centre, for instance, with a Youth Chaplain with special responsibility for young people in the deanery. It is interesting to hear that the Council of Churches is conducting a survey on the churches of Reading. A team ministry in the town would free clergy from routine parish work, and some may be able to specialise in some form of pastoral responsibility, like youth work (as I have men-

tioned above), education or industry. Already John Stevenson and Peter Atkinson fulfil industrial roles. The Reading Hospital Chaplain, I understand, has difficulty in coping with the visiting; is a second hospital chaplain required? Could this be one of the responsibilities that might be taken on by clergy in a team ministry. I think it would be fair to say that it would be difficult to justify the retention of so many church buildings in the centre of Reading unless they were used for some form of specialised ministry.

COMMUNITY CENTRE

It is interesting to note that the building of churches exclusively for purposes of worship will not be allowed and any new non-residential building should be adaptable for service of both the church and the community. I mention this in particular in connection with Caversham Park, where it appears very likely that the community centre will be built. The church has purchased building bonds and has a stake in the project, and the great test will come when the question of the allocation of time and space is considered. One hopes that the church will be able to share with other secular bodies the facilities of the centre.

Another point I felt came from the report very strongly was the emphasis on the value of group meetings and discussions on a regular basis. I think anyone who was involved in the autumn groups would agree. One would hope that something on a regular basis will be forthcoming next autumn.

To sum up, I feel this is a forward-looking report and one that should be considered carefully and objectively. Some of the proposals are relevant to this parish, some are working already, but I feel we must be careful lest we feel complacent. This report is to be discussed at Deanery Synod level and the answers to the questions sent back to the Diocese. I feel we, as a parish, have a responsibility to contribute to the discussion at the Deanery Synod in the hope that our experiences on some of the matters in the report may stir others, who have these matters to face, into action.

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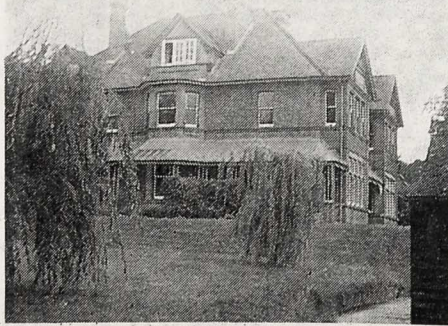
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A Gardener's World



Mr. Ottaway with a Passion Flower

— Walton Adams

The Passion Flower

The Passion Flower, *Passiflora coerulea*, is one of the most interesting plants a gardener can grow, for apart from its aesthetic appeal there is embodied in each bloom the lesson of the Crucifixion.

Early missionaries to South America, on seeing the beautiful flowers, recognised that various parts of each bloom had a significance and used them as an early form of visual aid in their evangelistic work. The ten petals and sepals represent the ten disciples, leaving out Judas and the doubting Thomas. The central ringed corona, the crown of thorns, the five stamens our Lord's wounds and the three stigma the nails. Finally the handlike leaves represent the hands of His tormentors and the tendrils the whip with which He was scourged.

Mr. Ottaway, of Blenheim Road, has spent a lifetime among flowers. After he left school he worked right up the gardening ladder, first as a gardener's boy in Winkfield, then as an under-gardener to Earl Roberts and finally as head gardener at Sunninghill Park.

Lilies and Orchids

Later, in the 1930s he became foreman of Constable's Lilies, managing their subsidiary nursery at Burnham, where he grew some 260 varieties of lily. The firm showed all over the country and always won the golden cup at Chelsea Flower Show. So Mr. Ottaway knows his lilies. He also knows his orchids, for when Constable's closed down he became manager for Pages of Hampton Hill, where he took charge of five acres of glass and had one orchid house 600 feet long.

Shows and Clubs

For almost 50 years he has been judging at shows and exhibitions throughout the country. In 1971 he was one of the judges at the Reading Horticultural Show. He has also lectured and demonstrated on the propagation of pot plants. A founder member of the Cobham District Gardeners Club, he later became vice-president of Surbiton Horticultural Society, but he had to give this up when he retired to Caversham four years ago. The latter club is very go-ahead and won the Garden News Trophy for 1972. Mr. Ottaway hopes to attend the presentation ceremony this summer. He himself won a most coveted trophy three years running while a member of this society.

Although retired, he still retains his interest in gardening and has two greenhouses containing many fuchsias. These keep him pretty busy, but still leave him time to be secretary of the Caversham Horticultural Society. May he have many more years of enjoyment in the garden.

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Caversham Mothers' Group

Meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. in Caversham Hall, St. John's Road, Caversham Mothers' Group extends a warm welcome to new members. The group not only provides an opportunity to make new friends but also a varied programme of general interest, including speakers on a wide range of subjects, and outings to the sea or the zoo for mothers with young children. At the next meeting on July 3rd there will be a sewing machine demonstration. Tea and biscuits are provided at the end of each evening.

If you are interested in becoming a member just go along to one of the meetings. The group will be pleased to see you. Or contact the secretary, Mrs. B. Austin, of 17 Queens Road (telephone 476120). There is no age limit.

UNITED REFORM CHURCH NEWS

St. Andrew's, in London Road, Reading, is coming across to Caversham on Saturday, July 7th, to hold a Summer Fayre in Caversham Court. This will be a country dance event, with St. Andrew's Scottish Dancers, the Kennet Morris Men, and the Tony O'Sullivan Irish Dancers all giving exhibitions. Steam is the theme, with exhibits from the Thames Valley Traction Engine Society and the Steam Boat Association. In the evening there will be a Barn Dance to the music of the Rievers.

The proceeds of this Summer Fayre are to help repay the debt incurred in rebuilding the church in London Road. The new St. Andrew's was dedicated last September.

(Continued from page 4)

corner site, the Parish Council have requested that pedestrian access shall be available to Rokeby Drive, and also that any access to Shepherd's Lane shall be safeguarded.

The Council were informed that the Oxfordshire C.C. had again been urged to hold the representative meeting to discuss common proposals for the proposed development, and the Clerk had been informed that the County Council were awaiting final comments relating to the three applications that had been submitted before holding the meeting.

(b) A planning application for the erection of 47 lock-up lettable garages rear of houses fronting Woodcote Way with access from Hilltop Road was strongly opposed on the grounds that such development would be most undesirable for the occupants of the properties in the neighbourhood, and would be detrimental to the residential amenities of the area.

(c) In connection with a proposal that the present temporary use of 31 Chazey Road, Mapledurham, as a nursery school should be continued on a permanent basis, the Parish Council objected to permanent approval being given. It was noted that the existing authority for the use of the property did not expire until the Autumn of 1974, by which time improved play group facilities should be available in the new Hall on the Playing Fields, and the Council agreed that the Oxfordshire C.C. should be advised that the future use of 31 Chazey Road as a nursery school should be reviewed nearer the expiration of the present licence.

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Talking Point

by Bernard Metcalfe

Christianity Washes Whitest !



SOMEBODY SERIOUSLY SUGGESTED TO ME RECENTLY THAT, IF THE CHURCHES WANTED MORE MEMBERS, THEY SHOULD ADVERTISE. The possibilities are fascinating. What, for example, should we do for slogans?... "Right for you: right for your family" sounds useful, but it already sells anti-perspirant. "Brings the world to life" refers to T.V. sets and not to Christianity. "Happy ever after" is used by cut-glass manufacturers, while the motor industry has already claimed "It goes with a way of life" for its own nefarious purposes.

Indeed, to judge from a cursory glance at the latest T.V. and press advertising, you would think that salvation was the only thing on the market. From shampoos to toilet rolls, everything seems to offer the promise of fulfilment.

So, at first sight, it might seem perfectly natural that Christianity should advertise. After all, if it's fulfilment people want, then surely we can offer it to them.

FANTASY

Only on close examination do the distinctions appear. What the Admen have to sell is gift-wrapped fantasy. "So you want to be happy", they say, "then buy our hair spray and all your dreams will come true. At 30p a time it's cheap at the price! It that doesn't work for you, never mind, hope springs eternal. Things happen after a Badedas bath".

But Christianity is not a thing; it is a faith. Spray on salvation is **not** obtainable in handy aerosol packs from the local chemist.

It is true that we need to communicate the substance of our belief. At Christmas and Easter the Parish of Caversham advertises the times of its services, but these are facts — and not fantasies.

ADVERTISING

There may also be a case for the Church to stimulate thought through the media of advertising. The posters for the Good Friday Act of Worship in Reading Town Hall showed the crucifixion in the centre of Reading with this deliberate intention. But to start people thinking is not to convince them. The media of advertising are totally inadequate to convey the truth of the gospel.

Christianity has its basis in personal relationships. The personal relationships between God and man and between man and man are the only appropriate vehicle for the spirit of love that inspires it. That is precisely why Jesus Christ has a central place in our faith. Only the incarnation could convey to us the love of God.

THE BEST CHANNEL

It follows that if the church wishes to communicate its message, then the best channel is not television or radio or the newspapers, but its own members. If we can show people the love of God acting in the Christian community, they will be drawn to it. If we cannot show people, through our lives, that Christianity is true, they can hardly be blamed for disbelieving us. The church must be its own advertisement.



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STREET NAMES OF CAVERSHAM

by F. MALPAS

Quite a few streets in Caversham, as in any other village or town, are named after famous people who have no direct connection at all with the area. For instance, we have **Cromwell**, **Falkland** and **Hampden Roads**, reminding us of three great figures in the struggle between Parliament and the Monarchy in the 17th century. Or, close to these three, there is **Washington Road**, named after the first President of the United States of America. Sometimes people's names are chosen to lend prestige to road or streets; here we have **Derby** and **Grosvenor Roads**. These names, incidentally, came into use only about 1900; until then the estate had been known simply as Caversham Place Park. There have been Earls of Derby since 1485. The 14th Earl was Prime Minister three times under Queen Victoria, and the next three Earls all held Ministerial rank. The Grosvenor family trace their descent to Gilbert le Grosvenor, who came over with William the Conqueror; and Hugh Grosvenor, 2nd Duke of Westminster, was one of the most prominent figures in English society in the late 19th century. He was a great follower of the sport of kings and won the Derby four times (a race established by the then Earl of Derby in 1780).

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GRIFFIN'S PAST

Looking at the Griffin public house, which is close to Buck Side, it is hard to believe it has links with the past. Yet on the very same site stood an inn which dated from the fifteenth century. The Griffin, as it is now, was rebuilt in 1906. Before that you stepped down from the road level into an ancient village inn, once thatched, where parish business was conducted in its quaint, low rooms and many travellers crossing the Thames broke their journey. Pilgrims to the shrine in the chapel of St. Anne on Caversham Bridge must also have rested here and possibly enjoyed stewed eels, for the landlord had the right to set eel bucks (traps) between a nearby island and the Caversham river bank.

Although sixty-seven years have passed since the old Griffin opened its welcoming doors, there must be several Caversham folk who remember the inn as it was and perhaps even recall drinking a pint there, which would have been a great deal cheaper than it is today!

Maplewood W.I.

Mrs. B. Osborne was in the chair for the May meeting when the resolutions were discussed for the forthcoming annual meeting at the Albert Hall, and Mrs. E. Alford will be the delegate. Voting also took place for the bursaries to Denman College and resulted in: 1 Mrs. J. Townsend, and 2 Mrs. P. Turner. A very enjoyable outing to Merrydown Waze Co. in Sussex took place on May 2nd.

Rosehill W.I.

The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Sansum. Arrangements were made for the 10th birthday party. A proposed outing for house-bound elderly people was discussed; also the annual outing.

Mrs. Tabernacle, V.C.O., spoke on the resolutions to be put forward at the Albert Hall in June. These were then discussed and voted upon.

Miss M. Stevenson and Mrs. Ellingham received awards for competition entries during the year, and Mrs. Carter won the handwriting competition.

Blagrove W.I.

At the May meeting the speaker was Mrs. Clarke, V.C.O., who explained the resolutions for the Annual General Meeting to be held at the Albert Hall in June.

Thanks were given to Mrs. Price for arranging a very enjoyable theatre outing.

Gift vouchers were awarded to the annual competition winners: 1 Mrs. Sholl, 2 Mrs. Wright, and 3 Mrs. Benham. The monthly competition for home-made fudge was won by Miss Reynolds, and the raffle was won by Mrs. Benham.

Caversham Heights' Townswomen's Guild

The speaker at the Guild's last meeting was Mrs. Averil Hassel, a speaker and lecturer on the History of Art, who talked about Oxfordshire houses, illustrating her words with her collection of prints and lithographs.

Mrs. Hassel started by explaining how houses attained

ROUND THE CLUBS

their shapes. In the beginning they just consisted of one large room, and as most of the timbers were made by craftsmen more used to building ships, they very much resembled ships upside down. This was also the way the nave of a church was built and the shape it still represents. Everything was done in this one large room, eating, sleeping, etc. There might have been a platform at one end of this room where the more important people slept. This was eventually partitioned off into another apartment. At the other end the cooking area was also closed off. So that one can easily distinguish a medieval building by a large room or hall with two facing doors. A Gallery was soon added and other rooms. Soon they found that the building could not go on spreading outwards and began adding floors above and cellars below. Halls nowadays are no more than an area with doors off and somewhere to hang one's umbrella, but they did start as the main room in a house. Mrs. Hassel then showed some of her excellent prints, interspersed with anecdotes which brought all the places alive, although many are now no more.

Shipton Court has a ghost who is a late builder. He was kicked down the stairs for some misdemeanor and can still be heard rolling over and over down the long flight.

Sherborne Castle is fully moated and has three drawbridges which are still drawn up — when the Tax Inspector calls!

Mrs. Hassel even had a picture of the original Caversham House which was a splendid manor house in the 19th century — typical regency — and is now used by the B.B.C.

The meeting ended with an informal fashion parade. The Berkshire and Hampshire Federation of Townswomen's Guild is having a show, "The World of Women", at the Town Hall on 20th June, and among other events is a fashion show of garments made by Guild members.

The Guild could only enter

one outfit in each class and as several members were willing to take part a ballot was held to decide on our representatives.

Class I, which was for top clothers suits, trouser suits, coats, dress and coats, etc., was won by Mrs. Page with a beige trouser suit edged with brown stitching.

Class II, which was for day clothes, was won by Mrs. Asteraki who had made a pink and blue long-sleeved dress topped with a lovely matching blue hat.

Class III, evening wear, was won by Mrs. Mercer in a very with-it multi coloured long dress with a slit up to the knee.

The Social Studies reported their last meeting, which was a talk given by Mr. J. Butcher giving details of his homes for old people. By the turn of the century one-third of our population will be old-age pensioners, one-third school children, and the other third will be keeping the first two! The Butcher homes are available to everyone, and income need not be a deterrent. If one cannot afford the rent, Social Security make up the balance. The rent is all-inclusive of heating, lighting, curtains, refrigerators, etc., with a warden on site to ease other problems that may arise.

The Drama Group have taken part in two festivals so far. At Woodley they were unsuccessful, but at Tilehurst they gained an Award of Merit Certificate. The producer, Mrs. Hayden, thanked all the drama members, together with many of their husbands, who have helped with costumes and scenery, and asked for members support on their next play evening, which would be held shortly.

Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild

May was an extremely busy month for Guild members. The whist drive held at Church House was so well attended and enjoyable that it was decided that they should become a regular part of the Guild's activities. The

meeting of the working party for the Autumn Fayre was also well attended and most of the detail was agreed. The full allocation of tickets for the Sainsbury Singers' production of the "Bartered Bride" was taken up and about 30 members had a very enjoyable evening's entertainment at Reading Town Hall.

At the monthly meeting the chairman welcomed the guest speaker for the month, Mr. John Langton, who, with his son Robin, explained the work of the National Trust and ran a film called "The vanishing coast". A vote of thanks to Mr. Langton and Robin was proposed by Mrs. B. Watson at the end of an interesting and instructive session. The remainder of the afternoon was spent in a discussion of the agenda for the National Council Meeting to be held at the Royal Albert Hall later in the month. Members' views were obtained on the motions to be put forward by delegates. A visit has been arranged by Mrs. L. Grey, when members will have an opportunity to see the Royal Tournament at Earls Court. This trip will take place in July. Congratulations to Dorothy Hoshier, whose exhibit at the Federation Painting and Collage Exhibition at Broad Street Congregational Church Hall received such favourable and well deserved comment.

As always, meetings are held at the Caversham Community Centre on the third Thursday of every month at 2.15 p.m. If you would like to join, or require further information, come along. You are assured of a warm welcome.

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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 (1st Sunday).
6.30 p.m. Evensong (not 3rd Sunday).

St. John's

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.
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 3rd 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 3rd 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.

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Caversham Heights

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6.30 p.m. Evening Service

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Our Lady of Caversham

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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.

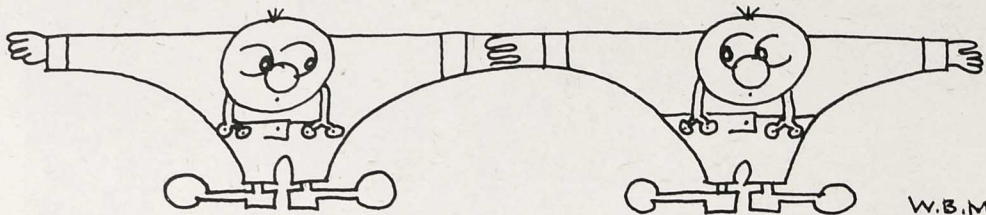
Methodist Church

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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.
Superintendent: Dr. J. Rothwell, 16 Albert Road.
Tel. 474478.



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

Mrs. E. B. Evans (East Caversham), 50 Grosvenor Road. Tel. 473596.

Mr. D. E. Thomas (West Caversham), 15 Kidmore Road. Tel. 472364.

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

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The Rev. Michael Atkinson, St. Andrew's House, Harrogate Road. Tel. 472788.

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The Rev. Denis Shaylor, 17 The Mount. Tel. 476988.

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St. Peter's Notes**Married in the U.S.A.**

Her many friends in the congregation will be delighted to learn that Elizabeth Glen was married on May 19th to James Gibson of Rapid City, South Dakota. The wedding took place in the United States.

Second Flower Festival

Following on the highly successful flower festival held in 1970 in connection with Mayday Week, it is intended to hold another one as part of the Family Festival Fortnight which is being planned for the summer of 1974.

Garden Events

Many events are planned in the next few weeks to take place in the Rectory garden. On Friday, June 22nd, there will be a social evening with folk dancing by the University Folk Dancing Society. The next day, June 23rd, the Guides will be holding a parents' afternoon. On July 3rd the children of the Balmore Hall play groups visit the garden with their mothers. The following week, Tuesday, July 10th, members of St. Peter's and St. John's Mothers' Union hold a combined meeting and on Thursday, July 19th, St. Peter's Scouts will be having a barbecue. All that is wanted are some warm, sunny days.

SERVICES AT CAVERSHAM PARK
Sundays at 11.15 in the School Hall:
Fourth Sunday (July 22nd)
Family Communion
(Creche for children)
Other Sundays
Family Service
First Sunday (July 1st)
Bread-and-cheese Lunch
Wednesdays at 10.30 a.m.
July 11th—20 Osterley Drive.
July 25th—76 Lowfield Road.

St. Margaret's News

Owing to the steady decline in numbers it has become necessary to close St. Margaret's Church of England School at the end of the Summer term. A special feature article on this historic school, which was founded in the reign of William IV, will appear in the Bridge next month.

St. Margaret's Day, Friday, July 20th, is the final day of the school term. The Bishop of Reading will be the celebrant and preacher at the Parish Communion at 7.30 p.m. that evening and thanks will be given for all that has been done by the school for the advancement of Christian education.

Refreshments will be served at Mapledurham House after the service, by kind permission of Mr. J. J. Eyston.

An evening for parents and friends will be held at St. Margaret's School on Tuesday, July 17th, from 7.30 p.m., and many people may like to take this last opportunity of visiting one of Oxfordshire's oldest schools.

St. Margaret's Day
at
ST. MARGARET'S MAPLEDURHAM
Friday, July 20th
7.30 p.m.
PARISH COMMUNION
Celebrant and Preacher
The Bishop of Reading
Refreshments afterwards
at Mapledurham House.

ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

MOVING TO N. WOOLWICH

The Rev. Michael Atkinson, priest-in-charge of St. Andrew's, has accepted the benefice of St. John's, North Woolwich, in the Diocese of Chelmsford, and expects to be leaving Caversham about the end of August. The date of his induction at North Woolwich has not yet been fixed. St. John's Church is a modern building. Ordained in 1963, Mr. Atkinson served curacies in Leeds and Luton and moved to Caversham in January, 1971.

LARGER CONFIRMATION

More candidates were confirmed at the annual confirmation on May 29th than for many years past. The parish church was crowded when the Bishop of Reading, the Rt. Rev. Eric Wild, held his first confirmation at Caversham since his consecration. Sixty candidates, including a number of adults, were presented and four more were confirmed the following week at St. Matthew's, Southcote. In his address the Bishop challenged any of the congregation present who had not been confirmed to come forward and decide for Christ without further delay, and the clergy would like the names now of adults who wish to be prepared for next year's confirmation. The Bishop also announced his intention of visiting the parish on Ascension Day, 1974, to celebrate the Eucharist and meet again all whom he had confirmed on May 29th.

On the morning of the confirmation many parents of the candidates were present at Holy Communion at 7 a.m. On Ascension Day, Thursday, May 31st, when the newly confirmed received Holy Communion for the first time, there was a total of 375 communicants throughout the parish. In these days, when those who never attend public worship think that no one else does, it is perhaps worth recalling these figures.

IMPORTANT PARISH MEETING

The trial period of the new Series Three order of Holy Communion ends on Sunday, June 24th. There will be a meeting of members of the parish in Balmore Hall on Wednesday, July 4th, at 8 p.m., to hear the opinions of communicants about this service. The Parochial Church Council will at its meeting on July 12th take into consideration the views expressed at this meeting when it discusses the further use of this new service. Communicants are asked to note the day July 4th and to endeavour to attend this meeting.

NEW LECTIONARY

Many of the passages appointed in the Prayer Book to be read as the epistle at Holy Communion make very difficult reading. A new selection of passages for the epistle and gospel have been authorised for use: they are spread over a two-year cycle. The Church Council decided at its May meeting to use this for a three-month period beginning on the first Sunday in July. Details of the passages will be given in advance each week in the duplicated notices.

THE RYDER FUND

The son and daughter of the late Mr. William and Mrs. Charlotte Ryder have presented the parish with a sum of money which is to be invested and the interest used on making grants available so that member of the parish can attend conferences or training courses of different kinds. In the past many gifts have been made to churches which a later generation has either removed or found unsuitable. In this age of change it is very difficult to see what the next generation will need in the way of church furnishings. This gift will, however, always serve a useful purpose, and clearly many people in the parish in years to come will be grateful for the foresight of those who have established this fund.

MOTHERS' UNION

Many members attended the combined Deaneries Festival at Bath Abbey on May 18th and enjoyed an impressive service, with good singing, the wonderful organ and a procession of about 50 banners.

ST. BARNABAS' NEWS

Regular worshippers, and especially their children, greatly appreciate Mrs. Hawthorn's work in the Sunday Club at 9.15. But it is felt that there is opportunity for more work to be done, so therefore it is proposed to start a Sunday School in the autumn primarily directed towards families who have little or no connection with the church at present. It will be held at 11 a.m. for two sessions a month and be directly linked with the monthly Family Service. More details will appear in forthcoming issues of the Caversham Bridge.

What Happens at 11.15 a.m. on Sundays

This month we continue our story of the various departments of the Junior Church of the Baptist Church with a report on the activities of the Senior Section, the members of which are between 11 and 14 years.

The older children are reaching and deep searching subjects as Communion, informal atmosphere than Adult Baptism, Church their younger counterparts. Membership and Church History. On a practical level the children are encouraged to join in the worship of the church and to undertake responsibilities within its fellowship.

Christianity in the modern world to which they are so much a part. They use as their guide "Partners in Learning" and through it they are able to give serious consideration to the use and abuse of their God-given powers. Use is also made of film strips, records and books such as God's Brain-wave, David Kossoff's Bible Stories and Alan Dale's New World and also of the facilities offered by St. Mary's Church Centre. Discussion occupies much of the time with such far-reaching claims of Jesus Christ.

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SPORTS SPECIAL

YOUNG CAVERSHAM

In recent years we have seen many changes in sport. Rules have been changed, ladies have been allowed to take part in many sports previously exclusive to the male and now the most recent change has been colour. A few years ago it started with yellow table tennis balls and then we had many assorted colours of footballs—black and white, red and white, orange and white, and almost any colour you can think of. Last year yellow tennis balls were introduced and readily accepted as they proved to have a great advantage over the conventional white balls for evening play on dull days. This year the L.T.A. have approved their use in tournaments but the most recent innovation of a bright pink fluorescent ball is yet to meet with the official seal of approval.

Tennis Leads the Field

Tennis seems to be the leading sport to accept changes as it was the first sport to accept a sensible amateur/professional partnership to overcome the phoney 'shamateurism' that existed in tennis and still exists in many other sports, particularly in athletics. It now seems likely that one other major change is going to come on the tennis scene following the lead of some of the top circuit professionals in the U.S.A. and this is coloured shirts, shorts and tennis clothing in general. At the moment an effort is being made to keep to the traditional

By STAN ELDON

white for the game, but it will be very surprising if we don't see the tennis stars parading in navy blue, maroon, scarlet or other suitable colours within a couple of years' time. Why not? One of the attractions of golf is that all the clothing and equipment for the game is highly coloured.

Cricketers in Team Colours

One change on the sporting scene which I think will take a little longer to develop is colour for cricketers. No, I don't mean cricket sweaters trimmed with green and yellow or amber and navy, I mean full team colours as in football. It has been suggested that cricket, which has wained in popular appeal over the last ten years, needs to change its image to appeal to the youngsters and, with the advent of colour television on a big scale, the opportunity is there. In a slow deliberate way it is already happening. If you watch closely you will see that many wicketkeepers are wearing distinctive coloured gloves and many batsmen have coloured rolls on the back of their gloves. So it may well be that in a few years' time your son will say, "Dad, can I have amber cricket gear this year, like Yorkshire?" in the same way that boys now buy football kits in the favourite Manchester United's, Chelsea's, etc., colours.

WE RECORD . . .

BAPTISED

St. Peter's

May 20th
John Cook Lucinda Matthews Kay Stoddart

St. Andrew's

May 20th
Annabel Mayes Sally Wilkinson

St. Margaret's

May 20th
Bridget Wright Sally Wright

CONFIRMED (at St. Peter's)

(May 29th)

St. Peter's

Graham Aisbitt	Linda Barnard
Robin Beck	Stephen Beck
Christopher Birtwhistle	Philip Bowcock
Sheila Bowcock	John Cook
Susan Elvish	Joy Frostick
Sarah Fullbrook	David Grimwade
Alison Jackson	Christopher Longstaffe
Lucinda Matthews	Michelle Mercier
Gavin Murdoch	Kay Stoddart
Gavin Stewart	Marion Swaine
Clare Winsor	

St. John's

Caroline Tipton

St. Andrew's

Michael Bates	Elizabeth Beabey
Peter Boulding	David Conniford
Pippa Cottam	Christine Fowles
Janet Gosling	Michael Hayes
Jennifer Kitcher	Clare Shrimpton
Jane Streather	Annabel Stringer
Andrew Wilkinson	Peter Wilkinson
Sally Wilkinson	

St. Barnabas

Gregory Allen	Karen Baggaley
Roger Bedworth	Jacqueline Cox
Sally Gould	Hilary Jewiss
Martin Lamden	July Matthews
Debra Miles	Christina Millar
Isabel Risius	Stephanie Rowley
Karen Sedwood	Karen Watts

St. Margaret's

Aubyn Cumming-Bruce	Anthony Foster
Michael Thompson	Judith Wright
Sally Wright	Bridget Wright

Caversham Park

Laura Davies	Robert Esau
Jackie MacNocher	

CONFIRMED (at St. Matthew's, Southcote)
(June 4th)

St. Andrew's

Robin Kent	David Lovewell
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St. Barnabas

Julia David	Stuart David
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MARRIED

St. Peter's

May 26th	Keith Oswald and Christine Taplin.
June 2nd	Derek Smith and Mary Pannell.
	Terence Cuthbert and Jean Waldron.

St. John's

June 2nd	Peter Halliday and Irene King.
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FUNERALS

St. Peter's

June 1st	Edith Dadley
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St. John's

May 7th	Betty Vokes.
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St. Andrew's

May 18th	Catherine Webb.
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Young Methodists seem to have been particularly active in the merry month of May. On Sunday, May 6th, a party of Caversham members joined a coachload from the Reading area and went to Portsmouth for a children's meeting at the Wesley Central Hall. The afternoon proved much too short for all the things to see and do. The object of the assembly was "Children Everywhere. Meet the Missionaries."

A fortnight later, on May 20th, another small group travelled to London to take part in the Methodist Association of Youth Clubs' Rally in Trafalgar Square. By a happy coincidence, I was "up West" that afternoon, and pondered awhile as the long procession edged its way along Whitehall towards the Square. It was a most touching occasion, with contingents from all corners of the country gaily chanting their regional ballads and choruses then finally gathering to a halt at the base of Horatio; the venue for the afternoon's ceremony symbolising the theme—"God is Love."

As we approach July, many youth organisations tops" at Poole, Dorset, and are seen making final preparations for their annual summer holiday expeditions. Some have already given me particulars, and it seems there is to be quite an exodus from Caversham Island.

By PETER SHOCK

during the holiday weeks. Those I can mention are the 89th Milestone Woods Scouts, off to the North Yorkshire moors, their cubs to Yowlbury, near Oxford; St. Peter's Scouts are Channel-hopping to Guernsey, the cubs, under the experienced leadership of Mrs. Barbara Chapman and the new assistant Colin Wareham, will be nature trailing in the Forest of Dean. Mrs. Jackson takes St. Peter's Brownie pack to the bracing Cotswold hills near Cheltenham, and Mrs. Nicholls' Brownies from Lower Caversham have found a hide-away in the shape of a village school in the heart of rural Buckinghamshire. The 3rd Reading (Caversham) Boys' Brigade will be heading westwards to Torbay, and the Lowfield and West Caversham Boys' Clubs are joining together for a week's adventure at Rothesay on the island of Bute, off the west coast of Scotland.

From the children's homes, I hear that St. Benet's, Emmer Green, will be holidaying at Totland Bay, Isle of Wight, "Tree-top" at Poole, Dorset, and are seen making final preparations for their annual summer holiday expeditions. Some have already given me particulars, and it seems there is to be quite an exodus from Caversham Island.

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