

# OUR SWANS

By M.K.

MANY Caversham people go down to feed our local swans on the Thames and they are no doubt favourites with the children along with the ducks and coots. It may therefore be of interest to know a little about their history.

Some six hundred and twenty five years ago the law forbade anyone who did not possess a freehold of the clear value of five marks to keep swans. They were considered a royal bird in those days and to a certain extent still are now. The right to mark a swan in those early times cost six shillings and eight pence, a lot of money so long ago. Any person driving away swans in breeding time or stealing their eggs risked a year in prison if caught.



Each year on the Thames and some other rivers swans were, and still are, examined and numbered. This is known as "swan upping". Owners of the birds once

paid the swan master for each bird he marked and were duty bound to give him a free dinner and supper for his day's work. First the families of birds were rounded up and the unmarked young in each were caught and a mark cut in the skin of the beak similar to that of the parents. These marks were then entered into a register. Any unmarked lone swans were seized for the crown and given a royal marking.

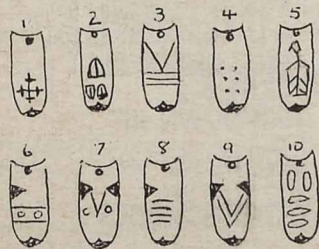
For the most part markings were simple figures but a few were heraldic in design. Each cut in the skin was called a nick. A Thames-side tavern in London is called the Swan with two Necks (Nicks). The men who looked after these great flocks of birds were

called swanherds. No doubt they had a vocabulary of special words that they used in connection with their work. They certainly referred to the black knob at the base of the beak as a berry. An adult male is known as a cob and the female a pen.

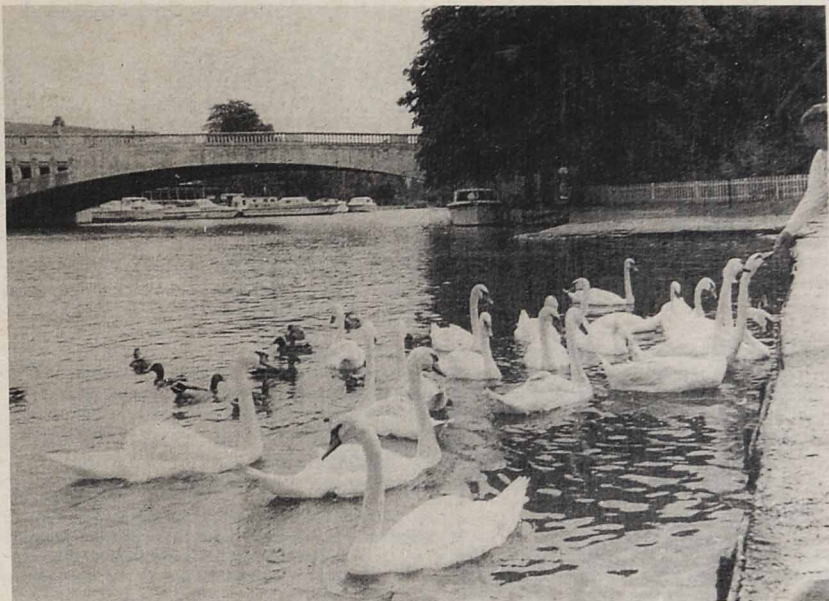


It must have been quite a sight to see these great flocks of swans, far more numerous than the drastically reduced numbers of the last few years. However there are encouraging signs that these lovely birds are now on the increase once again. Certainly more are in evidence around Caversham bridge than a few years ago.

## Swan marks.



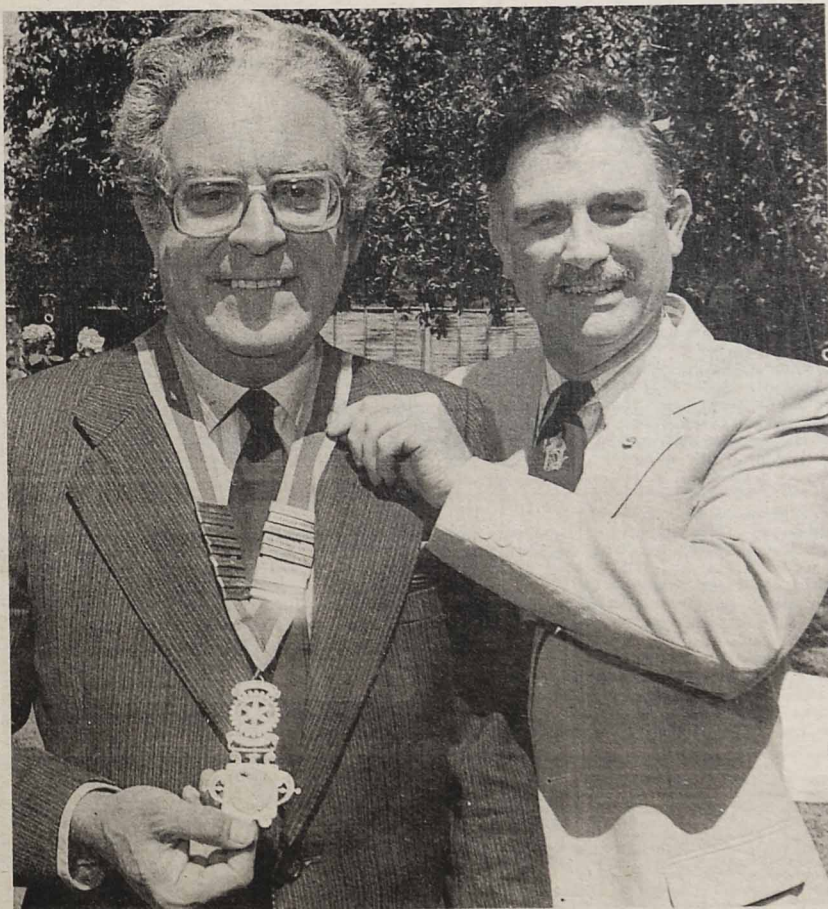
1. Oxford
2. Cambridge
3. Charles I
4. Queen of Charles I
5. Eton College
6. Dyers' Co (ancient mark)
7. Vintners' Co (ancient mark)
8. Dyers' Co (modern mark)
9. Vintners' Co (modern mark)
10. Queen Victoria



— E. S. Archer

Swans at Caversham Bridge. Only a very few years ago there would have been no more than four or five of these beautiful birds waiting to be fed. Now happily they are well on the increase and will perhaps be as numerous as they were before their drastic decline.

## New President of Caversham Rotary Club



— Courtesy Reading Chronicle

Ken Bennett, Churchwarden of Caversham and Mapledurham, and a member of St Peter's Church, taking over as President of the Caversham Rotary Club from Stan Eldon, also from St Peter's.



# TALKING POINT

BY DAVID MILLING  
ST ANDREWS CHURCH, CAVERSHAM



## PROGRESS IN PRAYER

HOW CAN we learn to grow in prayer? How can we make real progress in our relationship with God? Many people nowadays suffer from "arrested development" in their Christian character, because they have failed to grow in prayer. Christian writers on prayer have discovered three stages of growth in prayer, namely "purification", "illumination" and "union with God". I would prefer to think of these three things as elements in the life of prayer, which we need to develop all the way through the Christian life.

### Purification

First, prayer is a way of "purification". That applies not only to new converts, who realise that conversion involves repentance and confession of sins. Even the greatest saints were constantly aware of their own unworthiness in the presence of God, and this "sense of sin" kept them humble, and prevented them from boasting about their spiritual experiences and achievements. Christians may avoid the more blatant and obvious sins, such as theft, murder or adultery, and yet fall into the subtler, but no less deadly sins of spiritual pride and contempt for other people. "Purification" is not just a matter of outward behaviour; it also involves the transformation of our inward motives and attitudes. It is only in prayer, when we are alone with God, that we can dare to face ourselves as we really are, with all our secret faults and weaknesses. We can bring before God in prayer our doubts and anxieties, our longings and resentments, our depression and despair. God understands us, and accepts us as we are, with all our faults; he longs for us to come to him, for healing and renewal. There is only one condition, and that is that we must be as honest and truthful about ourselves as we can be, and share with him all our needs and problems. We shall discover that prayer has a great therapeutic value; our relationship with God will heal and renew us, and will also help to restore our relationships with other people.

### Illumination

Secondly, prayer is a means of "illumination", or growth in understanding. That is why prayer should normally be introduced by Bible-reading or spiritual reading, so that our fellowship with God in prayer is rooted in a proper understanding of who God is, and what he is like. The prayers of Jesus show clearly that he had thought deeply about God's dealings with the Jewish people in the Old Testament. His answers to the Devil in the temptation story are taken from the book of Deuteronomy, reflecting the experience of Israel's wanderings in the wilderness. His prayers on the cross echo sentences in the Psalms, in the cry of desolation (based on Ps.22.1), and in the prayer of trust and confidence (taken from Ps.31.5).

Yet our understanding of God's will in prayer must involve reflecting on our own personal experience. That was true for Jesus, who "learned obedience through what he suffered". In the story of the Agony in Gethsemane, we see Jesus learning, by his own experience of prayer, that it was God's will for him to endure the shame and suffering of the cross. He began

by praying for deliverance from all this; "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless your will be done, not mine". After hours of wrestling in prayer, he realised that God's will must overrule his own natural inclination; "My Father, if this cannot pass, unless I drink it, your will be done". Jesus had to seek the guidance of God in prayer, and it is clear that he did not find it easy to know, and accept God's will for him. What was true for him will also be true for us; only through prayer shall we receive true illumination, and learn to "see life steadily and see it whole".

### Sonship

Finally, prayer is the supreme way of "union with God". Prayer is a personal relationship with God, from start to finish. St Paul says, "When we cry, 'Abba, Father!', it is the Spirit himself, bearing witness with our spirit, that we are children of God". But sharing in the prayer of Jesus, with its uniquely personal way of addressing God as "Abba, Father", we enter into the loving relationship, which Jesus shares with God the Father. The whole Christian life is understood in the New Testament in terms of "sonship", or personal relationship with God.

Of course, our relationship of "union with God" is something which has to grow and mature. In the early stages of the Christian life, we are still very immature and self-centred; we tend to put ourselves in the centre of our picture of life, and we want to enjoy God's presence, instead of seeking him for his own sake. But "union with God" is dynamic, not static; it is what Leslie Weatherhead once called "the transforming friendship". Through union with God in prayer, we gradually become more God-centred, and less self-centred, so that in the end we can say with St Paul, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me". It is the Holy Spirit, or the Divine Love within us, who transforms us into the image and likeness of God; "We are being transformed by the Spirit from one degree of glory to another". For most of us, it will take a lifetime, and perhaps more than a lifetime, to reach what St Paul calls "mature manhood, the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ". We shall only experience the perfection of "union with God" in the final vision of God, when we see him face to face. But "union with God" begins from the very first moment that we speak to God in faith, and so learn to enter into that personal relationship with God, which is the privilege of every believing Christian.

## SATISFIED TENANTS



— Peter Sear

For the second year running Blackie the Blackbird decided to build her nest right by the front door of John Mullaney's house, one of the "Caversham Bridge" editors. Blackie and her brood were adopted by 9-year-old John Robert shown giving Blackie a tit bit. The day after these photos were taken, Blackie and her young family flew the nest.

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**JUNE SEEMS TO BE A MONTH for fetes, festivals, anniversary celebrations and so on.** It all began with the D-Day celebrations. Many Caversham people attended the Portsmouth festivities. Among them was our much-loved Freddie Moore, and he had the pleasure of shaking hands with the Queen Mum. I don't know whether to congratulate her or Freddie — they're both such nice people.

#### Peace pilgrimage

Early in June the Caversham Christian Peace Fellowship organised a walk from Richfield Avenue, accompanied by the now familiar wooden cross, to Gosbrook Road Methodist Church where Ralph Rogerson presided over a very well-devised service. Members of various churches read meditations on peace and provided musical items on the same theme. At the end of the service everyone joined hands round the cross while the Elated Spirits House Group sang "Let there be peace on earth". It

was a moving occasion.

#### Congratulations and thanks

I've mentioned road-sweepers before. There's a particularly thorough young man who keeps our streets clean in the Church Street area; I'm afraid I don't know his name. And when the birthday honours were announced I was delighted to find that another road-sweeper, familiar for years in Reading, George Gardiner, lives in Grove Road, Emmer Green. It's not the first time he's been in the news — he and his wife Hilda don't spend their holidays at the usual haunts — they head for places like Hawaii and Algeria.

Now he's been awarded the B.E.M. Congratulations George! Incidentally if anyone knows the procedure for nominating people for honours I'd be glad to hear it, for there are many deserving cases who never come to the notice of the authorities. I'm thinking particularly of the lady who, for years, risked life and limb

## KATY IN CAVERSHAM

on the children's crossing at the top of George Street. Can't help feeling these are the kind of people who should have honours.

#### Mousetraps and things

I wonder how many saw the news item early in the month about the plague of mice somewhere in Australia. One of our shopkeepers did and I was amused, a couple of days later, to see a pile of mousetraps outside his shop in Gosbrook Road bearing the label: "Today Australia, tomorrow Caversham". I don't suppose he made his fortune, but he certainly caused amusement. And heaven knows we could do with a lot more giggles.

#### Missing faces

I'm sorry Jill Bartholomew, who served for three years on the delicatessen counter in Liptons, has left us

for pastures new, assisting in running a hotel in Alexander Road. It was great to be greeted with "I've got some of the cheese you like" and I shall miss her. Fortunately Mrs Warner, who trained Jill when she first came, is still with us.

And I understand Gwen Waldron is retiring in August after nearly eight years in the Coffee Inn on St Martin's precinct. She will be missed, but fortunately still lives in Hemdean Road, so her old customers will still see her around.

#### Plea for shopkeepers

Most of you will have heard of the plight of some shopkeepers in Prospect Street who are about to be "cut off" due to road works. Deliveries are going to be especially difficult, but I do hope customers won't let

them down and will continue to shop in this area. It would be a great shame if any of these businesses had to close over this, the last in a long line of misfortunes which has befallen them in recent years. Please keep them going!

#### All about Concorde

Elsewhere is a report on a talk by Capt Dave Lehey, a Concorde pilot, given to Caversham W.I. in June. Never one to miss a chance I asked, for the benefit of those of you who have programmes to compile, how one could book a similar talk. He kindly gave me this address: A.301, TBA British Airways, London (Heathrow) Airport, Hounslow, Middlesex. Thought you might like to know.

#### Fetes and carnivals

I managed to get to one or two more fetes which occur at this

time. St Andrew's Annual Fete, which I visited for the first time, was well worth the walk — our car having broken down — and Hemdean House Fete at the end of June was fun, especially seeing the youngsters and their teachers in Victorian dress, dancing round the maypole.

I've seen, this was very interesting — lots of guns and blood — and was accompanied by a detailed commentary throughout the whole 1½ hours — well, it should have been, but I believe the Parliamentarians were thoroughly routed after only an hour. Shame!

#### Gypsies

Residents in Emmer Green were recently concerned to see part of Clayfield Copse occupied by a gypsy encampment. The Reading Borough Council, who were prompt in taking steps to move on the gypsies, had the copse cleared within 36 hours. Council officials are to be commended for carrying out their task efficiently and discreetly.

## The Link Group

#### HELP US TO FORM A LINK OF GENUINE FRIENDSHIP THAT CROSSES ALL BARRIERS

In her Chairman's report at the Link Group's AGM on June 25, Mrs Doreen Bennett, in reference to the final line of the Group's prayer, said that this friendship, offered to handicapped, elderly, lonely or worried people was very much a two way thing, from which members benefitted greatly.

She said that during the year personal contacts had been maintained with local

organisations, including Mencap, Katesgrove, NSPCC, REAP, and many others. Household goods, blankets and clothing had been transferred regularly where needed, and toys, given by local Churches, had been distributed at Christmas to the Women's Refuge, Katesgrove, NSPCC, and Heathcroft.

Tea parties for people who did not get out as often as they used to do had been held fortnightly in members' homes, with transport provided.

To keep us in touch

with organisations with whom we had on-going links, speakers during the year had been Mrs Audrey Roach (Mencap), Mr Chris Stevens (Peppard House), Mrs Heiden (Parkinson's Society), Rev Richard Kingsbury (Parole Board), and Mr Tony Carson (Reading Emergency Accommodation Project). The latter had spoken at the lunch for about 70 people, from Churches of all denominations, in January.

Other special events were the outing to Wellington Country Park with children from the Mencap Youth Group, Carol Singing at Christmas with residents in homes for elderly people, a Christmas tea

party for housebound people, and a visit to Brookfields School.

Although the main object of the Link Group was personal help and understanding, money for various projects was raised at the annual Good as New Sale. This year this had realised a record £600. Nearly £1,000 had been distributed in gifts for particular needs during the year, as follows:

Priest Hill — swing, and carpet cleaning.  
New Testament Church — flooring for literacy scheme.  
Mencap — outing.  
Brookfields School — swimming pool.  
NSPCC — A holiday, and a bicycle.  
REAP — general expenses.  
Victims support — help where needed.  
Bishopwood School — minibus.  
Sue Ryder Home — bedside tables.  
Red Cross — children's holiday.  
Parkinson's Disease Society — transport costs.  
Katesgrove — annual outing.

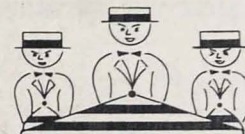
The Chairman thanked all members for their hard work during the year mentioning particularly Mrs Vera Scott and Miss Lillian Phillips, secretaries, Mrs Janet Ferguson, treasurer, Mrs Mary Bramwell and Mrs Valerie Birtwhistle, the tea party organisers, all of whom continue to serve for a second year. It was stressed that each member of the group has a particular responsibility, and all shared in any decision making.

In conclusion, looking to a challenging future, Mrs Bennett said that discussions had already taken place among members, with some of the clergy, and with Miss Esther Youens, organiser of the Good Neighbour Scheme, about the strongly felt need for greater co-ordination between the

many excellent organisations working for people needing help in this area. There were ideas for more efficiency in answering calls for help, in avoiding over-lapping, and in filling gaps, but a lot of work needed to be done, for which extra help would be required.

After the business meeting was concluded a Communion Service, very movingly conducted by the Rev Graham Lynch Watson, was held. The Link Group, which meets on the fourth Monday of each month, has about 20 members, drawn from Churches of different denominations, and many friends who help with particular projects. New members are always welcome. Please contact Mrs Doreen Bennett (473096), Mrs Linda Bates (471715), Mrs Pat Jenkins (478502), or Mrs Janet Ferguson (482557).

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**YAWN, YAWN.** Surely not yet another structure plan. This one is actually called A Review of Berkshire's Structure Plans, and what it is seeking to do is to substitute a single plan for the three separate plans that have covered Berkshire since 1979-80. You may be forgiven for feeling that these plans' life span scarcely exceeds the time it took to draw them up and if they did not succeed in putting a curb on the course of events, what was the point of having them.

In fact, by the time you have read the review you may well be wondering whether this is a plan at all, or merely an attempt by helpless onlookers (ie the County Council) to forecast the course of a runaway vehicle that is being given a few deliberate shoves along the way. The trouble is that in spite of earlier assurances that Berkshire was not being considered as part of a major growth area, that is exactly what it is, partly because of pressures put on it by reason of its strategic position, and partly because the Government is insisting that

it shall be so. The County Council, feeling it is up against irresistible forces, has rushed up with sticking plaster, glue and cosmetics, and called it a plan, in an effort to minimise the damage they are fully aware is being inflicted on Berkshire. It is not their fault that the Government is insisting on a high level of development whilst refusing to make money available for the necessary infrastructure. Faced however with that, and the fact that they cannot build in the Green Belt to the east and the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to the west (and there are few who would not go along with that) they are left with little alternative except to concentrate development between Bracknell and Newbury, which in spite of pious hopes about protecting the environment, will become a sprawling conurbation with-

**RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT  
BY WATCHDOG****URBAN SPRAWL**

out the services necessary to support it.

How does this affect us in Caversham? We can sigh with relief that the Oxfordshire County Structure Plan is of more immediate interest to us and Oxfordshire is a place of low growth. However most of us in the area have no say with Oxfordshire; we are voters and rate-payers of Berkshire. Pressures to the south of Reading are bound to be reflected in pressures on the rural north, and it is we of course who will face a reduction in the size of our slice of the cake when the same cake has to be shared amongst a growing population.

Our area has in fact little mention in the plan except when it comes to the subject of a third Thames bridge. On each occasion that this is mentioned it is in terms of local use, and not as part of the national network. The site

favoured is to the east of the borough boundary where it will be able to make use of the already existing 329(M), and the time span is sometime towards the middle '90's.

There is no doubt that a lot of hard work has gone into the review and the Council has made it quite clear that they do not like what they are being told to do. At the same time they have gone along with it and even attempted to justify it. They have certainly not come up with alternative proposals, let alone going so far as to suggest that development, even to the extent of providing extra jobs, should be directed towards other areas where it would be welcome, thus providing much needed relief to Berkshire which has already taken more than its fair share of growth.

**Blagrove Farm**

The plan lays down guidelines for infil-

ing, rounding off and the development of unused and vacant land, which if followed should prevent some of the worst examples of this for which planning permission is sought and on occasion granted. Blagrove Farm is one of these areas to which the guidelines apply. The plans at present under consideration for converting the listed barns into ten residential units could be the thin end of the wedge for eventually building over all the land as far back as the lanes, or could be the best way of saving the barns which would otherwise fall into decay or become vandalised. Until that land is offered some measure of protection, such as the plan envisages for areas of special value, any plans for it are bound to be regarded with suspicion.

**New medical centre**

Detailed plans for the new Medical Centre to replace Balmore Hall are now in and the sooner that empty gap, acting as a constant reminder of what once was and is now no more, is filled the better. Caversham Residents' Association was a little disturbed to see that the building line is on a level with the houses to the south which brings it very close to the pavement. It would have been more pleasing to have had it set further back so that some landscaping in front could have made it an attractive feature. Mindful too of the fact that Balmore Hall was constructed of good sound materials the Association also suggested that particular attention is paid to the choice of finishing materials, so that eventually the premises can be acceptably absorbed into the scene.

**Diary Date:** Monday October 8. Public Meeting. Church House. Subject: Third Thames Bridge.

**A load of old rubbish**

MOVES by some head teachers to stop daily school assemblies have been sharply resisted by the Government.

Under the 1944 Education Act, each school day should start with a "collective single act of worship" unless the premises make it impracticable. Apart from this, it seems there is a marked attitude by many pupils to question the purpose of worship, making the assemblies meaningless.

**Complaints**

The National Association of Head Teachers recently recommended that assemblies should be held only once a week instead of daily; the Association of Christian Teachers have also suggested a change to three times a week. However, Government Ministers are said to be against changing the law, and Conservative MPs are being asked to register formal complaints about schools that do not hold

It is the last point which causes most controversy. Worried that there was a lack of, particularly Christian, education in local schools, a Caversham ecumenical group recently asked searching questions of the Berkshire County Council's Education Department. The authority's Co-ordinator for Religious Education, Mrs Cherry Gould, went a long way to dispelling their fears when she discussed Berkshire's religious aims and objectives with the group. The County has committed itself "to help pupils understand religious beliefs, practises and insights in order that they may form their own beliefs and judgments, and their own allegiances and commitments".

**Berkshire model**

In pursuing this aim, the Education authority is actively encouraging pupils to understand their religious heritage and helping them in their own personal quest for values and beliefs by which to live.

The Berkshire objectives, held up as a model and adopted by other education authorities, have been formally adopted as an agreed syllabus for religious teaching in all local county schools and controlled schools. They include the proper attitudes towards religious beliefs and the

necessary skills to enable them to analyse religious ideas and practices, and also the encouragement to gain knowledge of all the leading faiths.

**Tolerance**

Cherry Gould was supported in the recent discussions by Mrs Ruth Johnson, Religious Education teacher at Caversham's own Highdown School. Explaining the difficulties of countering such claims that "the Bible is a load of old rubbish", Ruth Johnson said, "The children can't see how the Bible's principles relate to today's world. Before one starts to teach about Christianity, or any other religion, one's got to break down the prejudice and replace it with tolerance — tolerance of other people, ideas, beliefs and faiths". Although there is no specific religious teaching in the first two years at Highdown, it is introduced into the syllabus in the third year and is taught to the majority of fourth year pupils.

"We need more Christian speakers," says Ruth Johnson. "They do not have to be pillars of the Church — just be able to talk about their attitudes and beliefs so that the children can hear what they have to say."

This was echoed by Miss Eileen Frew, Head of Religious Education at Southlands School, who said, "Sticking a Bible in front of children gets nowhere — one must stand by one's faith, but be prepared to meet other religions and views head on". Eileen

Frew's own attitudes and aims to present Christianity in present-day action have evidently paid off.

**Practical help**

Cherry Gould asked the Caversham group to encourage their churches to promote visits to schools, and to arrange trips to their churches by pupils. "It's surprising how many children have never been inside a church," she said, "let alone understand what the Christian symbols and practises mean".

Perhaps Christian parents and other church members in Caversham should take this up as a challenge and prove their own faith and commitment by offering practical help and suggestions along these lines?

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# SEEN AND NOT HEARD

CHILDREN should be seen and not heard. The lesson seemed to have been well learnt by Hemdean House pupils one afternoon in June when they enacted a Victorian schoolday as part of their hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary celebrations.

The girls were wearing white frilled pinafores over dark skirts and long sleeved high necked blouses (except one brazen minx who was rebuked for immodesty) though the older girls were allowed to be without pinafores and could put their hair up instead of wearing bows. Little boys wore knickerbockers and Eton collars and one was even dressed in a sailor suit. Teachers were mostly in black, erect and unsmiling, with their hair pulled back into severe buns. The two teachers in charge of the youngest children, with their lace caps, looked as if they had once kept a dame school and the caretaker was transformed into a prim and proper housekeeper. Four of the older girls, hair pinned up, were very conscious of their new status as pupil teachers.

At the sound of a handbell the school lined up outside in silence and in silence marched into school under the strict eye of their teachers. They



— Courtesy Evening Post

then filed into assembly to the tune of "Onward Christian Soldiers". Hymns of Victorian sentiments were sung, though unfortunately for the occasion no current hymn books contain the verse about the rich man at his castle and the poor man at his gate. Two of Dr Watts's edifying poems were read, extolling industriousness (How doth the busy little bee) and against sloth and idleness ("Tis the voice of the sluggard") and this was followed by roll call, to which each pupil replied "Present, ma'am", as her name was read. Alison, Nicola and Amanda were out, to be replaced by Florence, May, Lotty and

for the little boys, Ernest and Albert. The hoots of mirth this caused had been got over earlier in the week.

Lessons followed, uncannily silent except for the chanting of tables, the repetition of traditional weights and measures or the dates of the kings and queens. Once more the boy who stood on the burning deck was upheld as an example for all dutiful children to follow and pride in the empire upon which the sun never set was instilled. Neat seams were sewn on white calico (well, actually not all that neat) books balanced on heads in deportment and Victorian calligraphy

was patiently attempted by hands more accustomed to producing a ball point scrawl. Fortunately no one needed to be caned for misbehaviour or made to wear the dunce's cap, though one unfortunate child whose apron was dirty was sent to the parlour to be reproved by the Headmistress in person.

Next it was down to the playing field, passing on the way a sedate game of tennis played by the two games mistresses, where a display of maypole dancing took place, watched by still silent girls sitting in neat rows. Then suddenly it became 1984 and the usual chattering broke out

as the birthday cake made and iced by the girls to a design by seven-year-old Simon, was cut and everyone wished the school Many Happy Returns.

The next day it was the turn of the parents who organised the Victorian Fair. Sir Gerard and Lady Vaughan were amongst those who came along to join in the celebrations. A coster monger and his wife, down from London for the day, muton-chop whiskered gentlemen wearing summer boaters, and several elegantly gowned and hatted ladies moved about the grounds whilst a couple of ragamuffins sold the souvenir issue of the Caversham Bridge.

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## Olympic shambles

SADLY the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics could be, and perhaps should be, the last such Games. Yet again they are being used politically and any Gold Medal won will be devalued by the fact that 25 to 30 per cent of the top sportsmen and women in the world will not be competing. The whole purpose of the Modern Olympiad as an arena for amateur sports-

men to compete against each other in friendly rivalry has been lost for ever. In fact it is thought likely, indeed almost certainly, that the major Olympic sport of Athletics will be going

"Open" after Los Angeles.

On the domestic front there have been disputes and controversy surrounding the British team. Firstly, we had Zola Budd being imported to boost our ladies athletics team. There is no question about her athletic talent and it is great to see her run, but it is wrong, that to enable her to compete, she was able to change her country only a few months before the Games commence.

Then what great fun our athletic selectors had with their selections! In an effort to try and be fair to all Olympic potentials, both established and newcomers, they did something that has not been tried before — they pre-selected some top athletes on past performances to enable them to train and prepare without worry whilst the rest were told it would be on a first past

the post principle in the Trials and A.A.A. Championships. As a result of this the public and the athletes were left in no doubt as to how the team was selected... or at least that was the theory. In the 1500 metres Seb Coe raced against Peter Elliott — the latter won in convincing style — but Coe is selected. Purely on common sense grounds Coe, who has not been in the best of form, should have been left for the 800 metres and the up and coming "in-form" Elliott given his chance for the double.

On a local and pleasant note it is good to see that Reading Athletic Club are again being represented at the Olympics. There have not been many occasions when the Olympic team has been without a Redingsensian in the squad. Well done Simone Jacobs and Bev Callender!

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# ROUND THE CHURCHES

## GOSBROOK ROAD REVIEW

TIME RACES by so quickly that May was gone and we were into June, and an edition of the Caversham Bridge missed before you could turn round!

Caversham Methodists have been busy and May began with a very good Sunday School Anniversary. The Sunday School children met their "Talking Song Book" again, who taught them some lovely songs and told them that they were part of one big family surrounded by the Love of Jesus.

The women of the Methodist Circuit met at Gosbrook Road for a One Day Conference. The theme was "Women in Mission", and the day was led by Mrs Jan Pickard, who is the editor of "Now" magazine. About eighty attended the morning session and lunch and nearly one hundred ladies took part in the afternoon communion service.

Saturday, May 19 was a very busy day. The B.B. Band "The Ambassadors" took part in a competition at Worcester. They did very well and all enjoyed hearing the new instruments in competition. After arriving home at about 9.30pm some of the B.B. Officers and Church Stewards got the hall prepared to receive about 20 young people who had been to the M.A.Y.C. display at the Royal Albert Hall. The Rev Terry Harris and his wife Julia arrived about

11.30pm with their party of youngsters up from Exeter for the weekend. Happy reunions took place and the stewards were pleased to have the opportunity to show Terry and Julia around the "new" Church. The party left early next morning, vowing they would come again next year.

Spring Bank Holiday weekend dawned cold and wet, but The Ambassadors kept to their commitment and went to the Child Beale Trust for the Goring and Streatley Rotary Club, where they performed in very cold, wet and windy conditions — well done everybody!

The Girls' Brigade took part in a ramble to Mapledurham to complete some of the classwork to gain their badges.

On Sunday June 3 it was with great joy that five young people were confirmed into membership of the Methodist Church by the Rev Ralph Rogerson. These were Nicola Bring, Stewart Hackman, Francesco Lattanzio, Helen Reed, and Philip Stephens.

June 14 soon dawned and the day had come for the Rev Ralph Rogerson and Elsie to leave for Texas for their American exchange. Ralph and Elsie managed to meet the incoming Minister and his wife (the Rev Milton and Ann Chester) at the airport.

During the past two weeks Milton and Ann have been settling down to English Church life. They have shared in several different services, enjoyed home entertainment, Church gatherings and personal visits. Milton has managed to pluck up courage to drive the car, and has ventured as far as Oxford. More locally they have been taken on a tour of Henley, have visited the Ambassadors during a Band Practice, and have opened the Summer Fair at Gosbrook Road. (This raised £390 and was a great success). Milton and Ann are hoping to go to Luton Industrial College, Bristol, Bath, Epworth, Chester and London during their time in England. We hope they have a happy time of fellowship with friends in Caversham and we ask that they take back with them Christian greetings of love to their congregation at Abilene, Texas, USA.

## £1,100 towards minibus cost

The Rev David Milling presenting a cheque for £1,100 to Mrs Kath Walker from the Peppard House Trust. The money, raised at St Andrew's Fete on June 16 will go towards the cost of a new minibus for the Peppard House Trust which cares for handicapped children and teenagers.



— Peter Sear

## ST BARNABAS' NEWS

### St Barnabas' Day

The Caversham "Patronal Festival Season" began with St Barnabas' Day on June 11, this year the day following Whitsunday. The church was full for the Festival Eucharist in the evening at which the preacher was Rev Melvyn Matthews, Chaplain at Bristol University. The service was followed by refreshments in the Hall. Our thanks to all who helped to make it a splendid occasion, to those who decorated the

Church, to those who provided the buffet afterwards.

### Picnic

Twice last year St Barnabas was thwarted by the rain in its attempt to have a church picnic at Maidensgrove Common, north of Nettlebed. This year the rain kept well away and the picnic on July 1 was a great success.

There was a surprise visitor during the afternoon when a glider ran out of lift and made an emergency landing on the Common —

just a few yards away from where a couple of the group were walking.

This was followed by a rounders game — Jon Barclay's team beating Jean Carroll's by the narrowest of margins — and some of the younger members went off to play in nearby Doyley Woods ("Will-o-the-Wisp" fans will know this as the home of Arthur the cockney caterpillar, Mavis Cruet, the fat fairy, and Evil Edne.) And then tea. We look forward to the next time.

## News of old curates

**Canon Derek Eastman, now a Canon of St George's Windsor, is recovering after a heart operation.**

**The Rev Michael Kitchener has been appointed an honorary Canon of Newcastle Cathedral.**

## ST ANNE'S NEWS

June 21 — The Feast of Corpus Christi

The parish transported itself by road, and more elegantly, by river, to Mapledurham House on the glowing midsummer evening which coincided with the Feast of Corpus Christi. They gathered on the lawn, standing or kneeling in the shade of old trees, to assist at an open air mass celebrated by Bishop McCartie, and accompa-

nied by the singing of two choirs (St Anne's and that of the Oratory School).

As mass unfolded in the peace of the evening, against the gentle background of Elizabethan house and gardens, it seemed as if no religious strife or intolerance had ever divided this country, and Christian unity might one day again be a real possibility.

There followed a procession of the sacrament around the grounds, and the evening ended with Benediction — whereupon the gardens were abandoned to the midsummer night and its dreams (chronicled elsewhere by a more professional pen than mine). Meantime, St Anne's thank the Eyston family for letting them feast the day in such joyous surroundings.

★ ★ ★  
But to return to Caversham and more practical matters. There have been some notable achievements in parish development, and more are planned. Father Meagher writes: "St Anne's Church: a new church boiler has been installed; and bench kneelers have been re-upholstered. The work on the tower and roofs has been done, and it is hoped to obtain permission in the near future to go ahead with improved sound amplification and

lighting, with an overhaul of the sanctuary to make it more suitable for ceremonial and a revision of the entrance porch area etc. Further plans will include complete redecoration and the inclusion (near the boys' sacristy) of a toilet/wash area. The car park is proving very popular, and that was the result of great efforts by many of our people; the outside of the Church on South

View Avenue has been re-planned.

Our Lady of Caversham, Richmond Road: The outside has been redecorated, and it is hoped to make a start with volunteers to do the inside painting. Efforts are being made to obtain replacement benches.

St Anne's School: Again work has been done on the maintenance of the school and Parish Hall buildings.

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# ROUND THE CHURCHES

## ST JOHN'S NOTES

AS THIS year's Mayor, Mr Ron Jewitt, lives in Chiltern Road the traditional Mayor's Service was held in St John's at 11.00 on Sunday June 17. It was a unique occasion, for both members of Parliament were there, as well as town councillors. The Guides, Brownies and Cubs attended (the Scouts were at camp) as well as many regular congregation members. It was a formal service — the Wardens, stave in hand, conducted the Mayor to the lectern to read the lesson.

The prayers asked God's help for those who must guide Reading's affairs in the coming year, and the well-known hymns and sermon reminded all that to hold office is to serve. The service was conducted by the Reverend Alan Wilson who is this year's Mayor's Chaplain. Although traditionally formal, it was also a warm and friendly service — both the Mayor and Dr Vaughan wrote to say they too had found it so. The police on duty were competent and pleasant — one had to scoop up a one-year-old who stood in the path of the Mayor's procession into church, solemnly admiring her own frilly pants. Another carefully took of his helmet for a few minutes so that he was "off duty" and then very kindly extracted a car, blocked in by other vehicles, for a disabled driver.

As St John's Day was on a Sunday this year, it was celebrated with a Festival Evensong service.

Beforehand there was an opportunity to meet friends from other parts of the parish at tea in Caversham Hall. This was organised, as always, so efficiently by the Mothers' Union. Then in the beautifully decorated church, a large congregation took part in a truly festive service of praise and thanksgiving, with fine singing from the choirs.

Charlotte Holmwood, now one of St John's Servers, has worshipped in St John's with her family since she was a baby. So, now she has received her Queen's Guide award, the congregation all offer her their warmest congratulations.

## St Peter's News

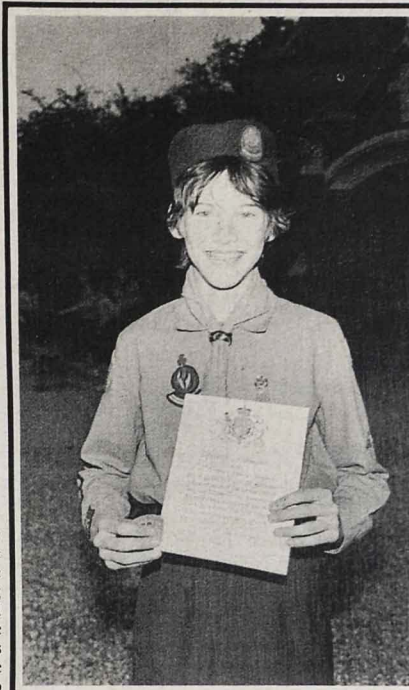
THIS YEAR St Peter's broke with tradition and used the patronal festival as an occasion for conducting baptisms and confirmations, followed by Holy Communion.

In a beautifully decorated church, packed to capacity, 40 people from the parish, together with a few others including some from the university, were confirmed by the Bishop of Reading. His sermon, appropriately, was directed to the confirmands; he reminded them of their commitment and, while warning them not to expect life to be easy just because they were being confirmed, talked of the blessings they would receive.

In a very real sense they must have been made aware of one of

these when, immediately after, they took their first communion along with parents, sponsors and friends and very many members of the parish congregations.

Drink and delightful snacks outside in the churchyard after, gave them all an opportunity to get to know one another. It was a fine warm evening and even after a lengthy service people were very reluctant to depart for home. Those who decorated the church, prepared the food and in one way or another contributed to the organisation of this wonderful event, are indeed to be congratulated. For good measure the congregation were also able to celebrate the 49th wedding anniversary of Mr and Mrs Cropp who were married on St Peter's Day and who have served the church so faithfully.



— Peter Sear

## QUEEN'S GUIDE

Charlotte Holmwood of the 2nd Emmer Green (St Barnabas) Guide Company with her Queen's Guide certificate and badge. Charlotte has become the last Guide in the Caversham East Guide District to achieve the award. It was presented to her on June 22 by the District Commissioner, Mrs Agnes Sanford, at a special "cookout" to mark the occasion. The Guides served hot dogs and soup to Mrs Sanford and the other guests.

Since Charlotte gained her Queen's Guide award it has ceased to be the highest award for Guides; the title "Queens Guide" has been transferred to the highest award for the older Ranger-Guides. The highest award for ordinary Guides is now called the "Baden-Powell Trefoil" — named after the founder of the Guide and Scout Movements, Lord Baden-Powell, and his wife. We look forward to congratulating Guides who gain this new award in the future.

## Services in August (C of E)

TO ALLOW the clergy to have holidays with their families, as full a schedule of Sunday services is maintained as possible.

In August, the only change to Sunday services will be that *Evensong* at 6.30pm will take place as follows: August 5 at St Peter's (not St Andrew's), August 12 at St Andrew's and at St Barnabas' (not St Peter's), August 19 at St Peter's (not St Andrew's), August 26 at St Andrew's (not St Peter's). The Rector is extremely grateful to his brother clergy, active and retired, from a wide area who have kindly offered their help in order to maintain the full range of Sunday services from July through to September.

Please note that on Sunday September 30 at St Peter's Church there will be no 9.15 or 11.15am services because the Bishop of Oxford will be presiding at the Michaelmas Ordination of Deacons at St Peter's at 10.30am.

## St Peter's annual outing

ON JUNE 3 the City of Oxford was invaded by members of St Peter's congregation. Our coach was boarded after the Parish Communion, everyone clutching picnic bags and, with unnecessary pessimism, anoraks. Bob Rutherford gave out maps, obviously with very little hope of ever gathering the party together again. Fi Radford led us through an archway to a secluded and unfrequented part of the river bank, within a stone's throw of Magdalen, ideal for our picnic lunch.

After a walk between the colleges later, everyone assembled, rather surprisingly at the sug-

gested time, under Tom Tower to meet our Guide for a tour of Christ Church. He competed valiantly and successfully with the sonorous chords of the organ, but was finally defeated by the very impressive Parade for the D-day service. We all heard enough to make us anxious to go back to learn more of this unique Cathedral-cum-College Chapel cum former Nunnery.

After that, groups of St Peter's people seemed to be everywhere, along the river banks in Christ Church meadows; in punts, critically watched by our own Oxford row-

ing Blue; in the Botanic Gardens — and, of course, in tea shops in the High.

Bob's maps were used to good effect — no one missed the Coach! It stopped again on the way home, at Nuneham Courtney Arboretum to allow us a most delightful stroll among the vividly coloured azaleas and rhododendrons, and the displaying peacocks.

Ken Bennett expressed our warm thanks, most certainly deserved to the three R's — Roulstones, Radfords, Rutherford — for the careful planning which had given everyone such a really delightful day.

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Methodist News**

WITH THE advent of the summer months, many of the Church activities close down until the autumn and the familiar faces are missing from the congregation being away from Reading or on holiday. However, people do come to Caversham and the Church has been pleased recently to welcome visitors from Iceland, the USA and the Continent.

The international theme was in evidence on Sunday, July 1 when the Junior Church held its anniversary. During the reading of the story of the Tower of Babel, young scholars built such a tower of boxes decorated with flags of various nations. The young people read prayers written by young Africans, and the sermon was preached by the Rev Milton Chester, the visiting pastor from Abilene in Texas.

**Concert**

On a more parochial note a concert was arranged by some of the Church Members in aid of Methodism's Mission Alongside the Poor. The artists were Belinda Byers, Double Bass, Dorothy Byers, Soprano, Kathleen Robson, Piano and Dennis Tutty, Organ. The programme was varied and gave the performers an admirable opportunity of sharing with the audience their love of music making.

The concert raised over £70 and thanks are due to those who

took part and those who helped behind the scenes.

**Youth activities**

The young people of the Squash have recently taken part in some evening services under the leadership of Rev Ralph Rogerson and Chris and Sally Garforth. The first of these was on the theme "Springs of Living Water" and following that the Squash members decided to raise £700 to sink a well in a village in the Third World. Chris Butler got the appeal off to a flying start with his sponsored "Church Anniversary 75 mile" bike ride. On April 17 he cycled to Goring, Abingdon, Stadhamp-ton, round Oxford, past High Wycombe and back through Marlow and Henley. At the latest count he has raised over £300. Further funds have been and are being raised through rummage sales.

The second service in which the Squash took part was on the theme "Let there be Light". The congregation sat in a circle in the Church Hall. Thinking of the light that guides, impressions were shared of the young peoples' night hike at Easter. Members used maps, compass and torches to show how Christians need guidance from Jesus the Lord of Light. They then illustrated in mime the story from John 9 of the blind man receiving his sight and a young member told how his own spiritual blindness had been lifted. In the final part of the service the analogy of an electric light was used to pose the question "are we switched on and plugged into our source of power as Christians? For if not our light will not shine before men."

As a symbol of the light spreading through the darkness, each member of the



Rev Milton and Mrs Ann Chester at Gosbrook Road Methodist Church Summer Fair.

— Eunice Cooper

congregation had a candle and to the music of the Corrymeela Singers' "One small candle" the congregation watched as the light spread around the circle from the single candle that burned on the table throughout the service.

Ralph Rogerson led a time of Church family prayer and the service closed with the congregation holding hands and saying the Grace together.

There was a real sense of fellowship among all present and the Squash Members were thrilled that so many of the Church family joined in that act of worship. So many came that there were nearly not enough candles.

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Charles Hayes**

ST JOHN'S Church was packed for the funeral of Charles Hayes who died on May 29. This was not surprising as his services to the community had brought him in touch with literally hundreds of people.

Charles, who lived for many years in Cromwell Road, was originally from Kent and joined the RAOC as a regular before the war, later transferring to the REME. Captured in Crete and imprisoned in Germany, he found himself making artificial limbs for fellow prisoners, so when he returned to England at the end of the war, he found work with Waltons Surgical Appliances at Chatham. He married Ethel, who he had met in Birmingham and who had herself worked with the Red Cross during the war, and in 1949 he moved to Reading to take charge of Walton's shop in King's Road, which many people will remember. Ethel went to London for training and then joined him in the shop, and Charles became a Fellow of the British Institute of Surgical Technologists.

So grateful was he for the help given to prisoners by the Red Cross that he joined the organisation and worked tirelessly with them throughout his life, as did his wife and daughter, Janet. His proudest moment was when he represented the Red Cross at the Royal Albert Hall Remembrance Service some years ago. He was also a freemason and member of the MOTHS. As a family they didn't confine themselves to official duties but were always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone.

During his long illness Charles, who remained unfailingly cheerful, had a constant stream of visitors and his room was a positive bower of the flowers he loved so much. He was always grateful for these visits and for the help received from friends and neighbours, doctors, nurses and the local priest. And, since he would very much have wished it, it is left to us to mention the wonderful manner in which he was cared for by his wife and by their daughter and her husband, Brian.

He was a great gentleman and will never be forgotten by those who knew him.

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by PHILIP WEBB





# A GLAD FAREWELL

By Zoilus

GOOD NEWS for the residents in Wolsey Road and the staff and pupils of Thameside School! At last we seem to have reached the final chapter in the saga of Grundon's yard in Harley Road and it seems agreement is about to be reached between the company and the Council for a move within the next twelve months.

But it is going to cost the ratepayers a tidy sum to evict those turbulent lorries from a place they should never have occupied in the beginning. Way back before the fifties the site was used as a Corporation building yard, and it was sold to Grundons for a comparatively small figure. In those days people weren't so sensitive about locating industry in residential areas and it was not foreseen what a bustling and noisy concern it would grow into. The price the Council will have to pay to move Grundons will be well over £350,000 and the value of the land for housing would be only half that amount, so the deal looks like being an expensive necessity.

The local Government Ombuds-

man has pronounced on the case and in doing so given the Council a sharp rap on the knuckles for its delay in coming to an arrangement with Grundons. Perhaps that's a bit unfair because the firm has not been specially forthcoming as they had no reason to move, whilst the Council had a duty to the ratepayers to get out of the situation as economically as possible. Anyhow once the site has developed into a nice little housing estate there will be sighs of relief from all concerned, not least the local Councillors for whom the ten year dispute has been a constant worry.

I see that some members of Reading Borough Coun-

cil are pressing for the establishment of a register showing the financial and personal interests of all Councillors. There may well be a case for listing their financial interests seeing that most of the council's business concerns money, but to ask our city fathers to come out of the closet and reveal to all and sundry what they do in their very limited spare time seems to herald the arrival of Orwell's 1984 with a vengeance.

Of course, the poor old Freemasons have been dragged in to make our flesh creep with visions of a Reading

P2 Lodge stealthily corrupting the morals of apron-clad local legislators. It would be against the Masons' principles to discuss their ritual with anyone not of the brotherhood so they can't refute even the most assinine accusations, but I do understand that they are discouraged from all form of political or religious disputation, so it is not very likely that the Chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee will loom very largely in their deliberations!

This potty resolution would seek to keep a record of any organisation a Councillor joined, from the Automobile Association to the Zoological Society — for what reason I cannot

fathom, though it may be sheer vulgarness. Still, I'm sure that the majority of the Council will have the sense to realise the daftness of the second part of the resolution and turn it down.

One of the landmarks of Reading is the massive red brick pile of Brock Barracks, and the dominant feature of the building is the square tower of the Keep. But nowadays the Keep is also a landmark in the town's effort to look after that section of the community who quite literally have no home to go to at night. Even a prosperous town

like Reading has a considerable number of people sleeping rough every night and the Keep is abode to take in at least ten each night for a bed and over thirty for a hot meal. Run by volunteers from the Simon Community and funded in part by Reading Council it opened at Christmas 1982 and has sheltered over seven hundred different people in that period.

Looking after the sort of people who

end up at the Keep isn't everybody's job. The members of the Simon Community who serve at the Keep are dedicated to giving our human derelicts some comfort and some hope. They even tour the town on winter nights to bring in any of the destitute who are too far gone to make their own way to the Oxford Road. Because of the increasing demand on their service they are asking for an extended grant this year. I hope they get it.



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## CAVERSHAM BRIDGE GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME

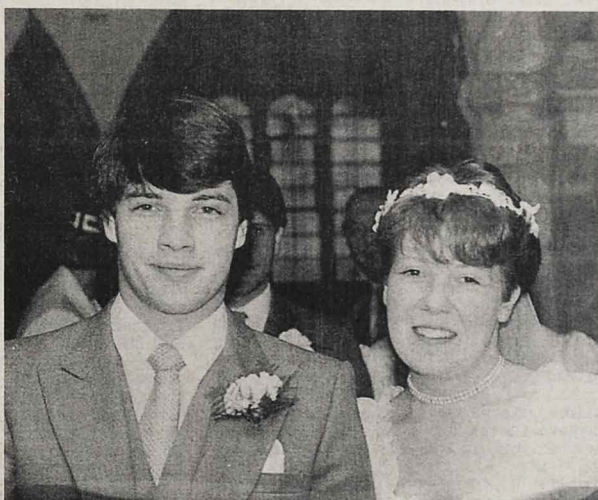
MRS PATRICIA BESLEY, Central Organiser for the Bridge Scheme since it was formed nineteen years ago, has decided that the time has come for her to resign. To express their appreciation the Committee recently held a small party for Mrs Besley at the home of Mrs Margaret Russell, Organiser for Emmer Green.

Caversham owes a debt of gratitude to Mrs Besley for all her hard work over the years, and she will be a difficult person to replace. Temporarily her duties will be undertaken by the Secretary, Miss E. M. Youens, telephone 479048, assisted by Mrs C. Pynn, who is rejoining the Committee.

Area Organisers are as follows:  
North Caversham, Mrs A. M. Russell, 472934  
South Caversham, Miss W. Summers, 474351  
East Caversham, Mrs J. Rumble, 471395  
West Caversham, Mrs L. Hickox, 473239  
Caversham Park, Mrs D. Davies, 476181  
Mapledurham, Mrs J. de Ville, 478452

We are as pleased to hear from those who can offer help — particularly drivers — as we are from those who need help.

— Peter Sear  
Andrew Hill and Sarah Alexander after their marriage at St Peter's Church on June 23.



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## ROUND THE CLUBS

### Maplewood Women's Institute

AFTER thanking members for their contributions to the Hospitals Fete at Battle, the President, Mrs J. Le Mare, introduced the speaker, Mrs Elizabeth Heydeman. Her talk about spinning was illus-

trated with samples of fleeces of different breeds of sheep, vegetable-dyed wools, spindles and a spinning wheel and also looms for weaving. There were also examples of her own hand spun and

dyed wool made into jerseys and skirts. It was a very interesting afternoon.

The team for the Brain of Berkshire Quiz Competition has progressed to the second round. There was an enjoyable outing to the Museum of English Rural Life and the Shire Hall where lunch was taken in the spacious canteen.

Mrs E. Clarke read the report of the Annual General Meeting at the Albert Hall which she attended.

### Chazey WI

AT THE June meeting Sgt Sugg, Crime Prevention Officer for Reading, gave an interesting and rather alarming talk about his work, and ways that householders could help themselves by making it less easy for burglars to gain access.

Reading as a town creates a great deal of problems and advice is given on security and burglar alarms, fire arms licences checked, and liaison with shops undertaken to prevent shoplifting which puts about 4p in the pound on the price of goods. Although over 1,000 arrests are made in a year this is only the tip of the iceberg. There is a crime prevention panel which advised on the setting up of summer schools to keep the

youngsters occupied and the crime rate dropped in August after that.

Sgt Sugg then showed the hardware he had brought to demonstrate types of locks for doors and windows. He stressed the importance of identifying one's property so that stolen property can be handed back to the owner and not left to accumulate in a store or even be handed back to the burglar when there is no proof that it does not actually belong to him rather than the person from whom he stole it.

In the WI Berkshire Tennis Tournament held at Reading University on June 16, the winners were Mrs Marilyn Ball and Mrs Liz Holland who go on to the next round which is the Area Finals at Taunton in July, and the runners up were Mrs Janet Field and Mrs Janet Slawson.

### Caversham Women's Institute

A VERY interesting meeting was held in June, when Captain Dave Lehey, a Concorde pilot and Flight Manager Technical, assisted by his wife Janice, showed a film about the history of aviation and gave a talk on his own experiences and the facilities offered by a flight in Concorde. He was able to answer many questions put to him by members, particularly about the

### Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild

AT THE June meeting of the Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild Mrs S. Walmsley gave an interesting talk and demonstration of the micro-computer. She explained how the first computer, a huge affair, was created to deal with the D-Day landings and the Enigma Code during the war. Computers have become very much more sophisticated since those days and can be useful in all walks of life and at all levels. Contrary to their taking over Society, they are merely machines and only as good as the people programming them.

Mrs E. Fuller was thanked for her organisation of the Guild Outing to the Merrydown Winery and Eastbourne.

Members were fortunate in having lovely weather in which to enjoy a very pretty coach ride and a relaxing afternoon at the seaside, having spent a most interesting hour or two being shown round the Winery, followed by a "Wine and Cider Tasting".

A concise report, written by Miss I. Green, of the National Council Meeting held at the Royal Albert Hall, was read out in Miss Green's absence.

### Rosehill WI

ON JUNE 4 Miss Vincent, the president, welcomed members and visitors, and also Mrs Richards, the Berks Chairman, to the twenty-first birthday party. Mrs Gillings was presented with the silver salver for gaining most points in competitions during the year; the runners-up were Mrs Roberts and Mrs Coombs. Miss Sheldon then entertained with poetry and witty monologues. A tasty tea was served by the committee and a birthday cake was made by Mrs Barge.

### Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild Berkshire and North Hants

THIS HAS been a hectic month. The Guild Chairman Mrs Dora Smith gave a party at her home to welcome new members. This was greatly appreciated by us all especially the sumptuous tea she and the Committee provided. There was a visit to the Royal Berkshire Special Care Baby Unit, this was of great interest to all members. The charity coffee morning was held at the home of Mrs Betty House and resulted in the highest con-

tribution yet — £31. Well done Betty.

The speaker for June was Mrs P. Macrea of Sainsbury's, the theme being Value For Money. As well as a comprehensive insight into the hitherto unknown departments of the larger branches we were given a fascinating history of the store. It is interesting to know that the Sainsbury family still retain an active involvement in the running of the firm.

### St Peter's Wives

THE GROUP met in June to hear about beekeeping. Miss R. Cooper's talk covered the history of the craft, the life cycle of the bee and her own work in maintaining her ten colonies of bees. Having made quite a name for herself as a beekeeper in this area, Miss Cooper is frequently called to remove unwanted swarms from private gardens and she related many amusing anecdotes about this. Comb and clear honey was on sale at the end of the evening.

There is, as usual, no meeting in August. The group meets again on September 18 to hear about the Sue Ryder Foundation.

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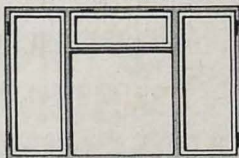
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## SING FOR YOUR SUPPER

SOME time ago the Reading Barbettes, who include several Caversham residents and who are a local Barbershop Harmony Chorus, hit upon the idea to produce their own Cook Book and fill it with their own most treasured recipes.

The ladies of the chorus were all asked to search at the bottom of that guarded kitchen drawer and look out their especially-loved recipes — which they did, with

great gusto. Ideas for a catchy title for the book were also requested. As with all projects, there were a number of difficulties to overcome, but at long last they made it and their very own cook book is now in circulation. They guarantee to delight your family with delicious tastes from the Barbettes kitchen. The Cook Book is now on sale at Caversham Bookshop, price £1.65 and in the town bookshops.



## ROUND THE CLUBS

### Caversham Community Association

A MINI-BAZAAR was held on June 4 for the members. Everyone had a good time browsing and buying from the various stalls. There were plants, cakes, and other edibles, knitwear and clothes, toys, fancy goods and books for sale. A competition stall did a brisk trade and kept the members busy. Proceeds were for club funds, with a sing-song accompanied by

Nancy Nelhams at the piano.

The next meeting was for a Games evening which was well attended.

Mr David Houlden of Clifford's Dairies was the speaker on June 18 and gave an interesting talk on the progress of supplying milk from the last century until today.

Disease was spread through keeping cows shut

up in small spaces, under unhealthy conditions, in towns in the early days. When milk was supplied from country districts matters improved but it was the delivery of milk by train that marked a great step forward. Express Dairies' name records this event. Pasteurisation and the bottling of milk were notable events. Although an increasing quantity of milk is now being supplied by supermarkets, the milkman is considered a good friend by his customers. Members expressed the hope that he would continue to be the main deliverer of milk for many years.

An evening coach trip was arranged for the members on June 26. The weather was good and the ride through the lovely countryside was very much enjoyed. A stop was made at Fourmarks, near Alton, for a meal before the return journey home.

### Caversham Ladies Club

THE JUNE meeting of the club was held in the Baptist Church Centre, with Mrs. Weal in the chair. The speaker was Mr Stringer, husband of one of our former members, who showed slides of the Tulip Festival at Spalding, Lincolnshire. These were very interesting and colourful, especially those of the floats in the procession which had taken hours of patient labour to make. He was warmly thanked by Mrs. Weal.

A day's outing to Brighton has been arranged for mid-July.

### Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild

AT THE May meeting Mr H. Taylor gave a most amusing and fascinating guide into the mysteries of basic wine making. His talk was followed by a taste and try before you make session. All members went very happily on their way after a most enjoyable and instructive meeting.

### Blagrove W.I.

MRS POPPLEWELL, the President, welcomed several visitors and Mrs Sue Hill, Home Economics Chairman at the June meeting in promotions week. A well staged Handicraft Stall arranged by Mrs P. Thomas, displayed many lovely and varied exhibits of members' work.

Mrs Hill gave an interesting talk on Pennies for Friendship of the Association Countrywomen of the World, which is known worldwide, supports many projects, promotes goodwill and friendship, raises the standard of

### Darby and Joan Club

THE MONTH of June was a quiet month for the Club because of holidays. The members enjoyed a piano afternoon, given by Mrs Burnden who plays for dancing and singing. At the next meeting a group of ladies from The Fern Club gave a session of music and movement and all joined in the exercises.

The last meeting of the month was a lovely afternoon with a musical session given by a section of the Sainsbury Singers which was much appreciated.

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# SUNDAY SERVICES IN AUGUST

## ANGLICAN

**St Peter's**  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.15am PARISH COMMUNION  
11.15am Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Sundays)  
11.15am Matins (2nd and 4th Sundays)  
6.30pm Evensong (not August 12 or 26)

**St John's**  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST  
11.00am Children's Service (1st Sunday)

**St Andrew's**  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST  
11.15am Holy Communion (not 3rd Sunday)  
11.15am Matins (3rd Sunday)  
6.30pm Evensong (not August 5 or 19)

**St Barnabas**  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST  
6.30pm Evensong (2nd Sunday)

**St Margaret's, Mapledurham**  
8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday)  
11.00am PARISH COMMUNION

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10.30am Morning Service  
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**St Martin's School**  
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**Mapledurham House**  
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## WE RECORD

### BAPTISED

**St Peter's**  
June 17 — Mikala Smith, Rhianneon Smith, Hannah Moreton  
June 24 — Anna Rutherford

**St Barnabas**  
June 10 — Gilliam Crook  
June 17 — Joanna Keen, Mark Keen

**CONFIRMED by the Bishop of Reading on June 29 at St Peter's Church**

**St Peter's**  
Gordon Brake, Simon Fricker, Alex Neil, Kathleen Pannell, Janet Rumbelow, Stephen Rumbelow

**St John's**  
Georgina Bain, Janet Bain, Melanie Browning, Judith Clark, Sarah Dighton, Rachel Gray, Rachel Griffin, Lorraine Jarvis, Lily Martin, Eleisha Randall, Christine Shoesmith

**St Andrew's**  
Philip Aspden, Julian Asquith, Charles Ingham, Donald Jellyman, Louise Milling, Gavin Orpwood, Ian Orpwood, David Payne

**St Barnabas**  
James Archer, Colin Bolton, Anne Bridger, Tracy Roderick, Douglas Smith, Michelle Smith, Joanna Warden

**St Margaret's**  
Simon Perham, Marianne Pynn, Edith Reed, Sarah Robinson  
**Caversham Park**  
Clive Cadman, Andrew Gray, Howard Mitchell, Jack Wright

### MARRIED

June 16 — Paul Brennan and Amanda Bowley  
June 23 — Andrew Hill and Sarah Alexander

**St Barnabas**  
June 16 — John Cozens and Patricia Chapple

### FUNERALS

**St John's**  
June 5 — Charles Hays

### ST ANNE'S PARISH

**We record:**  
Victoria Maria Foley, Baptised June 3  
Paul Christopher Costa Perona, Baptised June 10

### Weddings:

Jose Ricardo Moreno and Jacqueline Margaret Cassin, April 7  
John Christopher Kershaw and Jennifer Mary Simnett, April 28  
Wyn Meirion Roberts and Mary Anne Surlis, April 29

### Funeral:

Florence Paddick, died June 1

Many of the children received their First Holy Communion at a Special Mass on Saturday, June 16.  
David Bristow, Richard Semple, Karl Jane, Stuart Prentice, Christopher James, Scott Iremonger, Damian Huntley, Helen Boucher, Lucy Freeman, Victoria Morris, Jessica Mitchell, Caroline O'Donnell, Anne-Marie Lynch, Stephanie Weeks, Sharon Kenny, Katherine Ahearn, Lucy Rose Million, Simon A. O'Sullivan

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