



ST PETER'S SCOUTS 75th Anniversary

1984 has proved to be a very special year for St Peter's Scout Group. Back in 1983 the Group Scout Leader, Peter Asquith decided to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the opening of the headquarters building in Grove Hill, but it was soon discovered that not only was it seventy-five years since the scout troop was founded but it was also seventy years since the (Wolf) cubs began.

It was in January 1908 that the first edition of Baden Powell's Scouting for Boys became available on the bookstalls. The boys of Reading were very quickly off the mark and began enrolling at the YMCA to form the 1st Reading Troop of Boy Scouts under their leader Arthur Burton. The 2nd Reading Troop met in Caversham at Toots Farm in Darell Road under Ernest Churchill. St Peter's (Caversham) Troop was registered in October 1909 and met in St Peter's School in School Lane under the leadership of the headmaster Robert Lunn. This group was given the title 3rd Reading which it still holds today.



The Jubilee Reunion weekend was fixed for the 4th/5th May, this being ten years to the day since Major Paxton, then County Commissioner for Berkshire, officially opened the headquarters in

Grove Hill. The net was cast far and wide to contact former scouts and scouters. Local newspapers carried articles and very old photographs of St Peter's Scouts. Many letters and telephone calls resulted from these publications and dozens of photographs were loaned for display. The local radio put out a plea for old members of the group, offering a bottle of champagne from Alan Longstaffe, and the hunt was on to find the oldest scout.



On Friday, 4th May, the Group held a very successful barn dance. Leaders and parents had a riotous evening and this set the seal for a very happy weekend.

The reunion proper began at 1pm on Saturday 5th May. Mr Clarke kindly gave permission for Highdown School to be used for car-parking and the Scout Fellow-

ship supplied marshals to guide motorists. The Headquarters was bedecked with flags and a marquee erected outside for refreshments. Old scouts and leaders packed the hall, some having travelled more than one hundred miles to be there. Two men met for the first time since 1914. Greetings and meetings had to be put aside when the Revd Derek Spears, former curate of St Peter's and a great friend of St Peter's Scout Group, came back from St Matthew's to lead the scouts in a service of thanksgiving. Robert Christie of Kidmore Road, who joined the scouts in 1912, read the Scout Law whilst the lesson was read by Nick Nicholls, former Group Scout Leader and the man responsible for building the Headquarters.



After the service photographs were taken and present Cubs and Scouts were kept busy with activities organised by ex-leaders Nick Smith and Colin Wareham. This left present leaders free to mingle with their old friends. A group of ladies served hundreds of cups of

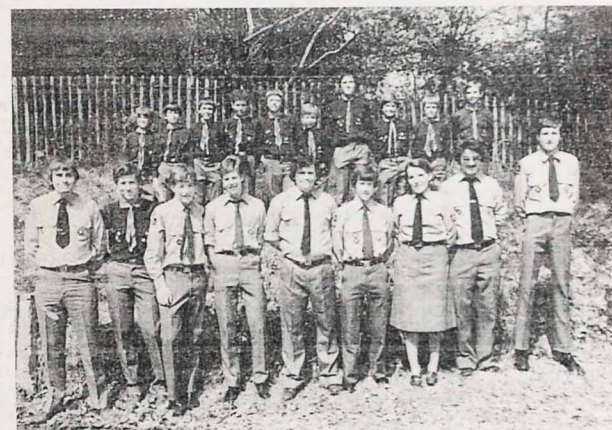
tea. Howard Thurlow was in charge of a wonderful display of photographs and memorabilia and gave slide shows at regular intervals. Phil Prynn was busy in the souvenir department — these included mugs, tea-cloths, pens, pencils, badges and a specially produced book on the history of the Scout Group. The sun shone down as Mike Parker and Clive Harris ensured that everyone signed the visitors' book. All everybody wanted to do was talk, talk, talk. Addresses were exchanged, more photographs were taken and more cups of tea passed round. It was a truly momentous afternoon.



The evening closed with a Gala Supper for all leaders, ex-leaders and people who had been very much involved with the Scouts. An excellent supper, ordered by Alan Hendry, was served on tables decorated by the Cubs. Alan Longstaffe presented the bottle of champagne to our oldest Scout, Bob Christie, who was Guest of Honour for the evening. Nick Nicholls gave a very entertaining after-dinner speech before presenting two superb paintings of the HQ to Tony Cleare and Barbara Chapman for their long service with the Group, following which Peter Batley took charge of the entertainment which in true Scout fashion was homespun and



■ A group of Scouts from the 1920's



■ A group of Scouts and Venture Scouts

hilarious. The evening finished with singing led by Alison Ashton.

To celebrate the 75th anniversary of St Peter's Scout Group the Group has published a thirty-two page souvenir booklet of the history of the

Group. The Duke of Wellington kindly wrote the foreword and the proceeds of the sale will go to the Group's funds.

If you know anyone who was in St Peter's Group it is hoped you might buy them a copy now Christmas is

approaching. Copies are £1.75 and can be obtained from Dr Asquith at 14 St Peter's Avenue (479691). Phil Prynn at 10 Darell Road (472032) has commemorative tea-cloths, pens, pencils and so forth.

QUEEN'S SCOUT AWARD FOR SUSAN

NINETEEN year old Susan Hardy has become the first girl in the Reading North District to gain the coveted Queen's Scout Award. Susan is a member of the 3rd Reading (Paragon) Venture Scout Unit.

To achieve the award, which is the highest award for Scouts, Susan took part in a variety of activities, including leading an expedition to Normandy, helping with a Cub pack for two years, and car maintenance.



Susan was presented with the award by the Scout County Commissioner, Bill Vincent, who spoke about the dedication necessary in order to get the Queen's Scout Award.

The 3rd Reading (Paragon) VSU meets on Mondays 7.45-10pm in the Scout Hut in Grove Hill. New members — boys or girls from 16-20 — are always welcome. For further details please contact their secretary, Claire Young, 71 Combe Road, Reading, telephone 26384.



■ Queen's Scout Susan Hardy being congratulated by County Commissioner Bill Vincent.

— Peter Sear

TALKING POINT

by Revd RICHARD KINGSBURY, Rector of Caversham and Mapledurham



WORLDS APART?

To meet the editorial deadline, I'm writing this on a Sunday morning from a fifth-floor apartment in a Helsinki block of flats with a gale blowing from nearby Leningrad and the only sound — apart from squalls of rain — the wailing of police sirens from the deserted city streets. Despite the awesome beauty of Finland, it seems like the edge of the wilderness here; worlds apart from Sunday worship under way, as I write, in Caversham's churches and chapels.

Talking Point begins here, 1000 miles east (on an Anglican — Lutheran study week) to emphasise to the point of exaggeration what I guess is true for 90 per cent of the UK: *God is to be known in "the secular" or not at all.* The Church is only marginally relevant to most people's experience of God — almost a world apart.

Church people may not like it, but this is how life is. What is more, we who profess active church membership are no less "secular". We suffer bouts of tunnel vision, which looks for God exclusively in organised religion, blind to the sacred in the secular, and therefore ignoring the first article in our Creed ("I believe in God, Father-Creator").

What I, arrogantly, call "the wilderness" is where God is, is where my brothers and sisters are, just as much as at the altar. Find God in the wilderness (out there and in me) and worship God at the altar. So, Church matters.

Sacred or Profane?

The bloke mending his car, the kids doing "wheelies" on the pavement, the lass on her way to coffee with her boy friend, the couple nattering outside the paper shop — all the sights and sounds of Caversham on a Sunday morning as we bustle to church are like the background I'm experiencing as I write this on a cold, wet Helsinki Sunday morning. But is it an alien background? How come I don't feel part

of it? Has church busy-ness so alienated us from God-in-life?

It is, in my view, tantamount to blasphemy to split life into "sacred" and "secular". Hardly a controversial thought and perhaps not worthy of Talking Point! But consider how we organise church life. Look at a typical agenda for any church committee. How church-centred is it? What presuppositions do we have about the world "out there?"

A church which is world-denying risks losing sight of the Word made Flesh. Equally, a church which, whilst world-affirming in line with the teaching of Jesus, risks an "anything goes" attitude, glossing over the manifold needs of everyone to know God, misses its prime task — to enable and encourage worship, corporate as well as individual. So Church matters.

The Church and The World — two irreconcilable worlds? Or one world? Evangelisation (mission) isn't *bringing* God to Caversham. If God isn't already in everything, our faith is in vain. I prefer to see evangelisation as listening with our neighbours in their worldliness and discerning with them a perspective they may not yet appreciate in their life.

Interpretation

There's an American Indian saying "Until I wear another man's moccasins I will neither understand him nor be understood by him."

Mission is listening before speaking, interpreting before teaching. Our relevance to Caversham depends on ridding ourselves of the idea of two worlds, sacred and secular. It's a false division. That elusive thing people call "the quality of life" begins when creature knows and worships Creator. So, Church matters.

In the next two months of Advent hope, let's really take to heart the Christmas truth of God-with-us, in the wilderness and at the altar.



Postbag

Dear Sir,

Prospect Street Road Works

I would like to add to replies "Watchdog" will be receiving regarding these works, viz:

1. Traffic Flow has definitely improved.
2. One way in Prospect Street would cut out jams caused by a, parked delivery vehicles and b, illegally parked cars.
3. Shoppers would still have their bus stop for returning with shopping.

4. Many towns have found it beneficial to institute one way routes in a small area — such as Prospect Street, Westfield Road, Gosbrook Road — to keep traffic moving.

John Allen

5 Burnham Rise,
Emmer Green.

Dear Sir,

It is to be hoped that we, and those who conduct divine service on

Armistice Sunday, whether in church or at a War Memorial, will remember not only those service men and women who lost their lives in World Wars 1 and 2 and the Falklands War, but also the many civilians of all the belligerent countries, men, women, and children who died, were maimed or orphaned as the result of man's sin, our sin. Remember too, those who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones.

Unless we repent and end these periodical acts of mass killing, excuses will be of no avail when at last we stand before our Maker, and the One who lived, taught and died that the world might be saved. Perhaps once again we shall hear: "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do." How much sorrow and suffering the world might be saved, and moral, spiritual, and material wealth gained, and the hungry fed, if all

weapons of war were scrapped. Governments will never attain genuine peace.

It's now time to put our faith to action; be obedient to our Lord's commands, and say "No" to this barbarism; that no longer will we be pawns and cannon fodder in Power Politics! And in the forefront should be the Christian, for Christ has shown us the better Way. For those who hear Christ's call "Follow Me," and do so, knowing what it entails, having thought it through, will no longer be troubled with doubts and fears, for He has made the Way clear.

So, to quote a verse from the hymn by William Cowper; "The fearful saints, fresh courage take, The clouds ye so much dread Are big with mercy, and shall break In blessings on your head."

H. D. Marshall

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All contributions for the December issue should be sent to Church House by noon on Wednesday, October 31. All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham, by Friday, October 26.

The Editors wish to make it clear that the views expressed in the newspaper do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the board.

Published by Caversham Christian News Ltd, Church Street, Caversham, Reading. Telephone Reading 471703.

Printed by Thames Valley Newspapers Ltd, Tessa Road, Reading.

AMERICAN EXCHANGE

"Y'all drop by any time now, y'hear?"

THE British Isles (excluding Ireland) could be contained in Texas three times — yet the Lone Star State has a population that is only as great as London. Hence there are vast areas of the State unpopulated and the traveller is soon aware of a largely featureless, flat landscape punctuated only by occasional bunches of "nodding donkeys" (i.e. small oil pumps) and mesquite shrubs of the mimosa family. Yet — justly — Texas is known as the Friendly State. If the land is not always hospitable the inhabitants certainly are. "Y'all drop by any time" is an invitation that is utterly sincere. The Texans entertain often and lavishly. "We put the big pot in the little one" is their claim to the miraculous and reverses the Southern phrase about watering down the soup to serve extra guests.

"Welcome"

The hugeness of the Texan welcome and hospitality was immediately obvious to Elsie and myself just 10 minutes after stepping off the plane at Abilene to where we had come for six weeks to serve as minister and wife at Aldersgate Methodist Church whilst Milton and Ann Chester were in Caversham. A crowd of 50 people greeted us in the Abilene airport lounge and as the crowd cheered and the TV cameras clicked, the Mayor stepped forward and made me an Honorary Citizen of Abilene!

Goodness knows what they would have done by way of welcome if someone

important had arrived!

Throughout our time in Abilene this warmth and hospitality was sustained and, of course, when our friends Ron and Janet Offord joined us in our last 11 days, it was extended to them also. Twelve times we were taken out for a meal: 20 times we were entertained in the homes of the people: 4 times we met at church for meals. The intricacies of the oil industry were expounded and we were taken on to where vast installations were erected in the search for oil. We were carefully tutored in the History of the West and never more graphically than when we attended a "Fandangle". This was an open-air pageant, in a natural amphitheatre, where the history of Texas was enacted, commencing at sundown. The pageant began with the early pioneers, braving the natural and human hazards in a strange land, and concluded with an established community in a great State. It was a thrill, under the clear Texan sky, to see a herd of longhorn steers sweeping into the arena and buffaloes grazing on the lip of the amphitheatre, and to know that you were seeing history unfolded on the very spot where once buffaloes roamed unchecked, Indians stalked and pioneers planted.

Sharing the Faith

But all this, and more, tremendous though it was, was peripheral to our main reason for going to Texas. We had gone to do a job of sharing the faith with Christians of another coun-

try, another environment and another heritage. This we did at such as the Kiwanis Club (the largest in Texas and akin to Rotary) and in a Television Chat Show in which Elsie and I were interviewed. However, the Aldersgate United Methodist Church was our main base of operations — and what a base this was.

What could we not achieve with a Church "plant" in Caversham, with approximately 30 ancillary rooms, including spacious kitchen and Fellowship Hall where 300 could sit down to a meal? Most of the rooms were equipped with a coffee percolator and comfortable chairs.

In these rooms, 13 adult classes and 9 children and young peoples classes met every Sunday morning for Bible study before Sunday worship at 10.50am. Each class was led by a Leader who cherished his/her position and studied hard to sustain their teaching responsibilities week by week. Other rooms included a well-stocked library, church offices, vestries and ministers' study and even a special Bridal Room where brides and their retinue prepared for the Great Moment! A Private Chapel completed the suite of "ancillary" premises.

And then there was the Church itself. Over one thousand people could be gathered in it for worship — the summer morning congregation ranged from 370 to 410 — and its great illuminated spire reached 100ft skywards.

The windows of the church spelt out the faith in the most

inspiring and beautiful manner. The Chancel window — of faceted glass and set in epoxy resin — featured as Central the Cross of Christ as a Symbol of Victory: the Rose Window at its centre showed an open book, a symbol of the Great Commission of Our Lord to "go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel", and the petals of the rose featured each of the Apostles in turn.

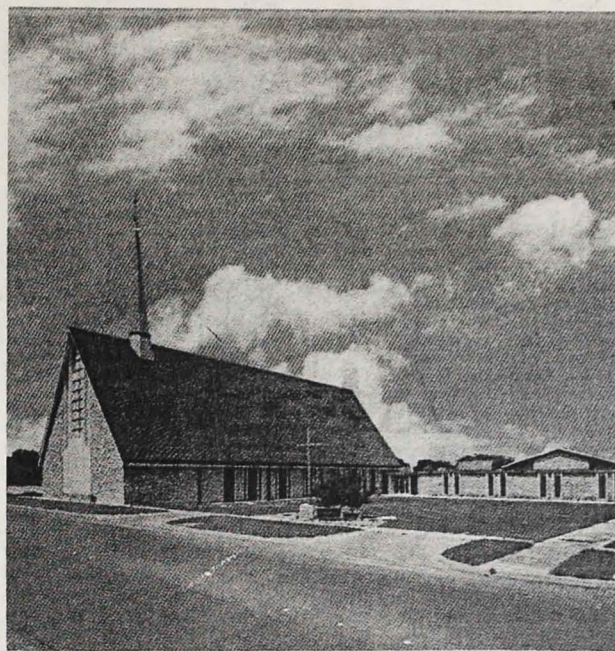
The Twelve Nave Windows contained significant events in the Life of Christ, beginning with the Nativity — the manger of Christ being lighted by the rays of the star of Bethlehem and concluding with the Resurrection where the rising Easter sun shines upon the open tomb from which Christ has emerged.

In this spiritual and aesthetically beautiful setting, the warmth of Christian love and fellowship of the people was expressed with beautiful, and lively! liturgy. The two Sunday services were quite different in character — the morning a liturgical one, the evening a very informal service with choruses requested by the congregation being sung. It says much for the genuine faith and love of the people that a wide spectrum of theological belief, from the charismatic to the "liberal" could be represented by believers, under the same roof.

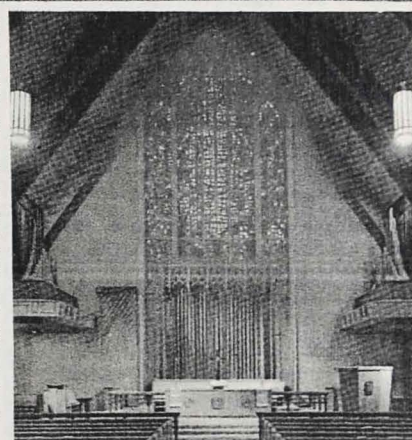
This was proof positive to me that there is something lacking, on both sides, when different theological strands "hive-off" to their different churches — unable to share together the different facets they see in the many splendoured glory of Christ.

There is a Staff in the church of 11 workers, some part-time, and this large staff enables outreach to be made to approximately 25 missionary stations of the world. Ron Offord and myself were privileged to share a little in one of these missionary enterprises and we were flown 600 miles by private plane to New Mexico where 30 of our young people, in primitive conditions, were conducting a mission of Bible Teaching, Craft Work, etc, among the poor Indian children of the Navajo tribe.

Of course, there were some features of American religious life that compared unfavourably with English religious life. Division of Labour, for example, is a necessary feature of economic life and makes possible



specialist contribution to a high standard of living in Western Society, but it appears as an encumbrance I believe when applied to the Ministry of the Church. It is unimaginable for the English minister and clergyman to conceive of a separation in the roles of preacher, pastor and administrator — certainly the first two. A successful preacher must also be a pastor. And there are other features of the American Church and Society which, I believe, are less commendable than in the British Isles.



Nevertheless, here were a people in Abilene among whom we ministered for all-too-short a time, who were appreciative,

generous, and loving in every way. "Y'all drop by any time now, y'hear?" The call and the invitation continues to ring in our

hearts — it would break those hearts if we thought that we would never be able to respond to it!

Ralph Rogerson

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I MENTIONED last month about the closing of the local Co-op; what I forgot to say was that we should be losing our very friendly Joan Holloway who had worked there for over 11 years as a part-time assistant. Always helpful to customers, Joan will be missed in Caversham. Though she now lives with her husband in the Bath Road district, she comes from an old Caversham family — I'm told that her father was once the shoe-repairer in Prospect Street.

Services

And talking of shoe-repairers, I'm reminded that I've never mentioned the gentleman who has his business in Stan Eldon's shop in Church Street. Speedy and efficient, we do appreciate having him here, especially as we had to manage so long without a proper shoe-repairer.

I see also we have a new cleaner in Prospect Street. Not wishing to detract from other cleaners who give us excellent service, the siting of this new business might be of considerable help to those living on the east side of Caversham, and readers might like to know that they also offer a 24 hour shirt service and replace zips at short notice.

I thought there was now no-shop in Caversham which undertook electrical repairs, so when our vacuum cleaner

KATY IN CAVERSHAM

packed up I was delighted to find that B.K. Services — which most of us know as the Video Shop — in Prospect Street, do repair all kinds of cleaners. They also repair all types of kettles and Hoover and Morphy Richards irons and toasters. Anything else, I'm afraid, still has to be taken elsewhere — or do you know of anyone else in Caversham. I'd love to pass on details of services in other parts of Caversham.

Congratulations

I'm still not being supplied with enough news and I'm particularly sorry when we miss out events concerning old friends. By accident I discovered that Mr and Mrs Good, who figured in the 'Bridge' many moons ago when they had the electrical goods shop in the old cottages in Church Street and delighted us with their display of flowers and vintage cards in the yard, had recently celebrated their golden wedding. The anniversary was marked in fine style and what Mr and Mrs Good expected to be an intimate family party turned out to be a surprise reunion with many old friends, some they'd not seen for over 50 years. Our

sincere congratulations!

Incidentally, their granddaughter, Claire Berkeley whose home is in Priory Avenue and who is a keen reader and supporter of the 'Bridge', has just started a three-year degree course in English at Birmingham Polytechnic. Claire will be well known to many Caversham people and I'm sure they'd all like to send her very best wishes for the future.

Conservation

Popping into the book sale in Church House one Saturday, I was interested to see photographs of some of the work of our Berkshire Conservation Volunteers. Most of us pay lip-service to conservation these days — it would be nice if some readers, particularly the youngsters, would really lend a hand with some of the projects the organisation has in hand. If anyone is interested I'm told Linda Carter (478625) is the person to contact. And they are holding another book sale (and they do have a wide assortment) at the Small Town Hall on November 24. Make a note of it!

Mayor's Market

I'm sure many of us would like to help far

on the subject, don't forget a suggestion I made once before — many an old person or somebody in reduced circumstances might appreciate their gift early in the shape of a pound or two to spend on their own Christmas shopping. Sadder, I think, than those who receive few gifts, are those who are unable, for financial reasons, to give any.

Change at the Library

BEST wishes to John Harvey, who left Caversham Library for Tilehurst on October 1. We shall miss his ready wit and helpfulness which we have enjoyed for nearly three years, and we hope Tilehurst will appreciate him as much as we have.

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2nd Methodist Minister for Caversham

IT WAS with great joy that the Methodists of Caversham welcomed Rev Brian Skinner, his wife Barbara and their daughter Judith to Caversham to join Rev Ralph Rogerson in the work north of the Thames.

The Skinner family moved into All Hallows Road in Caversham at the end of August and Brian began his ministry here on September 1.

Brian hails from near Launceston in Cornwall and Barbara from St Helen's in Lancashire.

After working in a grocers shop Brian

went to Cliff College in 1952, first as a student and then as an evangelist. Brian then moved to Oswestry as a Lay Pastor for 18 months where he met Barbara, who was training as a physiotherapist at the Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital.

After jobs in London and Manchester and the completion of his college years, Brian and Barbara were married. They then moved to their first circuit of Kirkby Stephen, Appleby and Tebay. Brian had charge of 9 churches and stayed for 5 years. During this time their first daughter Mandy was born. The next move was to Bolton where Brian was involved in 'coffee bar evangelism' which included many hundreds of young people. Judith, their second daughter arrived while they were in Bolton.

The London Mission

as a Junior Superintendent was Brian's next appointment, when he was involved in the building of a new Church, Youth and Community Centre.

The Skinners then moved to Mossley in the Ashton under Lyne Circuit where they stayed for 8 years.

Before coming to the Reading and Silchester Circuit, Brian had charge of 5 churches in Lancaster.

Brian (as a Cornishman) is a loyal follower of Plymouth Argyle. He is also a keen snooker player and enjoys cricket, where he has been known to umpire (cricketers take note!).

We hope Brian, Barbara and Judith will be happy in their ministry in Caversham, and we welcome them to strengthen the witness of the Church here in this area.

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PLASTERCAST SAVE THE CHILDREN



■ Peter Waite with the plaster cast and his collecting box and Norman Kent, Public Relations Officer for the Caversham Branch of the Save the Children.

Photo — Courtesy Evening Post

FOLLOWING an unfortunate accident and an operation in June of this year, Mr Peter Waite of 77 Albert Road, Caversham, found himself with his leg encased in plaster.

Peter thought that he might turn his misfortune into some money for Save the Children, so he asked his local Caversham Branch for some sponsor forms and an SCF collecting box, and he set about seeking sponsors at so much

per signature on the plaster that was strapped to his leg. His aim was to get no less than two hundred signatures.

Travelling daily to London by bus Peter found many of his sponsors from among his fellow passengers and from his colleagues at work. Soon his leg was covered in signatures, some sponsoring and some making outright donations. Having reached one hundred and

ninety nine signatures and desperate to make it two hundred, he approached the first lady he saw in the bus queue and demanded that she became the two hundredth. More than a little surprised the lady obliged.

The result was that Peter handed over a collecting tin to the SCF Branch Mr Norman Kent, containing £76.41 followed a few days later with a further £11, giving a total of £87.41.

A PIGEON'S PART

POSSIBLY few people in Caversham know that just after the last war ended an official document was published entitled "Special Service". It contained details of the work done by civilian-owned pigeons who made their own contribution to the service of their country between 1939 and 1945.

The late Mr Hector Low of Oxford Street, Caversham, was pigeon supply officer for the twenty-two pigeon lofts in the district which were used by the special section of the Royal Signals. Mr Low was well-known in the racing pigeon world and was secretary to the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Federation of Racing Pigeons. To him fell the responsibility of receiving messages from Wing House, the London headquarters of the Royal Signals' special section. A direct telephone line from them to 37 Oxford Street (Mr Low's home) enabled

him to deal with any request as soon as possible. A call would come through and he would be told how many pigeons were needed and the date, time and place of despatch. His next move was to contact members of the group. The pigeons would be collected, numbered and each have a coloured disc placed on one leg. Soon they were bound for London by the Great Western Railway on the first lap of their journey to Europe.

These birds were dropped into various parts of the Continent by parachute where it was hoped they would be picked up by agents or anyone wishing to assist the Allies. Official documents show that only 11 per cent of the birds returned.

The small front room of Mr Low's home became the Operations Room and here messages were received from many places across the

Channel. Every pigeon owner was sworn to secrecy, promising never to open the message containers. As soon as a bird returned to its loft the vital information was removed from its leg and was on its way to London within an hour.

5,000 words and 15 maps on one leg

The Special Service Report shows these slips of information to have been immensely valuable. One container alone held five thousand words and 15 sketch plans. Much of the information told of troop movements or the positions

of headquarters. In some cases the pigeons brought welcome news and relatives of those missing overseas were able to learn that their loved ones were safe and well.

Other Caversham members of Mr Low's team of pigeon trainers were Mr R. Draper of 12 Hemdean Road, Mr P. Freeman of 4 Balmore Drive, Mr G. Horler of 48 Oakley Road and the late Mr F. Wise of Church Street. Together with their pigeons they played their part in helping our community through those difficult times which now seem so long ago. M.K.

LET'S LINK-UP!

IN ST ANDREW'S HALL,
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21st,
8pm

At a Link Group Open Meeting in 1981, it was said, "Here, in this area, if we are not too afraid, or too complacent to look around, there are hundreds of people who, because of physical, mental, or emotional handicap, would find life quite unbearable if it were not for the support of charitable and voluntary organisations. And they still need the understanding of neighbours in the community if they are to take their rightful places there". But do these organisations sometimes overlap? Do they leave gaps? In order to investigate the possibility of more effective co-ordination, and to hear of where the needs are,

THE ROTARY CLUB OF CAVERSHAM

(in conjunction with the Link Group)

are inviting representatives from about 40 local, caring, organisations to come to the above meeting.

If YOU have any suggestions, or can offer help or expertise, please come, too. But, to give some idea of numbers, please ask for a ticket from a Rotary or Link Group member or phone Mrs Bates (471715), Mrs Bennett (473096), Miss Youens (479048) or one of the Clergy.

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CAVERSHAM

MRS Avril Moat, the Matron at Nettlebed, has felt it necessary to retire following the death of her husband, so that she can care for her family and home. A presentation is to be made to her and any contributions can be sent to the Secretary at Joyce Grove, Nettlebed or given to Ann Deane 473798.

An appeal has been made by the Physiotherapist at Nettlebed for much needed walking sticks — several have already been given and sincere for those, but others may be given to Ann Deane 473798.

Christmas cards are also available again.

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ROUND THE CHURCHES

ST JOHN'S NOTES

ST JOHN'S Harvest Festival on September 23, was literally "crowded out." Chairs had to be brought down from the upper vestry and put in the aisles. It was a Parade Sunday also, and the Cubs and Beavers were to mime the sermon, and all their families came to watch. Several taller Cubs turned themselves into an orchard by holding up fruit tree shapes, and a stage horse ambled between them. A Cub read the story of the mime, from the pulpit. It told how the farmer needed help to gather the harvest. Somehow 45 realistically acted reaping, stacking, fruit picking and dairying in a very small space. A brave Beaver cock crowed from the front, while

the rest moved round the church, imitating chickens pecking up corn, and carefully jerking their ingenious chicken comb head dresses. When everybody was back in their seats Alan Wilson's sermon reminded everyone that indeed all material well-being depends on the harvest of the earth's produce.

The central decoration below the pulpit, with its wheelbarrow, and fork and spade, emphasised that there was an urban harvest from garden and allotment. It was this harvest that was used to decorate the church. There were prizewinning onions on the windowsills. The church was fully and beautifully decorated

from altar to west door, but it would be very nice to have more help to do this another time. It was a great deal of work for just five people. Please do volunteer.

On Monday, September 24, St John's held their "Bring and Share" Harvest Supper, and were able to choose supper from the variety of home made specialties people brought. Then the Confirmation class entertained with music and dancing, and a visiting quartet played. Derek Spears came to supper and sang with Alan and Lucy. "The best yet,"

said everyone as they went home. The Church was put straight in double quick time with the energetic help of the youth group. Thank you to Ann Deane for organising it at short notice, and to all the willing helpers in the kitchen.

SPONSORED SERMON

THE Rector of St Peter's Church, Caversham, the Rev Richard Kingsbury, will be giving a sponsored sermon at St Peter's on Saturday, December 8, to raise money for the Save the Children Fund. However, it is the

GOSBROOK ROAD REVIEW

SEPTEMBER brings a time of new beginnings — some of our young people have begun jobs having left school or college, some are beginning their last year at school and facing A levels, some are just beginning their O level courses.

Rev Brian and Barbara Skinner are beginning to get to know people in Caversham and are enjoying settling in to their new home, and their daughter Judith is making new friends. So there is an air of 'newness' around, and bound up in this is our endeavour to find new life through our Lord Jesus Christ who will help us to bring new and renewed strength to the tasks that we will be undertaking during the winter session. New sessions have

been begun in the many organisations meeting on our premises. It is hoped we will see new girls and boys in the Girls' Brigade and Boys' Brigade, and some new faces at Keep Fit and Sunday School. Women's Fellowship has begun again and was off to a fine start with Rev Brian Skinner as the speaker.

The Harvest Festival was a great success. Rev Denis Featherstone conducted the 11am service and Rev Brian Skinner the evening. On the Monday the Harvest Supper was held in the Church. All credit must be given to the organisers for such a lovely meal. Entertainment was given by the Sunday School scholars. This was entitled "Praise" and was appreciated by everyone.

The Ambassadors have been practising hard for the past few weeks. They will be competing at Hendon in the North London Band Contest and we wish them well. After this "last of the season" competition there will be "new beginnings" for the band, as there will be new music and new marching and movements to be designed and learned ready for next year's outings.

A time of new beginnings, a time for new ideas, and maybe new directions — a time for renewed fellowship — and best of all, a time to renew and confirm our love and faith in our saviour Jesus Christ.

BAPTIST NEWS

OF STERNER STUFF

members of the listening congregation who will be seeking sponsors for the number of hours that they are prepared to sit and listen to Richard.

Save the Children does save children's lives and here is your chance to help. If you would like to become a sponsored listener to Richard's sermon — and Richard intends to try and beat the existing record by carrying on speaking for nine hours — and are prepared to give up one or more hours to help Save the Children (you get sponsored at so much per hour) then apply to Mrs Elsie South, of 32 Priest Hill, Caversham, for sponsor and registration form, telephone No. 473780 or Norman G. Kent, 42 Highmoor Road, Caversham, telephone 475472 (evening), 479378 (day).

DON'T PUT IT OFF UNTIL TOMORROW — PHONE NOW.

ST PETER'S WIVES

ST PETER'S Wives meet at 8pm on the third Tuesday of the month at Church House.

On September 18 Group Captain Dennis Rogers gave a talk on the work of the Sue Ryder Foundation and particularly the Sue Ryder Home, Joyce Grove, at Nettlebed. The majority of the beds are occupied by cancer patients. Any cancer sufferer may be referred for admittance to the home. Up to two patients suffering from Multiple Sclerosis and one motor neurose disease patient may also be eligible for short-term visits. There is no cost to the patient.

The speaker stressed that visitors to the Home are welcome. It may be possible to include a group visit in next year's programme of events.

October 16: Mrs Maureen Curd, from Hogg Robinson Travel: An illustrated travel talk.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on November 20. Members are invited to bring a few copies of a favourite recipe with samples if possible.

THE END IS NIGH

NOT a prophecy of doom but a source for thanksgiving and elation. The Church aims to complete the repayment of the outstanding loans to its Building Fund by May of next year. To this end a grand Autumn Fayre is being organised for November 16 and 17 when it is hoped that readers of the "Caversham Bridge" will look-in and do a little Christmas shopping. More details of this event appear in an advertisement in this issue.

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

THE Harvest Weekend started — it could be said, kicked-off — with a Barn Dance, the Barn being the upper hall in the Church. This was enjoyed equally by the participants and those whose interests are confined to spectator sports. The standard of dancing had to be seen to be believed and great credit is due to the callers who struggled manfully to make their instructions clear to an inattentive and somewhat boisterous mob. Having worked-up an appetite — as well as a lather — the assembled company descended to the Church, which had been tastefully decorated by Mrs Barbara Dove and her daughters, Ruth and Rachel, for supper of sausages, mash and one of the fifty-seven varieties of beans served piping hot by the young people of the Church who had assumed responsibility for the catering arrangements — and didn't they do well. Suitably replete and rested a number of stalwarts then indulged in a second session of dancing.

The Thanksgiving Services, led by the Minister, the Rev Dennis Weller, were delightfully traditional with the Children's Choir taking part in the Family Service and the Gospel Singers at Evening Praise. The Harvest produce was subsequently distributed as love gifts to elderly and sick friends.

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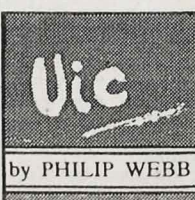
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ROUND THE CHURCHES

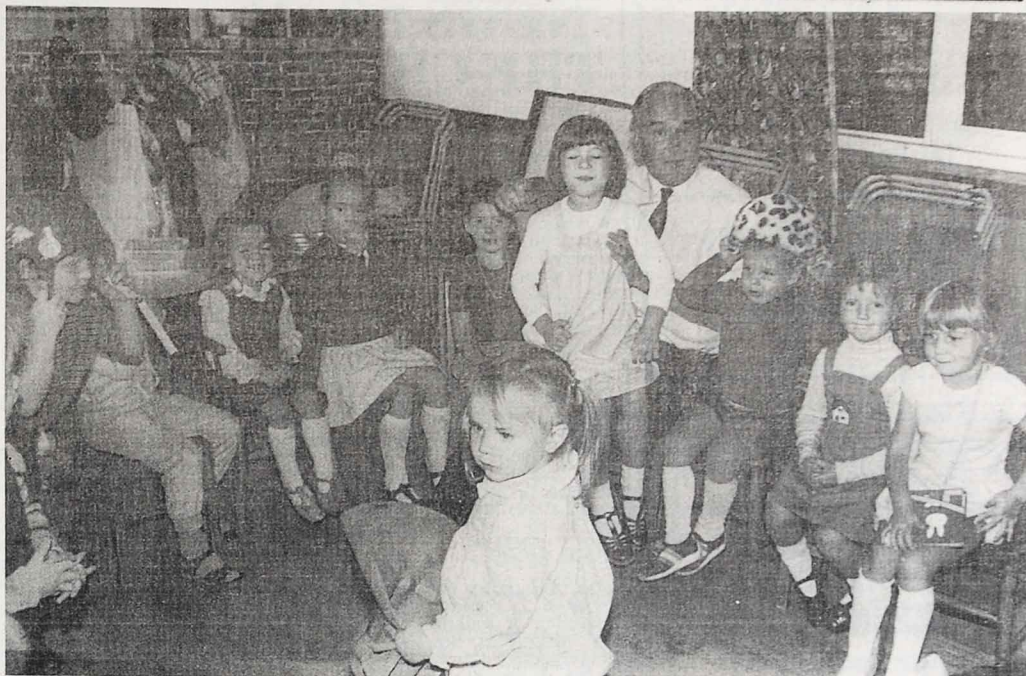
St Andrew's Playgroup

THE sixteenth birthday of the playgroup was celebrated with a visit by the Reading East MP, Sir Gerry Vaughan.

The playgroup opened on September 18th 1968 with nine children, three voluntary helpers and the fee was 1/6d per child. By the end of 1969 the number had increased to twenty-four children and days increased to two. Then by 1976 it was fulfilling a need in the community and open four mornings a week. By this time the group had a chairman, committee and band of willing helpers all busy with fund raising activities.

At the present time there are over thirty children on the register, and the fees are 85p a day. There is a supervisor, and seven regular helpers, but the group still relies on the valuable support and help from the mothers. The two major fund raising schemes this year have been 'A Recipe Roundup' and 'Autumn Fayre'.

Nineteen seventy-four was the beginning of the successful Mother and Toddlers Club. It was first held on a Thursday afternoon twice a month and now, in 1984, every Thursday morning.



■ Gerry Vaughan with children of St Andrew's Playgroup.

— E.S. ARCHER

ST. MARGARET'S NEWS

Welcome Gillian Rose

Monday, September 10th, was a very special day for St. Margaret's. It was almost six years since they had last met Gillian Rose, and suddenly she was able to visit in the evening and tell them all her news over coffee and biscuits at Trench Green Hall. Gillian is the nursing sister St. Margaret's supports in Bangladesh. She is in charge of a fifty bed teaching hospital at Bollobhpur. Home on eight weeks' leave, she was kind enough to find time to meet the congregation once again. It was a very happy gathering and

they learnt much about her work and life in Bangladesh, a country apparently riddled with corruption.

Three in every thousand people are Christians but in spite of these depressing figures, there is a steady trickle of people coming into the Christian Church. Like most minority groups the Christians tend to gather around the hospital where they have formed a village. No one embracing this faith stands the chance of gaining work of any importance so these people tend to have

the very ordinary jobs and can never better themselves. Sadly the few Christian doctors who are available refuse to work in the hospital as they want the better paid positions and it is extremely hard to find anyone to take on the work.



Much of Gillian's work is among Muslims. Food is plentiful but is too expensive for the poor to buy. There are school places available for children, but again those with almost no income cannot afford

to educate their family. Every child has to bring a pencil from home and parents cannot afford to buy them. So no pencil—no schooling. Anyway pencils get lost and so it is not just a case of being able to find money for one per child. Instead the children stay at home and help look after the cows or work in the fields. One wonderful piece of work St. Margaret's heard about was the Eye Camp when once or twice a year a doctor comes to the hospital to perform cataract operations. The actual operations take very little time and a crowd of two hundred will arrive from all round about plus their relatives to guide them.



Having met Gillian and heard her talk there is no doubt people feel far more enthusiastic about their support for her. St. Margaret's will be holding a jumble sale to raise one hundred pounds for her on Saturday November 10th at Rokeby Drive Hall, Tokers Green at 2.30 so look out for further notices in church and do your best to lend a hand with it in some form or another.



When St. Margaret's said goodbye to Gillian they were able to give her a cheque for an extra fifty pounds to use as she wishes at the hospital. Not much—but every little helps.

LINK GROUP

A MEETING was held on September 24th at the home of Mrs Lynda Bates. Members who were unable to help at the visit for mentally handicapped children to the Childe Beale Wildlife Trust on September 22nd were given a short account of the visit. This started with games and then lunch at the home of Mrs Doreen Bennett. The children (and their helpers) much enjoyed the adventure playground at the Wildlife Trust (Group) on November 21st to discuss co-ordination of the work of various 'helping' organisations in Caversham. Those present divided into two groups to con-

sider several questions to put to promote discussion. As a result all were in agreement that more co-operation between organisations is needed. It was felt that a meeting at which representatives of the many bodies working for all those in need in Caversham were present, would provide an excellent forum for the exchange of information and ideas. It was also agreed that the setting up of an office and filing system in a central position in Caversham would be a necessary part of any scheme. Finally members felt that any final plans would need very careful and widespread publicity to ensure that help would reach everybody in need.

Members were then given more details of the meeting being organised by the Community section of the Rotary Club (in conjunction with the Link Group) on November 21st to discuss co-ordination of the work of various 'helping' organisations in Caversham. Those present divided into two groups to con-

consider several questions to put to promote discussion. As a result all were in agreement that more co-operation between organisations is needed. It was felt that a meeting at which representatives of the many bodies working for all those in need in Caversham were present, would provide an excellent forum for the exchange of information and ideas. It was also agreed that the setting up of an office and filing system in a central position in Caversham would be a necessary part of any scheme. Finally members felt that any final plans would need very careful and widespread publicity to ensure that help would reach everybody in need.

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ROUND THE CHURCHES**NEWS FROM
THE CHAPEL**

EACH year at Caversham Hill Chapel we meet together as a fellowship for a weekend, to seek the Lord's direction for us as a church. This year we centred our weekend around the move to our new Worship Hall. On Friday evening we met in the Chapel to consider how we should "grow up" in the areas of worship, fellowship and witness. As we waited upon the Lord, we became aware that our aim must firstly be to please and glorify Him in all three areas.



On Saturday we enjoyed a relaxed afternoon of walking and playing at Binfield Heath, followed by tea all together in the Chapel. Then, from the youngest to the oldest, we gathered in the Worship Hall for the first time, for an hour of celebration and thanksgiving.

We were very pleased to welcome our builders, the Strong family, to our celebrations — though judging from the number of extra chairs that we had to

bring in to seat everyone, we may well be needing their professional services again very soon!

It was exciting to look back and see how the Lord has directed and blessed us in many ways through the whole building programme. Did you notice how mild and dry last winter was? We praise the Lord that His hand was upon the weather and we were enabled to work unhindered.

As we committed the new building to the Lord, He gave it back to us, and told us that the building is for us, but that what would be built in it will be for Him and His glory. It's truly wonderful to know that He will accomplish what He has said!



Sunday was yet another exciting and joyous day, reaching its climax in the evening worship service, when we witnessed eight baptisms, mainly members of our sixteen plus group. Looking back over the weekend as a whole, it is with a great sense of thanksgiving to God for His faithfulness and love to us as a group of His people.

**ST
ANNE'S
NEWS**

THE holiday spirit continued in the parish during the month of September: even Father Meagher succumbed to it and disappeared for a fortnight. The only activity to be reported was the nefarious and clandestine one of the dry rot which invaded a section of the church floor. This has been repaired, and we may even get compensation from the architect, as the problem may have been caused by damage done to the roof many years ago. But to return to undisputed, happier subjects: a parish sale (of Jumble plus Books and all sorts of goods...) held on September 15 realised £131.80.

Finally, as a preview to next month's issue, we offer tantalising hints of a Harvest Festival, a parish knit-in, and Forty Hours' Prayer. Order your copy now...

St Barnabas News

THE Church was packed for Harvest Festival on September 16. The Guides and Brownies and children from the Sunday School brought harvest gifts which were later taken to sick or house-bound people in Emmer Green, and to the Reading Emergency Accommodation Project at Brock Barracks.

The previous evening nearly eighty people enjoyed the Harvest Supper and

the Old Tyme Music Hall entertainment that followed it; there was such a wealth of talent! Our thanks to all who helped to arrange the Supper, all who prepared the food, all who sang, played (piano, flute, trombone, guitar, drums — though not all together!) or recited and (in Leonard Sach's style) "chiefly ourselves" who joined lustily in the singing of harvest hymns and community songs. Thanks too, to all who helped to

decorate the church ready for the Sunday.

**NEWS FROM OLD
CLERGY**

The Rev Raymond Hutchinson, priest-in-charge at St Barnabas' 1963-1965 is moving to the Quebec Diocese. There he will be in charge of St James', Farnham with St Thomas, Rougemont. Farnham has a population of 10,000, while Rougemont is orchard country with a Cistercian monastery. We wish him well in this exciting new ministry.

Open day at Springfield St Luke

— E. S. Archer

■ In spite of dull weather, a successful Open Day was held at Springfield St Luke, Surley Row, on the Saturday afternoon of September 8. The House and Chapel were open to visitors, and tea and biscuits were served. An amount of £110 was raised, which was sent to the Relief Fund in Ethiopia.

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ROUND THE CLUBS

EMMER GREEN TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

At the September meeting of the Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild, the chairman was pleased to announce that £33 was raised at the garden party held at Mrs Hutson's house in aid of the NSPCC.

Dr Petyt spoke on Historical, Geographical and Social Variations in Language. He pointed out that since the seventeenth century, our language was constantly changing, because of fashion, social status and the language of the courts, particularly in the South, and these changes did not occur in the North.

BLAGRAVE W.I.

Mrs Baker of Rural Home Economics was welcomed by the president, Mrs M. Popplewell on her first visit at the September meeting. A wide selection of attractive and appetizing "Supper Dishes" was quickly produced, which lucky members were later able to purchase and enjoy. The vote of thanks was given on behalf of members by Mrs M. Wright.

A competition for egg mayonnaise, judged by Mrs Baker, was won by Mrs Aldiss, second Mrs Peacock and third Mrs Housden.

An enjoyable outing to Bowood was organised by Mrs Ford during the month of August in which members from Mapledurham W.I. took part.

ROSEHILL W.I.

Though no meeting was held in August, from late July through the month no fewer than four members opened their gardens to members in aid of charities. This was very much enjoyed owing to the beautiful weather.

The institute reopened in September when Miss Vincent welcomed Mrs Noble, herself a W.I. member from Whitchurch, who kept members interested with her talk, illustrated with slides, entitled "Upper Thames Personalities," and mainly concerning Kenneth Grahame and The Wind in the Willows.

Members showed an exhibition of 'Unusual Holiday Cards'.

CAVERSHAM DARBY AND JOAN CLUB

The winter season commenced with an open day and a get together. On the next afternoon once again their dear Mrs Burden came to give the club an afternoon's entertainment on the piano. The next meeting was a card and do as you like meeting with a discussion regarding future programmes.

CAVERSHAM LADIES CLUB

Members were welcomed back after the August break. They were told that a plaque had been placed against the straw-

berry tree in Caversham Court, which had been donated by the club for "Plant a Tree for Reading" in 1981.

The meeting was then introduced to Mr. Norman Kent, publicity officer for the Caversham Branch of Save The Children Fund who gave a most informative talk on this organisation. Mr. Kent explained that membership could be obtained for £1 per annum. He was warmly thanked by Mrs Harwood for a most enjoyable afternoon.

The next meeting would be the Harvest Home.

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD "The Blue Nile Revealed"

Richard Snailham was the speaker at the September meeting of Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild at St Andrew's Hall, Caversham. More than two years ago he spoke about the expedition to Zaire in 1974. His book about the Zaire River was called "A Giant among Rivers." He reminded members about the current series on BBC2 on rivers. This time he told how after previous successful expeditions the Ethiopian Wildlife Department asked the leader, then Capt J. Blashford-Snell, to organise another in the Blue Nile region, its aim being to make a scientific survey in the wet season of 1968. In his expeditions Mr Snailham recorded the progress and accomplishments of the wonderfully well-planned mission and his talk with many humorous asides was much enjoyed. The main base was established next to the airstrip at Debra Marcos and a river party and others were formed. Archaeological and zoological features were noted and facts exchanged between groups. An example of how help was given to the local population was the removal of shrapnel from a man's face by a medical officer. Of all things the man had dropped an Italian shell from the war of the 30's into a fire.

The Black Gorge and western cataracts were surveyed. While surveying the hitherto completely unexplored region of the river south of Mota every imaginable hazard was encountered and sadly a corporal lost his life. There was a chance to meet the Emperor Haile Selassie afterwards in his capital. At that time there

were priests and orthodox Christians in the country, but since the Marxist revolution in 1974 it is no longer easy to get into Ethiopia. It is a tragic country because of the way drought affects certain areas.

The Drama Group is reading a new play and arrangements for the bazaar on 3rd November are now well in hand.

CHASEY W.I.

At the September meeting Dr. M. Latto and Mrs. Betty Blumer gave a talk and demonstration of vegetarian foods.

Dr. Latto said that people are becoming very health conscious for dietetic, humanitarian and economic reasons. Some countries have to be vegetarian because they lack other foods. A basic factor in the diet should be wholemeal bread.

Mrs Blumer then demonstrated how to make and knead wholemeal bread, the flour for which she buys from the mill at Mapledurham. She then showed dishes she had made, the ingredients of which are full of protein. Some of these were bean and brown rice salad, courgettes au gratin, and nut and vegburgers, which all looked very appetising.

At the end of the month there was a visit to the ballet in Oxford.

EMMER GREEN LEISURE TIME CLUB

The Leisure Time Club re-started on September 10th after a six week summer break. During that time, Sylvia Potter, who runs the club, held four coffee mornings and a bring-and-buy in her garden.

On Monday 17th September Joyce and Joan Tanner brought a collection of dresses to show and sell to club members; very useful for those club members who cannot easily go shopping.

On 24th September the members enjoyed being entertained by the Kidmore End Singers. Sylvia would be pleased to hear of any individuals or groups who would be willing to provide entertainment for them. Please contact her with offers — 475260.

This year, instead of having a Christmas Fair, the Leisure Time Club are having a stall at the Mayor's Market on Thursday November 29th at the Hexagon.

The club meets in St Barnabas' Hall every Monday (except the first Monday in the month) at 2.15. Transport can be arranged

for those who would otherwise find it difficult to get there. For more details phone Sylvia 475260.

CAVERSHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The bazaar, held by the members on the 1st September, was enjoyed by both stall holders and visitors. The stalls included handicrafts, cakes, White Elephant, books, plants and grocery. There were various competitions and games to keep children and adults busy. Refreshments were available and the chance of a sit-down and a chat was appreciated by many. The sum of approximately £125 was raised for club funds.

The Arthur Legge Centre was closed for the first three weeks in September because of work being carried out on the premises. The members were, therefore, not able to meet there until the 24th September when a whist-drive was arranged. Prizewinners were Evelyn Wallace and Beryl Latcham. Gladys Chandler received the consolation prize.

There was a meeting, however, on the 10th September when some of the members gathered at the Civic Centre for a visit to the Mayor's Parlour. After being greeted by the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr and Mrs Ron Jewitt, they were shown the Civic Plate, the mayoral and civic robes and regalia. Mr. M. Hehir, the macebearer, gave an interesting and amusing talk and afterwards conducted the members around the Council Chamber. It was then time to leave after a very pleasant evening.

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The twenty-four members of the Council are drawn from local authorities, voluntary organisations and other sections of the community. They form an experienced independent group, representing your health care interests.

Council meetings held regularly are open to the public and notes are put in the local press

The influence and effectiveness of the Council depends on the weight of public opinion behind it. Views, ideas, proposals or complaints on any aspect of local health affairs — from individuals or from community or other groups — are welcome.

The more views that come to hand the better the Council can act on your behalf.

For further information, call or telephone our friendly staff
John Stevens (Secretary), 10 Gun Street, Reading
(behind Heelas) Telephone Reading 595678

A CONVENIENT SOLUTION

The problem of what to do with the Victorian ironwork lavatories at Caversham Bridge seems at last to have been happily settled. Various plans to convert them into a tea room have been submitted over the past few years but for various reasons have not been taken up. Having built new vandal-proof (or so it is hoped) loos on the other side of the bridge, the Borough Council is understandably reluctant to spend a penny on preserving this almost unique little structure, though to their credit equally reluctant just to knock it down.

A solution has now emerged. A member of Caversham Residents' Association, visiting the Chiltern Open Air Museum at Chalfont St Giles, found the loos there somewhat on a par with their early and more primitive buildings.

She dropped a word in the ear of one of the officials about some splendid redundant lavatories in need of conservation and still able to

perform sterling service. The result is that negotiations are now in hand to transfer them to Newlands Park where they will continue to perform their original function. We shall be sad to see them leave their native heath, but glad to know that they have departed to a new life. We are also promised that the spare land beside the bridge will be landscaped to a high standard, something that has been sadly lacking over the years.

THIS THING

Admittedly the Caversham Court gazebo needs more than a penny spending on it, though a sum not all that much larger in today's terms would have saved it if it had been spent when deterioration first set in. However, £5,000 is now required to complete the task of renovation and give it some use. The Trust which has been raising and trying to raise money to restore it

was given to understand earlier this year that, formalities apart, the money would be forthcoming. Over the years members of the Trust have become increasingly sceptical of official pronouncements on this matter, and although it appeared that everything was sewn up, they postponed getting out the champagne. Their pessimism was justified.

When it came to the crunch the Leisure Committee said No. A few members attempted to soften the blow by suggesting various sources of help which the Trust had already explored. Labour Councillor Dave Absalom, who admittedly represents and lives far over on the other side of the town, said it had to be the lowest priority. Tory Geoff Canning, who lives in Caversham, so he should have known better, said he couldn't see people queuing up "to stand on this thing and look at the river."

Fred Pugh alone said that if the task already begun was not completed, the money was as good as wasted. Fred could afford to be a little more optimistic as at least the gazebo is now weatherproof and won't fall down. But this was intended only as a beginning.

BETTER THAN EXPECTED

The pessimism that greeted the news that Prospect Street was to be excavated all over the summer turned out to be unjustified. The outcry resulted in a promise to make every attempt to get the work done in two months instead of three and in the event it was completed well within that time. Careful planning and the consideration of the workmen kept disruption to a minimum. They were prepared to move equipment to facilitate deliveries and went out of their way to help pedestrians in difficulties. Moreover, the time-

honoured British custom of watching men at work in the road could once more be indulged in. It was fascinating to see that heavy machinery being manipulated to scoop, pat and smooth as if it were a garden trowel.

So now Prospect Street is all even and back to normal again, with the reassuring knowledge that underneath all is well.

The one-way system seems to have pleased motorists, except when they were trying

to get to and from car parks, and displeased residents in Westfield Road. As far as cars went, it probably made little difference to the numbers using it in total, but some of those managed to get up a speed unsuitable for a residential road. The strongest plank in their platform is the number of buses and heavy lorries that were diverted along their road. It is certainly not suitable for that type of traffic.

Any decision that is finally reached about whether or not to re-

introduce a one-way system must take these factors into consideration.

HEMDEAN VALLEY

The battle to save Hemdean Valley continues and most people are now thinking in terms of preparing their case for the Public Inquiry which will eventually take place. The address to which to write will be announced, and anyone missing it can inquire from the Planning Office or the Residents' Association (472300 or 472741). Local objectors may also speak at the Inquiry. You do not need to be an expert. Your local knowledge can be equally valuable.



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ST PETER'S CUB CAMP

ST Peter's Cub Camp was held near Arundel in Sussex. On arrival at the site we found the Scout hut locked and shuttered so we set about erecting tents and a dining shelter hoping that the Warden would soon appear. We then decided we would have to cook our first meal of spaghetti bolognese over Calor gas stoves; this was followed by Angels Delight and tinned fruit. We thought we had passed our first initiative test quite well!! The Warden eventually arrived, so we were able to finish unloading the van and to settle in.

On Sunday we held a Scouts Own service on site as the church was quite a distance from us — Cubs throughout camp prepared prayers morning and evening and these were very thoughtful and imaginative. In the afternoon we had an exploratory walk through the woods surrounding the camp.

Monday we spent making camp gadgets, then Cubs cooked beef stew and apple fritters, preparing all vegetables, etc. In the afternoon they started building shelters out of natural materials then each Six

gathered wood to light a fire on which to cook twists.

Tuesday was a very hot day which we spent at the Weald and Downland Museum of ancient buildings near Chichester. We saw a charcoal burner at work and several Cubs were able to help the blacksmith make a small horseshoe which we intend making into a trophy.

Wednesday we set off on our nine mile hike along the South Downs to Bignor Roman Villa. In contrast to the previous

day, it rained on and off all day, but we were well prepared. We met a group of young people from the Conservation Corps building a new wooden fence at a high spot on the Downs. One of them was an Italian girl Scout and we exchanged some badges and our addresses in the rain! She was very excited to have met us. On arrival at the villa we sheltered under some trees to eat our packed lunches, then went in the villa which also houses a museum. The mosaics are very well pre-

served. At the end of the hike we had only suffered wet shoes and socks, mainly due to having to walk through long grass.

On Thursday we went swimming in Arundel outdoor pool, after which we had fish and chips and then went shopping for souvenirs. Arriving back at camp we lit fires so that we could cook Cheese Dreams and more twists.

Friday we visited the Chalkpits Industrial Museum at Amberley where we could ride on a little railway and on top of an open double-

decker bus. The main attraction was an old hand pump to fill buckets with water! We saw a printer at work at his old press and visited a wireless and telegraph exhibit.

On the last evening we held our camp fire with the Cubs providing several stunts.

During the week all boys learn to look after their tents and personal equipment and despite heavy rain on several occasions, no water entered their tents.

A new group of Cubs passed their Camper badge and many Explorer badges were gained.



■ Cubs and Cub leaders.

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FROM BACH TO BEATLES

"VARIATIONS", a local singing group of nine mixed voices are faced with some difficulty. At Christmas their two tenors are leaving.

The five ladies and four men have been singing together for seven years and happily combine a lot of fun with serious singing. They perform

mostly in the Thames Valley Area, and sometimes beyond, and their music is middle of the road with some up tempo Bach thrown in for full measure.

The group would

like to replace their tenor section as soon as possible before their season begins. Any tenor interested in joining Variations should phone Mortimer 332297 or Reading 416081.

Caversham Clergy

ANGLICAN

The Rev Richard Kingsbury, Caversham Rectory, Church Road. Tel: 479230.

(Parish Office: Monday - Thursday 9.30 - 12.30. Tel: 471703).

The Rev Peter Sear, St Barnabas House, 33 Grove Road. Tel: 473095.

The Rev David Milling, St Andrew's House, Harrogate Road. Tel: 472788.

The Rev Graham Lynch-Watson, 51 Galsworthy Drive. Tel: 475152.

The Rev Alan Wilson, St John's House, 9 South View Avenue. Tel: 471814.

The Rev Peter Mullins, 25 Ilkley Road, Caversham. Tel: 472070.

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ANGLICAN

St Peter's

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9.15am PARISH COMMUNION
11.15am Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Sundays)
11.15am Matins (2nd and 4th Sundays)
6.30pm Evensong

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

St Barnabas

8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST
4pm Evensong (2nd Sunday)

St Margaret's, Mapledurham

8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday)
11.00am PARISH COMMUNION

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

10.30am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH (Caversham Park Primary School)

11.00am FAMILY COMMUNION (1st and 3rd Sundays)
MORNING WORSHIP (2nd and 4th Sundays)

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

10.30am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

METHODIST

Caversham

11.00am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

Caversham Heights

8am Holy Communion (1st Sunday)
11.00am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Anne's

9.00am, 11.00am (also Saturdays 5.30pm)

Our Lady of Caversham

8.30 and 10.30am, 5pm Mass

St Martin's School

9.15am Mass

Mapledurham House

6.00pm Mass (last Sunday)

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

There is no URC in Caversham. The nearest is in York Road over Caversham Bridge. Morning worship 11am Evening worship 6.30pm

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WE RECORD

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September 23—Carolyn Myatt
Benjamin Ponting

St Anne's
August 26—Benjamin Deaton
Lucy Collett
September 2—Melisse Smyth

BELIEVERS BAPTISM

Chapel on the Hill
September 16—Michael Peck
Rosemarie Peck
Robert White
Gail Tait
Joanna Cooper
Simon Clark
Simon Jackson
Jason Bowman

MARRIED

St Anne's
September 1—Kevin Tomkinson and Heather Samuels
Michael Kennedy and Jean Eyles

St Barnabas
September 22—Peter Ashby and Denise Main

THE CHURCH AND THE CHILDREN

ST ANDREW'S Sunday School meets in St Andrew's Hall 9.15am. Contact Mrs Sheila Ivens (477180) or Mr Peter Watsham (478744).

ST BARNABAS Sunday School in the Hall 9.15am. Contact Mrs Jean Carroll, 45 Brooklyn Drive (472598). (Also Children's Service last Sunday in the month).

ST JOHN'S Nursery Church (for children up to 8 years) in church during the Sunday eucharist at 9.15am. Family Service 1st Sunday in the month at 11am (mainly for children over 4 years).

ST PETER'S Sunday School meets in the Rectory at 9.15am (except 2nd Sunday which is Parade Service). "Cherubim" Club for babies and pre-school children in church every Thursday at 2.30pm

ST MARGARET'S (MAPLEDURHAM) Family Workshop 2nd Saturday of each month 10am-12 noon. Contact Mrs Heather Robinson, 4 Hilltop Road (476873). Sunday School meets at Trench Green Hall 10.45 every Sunday except the first Sunday of the month.

CAVERSHAM PARK At Caversham Park School 11am. Contact Mrs Paula Andrews, 5 Gifford Close (478430).

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST Junior Church — Sundays 11am. Youth Squash — Sundays 8pm.

GOSBROOK ROAD METHODIST CHURCH Bee-Gees — Sundays 10.15am. Sunday School — Sundays 11am Young Peoples Club — Sundays 7.30pm.

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH 10.30am Creche — up to three years. Beginners, juniors and seniors three to 14 years. Fourteen Plus Group. Secretary: Mrs J. Morgan, 7 Grove Road, (Sonning Common 72-3704).

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November 14—1 Lombard Avenue (Carol Alder)
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ST JOHN'S CHURCH AUTUMN BAZAAR

on Saturday, November 10th at 2pm in Caversham Hall, St John's Road, Caversham. Proceeds to mission hospitals.

The Editors wish to thank contributors for the material submitted for this month but regret that a number of non-topical articles have had to be held over.

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