



CAVERSHAM

BRIDGE

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# NINE HOURS—Record Breaker



■ The Rev Richard Kingsbury in full flow.

— Courtesy Reading Chronicle

IT TAKES nine LONG hours to fly from Heathrow to Seattle. When the Rev Richard Kingsbury preached his Sponsored Sermon in aid of Save the Children Fund on December 8 the nine hours from 8.30am to 5.30pm passed, for the listeners, in what seemed like half that time. He told us that he intended to preach on a subject on which he had never preached before—The Seven Ages of Man—nor would he preach on it again. We were, therefore, treated to a unique performance.



As he climbed into the pulpit at exactly 8.30am—in his clerical shirt sleeves—the 13 people who were there at the commencement, muffled up to their eyebrows in thick sweaters, overcoats and fur-lined boots, wondered just how long he could exist with such flimsy attire. (He donned his jacket around 11am).

Richard Kingsbury described to us The Seven Ages of Man:

First the Infant, mewling and puking in the nurse's arms... The Schoolboy—whining unwillingly to school... The Lover—sighing like a furnace... The Soldier—full of strange oaths... The Justice, in fair round belly with good capon lin'd... The sixth age shifts into the lean and slipped panta-loon... Last scene of all—is second childishness, and mere oblivion.

As he led us through each age he surprised us by his inspiring, challenging and stimulating manner, his apparent lack of awareness of television cameras, microphones, flashes from cameras, people walking about, knitting,

and the cost of the weekend, including full board, is £22. There is always a sprinkling of other denominations on the courses, and it would be good if Caversham Churches could be well represented—lay, or clergy, or both. So why not give it a try—you can be certain of an inspiring, challenging and stimulating weekend, whatever your age.

For further information either ring John Frew on 472140, or the Luton Industrial College on 0582 29374.

John Frew

drinking coffee, all considerations of race, nationality or creed.

2. The Child must be cared for with due respect for the family as an entity.  
3. The Child must be given the means requisite for its normal development, materially, morally and spiritually.  
4. The Child that is hungry must be fed, the child that is sick must be nursed, the child that is mentally or physically handicapped must be helped, the maladjusted child must be re-educated, the orphan and the waif must be sheltered and succoured.

5. The Child must be the first to receive relief in time of distress.  
6. The Child must enjoy the full benefits provided by social welfare and social security schemes, must receive a training which will enable it, at the right time, to earn a livelihood, and must be protected against every form of exploitation.

7. The Child must be brought up in the consciousness that its talents must be devoted to the service of its fellow-men.

As the clock chimed for the 36th time Richard Kingsbury—preacher extraordinaire—finished his "marathon" amid loud applause.

To refer back to his subject—The Seven Ages of Man—Richard Kingsbury had stressed that the world was full of children who would never progress through all those seven stages—indeed it is unlikely that many will ever get beyond the first age and it is this horrifying state of affairs that the Save the Children Fund strives unceasingly to correct. Their aims are the principles set out in the "Declaration of the Rights of the Child" drafted by Eglantyne Jebb—the founder of the Save the Children Fund;  
1. The Child must be protected beyond and above

How appropriate—Seven Ages of Man—Seven Rights of the Child.

The Committee of the Caversham Branch of Save the Children Fund would like to thank the Rev Richard Kingsbury for agreeing to help them in this unique way, incidentally breaking a previous preaching record by another Minister, by one hour. As a result of his efforts, a total of over £1,500 to date has been raised to help starving children.

Janet Offord  
Hon. Secretary  
Save the Children Fund  
Caversham Branch

## MISSION TO SUBURBIA

ABOUT a year ago the "Caversham Bridge" carried a front page article on the Luton Industrial College, describing its aims, organisation, facilities and courses. Particular reference was made to the Mission to Suburbia Course run in March, and subsequently attended by twelve people from Caversham, including two of the Editorial Board of the "Caversham Bridge." It was deemed a great success by all who went, and thoroughly recommended. All were impressed by the

efficiency of the College, organisation, and the quality of the lecturers.

The course is being run again this year, and the dates are April 19 to 21 (Friday 8.30pm to Sunday 2.30pm). The syllabus has now been published, and the lecturers will be:

"The Kingdom of God" by Brian Hoare—lecturer at Cliff College;

"Theological Tensions in Suburbia" by John Walker—Minister in Bournemouth;

"Strategy and Resources for Mission" by Bill Gowland—Principal of

Luton Industrial College;

"Impact of Technology on Man and Society" by Edgar Boyes—formerly I.C.I. Research Manager.

This is an impressive syllabus led by four first-class lecturers. The Course Chaplain is the Rev B. Arthur Shaw, ex-President of the Methodist Conference, whom many at Caversham Heights Church will remember for the excellent services he conducted last May.

Accommodation in this modern College is in single study-bedrooms,

and the cost of the weekend, including full board, is £22. There is always a sprinkling of other denominations besides Methodists on the courses, and it would be good if Caversham Churches could be well represented—lay, or clergy, or both. So why not give it a try—you can be certain of an inspiring, challenging and stimulating weekend, whatever your age.

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John Frew

D/EX 1758/22/2



# TALKING POINT

By the Rev Peter Mullins, recently ordained curate at St Peter's and St Margaret's

## WHERE WOULD YOU BEGIN?

IN 1969 there was war in Angola and a tribe called the Hambukushu fled together and settled in a number of villages around the Okarango Swamp in Botswana on land given them by the local people. The Churches in Botswana wanted to tell them about Christ so they asked if an English missionary would go out and begin work among them.

About the same time a man called Ronald Wynne who had just retired from being a missionary in South America felt a call to preach "to a people who had never heard the name of Christ." So he went.

What do you think he did? What do you think you would have tried to do if you were in his place? In fact for a couple of years he did nothing. He listened. He learnt their language, but he learnt much more. He learnt what their customs were and what made them laugh and what they felt about their migration...



And then he began to teach them some of the Old Testament stories about the Exodus, because he felt that these were stories which would mean more to them. It was only after a couple more years that he began to tell them about what Christ meant to him and baptised the first converts.

Now there is a flourishing Church in the area, Ronald Wynne has returned home and local leadership is being trained. They celebrate the Eucharist on their own traditional altars covered in grass mats and they continue to pray for their ancestors and for those not yet born, with Christ made known among them.

Since leaving college in the summer and coming to work as a clergyman in Caversham and Mapledurham I have

told many people that story. In one way I greatly envy Ronald Wynne because he had the chance to spend so long listening before he had to speak. If I was to wait two years before I began to preach I wonder where I would begin? Where would you begin?

Would I begin with the stories of the Exodus? These were the stories which were the starting point for Jesus' own disciples, and for the Hambukushu, and for many in Central America today. Of course few people in Caversham have had to migrate from one place to another, but that is not the point. Would it be best to begin by telling them that the nature of my God is to bring them from feeling enslaved or restricted to a place where they are free to be as He wants them? If I listened would I feel that is what they needed to hear?



Or would I begin at the heart of the gospel, with the incarnation? I write this three days before Christmas as I prepare to preach about God present as man in Christ. If I listened would I hear that people feel abandoned? If there is a God, they feel, He has nothing to do with them, and how could He allow so much suffering anyway. Would it be best to begin by telling them that the nature of my God is to be with us (Emmanuel = 'God with us') and alongside us?

Or would I begin one stage back from all this? I remember a school chaplain asking me what I thought the greatest spiritual need of his pupils was. I was a little puzzled by the question until I guessed that their greatest spiritual need probably was to know that they had such things as spiritual needs. If I listened would I begin by exploring with them what it means to be human before I could ever begin to tell my stories about what God means to me? Or would I find another starting point?

In "The Hitch-hikers Guide to the Galaxy" they only realised that they wanted to know what "the ultimate question" was after they found out the answer! I feel a little bit like that. I have learnt many answers but they are not really useful unless I know what questions are being asked.

Perhaps you would like to think where you would begin, or to think which the questions are that you hear being asked. Either way may the Gospel always come to you as fresh good-news, and may Jesus Christ be praised.



## Postbag

### WHAT KIND OF EXAMPLE?

Dear Sir,

A FEW weeks back a leading Daily Paper criticised a "Teachers for Peace" organisation with such words as "Schools most sinister lesson", and "How the insidious battle for the minds of the nation's children was being fought in the classrooms by teachers intent on propagating the unilateral nuclear disarmament message". Now that raises questions on a very important issue, such as: Is it sinister to discuss with school children wiser and more humane ways of peace making, when their future wellbeing is at stake, than the stockpiling of vast quantities of arms that kill and maim men, women and children; to counteract the continual indoctrination and brain-washing that "Arms means safety"? Is it not sinister and insidious to allow members of the Armed Forces into schools, offering employment, fun and games, with the end

purpose of teaching them how to use weapons that kill, etc. mentioned above?

And what of the teaching of R.E., a gospel of "Good News", non-violence, of love, compassion, forgiveness, of goodwill among men? Is that to be forbidden as "sinister"? An insidious battle for children's minds? Yes, there is a battle, though not a sinister one, but a search for true peace which is God's wish for all mankind. Instead of demeaning attempts at genuine peacemaking, ought we not to question the teaching in schools of English history where battles, exploits and "victories" are highlighted, glamourised and the "killer" spirit is fostered?

There's a hymn we used to sing, though seldom do now, maybe because we've lost faith or vision or hope, but battles are not won that way, but on the last lap, by those who endure to the end. The hymn is by Ernest Dodgson,

and contains the following verse:  
"Too long the pagan rule of force  
Has held the world in thrall,  
Too long the clash of arms has drowned  
The higher human call.  
O comrades, seek a nobler quest!  
A keep, a worthier trust!  
The laws of hate have had their day;  
Proclaim the laws of Christ!"

The battle for disarmament continues unabated in accord with Christ's teaching: Would that men and nations had the faith and the will to follow that aim and that teaching; to use the conference table instead of weapons of destruction, for that would be a tremendous step towards bringing in God's Kingdom for which we pray and work. But then, what kind of example are WE setting?

Yours etc

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

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

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# ALL FOR THE LOVE OF A LADY

DURING the sixteen hundreds Caversham Park was owned by William, first Earl of Craven, for many years. He was born in 1606, the son of wealthy parents. His father, also William, was sent to London by common carrier at the age of about thirteen from his home in Yorkshire at Appleton, near Craven. There in the great city he was apprenticed to one Robert Hudson, citizen and merchant taylor. In true Dick Whittington style he made his fortune, married Elizabeth Whitmore, daughter of a wealthy London alderman and became Sir William Craven and a Lord Mayor of London.

It may have been that Lady Elizabeth Craven bought Caversham Park. She lost her husband while her son was still a boy, and during the early part of her widowhood she is known to have invested much of her late husband's fortune in estates including Coombe Abbey in Warwickshire and another in Berkshire at Hampstead Marshall, which was burnt down in 1718.

William junior was destined to lead a long and somewhat sad life, and died in 1679 in his early nineties.

On March 4, 1627, he was knighted by Charles I. Eight



■ A picture of Caversham Park c. 1920. This would not have been the house that belonged to Lord Craven for since his time two fires almost completely burnt out this stately home, one in the mid seventeenth hundreds, and one in 1850. Each time the house was rebuilt.

days later he was made Baron Craven of Hampstead Marshall and shortly afterwards named a member of the Permanent Council of War.

It is believed he went to Trinity College, Oxford, but by the age of seventeen he had already begun a military career and entered the service of Prince Maurice of Orange.

He was a staunch supporter of the Royalist Cause to which he gave much financial assistance

during the Civil War. This led, on the death of the King, to loss of his estates including Caversham Park.

## A Queen of Hearts

Not only was he generous to his monarch, he was even more so to Charles' sister Elizabeth, to whom he gave complete devotion during her lifetime, though he never in fact married her. An extremely attractive woman, often called the Queen of Hearts, she most certainly won the heart and loyalty of William, Earl of Craven.

Elizabeth married the Elector Palatine in 1613 when she was seventeen and is believed to have actively encouraged him to accept the crown of Bohemia in 1619, this against the advice of his counsellors.

It proved to be a chastening experience for the Elector and Elizabeth for they only ruled for one winter (1619-20) before they were forced to flee to The Hague and live in exile. It was here in 1632 that the young soldier earl first met his adored "Winter Queen," by now a widow. Ever generous, he lent one of her sons a large sum of money

and later took up arms on her behalf. This adventure ended in his becoming a prisoner of war. He was released on his payment of twenty thousand pounds.

## No meat, bread or candles

During the Civil War the pension of ten thousand pounds a year ceased to be paid to Elizabeth by Parliament and she was in such distress that she was forced to write to William "...I have no more to eat. There is no money, no credit for any and this week if there be none found I shall have neither meat, nor bread, nor candles." Needless to say William saw that all was well. Indeed he actually paid her the forfeited pension yearly until her financial difficulties eased.

After the execution of her brother he became a permanent member of the Winter Queen's household, first at the Hague and later near Arnheim.

At last the Restoration came and Craven followed Charles II to England, regaining most of his estates, including Caversham Park. On his return he was given many honours and offices, and he for

Craven" whilst others referred to him as "the little mad my lord."

However at his death he was described as a very generous man, not only to the exiled Queen but also to the general unfortunate.

In all the correspondence between the Earl and the Queen of Hearts there appears to have been no word of love — only deep devotion and loyalty on his part, and on hers that of friendship — no more. However Elizabeth must have been touched by his loyalty and affection for in her will she left him all her papers and pictures. Many of her family portraits can be seen at Ashdown House (National Trust) which also belonged to the Earl and which he is reputed to have built for Elizabeth

should she need to flee from the Plague which ever since the turn of the century had broken out in London and elsewhere. Alas she died from this very sickness before she ever had the chance to live amongst the peace and quietness of the countryside in which it was built. For thirty five more years the Earl lived without his Queen until he died on April 9, 1697, at Pinley, near Coventry where he was finally laid to rest.

Many at Court found him a figure of fun and he was known to some as "Little Lord

Riding like a madman  
Peyps described

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# KATY IN CAVERSHAM

I'M WRITING this on New Year's Day. No, I'm not going to bore you with my resolutions because I'm not making any; I really don't need to, seeing that I appear to have been "taken over" recently. Believe it or not, I'm more or less devoted to the cause of peace-at-any-price. Any cause I espouse or campaign I wage has to be as a member of a large group; I'll stand outside Greenham Air Base chanting slogans with the best of them, but seldom have the gump to tackle anyone on a one-to-one basis, if an issue arises.

**Speaking out**

Suddenly all that has changed. It really began when my temper got the better of me on a train recently, seeing two European gentlemen (Oops, my racialism is showing!) hogging four seats while two elderly ladies stood in the corridor. Having successfully tackled that problem I got carried away a bit later and proceeded to berate two youngsters at King's Cross who were giving the ticket collector the benefit of their entire vocabulary. Why, I thought, should I have to listen to such filth in public, so I rushed in where normally I'd have crept meekly by.

Now I come to the sticky point, because my third attempt to put the world to rights was here in Caversham, when I held forth about people who parked on double

yellow lines — yes, honestly, I'd actually found a policeman making out a ticket in Prospect Street.

Am I sorry? Well, I don't know; nobody wants to make enemies, least of all an arrant coward like me. But perhaps we should speak up more often. And it really is just not fair for motorists to park on double yellow lines or on pavements in a street as narrow as Prospect Street. Don't people realise how dangerous it is? Motorists do have a problem in Caversham when the car parks are full, but please don't solve it at the expense of the rest of us. Oh! well, I sincerely hope I've not lost a reader.

**OXFAM and others**

So much for the brickbats — what about a few bou-

quets. I really do wish more readers would write to the "Bridge" about shopkeepers in their area — as I've said before, I'm limited, geographically speaking, and what I say about "my" shops probably applies just as well to those in other areas. I've just been reminded, for instance, that the grocers at the top of Hemdean Road is one of the best and gives excellent service. And there must be lots of others.

Anyway, to return to my own shops. Our OXFAM shop is one of the best I've ever visited and despite its somewhat cramped conditions everything is well laid out and it's always worth a visit. Actually, I'm wandering from the point — this time I've been asked to pass on a big thank-you from the staff to all the customers who shopped there recently, brought in things for sale and, most of all, donated sums of money, often the result of fasting. They've been overwhelmed by the response to their appeals.

High on my own N.Y. Honours List is the Prospect Street Post Office which coped admirably during the Christmas period, the hardware shop on

the corner where the staff can never take too much trouble, the florists — a lovely blaze of colour on a dull winter's day — the bookshop, which is shortly moving further down the street, and several others. I can't remember them all.

Prospect Street looks like living in 1985. We've now got our own ladies' and children's wear shop, the new coffee bar or bistro presents a pleasing appearance, and the furniture shop is great to browse in and not nearly as expensive as I'd supposed it would be. We've got one of the friendliest hairdressers in the district (and please write and let me know about others) and — most important — we've got the vets and pet shop, both of whom give excellent service.

**All Creatures Great and Small**

Where I'd be without the last two I can't imagine, as we've now acquired a third cat, a little stray which we tried desperately hard to place as it looked in such good condition it must have been well cared for. Unfortunately it had obviously been seriously frightened before putting its paws gingerly through our cat door.

We seem to have got highly involved in the animal world these days and I know other people

are worried about missing cats and dogs, strays and so on. So I feel I really should end with a list of telephone numbers, stressing that all these people work voluntarily so please don't expect them to do impossibilities — and please, please, if your particular problem is solved, do ring back and tell those you've previously alerted.

**Petwatch** are concerned about missing animals and keep a register of missing and found animals. The numbers to ring are 665918 (for cats) and 26340 (dogs). Petwatch hope to plan fundraising events in the New Year, so if you're an animal lover, do watch out for them.

The new **Animal Rescue Centre** in Queen's Road is under considerable pressure while they are getting established, so please don't just turn up with a stray animal without warning; give them a call on 475514.

Mrs Compton, who helped with clearing the wild cats from the back of Liptons, will be only too happy to give advice (691231) but is positively **unable to take animals in**. And don't forget Radio 210 (413131) willingly broadcasts messages about lost animals.

If anyone has further numbers or advice, we'd be pleased to publish them.

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# CHRISTMAS ROUND THE SCHOOLS

A selection of photographs taken by Mr E. S. Archer of special Christmas plays and carols that took place in some of the local primary schools.



■ THE HILL SCHOOL. "Golden Goose" Christmas play



■ EMMER GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL. Old Time Music Hall concert



■ CAVERSHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL. "The People's King"



■ CAVERSHAM PARK SCHOOL. Carol concert.

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# ROUND THE CHURCHES

## ST. PETER'S NEWS

CHRISTINGLE reminded those comes to St. Peter's.

ADVENT Sunday saw the beginning of a new tradition at St. Peter's, when a Christingle Service was held in the late afternoon. It attracted a good congregation of about 200, a high number for a first venture. The Rev Peter Mullins and a band of keen helpers had prepared the Christingles earlier. Each one consisted of an orange (the world), dried fruits and sweets (the fruits of the earth) on four sticks (the four corners of the earth), a candle stuck in the centre (the light of Christ) and a red ribbon round the centre (the blood of Christ). The church lights were lowered and as each child walked to the chancel steps it received a Christingle, the candle was lit and was walked back, oh so carefully and with such wonder, to the pew. Enough had been prepared for other "children of all ages" to participate and the church glowed with light and pleasure.

Mr William Sayer, the Senior Lay Organiser of the Church of England Children's Society, gave a short address on the work of the Society, holidays many under whose auspices the service had been arranged. He

presented those different gifts to be shared and how people in Caversham could help those in need. There were many children under stress, some handicapped, also some who could not remain in their own families and these were some of the children the Society helped. A collection was taken for this work.

The Christingle idea was Moravian in origin and although well established 500 years ago, only came to this country within the last 40-50 years. The service is an excellent way of supporting such a worthwhile organisation and it will clearly go from strength to strength in the years to come.

The Carol Service and the Christmas services were very well attended and the season also brought into action an attempt to keep the church open for some time during the day from Monday to Friday. At present, the hours from 11am to 2pm are covered and although before Christmas this open period was hardly used, certainly during the Christmas holidays many people came in to see the decorations and for a quiet moment. It is sad

that the church can only remain open while volunteers are there to sit in it, but kind people are using this as a discipline in an effort to respond to what is clearly a need. As the word gets around, it is hoped that more people will take the opportunity to come inside. If any readers would care to join the rota of volunteers, please get in touch with Mr John Stratford, 35 Peppard Road, Caversham. Tel. 475350.

## ST ANNE'S NEWS

APPROPRIATELY enough in a season of giving and good will, there were a number of appeals and of good responses to appeals in December. Fr Meagher asked parishioners to think carefully about the needs of the parish and about the idea of planned giving using offertory envelopes, further helped by signing a covenant.

Sister Anne thoughtfully reminded people with mission boxes to return them by December 31 in order to have the benefit of all collected half-pence pieces which cease to be legal tender after that date. Responses to appeals included the



GILLIAN NICOL, second from left, with Kate Parker, Claire Richardson and Amanda Owen, the first pupils of The Abbey School, Reading, to gain the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Standard Awards.

GILLIAN Nicol of Kidmore Road, Caversham, was invited to St James's Palace recently to receive

her certificate on the completion of the gold standard of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme. Gillian, Abbey School, Reading, is now

Queen's Guide, studying for a degree in geography at King's College, London.

## ST JOHN'S NOTES

THE Brownies raised their annual contribution to the Save the Children Fund by a thirty minute sponsored silence. Mothers remarked that if their daughters would be quiet for thirty minutes at home they would double their sponsor money. Fathers did not believe it was possible anyway. Brown Owl supplied scissors and used stamps to trim, set her oven pinger, and — the hush happened! When the pinger signalled the end of the thirty minutes there were shouts of triumph — and the Brownies had raised £75.

Hasn't the garden strip along the sides of the Scout/Guides hut looked well kept these last few months? The Cubs/Scouts had a colourful show of marigolds and sunflowers. The Brownies have planted nasturtiums, pansies, bulbs and five jasmine roots in their strip. Eventually there will be flowers around the hut the year through. The Guides are helping to care for the church garden. They too have planted bulbs — and would be grate-

ful for any spare seedlings in the very up-to-date form, as they came along with a tape recording of "Banties to stop and daid" the record that has raised money for Ethiopia. There have been quiet evenings Union had their own preparatory meeting on the very foggy afternoon of December 16, Alan Wilson's sermon they heard the Bible readings of the Christmas story and sang the Christmas hymns together.

## Caversham Clergy

**ANGLICAN**  
The Rev Richard Kingsbury, Caversham Rectory, Church Road. Tel: 479130.  
(Parish Office: Monday - Thursday 9.30 - 12.30. Tel: 471703).

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.

**BAPTIST**  
The Rev Dennis Weller, 80 Balmore Drive. Tel: 478668.

**METHODIST**  
The Rev Ralph Rogerson, 72 Highmoor Road. Tel: 472223.  
The Rev Brian Skinner, 48 Allhallows Road, Caversham. Tel: 482530.

**UNITED REFORMED**  
The Rev Philip Lee-Bapt, 41 Highmoor Road. Tel: 471909.

**CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL**  
The Rev Chris Justice, 119 Peppard Road. Tel: 474529.

**ROMAN CATHOLIC**  
The Rev Thomas Meagher, The Presbytery, 2 South View Avenue. Tel: 471787.

(For Caversham Park Village)  
The Rev Cecil Keane, 18 Peppard Road, Sonning Common. Tel: Kidmore End 3418.

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# ROUND THE CHURCHES

## NEWS FROM THE CHAPEL

IT'S ALWAYS a joy to see young Christians take another step of commitment and obedience to Jesus, and this month another two of the sixteen-plus group followed Him through the waters of baptism. For the first time the baptisms were part of the morning worship service, so all the children were able to be involved. Until the church moved into the new worship hall they were forced, through lack of space, to have baptisms in the evening.

Before being baptised, testimonies are always heard of how the individuals came to trust in Jesus as their Saviour and Lord. Here, in her own words, is what Sue Wilkinson, a student at the Chiltern Nursery Training College, had to say:

"After being christened by my uncle, you might expect me to have been brought up to understand and believe the Bible and live my life accordingly. But however hard my vicar tried, circumstances and my environment overcame the initial and continuing influences in my life. Then about four years ago I met a couple of Christians who told me the stor-

ies I'd listened to years before, and they helped me to understand and learn and on June 5, 1984, three girls from college who were going to see Luis Palau and Cliff Richard at QPR, asked me to go with them. Cliff stood up, and the only thing I can remember is him saying that the words we read in the Bible are the only ones we can truly believe in today. This brought back to me thoughts of my childhood and of my friends' encouragement, and I could not fight any more. The Lord had taken over my life. Jesus died for my sin before I was born. It amazes me that such a peaceful man could do this for mankind. It shows a love that I cannot begin to understand. I just give in to Him, and there is nothing I want more. Sometimes I want to turn away and say 'no more,' but I'm called back. It says in Mark, chapter one, verse nine, and then in Matthew, chapter eight, verses eighteen to twenty, 'At that time, Jesus came from Nazareth to Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan...'

"Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given unto me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.'"

### ★ ★ ★ The Wednesday Fellowship

For many years there has been a women's meeting at the Chapel on the Hill, and it has been a source of fellowship and inspiration for many ladies up to the present day. With changing times, however, it was felt that the old style of meeting was becoming less applicable, and in September last the women's meeting was transformed into the Wednesday Fellowship, and men were invited to join with the ladies! There is now a relaxed friendly Wednesday afternoon hour, mainly for the senior members of the church, and with a variety of speakers who have shared topics both devotional and personal — faith and experience hand-in-hand. One of the most recent speakers was the Rev Dennis Weller from Caversham Baptist Free Church who spoke eloquently of his last visit to Israel, and members look forward with enthusiasm to meeting those who will share their experience of life and faith. You are most welcome to come and join us any Wednesday at 2.45pm.

## WHERE THERE'S A WELL...



■ JUDITH RANDALL (third from left) of Action Aid receives a cheque from members of the 'Squash' Youth Group at Caversham Heights Methodist Church.

TWO HUNDRED as Judith was at pains to point out, village in Nepal will benefit from a clean water supply next year largely due to the efforts of the 'Squash' youth group at Caversham Heights Methodist Church. On Sunday, November 25, a cheque for £895 was handed over to Judith Randall of Action Aid to go towards the estimated cost of £1,300 for a complete water system.



'Squash' launched their Clean Water Appeal in April as a follow-up to a service which they had led at the church on the theme of water. The initial target was £700 to be reached within a year but that figure was surpassed five months ahead of schedule. Fund-raising events included a 75-mile sponsored cycle ride to celebrate the church's 75th anniversary, two rummage sales, a sponsored silence, a soup and roll lunch, a coffee evening and a baby-sitting service. The appeal caught the imagination of church members who gave their whole-hearted support and never ceased to amaze the organisers with a continuous flood of donations.

With the famine in Ethiopia, great publicity has been given to the emergency relief aid provided by charities. However,

as Judith was at pains to point out, poverty and ill-health are much wider problems which require longer-term solutions. The provision of clean water is one of the most important long-term steps towards improving health standards in under-developed areas as no less than 80 per cent of all killer-diseases are water-borne. The other plea which Judith made was to those who feel helpless in the face of such vast problems. As 'Squash' have shown, given goodwill and a lot of hard work, results can be achieved that make a genuine difference to the plight of the world's poor.

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## GOSBROOK ROAD REVIEW

DECEMBER and Christmas activities have quietly stolen up on us. The days have flown by with the hustle and bustle of everyday life including life in the Church.

As I write this, Christmas celebrations are beginning to gain momentum and by the time you read this it will be all over — or will it? God sent his Son to us to be with us all the year, not just at Christmas, and we carry 'Good News' of His love through into the New Year and beyond. For most practising Christians, the highlight of the festival is the worship and sharing in Christmas services, and Gosbrook Road Methodists will be no exception in this, and we look forward to a time of special Christmas fellowship in the coming days.

Team work was the key to the Christmas Fair, which was a great success, over £350 being raised. The annual Christmas lunch was served and a good number enjoyed a three course meal and a happy time of fellowship together.

The Women's Fellowship held a good meeting for Methodist Missionary Work, when they were joined by other ladies from the Reading Circuit. The speaker was Mrs Edna Francis who spoke about a mission station in Kenya. Forty-five pounds was raised for Overseas Mission Work. The meeting ended in a Fellowship lunch. The ladies have enjoyed all their December meetings, being entertained by a group from the Sainsbury Singers at

their carol service, and the following week a Christmas party was held at the home of Mrs Julia Hackman.

The Boys' Brigade parents enjoyed a dinner dance on December 8. Over 100 parents and friends supported the event and £170 was raised for Boys' Brigade Band funds. Thanks must go to Mrs Ann Lovegrove and the organising committee for putting on such a fine event.

And so Christmas is here again and 1985 is stamping its feet in the wings. We look forward to the New Year with its new challenges. We trust 1985 will hold many blessings for you and we send Christian greetings of love to all Caversham Bridge readers for the New Year.

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# ROUND THE CHURCHES

## Christmas at St Margaret's

BY 2.30 on Christmas Eve afternoon St Margaret's was ready for the children's special service. The lights were shining on the tree and everywhere there were beautiful arrangements of evergreens, holly berries and scarlet flowers created by a group of ladies earlier in the day. Beside the lectern stood, of all things, Dr Who's time machine. This year the Nativity story was thought out and written by young members of St Margaret's with a little help from a few dads.

We sat waiting and suddenly Dr Who's theme music filled the church. First we saw the Doctor and his friends go to the year 2001 and meet some young people decorating a Christmas tree.

What did they know about Christmas asked Dr Who? Well, that was easy it was a time when they got lots of presents. Nothing more? No, nothing more. And then the Doctor decided that things ought to be set right.

Would they like to go back to the first Christmas? Yes, they would. So off they went in the time machine and watched the Nativity of Little Lord Jesus. Before taking them back to 2001 again the good Doctor gave a little talk to make sure everything was understood. Carols sung at appropriate places in the story were accompanied by recorders and most of the young members of the congregation took part from the 3 to 16 age

range. It was an unusual approach to the Christmas message.

If, on the following Sunday, the coffee tasted a little odd it was just that the urn had been used to boil up mulled apple juice for those wanting a hot drink before returning home.

It was good to have Irene Lindsay with us so that goodbyes could be said to her before she left on December 27 to teach in the USA for five months and to thank her for all her help in running Workshop.

This Saturday meeting now ceases for a time. Thanks also to Heather Robinson who worked so hard as secretary.

The simple candlelit carol service ended

the Christmas rejoicing. It was a special treat that Derek Spears joined the occasion and also a charming Dutch family who were on the holiday in the village.

## HELEN HOUSE

HELEN HOUSE in Oxford is a Hospice for children who are gravely ill. It was founded — the first of its kind — in 1982 by the Sisters of the Anglican Community of All Saints. It cares for the little children and offers support to their parents as they pass through difficult and distressing months. BISHOP CYRIL BULLEY is giving all the copies — one thousand — of his book of poems entitled FAITH, FIRE and FUN to Helen House to sell in aid of its caring work.

The book has approximately 80 pages and 55 items — religious poems and hymns, "sonnets of fire" touching, for example, world hunger, racism, etc., and fun poems, some of the last mentioned being illustrated. It will NOT be available in bookshops as the Bishop is anxious that ALL the proceeds shall go to Helen House. The Book has a Foreword by KENNETH WILLIAMS the TV and radio "star."

If you would like a copy, please send £3 (cheques payable to Helen House) to The Rev J. Whittaker, Helen House, 37 Leopold Street, Oxford, OX4 1RU. The Bishop will autograph copies of his book.

## THE CHURCH AND THE CHILDREN

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

ST BARNABAS Sunday School meets in the Hall 9.30am. (Not 2nd Sunday in the month). Contact Mrs Jean Carroll, 45 Brooklyn Drive (472598). The children join in the 9.30am Family Service on 2nd 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).

CHAPEL ON THE HILL: Children's Activities, Sunday 9.30-11am Boy and Girl Jucos (10-12 years); Boy and Girl Covenanters (12-15 years); 10.25-11.15am Nursery (3 and 4 years); Primary (5 and 6 years); Adventurers (7-9 years). During the second part of the morning worship there is a baby creche available. 8.30pm 16+ group meets. For more information please contact the Pastor: Chris Justice. Tel. 474529.

## THE LINK GROUP

ON DECEMBER 12 the final call was in members entertained Westfield Road and some of their elderly and housebound friends to a Christmas party at the Baptist Centre in Caversham.

After a musical game and tea which included a very enjoyable Christmas cake, visitors and members sang together a selection of old favourites accompanied at the piano by Mrs Judith Moore. The party ended with music on recorders played by children from Micklands Primary School and Chiltern Edge School, the older children conducted by Mrs Cathy Pynn who organised the visit.

On December 21 members of the Link Group and friends sang carols at the various homes for the elderly in Caversham.

The final call was in Westfield Road and some of their elderly and housebound friends to the Baptist Centre for coffee and mince-pies.

### News of the Coordinating Centre

Many thanks to all those who returned the questionnaires given out at the 'Let's Link Up' meeting and for all the interesting suggestions. Work is starting on the room in Church House early in the New Year in conjunction with the Good Neighbour Scheme.

PLEASE — we need help with filing, with typing and with assembling information from the many charities. ANY OFFERS? Please phone Mrs Doreen Bennett 473098 or Mrs Lynda Bates, 471715.

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Secretary: Mrs C. H. Jordan, 27 St John's Road  
Telephone 478538

**CHURCH HOUSE CHURCH STREET**  
Secretary: Mrs W. A. Vincent, The Parish Office, Caversham  
Telephone 471703 (Mon - Thurs 9.30am - 12.30pm)

**MAPLEDURHAM PAVILION**  
Secretary: Mrs L. F. T. Bartlett, 6 Westdene Crescent  
Telephone 471863

**ST ANDREW'S HALL**  
Secretary: Mr J. Tomlin, 3 Wordsworth Court  
Telephone 481749

**ST BARNABAS HALL**  
Mr R. Hester, 39 Grove Road,  
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# RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By WATCHDOG

## HAVE YOUR SAY

THE consultation period about the third Thames bridge is now under way and all those who feel any concern about how Reading is to develop into the twenty first century should take this opportunity of making their views known. The local press has given it considerable coverage and December's Bridge contained a useful set of figures that could be of assistance in formulating comments.

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After all the years that a bridge has been talked about (it was in 1931 that Caversham Court was demolished in order to make room for one) it seems almost unbelievable that at last it has reached as posi-

tive a stage as this. Of course it will not appear overnight and in the meantime it is important to get the preliminary planning right.

□ □  
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Waitrose opened in time to benefit from all the extra Christmas shopping. It is certainly a bright, pleasant and well stocked shop, and well staffed too, bringing jobs to mainly Caversham people. Its greatest threat is the effect it is obviously having on some of the well established shops. Some of its customers will have come from outside Caversham. Others will have been former Co-op customers. Others can only have come from the other shops. This is not necessarily a

reflection on the other shops' shortcomings. It could equally well be that it is much easier to pick up everything there instead of going from place to place.

What is not easy is getting into the new car park under the arch from the mini-roundabout. As was pointed out long ago, Prospect Street and the new access road are not aligned and wherever that mini-roundabout goes it will be in the wrong place. To date I have not managed to get through the arch, finding it easier to go round via Wolsey Road, though the whole idea was to bring some relief to that road.

The old Co-op building (actually not so old) has indeed undergone a transformation now it has been opened as a reproduction furniture shop. It certainly looks most attractive and in the gloomy winter days has looked most inviting. Its customers will surely come from a wider area than Caversham. Let us hope they will not be disappointed when they find there is nowhere to park their cars in the Chester Street car park.

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Its neighbour will soon be the Caversham Bookshop moving from further up Prospect Street into the premises formerly occupied by Parslows. John and Lindsay Mullaney have plans to bring out the building's formerly almost unnoticed attractive features and to make a shop window in the back. They found an old baker's oven but this will probably go to the museum as it cannot really be

incorporated in to a bookshop. We wish this venture well.

The Residents' Association has suffered some serious committee losses recently. Sidney Freeman, who has served as an ordinary member, as chairman and latterly as the member responsible for looking at planning applications, has unfortunately resigned for personal reasons and because of the growing pressure of his voluntary work for Oxfam. In these days of mounting disasters in the third world, no one would seek to deflect him from this work. He is however sadly missed and will particularly be so if Hemdean Valley goes to appeal, as he had done an enormous amount of work in the way of preliminary preparation for the objectors' case.

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George Gibbons, a life long Caversham resident, is also leaving the committee as he and Madeleine are moving to the Lambourn area where they have family connections. He will be much missed, not only by the Residents' Association, and in spite of the attractions of their surroundings, they will probably also miss friendly familiar Caversham.

Squadron-Leader Vic Watson came to the Residents' Association via the Mapledurham Area Residents' Association which he had run for some time efficiently and almost single handedly. He made a point of knowing all his members personally as far as possible. He came to Caversham from

Hong-Kong as a member of the RAF and remained here after his retirement. He and his wife have now decided to return to their native Doncaster and we wish them many happy years there.

This seriously depletes the committee, who would welcome new members interested in being involved in the way Caversham is developing and prepared to do some active committee work, if no more than the delivery of notices two or three times a year to start with.

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The AGM, fixed for Monday, March 18, is the place to be if you are interested. It will start at 8pm in Church House, and it is probable that after the formal business there will be discussion about the Association's views on the third bridge, so that those sent in are as representative as possible.

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# WHOM SHALL I SEND?

**THIS continues the series, whereby young Christian men and women who work overseas, describe their new way of life. Michael Hardy from St Peter's writes:**

LAST YEAR I was fortunate enough to spend time living in Mombasa, Kenya, doing voluntary work for the Missions to Seamen. I got this appointment after I had decided to work in the Third World, whilst having a year's break between a degree and teacher training. The Missions to Seamen are a large Church of England based charity, administering to the needs of seamen in hundreds of ports around the world. Facilities range from local priests doing some extra-parochial work and keeping "open house" for seamen, through Portakabins and articulated trailers, to large clubs with many facilities. I was to go as Chaplain's Assistant to Mombasa, which has one of the largest.

□ □

After a lengthy wait for Kenyan bureaucracy to provide a work permit, I was almost whisked onto an aircraft and then arrived to find myself thrown in at the deep end almost immediately. A U.S. Navy visit was due in two days, complete with seven thousand sailors. There was a lot to get ready, for the mission had many facilities: a football pitch, gym, swimming pool, library, lounge, shop, bar and restaurant, and postal, international telephone and exchange facilities. The visit was

shorter than expected, as all the ships were called off to the Lebanon, and things then settled down into a regular routine.

□ □

A large part of my work was visiting ships to speak to the crew. Many of the ships that came in would have been at sea for one or two months without seeing any new faces, and someone interested in speaking with them and giving local advice was always welcome. Of course I'd also tell them about the club and anything special happening, such as a game of football. And lastly, I'd see if anyone wanted help. Sometimes this would be a legal matter such as the non-payment of wages. This happens with many ships, in which case they can be arrested and the ship is held against the debt. There were several ships where the threat of this forced payment from the owners — others had to go through the whole legal process. With personal matters, the Mission is well equipped to help with its worldwide network of priests, and contacts through them with local churches.

□ □

It was this part of the work which was most rewarding. The Mission caters for seamen of all creeds, colours and nations, and this showed in the range of seamen I would meet, from Russians and Communist Chinese, through Westerners and Americans, to Africans, Philipinos and Indians. Over the year I met seamen (and women)

world's countries, and this was an interesting way to see the over-all fellowship of mankind. The welcome I was given was always warm and generous, indeed almost humbling, and I felt that as feedback on the service we provided, it spoke well.

□ □

There were plenty of other things to be done though; secretarial, clerical and accountancy work, shopping, maintenance, stocking and so on. Then every evening I would collect the seamen from their ships in our minibus, and return them at closing time. In all this we were admirably helped by a staff of about twenty Kenyans. I had no regrets about being in Kenya, and have seldom found more friendly and helpful people. The officials working in the port were also most helpful. I came away with a very different view of the Third World from that with which I arrived.

□ □

I was also fortunate to have had some leave, during which I saw much of Kenya: the game parks, mountains, some of the desert-land of the North, and the Rift Valley. It really was stunning and beautiful.

I've just described the general working of the Mission. Sometimes it would be much more busy, such as when there was a Naval visit (we had fourteen) or a large passenger ship in — especially the QE2, which has a crew of one thousand. But even if the post was quiet, there was always a good crowd of regulars, some of whom worked in the port on service ships (tugs, depot tankers

and so on) and some than I had put in. It of whom were had so much stranded on become part of my arrested ships or life, that the transi-ones waiting repair. tion back to Eng-And then there are land was almost the Mombasa resi-unreal. I am grate-dents who contri-ful that I could-buted so much time share in this work and help to the of God.

Mission. It seemed a shame when my year was up. It has been hard work with ninety to one hundred hours on duty a week, but I left feeling I had got a lot more from it. The HQ of The Missions to Seamen is at St Michael Paternoster Royal, College Hill, London, EC4R 2RL.

□ □

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## Blagrove W.I.

MRS J. Ford, vice-president, welcomed members, Mrs D. Durie, Group Link, and guests from Sonning, Rosehill, Maplewood and Woodley Institutes to the 22nd Birthday and Christmas Party.

A programme of games organised by Mrs P. Thomas and a sing-along followed by carols, with Mr Ralph Cambridge at the piano added to the enjoyment of the afternoon.

The special tea was provided and served by the committee and the birthday cake made and iced by Mrs Ford.

Mrs Taylor did a brisk trade on the well stocked saleable of Christmas gifts, many made by members of the Craft Group.

## The Jubilee Club Mapledurham

ANOTHER year has drawn to its close and for the Jubilee Club it has been both a sad and a happy one. Sad because we record the death of three of our members, Miss May Geer and her brother Mr William Geer and Mrs Edna Tinson. The former and the latter were both founder members of the club. We miss them all very much and are grateful for all the help they gave to our little group.

The lovely weather last summer gave us the chance to get out and about. We visited Loseley Park, near Guildford, had a picnic in Caversham Court, a garden party

at the home of our club leader, Gladys Fowles, and spent an afternoon at Bix Nature Reserve where a number of stalwarts walked the nature trail.

Three interesting talks helped to fill up our varied programme of activities, one on the work of the R.N.L.I., by Mrs Duckworth, another by Mr Dew of the National Trust and a third by Nigel Phillips of B.B.O.N.T. (Berkshire, Bucks, Oxfordshire, Naturalist Trust).

Now the Christmas party draws near with handbell ringers from Henley to entertain us and then the annual trip to the pantomime at Windsor.

Fund raising for the club has been most successful this year with a stall at the garden party and an Open Afternoon in November raising over one hundred pounds.

We continue to be the happy little club that we always have been and are most grateful for all the help we receive, from assistance with transport to all the help over the teas.

## Caversham Women's Institute

A VERY enjoyable combined Christmas and Birthday Party was held on December 20, attended by W.I. members from other institutes in the Group and by Mrs Big-

# ROUND THE CLUBS

gar, Group Link V.C.O. Entertainment was provided by "The Variations," clad in very Christmassy dress; they rendered several versions of Christmas songs and carols.

This was followed by a grand spread provided by various members. The celebration cake was made, as always, by Lily Hensley, who seems to surpass herself every year. A presentation was made to Mrs Biggar, with thanks for all her efforts in the past year, and vouchers went to several members for Christmas gifts to old or needy people of their acquaintance.

## Caversham Ladies Club

EARLY in December the club had its usual Christmas lunch at the Chiltern Chase Hotel.

The Christmas party took the place of the meeting. About fifty were present, and the party began with the singing of carols. Tea was served by the committee, and the cake cut by the Chairman. The competition was a doyley, which was judged by Mrs E. South, and the winners were Mesdames G. Weal, B. Strong, and E. Lock.

There was also a competition for a doll, dressed by Mrs R. Mander, which raised £5 for Save the Children Fund for the Ethiopian Appeal.

Todd were in charge.

The clubroom had been gaily decorated when the members arrived for the Christmas party on December 17. A meal was ready of salad, meat, trifle and cakes. Christmas cake was served later in the evening. Community singing, with Nancy Nelhams at the piano, was followed by an entertainment by "Chris." Magic and ventriloquism by this versatile entertainer with his two amusing puppets was appreciated by the attentive audience. The evening finished with games and dancing. During the evening the members expressed their thanks for all the work of the committee and members in preparing the party.

## Caversham Darby and Joan Club

THE CLUB had a lovely afternoon when the pupils of Thameside Junior School came to give a recital of carols, music and dancing. The Sainsbury Singers gave an excerpt from the shows they had appeared in and a representative from the Red Cross came to talk about his work, which was interesting. The Club hopes all its members have a happy Christmas and a grand New Year.

## Rosehill W.I.

MISS Vincent welcomed members to the last meeting before Christmas on December 3. She then said how successful the jumble sale had been, also two coffee mornings for Mencap and ACWW.

Mrs Dorothy Gillings had her greetings card painting accepted for use on W.I. cards in Spring 1985, and a Promotion Day for Rosehill was held in Budgens Supermarket.

Later presents were taken from the lucky dip — members had brought gifts for this when entering the hall. Before tea the Drama Group entertained with a play reading. The scene was set in a ladies' hairdressing salon, which was very amusing. Tea came last with food made by the Committee and a cake iced by Mrs Barge.

## Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild

WHAT A delightful evening was shared by the ladies of the Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild on

Tuesday, December 4, at St Barnabas Church Hall, Emmer Green. Members were pleased to give their new Chairman, Maureen Chamberlain, a warm welcome.

The speaker was Mrs S. Stewart who gave a charming talk on "Country Courtship," being based on some reminiscences of "Kate," an elderly lady, late of Long Compton, in Oxfordshire.

Mrs Stewart also told how a book was produced, from the initial research, through the publishing and pasting-up stages, right up to the final choice of binding. A vote of thanks was given by Mrs Grace Williams.

## Maplewood W.I.

MAPLEWOOD'S December meeting was a festive occasion. Mrs Heather Baker, who presided, welcomed Mrs Durie VCO, members, their husbands, and friends. The speaker, Mrs Jennifer Martin, then gave a fascinating talk with slides on Peru, where she lived for many years. The Spaniards' lust for gold led them to Peru in 1532 where they discovered the ancient civilisation of the mysterious Incas, a race of Peruvian Indians, who were exceptionally skilled craftsmen. Mrs Martin showed some fine examples of their weaving, and slides of remarkable monuments. The vast stretch of desert between the Andes and the sea is a veritable archaeologists' playground. Mrs Eileen Clarke gave the vote of thanks.

This was followed by a buffet supper, prepared by the Institute's committee members, and the singing of a carol concluded a most enjoyable evening.

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## Caversham Community Association

A "MINI" Bazaar was held, for members only, on December 3. Stalls included fancy goods, stationery, competitions, nearly new goods and books. Profits were in aid of club funds. Suzette and Antoinette were invited and had a good selection of cosmetics for sale.

The clubroom resounded to the sound of music and carol singing on December 10. The members had been looking forward to the visit of the Salvation Army East Reading musicians and songsters and were given a varied programme. This included carols and amusing anecdotes also an unusual "bottle band" from the young people. Sergeant Ruth concluded by giving readings telling the story of the first Christmas and how it could influence everyone all through the year. Songster Leader Karen Cox and Bandmaster Alistair

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# SUNDAY SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

## 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

**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'**  
9.30am Family Communion (apart from 2nd Sunday)  
9.30am Family Service (2nd Sunday only)  
4.00pm Evensong (1st Sunday only)

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

## CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

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11.00am FAMILY COMMUNION (1st and 3rd Sundays)  
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## CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

10.30am Morning Service  
6.30pm Evening Service

## METHODIST

**Caversham**  
11.00am Morning Service  
6.30pm Evening Service

**Caversham Heights**  
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)

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**February 20** — 5 Gifford Close (Paula Andrews)  
**February 27** — 7 Ilchester Mews (Gerry Ashton)

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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  
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