



A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OUR READERS

HAS READING A FUTURE?

A FUTURE?

- A town where the remains of earliest man has been found within the borough boundary?
- Where the earliest whispers of Christianity have recently been discovered in Caversham?
- Where Henry I chose the Abbey to be his funerary church?
- Where since the Dissolution it has grown and grown through its reputation for biscuits, bulbs and brewing to its present status as capital of Britain's Silicon Valley?

No town with such a past will have no future, as Mr W. H. Tee's thought provoking talk to the Caversham Heights Society in November will show.

Mr Tee is just the man to talk about Reading's future. He has lived in the borough since 1956 and has been Chief Executive of Reading Borough Council for over 20 years. He was thus able to speak informatively from a wide knowledge of local affairs.

Different Facets

Mr Tee said that there were various headings under which one could expand on a description of the town. There was the *Philosophical* viewpoint, or the purely *Statistical*, the *Emotional*, the *Achievements* both collectively and the *Individual*. He took the first two as subjects for elaboration.

A few facts and figures

The population of the Reading Borough Council area is 135,000 and

going down. (10 years ago, according to the Registrar General's figures, it was 140,000). Properties have been demolished and the people have moved outside the borough boundaries. The population of Greater Reading is 219,000. By 1996 it is expected to reach 240,000. The recent housing approvals will increase this figure. In-filling sites (ie demolishing large houses and building on the site and garden) will again increase the figures by 6%. In the town there are 390,000 sq metres of office accommodation. There will be 53% more by 1996. In 1996 there will be 190,000 sq metres of shopping area; now there are 160,000.

The Oracle site behind Gunn Street is ready for development and would be wasted as offices. A good mix of shops and houses would be ideal.

A Centre

Reading is the commercial and economic capital of a very large area — probably for most of Berkshire and part of Oxfordshire. People come to town for, for instance, solicitors, dentists, hospitals, entertainment. (Here Mr Tee mentioned the Hexagon — at least 30% of the people using it come from outside Reading borough as indicated by the addresses on their credit cards. This can not include others who pay in a different way). Leisure centres are also building up to the same kind of figure and the demand will increase. Geographically the location of Reading couldn't be better, cannot fail and will always be good. It is a very wealthy and successful town. The average income in SE England has increased by 2½% p.a. in 5 years. In Reading it has increased by 4% p.a.

There is more

leisure time available. In 1986 42½ man hours a week were worked; in 1996 it will be 37½ hours. There will be a considerable change in population. At present, non-white residents form 7.6% of the population. In 1996 this figure will rise to 13%. The very old (ie over 85) are likely to increase by 22%; the very young by 12% and all this will have to be taken into account when thinking about what sort of town Reading will be. The pressure for development will be enormous, whether for shopping, offices, industry or houses. And there are enormous rewards to be made.



Housing

There are not enough houses available; there is a shortage of land and prices will increase. Spaces in the town centre have been filled in and older buildings

refurbished for private accommodation, but the number of spaces was limited. Access too is a problem. There is traffic congestion in the town and no investment available to cope — money needs to be spent now if any benefit is to be reaped in the next ten years. There should be greater use of public transport (which is a good deal better than in most other places). People will not travel into the town centre. Many private firms base their strategies on more money and time for their employees and so better facilities must be made available.

Rates and Poll Tax

Mr Tee said that it cost nearly £1m to collect the rates. It will cost £1m more to collect the poll tax. The Government may help in the first year or two but thereafter it will be up to the Council. Incidentally he reminded folk that one penny on the

rates would produce £300,000.

Bed and breakfast was a problem. The Council is responsible for providing accommodation for people who are genuinely homeless. Overspending was foreseen in the current year and probably next year as something near £½m. The Council was working hard to reduce the cost and raise the standard.

The cost of present capital programmes out of the decisions made in the past will be an additional £1m by 1990. It is also prophesied that inflation will cost another £2m by 1990. That makes something like an extra £4½m to be found and at only



£300,000 raised by one penny on the rates, ratepayers should be prepared for a large increase.

The Future

So much for Reading now. Can

it survive? Yes. All communities survive because they are self-preservation societies. Mr Tee gave his own local governmentally experienced views on the form of the future of Reading.

He thought that many of the traditional functions carried out and expected to be done will disappear from local control. Housing certainly will be managed by others on a national or regional basis. The same too would go for education — it would all be managed by central government. He thought that social service facilities provided by local authorities could continue on the same basis which is 15% local and 85% county controlled. Eventually all social services would come under national control. In the 3-tier system, national, county, local, one tier is very likely to be

TALKING POINT

By The Rev Bill Carpenter
Priest-in-charge
St Andrew's Church



KEEP 1989 CLEAN AND UNTARNISHED

I came out of our local branch of a well known purveyor of electronic goods with a large parcel inside an equally large plastic carrier bag. I had a light tread and I was full of excitement. I had at last done it, had bought myself a piece of equipment generally known as a "ghetto blaster". To the generation, with not quite one foot in the grave, these machines are called Portable Stereo radios with tape deck(s). You will have seen the youngsters carrying them on their shoulder with an ear glued to one of the two speakers. You will have heard them whilst trying to get a few minutes' sleep on the beach. You may even be getting one for your youngster for Christmas, or (perish the thought) one for yourself.

about a new car? Is that the ultimate for most men?

A conker, when it has just been split out of its shell is just as perfect. It is shiny, and bright chestnut in colour. The inside of the shell is soft and white and there is that fascinating smell. Within an hour it has become brown and tarnished, the conker itself has become dull.

How quickly our new possessions become old, dusty and scratched. They are less enthusiastically used, or not used at all. They become ordinary and we start to think of the next new thing we should like.

We are about to split open the shell of a New Year. This too is perfect, as perfect as our Creator can make it. Our time on earth is God given, and it is there for us to use. We do not know what is before us, but the potential is for good. So it is with all of God's gifts.

I wonder how often in the past we have allowed our New Years to become tarnished and old. Possibly it could happen as quickly as for the conker which has been released from its shell, possibly it will be less dramatic as it was for my radio.

This year it may be an idea to make a New Year resolution to keep 1989 as fresh and exciting as the celebrations which brought it in, and with God's help, use our time to seek out His Will for us, and act upon it.

A Happy New Year! May it be as untarnished next December as it was when you first opened it.

My justification for the purchase was the need to record a church music performance and the one I bought was the only model with stereo microphones.

I finally got the equipment home with me, and with trembling hands began to unpack it. I pulled the polystyrene box out of the cardboard case and split open the protective layers. It was perfect and clean inside its nest, and I carefully put it on the table. I looked with pride upon my latest possession.

We all like to have something which is brand, spanking new, which has never been used, and which is in the best possible condition that the manufacturers can produce. How

Has Reading a future?

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abolished to save money. He himself would be against central government control and would prefer local autonomy.

Reduce Numbers

He would dramatically and drastically reduce the number of councillors elected for the duties they carried out, and would have 15 members, one for each ward, instead of the 45 at present. A change in the nature of councillors would be an ideal — professional people paid a realistic amount. He would not suggest that the job be full time, but one where responsible people could take on a valuable service without financial loss to themselves. The Council ought not to spend its time and money on things of a national nature and on philosophical debates. He considered the American system good, and workable here, with a City Manager appointed by six councillors and employed to present and manage a budget each year.

Do it yourselves
Mr Tee thought that people had become too depen-

dent on others providing service etc for them. They ought to generate more for themselves. He thought that traffic problems would produce an increase in local shopping and would re-create their own villages — Caversham people would shop in Caversham and Henley, and the same for Tilehurst, Earley etc. Politicians and politics were going out of fashion (the 44% turn out at the recent American presidential election was interesting). We do better here at a general election. People would have to take more action themselves. He mentioned the worthy Bugs Bottom protest which entailed a great deal of local vocal, personal and journalistic effort and great credit was due to several people for their enthusiastic pressure. Even though it failed in this instance it was the sort of action that every person could think about and demonstrate positively. It showed how much people were thinking about the environment and all concerned must make their views known. Indeed, if housing decisions were to be made regionally then more protests of this kind would be forthcoming. Pressure groups were very important.

The meeting applauded Mr Tee's view and hopes for the future and much serious thought was generated. Mr Martyn Allies thanked Mr Tee and said it was good news that he was staying in Caversham after his retirement at the end of the year and wished him well for the future.

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COPY DATES FOR 1989

Copy must reach Caversham Parish Office at Church House by noon on the following dates:

1989	
Feb issue	Wed 4th January
March	1st February
April	1st March
May	5th April
June	3rd May
July	7th June
August	5th July
September	2nd August
October	6th September
November	4th October
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1990	
January	29th November

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All advertising copy should be sent to Mrs E. Maule, 18 Albert Road, Caversham, by December 30.

The dates for March will be Wednesday 1 February and Friday 27 January.

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

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A COUNTRY CHILDHOOD AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY

by Elsie Gutteridge

Just over sixteen years ago a very dear old friend of mine, Elsie Gutteridge, wrote the following impressions of her childhood in the South Oxfordshire countryside. Elsie died in September 1980 having spent most of her life looking after others. First her old parents, Mr and Mrs Dutfield, who lived in one of the Mapledurham Almshouses. When they died she married, late in life. Later she looked after her ailing husband. Becoming a widow she had her older sister, Louise, to live with her and looked after her till she died in May 1980. By that time Elsie herself was into her eighties and worn out with caring for others. From the piece she wrote it is obvious that she was a born writer and it is sad that she only wrote down this short piece.

A Hamlet in the trees

Her schooling at Mapledurham Church of England Primary School served her well. M.K.

Tucked away in a corner of Mapledurham Parish lies Nuney Green. There are many ways of spelling it. In a very ancient map I saw it was spelt Newney. A most delightful, peaceful place. A hamlet in the trees, for it was, and still is, surrounded by woods. At the turn of the century there were only eight houses on The Green and no road whatever leading to them, only two old cart tracks, down Phillip's Hill and Bachelor's Hill.

Six Miles to Shop and back

No tradespeople called, so all our shopping was done in Reading, about six miles away, as Goring Heath shop and post office was non-existent. There were no buses, only the carrier from Goring passed by two or three times a week. You could go in with him but you had to wait about on the Reading road for him. Once a week my mother would walk into town and back to the shop, often after working

several hours at Mapledurham House. Sometimes she crossed the Thames there by the ferry and went into Reading from the Tilehurst side.

Pond water and skimmed milk to drink

Drinking water was fetched from an open pond at the bottom of the field, but after the death of a little girl we had nine water butts installed and at another house a pump was put in. When there was a drought my mother used to carry bottles of water back from where she worked.

We had butter and milk from a small holding owned by Mr Simmonds at Nuney Green. I helped churn the butter and you could buy skimmed milk for a halfpenny a pint.

Busy little girl

My father kept about a hundred hens and I used to deliver the eggs to customers. I was always busy as a child. When I was eight my mother gave me a key to our cottage, which I wore on a string, so that if she was out I could get in and prepare the evening meal. In holidays I was sent to help the elderly, I wrote their letters, read to them and did any little jobs and for a whole month was housekeeper to an old man who was dying. I never went stone picking but I can remember some women doing it.

A brick in bed

Life in the country was good. We watched the fox cubs in a nearby pit and went wooding. I only remember us having

one load of coal. Every Good Friday we went primrosing. Some Easters I had a new cotton frock, but clothes had to last. I was the sewer in our family. In winter we had a brick put in the oven. When it was really hot it was wrapped in a flannel and put in our beds to warm them. Once a white owl came down the chimney. We were sitting round the fire, there was a noise and down it fell into the hearth.

Liquorice ribbons

Like all the other children I walked to Mapledurham school. Miss Butler was the headmistress and there were between sixty and seventy pupils. We took mid-day sandwiches and had a cup of cocoa every morning during winter, for which we paid half a penny a week. I also had another halfpenny a week to spend in school for Miss Butler sold liquorice ribbons. That was all we had for a treat until my mother went shopping and then she would say — "Would you like a banana or a few sweets? You can't have both". But sometimes we did!

When my people moved to Nuney Green I was fourteen months old. It was my home for twenty years. How it is altered with a few more houses and a made up road to them. At Goring Heath a mile away, is a general store and post office and there is a bus service into Reading. All this makes life more comfortable and easier, but give me the good old Nuney Green. Those days of my childhood were a truly happy time.



Mapledurham Church as Elsie Gutteridge would have known it in the nineteen thirties with its farm gate entrance and large tree outside the churchyard wall.



The cottage home of Elsie's sister, Louise. Now vanished it was known as Wharf Cottage and stood near the mill.

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WEDDING AT HOME PASSPORT

"NOT A LOAD OF RUBBISH"

Strange sights were to be seen in Caversham on the Wednesday and Thursday of October half-term week. Anyone peering through the windows of St Andrew's Hall on Thursday afternoon would have seen the air full of hand-shredded newspaper being flung towards the rafters. Through the storm of paper a 6' high globe with the shapes of different countries cut out and pinned on, might just have been visible. Or the previous afternoon, in the kitchen of Caversham Heights Methodist church, its minister (the Revd Keith Sanders) was to be seen with an iron in hand, drying hand-made, re-cycled paper. Earlier in the day the floor of the hall was covered with children, boxes, cardboard tubes,

paper, scissors, glue... and a wonderful array of creations was emerging. Meanwhile the church was filled with ten to thirteen year olds busily making 'goods' to 'trade' with, and then discovering for themselves some of the imbalances which exist between the efforts made by some countries and the actual results they achieve.



The whole two-day event went under the title "Not a Load of Rubbish". (This soon became the 'theme song' of everyone, preceded by a call, not on a bugle, but on a euphonium!) It had been planned when a few leaders of

church children's groups realised that One World Week, a time set aside for educating ourselves about the relationships between the different areas and peoples of our world, coincided with half-term.

'Let's do something with a 'One World' theme for children at half-term" they decided cheerfully — and found that they had an idea that "just grew". By October, adults from at least seven Caversham churches had become involved in the planning, and the children came from even more. The topics that were concentrated on in those two days were 'Food' and 'Rubbish' — the former being dear to most people's hearts and stomachs, and the latter being

relatively easy to find!

During the two days we tried to find out about food and rubbish: a group visited the three supermarkets in central Caversham to find where different foods originated, and others delved into a typical dustbin to find out what sort of things get thrown away, and what these 'waste' products are made of. We tasted different foods, cooked different meals, dyed fabrics with vegetable dyes and made collages with dried food. We made paper out of old newspapers, musical instruments out of rubbish, wonderful models of cardboard, and even had a fashion parade of clothes made from rubbish. Not to mention singing, music making, drama and

games. Most important of all, everyone, participants and helpers, all had a lot of fun together.



Of course, not everything was perfect, and the line between creativity and chaos was sometimes very finely drawn. But it seems that everyone who was involved thought it was worth doing, and were particularly glad that different churches were working together, and individuals were getting to know each other in the best way possible — by having to depend on each other.

When will the next one be? Well, it might not be NEXT month; it might not exactly be the same, but... watch this space...!

POSTBAG

Dear Editor,

I would like to congratulate Watchdog on the balanced assessment he/she has given on "War in the Woods" (Caversham Bridge November 1988).

However, I feel it is only right for me to correct one or two small misconceptions which have appeared in the article.

Firstly, the target mentioned is certainly not "a black man" but a scarecrow type dummy some seven feet tall with an old balaclava for a head.

Secondly, the question of "glamour pussies" and "sexist" is always a difficult issue. If one excludes either sex from the advertising it is discrimination. If they are included then they are guilty of seduction.

Lastly, it is said that the "distasteful" exercise takes place in Chazey Wood and this is not the kind of thing one would want

to come across in the course of a walk in a peaceful Chiltern Beechwood. I do not feel that it should be considered any more distasteful than the Territorial Army exercising through the Estate Area which they have done for many years or even the Boy Scouts on their events. No one need fear coming across this innocent game since it is held in a private woodland area away from public footpaths and will cause no interference to the general public on their rural rambles.

Thank you Watchdog for giving this issue an airing.

Yours peacefully,
Michael Barbour
Mapledurham Estate Manager.

Dear Katy,
In this month's issue of Caversham Bridge you had a small item on the water feature at

Caversham Court and you wanted further information of Doreen Niker, who, you said, left money in her will for this water feature to be built.

I knew Doreen Niker who lived in Beecham Road in Reading, as I did. She worked for most of her life for Huntley & Palmers I believe, and then for the Water Board. She was a maiden lady and lived with her mother. She was for some time a second in command at St Georges Guide Troop, 32nd Reading. I believe she also left money for the improvement of the roundabout at the junction of Tilehurst, Liebenrood and Waverley Roads, though I'm not sure this was ever done.

I believe her niece was at the opening ceremony at Caversham Court.

Yours etc.
Sandra J. Winter

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By Watchdog

BUGS BOTTOM — IS THIS THE END?

BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS, unless a miracle occurs, Nicholas Ridley will have signed the document giving Higgs and Hill permission to desecrate Buggs Bottom, choke Caversham and Reading with excess traffic and make a hefty profit out of the whole transaction. It won't make the slightest difference to Reading's real housing problems, the people who gave permission won't have to live with it, and local democracy will have had one more plank nailed into its coffin.

The arguments against the development are familiar enough without repeating them here, and thousands of people, both as individuals and through their elected representatives, whatever their political affiliations, expressed their views in one way or another. Reading Borough Council as the planning authority, based their case on sound planning grounds. We all know what happened. The Public Inquiry findings went against them, but such was the uproar

this decision provoked, that implementation of the recommendation was delayed for a further thirteen months. Then on 10th November the announcement was made that the Public Inquiry's findings were to stand, and this time the door was well and truly slammed.

Nobody has been prepared to take the whole thing lying down. Every possible way of challenging it has been looked at. A new action group has sprung up for the sole purpose of doing just that. If the ship goes down it will be with all flags flying and the crew shouting defiantly at the tops of their voices. Meanwhile Higgs and Hill announce they will be moving in January, and unless that miracle has occurred, that is just what will happen.

Worse than the loss of the valley, worse than the pressures from more traffic than can be coped with, is the sense of betrayal and disillusion about the whole democratic process. There is far more to this than a philosophical

'some we win; some we lose' or regret over the loss of another green patch. It will not only be Buggs Bottom that will be lost when Nicholas Ridley appends his signature to a decision that flies in the face of everything we value in this country.



OTHER MATTERS

In the wake of all that, anything else that is happening in Caversham seems pretty small beer. However, other things are happening, need dealing with, and evoke protest, even if the foregoing lends credence to the opinion that that is futile.

So it can be reported that St Peter's Avenue is having its ruts and crevasses (they were beyond potholes) levelled out, and part of it made up. The problem was to make it safe for essential services and the passage of residents' cars without turning it into a rat run. Another consideration was to retain the rural character at the junction with the Warren leading to the entrance to the churchyard. It seems a compromise has been worked out which it is hoped will satisfy residents and non-residents alike.

Part of Chazey Road from St Peter's Avenue is also to be made up, this time by the developers of the land belonging to the late Mr Willocks, under a section 52 agreement (i.e. part of the conditions of granting permission). It won't look as nostalgic as it used to but the newcomers will doubtless prefer it.



25 YEARS OLD

It was a good turn out for the Warren and District Residents' Annual Meeting, in spite of the cold frosty night. The speaker and his subject were doubtless one of the attractions, and the other was the fact that it was their twenty-fifth anniversary, so they beat by four years Caversham and District Residents' Association who celebrated their twenty-first anniversary this summer. Although covering a fairly small area, the association is certainly assiduous in its defence of its patch

and with justification, for it is arguably the most attractive residential area in Reading (privileged some might say, and many in the association would agree with this) and moreover it gives pleasure to those who enjoy its leafy beauty from the opposite bank of the Thames.

The chief threat they now face is from the demolition of houses, neither particularly large nor particularly old, but which stand in large gardens, in order to fill their space with a collection of flats and small houses. This process has only just started, but it shows every sign of accelerating, and not only will the character of the area change but strollers on the promenade will simply see another expanse of bricks and mortar instead of the view they had come to enjoy.



EITHER SIDE OF THE FENCE

The management of a large country estate is not one of the problems of daily living that confront the majority of us — and thank goodness, we might say, as we survey our lesser plots. It is in fact so far removed from the experience of most of us that it is often difficult for those who stand on different sides of the fence (frequently literally) to see each other's point of view. Michael Barbour, Estate Manager of Mapledurham, is anxious for this barrier to be overcome, and he came along to the Annual Meeting of the Warren and District Residents' Association as a step towards achieving this.

Interestingly enough, the evening before, Lord Coke of Holkham (no, not the chap in your history books but his several greats grandson) had been doing the same thing at the University, and perhaps not all that surprisingly, considerable parts of their speeches were identical.

Michael Barbour perhaps summed up the current situation by saying that the farming community were guilty on two counts, one being over production, and the other poor public relations. The first charge they rather resent, because they were only doing what they were

told to, and are now being told not to. One thing it is leading to though is the diversification touched on in November's Caversham Bridge. It is also one of the factors that has increased the suspicion with which landowners and the general public eye each other.

As far as landowners are concerned, the behaviour of an irresponsible minority of the public has coloured their expectations of what the rest are likely to get up to once they set foot in the countryside. Members of the public tend to see farmers as destroyers of the environment whose attitude to the public is "Keep out. Trespassers will be prosecuted". Unfortunately these positions are not going to change overnight, but welcome signs of dialogue are beginning to emerge.

One encouraging sign to those who do not have the problem of managing an estate in modern society is that both Lord Coke in his address and John Eyston, in a recent talk to Reading Civic Society, came over as being passionately devoted to the estates that have been in their families' possession for generations and do not intend to spoil them. Both might find they have a stronger ally in the general public than they hitherto expected.



PUBLIC FOOTPATHS


One particular bone of contention is the closure of the foot-path through Chazey Wood. Mapledurham Estate declares it never was a public right of way and the definitive map bears this out. Nevertheless, members of the public, and they are not confined to Caversham, feel that a right of way has been established by usage for as long as anyone can remember. Feelings at the meeting ran high and the message certainly came over very clearly that, whatever the reasons, people felt the estate had behaved badly in this respect. The final word from the floor came from a member who said whilst the estate had without doubt acted legally, they had not acted as good neighbours and perhaps there could be talks to work out a compromise. So the meeting ended on a friendly footing after all.

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ROUND THE CHURCHES

ST JOHN'S CHURCH

The Centenary Year was fittingly concluded by the Rededication Service held on November 8th. The Service was conducted by the Revd Alan Wilson and the Parish Clergy were all present, together with many past clergy, all of whom heard the Revd John Stevinson preach on the 'Sharing in the Sharing of God'. John looked back over shared moments of joy and sadness and looked forward and urged the congregation to rejoice in the Sharing in the Sharing of God for another hundred years "to expect to be surprised by God. You are made in his image, born to be creators and divine lovers. You have been given a Spirit and are members of the communion of saints" — Rejoice.

The Rainbow Circle (Sunday School) has taken a new format with regular worship and praise for the whole family at 11 am every Sunday. Mrs Jane Robson has spearheaded the music development and meaningful worship has

followed. Mrs Vivian Simpson has led the practical craft creations, but is to work full time and new help is sought to help with the children's activities. Enquiries to the Revd Alan Wilson 471814.

The Mother's Union, following successful participation in Flower Festivals, Harvest celebrations and fund raising, has settled back to exploring its wider implication and has welcomed Diocesan speakers concerning Overseas and Literature.

A start has been made towards the Church Urban Fund contribution with a very successful Beetle Drive. Now they and Church members are settling to the more serious side of this new project, to raise over one million in Oxford to aid Urban City regeneration. Please note Jumble Sale January 14th at 2pm in Caversham Hall. Give generously of your good jumble and bring your friends, a warm welcome will be ready.

Enquire to Mrs Linda Blackburn 479395 or Mrs Ann Deane 473798.

Remembrance Sunday was made particularly memorable this year with a greatly increased support for the service at Caversham Memorial, so much so a public address system will be needed. A long parade was led by the Boys Brigade band and a large parental army walked beside.

In the evening a very beautiful Mass was sung by the choir, Durufle Requiem, filled the Church and the worship and prayer were deep and emotional. Very sincere thanks to the choir and Len David for this aid to worship. Thanks also to friends from the Sainsbury Singers who augmented the Choir; \$75 was sent to their Charity for the RBH.

Advent has now started and an Advent Crown has been made to enhance the worship, looking forward to Christmas Day.

Chapel-On-The-Hill Parents' & Toddlers Group



E S Archer

Since September 1988, every Tuesday about 1.30 pm mothers (and fathers) bring their 'under-fives' to the Chapel-on-the-Hill hall for a busy and happy afternoon. The parents too, enjoy the opportunity of having a cup of

fee and a chat. After having a glass of orange juice, it is 'action' song time; then the afternoon finishes at 3 o'clock, in time to collect older brothers and sisters from

school. Most of the variety of toys have been donated, and are well-used. The Group is under the care of Glenys Payne, (who has Nursery and Infant School training,) with the help of three assistants.

In the New Year it is hoped to have a morning session from 10.00 to 11.30am and also to open the Group to mothers and children who are not members of the Chapel-on-the-Hill.

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

This year St Peter's was host for the ecumenical service held on Advent Sunday evening as a preparation for the Advent message of hope and joy. The united service celebrated the united Christian hope. The choir candles were lit and the rest of the church remained dark. From the west end a small procession of

cross bearer, two candle-bearers and the Rector made their way slowly through the chancel, stopping at the ends of each pew for a reading (by folk from other churches), prayers and a carol or hymn and then the candles along the pews were lit. As the service progressed and the procession moved slowly forward, so the church became lighter,

until by the time the altar was reached, the church was shining with candles held by each member of the congregation. Here the Gospel was read — St Luke 4; 14-21.

It was an impressive service and good to have so many from the other Caversham churches join in the worship.

St Andrew's Fellowship

St Andrew's Fellowship at their November meeting had great pleasure in welcoming Mr William Dear for a return visit, this time to talk and show slides on Brownsea Island. The island, situated just outside Poole Harbour has a long and fascinating history. The Danes met with disaster there in the treacherous seas while trying to invade Britain and lost many men. Later it came under the jurisdiction of the Monks of Cerne Abbey, to be followed by Henry VIII who realised its strategic value and built a blockhouse there. After a long string of private owners it came to the eccentric Mrs Christie who would allow no one on the island and packed off all the in-

habitants to Poole. When she died her son was unable to pay the death duties, and it ended up, via the Government, in the hands of the present owners, the National Trust.

The old blockhouse had eventually been demolished and a castle built on the site. This is now leased to John Lewis as a holiday hotel for its staff. Rachel, the daughter of two Fellowship members, Peter and Jane Steer, spent two summers working there recently! Boy Scouts also have a camp site there.

The slides which followed were beautiful and informative and left everyone planning a visit to Brownsea on a Fellowship outing next summer!

A HAPPY EVENING AT ST ANDREW'S

Clergy and members from congregations in all the districts of the parish joined St Andrew's congregation in celebration of their Patronal Festival on 30th November. It was a joyous occasion, especially for the Revd Bill Carpenter experiencing his first St

Andrew's Day in Caversham. The choir led the congregation in a new setting of the service by organist and choirmaster, Ian May, and sang Handel's magnificent anthem, 'Let celestial concerts all unite' in a truly uplifting manner. John Crowe, Rector of

Dorchester on Thames, was invited to preach. John first came to Caversham in 1967 charged with starting the Church in Caversham Park, and he was welcomed back by many old friends. His sermon was inspiring, and gave great heart to those working

for missionary causes, by saying we all had to look outwards, and not inwards.

After the service a large number retired to the Hall where excellent refreshments were enjoyed, and old friends were able to talk.

HELP!

Help is urgently required with the Guide Company at St Anne's Church. This flourishing company may have to close at Christmas unless some adult leaders are found. Anyone interested please contact Jane Mansfield on 473656 or ring 477869 or 576587.

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ROUND THE CHURCHES

GOSBROOK ROAD REVIEW

Everyone at Caversham Methodist Church, Gosbrook Road would like to wish all readers a Very Happy Happy New Year, and every blessing in 1989.

Looking back at the end of 1988, many events and services were enjoyed at Gosbrook Road. The Christmas Fair raised over £400 which will help towards building maintenance. Gerry Alderman organised a very successful quiz night when 9 teams pitted their wits against each other. Questions ranged from general knowledge, history, music and the Bible. The winning team were

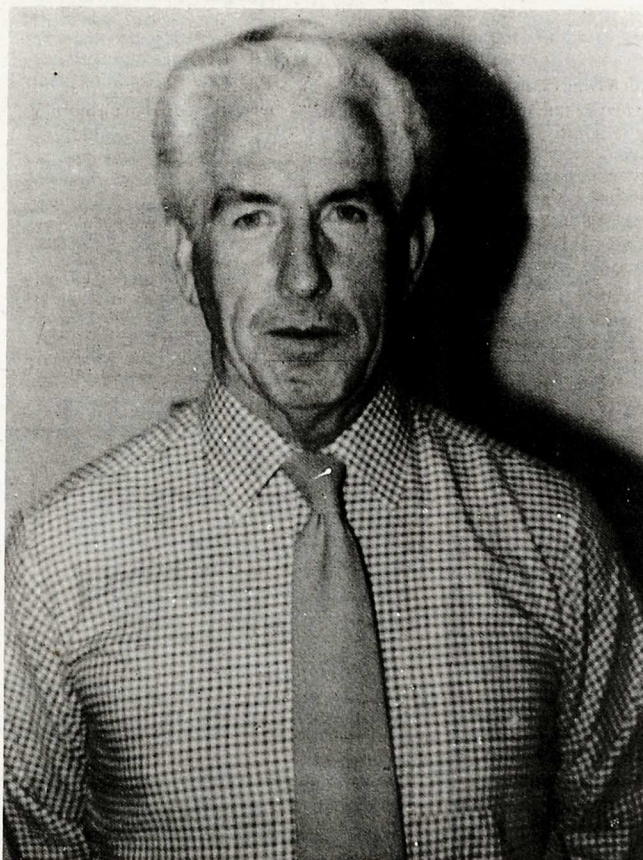
guests from Wokingham Methodist Church, so there may have to be a return match to see if Caversham can win back the crown.

The Women's Fellowship held their AGM which reflected a very successful year. Thanks are due to the leaders who organise an extremely interesting meeting each week for the ladies (and also some men!) Christmas donations were recommended for the Caversham Good Neighbours Scheme and a local Residential Home. Outings and meetings were well in hand for the 1989 session.

On November 2nd some members of the Ambassadors Drum & Bugle Corps travelled to Sheffield for the Drum Corps Federation Individual Championships.

Caversham's results were as follows: - Matthew Fry - First, Junior Tenor Drums. Andrew Reed - Second, Senior Baritone Horn. Lorna McArdle - Eighth, Senior Baritone Horn. Vincent Mann - Joint second, Junior Soprano Horn. David Bailey - Second, Junior Snare Drum. Martin Rogers - Fourth, Senior Snare Drum. David Champion - Fourth, Senior Soprano Horn. Many congratulations to all who took part.

MR JOHN MEESTON



SUE RYDER SUPPORT GROUP CAVERSHAM

This is the time of the year when Annual Meetings are held and the Group is no exception. Members were pleased to hear that as a result of their activities £1,000 would be sent to the Home. They would like to thank all their supporters who have made this possible, givers, buyers and volunteers.

They also had great pleasure in the reflected glory of the hard work of one of their members. Mrs Stephanie Clark, together with her family, organised a Big Band Concert at Twyford. A large tombola was held at

the event as a result of local firms' generosity and already £1,000 is on its way to the Home.

The Group would like to apologise to all who were disappointed over Christmas cards. It was due to failure right at the top and beyond local control. Only a fraction of the demand was met and steps have been taken to ensure an adequate supply next year.

The next event is the Annual Jumble Sale on April 8th at 2pm in Caversham Hall, so please save all your gifts for then.

ST PETER'S WIVES

The members of the SPWG have had a selection of speakers, visits and trips to suit all tastes during 1988. Catherine Radcliffe, a dietary consultant, reminded them that nature's remedies were available in modern form. Mildred Cookson talked about her job as the miller at Mapledurham Mill. She works mostly single handedly producing flour for the estate and for sale, from wheat grown on the estate. In June some members visited the Sue Ryder Home in Nettlebed to be taken round the lovely grounds and to see a video about the home. Mrs Esme Boshier told her story at the July meeting. Partially deaf since a child, she told how she suddenly became totally deaf and how she coped, humorously in many situations. Also in July there was a trip to The Bodyshop in Reading for a demonstration of their products. The Rivermead Leisure Centre was visited in August and members were shown the facilities. Then Mr Hawkins, a JP for twenty years, talked

about his experiences in London as a Magistrate, which seemed quite different twenty years ago from today. In October Mrs Hudson brought flowers with her, real silk, plus many Christmas decorations to show how they could be used to decorate members' homes for Christmas. There was also a trip to the Mill at Sonning to the theatre.

Most of the speakers and demonstrators invite questions at the end of their talks, and often there is an interesting discussion.

In December the Group had their Christmas party and went out carolling to raise money for charity.

The first meeting in the new year is January 17th at Church House at 8pm to hear the history of St John's Ambulance.

Anyone interested in an informal, two hour, get together once a month, with a variety of speakers and visits and friendly social contact, please get in touch with Jean Fry. Tel. 470753 or Shirley Longstaffe Tel 471754.

THE LINK GROUP

During 1988 the small light of Caversham's own ecumenical group continued to glow. During the many years of its existence membership has changed, but happily representatives of most of the churches in the area still gather for once-monthly meetings and work together on various projects.

thing much to be enjoyed by all concerned. (It is a great pity that "Tea Party" events are having to be cut down through lack of drivers).



The Link Group looks forward to an active 1989 and will welcome new members at any time. (Chairman Susi Robinson, 478371 will be pleased to give more information). To all members, present and past - Happy New Year.



During the last year much good work was put into the "Good-as-New", the Tea Parties for the Disabled, and general support of local "needs". In August members took several families (recommended through medical sources) on an outing to Child Beale Trust. It is good to look back from the depths of winter to a beautiful day spent by paddling pools, visiting the animals and a Punch and Judy show.



Congratulations to Mr John Meeston on being awarded the O.B.E. He received his honour in conjunction with his work in occupational safety with Rank Hovis McDougal Ltd with whom he has been connected since 1963. John is a very active member of St Margaret's Mapledurham.

More appropriately, plans made at the meeting on 28th November were all for Christmas activities, particularly for the Christmas lunch, to be attended by usual "Tea Party" folk, at Vera Scott's home, some-

CONGRATULATIONS

TO CAROLINE AND ADRIAN DORBER on the birth of a son, John Edmund Charles, a brother for Clare, in Portsmouth Hospital on November 16th.

TO MISS ELIZABETH NUGEE on attaining her 100th year. Many old Caversham friends went to the birthday party at the Old Vicarage, Mouldsford for this celebratory occasion. Miss Nugée was once "head girl" and oldest resident at Springfield St Luke before its closure. Best wishes to her.

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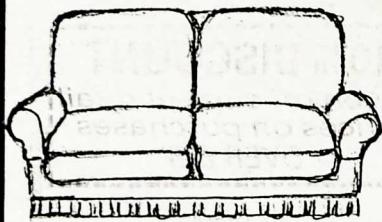
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OBITUARIES

NELLY MARY TOMLIN — 17.9.1909-16.11.88

John and Nelly Tomlin came from Windsor to live at 32 Kidmore Road in the winter of 1962. They joined St Andrew's right away and Nelly became involved in church activities from the Mother's Union to being one of the first in a catering team who had started coffee after the service and catered for special church celebrations and the summer fete. She was always ready to visit anyone in need and there are many families whose elderly relatives looked forward to her companionship and care.

Nelly showed a

special affection for children and literally took on board many families in the church to whom her great kindness is well known. She especially enjoyed her small job at Hemdean House looking after the younger children during lunch hour and made enduring friendships.

On August 10th 1985 we all remember the golden wedding celebrations shared jointly with Les and Edith Hardy — a Eucharist of thanksgiving and a party afterwards. We all met her daughter Pamela and son in law Peter and their two delightful

daughters, Helen and Louise now 20 and 17.

Nancy Vincent writes

It was on November 1st 1978 that the first tenants began to move into Wordsworth Court, Emmer Green, and that Nelly came to take on the job of Relief Warden. She made it her first priority to get to know everyone as soon as possible, and the new tenants very quickly realised that here was someone who promised to be actively kind and helpful, and indeed, a friend. That promise was amply fulfilled and Nelly has always been a



E. S. Archer

Mr and Mrs Tomlin (at their Golden Wedding Party).

popular and much-liked figure here. After she gave up the job about two years ago, she found that the habits she had formed of doing ordinary shopping, getting prescriptions dealt with, and sometimes of doing really extraordinary shopping, were too strong to give up, and she continued her kind attentions and administrations right up to the very last. Her cheerful voice and laughter will be very much missed.

Another friend writes:

Nelly's gifts were not exclusive to St Andrew's but spread throughout Caversham and her links with the

Parish Holiday over many years were deep and lasting.

Another group in our community who will greatly feel the loss of Nelly is the Caversham Pop-in Centre. She was there in Church House come rain or shine most Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Not only did she make coffee and made people feel at home, she chivvied and teased and could talk anybody into anything. Her happy outgoing nature was a tonic to everyone who new her.

The basis of Nelly's life was her strong Christian principles and for these she was contented to spend and be spent in, God's service.

MRS LILLIAN CALVERT

From the Caversham Heights Methodist Church's Newsletter the Rev. Keith Saunders writes:

"It is with great sadness that we record the death of Lily Calvert in her one-hundredth year. She died at the Royal Berks Hospital five days after a fall at her home. Aunt Lil, as she was affectionately known, was our oldest

church member, and right up to the Sunday before her death had a regular place in our services and the weekly activities. She had a great love for the Church where she had worshipped for the past 63 years.

Her faithful witness to her Risen Lord, her enjoyment of life, family and friends, combined

with a bright sense of humour, endeared her to everyone.

Our loving sympathy goes to Joyce and the other members of the family."

The Editors of the Bridge are proud to have commissioned a Profile of Mrs Calvert for the May 1988 issue. They would like to send their sympathy to the family.

CAVERSHAM CAMERA CLUB

On Friday night, October 28th, members of the Caversham Camera Club were treated to a demonstration of the finer arts of photographic printing by local expert, Peter Handford ARPS.

Peter had previously distributed identical photographic negatives to club members to invite their interpretations of his work. In front of club members Peter then produced his own print, explaining how it was done, and the little tricks he employed to impose his own interpretation on a picture. Peter's print was compared with the members' own work, and led to a discussion around styles in photographic printing.

Club members are still out and about photographing Caversham and its people. With the backing of Ivan Williams, owner of the local Marparts motor accessories shop, the club is producing a photographic essay

of Caversham to be shown around the country. An intermediate review has been held to select the best pictures, and members are now working to finalise their pictures of Caversham.

Camera Club Gets the Birds

Wildlife photography is traditionally a favourite subject for many amateur photographers, and to capture the wonder of nature on film is not an easy task. On Friday, November 18th, Nigel Phillips, Warden of the Warburg Nature Reserve at Bix, took members of the Caversham Camera Club for a winter walk in photographs along the banks of the Thames, and into the surrounding countryside.

Members were entranced with Nigel's beautiful photographs of the many species of water bird, and other animals, to be seen in winter, and many

felt tempted to emulate Nigel's work, although it does mean getting up very early in the morning!

On Friday November 25th the club held a special competition for photographs taken of Reading Market, which was judged by local photographer, Tom Hustler.

Tom Hustler had challenged the club members to produce a series of pictures for him which would give a pictorial essay of Reading Market. Tom on his part would do the same and present the expert's interpretation of the subject, using his pictures to give guidance on how best to tackle such an interesting subject. Tom gave an extremely interesting, entertaining and sometimes ribald tour of the market, demonstrating perfectly how to 'see' pictures in a set

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Turn to page 11

KATY IN CAVERSHAM

ARMS

YOU WOULDN'T THINK IT POSSIBLE to live in Caversham for nearly 30 years and still not know half of what goes on. It was only a leaflet pushed through the door which drew me to a Christmas sale at the Arms (Action for Research into Multiple Sclerosis) Therapy Centre in Patrick Road in November—I never knew the place existed before. Actually it was an event of which Richard Kingsbury would have thoroughly approved—there was so much fun and laughter going on that it was difficult to believe that most of the helpers were MS sufferers. I'm told these events take place about three times a year. It was good value too, with something for everybody. I've asked if we can be informed of future events in order to publicise them, but in the meanwhile apparently they do advertise in the local papers—it's worth watching out for.

COMEDY POEMS

At the sale I picked up a little book of poems produced by a lady called Wendy Huntley. They are pleasant little jingles and it seems Wendy has produced it to raise funds for ARMS, and they are on sale at the local bookshop. The organisers are very sorry if anyone was misled by the article in the 'Reading Chronicle' giving the price as, I believe, 20p.; in fact it is £2, but since it is such a very good cause I doubt if anyone will quibble.

BOOKS

And, talking of books, I see our local bookshop is now opening all day Wednesday. I hope this fact will be mentioned in the local papers since I know for a fact that people come from all over Reading to this shop, which is probably the most helpful and informative of its kind in the district.

GUY BROWN

I'd just turned in last month's column when I had a frantic call from Jerry Brown at the Pet Shop to ask if I could cancel the paragraph about Guy—they'd just had a phone call to say he was coming home as there was difficulty about getting him a work permit in Italy. Unfortunately I wasn't able to get the item cut out and do apologise to anyone who has seen Guy in the shop and wonders what the dickens I was rabbiting on about. The company, it seems, was so pleased with Guy's work that they are pulling out all the stops to get his permit organised so that he can join them for the July tour. In the meanwhile Guy has been helping in the shop before setting out for a Christmas tour somewhere up north.

PROSPECT FURNISHINGS

It's comparatively recently that I've got to know Harry Ellis who runs this shop in Prospect Street, so I'm sad to see him leave the district to go and live in Bordeaux. Harry's wife, Gisele, comes from this district and over the years they have frequently visited it. The couple actually met when Gisele was working in Caversham as an au pair; they were married at St Anne's Church and the children, Jean-Pierre and Dominique were educated at St Anne's and at Hugh Faringdon and St Joseph's Convent. So Harry will be very sorry to leave Caversham but has promised to keep in touch—he's making arrangements to have the 'Bridge' delivered to him in France.

He particularly asked me to mention that he has been checking up and finds he has had 2,800 customers on the upholstery side, to say nothing of those who came in to buy antiques; and in all that time he can't remember one awkward or miserable customer. That's certainly saying something—we shall miss him.

BILL AND NETTA MOORE

He is leaving the business in good hands, however, since Bill and Netta, who live

in Surley Row, are taking it over. So we send them our best wishes for the new venture and to Harry and Gisele for a very happy retirement.

NEWSAGENTS

Another sad change is that Mr and Mrs Cook, who live on Caversham Heights have finally retired from the Prospect Street shop after, I think, 10 years. It would be hard to find a nicer couple; Mrs Cook will be remembered by many for all her efforts with the local 'wild' cats on the old allotments near Caversham Bridge who were threatened with the bulldozer some year ago. She and others made themselves personally responsible for rounding up many and taking them to the vets at their own expense to be 'done' and thus avoid the possibility of future nests of kittens in the area.

Like others, the Cooks have made every effort to make a smooth handover to the newcomers—I must call and get to know them some-time; some of the old assistants will be remaining at the shop so we shall still see familiar faces around the place.

THE BICYCLE SHOP

Several people have asked me to mention that this Prospect Street shop has moved—I can't remember where at the moment but the address is in the shop window. I've never had the occasion to use the shop myself, but it is obvious they gave good service. I only wish I could be more informative about the owners.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN

So many nice helpful people in Caversham, but what the dickens is happening to builders, repair people and so on. In recent months we've been let down so many times, mainly by people who say they will come on a certain day then don't turn up. It all began with the gentleman who promised to come and do some jobs in the garden on three separate occasions and never turned up—we've given up on him. Since then

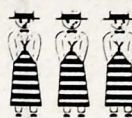
we've had similar trouble with electricians, plumbers and so on. I do realise that people working on their own sometimes have problems fitting everybody in, but why don't they say they'll come and then don't—and they all have our phone number, so a phone call explaining about the hold up would be a help. We did get a plumber but at least three electricians failed to appear. Fortunately our garage J & P Motors (they now have a shop at the top of Donkin Hill) didn't let us down—they turned up within 20 minutes of a phone call.

And the two roofing men we've approached have turned up when they said they would. As the sum involved is going to be rather large we felt we had to get two estimates. Don't yet know which we shall use, but I'll willingly pass the names of these two punctual gentlemen to anyone who wants to know.

CHRISTMAS ALAS!

The horrible truth has dawned that it's nearly Christmas. I don't know whether you will get your 'Bridge' before then, but in case you do, I'd like to send my best wishes to all the kind-hearted people who read this column. And a Happy New Year—with lots of news, please.

JENNINGS BROS



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the CLUBS

Chazey WI

Radio 210 Garden-
er's Call was recorded at
the Chazey's
November meeting.
Members posed their
questions to a panel of
experts, Bob Aggiss,
Chairman of the Caver-
sham Allotments
Association, Allan
Gould, from Henry
Street Garden Centre,
and Bill Partridge from
Englefield Garden
Centre. The Chairman
was David Addis, the
Gardening Correspond-
ent of 210.

Members learnt that
an excellent way to fill
winter hanging baskets
was with universal
winter flowering pan-
sies, polyanthus,
heathers and trailing
ivy. To keep patios free
from algae, use a prop-
rietary cleaner and
sprinkle with sharp
sand. They also learnt
that because of the
cleaner air, without the
sulphur and pollution,
black spot and mildew
were more common
on roses now. The pro-
grammes will be
broadcast on 18th
December, 19th
February 1989 and
16th April 1989.
Marion Elliott thanked
the panel for an ex-
cellent evening.

She then reported on
the Jumble Sale held on
8th October, which
raised over £100 in
spite of a poor turnout.
A Christmas dinner has
been arranged at the
Henley College on 1st
December. A two-

evening canvas em-
broidering course has
been arranged in
January. Members
were encouraged to
support Denman Col-
lege and Sue Searle
reported back on the
relaxation course she
had just been on, aided
by this year's Chazey
Bursary.

Caversham WI

Mr Mel Williams
entertained Caversham
W.I. on 17th Novem-
ber by giving an il-
lustrated talk on Wild
Life in your Garden. Mr
Williams, a biologist at-
tached to the Field
Study Centre of the
Berkshire College of
Agriculture, showed
how gardens could be
changed to attract
wildlife into them, pro-
ving that it was a fallacy
that you only had to
have weeds. For exam-
ple buddleia and
clover attract many dif-
ferent butterflies,
rosemary bees and
bumble bees and by
leaving the far end of
the lawn not mown in
the spring you can have
so many wild flowers.
It was shown that it is
not unusual to have
goldfinches, owls, bats,
badgers, shrews, foxes,
hedgehogs and even a
stoat in a town garden.

Maplewood WI

Maplewood mem-
bers who attended the
November meeting en-
joyed a nostalgic look
at "Disappearing
Reading", which was
the subject of a talk
with slides by Mr James
Gafford. The photo-
graphs had been taken
over the last thirty
years, so there was
much to interest
members, many of
whom have lived in
Reading all their lives.

The flower of the
month was brought by
Miss Winifred
Simmonds.

The Autumn Group
Meeting was held in St
Peter's Hall, Earley.
The speaker was Mr
David Parkin who gave
an entertaining talk en-
titled "Four Feet Across
England".

Caversham Ladies Club

There was a good at-
tendance of members
at the monthly meeting
of the Club. Mrs Har-
wood, Chairman,
welcomed them
warmly and then pro-
ceeded with the after-
noon programme. A
reminder of the Christ-
mas Lunch was given
with times etc., then it
was time for the after-
noon speaker — Mr
Moss — to be introduc-
ed. He showed slides
of two of his Cornish
holidays accompanied
by a commentary on
these places, and in-
teresting and beautiful
this turned out to be. So
many places to look at
and hear about. It was
hard to take them all in.
Like Port Isaac and the
harbour where one
could watch the land-
ing of fish, crab and
lobsters, Tintagel with
its twelfth century cas-
tle, purported to be
connected with King
Arthur, also its four-
teenth century grey
stone Old Post Office,
now in the care of the
National Trust. New-
quay with its lovely
cliffs and clean
beaches, Looe with its
celebrated seven arch
bridge and unusual
banjo-shaped pier. St
Ives with its old fishing
harbour, stone cot-
tages, cobbled streets
and alleys, an artist's
paradise. Mevagissey,
Watergate Bay with its
mile long stretch of
sheltered sands.
Chapelport St Agnes,
Poldark Country.
Remember the Poldark
series on T.V. — en-
chanting Kynance
Cove, Glendurgan
where children love to
swing on the 'Giant
Stride' and there is also
an unusual laurel
maze, Gyllyngvase,
largest of Falmouth's
three fine beaches, and
still so very many more
beautiful views to see
and hear about but
these must be for a
future talk.

One wonders why
so many people go
abroad looking for

beauty, when they only
need to look at their
own country. Perhaps
it's because that
'golden ball' in the sky,
namely the sun, is very
shy of showing itself in
the summer months.
What they are missing
though.

Mrs Harwood warm-
ly thanked Mr Moss
and members showed
their appreciation in
the usual manner. After
the usual light
refreshments members
departed well content
with the afternoon's
entertainment.

Emmer Green TG

The Annual Meeting
of the Emmer Green
Townswomen's Guild
was held in November.
The returning officer
was Mrs A Denning,
who announced that
Miss N Pollard had
agreed to remain as
chairman for the com-
ing year. Mrs M Pocock
and Mrs P Treloar were
welcomed onto the
committee, all other
committee members
remained the same.

Mrs D Prentice
leader of the Ramblers
described the walking
holiday enjoyed by
members on the Isle of
Man and showed pic-
tures of the group
which now appear in
the holiday brochure.

The evening con-
tinued as a social with
competitions and small
prizes were won by
Mrs M White and Mrs
D Coleman.

The Guild's 36th bir-
thday party was
celebrated with a
delicious cold supper
accompanied by birth-
day cake and wine.
Members then settled

down to listen to the
music performed by
the band of the Reading
Sea Cadets which end-
ed a most enjoyable
evening.

Caversham Community Association

The November pro-
gramme commenced
with a social evening
on the 7th of the
month. As usual at this
time goods were
available on the Near-
ly New stall. The Chair-
man, Maida Feast, an-
nounced that the pro-
ceeds of the Autumn
Bazaar held on the
29th October, were ap-
proximately £142,
which went to the club
funds and helped
finance the Club's
future events.

Major Thorpe (Retd.)
visited the club on the
14th November to
receive a cheque from
the club for £811
towards the Royal
Berkshire Hospital
Radiotherapy depart-
ment. The money was
raised by a sponsored
walk and a rummage
sale held on the 4th
August. Major Thorpe
thanked the members
and said that a new
waiting area in the
Radiotherapy depart-
ment was soon to be
opened and in use in
1989. The members
then participated in
their own Mini Bazaar
and also a Suitcase
Sale. Everyone had an
enjoyable time looking
for bargains.

Mr R. (Bob) Aggiss,
who is known for his
gardening advice on
Radio 210 and whose

Turn to page 11

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the CLUBS

From Page 10

produce often wins prizes at local horticultural shows, was visiting speaker on the 21st November. Mr Aggiss brought some lovely slide photographs to show the members and imparted a great deal of information in the process. There were colourful pictures of his own magnificent collection of pot plants taken whilst they were at their best. The views of his garden, where no space was wasted, were an inspiration to the members, who did not miss the opportunity to ask Mr Aggiss questions on their own gardening problems. Some views taken at Chelsea Flower Show and on his allotment

completed an evening that was most entertaining and for which the Chairman thanked Mr Aggiss on behalf of the members.

The November meeting closed with an Old Tyme dancing evening and table games for those not wishing to dance.

Rosehill WI

The November meeting was on the 2nd and well attended with a number of guests, some of whom will be joining the Institute. Mrs Gillings gave news of Crafts and Scrabble Meetings, and Mrs Ridley gave dates for two walks during the month. Mrs Barbara

Weller, the President, said that although the recent Jumble Sale was not so well attended, financially it was quite successful.

The Speaker was Mr Derek Anthony, from the Wessex Pharmaceutical Group. He kept members interested with facts about medicines and drugs manufactured here and used throughout Britain and overseas, keeping an even balance between human and animal patients.

He was asked to judge the competition for "Granny's Remedies"; these were too interesting to judge, so each entry was given the same number of points.

Caversham Heights TG

The annual general meeting of Caversham Heights Townswomen's guild formed part of the November meeting in St Andrew's Hall, Albert Road, when members heard a review of last year's speakers, outings, parties and activities. Perhaps the most exciting evening was when it was heard how dogs are being trained at Chinnor to help deaf people. National Council had more than once encouraged discussion on various topics, such as racing on Sundays, the use of

pesticides, and the introduction of the poll tax, and more information on the last subject is being sought. Drama group is now reading plays and has discussed the play "Dear Brutus" by J M Barrie recently performed in Caversham. A carol service in Newbury in aid of the Urban Fund Appeal, arising out of the report "Faith in the City" would be attended before Christmas. One of the pleasant aspects of the evening was a talk on and small taste of both an Irish and Devon liqueur.

At social studies it was refreshing at the end of a November day to see Mr Martin Beek's watercolours and slides which accompanied his talk about his travels in the United States of America.

Final note: our chairman for the coming year will be Janice Brown, our vice-chairman Betty Smith, treasurer Nora Goodman and secretary Joan Purton. All committee members were thanked for their work and both Clarice Lott as retiring chairman and Edith Hawkins as retiring secretary received gifts.

Caversham Afternoon TG

A happy Annual General Meeting was held and enhanced by the returning officer, Mrs Mary Fryer. Her

task was made easy with adequate nominations. Mrs Odey continues as chairman, Mrs Adair was elected as Vice Chairman, as was Mrs Froud, Secretary. Sincere thanks were given to both these ladies for adapting jobs and skills to cover the family illness of the secretary, Mrs House, to whom praise and thanks were given.

Members heard the year reviewed with speakers ranging from historical talks to wildlife and lace making to home economy. Many good visits had taken place, including to the Rivermead Leisure Centre and the Thames Flood Barrier.

The finances were healthy and charities well supported.

All looked forward to Christmas and New Year in healthy anticipation. The next meeting is on January 19th 2.15 Church House, when new members will be most welcome.

From Page 8

subject, rather than just shooting what catches the eye. The talk gave members a fascinating insight into how the professional photographer works to capture the atmosphere and character of a place, and perhaps gave everybody something to think about.

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11.15am Matins (2nd 4th and 5th 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
9.30am Family Communion (apart from 2nd Sunday)
9.30am Family Service (2nd Sunday only)
6.30pm 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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6.30pm (in Chapel)
10.45am Christian Fellowship at Mapledurham Pavilion.**METHODIST****Caversham, Gosbrook Road**
11.00am and 6.30pm**Caversham Heights**9.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday)
11.00am and 6.30pm**ROMAN CATHOLIC****St Annes** 9.45am (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, York Road** 11am every Sunday,
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(For Caversham Park Village)

The Rev Cecil Keane, 18 Peppard Road, Sonning Common. Tel: 723418.

CAVERSHAM DIARY

- Friday 6th Jan** 8pm St Peter's. Epiphany
Sung Eucharist.
- Sat 14th Jan** 2pm Jumble Sale, Caversham Hall St
John's
- Sunday 15th Jan** Christian Unity Service, Caversham
Heights Methodist Church
- Monday 16th Jan** 7.45 pm Caversham Bridge Good
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