

PRAYER FOR PEACE

THIS movement springs from the conviction that there is power in prayer, and that when prayer is offered by millions of people throughout the world it will form a continuous chain of positive thought and prayer that will encircle the earth and through the power of the Holy Spirit achieve the change of heart that is needed to ensure the survival of life on our planet.

It is intentional that the prayer begins with the individual (Lead me). This is because the seeds of peace must germinate within the individual: they will then flow into the collective. So the prayer ends with the words: "Let peace fill OUR heart, OUR world, OUR universe."

This initiative was launched at a meeting held in the Deanery at Westminster Abbey. It is supported not only by the leaders of the Christian churches but by members of the Jewish and other faiths. The first public announcement of the prayer was made by Mother Teresa in St James' Church, Piccadilly on July 7th, 1981.

The prayer is being offered with particular focus on the Second Special Session on Disarmament of the United Nations General Assembly in 1982, in the hope that world governments will have the wisdom and courage to implement a comprehensive programme for world disarmament.

WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT PRAYER FOR PEACE

The Archbishop of Canterbury and other church leaders

We hope that by the time of the Second Special Session on Disarmament at the United Nations in May 1982 there will grow a desire for peace and an unceasing volume of prayer for nations and their leaders that they may discover God's will for peace, and the incalculable value of concentrating for a few moments each day on positive peace.

Cardinal Hume

My heartfelt prayer comes with this message of support for the Prayer of Peace.

Archbishop Anthony Bloom

May the Lord grant the prayers of those who pray for peace.

Yehudi Menuhin

It is an excellent idea for everyone to stop and think for peace sometime during their busy day.

Mother Teresa

God's blessing on the beautiful words of this prayer.

Sir John Gielgud

Every good wish to your noble project.

Leonard Cheshire

I welcome Prayer for Peace with all my heart.

Archbishop Helder Camara

Every day I am praying according to your suggestion.

Rabbi Albert Friedlander

Prayer for Peace is very close to my heart.

Dame Peggy Ashcroft

This is a marvellous movement.



LEAD ME FROM DEATH
to LIFE, from FALSEHOOD to TRUTH

LEAD ME FROM DESPAIR
to HOPE, from FEAR to TRUST

LEAD ME FROM HATE
to LOVE, from WAR to PEACE

LET PEACE FIL OUR HEART,
OUR WORLD, OUR UNIVERSE...

AN MP's LETTER TO A CONSTITUENT

See also
page 8

THANK you for your letter regarding world poverty and the Mexican Summit. I need hardly say how much I share your concern over the terrible poverty that persists among so many nations of the third world.

In a statement on her recent return from the International Meeting for Cooperation and Development at Cancun in Mexico the Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, pointed out that the summit had never been intended to negotiate or make precise commitments, since countries not present would not be bound by these.

The aim of the summit had been to promote greater understanding between the participants and give a lead in seeking solutions across a range of subjects.

At the summit Britain took a constructive role in supporting the ideas of setting up an energy affiliate to the World Bank and returning to the United Nations Assembly to discuss proposals for global negotiations.

Together with the other twenty one countries Britain discussed four main themes:

(i) On food it was

agreed that aid was needed for temporary shortages but the main priority must be for developing countries to grow more food for their own people.

(ii) On trade it was recognised that trade flows are more important than aid and despite difficulties created by the world recession, the fabric of the open trading system should be maintained.

(iii) On energy the discussion focused on the need to increase investment in developing countries to enable them to build up their own resources. Hence Britain's support of the energy affiliate to attract additional money for investment, especially from OPEC.

(iv) On finance the need was recognised for developing countries to attract investment and bank lending.

On the subject of official aid figures to developing countries, the gross programme in

1981/82 is over £1,000 million. Only four other OECD countries gave more aid than Britain in 1980 and about two-thirds of our 1980-81 bilateral aid programme went to the poorest countries which find it more difficult to gain from trade or private investment.

The Government has recently announced new aid initiatives to help the poorest countries; £1.5 million to assist a number of African countries with their national agricultural research; a £4 million increase up to 1983/84 to help in the field of water supplies; £1.5 million to step up support for population programmes and £2 million for energy resource planning, all amongst the poorest countries.

The size of Britain's aid programme must depend in large part on the strength of her economy. When the health of the economy improves, the Government hopes it will be able to do more.

I trust you will find this letter answers most of the points you raised in connection with world poverty.

I was only too pleased to have been of some help. **TONY DURANT**

D/EX 1758/19/1

The Editor's Column

LOOKING INTO 1982

AS we enter the New Year there are many different matters which are likely to occupy the attention of Christians in the different churches.

1982 will be a significant year for the movement towards Christian unity. The first-ever visit of a Pope to this country will obviously arouse enormous interest. The visit may be intended primarily as a pastoral one to the Roman Catholic community but there will inevitably also be an important ecumenical aspect to it. Before the Pope arrives it is expected that the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission's report on Authority will have been published. The previous reports of this Commission have all revealed unexpectedly welcome agreement on many topics that were supposed to be matters of disagreement. It must be the prayer of all of us that the report on Authority will be another landmark and that the service which it is planned the Pope will attend in Canterbury Cathedral will mark further progress in the healing of our divisions. Here in Caversham we look forward to welcoming Bishop McCartie, the Roman Catholic auxiliary Bishop of Birmingham when he comes to preach in St Peter's at a special ecumenical service on Sunday, January 17th at 6.30pm.

THE COVENANT SCHEME

This coming summer the Anglican General Synod of the Church of England, the Methodist Conference and the Assembly of the United Reformed Church have to decide about the proposals for covenanting for unity. These proposals were produced in 1980 by the Council for Covenanting under the chairmanship of our own former diocesan bishop, Bishop Kenneth Woolcombe. The scheme provides among other things for the mutual recognition of the ordained ministers of the covenanting churches, and commits the non-episcopal churches to the acceptance of the historic episcopate.

There is every indication that the Methodist Conference is likely to approve the proposals. If however the Church of England rejects them it will mean that a second time we have come near to taking an important step towards unity only to say no at the critical moment. Not only will the rejection of the scheme effectively put paid to any further attempts at unity between Anglicans and Free Churchmen for a long time, it will also make it crystal clear to the non-Christian society in which we live that the Church of England is more concerned with niceties of ecclesiastical order than with the reality of the situation as society grows noticeably less Christian every day. Critics of the scheme say we must have caution. Abraham went forth with faith however — not with caution.

MINISTRY

Another big issue facing the churches is our understanding of ministry, especially lay ministry. In part this has been forced upon us in all the churches by the decline in the number of ordained ministers. In Caversham we plan to study this subject in ecumenical groups this spring. Perhaps the biggest hurdle to be overcome is that of getting the occasional churchgoer to accept the ministry of other lay people.

Too often we hear the remark: "No one came to see me from the Church," when in fact two or three people "from the Church" have paid them a visit. But in the minds of many people the Church is equated with the clergy: Church people themselves encourage this thinking when they use the phrase "going into the Church" when what they mean is "being ordained."

But if we do not "go into the Church" at our baptism then I for one do not understand what baptism is about. Perhaps we have failed to spell out sufficiently clearly what are the distinctive functions of the priesthood: when that is understood more people will see many forms of ministry can very properly be exercised by lay members. We ought not to forget that in Caversham the lay members of the different churches already do far more than in most places: this is not however to suppose that with all the resources and talents available in our community this form of ministry cannot be developed still further. It should also be realised that the work of the laity can in fact create more work than only the clergy can do.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

There are other matters which will also clearly occupy the attention of Church people in the months ahead. The apparent lack of progress at the Mexico summit on the Brandt report should mean that Christian efforts to persuade governments to take steps to remedy some of the problems of the Third World must be continued. A growing number of Christians, especially of the younger generation, are deeply disturbed in their consciences at the widening gap between the life style of the peoples of the Western nations and those of the Third World. Since there is only a limited amount of money and resources available this inevitably leads to discussions on the morality of spending yet greater proportions of national income on weapons of mass destruction. Whatever views we may take on this subject (and our correspondence columns have revealed the concern of many readers) the immense and unprecedented demonstrations in many European capitals in recent weeks cannot be written off as of no significance. But as Christians we must be in agreement about the power of prayer and of its priority in the life of the Christian. For this reason prominence is given this month to the Prayer for Peace Movement. This has the support not only of Christian leaders from the different churches but also from leaders of other religious faiths and it has no political associations of any kind. My hope is that all our ten thousand readers can unite in using daily, if not at midday at some other time, the prayer for peace printed on our front page.

John Grimwade

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

The newspaper produced by members of the Anglican, Roman Catholic and Free Churches of Caversham and Mabledurham for the local community

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WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Sunday, January 17, 6.30pm

at

ST PETER'S

THEME

The Pope's Visit to England

PREACHER

BISHOP P. L. McCARTIE

Auxiliary Bishop in the Archdiocese of Birmingham

DAILY SILENT PRAYER FOR UNITY

Monday, January 18, 2pm-3pm

Caversham Methodist Church, Gosbrook Road

Tuesday, January 19, 9am-9pm

Caversham Free Baptist Church

Wednesday, January 25, 11.30am-12.30pm

St Barnabas

Thursday, January 21, 12 noon-1pm

St Anne's

Friday, January 22, 7.30pm-8.30pm

Our Lady of Caversham, Richmond Road

Saturday, January 23, 3pm-4pm

Springfield St Luke Chapel, Marshland Square

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

PREACHERS

9.15am: St Peter's: The Rev R. Rogerson

St John's: The Rev D. Weller

St Andrew's: Mr D. Beek

St Barnabas: The Rev P. Webb

10.30am: Caversham Free Baptist Church: The Rev D. Spears

11.00am: Caversham Heights Methodist Church: The Rev P. Sear

St Margaret's: The Rev R. Rogerson



POSTBAG

Dear Sir,

I see from the December issue of the Caversham Bridge that at some future date cans may be collected as bottles are now, and sold in aid of kidney dialysis.

May I respectfully point out that certain organisations, including the Reading Standing Conference of Women's Organisations, of which I am a member, already collect, not actually cans, but the aluminium tops from wine and whisky bottles (but not the screw type variety) and more importantly, the "Pull rings" from beer and soft drink cans.

I already have a box for

depositing same in the porch of St Andrew's Hall, adjacent to that for foil, and they may also be left on my doorstep at any time, and when I have sufficient I take them to the collecting

point. Profit from the sale of these goes, like the glass, towards kidney dialysis machines.

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By WATCHDOG

RIVERSIDE SUMMERHOUSE

Welcome news about the Caversham Court Gazebo. The Manpower Services Commission has agreed to include it in its programme for this coming year and we should therefore see this long standing task completed at last.

For over ten years, members of the small Trust established to raise money to restore this little building, unique along the Thames, have, because of inflation, seen their target rush ever ahead of them. At one time it seemed as if they would have to be content with having made the building sound and weather-proof. Now it will be possible to use it again in a way, it is

to be hoped, appropriate to the original use. The various organisations which use Caversham Court for their summer fetes would surely welcome the idea of serving teas in it, and perhaps at non-fete weekends, local organisations could run a rota to serve refreshments in aid of their funds. This would make a welcome addition to the amenities of Caversham Court.

HEDGES AND TREES

Sadly, though, with one attraction restored, another is lapsing into a state of decay. The ancient yew hedge has deteriorated to such an extent that drastic action is going to have to be taken to restore it to health. This will

entail some severe cutting back and as yew hedges are, by their nature, slow growing, we cannot expect to see this venerable hedge regain its former familiar appearance for many years to come. But without such an operation, the hedge is unlikely to have much future at all.

Further up the escarpment, trees on the site of Wychcotes are in a very vulnerable position. Nine houses, still very expensive, even after a reduction of many thousands of pounds, are being built there and the Borough Planning Committee made a preservation order on existing trees, with very specific and positive precautions to

safeguard them during building operations, a condition of granting planning permission. These conditions have not been observed and an enforcement order has been served. The developers have appealed, claiming that their marker tapes are doing a perfectly adequate job, so the Department of the Environment is holding an inquiry into the matter on the basis of written representations only.

So many trees have already been lost along the escarpment that if any more go the familiar wood-clad bank will disappear and only a residential suburb, albeit more spaciouly laid out than most, will be left to be looked at from the bridge and opposite bank. It is, therefore, good news that two hundred beech sapplings, provided by Reading Borough Council, have been planted along the Warren by Berkshire Conservation Volunteers. It could even be argued that those who look at the trees benefit from them even more than those who live amongst them.

Another gap was left when the poplars lining the road leading from Reading Bridge were discovered to be decayed and had to be felled. However, the Borough Council, assisted by donations under the Plant a Tree Scheme, replanted with Hungarian oaks. Alas, these have practically

all died, for reasons that have not been fully established, but could be connected with the amount of water still being drawn from the soil by the remaining roots of the poplars and the fact that the replacement trees were in a more advanced state than replacements normally are. The Borough Council has now killed all the poplar roots and replanted with younger Hungarian oaks, so let us hope that it will not be too long before we shall see trees breaking up the sky line once again.

Rediffusion Ltd has paid up for the cost of removing and replanting the three plane trees in Caversham Road where their heavy handed laying of a cable made large gaps in the row of trees bordering that road. It would have been a conciliatory gesture on their part to have made an additional donation for the provision of a few extra trees in a similar kind of situation in the town, for it is going to be a long time before the replacement trees acquire the same amenity value as those lost by their carelessness.

HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS

There are thirty-two miles of footpaths in Mapledurham parish according to the guest speaker at the Mapledurham Area Resi-

dents' Association Annual meeting. He was the General Secretary of the Commons, Open Spaces and Footpath Preservation Society, a forerunner of the National Trust, and he had some interesting things to say about keeping these pleasant little rights of way open. One thing which is essential is to walk them regularly, if only to prevent them from getting overgrown, so here is a splendid opportunity to combine duty with pleasure. The Chiltern Society, incidentally, is doing a splendid job of way-marking footpaths in South Oxon.

On the other hand, as well as being well supplied with these desirable little by-ways, the Mapledurham area is also bisected by a primary lorry route, but the second speaker at the aforesaid meeting, Cllr Gareth Gimblett, could offer little hope of early relief from this unwanted intrusion. Perhaps he was being realistic, but for those who have to live with this nuisance, sitting back and waiting patiently for their turn which never comes, means that the present situation becomes the status quo, and gradually is accepted as the norm and inevitable. The importunate widow got her way by making a nuisance of herself, and that is what we, within the law, must continue to do.



Caversham Bridge photographer Graham Aisbitt is here seen photographed by his mother shortly before leaving for Saudi Arabia. He will be working at King Khaled bin Abdul Aziz international airport at Jeddah on the Red Sea. "I would just like to say," he writes, "that I have thoroughly enjoyed my two years as Caversham Bridge photographer and hope that when I return I may continue in a similar fashion." Graham hopes to have his first leave so that he can serve at the Parish Communion at St Peter's on Easter Day. In the meantime the Editorial Board would like to say how indebted they are to Graham for all he has done as photographer and wish him well for his spell overseas.

CAVERSHAM PLAYERS ENTERTAIN

THE entertainment, "Caversham Players, Please," presented by the Players on the evening of November 14th in St Andrew's Hall was a lighthearted and

amusing medley of plays, sketches and songs. The first half consisted of a farcical play on the theme of a sailor castaway on an island populated only

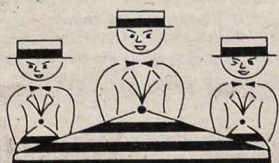
by women (themselves the victims, twenty years earlier of a similar misfortune).

The play, produced by Allan Bliss, afforded several amusing cameo sketches which were gratefully seized by the talented cast. The second part was a miscellany devised and compered by Alistair Tibble of sketches, monologues and songs in which the Players were joined by Yvonne Coe who sang songs by Strauss and Denza. She also joined with several others of the Players, capably led by Ken Etherington in the operatic(?) tragedy(?) "Antonio" which proved one of the high comic spots of the evening (even if some of the cast are unlikely to be offered engagements at Covent Garden).

A large audience obviously enjoyed the evening and as the recipe worked well on this occasion, it is to be hoped that the Players will repeat the formula in the not too distant future.

R. D. D. S.

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IT was one hundred years ago, August 18th, 1881 to be exact. A group of men and women gathered in a field in Gosbrook Lane, Caversham in an act of faith. They were meeting to lay a foundation stone for a new chapel, an iron chapel. It was to serve as the Church for the Methodists of Caversham. Not that there were many, for there were not the number of houses that there are now. King's Road, Queen's Road, George Street, Southview Avenue, Briant's Avenue simply did not exist. Gosbrook Lane itself (later Gosbrook

CAVERSHAM METHODISTS' CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

Road) was merely a gravel lane leading from Caversham Village to a collection of houses clustered near the Mill, Dean's Farm and Star Road.

This October the Methodists of Lower Caversham gathered again to celebrate the Centenary of that founding. The events arranged were most successful, including the visits of five former

ministers during the month. The Celebrations strengthened fellowships and friendships and renewed the spirit of faith which the original church founders had when they decided to build their little chapel.

But life is nothing if not full of surprises. It has, as they say, its ups and downs. And so it was for the Church members when after the celebrations there came a sting in the tail.

It was as everyone agreed, a month which had inspired and unified the Church in no uncertain manner. The fellowship and sense of belonging seems to have been strengthened, which perhaps was just as well because, shortly after, experts were called in to examine the church building which had shown ominous signs of falling apart. The experts confirmed just that, that the weight of the roof was pushing the walls out. The remedy, steel ties which would prevent the walls moving any further outwards. The cost will be well above any existing funds held, so the church members are committed to raising quickly £8,000. Not a lot by today's standards, but a great deal for a small church to raise. BUT IT WILL BE RAISED. Gosbrook Road members still retain that 1881 type of faith. They know God's work must continue in Caversham.

Church Anniversary and Circuit Rally

A LARGE contingent of boys and girls met at about 10am on Sunday, October 11th, to parade to Celebrate the nearest actual day to the opening of the Church (the first service was held on Octo-

ber 12th, 1881). The youngsters representing Brigades from all over Reading and district paraded from Chester Street Car Park to the Church for a Special service which was conducted by the Rev Terry Harris who was visiting from Exeter. The young people experienced a special message based on coats of arms of people who had helped and served God's church and this was followed by the building up of a coat of arms for a Christian today. Special hymns were used and it was a memorable service for all concerned.

The Rev Terry Harris was here for the whole weekend and enjoyed meeting old friends during the Gift Day Tea and after the evening service. On the following day a Special Circuit Rally was held to celebrate the opening of the Church. Visitors to the Church were met by the Band of the 1st Caversham BB, "The Ambassadors." During the service greetings were brought from friends from Anglican, Baptist and Methodist Churches. It was good also to welcome Pastor Hastings from The New Testament Church of God and Father Meagher from St Anne's.

Refreshments were served by the Ambassadors after the service.

On Tuesday afternoon, October 13th, special Centenary celebrations were continued with support by the ladies from St John's. Pastor Hastings from the New Testament Church was the speaker accompanied by two West Indian ladies, Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Thornhill who also spoke and sang. Mrs Turk from St Anne's Church gave an inspiring short address and altogether it was a very moving ecumenical service.

over coffee served after the service.

CENTENARY DINNER

OCTOBER 31st and November 1st was the final weekend of the celebrations. One hundred and eight members and friends sat down to a dinner which was prepared by Sheila Holley and Hazel New. After a very enjoyable meal the Reverend Ralph Rogerson introduced several after dinner speakers. Mrs Edith Wright spoke as a past minister's wife, Reverend Laurence Ashman as Chairman of the Southampton District, Mr R. Wells from Thameside school. The children of Thameside school had prepared a project on the church at the beginning of the year.

The senior steward of Caversham Heights, Mrs Janet Offord, presented an inscribed communion plate, and an illuminated scroll from friends at Caversham Heights church.

Mrs Eunice Cooper thanked her on behalf of the church and also a vote of thanks was given to all who had helped make the month such a success.

On the Sunday, the services were conducted by the Reverend Ewart Wright, and once again friends from Caversham Heights attended. It was nice to see Mr and Mrs Wright again and all friends were delighted in seeing their youngest son David who came over from Kingston on the day.

February edition

All material for inclusion in the February Caversham Bridge must reach Church House by noon on Wednesday, December 30. Lack of space has prevented many articles from being printed this month.

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HOME MISSIONS WEEKEND

THE Home Missions Weekend started with the Saturday Evening meeting addressed by Rev Robert MacBain of Wokingham. Mr MacBain's talk was centred on his time at Rise Park in Nottingham, which is an ecumenical venture on a new housing estate. He made several points on how people of mixed denominations could work and worship together. The Sunday services for Home Missions were conducted by the Rev Ralph Rogerson and the congregation were pleased to welcome back to Caversham the Rev Leslie Griffiths for the Evening Service. Many people came to the services and enjoyed meeting Leslie again

Caversham Methodist Church Celebrations (continued)

Boys' Brigade Concert

ON Friday, October 23rd the Boys' Brigade held a concert. But this was a concert with a difference, for a start because the Company is so busy, much of the concert was ad lib and almost unrehearsed, secondly it had items from boys aged 6 to 20 and girls too. The girls were from the Colour Guard who perform with the Ambassadors Band. It almost sounds like a recipe for disaster, not the girls, but an unrehearsed concert with over 100 boys and girls of all ages taking part. But it wasn't. It went like clockwork, well almost. A packed hall watched little pre-juniors tell the story of "The Hungry Caterpillar," bigger junior section boys singing and maze marching, then the older Company sec-

tion boys plus the girls did sketches and sang songs. Finally the band and colour guard climaxed the evening in a finale which was colourful and noisy

— and stirring. As parents and friends moved from the hall after a 2½ hour show, perhaps amazed that their son could sing or act like that, one parent

said: "It must have taken ages to get ready." The officer she spoke to crossed his fingers and said "yes" and thinking "Next time we'll rehearse too."



Some of those who took part in the Boys' Brigade Concert.

The Rev Brian Coleman



WHEN the Rev T. Brian Coleman was minister of the Caversham Methodist Churches in the years 1958-1963, music featured a great deal in the Church life. For Brian is an accomplished musician as well as being a first-class preacher too. It followed therefore that when he returned, he and his wife Dorothy should give a musical evening. So on Saturday, October 24th members were treated to a delightful evening of music of all kinds, as well as being able to listen to Brian's reminiscences on the music in his life. He played war-time songs of the sort he had played in the Naafi while serving in the RAF, Greig's Wedding Day which was played as a duet with Dorothy, and several jazz pieces where he was joined by his son John on the drums. All in all, it was an entertaining, relaxing evening where one could sit back and just listen, and remember too.

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St John's News

St John's held their autumn bazaar in aid of the Church overseas on November 14th. For the stall holders it was an all day event, because they arrived, with their goods for sale, at Caversham Hall at 9.30. They had to collect crockery and tables from the church, put up the trestles and arrange their stalls. Every year, as the stalls are set out, it becomes clear that a great deal of hard work and ingenuity, all during the year, have gone into finding and making the goods for each stall.

ANGLICAN NEWS

Continued on Page 10

Indeed the bazaar would not be possible without the help that is readily given by the congregation, and their friends and neighbours.

This year the bazaar was not formally opened, and people streamed through the doors at 2.30pm. As usual the cake stall sold out at great speed; and when they were asked why they were taking an early tea break, they explained it was not just a break, they had nothing more to

sell. Indeed it was the same with all the stalls, and by the time the helpers were able to take turns to go and buy there was very little left. Everyone was pleased, customers with bargains, and sellers and makers with the customers' satisfaction. It was a pleasant surprise that all the Summer family were able to come. It was a happy afternoon; as one stallholder said: "We have enjoyed ourselves."

The money raised was just over £400. It is still coming in, so it is not possible to give the final total yet.

A Social Evening for St Margaret's

IT may have been a very late Harvest Supper, but it was certainly a jolly good one. Almost ninety members of the Church and their friends joined in a sit-down meal at Trench Green Hall on Saturday, November 21st. They demolished plates of cold ham and tongue, savoury tarts and a variety of salads followed by delicious sweets, cheese and biscuits and coffee. Afterwards the company was entertained by talent from among the congregation, introduced by a most professional compere, Mrs Irene Lindsay. Songs from Marianne, Sarah, Edna, Jane, Sally and Bridget were all enjoyed. The return of Alfred with yet another adventure of Albert Ramsbottom and the lion received much applause. The Mapledurham Mariners contributed sea shanties. One rather embarrassing moment arose when a "local lady" gatecrashed on the evening's entertainment and proceeded to seek the audience's advice on "her problems"! The party also saw how NOT to behave in the choir. Thank goodness John

Pynn doesn't have to cope with such goings on in real choir practice. The evening ended with community singing. Special thanks to John Pynn who was at the piano throughout the concert.

It was good to welcome David and Bernice Milling and family back again and to have Derek Spears joining in his first social occasion at Mapledurham. Everybody enjoyed his brilliant performance on the piano.

The evening passed all too quickly, a sure sign of its success, for which thanks are due to Bob Avis. He put in a tremendous amount of hard work, as did all his helpers, but it was all well worthwhile for it gave many people a very happy evening.

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J. S. BACH — Violin Concerto in A minor
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HANNAH HEARN 1805-1908

A MAPLEDURHAM CENTENARIAN

ON September the twentieth, 1805, at Greendene farm, a little girl was born who was to become a Mapledurham centenarian. Hannah Hearn came into the world just a few weeks before the Battle of Trafalgar. There were two more children in the family, one brother who died in infancy and George who was three years Hannah's senior. The two children were devoted to each other and Hannah was also deeply fond of her father. In those early days there was no proper school in the district, so Hannah spent much time with her father on his rented farm. Often she was lifted up on to the back of one of the great farm horses for a ride and at hay time, her father would pick her up carefully on his hay fork and place her on top of a waggon-load of hay, before it began the journey back to the hay loft. In later years when asked if she was ever frightened at such experiences, she replied: "Oh no, I was never afraid of anything my father did."

Although there was no school to attend, Hannah did go to a cottage at Chazey Heath for a few hours some

days where she learnt to read and write.

When she was eight her parents moved to another farm on the estate called Stirrups, which again her father rented. Here, up an old cart track off the Goring Heath Road and not far from the King Charles' Head, but on the other side, the Hearn family lived for several years.

Hannah grew into a very independent young lady and left home to earn her own living at an early age. Her first post was to live with an elderly couple in Reading where she helped them to run their small business. She well remembered the first time she was allowed home to see her parents. Wanting to make a good impression, she purchased a new bonnet and some gay ribbons with her meagre savings before she left the town to walk home. She crossed over the ancient bridge at Caversham and took the path through St Peter's churchyard, but here she sat down on one of the old grave stones, took out a needle and thread and stitched the ribbons onto her new bonnet. Then putting on her fine new headpiece she went on her

way along the Warren.

Many years later, when her parents could no longer manage on their own Hannah returned home to look after them until they died. Then she went back to Reading to live with the Reverend Sherman and his family as nurse to his children. There she remained for several years, becoming Mrs Sherman's friend and housekeeper. When Mr Sherman left his Congregational Chapel in Castle Street, Hannah took over his home and opened up a boarding house. She made many lifelong friends among the lodgers. By this time the railway had come to Reading and Hannah remembered people flocking to the station to see the first train go through at midnight.

After a time Hannah gave up her boarding house. Alterations to the chapel next door had obscured the pleasant views from her windows and Hannah was sure it would greatly reduce the chance of her letting her rooms, so she decided to leave Reading and find work in London. She was not long in obtaining the position of Matron at Denmark Hill Grammar



■ A presentation of a pony and trap given to Miss Hannah Hearn on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday at Rokeby Hall, Mapledurham in 1903.

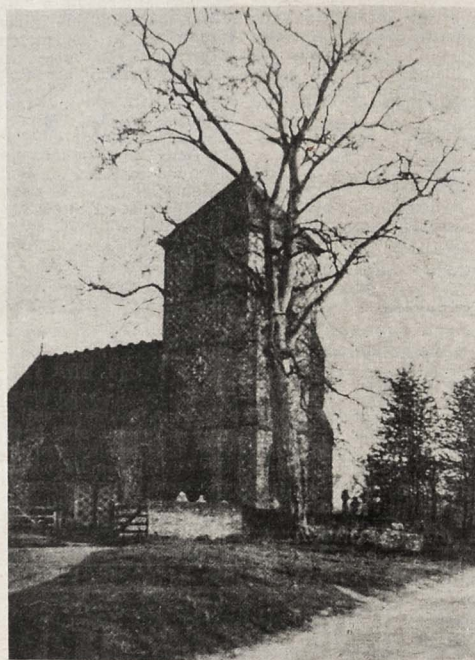
School. Here over the years she became an institution, beloved by the boys who called her Mother Hearn. She was remembered by this affectionate title by many old boys in years to come. Nothing was too much trouble to Hannah for the sake of her dear boys. Among the pupils were some whose parents lived and worked abroad. When holidays came round it was not possible, as now, for boarders to return to their families, so Mother Hearn often had charge of them in the long summer vacation and off they all went to spend a holiday by the sea.

At last the thirty years spent as Matron came to an end. The school, a mansion built by Inigo Jones, was given up and pulled down.

Wisely Hannah decided not to settle down at once, but to travel for a time before leading a quiet country life in her old age. She visited many of her old boys and their parents in England, Scotland and Ireland whilst in her seventies and then finally returned to her beloved Mapledurham where she lived with her brother George at Mill Farm. Soon George died and Hannah was cared for by her niece, Martha. They remained together for several years until Martha also died. Hannah struggled on alone, now a very old lady, until finally a great niece came to look after her to the end of her days.

For twenty years during her retirement at Mapledurham Hannah was a staunch worker for the setting up of the Chapel in Rokeby Lane, writing to and visiting anyone whom she felt could help further this project and when at last it was opened in 1898 Hannah became a regular worshipper there each Sunday, morning and evening, winter and summer alike, drawn there by her faithful pony in her invalid carriage.

The foundation stone for the chapel was laid on October the sixth 1897 and the sermon at



■ Mapledurham Church in 1938, thirty years after Hannah Hearn was laid to rest in its burial ground.

this service was preached in a local barn. The final opening was on Easter Monday, April 11th, 1898. But long before this Congregational Chapel was built in Rokeby Lane, services were held at a nearby farm house, the earliest recorded date being 1809. Then in 1846 the worship was transferred to neighbouring Cherry Tree Cottage, Chazey Heath. But even earlier than any of these meetings were ones held in 1672 by William Stallwood in his house at

Mapledurham. He was probably the ejected vicar of Bucklebury, but just where he lived in Mapledurham is not known and this is the only reference to him.

The Chapel in Rokeby Lane certainly had connections with Reading and also Caversham, for in Victorian times a wealthy Caversham man, Mr James Stevens, "... laboured long at Sunday School in Mapledurham... sometimes clothing the children, and in other ways doing great good." M. K.

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LOOK FOR JOAN IN BISCUITS

Really, I despair of those responsible for our local Co-op. With new enlarged premises and an extremely helpful and friendly staff, it's sad to be forced to shop elsewhere because of staff shortages and long queues at the check-out, to say nothing of repeated requests for popular items of grocery meeting with the story that they've not arrived from the warehouse. I happen to know local management are not responsible, so I have a message for whoever is. Really, when it gets to the stage of finding notes at the cigarette department telling would-be customers to "look for Joan in biscuits," the mind boggles. For the sake of the staff who have served us well, I would urge whoever is to blame to get his finger out and realise that he or she (or them) is running a large supermarket, not a corner shop.

WI MARKET

Did you know there was a WI Market in Balmore Hall every Friday

morning from 9.30 to 11? Those who live near undoubtedly do, as I understand a queue forms up regularly every Friday at opening time. But if your travels don't normally take you in that direction, it's worth noting that there are excellent bargains to be had, home cooking and produce, handicrafts and so on, all of very good quality. The organisers are also looking for more producers. For a very small sum you can take your surplus produce etc. along; the organisation takes 10 per cent of the takings for overheads, the rest is yours. And you don't need to be a WI member either. Standards are high and everything must be properly labelled, but if you're interested why not go along, and have a talk with the ladies one Friday morning. In the meantime, where better to start your shopping that day.

MR LA

And I'm also sorry to see that Mr La of the Tien Tien Chinese Take-away at 27 Prospect Street has departed, with his family to the wilds of Cardiff.

KATY IN CAVERSHAM

Communication was sometimes a little difficult because of the language, but our friend was always anxious to please and very grateful for the help he received from members of the local church during his early years in Caversham. His daughter is missed from the choir at St Peter's but we hope the family will be happy in their new home.

MR GREGORY, NEWSAGENT

When the property developers needed his lease, our old friend in Gosbrook Road decided it was time for him to retire from business. Life has not always been easy for him in recent years, but he was always friendly and courteous and he will be missed. Fortunately he is only moving to Wolsey Road, so old customers will still see Mr Gregory and his wife around

Caversham. Good luck to them in their retirement.

AN ABBEYFIELD HOME FOR CAVERSHAM

At the recent annual general meeting, I was pleased to hear that in spite of recent set-backs the association still intend to look for a suitable house in Caversham. The officers say there are excellent back-up services here, as well as need for such a home. Let's hope 1982 will bring them the kind of house they want.

HEINZ LABELS

Many shoppers will have noticed that Heinz are giving to charity one penny for each label returned during the next couple of months. I understand you can name your own charity, but for anyone who wishes to support the Save the Children Fund, Elsie South of 32 St Peter's Hill is collecting them and will be glad to have any by the middle of February.

WHO ARE YOU?

And I'd dearly love to know the identity of the charming little girl in the smock dress whose face has gazed at me out of the photographer's window in Prospect Street for some time. It's a pleasure to see her.

LOCAL BOOKS AND AUTHORS

I hear Mrs Fox, ex-headmistress of Thameside Primary School, who figured in these columns in the summer, has now had her children's book published and will be autographing copies of "The Street of the Starving Cats" at our local bookshop early in December; too late, alas, for this publication, but no doubt the book will be on sale for some time.

And I'd like to congratulate Sue Read of South View Avenue, who works at Reading Museum. She has just produced an excellent book of photographs of

old Berkshire — also to be seen at the local bookshop. What a talented lot we are in Caversham.

JUMBLE SALE

In these days of scattered families it's nice to hear of one Caversham family who recently got together to organise a jumble sale at St Barnabas' Hall in aid of Ken Thomas scanner fund; they raised £130 entirely by their own efforts and everyone who helped was a close relative living in Emmer Green and Caversham. I'm not allowed to know their identity, but they did want people to know what one family can do. Other families please copy.

SUE RYDER SUPPORT GROUP CAVERSHAM

THE Group may have been silent in the press but have been working very hard individually and as a team, and the results were detailed at the recent Annual meeting. Thanks are also due to their many supporters who help provide, sell and buy, and as a result £500 has been sent to the Home at Nettlebed.

Special mention of the two other endeavours, namely the selling of Sue Ryder goods in the shop and at ventures like the recent book sale and the sale of Christmas cards which this year have valued £200. People are often surprised and even offended that this money goes straight to headquarters, and not to the Home. It is however very important to remember that headquarters still funds the home at the rate of £10,000 per month, so the group still has a way to go to make the home independent.

On a happy postscript, Matron's baby is now a happy thriving six month old boy!

CHURCH NEWS

ST ANNE'S NEWS

NOVEMBER is the month for devotion to the Holy Souls in Purgatory and this was specially marked by the evening Devotions on each Sunday throughout the month, one of which was composed by Father Millard. Not many people attended a parish meeting but there was a lively discussion on finance: unfortunately there was not enough time to discuss the spiritual growth and life of the parish about which Father Meagher is very concerned. There has been a slight growth in attendance at Mass and evening Devotions but there is room for further improvement.

The parish bazaar was held on November 21st. It was a great success and the proceeds totalled approximately £1,300. It was also a great social occasion and parts of the school were used.

Fr M. McGrath until recently parish priest of Cobridge, Stoke on Trent is staying in Caversham for a short time and helping with the work of the parish.

Edith May Angers known affectionately as Edie died recently. She was a well known figure in the parish and was housekeeper to the late Fr Michael Williams. May her soul rest in peace.

BAPTIST NEWS

A FINE DIVIDING LINE

After the Antiques Evening, the "Good as New Sale" — and somewhere between the two there must be a fine dividing line. Perhaps the distinction is that people tend to cling to antiques but see a "Good as New Sale" as an opportunity for a redistribution of wealth — a refined variation of the good old free for all Jumble Sale. In this philosophical vein it is intriguing to consider the position of cakes and loaves of bread as "Good as New" merchandise — here the customers must believe that anything fresher must still be in the oven. Anyway a "Good as New Sale" was what it was called and that is what the Building Fund Committee, aided

and abetted by others, staged recently. A good time appears to have been had by all, not least the Young People who diversified by staging a "Car Wash" in the Church Car Park and one or two dejected models emerged looking — as you've guessed — as good as new. The quality of workmanship was such that even a Jaguar was presented for a face lift.

A MILESTONE

The Church recently celebrated its 109th Anniversary — no great age as churches go and it seemed to pass without any great excitement — a sign perhaps of advancing years. There were no Birthday Cards to give a little colour to the proceedings but the congregation was not allowed to slumber by the guest preacher, the Revd Sydney Clark, who proclaimed the Gospel with great gusto and what he had to say proved to be thought provoking as one might expect of a retired Area Superintendent.

AND ANOTHER

A further milestone was passed when the new fibreglass baptistry, installed as part of the modernisation scheme, was used for the first time when Mr Nigel Wright was baptised. This was an impressive occasion witnessed not only by the Church Family but by many from outside the immediate fellowship. At the Service, which was conducted by the Revd Dennis Weller, Nigel gave a thought provoking and down to earth testimony and this prompted a number of people to think seriously — or perhaps more seriously — regarding their own position in Christ's Kingdom on earth and it is to be hoped that others will boldly follow Nigel's footsteps.

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Thank you MIKE (Fishman)

Reflections on Cancun

Affluence and the Dulling of Conscience

THE Brandt Commission report "North-South: A Programme For Survival" recommended that a 22 nation summit be held; it had in mind that such a summit would launch an emergency programme to help the poor of the Third World and revitalise the world economy.

When the 22 leaders subsequently met for their summit, at the Mexican holiday resort, Cancun, in October, they did not even discuss the emergency programme. Neither did they agree to do

anything else very much. Something may eventually result from the summit as the result of the sharing of experiences that took place between leaders of the South and North. But an opportunity

BY
JOHN MADELEY

was missed in Cancun to come to grips with the urgency of the present day horror of millions dying of starvation, and do something about it. I could not help reflect-

ing, as one of nearly 3,000 journalists covering the summit, that the setting itself contributed to the failure. But that an even more significant factor behind the failure was the dulling of conscience caused by affluence.

Cancun is not the sort of place where ordinary people are likely to take their holidays. It's a kind of millionaire's paradise island. Surrounded by luxury of every kind, it was difficult to see how world leaders could possibly identify themselves

Nicholas Est. 1882

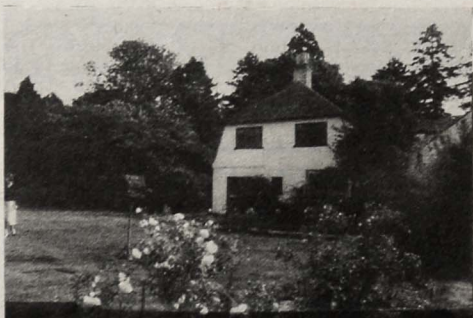
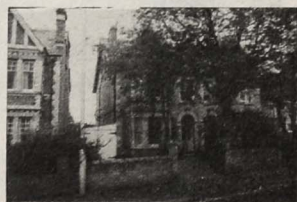
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Do we carry each other's burdens or are our consciences too dulled by affluence to bother?

with the problems of the poor. The problems must have seemed so remote.

It is worth recalling that the 18 Brandt Commissioners were getting nowhere with their deliberating at first — until someone suggested they held a meeting in Mali, West Africa, one of the poorest countries in the world. Some of the Commissioners then saw poverty for the first time in their lives; discussions were never the same after that; affluence had come face to face with poverty; dulled consciences were stirred.

It would be too easy to blame the failure of Cancun on politicians. But in fact all of us are involved; the policies of leaders ultimately reflect the feelings and wishes of the people they lead.

How many readers of this newspaper made their views on the summit clear to the Prime Minister before she went to Cancun?

How many wrote to their MP, a local news-

paper, made sure they kept up in the press about what was going on? How many are doing anything about world poverty other than dropping a coin in a tin now and again?

Surely it is our consciences that have been dulled by affluence. It is we who scarcely care two hoots about the world's poor. It's worth reading through Isaiah, chapters 5 to 12; the warning he gave then is very, very relevant today. It is we, our civilisations that will be destroyed if we do

not listen to the South, to the voice of starving humanity, and move heaven and earth to change the present unjust situation.

I suspect we shall do nothing. Affluence has bitten too deep into our souls for us to bother. But we shall pay a high price for our inaction. Only if we shake ourselves out of the disability of apathy and make our concern for our neighbours in Africa, Asia and Latin America a vitally urgent priority, is there any hope.

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OBITUARIES

'SAINT OLIVER'

THIS is how a friend and patient described Dr Caiger-Smith (pictured on the right) who died in late October and who, until June of this year, practised at the Emmer Green surgery. That very many people in Caversham would agree with this description is evidenced by the book presented to him on his retirement, a book containing not only the names of something like 800 patients who subscribed to a farewell gift, but extracts from many letters received with the donations. Time and again they speak of his great kindness and understanding, his dedication and the very devoted service he gave us. "A doctor in the true sense of the word," said one; "He treated you as though he had all the time in the world," said another. Yet others said how caring he was, what a good listener, how he never spared himself and could always be called on. One patient echoed the thoughts of many when he wrote: "I feel I'm a better person for having been allowed his friendship."

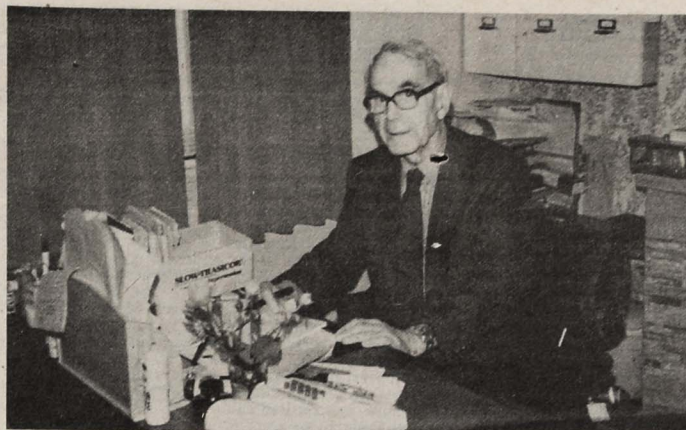
Dr Caiger-Smith, who was born in Hounslow, actually began library studies at University College, London, but it was only a year later that he found his true

bent and went to study medicine at University College Hospital. He qualified in 1934 and became house physician at the hospital and subsequently house surgeon at Hampstead General Hospital. In 1936 he joined a practice in Nottingham; he retired because of ill health in 1963 and came to Berkshire to recuperate. A few months later he joined the late Dr Barbara Pirquet in practice at Reading. They were great friends and formed a wonderful partnership.

He had a kind subtle humour and a great gift for putting patients at their ease. Modest about his own achievements and sometimes a little overwhelmed at expressions of gratitude, he himself was the first to voice appreciation of others. Even during his illness he was wonderfully quick to acknowledge the help he received from relatives and friends.

His death brought many more tributes from patients and ex-patients all over the country, including one from a patient he had treated briefly as long ago as 1935.

Sadly his wife died shortly before him. It has not been an easy time for his family and friends, who have borne more than one tragedy



in recent months. Our very sincere sympathy goes to them and to the staff at the Emmer Green surgery where his death has been keenly felt. It has, indeed, been a privilege to have known him.

ALAN COOK

THOUGH he had been ill for some months, the death of Alan Cook, for many years manager of the local Co-op, in November, came as a sad blow and the number who attended his funeral at St John's Church testified to the affection his customers, staff, neighbours and friends left for him.

Alan had been practically all his working life with the Co-op and before coming to Caversham was manager of the off-licence department in the Cheapside stores. Through all the upheavals of recent years caused by the extension to the premises, he remained always courteous and friendly. Always concerned for the welfare of his staff, his influence was reflected in their attitude to customers and in more than one way his presence has been much missed at the store in recent months.

He leaves a wife, Evelyn, a member of St John's congregation, and a married son, Christopher. To them and to all his friends we extend our sincere sympathy at this time.

GRACE NOBLE

GRACE NOBLE, who died recently, was born and educated in Reading, coming to Caversham after her marriage

to the late Frank Noble, himself well known at St Andrew's as District Warden for many years, and together they formed an ideal partnership.

Grace went about doing good; wherever a job needed to be done she was there working wholeheartedly. During the war, as member of the Red Cross, much of her time was spent at the Grove, Emmer Green, then a maternity home to which mothers came from the more dangerous areas to await the birth of their babies. She shared with her husband, a keen interest in the missionary work of the Church and worked with him on the Missionary Committee for many years.

With the late Mrs B. W. Butler she founded St Andrew's Working Party, which has raised a great deal of money over the years for missions. She was a long standing member of the Mothers' Union and also of the Guild of St Raphael. Grace was a loyal friend and wise counsellor, hospitable and kind, and there are many who are thankful for having been on the receiving end of her warm and sympathetic personality, which drew its strength from a deep faith and commitment to her Lord, though she was not afraid to be outspoken in matters about which she felt strongly. Her many friends at St Andrew's are going to miss her immensely

and she will be remembered with deep affection. The love and sympathy of all go out to Ruth in her great loss.

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ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

THE WORSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE

274 Replies were received to the questionnaire and there was remarkable unanimity on many points such as the desire to have the Old Testament lesson read at the Eucharist and for silence at some point in the service though different congregations had varying views as to the most appropriate place for this and some experimentation is still called for. The giving of the peace at the principal Sunday Eucharist which at first many people were hesitant about has now gained in favour and it was clear that the congregation of each district wished this practice to continue. The Church Council approved the recommendations of each district for the following use but opportunity will be given at the annual meetings in the spring of 1983 for further consultation.

Services of Holy Communion

8am. St Peter's. 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays Book of Common Prayer.

2nd, 4th Sundays Alternative Services Book Rite B. St John's and St Barnabas BCP weekly.

St Andrew's. 1st Sunday BCP. Other weeks ASB Rite B.

9.15am. St Peter's and St Andrew's. ASB Rites A and B. One month each in turn.

St John's. ASB Rite A 4 months — Rite B 2 months in turn.

St Barnabas. ASB Rite A.

11.15am. Caversham Park ASB Rite A (also at 7.30pm). St Peter's ASB Rite B.

St Andrew's ASB Rite B but one Sunday monthly BCP.

Said weekday services — ASB Rite B.

Sung weekday services. ASB Rite A or Rite B according to the Sunday pattern of the month.

Matins and Evensong

The BCP will continue to be used for these services on Sundays throughout the parish.

CAVERSHAM AND MAPLEDURHAM UNION

When the last vicar of Mapledurham left in 1968 the Parochial Church Council asked to be brought into some relationship with Caversham: consequently no further incumbent was appointed. Now after nearly fourteen years of close and happy cooperation the two separate parishes have formally become one. The union took effect on December 1st and now there is one combined ecclesiastical parish of Caversham and Mapledurham. This means that there will be one combined Church Council and the area covered by the former parish of Mapledurham has been transferred from the archdeaconry of Oxfordshire and deanery of Henley into the archdeaconry of Berkshire and deanery of Reading. Administration will be simplified in a

ANGLICAN NEWS

number of ways but neither parishoners in Caversham or Mapledurham are likely to be affected greatly by this change.

CAVERSHAM CHURCH COUNCIL

Meeting in November the Church Council adopted the recommendations about worship printed above on this page, and the legacy left by the late Mrs Hewlett is being equally divided between St Peter's, St John's, St Andrew's and St Barnabas to provide copies of the Alternative Services Book. Approval was given to the proposal that the Readers of the parish who already help with the administration of the Sacrament in Church should also take the Reserved Sacrament to sick and housebound communicants in their homes. The Council considered suggestions put forward by the Church and District Wardens for a slight reduction in the number of Sunday services called for by the reduction in clergy numbers but this was deferred until more people had been given an opportunity to express their views on this matter.

THE REV JOHN STEVINSON

The Rev John Stevinson who served in the parish of Caversham for nearly ten years until 1973 has been appointed Vicar of Croxdale near Durham and secretary of the Durham Diocesan Board for Mission and Unity. Since leaving Caversham he has been Social Responsibility Officer for the Sunderland Churches.

St Peter's News

ADVENT CAROLS

Congratulations to the choirs of Queen Anne's School and St Peter's Church and to their conductors, for their delightful singing to a packed church on Advent Sunday evening, November 29th. Each choir produced fine tone and style, in carols ranging from the mediaeval period to those by Benjamin Britten. Some slight faults of intonation were soon forgotten in the predominating beauty and variety of the music. Queen Anne's accompanied one carol with wind instruments and a tambourine: perhaps this could be repeated or

extended to other instruments another year, though the sensitive organ accompaniments were much appreciated. It would be helpful in future if the service sheets indicated composers and writers' names and dates where possible.

St Peter's Wives Group

St Peter's Wives Group held their Annual General Meeting in November. The meeting was chaired by the Rev Canon J. Grimwade. The Secretary's report reflected the wide range of subjects covered by speakers over the past year as well as a variety of social events. The Treas-

urer reported that the Group's finances were satisfactory at the end of the year.

Mrs Christine Cookson has agreed to stay on as Chairman for a second year of office. Three new committee members were elected to replace those retiring after their second year term. Programme suggestions for the coming year were discussed.

With the business part of the evening completed, members enjoyed refreshments followed by questions to the Rector covering a wide range of local, national and international issues.

★ ★ ★

The Wives' November meeting was another "Getting to Know you Evening." America was used as the central theme for the meeting and many aspects of life in the "Big Country" were on display. Members attending were treated to a delicious supper of Boston Beans, Hamburgers, doughnuts and orange juice which rounded off a most enjoyable evening.

St Andrew's News

The Mothers' Union

One of the outstanding Mothers' Union events of the year took place on December 1st when twenty-two patients from Borocourt Hospital were entertained with a Christmas Party. This followed the normal meeting which was addressed by Sister Frances Honore from Wantage. She gave a very interesting talk on how she became a sister and members enjoyed asking questions and discussing answers.

A large number of members and friends attended and helped to make the party a really happy one, and the Committee were grateful for gifts of delicious food and presents.

After tea the usual musical games of "Pass the Parcel" and "musical Chairs" were enjoyed. The party finished after carols were sung. Members were happy to welcome Nancy Coomb and she was delighted to come to be with her Mothers' Union friends, as Mrs Rosemary Stringer had planned.

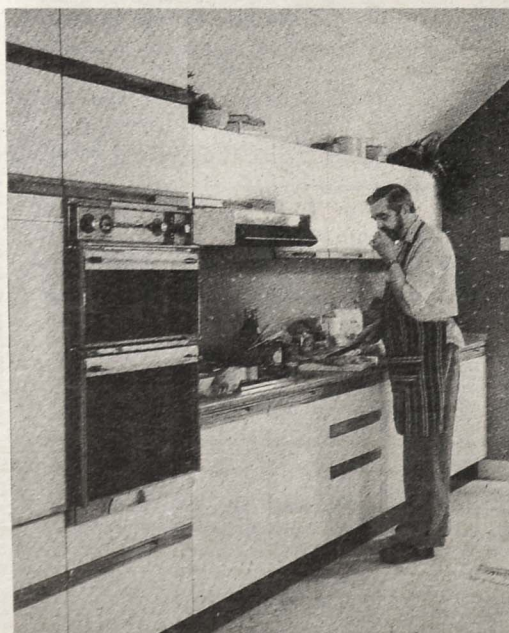
The Fellowship

At November's meeting Andrew Evans, together with six of his friends, all past or present members of Reading School, entertained the Fellowship at a Musical Evening. Some of the music was undoubtedly "highbrow," that is of the kind the artists are to present to the authorities at Oxford, Cambridge and London. However the programme was rounded off with some lighthearted renditions of Barbershop and Negro-Spiritual music which was very popular. By the time this report is printed it is to be hoped that our young friends have succeeded in crossing another hurdle of their musical careers. Most impressive was the young man who played his own compositions on the classical guitar.

In January the Rev and Mrs David Milling will be speaking on their experiences in India and in February the speaker will be from the Parks Department of the Borough.

The Fellowship meets on the second Thursday of the month at St Andrew's Hall, at 7.30pm.

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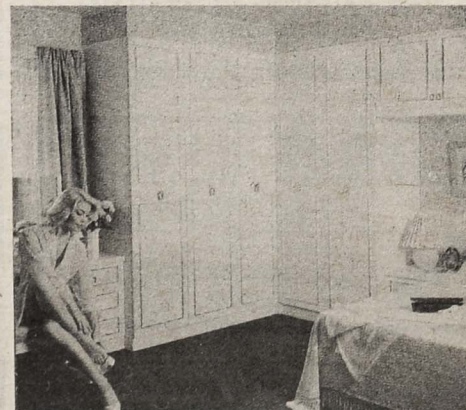
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CAVERSHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

THE Remembrance Service at the Caversham War Memorial at Thames Side Promenade was attended by members. Mrs Waite, the chairman, placed a wreath on the memorial and joined with representatives of the club in the March Past.

There was a fine display of goods at the Cane and Basketware Party held on 9th November. Josephine Strong was the organiser and had brought shopping bags, plant holders, lampshades and mats etc. for the members perusal.

A Mini-bazaar for the members was well attended on the 16th November. The stall holders had a busy time as everyone searched for bargains. There was a good range of stalls including Home-made cakes, White Elephant, Plants, Fancy Goods and various competitions.

On the 22nd November some of the members went for a day trip to Bristol and made an enjoyable visit to a food exhibition. The remainder of the members had a games evening at the clubroom. Darts, shove ha'penny, Scrabble and dominoes were played.

The following week the members were given a demonstration by the members of the Music and Movement section of the Firtree Club. Peggy Pilkington, the leader of the group, led the exercises in

this, their second visit to the club and gave the members some ideas for their own exercises at home.

CAVERSHAM DARBY AND JOAN CLUB

THE Club had a very successful sale of nearly new clothing, jewellery, toys and bric-a-brac brought by the members, and some very colourful Christmas decorations made and given by a friend. A good amount of money was raised to help towards the various functions held during the year.

Also a very welcome return of Mrs Rankin, a physiotherapist, who led the club in movements and exercises to music.

And last, but by no means least, our old friend Mrs Burdon, to play the piano for an afternoon of old songs, and some dancing.

CAVERSHAM LADIES CLUB

IN November the Club had two visitors from "All Things Nice" a craft shop in Reading. One of them, Mrs Butler, showed the members how to make Christmas Crackers. It seemed simple as she explained the method step-by-step, and several went home determined to have a go. The other visitor Mrs Silver brought along toys, jewellery,

crackers and small articles for sale in time for Christmas. Fifty-one members are looking forward to the Christmas lunch which has been booked at a local hotel.

CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

AN increase in membership over the year was an encouraging item when the events of the past twelve months were reviewed at the annual general meeting. Recently members had enjoyed an outing to the Crafts Festival at Abingdon and an orchid nursery. The Autumn Fayre held in mid-November raised well over £300 and the Chairman thanked all concerned for their help.

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

AT the 20th Annual General Meeting of the Guild the following officers and members were elected unopposed: Chairman: Mrs Jan Brown; Treasurer: Mrs June Davidge; Secretary: Mrs Audrey Denning; Vice-Chairman: Mrs Edith Hawkins; Members: Mrs N. Goodman, Mrs B. Johnston, Mrs C. Lott, Mrs E. Wilkinson.

Committee Members continuing for their second year are: Mrs K. Maule, Mrs Dorothy Moore, Mrs Doreen Moore, Mrs P. White.

In her Report the Secretary reminded members of the varied programme which they had enjoyed during the past year which ran from Jane Austen, through impressions of China, spinning and weaving, cake decorating, well dressing to experiences of a store detective. Paid up members numbered 78, with an average attendance of 40. This year National Union had accepted a challenge from Jimmy Savile to raise money for Stoke Mandeville and the Guild itself raised over £300. Social Studies Section had had a good programme with, among other things, talks on English Cathedrals, Old Caversham and the Land Army. Although the Drama Section did not enter any festivals this year they were not idle and produced a play for the Guild's Birthday Party. The Arts and Crafts Section had been very busy all year preparing for the bazaar and were well rewarded for their efforts.

In the Treasurer's Reports the Guild were given details of the expenditure for the year and the forecast for next year. The excellent result of £400 plus raised at the bazaar had made it possible to carry on with our high standard of events but 1982/83 might prove that we were only just covering basic costs.

The Chairman thanked her whole Committee for their support for the year and looked forward to another enjoyable term.

CAVERSHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

THE November meeting was very well attended. After the business Mrs Hilda Adair, The President, welcomed Mrs D. Malvern who spoke on "Make or Save Money at our Markets," encouraging members to make and sell quality goods of jams, cakes, crafts and toys etc. The speaker stressed two

of the prime factors of WI Markets was the quality of the produce and the hygienic presentation.

The competition for a hot water bottle cover was won by Mrs Lily Hensley, second Mrs Beard and third Mrs Betty Atherton.

MAPLEWOOD WI

AT the November meeting Mrs Joan Fry, the President, introduced the speaker, Mrs E. Noble, her subject "Some Personalities of the Upper Thames from Mapledurham to Lechlade." She started by explaining her whole talk took two and a half hours, but for that afternoon she would only take two personalities, Kenneth Graham and Lewis Carroll. It surprised many members how many places on the river were connected with these two writers; much was guess work but very probably true. Mrs Noble showed some lovely slides and some old pictures, some even taken by Lewis Carroll; the members were left wishing for a tour of the river.

There was no competition but thirty-two prettily decorated small parcels for the old people's Christmas party were displayed, and some cash was also given.

EMMER GREEN

TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

THE Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild held their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, November 10th at Emmer Green Primary School. It was a very busy meeting, with a new committee and officers elected for the coming year, and the retiring members warmly thanked for all their hard work. Mrs E. Risius, the retiring chairman, was welcomed back to the Guild after her spell in hospital, and took gratitude as her theme for the chairman's remarks. Her personal gratitude

was to the many Guild members who had visited her and written during her illness, and Mrs Risius expressed her thanks to the Guild as a whole for the help and support it gives to others year by year.

The twenty-ninth birthday party was held in October and Mrs S. Gudgion thanked everyone who helped to make it such a happy and successful occasion. Mrs J. Allan gave an interesting report of the SAGA conference she attended, and Mrs A. Wisemann reported very fully on the seminar "What Every Townswoman should know," arranged by the National Union and held at Marlow. One new member was welcomed to the Guild, as it looks for-

ward to another busy and happy year.

ROSEHILL WI

THE President, Mrs E. V. Ellingham, welcomed members and visitors to the November meeting. Another successful coffee morning and afternoon was held at Mrs White's home, for mental health. The Harvest Supper on October 9th was very much enjoyed. Most of those present joined in country and western dancing led by Mr Moss.

This month the talk was by Mrs D. Edwardes, "Talking of Books and a Bookshop," the latter being Wm Smith's in London Street where the speaker worked for thirty years. An exhibition of candle holders was shown by members.

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

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

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SUNDAY SERVICES IN JANUARY

ANGLICAN

St Peter's

8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am PARISH COMMUNION
11.15am Holy Communion (1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays)
11.15 Matins (2nd and 4th Sundays)
6.30pm Evensong (3rd Sunday Ecumenical Service)

St John's

8.00am Holy Communion (not on 4th Sunday)
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST

St Andrew's

8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong (not 3rd Sunday)

St Barnabas'

8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST
11.00am Service for Parents and Children (January 31st)
4.00pm Evensong (2nd Sunday)

St Margaret's, Mapledurham
11.00am PARISH COMMUNION

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

11.00am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH (The School)

11.00am FAMILY COMMUNION (1st and 3rd Sundays)
MORNING WORSHIP (2nd and 4th Sundays)
7.30pm Holy Communion (2nd and 4th Sundays)

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

11.00am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

METHODIST

Caversham
11.00am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

Caversham Heights

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

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Anne's
9.00am, 11.00am (also Saturdays 5.30pm)

Our Lady of Caversham
8.30 and 10.30am Mass

St Martin's School
9.15am Mass

Mapledurham House
6.00pm Mass (last Sunday)

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers)

meet at the Friends' Meeting House in Church Street (Reading) for worship at 10.45am. There are classes for children at the same time

WE RECORD

BAPTISED

St Peter's
Nov 29th Jane Allen
Christopher Sharpe

St Andrew's
Nov 8th Lucinda Walker
Mary Willatts

St Barnabas
Nov 22nd Michael Perchard
Caversham Park
Nov 22nd Joanne Small

MARRIED

St Peter's
Nov 14th Ivan Marshall and
Deborah Purver

St John's
Nov 21st Brian Gleed and
Caroline Tipton
Clive Herring and
Sandra Sheppard
Nov 28th Brian Collier and
Linda Egby

St Barnabas
Dec 5th Michael Seymore and
Susan Somerville

FUNERALS

St John's
Nov 9th Alice Cook
Nov 19th Alan Cook
Nov 25th Sybil Davey

St Andrew's
Nov 25th Mary MacArthur
Dec 7th William Waine

LINK GROUP

LINK GROUP's November meeting opened with Mr Ted Boulding introducing Mrs Bartlett, who spoke about her work with the Red Cross. The name and the emblem are known world-wide for aid and comfort to stricken people. In Reading, the theme is the same, although it has different applications. Courses in home nursing and first aid, ancillary services to the sick, hiring out medical appliances, taking a party of handicapped young people on holiday, are just a few. Patients with severe facial injuries are taught by trained beauticians the skillful use of cosmetics to mask the scars — a tremendous morale booster. Mrs Bartlett was thanked for a very interesting talk. The rest of the meeting was taken by the chairman, Mrs Lynda Bates; a new member was welcomed. Three appeals emerged during our business. First, from Mrs May Smith on behalf of Katesgrove House, Reading, a day unit teaching simple home economics, urgently need volunteer drivers on a rota basis, to transport mothers with children in Reading area, either taking in for 10.30am start, or returning home at 2.30pm. Only one journey need be covered — during school term time only. The Unit is in Katesgrove Lane, and can only be approached via Berkeley Avenue. Mileage allowance given. Please telephone either Mrs Carr, Reading 51092 or Upper Basildon 962 249; or Mrs Vickie Mountford, Reading 472447.

Have you any teen-age children's clothes (underwear as well) not being used? If so, Mr Chris Redfern who heads the Day Centre in Tilehurst, Reading, would be very pleased to have them. Please ring him on Reading 413316. This is an educational centre for children who, for some reason or another, have become unmanageable at school. It is pleasing to note that many of the boys and girls passing through the centre have been able to return to normal school life.

The third request is for men's clothing; this is needed for men leaving prison who often find their own clothes no longer fit them. Will you please contact Mrs K. Child on Reading 482737.

LINK GROUP wish all readers a very happy new year.

HOUSE COMMUNIONS AT CAVERSHAM PARK

Wednesdays at 10.30am.

January 6th 5 Gifford Close (Paula Andrews).
13th 9 Osterley Drive (Sylvia Pickard).
20th 20 Osterley Drive (Pat Gray).
27th 72 Kingsway (Betty Lewis).

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