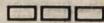


A SAD STATE

EXTENSIVE REPAIRS ARE NEEDED AT CAVERSHAM METHODIST CHURCH WHICH CELEBRATED ITS CENTENARY LAST AUTUMN. While work was being carried out to insert tie-bars to strengthen the walls, rotten timbers were discovered in the floor and roof beams.

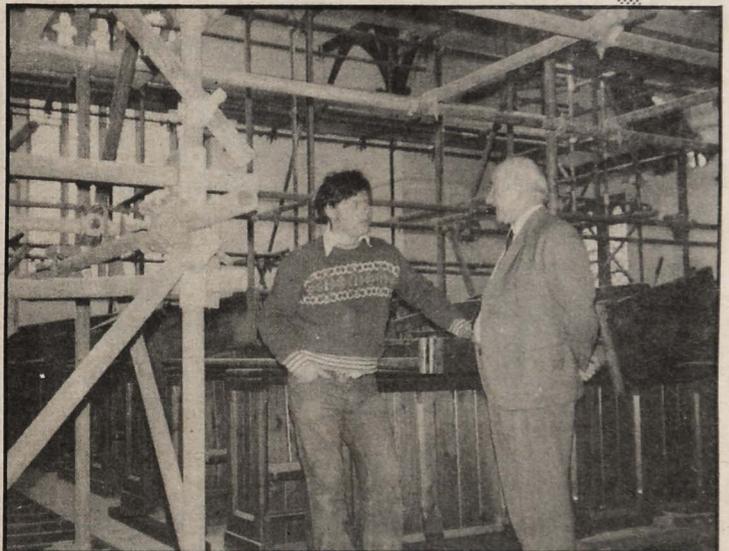


Repairs are likely to cost at least £25,000. This must inevitably raise the question as to how long it will be before expensive renovations force churches to share their buildings with each other, so that they spread the burden of their upkeep.

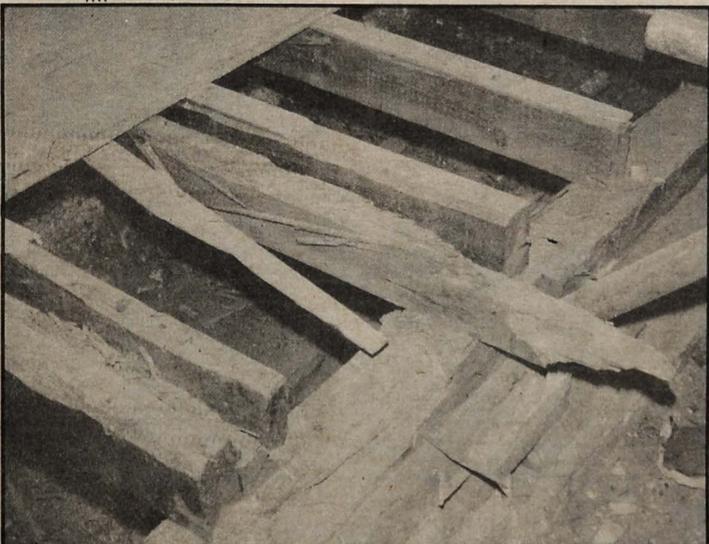
— Peter Sear



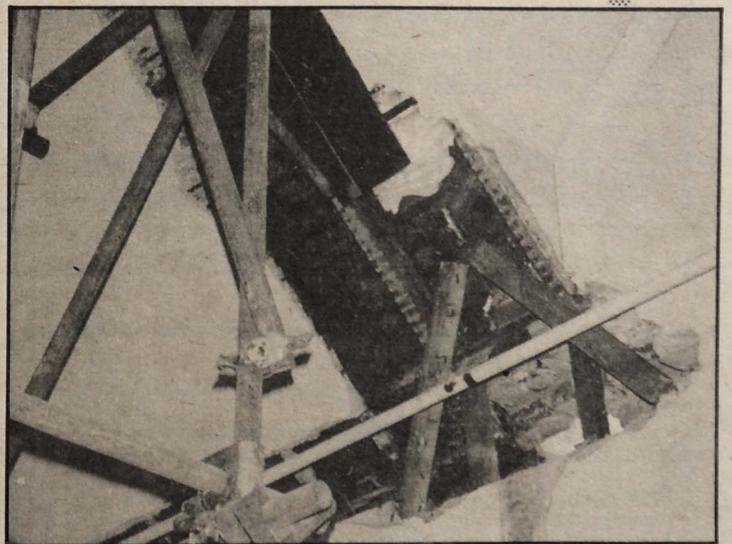
An exterior view of the Church



The Rev Ralph Rogerson, Caversham's Methodist minister, discusses the problem with one of the men working on the repairs



Floor trouble



and roof trouble

The Editor's Column

THE SPICE OF LIFE

THERE was once a man who sat at the same desk for years and did a very routine office job. He did it conscientiously and thoroughly, but he had not a spark of imagination and throughout his long career he never got promoted. At lunch-time each day he went to the same restaurant where he always ate exactly the same meat vegetables and pudding.

There are a lot of Christians like this man. Like him they may not starve but neither will they ever grow in the spiritual life, because their worship follows the same pattern week by week and omits so many elements that are important in the Christian life.

On a number of occasions I have heard young members of the Church speak candidly about Christian worship as being boring; when asked to enlarge on this they say that worship lacks variety and they know what will be coming next. This is an argument we need to take seriously because often Church members, who have to take decisions about the ordering of public worship, maintain that the order of service ought to be the same every Sunday to make it easier for worshippers, especially young ones, to follow the service. Now obviously it is important that congregations can follow the service without difficulty and it is essential that we understand what we are doing in an act of worship; but as barriers between the churches break down we are learning a great deal from each other and we need to see how we can incorporate different elements into our pattern of worship. How do we reconcile the difference between a fixed and a free liturgy? What is the place of music and of silence in public worship? What is the role of the house church for worship in small informal groups? Most churchgoers only attend one service on a Sunday and are accustomed to going at the same hour each week. When we consider the tremendous riches and variety of Christian worship as it has developed over the centuries it is important that we should be familiar with these different aspects if we are to grow and mature in the Christian life.

THE PLACE OF MUSIC

Some Anglicans and Roman Catholics attend a said celebration of Holy Communion at an early hour every Sunday. They therefore do not experience music in their worship. Yet St Paul speaks of the value of hymns and spiritual songs, and music in worship is something we have inherited from our Jewish forebears. There can be very few people so unmusical as not to be uplifted by it in some way. Again while preaching does not always have to be part of worship yet if we never attend a service at which a sermon is preached we are cutting ourselves off from what has always been regarded as an important way of maturing in the spiritual life.

I have written before of the place the Old Testament should have in Christian worship. One valuable thing that Anglicans are finding about their new Alternative Service Book is that it provides for the reading of an Old Testament lesson and the saying or singing of a psalm at the Eucharist. An earlier generation of Anglicans who attended not only the Eucharist but also Matins or Evensong on a Sunday grew up familiar with the Old Testament and the psalms; now with comparatively few attending non-Eucharistic services there was, until the introduction of the ASB, a danger that Anglicans would cease to be familiar with the larger part of the Scriptures. The psalms are a great treasure; they speak to men and women in all sorts of moods and needs and Christian worship without the psalms lacks something of real importance.

LANGUAGE

The language of worship matters. Modern services have helped to make worship more intelligible but we should all be honest enough to admit that variety has its value. In the ASB we can take advantage from both new and old. Holy Communion Rite A gives us modern language while Rite B allows us to continue to use more traditional words; this second rite also gives us the great advantage of being able to sing the music of Merbecke and other great composers; it would be a great loss if we allowed such music to fall into disuse. The Book of Common Prayer also contains many prayers which generations of Christians and not only Anglicans have grown up to become familiar with and there is immense value in knowing some great prayers by heart. I often find when visiting the dying that if I start to say some well-known collect or psalm they will join in.

SILENCE AND PEACE

The occasional meetings for worship held in St Peter's after the manner of the Society of Friends have helped many people to learn to value periods of silence in worship. It is also interesting how the giving of the Peace which was comparatively uncommon in any part of the Christian church until its recent revival is now valued by people of many denominations. (How spontaneous it seemed as Anglicans, Roman Catholics, and Protestants worshipped together in St Peter's on January 17.) Others have found a new meaning in worship through house groups and in the Eucharist celebrated in their home in an informal manner. So let us all be willing to be a bit more adventurous. We need to be sure that we are making use of the different riches of Christian worship; always to attend, if an Anglican, just a celebration of Holy Communion at 8am according to the Prayer Book rite or just later in the morning one according to Rite A is to be like the man who sat at the same desk every day doing the same work and then going out to eat the same meal.

Someone has suggested that the fifth Sunday in the month is God's gift to the ecumenical movement. Those whose worship is the same each week might consider some variation is called for on these four Sundays each year, even if only within our own communion.

Variety is the spice of life
That gives it all its flavour
wrote William Cowper. Worship without variety has not much flavour. It has also little attraction and is a poor diet for spiritual growth.

J. G. Grimwade

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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

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Postbag

Dear Sir,
Having watched "Lyon's Den" on BBC-1 on January 3, it is evident that many professing Christians support the retention and possible use of armaments for our so-called national defence, clinging to the pre-Christian law of "an eye for an eye," etc. in spite of our Lord's repudiation of this practice and offering alternative advice to "love and pray for our enemies," returning good for evil that, if followed, would bring to mankind hope, new life, joy and genuine peace.

There appear to be four main reasons why so many put their faith in arms in place of our Lord's teaching recorded in the Gospels, they being: Fear; lack of knowledge and understanding of Christ's teaching; lack of faith; lack of moral courage, reasons which I will try and analyse.

On Fear: Fear of what? real or imaginary? mistrust and lack of love can foster fear; prayer for one's enemies dispels fear. Fear can influence one to make a wrong decision, pursue the wrong course.

Dr Alan Walker, the world-renowned Australian Evangelist, speaking in Anchorage, Alaska, is reported to have said: "Fear is driving the world towards nuclear destruction. What the world needs is calmness of spirit which comes

only from faith in God. Faith and love are the answer to fear," and goes on to say: "The vast re-armament programme is a denial of the great words on American coins: 'In God we trust.' God does not contemplate or advocate the slaughter of men, women, and children."

On lack of knowledge and understanding of Christ's teaching, I am afraid it is too true that many of us fail to read or study our Lord's teaching as we ought, or we read without their substance and meaning being mentally absorbed, or not taken seriously to be followed or rejected according to circumstances, or thought impossible to carry out.

The Rev. Wm. Barclay, in his book on the study of St John's gospel, says: "Many do not know who or what they worship. Failure to think things out is a sin in itself! God being a spirit, the only gifts that befit the nature of God are love, loyalty, obedience, devotion."

On lack of Faith, in whom shall I put my trust? I read a letter not long since in which the writer said that "to be a committed Christian one had to say 'yes' to Jesus." With this I agree, but it must be an unqualified yes. The person had unknowingly divided her loyalty between the One who gives Life, and weapons that can destroy both body and soul by saying, "we must retain the deterrent." I have on occasion attended a Church of England

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, MARCH, 1982

service where the words "Render to no man evil for evil" are used in the dismissal prayer, a stark edict that expects obedience.

On moral courage, this comes through a deep and unshakable faith in our Lord; a willingness, with God's help, to obey and carry out His commands; to have a vision of the goal we pursue, and the will to pursue it, a programme of action to establish peace between men and nations.

To those who contemplate taking the vital step of renouncing ALL weapons of war I would say, you will meet with opposition, and get little support, will be misunderstood, be despised by some. But be of good cheer, stand fast, our action is based on love and compassion, not fear and suspicion. But best of all, Christ is with us in this fight. For our stay and comfort I quote a verse from Martin Luther's famous hymn, "Ein Feste Burg":

With force of arms we nothing can,
For soon were we down-riden;
But for us fights the proper man,
Whom God Himself hath bidden.

Ask ye, who is this same?
Christ Jesus is His name,
The Lord Sabaoth's Son,
He and no other one
Shall conquer in the battle.

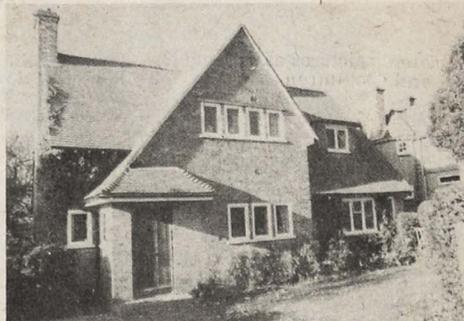
Yours, etc.
H. W. MARSHALL
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Nicholas Est. 1882

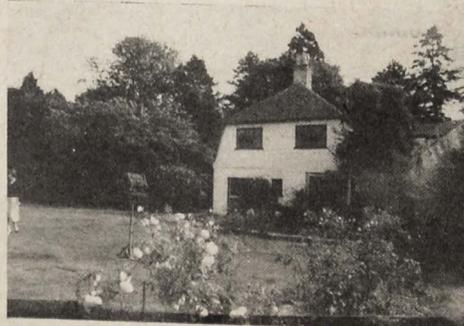
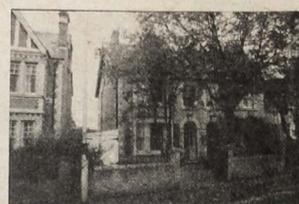
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OVER TO YOU

DURING Lent members of different Caversham churches will be meeting in small house groups to study the future pattern of Church life in Caversham. One thing is certain. The present pattern of Church life is coming to an end. So everyone who is willing to face up to their baptismal responsibilities and promises should be prepared to join a group and take part in answering these questions. In May a conference is being held to consider the findings of the groups and take steps towards implementing them.

First Session: "Church and Ministry"

1) What is the Church? And what is the Church for? William Temple once defined the Church as "the only organisation which exists for the sake of those who are not its members." Do you agree?

2) The second Collect for Good Friday says that "every member" of the Church has his or her "vocation and ministry." St Paul said: "To each person is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good" (1 Cor.12.7). How would you describe your own "vocation and ministry," in the church? in your family? in your local community? in your place of work?

3) Are there any activities, at present being done by the clergy which could (or should) be undertaken by lay people? How can clergy and laity work together more effectively?

Second Session: "The Church's Faith and Mission"

1) Do you think of the clergy as "the teaching church," and of the laity as "the learning church"? Or is this a false distinction? Should most lay people play a passive role, where teaching and preaching are concerned? Compare the church at Corinth: "Each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, an interpretation" (1 Cor.14.26).

2) How has the Christian faith helped you in understanding, and coping with the problems of life? What difference does it make, in facing suffering, or bereavement, or the problems of "the permissive society"?

3) How can we learn to share our faith with one another? Are ser-

mons and instruction classes an adequate basis for the understanding of our faith? Or do we also need to share in group discussion?

4) How can we communicate our faith to those outside the Christian community? Is it enough to talk to those who come for baptism, confirmation, weddings and funerals? Or do we need to go out to people, through house-to-house visiting?

Third Session: "The Church's Worship and Preaching"

1) Do we think of worship as an escape from the problems and frustrations of work and family life? Or do we see it as the offering of our lives to God (as the symbolism of the Offertory implies)? Do we think of preaching as meant to be a comfort, or a challenge? How can we make our worship and preaching more relevant to our daily lives, and to the needs of the world in which we live?

2) How can we use the media of worship (eg: words, music, pictures, movement and silence) more effectively? Do we think of pictures as suitable for children, but not for adults? Do we think of silence as valuable for adults, but not for children or young people?

3) How can lay people be more actively involved in our worship? And how can our worship be made more interesting and meaningful to children and young people?

4) How can we "realise the presence of God," not just in the "religious" activities of worship and prayer, but also in the "secular" concerns of work, family and community?

Should we separate the "religious" from the "secular," if all life belongs to God?

Fourth Session: "The Church's Community and Fellowship"

1) Where do you experience "fellowship" in the life of your church? In Sunday or weekday worship? In church-based groups? In house-groups? In personal friendships?

2) What are the chief barriers to fellowship in the church? The size of the congregation and church building? The limitations of church-based groups? The lack of personal contacts between the members of each congregation? How can we begin to overcome these barriers?

3) Do we find it difficult to share our faith together, or to pray together about common problems and needs? To what extent do house-groups, with their more informal setting, help us to overcome these inhibitions?

4) Why have most Christian churches failed to appeal to West Indian immigrants in this country? Are we affected, consciously or unconsciously, by racial prejudice? Can we learn something, in this respect, from the Pentecostal churches, such as the New Testament Church of God?

Fifth Session: "The Church's Work and Service"

1) Do we think of the Church as serving the world, or as looking after the needs of its own members? How is our sense of priorities reflected in our church budgets?

2) How can our churches offer effective service to those in need? Through church-based organisations? Through "secular" organisations? Through individual pastoral care? Are there any obvious needs, which are not being covered by any of these means?

3) Do you think that Christian social activities should be on an ecumenical basis? If so, should not the same principle apply to worship, teaching and preaching? What opportunities are there for ecumenical co-operation on these other levels? What problems and difficulties can you foresee in such co-operation?

BOOKLIST:
 "The Report of the Partners to the Oxford Diocesan Synod"
 "The Partners Report Study Guide"
 M. Wright: "New Ways for Christ" (Mowbray)
 M. Harper: "Let my People grow" (Hodder & Stoughton)

ST PETER'S

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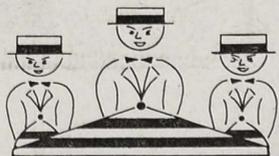
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NEW HEADMISTRESS

BY ZOILUS

TO come from the country to the town and take over the top job in any large organisation must always be a fairly traumatic experience, especially if that organisation is an old established school with three hundred pupils. But when I talked to Cyndy Lancaster, the new Headmistress of Thameside School I got the feeling that she was taking up the challenge with quiet confidence and genuine enjoyment.

A married lady with five children (two still at home) her confidence was based on a seven-year period as the Head of Westfield Infants' School near Yateley, preceded by an honours Bachelor of Education degree, and four years' service at a school in Germany. The enjoyment will spring from a natural love of children and appreciation of the opportunity to have a significant part in the character moulding and teaching of an important cross-section of Caversham's young people. She has visited the school several times during last term, and now, after a couple of weeks in the Head's chair she knows that one of the main assets helping her to a good start is the welcoming attitude and friendliness of the rest of the teaching staff. Her first impression of the boys and girls is that perhaps they are a little more self-confident and inquiring than those in a

country school and — the less trendily progressive of us may be glad to note — quiet and respectful to those in authority!

Think for yourself

All this bodes well for the success of the maxim Mrs Lancaster hopes to instil into her charges "Think for yourself," that's one of the guiding principles in her educational philosophy and she wants every scholar to realise that ultimately they alone are responsible for their actions, whether they be fair or mean. And she hopes to involve the parents in the life of the school, even to the extent of taking a part in the classroom routine if they so wish. She is a communicant of the Church of England and feels that religion should have a part to play in education. She hopes that the local clergy of all denominations will be able to visit the school from time to time and get to know the pupils and the staff. And not least, she is an optimist. One of her ambitions is to get the County education authorities to find enough money to alter the old buildings to give more space and facilities, so let us hope that her powers of persuasion are on a par with her dedication and enthusiasm.

Caversham welcomes Cyndy Lancaster and wishes her many happy



Photo: E. S. Archer

and fruitful years at Thameside.

Whilst we have our minds on Thameside School it might be instructive to take a look at all the various activities that go on at such a school from Gilbert and Sullivan to candid camera videca last term. Under the leadership of Bob Wells, the acting headmaster, there were all sorts of intriguing extra-curricula diversions, some of which had a charitable spin-off, such as the delivery of two hundred and sixty gift parcels to the elderly and a sponsored treasure hunt which produced over £400 for "Help the Aged." There was a production of "Hansel and Gretel" by the infants department, and unless Caversham has an unexampled collection of infant prodigies that must have meant some hard work by the teachers. The juniors went over the road to the Baptist Church

and one hundred and eighty children welcomed parents and friends with seasonal acting, singing and music-making at a carol concert.

Turning to more mundane matters, the school has been inspected by the Health and Safety Officer and the Fire Officer and both reports were reassuring. As the canteen has been taken over by the department of further education, school dinners have to be taken in the school itself, very much a mixed blessing it seems because this disorganises much valued teaching space. The buildings didn't escape unscathed from the arctic spell at the turn of the year, there was a mini-flood when a hot water pipe burst in the Teachers' Centre, but all-in-all everyone coped very well. And that verdict would seem a fair summing-up of the situation in Caversham's oldest established primary school.

LINK GROUP

MEMBERS were welcomed to the January meeting by the chairman, Mrs Lynda Bates, who reported that in December toys were distributed to various local organisations and Social Services. The carol singing raised £24.04, slightly less than in 1980. St Andrew's Church Choir also joined the party. After going the rounds, the singers were given warmth and hospitality at the Caversham Cen-

tre. A cheque for £120 has been sent to the local branch of the Spastics Society to buy a child's wheelchair.

Would readers please note that Link Group's popular annual "GOOD AS NEW" sale will be held this year on April 17 at the Baptist Free Church Hall, Gosbrook Road, 10.30am-3.30pm. Coming later: jumble sale, date and venue to be announced. All proceeds go to local charities.

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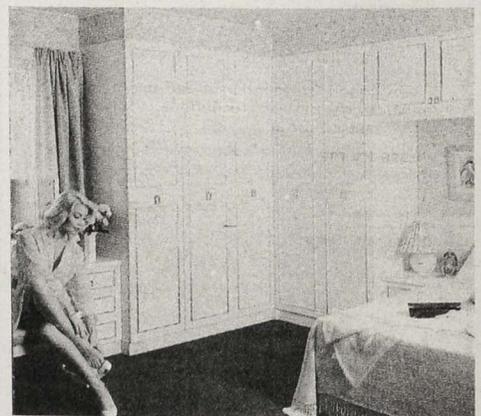
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New Minister for St Paul's



— Peter Sear

Rev Philip Lee-Bapty, the new minister at St Paul's URC and chaplain to Reading's Industrial, Trade and Employment Mission (ITEM)

WELCOME newcomers to Caversham recently are the Reverend and Mrs Philip Lee-Bapty. Mr Lee-Bapty kindly told our reporter something about himself and the work he has come to do.

Could you say something about your ministry before you arrived in Caversham?

I've come from the city of Coventry where I served for eighteen years. My main job was with the Coventry Industrial Mission. I was also a Minister within a group of United Reformed Churches.

What was it that first drew you towards Industrial Mission?

The first years of my working life were spent as a toolmaker and when I felt called to the ordained ministry I wanted very much to exercise a Ministry among those with whom I had been working. My first ministerial responsibility in the Con-

gregational Church was with the Birmingham Central Churches group. My home was in a downtown area at Bordsley Green. Living there was an eye-opener! From there I moved to a ministerial charge in London at Walthamstow, again a predominantly working class area.

How do you see your role in Reading, acting as you do both as Minister at St Paul's United Reformed Church in York Road and also as Industrial Officer with the Industry Trade and Employment Mission (ITEM)?

This is a fifty-fifty job. There'll be the normal pastoral ministry at St Paul's. As for the ITEM part, I realise that the situation is different from that in Coventry. There's less manufacturing industry in Reading, but a great deal of commercial interests and office administration. I've got to learn how best to pene-

trate this field. For a start, I've got to get to know people and find out what the problems are.

What exactly is the purpose and aim of ITEM?

Well, it's an initiative of the Reading Council of Churches. It's an attempt by the Churches to exercise ministry and mission within the working environment of people rather than from within their home and leisure environment. Christianity is about a man's entire life and therefore very much concerned with that



— Peter Sear

Bishop P. L. McCartie (centre), Auxiliary Bishop in the RC Archdiocese of Birmingham, with Rev Tom Meagher, Rev Dennis Weller, Canon John Grimwade, and Rev Ralph Rogerson after the special ecumenical service at St Peter's Church as part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

vital slice of life which is our daily work.

Finally, please tell us something about your wife and family

Eileen, my wife, is a school teacher. She was, until we moved to Caversham, head of the Religious Education department in a large Comprehensive school in Coventry. She's now teaching at the Willink School in Burghfield Common. I regard her ministry as every bit as important as mine. We've two sons. Stephen is a Civil Servant in London and Ian is a mathematician working for the Royal Aircraft Establishment in Bedford.

MORE PLEASE

"MORE PLEASE" — these were the words on the lips of many of the large congregation as they left St Peter's after attending the ecumenical service on the evening of Sunday, January 17. The service was specially devised as an act of worship in preparation for the Pope's visit to this country in May. Bishop McCartie preached about different aspects of the visit — to the Roman Catholic community, to Christians of other churches and to the non-Christians. The excellent standard of lesson reading and the fine choir and congregational singing helped to make the occasion a memorable act of worship.

THE BREAD OF THE HUNGRY

"The bread you do not use is the bread of the hungry. The garment hanging in your wardrobe is the garment of him who is naked; the shoes you do not wear are the shoes of one who is barefoot. The money you keep locked away is the money of the poor. The acts of charity you do not perform, are the injustices you commit." — ST BASIL

Given To All

You are not making a gift of your possessions to the poor person. You are handing over to him what is his.

For what has been given in common for the use of all, you have claimed as your own.

The world is given to all and not only to the rich. — ST AMBROSE

Possessions

"I do not say you are damned if you have possessions. You are damned if you take them for granted, if you are puffed up by them, if you think yourself important because of them, if because of them you forget the poor, if you forget your common human status because you have more of what are vanities." — ST AUGUSTINE

Reprinted from the current issue of a Roman Catholic Church publication "Justice and Peace News."

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GUY BROWN

"WHY stick a label on him," said a teacher friend when Mrs Brown confided that she thought her six-year-old could be dyslexic. Pacified by the fact that the school also confirmed that many small children reversed letters and did mirror writing and also that Guy was apparently learning to read, Mr and Mrs Brown thought little more about the subject. But unknown to them, Guy was getting an older brother to read his school books aloud and was learning them by heart. He would then proudly "read" them to his parents.

Some two years later, however, the books were getting too long and complicated to learn and his lack of ability began to show. His elocution teacher first tentatively suggested that he could not sight read and a visit to the school confirmed this. He also suffered from frequent migraine attacks.

Then everything happened at once. He had started dancing lessons with Sue Broadway, who at that time had her school in Gosbrook Road and found, perhaps for the first time, that he could do something at least as well, if not better, than other children. At school his teacher had discovered his inability to synthesise and recognise word patterns.

With her patience the migraines disappeared and he joined a remedial group within the school — a fact that he hid from his parents. Still worried about him his parents were, by chance, put in touch with an ex-teacher, schooled in dyslexia. She tested him, found him to be a classic case and agreed to give him one-to-one teaching for an hour a week until the birth of her baby.

All this, armed with the fact that he had a recognisable disability, served to give him the

confidence he needed and he became a normal schoolboy.

On the stage

Now, at the age of 10, he has already notched up several theatrical appearances. His first breakthrough came when he auditioned for the Rock Nativity at the Hexagon, Christmas 1980, in which he shared the only child's speaking part. None of the children in this show were paid, but the professional actors were most encouraging and one of Guy's most



— T. Hustler

treasured possessions is a scrapbook full of goodwill messages from them when he went on to other things — several still write to him. Among these was Les Saxon, one of the main actors who often helps in schools. The director, Jeremy James Taylor, suggested that the children involved in the Rock Nativity should audition for the Children's Music Theatre which he had found some years before. So that his audition would not have to be improvised (his sight reading was still not good) Guy went back to his private lessons every Sunday for four months and in consequence was one of the two successful children.

Last summer he spent five weeks at the

Edinburgh Festival with the CMT, taking part in a musical play "The Witches of Pendle." This was followed by eight days in Manchester filming the play for Granada TV, who had originally commissioned it. A shortened version of it was recently screened on TV and many of our readers may have seen it. He is currently registered with the Children's Music Theatre and hopes to be called again when there is something suitable to his particular talents in dancing and drama.

Help and encouragement

Probably the best pointer to the degree to which he has overcome his handicap is that when he recently took and passed his Junior

Medal in Elocution, he was able to do this without any reference to his dyslexia. To his elocution teacher, Mrs Keable, of South View Avenue, and to all the others who have helped him, he owes a great deal. They have given him the assistance and encouragement he needed and he has worked hard to take full advantage of it.

It would be nice to think of other similarly handicapped children having the same chance but whilst so many authorities in many areas do not recognise dyslexia as they would any other handicap, this is unlikely. As for Guy himself, probably none of this would have happened had Mr and Mrs Brown been content not to "label" their son.

KATY IN CAVERSHAM

OUR older readers will doubtless still remember the expression "Carry on regardless." During the appalling snows of January a group of people did just that and deserve our belated but humble thanks. While most of us were confining ourselves to only urgent forays into the great world outside, milkmen, dustmen, postmen and paper boys literally carried on regardless. Our road was particularly hazardous (though it is now virtually a through-road the authorities never seem to think anything should be done about it), yet morning after morning, almost without exception, milk, papers and post continued to arrive and dustmen emptied the bins.

I can't help thinking we're not such a bad lot in Caversham. Feeling decidedly virtuous I rang round several elderly neighbours when the snow started, only to be told again and again that they were already been cared for, shopping done, etc. It's a pity, though, that it often needs a disaster of some kind to turn us into really good neighbours.

Still cleaning windows

One person who couldn't always make it in the very bad weather was my good friend Terry, the window cleaner. So many people have asked me about him lately that I make no apologies for once again giving you his phone number (473879 — any time before 5pm). With the onset of spring he is also looking for decorating jobs. He's prepared to tackle even the smallest jobs, which is more than can be said for some larger firms — so don't be afraid to give him a ring.

The writing on the wall

And talking of "decorating," if somebody doesn't soon remove that obnoxious piece of graffiti from the wall at the top of Westfield Road I swear I'll do it myself. It's been there for months and though I can sympathise with the sentiments of whoever put it there at a time when the property was in such a shocking mess, it really is offensive.

Tea for two

I'm glad to hear we're likely to have a cafe in Prospect Street before long. It might put life into a street that has for so long been the home of estate agents and similar offices.

Fish and chips

Mr Lai's successor in Prospect Street has solved at least one problem in our household. The fact is we don't all like Chinese food and as these people also serve a good line in ordinary English fish and chips, it does prevent a couple of us going supperless when the cry goes up "Anyone for Chinese?"

Blenheim Road Post Office

Another familiar landmark has disappeared from Caversham with the closing of this post office. People who have lived in the district for 50 years or more say it was once a very thriving little business, serving groceries and other items. Children from the local primary school used to call in on their way home for sweets

and it was, indeed, a meeting place for parents and others living nearby. For some years now it has existed only as a post office; sadly even this is now closed and local people are faced with a long walk up and down hills to collect pensions, allowances, etc.

Is your child dyslexic?

Since writing the report on young Guy Brown, which appears elsewhere on this page, I've heard there is actually a Dyslexics Association in this area. The secretary, Mrs Doris Kelly (phone 470166), tells me it has been in existence for a year and now has a good membership, composed largely of concerned parents and teachers. She also tells me that probably about 10 per cent of all children have some form of reading difficulties. So if you've got a child with problems and you're worried, give her a ring. The Association can't come up with all the answers but they can probably advise you on a course of action.

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NEW BISHOP OF READING APPOINTED

CANON Ronald Graham Gregory Foley, Vicar of Leeds since 1971, is to be the new Suffragan Bishop of Reading, in succession to Bishop Eric Wild who is to retire on March 31.

Canon Foley is 58, married with two sons and two daughters. One son is a solicitor, the other a professional musician, and both daughters are married.

He was educated at King's College, London, and St John's College, Durham. He has so far served all his ministry in the Northern Province, first as a curate of Holy Trinity, South Shore, Blackpool, 1950-54; then as Vicar of St Luke, Blackburn, 1954-60; before returning to the Durham Diocese as Rector of Brancepeth and Director of Religious Education from 1960-70. He was appointed Vicar of Leeds and an Honorary

Canon of Ripon Cathedral in 1971, and a Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen in 1977.

As a sort of "ecclesiastical Lord Mayor of Leeds," Canon Foley has been involved in all manner of good works and public service, with interests that extend into the administration of the Health Service, aspects of Industry, and, of course, Education.

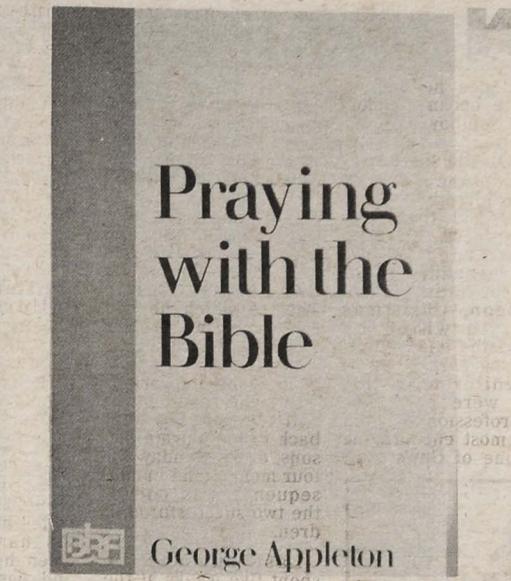
He is a member of the University Council and Court of Leeds University; Chairman of the Governors of Leeds Grammar School and Leeds Girls' High School; member of Leeds Area Health Authority; and even a Director of the Yorkshire Electricity Board. His relaxation is with his family, and in reading and music. He is likely to be consecrated Bishop in the summer.

YOUTH THEATRE

CHRISTMAS is traditionally the time for pantomimes and the choice of the Caversham Youth Theatre for their recent production in St Andrew's Hall (on January 1 and 2, 1982) was the pantomime "Hickory Dickory Dock" by Norman Robbins. Wisely, Mrs Byers had "imported" several adult players to take some of the leading roles. These were led by Louise Smith as the principal boy, David, who displayed her customary charm and a delightful singing voice. Chris Bowring was an excellent Dame Foxtro, with a well-timed sense of comedy which created an excellent rapport with the audience. Peter Elliott as Baron Hickory (a real bad lot) schemed and plotted with guile, while George Byers as Fairy Snowdrift supplied some of the evening's more entertaining and paradoxical moments.

Success

But the evening's real success must rest with the young people whom Mrs Byers had trained and coached so hard and well. There were so many excellent performances that it might seem invidious to single out the best. Several performances remain in the mind, Rachel Elliott's winsome charm as the heroine Mary Foxtro, Claire Manning as the imperious Baroness Hickory (fit wife for such a husband), Jonathan Sharrock as Herbert (their gambler son). Equally vivid were Julia Waters as the Wizard of Bong and Richard Bond as the Black Imp (quite definitely a nasty piece of work). As the Little and Large of Caversham Lisa Stein and Carol Golding revealed excellent comic timing and lively enthusiasm. All the various dance routines and songs that interlarded the



Praying with the Bible

BISHOP George Appleton is one of the senior and most loved figures in the Anglican community. He has published several books on prayer which have been much valued by those who have used and pondered them. These books have drawn on his experiences as a bishop in Burma and as an archbishop in Australia and in Jerusalem (where his experience of a multi-faith Society has proved particularly enriching).

So a new book from Bishop Appleton is always a welcome event. His latest book "Praying with the Bible" (published by BRP at £1.25) is recommended by the Bishop of Oxford as a Lent book. The whole ethos of the book can be summed up in a quote from one of the early chapters, "Prayer is the most important activity of the human spirit, it should be the first thing

we think of, our most persistent work, the work we do for God, for others, for the whole world."

Much of the book is an exploration of various aspects of prayer, such as worship in prayer, stages of Life, Praying in Moods. These aspects of prayer are related to passages in the Bible, not merely as illustrations but also as an encouragement to explore both the Bible and prayer. Particularly helpful in this respect are the chapters on the Psalms and the prophets; and also on our Lord at prayer. This is a book not to be read quickly but mulled over, a chapter at

show were well executed (which also highlighted the diversity of the skills of the cast as several actors and actresses reappeared in more than one guise). All credit to Mrs Byers (who accompanied the show on the piano) for her enthusiasm and skill in bringing the youngsters to such a high level of performance. The settings and the costumes were of the standard we have come to expect — all in all a really worthwhile evening both for those taking part and those in the audience. — D. S.

BRIDGE SCHEME AGM



— Peter Sear

Dr Kevin Murphy was the guest speaker at the AGM of the Caversham Bridge Good Neighbour Scheme.

Dr Murphy spoke about the work of caring for severley or multiple handicapped adolescents at 45 Woodcote Road. A fuller account of the work there will be featured in a future edition of "Caversham Bridge."

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ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

MEETING on January 26 members of the Church Council heard from Mr Buck, who had been specially invited to attend, and from Mr Moore about various housing projects with which the Church in Reading is concerned. The Church Army is hoping to build a hostel which will provide accommodation for forty young people; the Reading Council of Churches Housing Association aims to establish a house in London Road for single-parent families; while the Abbeyfield Housing Society has acquired a house in St Peter's Avenue to give sheltered accommodation to seven elderly people. All these

projects will be in need of financial assistance and District Committees were asked to consider supporting one or more of these projects from the money they have allocated in their 1982 budget for outside causes.

Mr Smith, the parochial treasurer, presented the parish budget for the year; he explained that until the District budgets had been received it was impossible to have an overall picture of the financial situation but he felt it was already apparent that the parish would not be able to meet its full diocesan share; the shortfall would certainly be

CHURCH NEWS

£6,000 and might possibly be considerably more.

The Rev David Milling outlined plans for Lenten house groups, and arrangements for the annual meetings were adopted.

As a result of the union with Mapledurham which became effective on December 1 last year Deanery synod places have to be reallocated and the proposals of the Churchwardens for this were adopted.

It was unanimously agreed that permission should be sought from the Bishop for Miss Ruth Eves and Miss Nancy Wheeler to help with the administration of the chalice at the Eucharist.

The Council meets again on March 16.

ST PETER'S NEWS

THE fine singing of the choir is giving great pleasure to the congregation Sunday by Sunday and was commented on by visitors from other churches who attended the ecumenical service on January 17. A number of new members have joined recently and it is particularly encouraging to have more boys in it than for many years.

The Sunday School continues to grow in size, and if this trend continues the available accommodation will be strained, a healthy problem for the District Committee to consider.

ST JOHN'S NOTES

ST JOHN'S was full on January 4 at Connie Cunningham's funeral. John Sumner read the lesson; he and Alice were only two of the friends who came to share in the thanksgiving for the example Connie's courage and faith showed during her long illness. Ernie and all her family know that they are in the congregation's prayers.

St John's Mothers' Union held their annual general meeting on January 26. Kit Bingham agreed to continue as enrolling member for another year, and everyone is very grateful. The annual report reminded members of an interesting year, and showed again how much help and friendship is given by the branch. And not half the love and service they show their neighbours is ever officially recorded — well not here that is!

Over tea they remembered Daisy Taylor whose funeral was held in St John's on January 21. She was in her ninety-fifth year, so only the older members knew her. In 1908, when she came to St John's, wearing "ivory alpaca, with wreath and veil" to marry George Gilbert, she was the first bride to be married in the church after it was licensed for weddings. There was great local interest and "the matrons of the neighbourhood" came to see the bride, and left their husbands to manage the dinner. Sadly in 1911 George Gilbert died, and left Daisy with a son, Eric. Then on June 23, 1913, Daisy married Frank Taylor, a widower with one son, and so the Taylor family was made. They were one of those families whose whole life was lived in service and witness to their Lord. Frank was a server, and sang in the choir for sixty years. Daisy was a Mothers' Union member, ran socials, helped at sales and with flowers, and any work that needed to be done. She is remembered as "a lovely woman." After more than sixty years Frank died, and Daisy went to live with and be lovingly cared for by her daughter, Phyllis, and her husband, in Tilehurst.

BAPTIST NEWS

Less a prophecy more a drift

FOR the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth... (Isaiah Cp.55 v.10). We may be reluctant to award Isaiah ten out of ten for his prophecy for the snow which came our way watered not the earth but the chairs and the carpet. As in many homes it found its way under the tiles where it soon melted in the slightly more congenial surroundings of the roof void and down it came not whiter than white but resembling cold tea. Fortunately this was discovered at an early stage but nothing could be done about the trapped snow and so the problem had to resolve itself. However, a crash course of first-aid and self-help minimised the extent of the trouble. The chairs were hurriedly dried and moved to those parts of the building which were not affected. A mopping-up operation on the carpet — provisionally a brown coloured affair — was followed by the skilful deployment of plastic sheets draped over anything suitable which came to hand to form lagoons. Isolated trouble spots were catered for with strategically placed bowls and buckets, an array which would have graced a street market. Happily all's well that ends well for apart from a large "Tea" stain on the carpet there appears to have been no permanent damage.

The here and now

THE Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has come and gone for another year and the laity, and perhaps some of the ordained, are left wondering. Conferences confer, assemblies assemble and perhaps synods sin, and it all seems to be a case of the medicine as before. Christians haggle and

argue about apostolic succession, the ordination of women, the authority of the bishops, the Ten Propositions, Covenants for Unity and all the other dogma and mystique which renders life so complicated.

All these things seemed to go out of the window when the Rev Derek Spears conducted Evening Worship on January 24. He had a simple, inspiring down-to-earth message. It was Christian to the core and more is the pity that we were not there in greater strength to benefit from it. Following the service he entertained the congregation — an apposite description — with an illustrated talk on the motor cycle safari which he and the Rev Peter Sear made to the Holy Land.

ST ANNE'S NOTES

DESPITE the bad weather there has been much activity at St Anne's in recent weeks. A special train is being arranged to take people from Reading to the Pope's Mass at Coventry on Whit Sunday. The cost for the return journey to the terminus near Coventry airport on the Saturday evening will be £8.40 for adults (children £4.45). Anyone from other denominations wishing to go should contact Father Meagher as soon as possible.

A steamer is being booked to take people to the Corpus Christi Mass and procession at Mapledurham House in June 10.

The parish social club continues to flourish. Some film shows have been held and a concert of local talent is being planned. Anyone wishing to take part is asked to phone Reading 470222.

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By WATCHDOG

WINTER'S LEGACY

It is a common enough accusation that the British people's chief topic of conversation is the weather, but you had to be pretty individualistic to avoid it this winter as the thermometer plummeted and the snows fell. We are still left with the aftermath and in these parts we were far from being the worst hit. In Caversham and its rural environs we lost a considerable number of trees, either uprooted or severely damaged by the weight of the snow on their branches. Many evergreen shrubs, hitherto considered hardy, are still looking distinctly sick as a result of the prolonged freezing. From the point of view of the ratepayer, most alarming and spectacular was the damage inflicted on the road surfaces by the ice and frost.

As a result of Government cuts in public expenditure, maintenance work on these had already been neglected, a false economy as it made them a ripe target for the damaging effects of the frost and

frozen snow. During the December falls little was done to clear the roads or salt or grit them, as councils, aware of the need to keep within Government imposed limits, found they had no money for this unplanned expenditure. In Caversham we slithered and slid down our hills, motorists and pedestrians alike, saving on the rates and picking the bills up instead in car repairs, or, if we were more unfortunate, passing them on to the National Health Service in the local hospital casualty department.

The January snows saw more steps being taken to alleviate road conditions as Michael Heseltine announced that Government money would be available to deal with the snow. At the height of the blizzard it is true that not even a quarry of gravel or a mine of salt would have made much difference, but main roads at least became relatively clear as soon as possible. It was then that the real extent of the damage began to be revealed. In many places the road surface

was badly broken up, kerb stones were dislodged and paving flags lifted. Examples about everywhere, with Priest Hill and Chester Street prominent among them. Some roads in other parts of the town were even worse.

These must be repaired if the next lot of frost is not to get into them and make them even worse. This is where the snag occurs, as hidden in the small print of Michael Heseltine's offer were various qualifications, such as the proportion of aid available to the money spent, and the fact that

courage with which drivers got their buses down Priest Hill one morning, after a partial thaw had replaced its rough ice with a surface like a mirror, was to be filled with admiration.

Day by day, too, the council's dustmen turned up with their lorries, penetrating into snow-filled side streets and trudging through the snow with their heavy loads. These, together with other early morning out-of-doors workers, such as milkmen, news boys and girls and postmen, who kept up a regular service in spite of everything, deserve a vote of thanks.

WILLIAM HAVELL
1782-1857

William Havell, the nineteenth-century artist with overtones of Turner, though he himself never quite made

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it did not cover repairs to roads. In the long run it probably does not matter whether the money comes from our tax-paying pocket or our rate-paying one, as long as local councils are not going to be penalised for carrying out this essential expenditure. One could add that a country that is considering spending £7,000m on updating Trident when there are already more weapons of mass destruction in the world than there are targets for them, ought to be able to find enough money to keep the roads safe.

SOLDIERING ON

The work of the Borough Transport and Refuse collection sources came in for much praise for the way in which they continued to operate during the worst of the weather. In Arctic conditions the early morning buses regularly turned up, and on major traffic routes it was often their use of the road that kept them open to other traffic. To see the skill and

it to the front ranks, was a Reading man, so it is fitting that an exhibition commemorating his bicentenary should visit his home town. Naturally it is his pictures of Reading and the Thames Valley that arouse local interest and Caversham people will have made a point of looking at his well-known pictures of Caversham Bridge, seen from the wooded hills above Caversham Court complete with its Gazebo, and looking across the watery meadows towards Reading. Another painting of considerable interest showed a countryman's cottage in the middle of the

Abbey Ruins, a reminder of how small even a well-established town like Reading was in the early years of the nineteenth century. It came momentarily as a surprise that in the distance Caversham Church could be plainly seen, as in these days one would not even dream of looking for it from that point.

I wonder what Havell would find worth painting in Reading now? And does anyone know where it is still possi-

ble to see St Peter's Church from in the centre of Reading?

DIARY DATE

Monday, March 29: Caversham and District Residents' Association Annual General Meeting. Speaker: Councillor B. Fowles, Thames Councillor and Chairman of Planning Committee. Place: Church House, Church Street. Time: 8pm. Annual subscription: £1 for 3 years or 40p per annum. Details: Phone 472300.

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RELIGION with flavour — almost the first line of the musical presented at Caversham Heights Methodist Church by the Loughton Methodist Drama Group on January 30. And what flavour! The audience enjoyed a professional performance by dedicated families of people, all of whom were keen to get across to us the message of the Bible story — that amid the storms of today, as in times of old, relationships with family and “outsiders” are important but above all the personal relationship with God is important.

The overture served to set the scene admirably, with the ensemble of flute, clarinet and piano somehow wafting one away to sunnier, lazier climes under blue skies, far removed from chilly England in January. Throughout the performance the group, led by Mary Howarth at the piano, provided a sensitive accompaniment, never obtrusive, but pitched so as to support either soloists or chorus.

□ □ □

Part one of the musical started with the story of Naomi's decision to move to Bethlehem, and Ruth wishing to go with her to their relation Ben Hadad. The excellent acoustics of the church ensured that every word of dialogue and singing came across loud and clear. Poor Ben Hadad, with three wives and nine daughters but no breakfast! The song “Women, Women, Women” (sung of course by THE MEN) struck a chord somewhere in the audience, and “Reaping, Threshing, Winnowing,” with its catchy tune, had

“RUTH”

the whole cast waving and jiggling about the platform. Many of the dance routines had had to be cut because of lack of space.

The producer, Andrea Moles, is to be congratulated on quickly adapting to these limitations. The music included several quite charming solos and duets. Most effective was the duet “When I see your eyes” between Ruth and Boaz on their first meeting in Bethlehem in the cornfield.

As with all good stories, everyone lived happily ever after — Ruth married Boaz and the family was

happy — and we were left with the final chorus “It doesn't matter where you live or who you are, God is always faithful — just trust and obey Him for evermore.” Thank you Loughton — we look forward very much to your next visit.

□ □ □

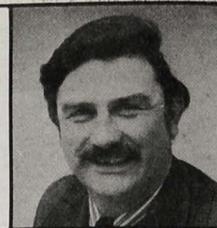
As a result of this performance a cheque for £70 is being sent to Luton Industrial College as a further contribution towards their “Life Skills Courses for the Young Unemployed.” A donation was also received, with the request that it could be used to send a young person from Reading to participate. — D.T.



— Peter Sear

Boaz (Ed Hayes) and Ruth (Ruth Buckle) in a scene from Loughton Methodist Drama Group's “Ruth” staged by Caversham Heights Methodist Church

STAN ELDON'S COLUMN



HELP FOR THE STARS OF TOMORROW

MANY of this country's sportsmen and women have been helped on their way in recent years by financial support from the Sports Aid Foundation. The list of such people who have been helped is endless and includes such well-known names as Sebastian Coe, Steve Ovett, Beverley Goddard and Duncan Goodhew.

As with any national scheme it can be difficult to identify all promising youngsters who should be helped in this way and Reading has now taken the bold step of introducing its own Sports Aid Fund. There is a wealth of sporting talent in Reading and it will not be difficult to find up-and-coming stars who can benefit from the scheme. From Caversham Tennis Club there are two 15-year-olds — Victoria Prudhoe and Bluecoat Schoolboy Mark Lovett. The Reading Athletic Club's distance running star, Katie Fairbrass, who already holds one national record and has competed in European Championships, is another who comes to mind. From swimming we have diver

Marianne Green aged 14 years, who is a National Springboard Diving Champion.

The ambitious plan is to raise £10,000 from sponsorship and special events so that at least some of these “names of the future” can be helped with their training and other expenses.

THE LONG RUN

MERU, Gisors, Fleury, Rouen, Duclair, Lillebonne, Le Havre, a list of French towns which will become very familiar to me and a small group of people in April. The Rotary Club of Caversham is organising a sponsored run from our twin club of Meru, just north of Paris, to Reading, in aid of the Sports Stadium for Disabled People at Stoke Mandeville. This is not the Jimmy Savile Appeal for the Hospital but is to improve the outdoor sports facilities at the adjoining sports stadium where disabled people from around the world will be able to compete with each other in sporting competitions within purpose-built facilities. The special living quarters have already been built and there is a running track, but as yet no covered accommodation

for wheel chairs outside for either spectators or competitors. There is also a shortage of jumping pits and equipment.

I hope to run the distance of approximately 160 miles (on land — I am not swimming the Channel as well!) in four days, arriving back in Reading on May 1. I will be supported by a number of my Rotary colleagues on cycles. We already have the promise of quite substantial support from companies and individuals on both sides of the Channel and we hope to make not only a substantial financial contribution to improving the Stoke Mandeville facilities but also draw attention to this special sports stadium and it's needs.

I will shortly have sponsorship forms available and if you are passing Stan Eldon Sports and feel inclined to sponsor me from anything from 1p to £1 a mile I would be pleased to see you. The task of running such a distance is not an easy one and will require a great deal of preparation, but if we get the support the venture deserves, I'm sure it will all have been worth while.

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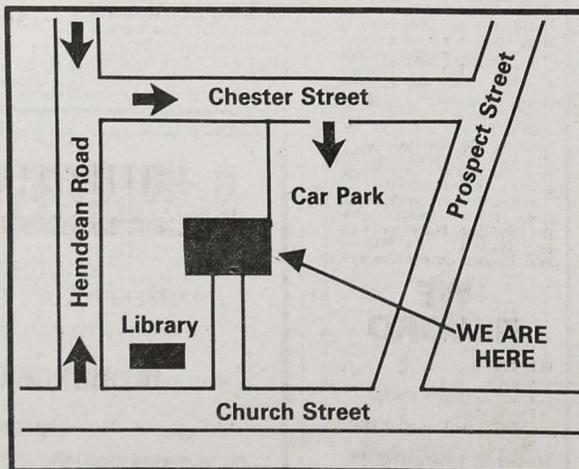
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ROUND THE CLUBS

Caversham Community Association

THE first meeting in the New Year was for a Cheese and Wine Party. The members had a pleasant social evening and joined in various competitions and dances.

The unusually severe winter weather, bringing ice and snow, caused the cancellation of the meeting which should have taken place on January 11.

The following week the visiting speaker was Mr Rodney J. Oliver who, as a practising solicitor, gave an interesting talk on "Law". Mr Oliver said how important it was to

make a will, a great deal of time and trouble to a bereaved family could be avoided if this was done. The problems arising when a marriage ended in divorce was also discussed during the evening. At the end of his talk Mr Oliver invited the members to ask questions if they wished further information.

A Bring and Buy evening on January 25 brought a fine selection of goods for sale. The members had evidently turned out their store cupboards as there was a good deal of grocery on display. Toiletries, jigsaws, jewellery and various knick-knacks were available for the members to purchase in aid of the club funds.

Caversham Women's Institute

AT the January meeting, members observed one minute's silence in memory of Mrs Connie Cunningham who died in December. Connie was a member of this Institute for many years.

The President was pleased to welcome Mrs Sheila Gray, a retired police sergeant, who spoke on some of her more humorous highlights of her 25 years' service. The Secretary read letters of thanks received from the aged and housebound, who at Christmas, had each received a grocery voucher of £3 from the proceeds of the Annual Bazaar.

An excellent buffet supper was supplied by the Committee at the Institute's 20th Birthday Party, and the celebration cake was made by Mrs Lily Hensley. Members also enjoyed a visit from the versatile Maria Piccarver who entertained with songs, stories and monologues.

The competition for a bracelet was won by Mrs Lily Hensley.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on March 18, 1982.

Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild

THE lighter side of life in wartime was recalled by Nan Kenway at the January meeting. She and her husband Douglas, were the duo Kenway and Young, who entertained us on the radio during the Second World War and in seaside concert parties before and after it. Miss Kenway's main theme, however, was the time she spent entertaining the troops with ENSA. She and her husband were persuaded to join the organisation by Leslie Henson, and visited Service stations as far apart as Burma and Scapa Flow. Miss Kenway, whose vitality belies the 77 years to which she admits, captivated her audience and described most amusingly her travels, which were often uncomfortable, and the places where they stayed, which were frequently primitive. On a more serious note, it is well-known how much these shows did for the morale of the troops, and Miss Kenway said that live entertainment was especially appreciated by those in hospital.

Members were reminded of the Guild's 20th Birthday Party to be held on February 4, and Mrs Mary Cheer was congratulated on again winning a prize in the annual national competition for soft toys for "Break."

Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild

THE January meeting of the Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild was well attended in spite of the appalling weather. Miss Brann gave the Federation report. Mr G. T. Parsons, of "The Health and Environment Department," gave an interesting and thought-provoking talk on "Home Safety." His talk was illustrated by a film formerly shown on television "Play it safe." Mrs Pocock gave the vote of thanks. The Guild nominated as their charities for this year the Sue Ryder Home and Cancer Research. Mrs Weaver gave a report on Age Concern.

WE RECORD

BAPTISED
St Peter's
January 17: Kirsty Whyte, James Rose
Caversham Heights Methodist Church
January 17: Victoria Howard
FUNERALS
St Peter's
February 8: Vincent Carter
St John's
January 21: Daisy Taylor
Caversham Heights Methodist Church
December 18: Jeremy Ellison
January 4: Tommy Galmforth
January 5: Vera Young
Gosbrook Road Methodist Church
December 18: Kathleen Crutchley

Darby and Joan Club

THE club re-opened in early January and there was a coach trip of 43 members to the Redgrave Theatre, Farnham, to see Rookery Nook, followed by supper at an Hartley Winthey hotel. This was very fortunate, as by the next meeting the snow and ice caught up with us, but 32 members braved the elements.

Later in the month there was a return visit of "June and her girls" to give a display of dancing.

At the last meeting the Rev. Derek Spears showed slides of his trip to Jerusalem by motor-bike, with the Rev. Peter Sears.

Blgrave WI

AT the January meeting the President, Mrs J. Price, welcomed and wished members a Happy New Year. A very informative talk on silverware and its many features was given by Miss E. Turner. Members were invited to ask questions during the talk. A vote of thanks was given by Mrs Moran.

The competition "My Favourite Christmas Card" was won by Mrs Benham, with Mrs Wenham second and Mrs Housden third. The raffle given by Miss Reynolds was won by Mrs Housden.

Maplewood WI

JANUARY 8 was the Institute's 22nd Birthday Party with visitors from surrounding Institutes. There was very little business. Mrs Joan Fry in the chair introduced the speaker Mrs Frances Slade, her subject was "Wild Life Safari," a spell-binding afternoon in Nepal with elephants, rhino, tigers and many smaller animals. She admitted to being frightened as no weapons were allowed on their trips; if in danger they climbed a tree! The slides were wonderful, viewed in a nice safe hall, but at tea-time every member agreed that such a safari would not be their idea of a relaxing holiday.

A delicious tea was provided by a members' sub-committee and a cake made and iced by Mrs Heather Baker and Mrs Eileen Fenning ended a most enjoyable afternoon.

Caversham Ladies' Club

IN spite of very bad weather and roads like skating rinks 38 members managed to get to the January meeting. Unfortunately the speaker was not so lucky and was not able to attend.

However, business and correspondence was dealt with, and after discussion of future events and a session of "Give us a Clue," the meeting closed earlier than usual to enable members to get home in daylight.

Rosehill WI

THE January meeting was cancelled owing to the severe weather, most roads being snowbound after the second heavy fall. The February meeting was opened by the President, Mrs Ellingham. Quite a number of ladies were absent because of illness. A book-stall selling secondhand books was inviting and an exhibition of members' holiday snaps and slides was interesting. The talk was by Mr A. J. T. Wheeler, entitled "Scotland" with lovely slides and commentary by his wife, who is a Scot and insists on a visit back to her native soil each year.

Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild

AT the January meeting, members, by means of their own holiday slides, and with Mrs C. Lott at the projector, were transported to such far away places as Finland, the Greek Islands, Pompeii, Capri and Russia. The Social Studies group will be viewing the floral displays in the town through new eyes, following an illustrated talk given by Mr John Reed of the Borough Council Nurseries. It is hoped to visit the Nurseries at a later date. The monthly competition was won by Mrs E. Hawkins with Mrs M. Norman second.

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6.30pm Evensong

St John's
8.00am Holy Communion (not on 4th Sunday)
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 (1st, 2nd, 4th Sundays)
11.15am Matins (3rd Sunday)
6.30pm Evensong

St Barnabas
8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST
11.00am Service for Parents and Children (last Sunday)
4.00pm Evensong (2nd Sunday)

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6.30pm Evening Service

METHODIST
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6.30pm Evening Service

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11.00am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

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March 31: 8 Kirkham Close (Ros Elvin)
April 7: 5 Dacre Avenue (Penny Peirce)

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