



# CAVERSHAM

# BRIDGE

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## Peppard House and Trust

THE Peppard Trust has been operating in Caversham for over a year now. Dr Kevin Murphy, together with Dr David Byrne of Windsor, were the instigators of the scheme. His own interest started when he became aware of the work of the Mary Sheridan Unit at Borocourt Hospital.

### The Mary Sheridan Unit

The Mary Sheridan Unit was originally started for blind, emotionally disturbed children from the ages of five to 13. Later, deaf children were also included since both deafness and blindness are caused by German measles and many of the children admitted they had been affected by German measles during their mother's pregnancy. It became clear that there was potential with these children and useful work could be done once a breakthrough in understanding was made. But how do you get through to a baby, a child who is deaf, possibly blind and severely subnormal? Crying in a normal baby means hunger, discomfort, lack of attention, and to that baby the mother's response is predicted. That is the first step a baby learns. But if the crying is non-stop for none of the reasons given how does one teach that if one course of action is taken, then a response follows? More and more use is being made of vibrator units, modern machines which have become part of the training programme, giving a vibrating reward when a certain achievement has been made. Researches by the teacher in charge, Dr David Byrne, have discovered these and many other ways of "getting through" to children and encouraging them to learn to help themselves. Having accomplished this and with the passage of time, simple skills are taught. In simple terms, this is what the Mary Sheridan Unit aims to do.

In compliance with hospital regulations, the children were deemed to be adult at 13 and therefore had to be moved to adult wards to continue their residential life, and the Mary Sheridan staff thought it a pity that once these children had been trained to a level of individual skills, they would be moved to wards where different methods of treatment were less likely to be successful. This was no criticism of the hospital by the staff of the Mary Sheridan Educational Unit; one can appreciate the problems of the Health Service with so many demands and less money to spend. So the Peppard Trust was born.

### Peppard Trust

The Peppard Trust is a voluntary organisation — the money for purchasing property and administration is found from voluntary sources, but fees are paid by local authorities for the upkeep of each child, and this should cover all staff salaries.

The aim of the Trust is to care for a maximum of 35 adolescents from 13 years onwards outside a hospital environment, providing a background in which social and domestic skills could be encouraged to emerge. It would also provide opportunities for helping parents as well as research for the future. A maximum of 8 young people can be accommodated at Peppard House, which is the first house to be bought for the purpose, and this needs a total staff of 12 to cover day and night duties.

A typical day will start with breakfast, before which those who are able will wash and dress themselves. Then the children are transported by minibus, driven by staff or voluntary drivers (and there is always need for more of these) to the Mary Sheridan Educational Unit, where they spend the day in the care of Dr Byrne. The children are then returned to Peppard House for the evening meal. They play in the garden, or in the house playroom, go on little outings, some enjoy TV. Each child is different and none will ever progress beyond simple skills. There is no likelihood of any child learning to read or write. The staff, as one would expect, are dedicated, and much deserving

of praise in their efforts to provide a home atmosphere.

It is hoped that, as soon as finance is available, another house in Windsor will be opened. Peppard House is already running at a loss, so that a Fund Raiser has been appointed, who will aim to raise sufficient for capital and early running costs in both places. The Trust is budgeting for about £100,000 and are confident that they will be successful since they raised more than this last year.

### Dr Kevin Murphy

Dr Kevin Murphy is Deputy Chief Administrator of the Department of Audiology at the Royal Berkshire Hospital and is research consultant to a research project at the Mary Sheridan Unit. His first introduction to audiology was in the 1950s.

After psychological training, he took the Masters Degree in Criminology following Home Office research in Juvenile Delinquency. Subsequently he joined the staff of the University of Manchester where he taught and researched in Paediatric audiology. He and his wife (a teacher) then made a complete break and went to South America to take charge of a school which prepared boys for boarding school in England. On his return to England he was contacted by the Director of the ENT Department in Reading and he has now worked at the Royal Berkshire Hospital for nearly 25 years.

He was given space in the hospital grounds on the site of the old coal tip to use for his building, and remembers spending £1 for 12 rose bushes during the first months there to make two beds to brighten up the front entrance.

His work is with children of all kinds who have a hearing impairment, and of every 1,000 he sees with a mild hearing problem, he reckons he sees one profoundly deaf, multiply-disabled person. All receive his concern and as a family man himself (he has 7 children), he is well able to give it. One can only wish the Peppard venture well and admire those who work so hard for it.



■ Some of the children living at Peppard House.

— E. S. Archer

## AMERICAN GIFT

STRONG links have been formed between Gosbrook Road Methodist Church and Clawson United Methodist Church, Michigan, USA, since the exchange visits of Rev Ralph Rogerson and Rev Herbert Glenn two years ago.

Having heard about the extensive repairs being undertaken at Gosbrook Road, their American friends decided, through their Council on Ministries and their Outreach Committee, to allocate a substantial amount of money from their Lenten appeal.

Mr Chris Hackman (a member of the Gosbrook Road Church) visited the Clawson Church while on a business trip and was able to bring back to Caversham a gift of 2,038 dollars. Mr Hackman presented the American Church with a signed book of photographs of the work being undertaken at Gosbrook Road, and gifts of an "Ambassadors" sweatshirt for Rev Herbert Glenn and a Friendship plate for Mrs Olive-Mae Glenn. Mr Hackman officially presented the cheque to Rev Ralph Rogerson on Sunday May 23.



■ Mr Chris Hackman (left) with Mrs Emmie Cooper, steward at Gosbrook Road Methodist Church, and Rev Ralph Rogerson with the American Gift — a cheque for 2,038 dollars (about £1,125) towards the repairs of the Church.

Courtesy Reading Chronicle

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## The Editor's Column

To George with love . . .

### Dear Mr Mayor

A SERMON preached at the Mayoral service in St Peter's Caversham on June 6.

St John Ch13 v14 "If I then your Lord and Master have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet."

The very holding of this service is significant because it is a recognition at an official level of their being a spiritual dimension to life. Obviously it does not commit all the members of the Corporation to such a viewpoint; we live in a plural society in which Christian, Muslim, Jew, Hindu, Atheist and Buddhist must live as neighbours alongside each other; yet as a nation there is still a deliberate acknowledgment of our Christian inheritance; the daily prayers in the Chamber of the House of Commons are a public recognition of this. In this country the Church of England happens to be the Established Church; in other countries the Established Church may be Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Reformed or Orthodox and often there are closer church and state ties than is the case here. But if it is here that the Church of England is the Established Church it has become apparent that acts of worship on national occasions should be conceived ecumenically. The Royal wedding last summer was a case in point and when a week ago yesterday Christians in Canterbury Cathedral renewed their baptismal vows the questions were put jointly by the Pope, the Archbishop of Canterbury and by a representative of the Protestant Churches. So when, Mr Mayor, you invited me to be your chaplain, as indeed when I last was Mayor's Chaplain six years ago, I felt it right that this service should be an ecumenical act of worship and also I hope one that is widely representative of our local community.

Mr Mayor, you and your fellow councillors give generously of your time in the service of the local community. You are voluntary workers, a fact I think not always sufficiently recognised by all who have the right to vote; and you together with your fellow members of Berkshire County Council, some of whom are present tonight, appoint on behalf of the ratepayers the professionals who sit behind the desks in the Civic Centre or Shire Hall, teach in our schools, act as social workers, clean our roads, look after our libraries and parks, our public transport, and the housing of many people, and do all the other varied tasks which is the responsibility of local government but which we can all too easily take for granted. But the community depends not just on these professionals and on the voluntary work of its elected councillors; it depends on a host of other men and women of good will, and as the printed order of service tells us some of these are taking part in this act of worship. And it is this co-operation and understanding between the voluntary and the professional worker which is I believe a very important characteristic of society as we understand it. But it is a characteristic that I believe we need to explore and carry further.

#### The claims of Christ

I mentioned a moment ago the renewal of Baptismal vows in Canterbury Cathedral. I need not remind you, Mr Mayor, that you yourself, as a parishioner of Caversham, made those vows at your own baptism and confirmation last year. While such vows are of course made entirely voluntarily we need to remember that they do however commit us to a definite Christian way of life. There are, I am sure, many here tonight who are sympathetic in a general way to a Christian understanding of man without feeling able to accept the claims of Christ and the tenets of any particular part of his Church; that is a perfectly understandable position and a committed Christian can in many matters work happily alongside those who hold such a viewpoint. But if we accept the implications of Christian baptism and say "I turn to Christ," then we do it not as British people who choose to be Christians but as Christians who happen to be British. That means we acknowledge another citizenship. We recognise, as did Nurse Cavell, that patriotism is not enough and that a Christian has on occasions to be prepared to put the claims of Christ above those of political party and of nation too.

In the Old Testament passages we have just heard we were reminded of the sovereignty of God. "Give ear you that rule over nations," we heard "your dominion was given you from the Lord and your Sovereignty from the most high." And when you read to us from the book of Isaiah, Mr Mayor, you told us "Thus says the high and lofty one who inhabits eternity. I dwell in the high and lowly place and with him who is of a contrite and lowly heart." And we went on in the New Testament passage to hear how our Lord on the eve of his passion acted a parable of humility and said to his disciples. "If I then your Lord and Master have washed your feet you also ought to wash one another's feet." And so in the final scripture passage we heard of the humility of Christ on the Cross.

You are, Mr Mayor respected by many of us for being a humble man; and I believe this augurs well for your year of office; for what we so greatly need is the development of a spirit of humility through all the levels of our community. There is a great danger of polarisation in British society and of our refusing to recognise the gifts and talents of other people, the professional of the amateur, the member of one political party of another, the member of one branch of the Christian church of another. Polarisation springs from fear and pride and not from trust and humility and it impoverishes; it produces cynicism and it makes people reluctant to come forward and offer their talents for the good of the community. A town like ours with its University and with many citizens of great ability in different walks of life has great resources. Are they being used to the full? Does for example the committee structure of local government take proper recognition of this? And this polarisation is often aggravated by sections of the press at both local and national levels. Why does so often an honest difference of opinion have to be headlined by such words as "Fresh row between Mr X and Mr Y"? Why does some possible policy change often lead us to be told that a fresh crisis is upon us?

#### Learning from each other

It is an essential mark of humility that we admit that we can learn from each other and that we may have been mistaken. Greatness indeed may be said to require such willingness. The man or woman with the most adamant views is often the one least sure of their position. I remember many years ago hearing a Prime Minister suggest that dogmatism is the prerogative of youth. I would add to this that the ability to lead should not be confused with the ability to dogmatise. A study of history reveals how those whose achievements are remembered with respect are those very often who in the heat of some real crisis have resigned from office or admitted their misjudgment, modified their views and perhaps even changed their political party. But he who seeks popularity whether he be preacher or politician is seldom someone who contributes any enduring good. There are few people today with prophetic vision and from Old Testament times onwards there has been a reluctance to listen to their message.

It is to be hoped that one of the outcomes of the Pope's recent visit may well be the willingness of Churchmen to rethink some basic matters. The words of the Pope about war and peace seem to call for a re-examination of the Christian concept of the just war theory, a theory recently upheld, although as it seemed to many people rather hesitatingly so, by the leaders in this country of the Pope's communion and my own. And precisely because dogmatism was little in evidence the Pope's visit should surely lead to some fresh thinking by non-Roman Catholic Christians of the concept of leadership and primacy in the Church; equally it is apparent that members of the Roman Catholic Church are beginning to take into their thinking that no one Church can claim a monopoly of Christian truth. All have erred and all have come short of the truth.

If we hold a diamond to the light and turn it round different colours are revealed. But too often we hold the diamond tight for fear of losing it; we stay looking at it from a fixed position and suppose that the colour we see is the only colour; others do likewise seeing only their colour which is a different one. In politics and in religion we must turn the diamond round; we must look for synthesis which is not to be confused with compromise. And this will mean a real meeting of mind with mind and a breaking out of the little groups into which our society is at present divided.

My Mayor, those like you who have come here primarily as Christians know that whether they are on the floor of the House of Commons, or in the Council Chamber of this borough or county, or at the synods and councils of our different church bodies where decisions are taken, the vow of our baptism transcends all other demands made upon us. It means being humble enough to admit that at present, as St Paul told the Corinthians, we see now in a mirror dimly. We know now only in part. This vow means admitting our mistakes and being willing to learn from others and above all to learn from him who for us men and for our salvation humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

*John Grimlad*

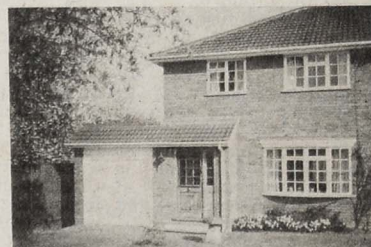
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## KATY IN CAVERSHAM

I'VE just been taken to task for failing to mention two shops in Prospect Street which, I am assured, give very good service. The first is the upholstery and furniture repair shop which moved here from Caversham Road some time ago; my informant assures me they have done a very good job for her, at a reasonable price and quickly.

### Printing

As to the second shop, trading as Parprint, I'm ashamed to say I've not got around to this yet, in spite of the offer from the friendly young man there to explain to me all about the printing business. Perhaps one day I will, but in the meantime I'm grateful to the reader who told me how helpful they had been about printing for her daughter's wedding, and, once again, at reasonable cost. Personally I always find them useful when I want copies made of letters or documents.

### Caversham Crafts

Last month I was happy to mention Sue Saunders and Visions.

Now it's the turn of Caversham Crafts which was officially opened in May by our local MP, Tony Durant. He spoke of his conviction that this district is full of talent which, it is hoped, will be encouraged by this new shop. There was already some local talent on view at the opening, with a display of paintings of local buildings by Des Allen, portraits by Jane Zatman and others whose names I didn't manage to get. This shop is definitely for browsing, so do call in and see the delightful picture gallery on the second floor. I'm always happy to look at pictures which I can recognise instead of mysterious daubs which are supposed to represent something or other, so I did enjoy myself at the opening. Some, it is true, are probably out of my own price range, but the flower prints by Gay Corran, for instance, are very attractive and would make lovely gifts.

I was able to talk to the man in charge of the workshop and found him very knowledgeable on the subject of mounting

and framing — I don't think I ever realised before how important this is to any picture.

Let's hope this venture gets off the ground, for shops like this make a welcome change. It is hoped that coffee parties where artists, potters etc, can talk about their work, will be a feature of the shop.

### Annual Events

What a hive of industry Caversham becomes around this time. First, in May, there is the St John's Food Fair which is rapidly becoming an annual "must". But do get there early next year; ten minutes after opening and you'll find yourself competing with half Caversham for what is on offer, and an hour later you'll be lucky if you find anything left. Apart from bargains, it's great fun, but I'm sorry this year they had to add very loud music to the event — guess I'm getting old, but life seems noisy enough as it is.

Corrymeela revived their barge trip from Kintbury to Hungerford this year. Unfortunately they barely cover expenses, but if

you do hear it is on again next year, do get yourself a ticket for it is truly one of the most relaxing events one can think of.

I'd have liked to have got to the Highdown Fete in May, but one can't do everything. Those youngsters certainly worked hard and those who flocked to the shopping precinct to hand out leaflets beforehand were just great.

So by the time you read this, we'll probably be in the throes of St Peter's Festival. Apart from the mystery plays, concerts, etc, it will be well worth while calling in to the church to see the flower arrangements. I don't know many women — or even men — who can resist flower festivals.

### To Malaysia and back

Which reminds me of a very pleasant evening at Church House in May when Liz Bennett and her parents entertained us in return for a small sum towards the cost of the flower festival. I wonder how many people like myself went along just to support the cause but stayed to marvel at the pictures



of Liz setting out, literally, into the jungle on her own. The talk was well put together and the pictures excellent and informative. Liz, alas, is back in Cambridge, but it's much to be hoped that there will be other opportunities for those who missed the talk to see the slides at some future date.

### Hazard in Caversham Park

The street lay-out of Caversham Park is on the whole imaginative and Davis Estates obviously bore in mind the needs of families with small children when they incorporated into their design a pedestrian path alongside every house giving access to the many play areas. For this reason they dispensed with pavements along the roads. However most children seem to prefer playing on the "road" side of their homes rather than the "path" side or the play area, and the lack of pavements make this a dangerous practice.

As a cyclist and, having the other day only just missed two small tricyclists emerging at speed from behind parked cars — the result

of Liz setting out, could have been messy and uncomfortable for all three of us — may I plead with parents not to let their children play in the roads. Caversham Park roads are as dangerous as any others and had I been a car driver and not a cyclist the result of that particular encounter could have been fatal.

THE 2nd Emmer Green (St Barnabas) Brownies celebrated their 30th anniversary with a trip to the Commonwealth Institute in London followed by a party. Gathered round the birthday cake are the four present Sixers — (front row left to right) Nicola Dodd, Tracey Carter, Catherine Quinn, and Jennifer Grant — with (left to right) Mrs Maureen Evans and Mrs June DeForge (ex Brownie Guiders), Mrs Elaine Bloomfield (present Brown Owl), Mrs Lyn Lorenc (the pack's second Brown Owl) and Mrs Marie Tennant (Snowy Owl).

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Led by Mace-bearer. The Mayor of Reading, Councillor George Robinson is seen arriving at St Peter's for the Mayoral service on June 6.

### CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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THE battle in the South Atlantic may be over by the time this article appears. The Falklands once more in British hands and controlled by the Islanders. The Argentines will be seeking an agreement for peace, and the long period of negotiation on the future of the Islands will begin.

The British people and particularly in my case the Citizens of Reading have asked me many times "what went wrong?" I feel it is important to establish the facts. Argentina claimed Sovereignty over the Islands. The Islands were never

owned by Argentina, their claim goes back to the uncertain situation 150 years ago and is based on a claim through their Spanish connection. We have controlled the Islands since 1833. The Argentinian Junta facing trouble at home and convinced we would take no retaliatory action invaded on April 2.

The Foreign Office in the preceding weeks felt that they were not

serious in their threats as they had made many such bellicose statements in the past twenty years. The negotiations on the future of the Islands began in February 1982 and were proceeding in New York, a communique had been issued on March 1 suggesting that progress was being made. We were deceived.

□ □

By Tony Durant MP

successive Governments to be too expensive for a problem which appeared to be easily solved by negotiations.

A full inquiry will have to take place into all aspects with the aim of clarifying what did happen. I believe it should be a very wide inquiry with the purpose of ascertaining the whole history of events leading up to the invasion. Ministers involved, Civil Servants, Service Personnel at every level must give their full story to ensure that we learn from our mistakes. We all admire the integrity of Lord Carlington and his colleagues in taking the blame, there must be others who should account for their actions.

The Military and Diplomatic actions since the invasion on April 2 are well recorded. We must never forget the courage, efficiency, effectiveness of our Armed Services, we will remember those who gave their lives in the conflict. Freedom liberty and the right of

self determination are never easy to defend and lives are often given to give us our rights and freedom under the Law. We must remember the families of those lost in our daily prayers.

The situation in the Falklands can never be the same as it was before the attack. The Islanders have suffered badly as we now know. Their treatment by their invaders has almost certainly ensured that they will be even more against any take over by the Argentinians. A period of calm will be necessary for them to rebuild their lives and their Country. The British Government must now undertake a re-appraisal of the economy of the area. Lord Shackleton published in 1976 a report commissioned by the Socialist Government on the economic prospects of the region. This was not fully acted on by the Foreign Office at the time.

□ □

There could be valuable mineral deposits in the area though it is not certain whether these exist or not. There is

certainly enormous fishing potential. We may be able to make much more of this part of the World for the benefit of mankind. Argentina itself will have to be part of the economic development as they are the nearest mainland for the exploitation of any minerals. We or the United States will have to explore for these minerals, being two of the only countries with the necessary technological skills.

The administration of the Falklands will remain in the hands of the Islanders through their elected representatives and their Parliament. The security of the Falklands will have to continue to be safeguarded either by Britain or by United Nations Trusteeship involving countries such as Britain, USA and a South American State. We must learn lessons from what has happened in matters of World Peace, Defence and Diplomacy.

We must make the United Nations a more effective peace keeping force.

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## LINK GROUP

THERE was a good attendance at the Annual General Meeting, held at 195 Woodcote Road, on May 24. The chairman, Mrs Lynda Bates, opened the proceedings with a special welcome to the Rev Steven Bartlett and his wife Betty, who had come over from Chalgrove.

Lynda reported that the year had been a busy and useful one. Several local charities had received donations, or benefited in other ways. As usual, the Good-as-new sale and jumble sale had been well supported, raising just over £500 between them. These events involve a lot of sheer physical effort, and heartfelt thanks are due to members' husbands and sons for their help. The chairman also thanked Mary Bramwell for her loyalty and hard work as secretary, and the members for their unfailing support.

New officers were elected because Lynda and Mary have resigned their respective offices. So, the new chairman is Mrs Audrey Preston; secretary, Mrs Pat Jenk-

ins; and Mrs Vera Smith takes on the job of Public relations officer; Miss Celia Beck will continue as treasurer. In her report, the treasurer said that the group's finances were in a healthy condition.

The idea for a Day Centre catering for all ages, at the Baptist Free Church, Caversham, has been favourably received, and there is to be a meeting between the church authorities and LINK. Mrs Doreen Bennett then rose and thanked Lynda Bates on behalf of all members, for her splendid work as past chairman.

This really concluded the business for the evening, so it was time for Holy Communion. The celebrant was the Rev Steven Bartlett, who was formerly Priest-in-Charge at Caversham Park Village. At the end of the service, the small congregation greeted and blessed each other, and ultimately made their way home, some with added responsibilities, but all looking forward to another year working for Family Festival Link.

## WEST BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL

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## SUE RYDER SUPPORT GROUP CAVERSHAM

THE Group is now children's toys. Any busily preparing for offers to Mrs Deane the Summer Fair to be 473798 or Miss Harris held on August 14 at 472084. A donation of Nettlebed.

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# AMONG THE POOR OF DELHI

THE second instalment from Philip Hardy of the work he is doing in Delhi with the Brotherhood of the Ascended Christ.

I am involved in two aspects of the Brotherhood's social work, dealing with both the very young and the old. The Brotherhood is currently establishing two creches in East Delhi, the area where most of their social work is concentrated. One of these is situated in Nand Nagri, a slum resettlement colony of about 60,000 people. This is a relatively new settlement, where the slum dwellers of Delhi are moved to when the slums are cleared. Each family is given a plot of land measuring twenty-two and a half square yards. The families rarely have the money to build any form of house apart from a mud hut, supported by anything they can lay their hands on. Jobs are difficult to find here, being some seven miles from the main parts of Delhi, and few people are any better off than they were in the slums.

The other creche is in Anand Gram, a nearby Leprosy colony, and takes children from several other leprosy colonies. In both these the children are looked after, fed, and given the very beginnings of an education. From here it will be easier to carry on the education at a higher level, as they will have the groundings of literacy and numeracy. The

parents will be accustomed to education of their children, something which is occasionally feared as they feel they are being deprived of their families. The children will also get the benefit of a regular diet, which will help them to develop physically, and also mentally, as malnutrition destroys the capacity to learn. This scheme is funded by KNH a German charity, and involves correspondence between the foster parents who adopt the welfare of the children, and the children themselves. At this early stage it is a purely one-way flow, but the foster parents are provided with regular newsletters and reports on the child's progress.

## Help the Aged

The other scheme is run under the framework of "Help the Aged". Adopt a Granny scheme. In this we have a sponsorship scheme similar to the above creche scheme, through which old people in Seemapuri, another slum clearance area, receive clothes, food and medical attention, and correspondence occurs between the old person and his or her sponsor. I have been busy writing newsletters for this, and also interviewing the old people to

write on their behalf, as they are all illiterate. I am aided by Michael Bannerjee, who started work after Christmas, and will be doing this work in future. My job is to guide him in the interviews to obtain information which would be of interest to somebody in England, and also help his English, which is already good.

As part of this we took our old people on a picnic recently to a large park in Delhi. As it was a working day we had the park to ourselves, and the old people greatly enjoyed the open air and pleasant surroundings. They also were provided with a good meal, being filled up until they

some technical training for the less academic children. It is fortunate to have a fully trained teacher from England, Nigel Orchard, assisting in the teaching of English, through the USPG Experience Exchange Programme.

Connected with the school is a Day centre where many of the children get meals, and are also able to do work and play games. The orphans who attend the school are accommodated in Bal Bhavan, a boy's home run by the Brotherhood. Here they get a family upbringing, which is an essential start to life. In Seemapuri there is also a Lending Library, which now has over



■ A leprosy patient using the handloom at Anand Gram Leprosy Colony.

could take no more! 1,000 books and over fifty members. With this was such an experience for them, away from the poverty and crowded hubbub of Seemapuri, that they were singing and joking all day, despite their everyday hardships. It was a delight to see this, and it was a good reward for all the organisation, and also the physical effort needed to get them in and out of the hired coach. They will not forget that day for a long time, and neither shall I!

Seemapuri is the scene of several other schemes, and is where the social work, as it is now, started. The Deenabandhu School was started by the Brotherhood, with the help of members of the local community, to provide both primary school education and coaching for older children who had either dropped out of school or had never attended school at all. Through the assistance of Action-AID, an Indian Charity which provides sponsorship, and the skill and determination of Mrs George, the Headmistress, the school has been so successful that it is now moving to a new site, bought cheaply, and will gradually expand to provide high school standard education, and also

unable to attempt to integrate themselves

into society, which generally treats them as outcasts. Through co-operative effort, and the assistance of the Brotherhood, the inhabitants of Anand Gram Leprosy Colony began to start out on the road to self-sufficiency through such schemes as cycle-rickshaw pulling, handloom weaving, candle making, buffalo, goat, rabbit and poultry husbandry and a use of their skills, these patients have nearly achieved self-sufficiency. They live in a disciplined community, with those able to work contributing a fixed rate of their daily earnings to a communal fund, which assists those unable to work in any manner.

At Anand Gram people have recovered their dignity as human beings, and nobody begs any more. The only aid they receive, apart from no-interest loans from the Brotherhood, is a small amount of food. They run the colony on a democratic basis, all decisions being discussed at meetings of the whole colony.

At Amar Jothy and Jeend the same process is being carried out, although at different stages in development. The Brotherhood were recently responsible for organising and funding the first All India Leprosy Sufferers Conference, and much good has come from that, as leprosy patients begin to realise that they can support themselves. The Brotherhood is financially assisted in their rehabilitation work by the Leprosy Mission and UMCOR and this very important and successful work is due to their aid, as the capital needed to start the scheme is considerable, although it is repaid

in due course.

I am very grateful for my opportunity to help the Brotherhood in their work, and have absolutely no regrets that I took the opportunity to come here and help. I would like to thank the Rector and also the

PCC for their valuable assistance, without whom it would not have been possible to carry out this work. Anyone wanting further information should write to Brotherhood House, 7 Court Lane, Delhi, 110054.

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# OLD MAPS CAN

MANY people enjoy studying maps. How often does the road atlas come to hand before or after a day's outing, a holiday or a journey, that has to be made. An enormous amount of interesting information can be gleaned from such perusing and if it happens to be an old edition of one's locality there is even more that can be discovered. So when I was made a present of a twenty-five inch

to the mile copy of a map of the village of Caversham and its surrounds, I was delighted and settled down to have a really good look at it. The original was surveyed in 1877 and what I was studying was a revision of this printed in 1897.

## Wells in Pig Tail Lane

First I glanced at the area around Caversham's corn mill. The old mill was still grinding away when the ordnance survey was made and the

mill at the beginning of this century was a Mr Soundy. His family went back at least to the very beginning of the seventeenth century in Caversham. In nearby Paddock Road four cottages each had their own well, three on the north side of the street and one on the south. In earlier days this little byeway was known as Pig Tail Lane. Star Road was also once Star Lane and here, too, a whole row of cottages had their own well or shared one between two. From the Red Cow to the house opposite Marsack Street junction there were eight wells. Many rows of Victorian houses had been built by 1887. Kings Road, Queens Road, Piggotts Road and Gosbrook Road were all bordered by neat new dwellings, though there were still some empty spaces. No houses were yet built either side of Ardler Road, St John's Road or Mar-

sack Street (named after Major Marsack who once owned Caversham Park). Here it was still fields and a little bit of Caversham as it was still remained.

Down by the Clappers the large Victorian hotel on View Island is clearly marked and figures printed on the area show that the island was almost four acres in size, most of it very marshy. There was more wet land behind the Star Inn. The Caversham laundry in George Street existed, but there were no houses on that side of the road and all the fields bordering the Thames had the dreaded words "liable to flood" written across them. Flood they did, as those living in this part of Caversham knew only too well. Many must still be able to remember such terrible occasions.

## Three 'lost' houses

Further down Gosbrook Road, once Goosebrook Lane, on the same side as the little recreation ground, were three large houses, The Firs, The Limes and Caversham Lodge. The first of these had a long bending drive to it and bordered the recreation ground, the house lying well back from the road. The Limes was also approached by a drive and to the east of this property was a field running to Washington Road, another street yet without any houses. Caversham Lodge was nearer the road, and it too, adjoined the playground. All three houses have long since gone.

Once Westfield Road is reached the houses all start again neatly bordering the roads as we see them today, only then brand new. Here again four wells are clearly marked on the map. They were in the gardens of houses between School Lane and the house in Gosbrook Road which looks straight up Westfield Road.

Still keeping to the eastern end of Caversham, though going a little north,

I discovered a market garden of some two acres shown almost at the end of Southview Avenue, before reaching Donkin Hill, then marked Little Hill.

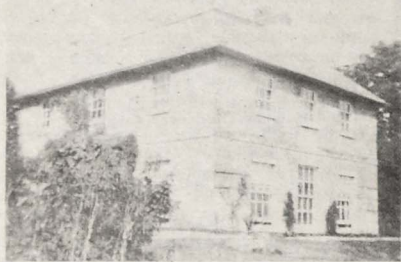
Up on to the Henley Road, going away from Caversham, was another large house with a lodge marking the entrance to its long drive. More imposing than any of the three properties in Gosbrook Road, The Elms had far

Park and several of the large houses in Derby Road and Grosvenor Road were already built.

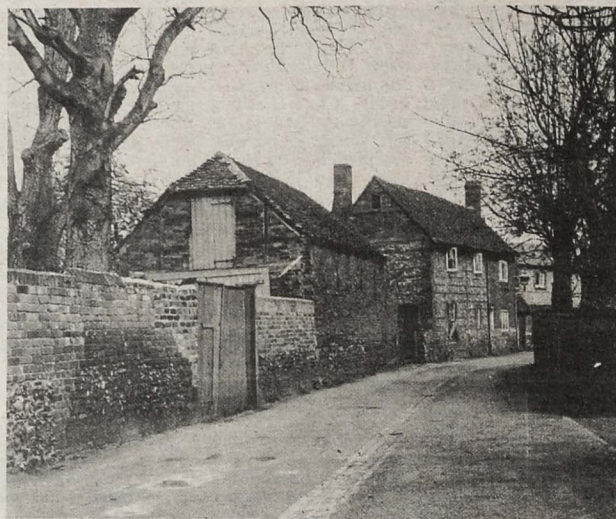
## All because of Gout

The way to Peppard is not named, neither is the turnpike road to Henley. The latter is the route to Henley we still use and which passes beside Queen Anne's School. It was made early in the seven-

teen hundreds by the north side of Church Road was the Police Station, now the site of a large office block. There were none of the houses which now comprise the sweet shop and Modern Kitchens. Instead a flint wall bordered the road right up to St Peter's Hill. Further round past the old restored cottages there is no sign of Priory Avenue. It was another road yet to be.



■ The Elms, Henley Road. It has now been demolished



■ Paddock Road in 1945

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more outbuildings and was once the home of a Miss Lovegrove. Some Victorian owners seemed singularly lacking in imagination when it came to naming their houses. Until just after World War I Miss Lovegrove continued to reside there. No doubt it was her family home. The Lovegroves have a large obelisk memorial on the north side of St Peter's Church and reading it one is informed that they were Reading people around 1800.

Like so many families they moved over the bridge to Caversham early in the nineteenth century preferring a home in a village as the town grew larger and larger, yet able to be within easy reach of its amenities and also their business, if they had one.

Unfortunately the map does not take in the mansion and grounds of Caversham Park, which is a pity as it might have proved interesting.

The land behind Queen Anne's School is marked Caversham Place

the Marquis of Salisbury to help him on his journey from his home at Hatfield House to Bath, where he took the waters in the hope of curing his gout.

Looking at Hemdean Road the first cemetery is marked. It was opened in 1885 and where you now find Caversham Primary School then you would have found a field of allotments. Today only a few survive above the playground.

Going up Priest Hill there is no mention of the pilgrims' well at the top, for that was still lost and not discovered until 1906. All the land on the valley side of Priest Hill and the Mount was just fields totalling some seventeen acres of poor land and no St Annes Road or Clifton Park Road existed. Not even the path which became the latter is shown, although there was one. It is clearly visible in old photos, and cut through an ancient orchard belonging to the Old Rectory. The last building on

Caversham Academy is of course plainly seen almost opposite the Priory. The school playground and class rooms are there too but of course no underground passage is shown going under Church Street to them.

Reaching the top of St Peter's Hill one finds no houses till the pair of farm cottages at the beginning of the track (now Darell Road) to Toots farm. Behind the farmhouse is shown an orchard and further on, where later Highmoor Road came into being, is a large collection of farm buildings. None of the several wells in Darell Road is shown. Albert Road is a footpath, so is St Peter's Avenue, from the many turreted Warren Towers (built by 1841) out towards the countryside. A countryside that was soon to vanish after 1897 as Caversham Heights was developed from then onwards, until today there is almost nowhere in which to build another house. M.K.



# TELL A TALE



■ An old cottage in Paddock Road, 1945. When alterations were made to the roof of the lower part of the building two eating forks were discovered. They were of an early type having only two prongs.

## WE RECORD

### BAPTISED

**St Peter's**  
May 19 — Sophie Wilson  
May 23 — Sabrina Ruskin, Dominic Ruskin, Giselle Ruskin  
**St John's**  
May 9 — Lee Sheppard, Lynsey Durbridge, Darren Rapley  
**St Barnabas'**  
May 16 — Hayley Coles  
**St Margaret's**  
April 18 — Margaret Gough  
**Caversham Park**  
May 23 — Daniel Pollard, Christina Pollard  
**Gosbrook Road Methodist Church**  
April 25 — Walter Leitch, Marion Leitch, Danielle Leitch

At St Barnabas', Reading on June 13

**Caversham Park**  
Alison Maybury, Victoria Maybury  
**May 30, Caversham Heights Methodist Church**  
Christopher Butler, Julian Cross, Paul Cross, Julian Masters, Jane Arch, Anita Beeston, Olive Lowe, John Marshall, Mary Price, Sharmen Wells  
**Gosbrook Road Methodist Church, April 25**  
Walter Leitch, Marion Leitch  
**May 23**  
Robert Blackburn, Stephen Holley, Trevor Holley, Reginald Buckingham, Lucy Buckingham, Harold Barker, Eileen Barker, Christopher Hackman, Kenneth Hopkins, Pauline Hopkins, Philip Reed, Susan Reed, Joan Aldridge, Laurence Gregory

### MARRIED

**St Peter's**  
May 1 — Richard Franklin and Gillian Ansell  
May 15 — Richard Berge and Catherine Smith  
May 22 — Michael Roystone and Angela Hastings  
May 29 — Colin Simpson and Patricia Langford  
June 5 — Colin Keyse and Zoe Smith  
**St John's**  
May 29 — Nicholas Corps and Helen Nicholls  
**St Andrew's**  
May 15 — Paul Gazzard and Diane Hurn  
**St Barnabas'**  
May 1 — Simon Hollingbery and Susan Ellingham  
May 22 — Adrian Stott and Catherine Bowyer  
**Caversham Heights Methodist Church**  
May 29 — Richard Tartaglia and Marguerite Richings

### CONFIRMED

On May 19 at St Peter's by Bishop Bulley.

**St Peter's**  
Graham Ashton, Stewart Bolton, Sonia Czornij, Sheila Hobbs, Susan Horwood, Janet North, Brian O'Riordan, Ivy Pidgeon, Ian Smith, Raymond Smith, Sophie Wilson  
**St John's**  
Florence Abell, Lisa Cooper, Mark Hatcher, Patrick Holmwood, Ursula Jarvis, Beverley Randall, Carole Witcomb  
**St Andrew's**  
Clare Milling, Celeste Moseley, Jacqueline Moseley, Paul Vickers  
**St Barnabas'**  
Brian Warren

**St Margaret's**  
Alison Barnett, Jane Faulkes

**Caversham Park**  
Simon Coppin, Pauline Giles, Julie Jarvis, Kenneth Jarvis, Rachel Jarvis, Valerie Jarvis, Ellen Shears, Sarah Trinder

### FUNERALS

**St Barnabas'**  
May 6 — Eva Platt  
**St John's**  
May 14 — Raymond Turner

### TALKING POINT

## Legacy of a Pope

By Ralph Rogerson

ONLY the granite-faced, stone-hearted "Paisleys" could have failed to catch something of great worth from the visit of Pope John-Paul II. Surely the Lord was at the Wembley Mass: surely the Holy Ghost breathed Divine Love as the Pope and Archbishop embraced at Canterbury: surely the Lord was manifestly present wherever the papal steps trod!

Although no nearer to the stirring events than my television set, my Free Church heart was strangely warmed and I rejoiced to feel part of that which was taking place. Was this a temporary "illogical" exaltation of spirit which ignored differences of doctrinal interpretation between Churches, or was it a confirmation of St Paul's insistence that Faith, Hope, Love abide — but the greatest of these is love? The latter, I am sure.

Strangely prophetic were the words of my friend Father Tom Meagher in last month's "Bridge": "He", (the Pope) "will show his great love for all his fellow men and will, no doubt, leave us with much to think about, to pray about and to put into practice in our lives once more". I was left daring to feel at one with those great assemblies — and especially the Mass of Confirmation at Coventry.

My experience of the Spirit's Presence — in Power and Love as I watched that service — I knew again as twenty-four souls were confirmed in the Methodist Church in Caversham in those same days and as a lay Roman Catholic friend led worship in one of our Methodist Churches about the same time. His words supported my experience: "Methodist warmth and understanding are not empty words, but a genuine reality".

The papal legacy we have inherited, therefore, is a renewed sense of Divine Love extended with undisturbing regard to all who affirm Christ as Lord. This legacy, in turn, should cause us to examine again, in the light of that Love, our own cores of belief and traditions. It is surely the case that only those convinced of their rightful place in the universal church of Christ already who can explore, fruitfully, a common future. The Reverend Colin Morris, former President of the Methodist Conference, puts this pungently when he writes: "Any union between mealy-mouthed Methodists, apathetic Anglicans, careless Catholics ... could only produce a breed of spiritual hybrids so vapid, their Gospel would be about as nourishing as soup made

from the ghost of a very small pigeon that had starved to death!"

What are the visible marks of that true Church which sets forth the Universal Love of Christ? I do little more than mention these three marks which Morris suggests:



(i) *A Living Faith.* Wesley described Methodism as "the old religion", rooted firmly in that faith once and for all delivered to the saints. The great themes he reiterated constantly — Salvation, Justification by Faith, Assurance, Universality of Grace, Scriptural Holiness, etc, derive from Holy Scripture and run in unbroken succession from St Paul, to St Augustine, to Luther, to Wesley ... The Church of living faith is that part of the world "shot through with the reconciling power" and love of God.

(ii) *The Preached Word.* Is this not a Gift of the Spirit, given to the whole Church Militant for the purpose of building up in love the community into a genuine fellowship in Christ (Ephesians 4.12)? Preaching is a form of speech which conveys the Living Word of God to its hearers not by any trick of psychology or genius of oratory, but by its sheer nature as a witness to something beyond itself.

(iii) *A common sac-*

*ramental life.* Wesley believed that "the living faith of the church could only survive if nourished by the preached, heard and acted-out word". Yet he never separated the proclamation from the liturgy, and how strongly does Archbishop Runcie endorse this, as indicated by Gerald Priestland: "Anglicans rather pride themselves on having tried to get the balance right between the emphasis on the sacrament, which without preaching can degenerate into superstition and emphasis on the Word, which without communion can underestimate the presence of the Lord in the midst of His People". Through the sacramental life the riches of God are especially mediated: when he accepts the broken bread and spilt wine the worshipper assumes every right and obligation of the historic church.

Three so inadequately summarised Marks in these paragraphs which pay scant recognition of two millennia of history, triumphs, failures, achievements, disasters, etc, of Christ's Church Militant. Yet Marks to look for, in the wake of the Pope's visit, as in love we Christians seek to follow and serve Christ in God's world.

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# CHURCH NEWS

## Justham Choir Cup

The annual competition for this cup was held in St Margaret's Church on May 25. Dr Kempe acted as adjudicator and Timothy Etherington, last year's winner was again successful. His choice of piece was the Nunc Dimittis by Burgon, the title music from the series "Tinker, Taylor, Soldier, Spy". This was difficult but his phrasing was good and there was little doubt that he deserved to retain the cup. Jane Faulkes who won the cup in 1980 was the runner up and the third place

was shared by Eleanor Nice and David Payne. It was good to have as many as fourteen entries this year.

## The Church Council

The first meeting of the new Council of the combined parish of Caversham and Mapledurham was held on Monday May 25 preceded by a celebration of Holy Communion in St Peter's.

Mr K. Deane explained the proposals for the re-

wiring of St John's and the Council unanimously agreed that an Archdeacon's Certificate should be sought for this work which will cost £1,800. A new item of business was the appointment of a manager for Kidmore End Church of England County Primary School. Mr. Martyn-Johns explained that primary school children living in the parish were eligible to attend and Mrs G. Cooper was appointed as manager for a four-year term of office. Mr Vincent reported on the annual inspection of clergy houses; all urgent repairs had been put in hand but the main work to be undertaken was at St John's House and extensive repairs likely

ference held on May 16 will also be on the agenda.

## St Barnabas' News

On Saturday May 8 the St Barnabas' Household and Handyman Sale raised £400 for Dr Guy Daynes' work among mentally ill patients in the Transkei. The sale, the second in recent years — was organised by the Overseas Group at the church who would like to thank all who helped to make it such a success.

On a less happy note, the congregation was saddened to hear of the death earlier that week of Mrs Eva Platt. The funeral was in St Barna-

dren from Highdown School. The visits — arranged by Mrs Johnson, who teaches Religious Education at Highdown — were to show the children that the church is not just a historical monument (which could hardly be said, anyway, of St Barnabas), but what the church is and does now. We hope to see Highdown again in the future.

## St John's Notes

If you stopped for a chat on your way to St John's Food Fair on May 22 it is possible you missed the bargains. It was held in the church, so at 10.00 the west door was opened, people surged in, Graham

rights, the men moving the chairs, and the ladies replacing the hassocks and books. By 12.30 you would never have known there had been a Food Fair — except that another £230 had been raised towards the church lighting and rewiring costs.

It all took a great deal of hard work, especially by the organising committee, and it is nice to be able to say "Thank you" to them, and to the friends and neighbours who gave contributions.

★ ★ ★

There was a large congregation at Ray Turner's funeral on May 14. Over the years he had given a great deal to the life at St John's. In the past Ray ran the Youth Club, and had been a district warden. He was always willing to use his professional knowledge to help with architectural questions, and most recently with the Scout Guide Hut. Joan and his family can be sure of our sympathy and prayers.

## Caversham Mothers' Union

The first joint meeting of the Mother's Unions was held in May at Church House. The speaker was Col R. Kynaston OBE, JP who gave a very interesting talk on the work of a magistrate, on how the Courts worked, the training a magistrate received, and the

various kinds of community service which are now being used in preference to a prison sentence, where it is appropriate.

He was warmly thanked and the meeting ended with the usual cup of tea.

## St Peter's Bellringers' Outing

In case anyone thought the St Peter's Bellringers had gone "on strike" at the beginning of May, let them be assured that this was not the case. Instead, the Bellringers' outing took place on Saturday May 8 to Shropshire and Staffordshire and on the Friday night they descended upon John Williamson in Cheswardine.

The ringers rang at ten towers on the Saturday starting at 9.15am and finishing at 9pm. John was able to join them in the afternoon when his Postmaster duties had finished. They were blessed with a glorious day and the ringing was most enjoyable — even though bird droppings showered down at one of the lesser-used towers!

The bellringers soon integrated into village life and entertained the "locals" with handbells at quite a late hour. The slower pace of country life was also noticeable — one could leisurely observe finger signs from the car at road junctions without the usual hooting from behind.

On the Sunday they rang Cheswardine's eight bells for morning service and thank John and his Vicar for their great hospitality shown to them.



Buying and selling at St Barnabas' Household and Handyman sale. £400 was raised for medical work in the Transkei.

to cost £3,000 needed to be completed before a new priest-in-charge could take up residence. Concern was expressed at an item in the weekly notices which had been regarded as unsuitable and the Council agreed that the parish secretary should consult the clergy before including any matter which might be felt to be of a controversial nature. The Council received a report from Miss Wheeler from the Deanery Synod and it was agreed that the moral implications of unemployment ought to be considered at a later date.

The Council meets again on July 21 when the financial situation of the parish will be looked at after the current stewardship renewal campaign. Matters arising from the parish con-

bas' church on Thursday May 6. Mrs Platt had been a faithful worshipper at the church since the days when the present church was built fifty years ago. In recent weeks ill health had prevented her from getting to St Barnabas as often as she would have liked. We shall miss her among us. We offer our sympathy to her family. May she rest in peace.

Not quite on the scale of "Mad Axeman strikes", but the church fence was attacked by a vandal (or vandals) who caused damage with an axe. But on a happier note, the church was visited by groups of chil-

drunken Watson made a brief opening speech, and then the buying began. There was plenty to buy — several trestle tables covered with home made cakes (assorted sizes and shapes), buns, biscuits, pies, tarts, jams, marmalades, pickles and sweets, as well as eggs, honey, grocery and plants. It all went with incredible speed. Satisfied customers compared purchases as they drank tea or coffee. By twenty past eleven it was known that a customer had won the jar of sweets, and a helper had guessed the correct weight of the cake (and a very nice one it was too!) Then everyone turned to and put the church to

Dear Sir,

I have read with interest the letters from Mr Peter Tipton and the other three correspondents on church unity schemes. Mr Tipton and I both served on a joint working party at Church House in 1973 to consider housing "The Church in East Caversham" (sic) on one of the two existing sites. Those who raised the question recently would be very much surprised to learn how thoroughly we investigated and how far we progressed. As I read the Minutes now, there are some dear friends who have gone before, and ten or more who are still active, who served then.

Covenant interests me, too. Some of us attended the Methodist District Synod recently at Andover, where the Proposals were accepted by one hundred and two votes to thirty-three. It is, however, a little premature to leap from mutual recognition all the way to rationalisation

of premises, at one go. Before the congregations will consider moving to unfamiliar buildings, we have to deal with a lot of uneasiness, and build a fabric of mutual trust. The Proposals are very strong on Joint Decision-taking. Why not begin with this, a much more hopeful part? Rightly or wrongly, there is an impression around that all new ventures and proposals begin from one source and that they are already well-defined and developed before the idea occurs that they should be pursued ecumenically. At that stage the free churches are urged to join in.

Until we have projects that genuinely arise from a properly constituted joint body, I shall reserve my energies for that part of the Church that I know and understand.

JOHN CLARK

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# CHURCH NEWS

## Baptist News

### Have a Banana

Like the amber light on a pedestrian crossing the Children's Address at Sunday Morning Family Service tends to come and go. When it is there it has as much to say to the adult congregation as it does to the children. When it is absent — what then? On a recent Sunday morning the Fourteen Plus Youth Group stole the limelight with a turn which not only had a thought provoking moral but had the added attraction of being first class entertainment.

With the minimum of "props" four of the young people stood on the rostrum with their backs to the congregation and in the background were others.

The chief spokesman was "Reg" a typical door-to-door salesman and as he called at each house the characters turned to face the congregation. Reg's patter was that he had a super offer — and it was FREE. Each potential customer reacted characteristically. The posh lady accepted the free gift — a banana — disdainfully, tossed it to one side with the remark that she would try it sometime. The young female "hippie", on learning that Reg was giving something away became ecstatic. When invited to eat it she did so with the skin on and then complained that it was not cooked. The next customer was a very worried and harassed man whose wife had obviously

left him, and the children were all shouting for this and that at the same time. His reaction to a free banana was to wonder if it would take his mind off his troubles and he hadn't much appetite with so many demands on his time. He squeezed the banana in frustration with predictable result.

Reg, true to his profession, was not to be put off. He continued to knock on doors until he was greeted by a young man who accepted a free banana and put it to his ear like a telephone, jokingly saying "Hello Mum", and then inquired what he should do with it. Reg explained that it should be peeled and eaten. The young man found this a novelty and his smile broadened, he tasted it and declared it to be "FANTASTIC". Reg, in philosophical mood, concluded that giving away bananas was just like telling people about Christ — some were interested, some were too busy or had too many other things on their minds, some, having tried it, found it too much like hard work but others declared it to be FANTASTIC.

### It is Fantastic

The recent Don Summer's Crusade may not be everyone's cup of tea but it appears to have had an impact on many not least the younger people of the Church. A number of them have been prompted, like the Young man with his free banana, to investigate further. To assist them our members, the Revd Phillip and Mrs Jane Webb have in the absence of our Minister on sabbatical leave, set up a discipleship class. With tutors second to none the youthful inquirers should not find the going too much like hard work or lacking in interest but time alone will tell. To quote Baden-Powell they need "stickability" for so often young minds are swayed by the emotion and when the euphoria of the

moment has subsided they find themselves like pricked balloons. It is the prayer of the whole Church that this will not be the case and it is the responsibility of all who profess the name of Christ to see that they do not become deflated but guided and moulded to take their positions as the pillars of tomorrow's Church.

## St Anne's News

May is the month traditionally set aside for devotion to Our Blessed Lady and this has been put to practice most assiduously in the Parish through the Sunday evening services and particularly, and most beautifully, in the May Procession which was held on the 9th.



Mr Bill Scotchbrook (left) and Mr Stuart Scotchbrook, auctioneers for Gosbrook Road Methodist Church's auction, with Mr David Herbert, the organiser. £1,300 was raised for the rebuilding of the church.

Fortunately the rain kept off so it was possible to process outside around the school grounds and back to the Church via the presbytery garden. All the lovely old hymns to Our Lady were sung including "This is the image of Our Queen" and "Bring Flowers of the Rarest", hymns which one rarely hears nowadays. The school children, girls bedecked in white dresses and veils, were there in their strength, and from their ranks one little girl crowned the large statue of Our Lady with a garland of flowers, and the bier on which this stood was carried in pride of place by four men. Another great spir-

itual event this month was the Mass at the Cemetery Chapel on the 18th for deceased parishioners buried and cremated there. The Chapel was packed to the door and the singing of the Latin Mass for the Dead and well-loved hymns such as "The Lord's my Shepherd" was most moving with all joining in. After the Mass Father Meagher, preceded by the Senior Altar Servers of the parish and followed by the Choir and Congregation processed to the part of the cemetery where the most recent Roman Catholic graves lie and after the singing of the beautiful Latin "In paradisum", stood while Father Meagher went around the graves blessing them

another most successful dance held on the 8th to the music of Jimmy Mac and his Band of BBC TV and Radio fame. They also arranged coaches to Pontanna Fields in Cardiff for the Pope's Mass.

Instructions for children aged twelve to fourteen years attending non-Roman Catholic Schools are now under way and are held on Thursday evenings alternating weekly between the homes of Dr and Mrs Hudson and Dr Hunt.

Lastly, but certainly not least, to news of the Heights Chapel.

Father Meagher writes "Many thanks to the Notice Board maker and those who erected it so neatly and tastefully. I am hoping that information on it will not be long in coming."

A most enjoyable evening was held in the lovely spacious garden of Mr and Mrs Criss of the Elms, Shepherd's Lane, where chops and sausages were barbecued and eaten with great relish by those present. The garden was very effectively lit by coloured lights strung through the trees.

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## AUCTION SUCCESS

WITH the help of Auctioneers Mr Bill Scotchbrook and Mr Stuart Scotchbrook, Mr David Herbert of Gosbrook Road Methodist Church led his team of workers through a resoundingly successful day on May 15. A total of 290 lots were on sale, ranging from a gold sovereign and maundy money to stamps, water colours, and cut glass. Many people came to the viewing in the morning, and the sale was very busy from its prompt start at 2pm. As the afternoon wore on it was realised that a very good total would be reached, and at the end of the day the staggering sum of £1,300 was announced. The Church owes a large debt of gratitude to the Auctioneers and to all the workers and organisers who helped to make the day run so smoothly.



### Caversham Community Association

Mrs Rose Parker visited the club on May 10 and demonstrated her skill at flower arranging. She quickly made an attractive arrangement of blue iris and followed this with some equally pleasing designs.

Mrs Painter gave some useful tips to the members, one example was when she celloped two cocktail sticks to a candle for insertion into a block of oasis foam to be used as a centre for a flower arrangement.

The resulting display of Mrs Painter's art at the completion of her demonstration was much admired by the members.

The Old Tyne dance enthusiasts met on May 24 and were encouraged to learn some more steps under the tuition of Mrs May Plant. Some of the

old favourites were danced and Mrs Plant also introduced some new dances to the members.

### Caversham Ladies Club

At the May meeting the club were entertained by Mrs Pilkington and her ladies with Movement to Music demonstrating movements and exercises well within the capabilities of most of the members.

On an exceptionally fine day forty members went by coach to Milton Manor, near Abingdon and spent a very pleasant hour or more being shown over the house by the owner. Many fine articles of china and glass were admired, and also a chapel built inside the house. After a very welcome cup of tea they returned to Chiltern Chase for supper, and then home.

### Caversham Women's Institute

At the May meeting members enjoyed the visit of Mrs E. Collinge VCO who gave guidance on discussion and voting on the resolutions for the Annual General Meeting at the Albert Hall. The flower of the month was won by Mrs Olive Harris and Mrs Beard.

Mrs Hilda Adair presided at the Caversham Group meeting and was pleased to welcome Mrs Christine Ingram the Berkshire County Chairman and all fellow members.

Before giving her own report she invited the President's of Sonning Glebe, Maiden Earleigh, Rose Hill, Mill Green and Woodford Park to give their reports on the activities of their respective Institutes which

proved varied and enlightening.

Mrs Joan Biggar VCO the Caversham Group Link, outlined forthcoming events.

Mrs Sheila Stewart entertained with a hilarious talk entitled "Country Kate", this was based on the sayings of her one time elderly daily help.

The Group competition — The Merry Month of May — was won by Caversham WI who was presented with the cup.

At the meeting on July 15 a talk will be given on Amnesty International.

### Blagrove WI

Mrs J. Price the President welcomed members, visitors and new members to the May and June meetings.

The Speaker in May was Mrs Eileen Clarke,

Dear Sir,

Just a brief reply to Mr Gant's comments (May issue) on my letter published in the April edition of the Caversham Bridge.

First of all, my sole aim and effort is towards complete disarmament, and so be in accord with our Lord's teaching as recorded in the Gospels, otherwise our continued prayer for God's Kingdom to come and His will be done on earth as in heaven, by us humans, is a waste of words. Nothing abstract about that.

Mr Gant asks: "If you really believe in something you love to defend it, aggressively if necessary". Defend, yes, but not by the bestial killing of my fellows, with friend and foe alike forced by bellicose heads of governments into the slavery of blind obedience, to carry out this crime against God and man. Jesus stated quite clearly the legitimate weapons we may use; plus the UN and world opinion.

He also asks the

hypothetical question that neither he nor I can answer. That is, if I found money changers in St Andrew's on a Sunday morning, thereby preventing a service of worship, what would I do? Jesus Himself gave the answer to that by upsetting the tables. But there the matter ended. He did not go on to murder the men, their wives and children, as happens in war.

How arrogant of us to think we know better than God, our Creator, how to run our earthly affairs. Was His Son's life and death in vain that we may eventually destroy ourselves unless we change course, obey His commands?

Sadly, through lack of faith and moral courage, and fear of suffering, the Church, i.e. the majority of its members, fails to give a decisive lead. Christ's rebuke is as valid today as when He said: "O ye of little faith!"

H. D. MARSHALL

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Emmer Green

VCO, who explained the Resolutions on the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting to be held at the Royal Albert Hall in London on Thursday June 3. Votes were taken and the delegate, Mrs Fisher, from Whitchurch Hill WI instructed how to vote on the members' behalf. The competition for a flower arrangement in an egg cup was judged by Mrs Clarke. 1st Mrs Dean, 2nd Mrs Housden, 3rd Mrs J. Price.

The raffle kindly donated by Mrs Wright was won by Mrs Clarke. A successful coffee morning held recently benefitted Institute funds.

In June Mrs Esme Cope, accompanying herself on the guitar, presented an interesting and varied programme of "Folk Songs Around the World"; amongst these were Gaelic, Country and Western, Irish and even a recipe for fish pie sung in French. Mrs Ralinson gave a vote of thanks on behalf of the members.

The competition for "A Flower from the Garden" drew several entries and was won by Mrs Hunter, 2nd Mrs Housden and 3rd Mrs Butler.

The raffle prize, kindly donated by Mrs Moran, was won by Mrs Mercer.

### Maplewood WI

The president, Mrs Joan Fry, opened the May meeting, and introduced Mrs Judith Williamson, a VCO (Voluntary County Officer) from the Berkshire Federation of Women's Institutes, who led a lively discussion on the resolutions to be hammered out at the forthcoming National Federation's Annual general meeting, to be held in the Royal Albert Hall, London. Members made known their views, and voting instructions were given to the delegate who will attend on their behalf. A ballot was held for a bursary to be taken up at Denman College, Marcham, near Oxford.

The competition was entitled "Where is it"? A number of photographs were displayed, and members were invited to name the places. Later in the month, a visit was made to Stonor Park, near Henley. It was a delightful afternoon, weather perfect; the beautiful chapel and house set in natural parkland. There was also the coffee morning given each year by two very good friends of Maplewood, and an opportunity to meet with each other again, and to stroll round their lovely garden.

### Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild

The Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild held their May meeting at Emmer Green Primary School. The Chair was taken by Mrs Risius in the absence of Miss Green. The main part of the evening was taken up with Programme Planning for next year, and many of the suggestions made the evening a very lively one.

The Arts and Crafts Group held a very successful Plant Sale.

### Caversham Darby and Joan Club

Early in the month fifty-one members went by coach for a tour of the countryside, stopping at Wallingford for a cup of tea. The journey ended at Chiltern Chase for a fish and chip supper, then home.

At one of their meetings the club were entertained by Mrs Bint with songs and an accordion. Members joined in the old songs and choruses, and also in part-songs. An outing to Southsea is being arranged.

### Rosehill WI

The new President, Mrs C. Allwright, presided. After usual business and notices of various group activities had been given, the meeting was given over to Mrs Hanson VCO to read and enlarge upon the resolutions to be proposed at the AGM. A lively discussion took place. Mrs Barge will be delegate at the AGM. Members were encouraged to apply for places at Denman College when these are announced next month. An interesting display of members' paper-weights was exhibited.

### Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild

With a member acting as model, Mrs Pat Henshaw gave a talk and demonstration on the art of make up and skin care at the May meeting of

Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild. Two members announced that they will be taking part in the NUM Music Festival and the monthly competition was won by Mrs K. Maule.

### Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild

"Get down on your hands and knees!" said Lt Col J. Willcocks at the May meeting. He was not talking about surrender or housework, but the best way to look at flowers, and his slides illustrated perfectly how much more there is to see when one looks closely into the heart of a flower. His talk "Flowers around the world" began in England with spring flowers in gardens and parks, but not forgetting the simple beauty of our wild flowers. Then followed more exotic blooms — mimosa and poinsettia in Australia, frangipani in Singapore, hibiscus and moonflowers in Malaysia — across to South Africa for proteas and bougainvillea, wild amaryllis in the Transkei and cosmos in the Drakensbergs. Northward again to the Mediterranean, he showed almond trees and wild cyclamen in Cyprus and oleanders and capers in Greece. The final shots were of flowers in France — the gardens of Villandry, orchids in the Dordogne and the spring flowers which come after the snows in the Pyrenees.

The meeting closed with discussion of the motions to be put before the National Council meeting at Brighton.

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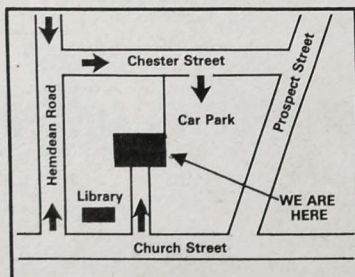
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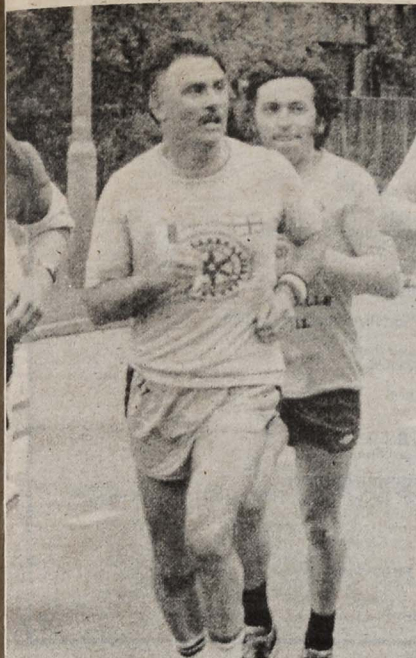
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## STAN ELDON'S COLUMN



miles were covered before we had a short break but the second session that day was very hard. The weather became very warm and when we took another break, near a very pleasant chateau, I did not appreciate it very much as I spent the time laying down trying to recover in our accompanying caravan.

When we started off again we had to climb what seemed to be an endless hill (in fact it was about 2 miles) and at the end of that day I drank what seemed to be gallons of orange drink.

### Cold Shower

Day Three — the last day in France. Everything went much better and I was running very strongly at times. By now I was using freezer spray so that I couldn't feel the problem with my legs. It was just as well that I wasn't going too badly this day as we not

only had to get to Le Havre for the boat but we had a dinner engagement with the Rotary Clubs there. Our finishing point for the day was the Yacht Club but by the time we arrived the hot water had run out and it was the only day I had to finish up with a cold shower — not the best treatment for aching muscles!

On the Fourth Day we left the boat at 7am to be met by a number of people from Portsmouth, including a young lady who is a one legged high jumper and was there to say "thank you" and see me on my way. My running escort from Portsmouth was the President of the Rotary Club who ran 5 miles with me, also Gerry North, an old international running contemporary of mine who is still very fit and he pushed me along for the first 13 miles. During the latter part of that Friday I did begin to feel the effects of the week's effort catching up with me, and my

legs and mind were certainly unco-ordinated for the last few miles before lunch. However, I had a pint with some ham, egg and chips and that seemed to put me back on course — I wish I had tried it earlier!

We arrived at Basingstoke in the late afternoon and I then felt we were nearly home, after all, it only left me just under twenty miles to the Finish at Reading.

### Worthwhile

The next morning when I arrived back at the Civic Offices for the start by the Mayor, it was good to see about fifteen of my Reading joggers waiting to escort me back to Reading. So just before 9.30am we started off intending to stop at Stratfield Saye for a mid morning break. However, just about the time we were due to take this rest it started to rain and I decided we had to go on to the Finish. My first glimpse of Reading

and home was the sight of the Berkshire Brewery as we ran along the Swallowfield Bypass. The adrenalin started to flow then and from there to the Finish I felt myself running faster and faster. When I turned the corner from Caversham Road it was a wonderful sight to see so many of my friends and supporters waiting at Porsche, and especially those in wheel chairs who came out to meet me. I realised then that it was all worthwhile.

But I have other happy memories of the Run. The friendliness of the French all along the route — the garage mechanic at Petersfield who saw me looking the worse for wear so rushed off to buy some sweets which he then thrust at me as I passed — the disabled who were there at Portsmouth and Caversham — the bus load of children from a home at Basingstoke who waved and cheered me

on my way into Basingstoke. The friendly and patient support of my escorting cyclists, Roy Lambert and David Watts from Caversham Rotary Club, and Alain Hau from France — my escort runner John London who only took up running twelve months ago and actually recorded about 90 miles of running with me — also my mechanical back-up of John Ward and Ted Brazil.

### Splendid support

Finally a very big THANK YOU to everyone who backed the Run. The people of Caversham, in particular, were extremely generous. It is impossible for me to thank everyone individually as in many cases there were anonymous donations but please accept this as my thanks and indeed the thanks of the Rotary Club of Caversham, and more important, the disabled sportsmen who will use the facilities at Stoke Mandeville.

AFTER the months of preparation and organising my run from Meru is now over, but what memories it will always bring back to me.

On the first day we started from the Market Place at Meru after I had been interviewed by the French press and radio. The French gave me a splendid send off and even provided two or three runners to escort me for the first few miles. The only trouble lay in the fact that one of my chosen escort was a French detective of thirty-two years who was an extremely capable runner and all round sportsman. The result was that the first ten miles were eaten up in about 66 minutes (much too fast) and although I got on very well with my "escort", I was very pleased when he had to call it a day and return to his police station. So, without stopping, I presented him with a "T" shirt and shook hands. He went back and I had to carry on for another 16 miles that day.

Day Two was probably my

worst day because the weather was warmer and I was suffering from the effects of the very fast first 10 miles on the previous day. The day started all right and about 14

## RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

### NOT ON OUR DOORSTEP

"Heseltown" it has been called, the "town" of 8,000 houses that no one wants but which the Secretary of State has ordained must be accommodated in Central Berkshire. We in Caversham can well sigh with relief that our local countryside is in Oxfordshire and so is not one of the areas under consideration for receiving this influx. However, as citizens of Reading and therefore of Berkshire, our views have been sought about

which of five options we should prefer to see designated for this purpose, if "prefer" is taken to mean "dislike the least".

For anyone not living in one of the chosen areas it is rather like wishing on someone else what one would on oneself, so it can only be looked at from the point of what will inflict the least harm on the county as a whole.

Wherever the houses eventually go, whether in places already heavily developed or in places relatively undeveloped, or whether scattered between both, the pressure will certainly be felt in Reading and particularly on its roads. Nor can it be expected that Caversham, with outstandingly beautiful countryside immediately on its doorstep will remain unaffected. Even higher property prices are likely to result, with an added temptation to nibble at the rural fringes, as people seek to escape from "Heseltown".

In forcing the County Council to identify land for this purpose, the Secretary of State has virtually driven a coach-and-horses through the carefully worked out, and agreed, structure plan, and ignored the view of all three parties on the Council that these additional houses are not needed now or in the foreseeable future.

### LATE FOR WORK

If however the Council does not identify areas, the Secretary of State will; but that is no reason why there should be any letting up of strong opposition to the whole idea. It is not enough for us in Caversham simply to shrug our shoulders and say "Thank Heaven it's not on our doorstep".

Heavy traffic hold-ups are a familiar enough sight in Caversham, particularly in the morn-

ing peak hours, but the one experienced one morning in the middle of May took some beating. All vehicles using the three river bridges (Sonning being the third) were stopped and handed a questionnaire about their journey, and the resulting tail-backs were quite spectacular. The number of people late for work, appointments, trains and planes, does not bear thinking about, and the census results must have been distorted by those irate motorists who ripped their forms into shreds or abandoned their cars in side streets and walked. One thing that was demonstrated was that another bridge is needed. Obviously if the exercise was to be of any value it had to be done without warning, but surely some other way could have been devised to get an equally valid result. For instance, a random sample of those already held up at the traffic lights would have been as representative as it would have resulted in more co-operation from motorists.

### CHEESE PARING

Everything points to a link-up with the A329M to the east of the Borough boundary being the most suitable place for the bridge. But it cannot be repeated often enough that the bridge must be a local bridge to relieve local traffic problems, and not as part of a national network. If it becomes that, with links extended to the M40, we can look forward to an increase in the traffic and the ruination of our rural areas, which the Heseltown plans have so far spared. We would have jumped out of the frying pan and into the fire.

The Peppard Road, once it leaves the borough is really little more than a country lane, although it carries a heavy volume of traffic. It is fraught with danger for the pedestrian as it

has no footpath. It is the road that must be travelled by Caversham Park children who attend Chiltern Edge School. Hitherto they have made the journey by the school bus provided for this purpose. Caversham Park is, however, now part of Berkshire, but Highdown, their nearest school, has no room to take all Caversham Park children, so they must continue to go to Oxfordshire's Chiltern Edge. But Berkshire has seen here a source of economy and has withdrawn the free bus service. Caversham Park parents are understandably anxious and annoyed. Cuts in public expenditure seem to mean straining at gnats and swallowing camels. Eleven-year-old children and their parents are in this case the victims.

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## SUNDAY SERVICES IN JULY

### ANGLICAN

#### St Peter's

8.00am Holy Communion  
9.15am PARISH COMMUNION  
11.15am Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Sundays)  
11.15 Matins (2nd and 4th Sundays)  
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 (not 3rd Sunday)  
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)  
6.30pm Evensong (2nd Sunday)

#### St Margaret's, Mapledurham

11.00am PARISH COMMUNION

### CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

10.30am 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

## THE WAY AHEAD

### Conference on Church and Ministry

by Bill Butler

Sunday May 16 was the warmest day of the year to date and on this beautiful day at 3.30pm around one hundred and thirty Christians from a number of different churches gathered in the Baptist Free Church, Gosbrook Road, to consider and express opinions on the many different suggestions originating from the Lent House Groups. We would like to thank the Baptist Church for the use of their fine premises and for the refreshments so kindly provided.

The over-riding impression of the Conference was a strong desire to see the Lord's Commandment: "Love thy Neighbour" pursued much more effectively in Caversham. There was also concern that the whole ministry of the Church should be strengthened.

The Conference divided into four groups and each tackled one of four areas. A summary of the points raised follows and the detailed conclusions will be studied over the coming weeks by clergy and the appropriate lay committees of the churches to give practical effect to the views expressed in the Conference.

### Visiting and Pastoral Care

There must be much more lay activity in this area. Teams of lay visitors should be organised in districts so that all connected with the Church are visited two or three times a year. Teams of lay wardens in each street, on an ecumenical basis, could report needs as they arise. Lay visitors need general training. They

must be good listeners. Special needs must be referred to those who can give specialist help.

### Teaching and Preaching

Teaching the fundamentals of the Christian faith is the constant work of the Church. Courses of sermons or talks on the application of the Christian faith to contemporary problems are needed, coupled with an effort to determine which problems need to have special attention. Group discussion should supplement preaching and teaching on both a congregational and house group level.

### Children and Young People

Good leaders are vitally important. Children and young people should be encouraged to lead. Their need must be recognised to belong to strong groups and natural attitudes of loyalty and commitment harnessed. Regular dependable meeting places are needed. Church halls do not meet this need at present. There is a need for children and young people to meet others of their own age group outside the Caversham area; residential weekends may be one answer. Young people must be brought actively into church services; special services could be largely run by them and every age group should contribute to the main services of the church.

### Church and Ministry

Real obstacles to lay participation in

church life need to be identified and efforts made to remove them. Lay people will need appropriate authority. Lay helpers need to worship, pray and study together. Above all, better communication is needed at all levels.

To adopt the Christian way of life is a revolution for each individual. Corporate thinking about Church and Ministry is, in fact, quite revolutionary because "every member ministry" is accepted in theory but is not carried through in practice. Christians will need to reconsider priorities, be willing to launch out into a wider but more fulfilling life and also accept the training and education required. Above all, those being ministered to (which is all of us) need to accept that God's Love and Grace are not channelled through the ordained ministry alone, but is so overflowing that they need to find expression through the loving care of lay people as well.

To realise the aims of the Conference, ecumenical groups of clergy and lay people will have to consider the changes that may be needed. Central structures may need adjusting but additional committee work should be avoided so that resources can be used to give proper impetus to the extension of the Lord's recognised that nothing will be accomplished except through prayer and in the power of the Holy Spirit. The message of the Conference was surely "let us go forward together in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ".

House Communions Wednesday at 10.30am  
July 7 — 1 Kelso Mews (Diana Etherington)  
July 14 — 72 Kingsway (Betty Lewis)  
July 21 — 7 Montpelier Drive (Rachel Jarvis)  
July 28 — 10 Netley Close (Joy Abel)  
August 4 — 51 Galsworthy Drive (Jane Lynch-Watson)

### Caversham Park Church

House Communions Wednesday at 10.30am  
July 7 — 1 Kelso Mews (Diana Etherington)  
July 14 — 72 Kingsway (Betty Lewis)  
July 21 — 7 Montpelier Drive (Rachel Jarvis)  
July 28 — 10 Netley Close (Joy Abel)  
August 4 — 51 Galsworthy Drive (Jane Lynch-Watson)

## Clergy and Ministers of Caversham

### ANGLICAN

The Rev Canon John Grimwade, The Rectory, 20 Church Road. Tel: 471703.

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

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

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

The Rev Derek Spears, 25 Ilkley Road. Tel: 472070.

### BAPTIST

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

### METHODIST

The Rev Ralph Rogerson, 72 Highmoor Road. Tel: 472223.

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

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

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

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

(For Caversham Park Village)

The Rev Cecil Keane, 18 Peppard Road, Sonning Common. Tel: Kidmore End 3418.

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