



CAVERSHAM

BRIDGE

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WHO CARES?

We publish this month a typical Caversham scene — a cyclist riding on the pavement and making no attempt to get out of the way as a young mother approaches with small children. Many old people are scared of walking on Caversham pavements, which were first taken over by pedal cyclists and are now being used by motor cyclists.

Recently a cyclist in Church Street dismounted on the pavement by the Public Library, pressed the pedestrian button, held up the traffic, walked across the road with his bicycle and then mounted it and continued riding on the pavement by the shopping precinct. How silly can we get? Are we to wait for a serious accident before any attempt is made to stop this; some footpaths are becoming particularly dangerous notably the passage from Westfields to South View Avenue near St Anne's Church and also the one through St Peter's Churchyard. A few years ago pavement cycling led to prosecution. Now too lorries and cars park over pavements cracking the stones and forcing mothers with prams and young children to step out into the road.

The police and traffic wardens take no action. Will our local Councillors also ignore this lawlessness?



■ Photo — E. S. Archer

ONE WORLD WEEK

ONE WORLD WEEK this year runs from October 17th to the 24th. In Caversham and Mapledurham, the main event of the week will be an INTERNATIONAL SUPPER with six guests from Africa, Asia and Latin America. Following a buffet supper, the international guests will talk in groups about their country, to help us know more about different peoples, their problems, hopes and aspirations.

The supper will be held on Tuesday, October 19th, at Mapledurham Hall, Upper Woodcote Road, commencing at 7.45pm. Tickets are £1.50 inclusive. Numbers are limited to 100 so buy your ticket early to secure a place at what should be a fascinating evening. Tickets are available from John Madeley, 19 Woodford Close, Caversham; Bob Rutherford, 22 South Street, Caversham, or from representatives at the Baptist and Methodist churches.

THANK YOU

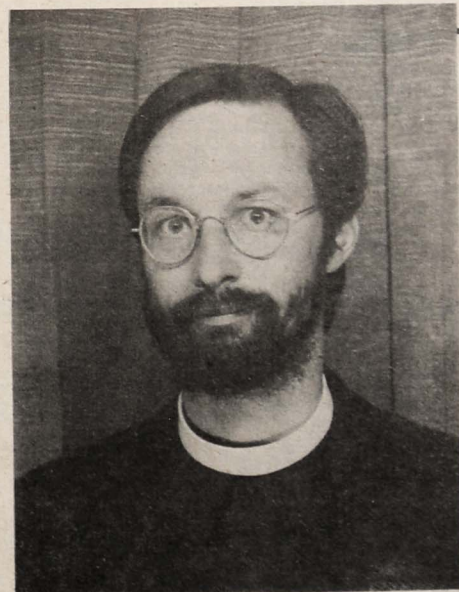
The building committee of St John's Scout and Guides Headquarters wish to offer a sincere Thank You to the anonymous donor of £500 towards the new building. This sum has helped tremendously towards the goal of completing the building.

New Priest for Caversham

This month the parish of Caversham and Mapledurham welcomes a new member of staff, the Revd. Alan Wilson, to be priest-in-charge at St John's. He comes to Caversham from Eynsham where he has been curate for the past few years. He was born in Edinburgh in 1955, the son of a soldier. When his father left the army shortly afterwards to work as a solicitor, the family moved to the London area, living first in Ilford and later in Sevenoaks, where Alan went to school.

A short spell of teaching English in Sussex preceded his time at university, St John's College, Cambridge, where he read theology. This led naturally to training for the ordained ministry of the church at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford. At the same time he was a Research Student at Balliol College where he studied modern church history and especially the life and beliefs of Anglo-Catholics in London during the years before the First World War, studies which he also managed to continue during his first curacy at Eynsham.

Though still a bachelor, he is no stranger to family life, having lived in with his Vicar's



■ The Revd Alan Wilson

family, including seven children. He confesses to be willing to have a go at all sorts of things, though most of his free time seems to be taken up with music, history, taking and developing (but not appearing in) photographs, playing with (his own) gadgets and (other people's) children. Welcome to Caversham and Mapledurham.

The Editor's Column

ONE SACRAMENT —SIX TITLES

Hold a diamond to the light and as you turn it round you will see different colours from different sides. In the same way there is not any one single aspect of the Sacrament which our Lord instituted when he sat at supper with his disciples on the night of his betrayal. But if we consider the different titles that Christians give to this Sacrament we may piece together its meaning and significance.

THE PASSOVER MEAL

Jesus took bread. He had invited the disciples to what is sometimes called the Lord's Supper. The Passover Meal which they had come to share together was the annual commemoration by the Jews of their nation's deliverance from the bondage of the Egyptians. Central to this observation was the eating of the Passover lamb. Jesus, the Lamb of God, was about to accomplish a greater redemption. When he took bread he broke it; the breaking was significant and this action is essential in the celebration of the Sacrament. The early Church recalled that Jesus had broken the bread on this occasion and they saw how this symbolised the broken body on the cross. The Lord's Supper can be seen as the Christian Passover; in it we celebrate the deliverance God wrought for us by the death and resurrection of his Son. But if it is the Lord's Supper it is also sometimes called the Last Supper; if there is the paschal aspect there is also the memorial aspect. Jesus said "Do this in remembrance of me" The word "remember" means however more than casting our minds back and recalling the events of Maundy Thursday night. Those events are brought again into the present; the Cross is not just a past event; it is a contemporary fact.

LITURGY

Orthodox Christians commonly speak of the Liturgy. This word in the Greek means "the people's work" and reminds us that the offering of worship is the task of all Christian people. The first and great commandment is love of God; that love needs to be expressed through worship and when the Orthodox Christian speaks of the Divine Liturgy he has in mind the duty of offering worship to God; that word is not however used exclusively of this Sacrament for it can also be applied to any set form of worship in contrast to the worship of those churches which do not have a fixed order of service. But if the Orthodox speaks of the Liturgy Roman Catholic Christians used the word Mass; this word is also an Anglican one and was retained in the first English Prayer Book in 1549; it has come to be associated with the sacrificial element of the Sacrament. Because it is more commonly used by Roman Catholics it must not be supposed that there is a difference in doctrine on this matter between the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches. The Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission takes pains to point out the substantial agreement that exists in this matter between these two churches. The same agreement exists of course between Anglicans and Methodists.

EUCHARIST

Two other words will also help our understanding. There is the word Eucharist which is the Greek word for Thanksgiving. The thanksgiving aspect is prominent in all scriptural accounts of the institution of the Sacrament. We are told that when Jesus took bread he gave thanks. So in this service we offer the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the word Eucharist is a good scriptural word for this service; it is a title to be found in the Alternative Service Book of the Church of England.

THE CUP OF BLESSING

Finally there is the fellowship aspect. Here we come to another Greek word — Koinonia, meaning partnership, sharing or communion. So St Paul writes "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread."

The fellowship is on two levels — with our Lord and with each other. The sacrament is an expression of our unity in Christ; so every celebration should be for us, as it was for the disciples, a time of holy communion with Christ. This is the Lord's Supper so here we have Holy Communion with Jesus the host who presides at the feast. We are his guests invited by him; we come with expectancy to meet with him, to partake of his grace and to renew our spiritual strength. For Anglicans all this is summed up in what we commonly call the Doctrine of the Real Presence of Christ in this Sacrament, and some people find it a help to remember the short poem of Queen Elizabeth I.

"T'was God the word that spake it,
He took the bread and break it
And what the word did make it
That I believe and take it."

At the heart of this service there is absolute simplicity. There are four basic actions. The bread and the wine are taken and placed on the altar; we call this the offertory. Then the presiding priest gives thanks to God over the bread and wine. Thirdly, the bread is broken, and finally there is the act of communion as the congregation receive the bread and wine.

Lord's Supper; Last Supper; Liturgy; Mass; Eucharist; Holy Communion, these different titles reflect different aspects of this Sacrament. Some churches stress one aspect, other churches other aspects, but divergence in practice does not destroy a common faith. Sadly what should be the Sacrament of Unity has been the centre in the past of controversy and bitterness between fellow Christians. Today we must surely give thanks that many Christians are able to participate in this Sacrament together in a way we would not have imagined possible even only a few years ago.

John Grimwade

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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FOR ALL AGES

Once again ninety people from different parts of the parish of Caversham enjoyed a week's holiday at Embley Park School near Romsey. The croquet was contested as keenly as ever and a number of people are now reported to be spending fifty one weeks losing weight before returning for next years holiday which starts on July 23rd. Booking forms will be available in January. The youngest member of the party this year was Miss Elizabeth Kavanagh, at ten months. Our reporter is not permitted to reveal the age of the oldest.



■ The approach to Embley Park School.



■ The tug of war.

NEW BOOKS FOR AUTUMN READING

Major Religions of the World by M. Bach, SPCK 95p.

Marcus Bach, an authority on world religions, gives a quick summary of the major world religions in this book. It looks at their founders, forms of worship and holy writings. An added attraction is a useful glossary of terms at the end of each chapter. This is not a book for anyone seeking detailed knowledge of various religions but it is a useful guide to them. (Religions covered are: Hinduism, Zoroastrianism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Taoism, Islam and Shintoism).



Abingdon Glossary of Religious Terms by T. S. Warshaw SPCK 95p.

This is a good small dictionary of religious terms taken from the author's larger work "Handbook for Teaching the Bible in Literature Classes." Warshaw not only gives a useful list of terms but also looks at their linguistic origins and gives references to where Biblical terms may be found in the Bible.



This is Our Mass by T. Coyle. Collins £2.25.

Collins have published here a personal view of The Mass and the author relates its message to a deeper understanding of the "mystery of redemption." The book is a call and a challenge. Tom Coyle does not see The Mass as an act of worship for Sundays, but as a driving force in a life of service

and action. It requires that a man who calls God "Our Father" sees all men as brothers and to do something about this fact.



There's a Time and a Place by J. Wallace. Collins £2.50.

A very common request is for a book that gives daily thoughts based on the liturgical year. Published in close association with the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, this paperback leads us through the year but unlike many similar books, it also gives a useful series of indices showing where references have been taken from the Bible and listing prayers according to type, such as "Offering," "Commitment" and "Family Awareness."



Cry of the People by P. Lemoux. Penguin £2.95.

Penguin have recently brought out this book which has been available in the USA since 1980 but with a new preface. Penny Lemoux looks at the struggle for human rights in Latin America and the role the Catholic Church has played in such countries as Cuba, El Salvador and Argentina. She also looks at the resulting relationship between the Catholic Church and the US government representatives in those countries. This is an authoritative book on a subject which is attracting an increasing amount of attention. (All the above books are available from Caversham Book Shop).

TIMBER IN CAVERSHAM

E. B. JOINERY

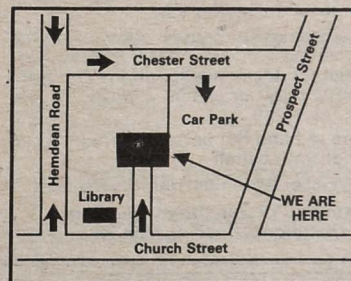
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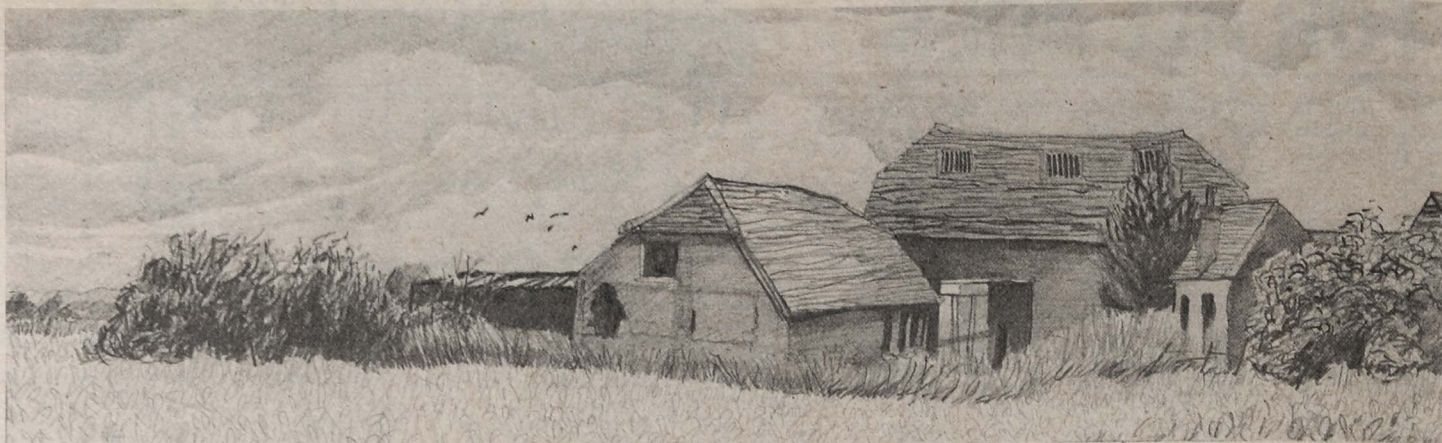
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ART IN CAVERSHAM

One certainly doesn't need to be an art expert to enjoy talking to Claire Tipton and looking at her work. Claire, whose home is in South View Avenue and whose family have a long connection with St John's Church, has

recently finished a three-year course in Graphic Design at the Bath Academy of Art and returned home with a BA and a beautiful collection of paintings, drawings and designs; some of them will shortly appear in a London

exhibition. Further, she is hoping to have her own local exhibition next year.

Perhaps the most fascinating item she has to show is a children's story book, each page having a detachable sheet of puppet drawings

which children can cut out and use for their own amusement, either as ordinary puppets or shadow puppets behind a screen — all illustrating the story they are reading. The puppets are reversible, coloured on one side and black and white on the other. It is very

well thought out, meticulously planned and something any child would be glad to have. At the moment she is trying to find somebody to market the book; unfortunately this type of thing tends to be rather expensive so it may be some time before we see it on sale.

Claire has been remarkably fortunate in finding a course which has given her so much freedom that

she had been able to develop her talents to their widest extent. And they are indeed extensive, ranging from typography, design layout, crayon sketches and landscapes to beautiful illustrations for children's books. Clever, charming and extremely well presented, her work pleases and satisfies. The onlooker is not left wondering what the subject is when

faced with Claire's drawings. One knows exactly what they are and enjoys them. And her boldness of portrayal is certain to please children.

She has been kind enough to do a sketch for the "Bridge" and I'm sure readers will wish her well for the future and look forward to hearing of what is sure to be a very successful career.

W.D.

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DORIS GILLETT

Doris Gillett and her husband Gordon came to live at 150 Henley Road in 1953, and now they have moved back to Wimborne in Dorset. Their bungalow is only fifteen minutes' walk from their eldest daughter and her family.

Doris and Gordon had four children, yet somehow Doris has always found time to take part in many local activities. She was a member of the local Sue

Ryder Support Group, and the Women's Institute, and has been president of the Caversham branch. In recent years she worked in the chemist's shop on the hill.



There are many people who have found a good friend and neighbour in Doris. She has cared for the sick and

lonely, comforted the sad and bereaved, and been whole heartedly glad at people's happiness. St John's always know Doris would do any job that was there to be done, and would enjoy doing it with her, whether it was cleaning, washing up, doing the flowers, Christian Aid collecting, delivering "The Bridge," providing tea on St John's Day, helping at a bazaar or jumble sale, stewardship visiting, or studying the Bible, and she has taken a full part in all the Mothers' union activities.

St John's really could not let Doris go without showing they appreciated all she had done in the twenty-eight years

she has lived here. So 10p was collected from everyone (the trouble was people wanted to give more) and she was presented with a £10 gift token on her last Sunday.



Her many friends wish her and Gordon every happiness in their new home, and are sure they will make new friends, and meet old ones. Doris will be worshipping at St Michael's Colehill, where her grand daughter sings in the choir. In next to no time we expect St Michael's will realise how fortunate they are, and Doris will be as busy as ever.

NOVEMBER CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

All matter for publication in the November edition of the Caversham Bridge must be at the Parish Office, Church House by noon on Wednesday, September 29

Have you a problem — large or small?

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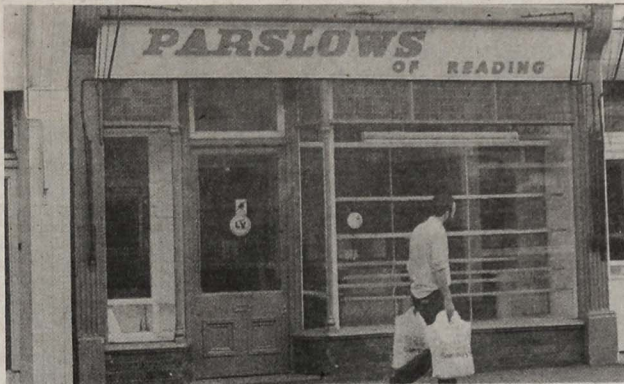
PAM AND NIC NICHOLLS

I've just read a fascinating letter sent by Pam Nicholls from Malaysia. The many people who remember Pam and Nic will be delighted to hear that Nic's job as Youth and Community Officer in Surrey has seen him taking parties of young people to many parts of the world, this trip to Malaysia being the most recent. It's a pity that space doesn't permit reproducing the letter in full; it's a fascinating story of a truly royal reception, of being feted by local dignitaries, of a trek through the jungle and a visit to Singapore. I can't possibly condense all their adventures into one short paragraph; it would be nice if Pam and Nic could come to Caversham some time and tell us all about it. In the meanwhile if anyone wants to know more, Pam's sister, Margaret Horne of St John's Church (Phone 473782) will be delighted to show them the full report of the trip.

GUY BROWN

Readers will remember Guy whose parents own the local pet shop; they will be interested to know he has just finished filming for a new TV

KATY IN CAVERSHAM



PARSLOWS OF CAVERSHAM

So Parslows have gone at last; this is of particular significance for Caversham as the original Parslow's shop was the one in Prospect Street. Muriel Choules, who was there for over thirty years and now works at Smith's Newsagents, tells me she actually started when Mr and Mrs Parslow still owned the shop. It would be interesting to know how many people remember the early days or, indeed, the shop being opened; it must have been a long while ago.

Now alas the little shop has closed and with it we must say goodbye to Gwen Lyncourt who served us bread and cakes for many years. She actually started — never having worked in a shop before — the day the new currency came in early in 1973, a fact which made her hesitant about agreeing to take on the job. She soon picked it up, was eventually transferred to Prospect Street and has made numerous friends amongst her customers. She is proud, too, of the certificates for clean food which hung on the walls and tells me her employers, no longer sadly the Parslow family, have been very good to work for, giving her a free hand to deal generously with the few complaints they had. With Gwen goes Janet Gregory, for four years a familiar face in the shop. And we mustn't forget Mrs Rothero, also a familiar assistant for a long while until she left a few months ago. These and others have served us well — we shall miss them.

series to be known as the Mini Pops. The programme is due to appear on the new

channel 4, and I'm sure people will be looking out for the chance to see and

hear Guy in his singing role. He will also be appearing in the chorus of "Oliver"

with the Reading Operatic Society at the Hexagon from September 28th to October 2nd. It's nice to hear of such talent here in Caversham.

HEARD THIS ONE BEFORE?

Seen on a poster outside a church — "Soul Agents for the Area." Rather fun, don't you think?

FLOWERS AND MORE FLOWERS

I've often commented on the attractive appearance of the local florists and have been delighted to see the handyman shop at the corner of Prospect Street has gone into the business of selling plants. It really has brightened up that corner and the pavement being rather wide just there, it has presented no obstacle to anyone, except perhaps the occasional lorry which used to park itself happily on the pavement at that point.

Speaking of which, it would be nice to see a traffic warden in this area from time to time checking on pavement parking. Surely one or two could be spared for this task.

COINCIDENCES

For the past few years we have let a flat to local students and some delightful youngsters have lived here in Caversham for a year or more. One such was Francesca Infanti who now, alas, has moved nearer the university for her last year. She was spending part of her holidays with the university drama group, taking part in the Edinburgh Festival, and promised to let us know how it went. Surprise, surprise — we stopped in Edinburgh for a couple of hours on the way back from the Shetland Isles and almost immediately ran into Francesca. Imagine — among all those tens of thousands swarming in the city!

Another nice surprise was to find that quite one of the friendliest couples in our party — drawn from many parts of Berkshire — were Doreen and Alf from Lomond Avenue in Caversham Park Village. I always did say Caversham was friendlier than most parts of the town.

A BUSTLING METROPOLIS

And I'd like to say that this trip confirmed all I had heard about tours organised by our local evening paper; it was very good value in every way. After all, one could hardly blame the organisers for a very rough return crossing. But my goodness, after the peace and quiet of Shetland, Caversham this morning seemed like a noisy bustling metropolis. Thank goodness it's not really that bad — it might delay my shopping somewhat, but I do enjoy seeing familiar faces when I'm out.



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Postbag



Dear Sir,

If any of your readers are earnestly desiring in which Dr Greet peace and the preven-

tion of nuclear war, and I presume all Christians are, let them read the newly published paperback "The Big Sin, Christianity and the Arms Race," by Dr Kenneth Greet, published by Marshall, Morgan and Scott, price £1.75, in which Dr Greet clearly sets out the evils

and the effects of the proliferation of the arms race, particularly in the nuclear zone. Hiroshima was a flash in the pan to what could happen in the future, with more and more countries throughout the world obtaining the material and know-how to make these weapons, using money and material that could be better spent and prevent millions now dying through malnutrition and lack of medical facilities. It will not be the will of God to bring the world to an end as many think, but the selfishness and sinful acts of man.

I have spoken to many fellow Christians concerning the need for disarmament, and it has been noticeable that Jesus and his teachings have not been brought into the discussion by them, their main thought being their safety, means of defence and retaliation. Repentance and obedience, not safety, should be the Christian's priority. All have said they are against war but are prepared to support it, which seems illogical to me, and is to our shame if we leave it at that. If through unconcern and ignorance, clinging to a "deterrent" producing a "Peace" composed of fear, suspicion and hatred, and finally drifting into war, it is to our Maker we must give account who, through His Son, showed us

how the world could be saved to live in peace and harmony.

To come to a true and final decision on this matter, one needs to make an unqualified surrender to Christ and His Will, not with one hand in His and the other on a weapon. Having done that, His Truth is revealed to us, and we realise to the full the horror, the sinfulness, the futility of war. It is now our privilege and our duty, according to our ability, and with God's help, to spread through love and compassion for war-torn humanity, by reasoned argument and discussion, and by reconciliation, that which brings true peace and justice to all mankind, God's overriding desire for His children.

God has called me to this task, for a pacifist must live up to his dictionary's definition, "to seek to resolve international disputes by peaceful means," not by slaughtering men, women and children. Judged by His life and teaching, Jesus was a pacifist, so I am in good company.

I appeal to your readers to get the above mentioned book, read it, and do something about it. For the time is long past for keeping silent; the danger is too great.

Yours etc.

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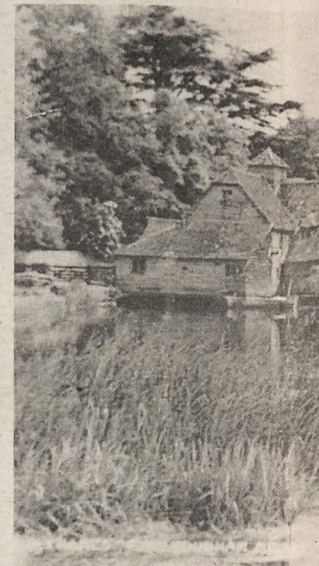
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In the centre of the picture is Willow Grotto, the ancient cottage beside the Thames of the oldest family in Caversham, the Freebodys. Until it was demolished to make way for the building of Riverside Court it had stood there for hundreds of years. Some stones on the rockery in the garden came from the mediaeval chapel of St Anne's the foundations of which were on a nearby island. Here beside the river the Freebodys carried on their ancient trade of boat building. They were also fishermen and barge owners and trace their origins in Caversham to 1257.

We publish this month a number of early photographs of the Thames at Caversham and Mapledurham.



■ Mapledurham Mill viewed from the river. St Peter's Church just visible. Much of the mill was destroyed by fire after the last war.



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11014



■ An unusual and early aerial photograph of Caversham taken before the building of the present bridge. St Peter's Church is in the right top quarter of the picture and above it can be seen the thin white line of St Peter's Avenue.



■ The building of the present Caversham Bridge in progress 1924-1926.

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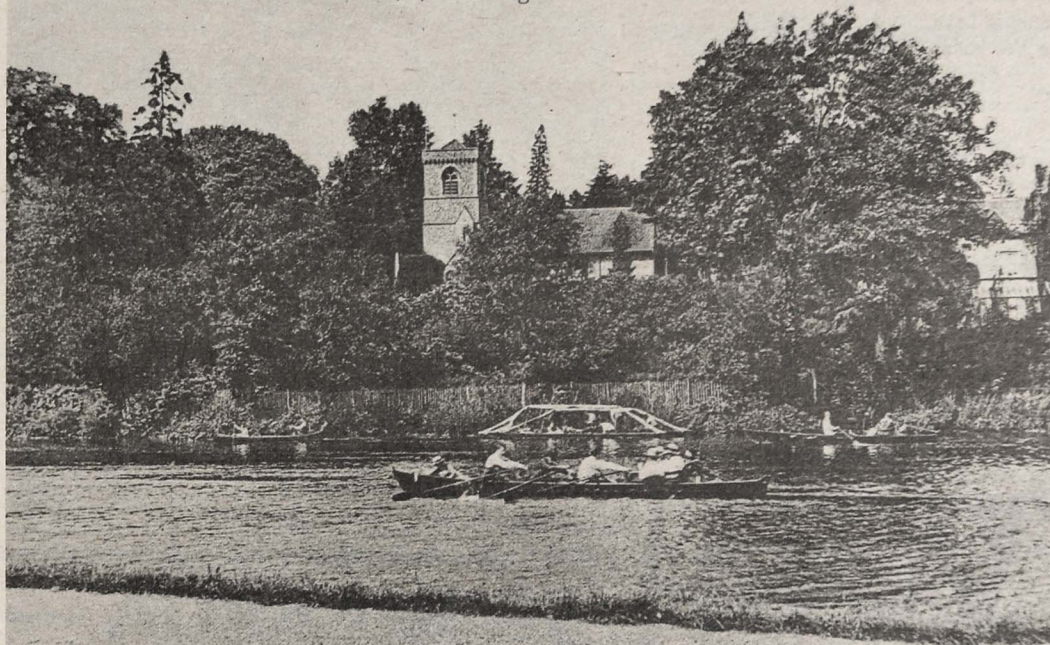
THAMES AT CAVERSHAM AND MAPLEDURHAM



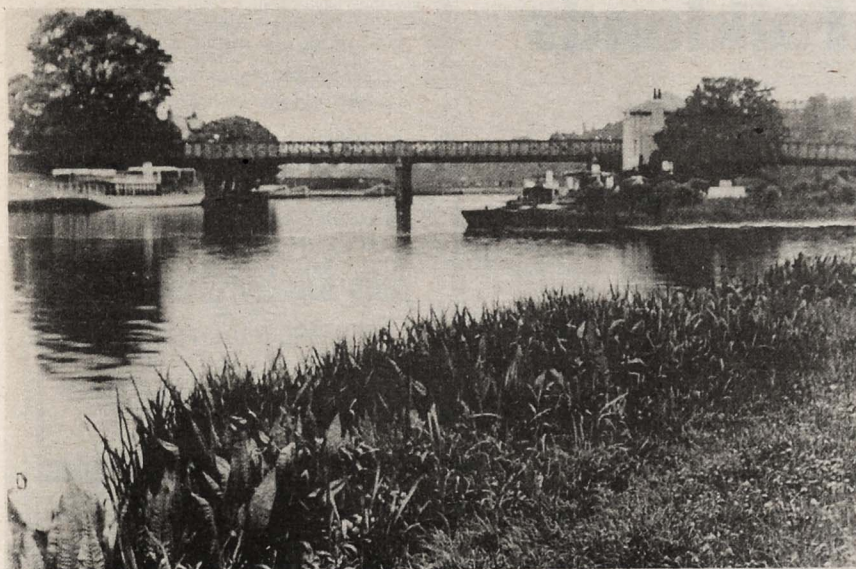
Viewed from the west with the tower of St Margaret's
Much of the south west end of the mill was destroyed by



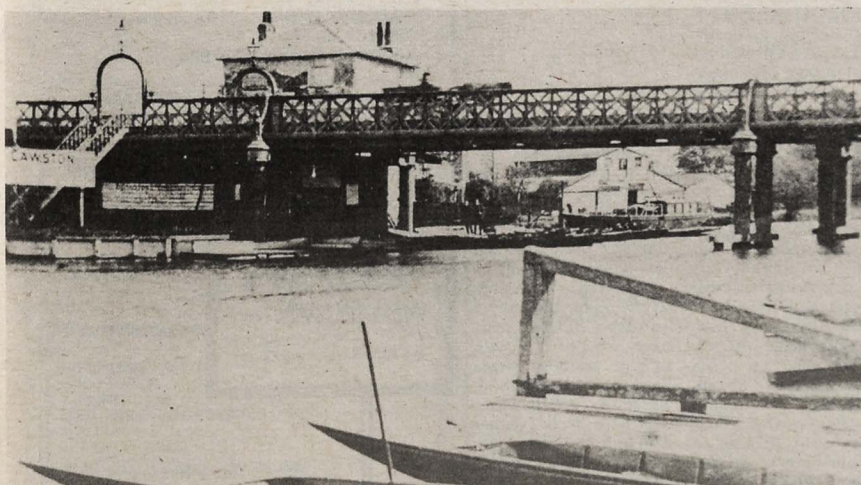
Caversham Church from the River, Reading



■ Boating at Caversham around 1900.



■ Tranquility on the Thames. This photograph was taken just beyond Willow Grotto looking back towards Pipers island.



■ The iron bridge at Caversham, opened in 1869. Waterman's Pipers Cottage can be seen on the Henley side and the picture clearly shows how the island ran under the bridge with entrance and steps down to it upstream. The boats in the foreground are moored beside Caversham Bridge Hotel.

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THE CHURCH AND PARLIAMENT

By
Tony Durant

The Summer months are usually full of stories and events outside the activities of Parliament or world events, the media short of news write up these activities with exaggeration and sensation. A period of the year known as the "Silly Season." The past summer has been no exception.

The Church of England has been at the centre of controversies — some minor and some major. The Falklands' Commemorative Service began it all when many felt, as I did, that the proceedings did not set the right approach to the occasion, this was followed by the row over the alternative National Anthem, the report of the Church of England Working Party on Nuclear Warfare was then published

causing more disagreement and criticism.

The final story in this summer's saga was the views of one of the Church's leading Bishops who implied that infidelity in marriage was not such a serious matter as other cardinal sins.

The facts about each of these events, built up by the press into a number of major controversies, are of course far less serious than one would at first suggest, many were opinions of individuals or groups none of which will necessarily be adopted by the Church as doctrine. The importance of these events of the last few months is to bring to the fore front of the public's mind the issue as to what is the relationship between what is called the Estab-

lished Church, the Church of England and Parliament.

The history of this relationship has been varied and different at its various stages as mankind itself.

The power centre of our Society has swung between Church and State over the centuries. The twentieth century has seen a period when the influence of the Church and Parliament has declined and other powerful groupings have emerged such as the media and the trade unions.

RESTORING INFLUENCE

Parliament and the Church through the clergy and the Synod are trying to restore their influence. The Church of England has a difficulty, it has been part of the Establishment for

many years and normally supportive of Governments of whatever political persuasion. Many of the clergy and elements in the Synod are seeking new ways to attract people back to their congregations thereby increasing the influence of the Church. Some of those in this group express the view that the Church of England should be free of Parliament and thereby the Establishment and should take sides in political issues. Many others in the clergy and laity feel that a complete break with Parliament would be a mistake and that such a step would lose the Church of England its premier position in the religious activities in Britain. It would then become just another Church.

I feel it is right that the Church of England should have been given by Parliament

the right to decide its forms of service and that other aspects of the administration of the Church has been given back to the clergy and the Synod. The administration and structure of the Church ought to be run by itself.

The problem remains as to what is its role in the political field should the church involve itself in secular matters. Is the Church about human relationships, forgiveness, loving and man's inner self or soul, or is it about his social security, his housing and foreign policy.

I believe the Church will have to tread very warily if it is to replace Parliament or the local Council as the nation's forum of opinion and law making process.

The Church could lose that battle and by so doing lose its role as the spiritual and



TONY DURANT M.P.

moral leader of our society. The present Archbishop of Canterbury is, I am sure, aware of these problems. These issues should be discussed and a way forward

found to solve the problems.

We all wish to create a successful Church and Parliament. I would be interested in your readers' views.

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DIEGO GARCIA — A contrast to the Falklands

By John Madeley

For generations the people of the Indian Ocean island Diego Garcia had earned their living by fishing, rearing vegetables and poultry and by harvesting coconuts. Between 1965 and 1973 their peaceful existence was abruptly shattered.

Their island home just

happened to be in a spot which the United States fancied would make an excellent military base, from which to monitor the Soviet navy. And that was the worst luck that ever befell the 1,800 Diego Garcians.

Diego Garcia was almost exactly the same as that of another British island recently in the news — the Falklands. But what a tremendous difference in these two incidents!

The invasion of the Falklands was furiously resisted by British forces travelling over 8,000 miles at a cost of over £1,000 million and, more important, over a thousand lives. Diego Garcia was handed over amicably, even enthusiastically, and its inhabitants, far from being defended, were not even consulted before being thrown out, never it would seem to return.

Between 1965 and 1973 the Diego Garcians were systematically removed from their homeland, sometimes at only a couple of weeks notice. They were taken off to Mauritius where they have since lived in poverty, a number of them starving to death. Their removal from their island home was much more than any romantic expulsion from Eden. It was a flagrant violation of the United Nations Article 9 on the protection of human rights.

What's all this to do with us? For one thing, Diego Garcia is a British island. The Diego Garcians are British colonial subjects and have been so since 1815. The British government was sufficiently ashamed of its actions in the "expulsion" years that it kept the whole matter secret; it was never debated in Parliament nor exposed in the Press — only in 1975 did the truth leak out.

The population of

Last year a poll was taken which showed that 77 per cent of them want to return. Diego Garcia has now been turned into a full scale base and they could not, in the foreseeable future, return there. But over a hundred miles away from Diego are two smaller islands, Peros Banhos and Salomon, where some of the islanders once lived. Neither is required for military purposes. The British government has given the islanders an ex-gratia payment which is supposed to preclude their return. But in the view of

the way they have been mistreated, the islanders who wish to do so, should be allowed to go back and assisted by Britain — as were the Falklanders.

John Madeley is the author of a Minority Rights Group booklet "Diego Garcia: a contrast to the Falklands" price £1.20, from Caversham Book Shop.

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ROUND THE CHURCHES

Caversham Methodist Church

The Methodist Church at Gosbrook Road in Caversham gave itself a mammoth task of setting up and manning a large stand at the Reading Show, which took place in August.

The Church stand consisted of a retreat, a Girl's Brigade exhibition work on the Sunday School and Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, photographs of the Church rebuilding Programme, an exhibition of Boys Brigade work, a Christian book stand and an Ambassadors Band stall. All this work

was encompassed in leaflets (of which approximately 4,000 were given out) entitled "The Methodist Church in the 1980's — What's in it for You?"

The Reading Show was held over three days, during which the 1st Caversham Boys Brigade Band "The Ambassadors" gave eight displays in the arena. During the weekend handicrafts and home made cakes and jams were sold and £140 was raised for the Church Building Fund.

On the Sunday morning a Youth Service was held for the Methodist Young People which took place in front of the Church Stand. This was relayed over the tannoy system for all to hear.



Members of Gosbrook Road Methodist Church at Reading Show.

A surprise came when the Show judges announced that the Church stand had won the Caritas Cup for the best non-trade exhibit. This was an unexpected bonus — but the biggest bonus must be that the Church was able to witness for Christ in this way.

Thanks must be recorded to the 1st Caversham Boys Brigade Company and especially The Ambassadors, who gave their displays free of charge and also acted as judges runners and helped to set up the show during the previous week.

St Peter's Wives

On a pleasant summer evening in July the wives were joined by their husbands for a visit to Westbury Farm vineyard, Purley. The wives were given a lively and entertaining tour of the vineyard by the owner, Mr Theobald. Following this they were escorted upstairs in the barn where they tasted six wines produced on the farm. Mr Theobald gave a brief description of each wine and after much animated discussion the very ably answered questions on the whole spectrum of wine growing, wine making and finally drinking it. An opportunity was given to purchase the produce to sample at home later. Nobody was left behind and the same number of wives who left Caversham returned safely home.

On Saturday, October 16th, the Wives are holding their Autumn Fair in Church House, Caversham from 10.30am until 12.30pm. Stalls will include Plants, Cakes, White Elephant, Good-as-New Toys, etc. Refreshments will be served. Please help us to help others.

did Edward's father.

Edward came to England in 1976, and worked to keep himself while he studied for his National Certificate in Agriculture. It was a long training and hard work. He has experience of work on fruit, flower, poultry and dairy farms, and has worked in Tunisia and in an Israeli kibbutz. His first job in Kenya is to learn Swahili at a five to six week crash course. Then he goes to the Masai Centre where there is an eleven hundred acre farm. His job is to help both in long term planning, and daily management, keep records, and start trials to improve the quality of the cattle. Also, while "using the available resources, demonstrate the advantages of modern farming methods." It will be hard work, some of it in difficult conditions.

Edward emphasised this sort of work progresses little by little and people must not expect to hear of dramatic changes. He is anxious to keep in touch, and will send his news, and St John's will write to him. His name will be on the intercession list, so please support him with your prayers.

St Anne's Notes

St Anne's R.C. School in Caversham has recently set up a Parents' Association. Their first function, a social evening, raised £200 for the school. The money was presented to Mr Welch, the headteacher, for improvements to the fittings in the school library.

Caversham Free Baptist Church

Neither the Chinese nor Hadrian could have had more trouble with their walls than the Baptist Church has had with its mini effort. Having appeased the planners and having stimulated the builders into renewed activity all seemed to be well. Alas, many of the old coping stones were found to be useless. Others appear to have grown legs and disappeared — hardly material for a landscaped rockery, doorsteps, maybe. The net result was that the wall rose from the ruins but not to its full stature — and not for long. A lorry driver delivering scaffolding to an adjoining building site reversed into the car park entrance and clobbered one of the unfinished gate pillars. Obviously a man who did not believe in doing things by halves he took a tilt at the other one on the way out and scored a bull's-eye.

For the time being we can charge in and out of the car park with little fear of damaging our limousines but there are rumours that when the pillars are rebuilt they will be girded with stout pieces of ironmongery and that should stimulate trade — if it needs stimulating — for the car body repair specialists.

There are problems with other walls. In the vestry Area pretty coloured mushrooms have been appearing. A mayday call to the builders prompted feverish activity, skirting boards were removed, floor boards lifted and plaster hacked away to reveal evidence of damp but no apparent cause. Suggestions have been many and varied but the mystery remains unsolved as we go to press. All very sad but worse things happen at sea.

AND THE GOOD NEWS

Rejoice and give thanks. The Thames valley Crusade may not have been everyone's cup of tea but it proved to be the turning point in the lives of a number of young people. The result is that five have, after appropriate instruction, decided to be baptised and become full members of the Church. A Service of Believer's Baptism will be held at 10.30am on Sunday, October 3rd. Anyone who has not witnessed this initiation into Christ's Church — and anyone who has, for that matter — will be most welcome to join in the rejoicing.

OUTREACH

The annual Pop Festival may also not be to everyone's taste but nevertheless it happens. Last year the Church was open to offer hospitality to the fans, and, in the light of the experience gained, the exercise, suitably modified, was repeated this year. Some 200 fans availed themselves of the hospitality and refreshments provided at modest charges. This bait afforded an opportunity for "a word in season" and it is the prayer of the Church that some of the seeds which were sown will not find the ground too arid or inhospitable.

JOURNEY INTO SPACE

Not an outing for budding astronauts — or perhaps it was for those under 12 years who took part in the Holiday Club activities. During the last week in August a nucleus of Sunday School children braved the vagaries of the summer weather and assembled on Christchurch Meadow for games and a sing-song — a sprat to catch a mackerel operation. The idea was to attract the

attention of other young people in the hope that they would join them the following week in the Church building where they could take a journey into space.

The participants made models and acted out the parts of Space Adventurers, their fertile minds stimulated by an appropriate show.

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St John's News

In 1981 the District Committee decided to sponsor a Voluntary Overseas Worker. The congregation was asked what sort of work their volunteer should do, and in which part of the world. They wanted the £350 a year to be used to sponsor a Christian, working in agriculture, in Africa. That is how Edward Kemp came to be saying "thank you" for making it possible for him to work for two years at the Masai Rural Development Centre, about twenty miles from Nairobi. Edward, who speaks French, Arabic, and English, was born and brought up in the Lebanon. He has his very English name because his grandfather came from England, and married a Lebanese girl, as

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The First of September was a big day in the history of Reading sport. That was the day the official announcement was made confirming that the Digital Reading Half Marathon was at the start line.

The Run will be held on March 13th, 1983 and the Start and Finish of the 13.1 miles will be Reading University. The runners will turn left from the University along Shinfield Road through Whitley and on to the Basingstoke Road to Elgar Road, Berkeley Avenue, Bath Road, Libenrood Road, through to Oxford Road, under the bridges at Cow Lane, along Richfield Avenue, over Caversham Bridge, through Caversham and back over Reading Bridge, through the Market Place, Broad Street, St Mary's Butts and

then the final testing stretch up Southampton Street and on to the Finish at the University.



It is hoped that up to 5,000 people will take part and initial inquiries after the launch were so great that it seems almost certain that this figure will be achieved. The cost of entering will be £2.50 per person and the only restriction is

that every participant must be over 18 years of age (A.A.A. rules). The entry forms are available from Stan Eldon Sports, the Civic Offices, Radio 210 and the Evening Post.

The event has been fortunate in finding sponsorship from a number of local companies and in particular, Digital, a leading computer company who will be providing a computer to handle the whole operation from entry to results. Every finisher will receive a computer-

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sport for the disabled in this area.

At the launch the Mayor of Reading, Caversham Councilor George Robinson, offered his and the Borough's support for this great community event.

With just over five months to the big day there is time for anyone to get fit enough to run — if you start NOW. To begin with just walk and jog very slowly for ten minutes once or twice a week. If you want some help there are special sessions at Palmer Park, Wokingham Road (on the Running Track) every Wednesday evening from 6pm to 7pm at a cost of 50p a time (the Council's standard charge).

Over the next few months I will try to take you through a "Get Fit" programme in these columns.

The cost of putting on a Run of this magnitude is very considerable but with the help of the substantial commercial sponsorship the event should be a great success and any proceeds from it will go to help

**YOUTH
ON THE
MOUNTAIN**

By PETER SHOCK



The Caversham West Boys' Club made its annual expedition to the top of Snowdon at the end of July. Again, despite greying hair of which I was curiously reminded was no excuse for eating humble pie. I was allowed no respite from leading the party on its perennial ordeal. So, together with the 11 young members and Malcolm Gray, assistant leader, we successfully reached the summit, starting from the Snowdon Ranger base on the south face, topping the 3,560 ft peak, then returning via the northerly track to Llanberis village, totalling some 10 exhausting miles.

Luckily it was one of the proverbial 65 cloudless days of the year, and from the summit, the distant hills of Cumbria were just discernable away on the horizon. The Club stayed for four days at the Reading Youth Consortium's Hostel, Ty Mawn, situ-

ated high above Llanberis. Excursions were made to Anglesey by way of the new Britannia road bridge, also to Criccieth and Caernarvon.

On the journey to North Wales we happened to drop upon an interesting and unusual enterprise at the market town of Newent, a few miles beyond Gloucester. It is an establishment called the Good News Centre, which incorporates a Bookshop, Coffee House and display of Third World crafts. It is a registered charity run by volunteers from the various churches of the small community. The project began in 1974 when local Christians opened a bookshop. This expanded with visions of a Christian com-

munity centre in Newent, and eventually the old parish rooms were taken over, renovated and modernised, and as a testimony to God's faithfulness and provision at every stage, the Good News Centre opened in March 1980.

Visitors are welcome for meals, to browse around the displays or to purchase books every week-day between 9.00am and 5.15pm. The aim is to provide a service within an attractive and friendly meeting place as well as a shop-front to their faith. I discovered that one of the management team is a local Reading man, Mr Phillip Cracknell, of Argyle Chapel, who has family connections with the Newent area.

**Two Episcopal
visits**

Both the Bishop of Oxford and the Bishop of Reading will be visiting the parish of Caversham in October. St Luke's Day, Monday, October 18 the Bishop of Oxford will be the celebrant at the Eucharist at Springfield St Luke, Surley Row. Ten days later the feast of St Simon and St Jude, Thursday, October 28, the Bishop of Reading, the Rt Rev Graham Foley comes to Caversham for the first time when he will licence the Rev Alan Wilson, who as reported on another page is to be priest-in-charge of St John's District. The Bishop will do this at the Parish Communion that night at 8pm in St John's.

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT BY WATCHDOG

On the surface there seems little connection between Blagrove Farm and Waitrose's development of the old Regal cinema site, but in each case the final decision is dependent on a Section 52 agreement being signed. In the case of Waitrose, this means that they must agree to make a substantial contribution towards the cost of the new road system that their development will necessitate. When this has been agreed then work can be expected to start on this long derelict site.

In the case of Blagrove Farm, the application for

change of use to convert two old listed barns into houses is the only one the Borough Planning Committee is prepared to consider, others for the more and new houses having been rejected as being undesirable urban intrusion into a rural area. There are not many people opposed to the conversion as such, and the plans indeed are excellent, being the work of an architect highly skilled in the restoration of old buildings. However real fear has been expressed that this

could be the thin end of the wedge, and once the principle of residential use was admitted, further development would be difficult to refuse. Mapledurham Estates therefore have been asked to sign a Section 52 agreement giving clear prior assurances that this will be the limit of development on their land in that area. Consent will then be given. It is to be hoped that Mapledurham Estates agree as it will benefit both them and the general public who value having unspoiled rural land on the very doorstep of Caversham.

is a type that is not acceptable in a residential area, it is breaking no law and cannot be removed. However local residents and the staff and parents of Thameside School were always hopeful that as soon as a suitable site in one of the town's industrial areas could be found, Grundon's would go. Now with these new plans to upgrade the site it could mean that this particular industry could be there for many more years to come. Small wonder that the application has met with strong opposition. The firm may be doing a useful and necessary job, but they are unsuitable neighbours for houses and a primary school, and it is everyone's hope that instead they will decide to move.

empowered to examine cases where there "is failure to take into account matters which should have been taken into account" there was a high hope that he would have found in the appellants' favour.

Nothing will change the minds of those closely concerned with the case that if all the circumstances surrounding it had been taken into account, the decision to permit demolition at that time would never have been made. There are, alas, no further steps that can be taken. The Philistines won that battle. Perhaps as a gesture more generous treatment could be meted out to its contemporary, the Caversham Court Gazebo.

equally divided as to whether street lighting would be a welcome improvement or a nasty garish intrusion. It is surprising too that so few complaints are heard about the road leading to Tokers Green with all its houses, yet this is without footpaths or lights. Are people not worried, or do they feel that complaints get you nowhere?

WAITROSE AND BLAGRAVE FARM

NOVEMBER Caversham Bridge

All matter for publication in the November edition of the Caversham Bridge must be at the Parish Office, Church House by noon on Wednesday, September 29

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DUST AND RUBBLE

Not far from the unsightly Regal site are Grundon's premises, far from derelict, but highly unsuitable to be situated in the middle of a mainly residential area. Some industries can fit in with houses very satisfactorily, but Grundon's with their noisy dusty lorries, are not one of these.

It was therefore with some horror that residents of Central Caversham heard that this firm had put in an application for the redevelopment of their site off Harley Road. The problem is of course that the site is already in industrial use, so although it

THE GRANARY

Strong opposition too met the application to demolish the Granary in Highmoor Road, but nevertheless it was reduced to a heap of rubble. Now, over a year later, bitter disappointment greeted the news that the Local Government Ombudsman had decided not to investigate the matter further. His reason was that nothing illegal had been done and there was no evidence of maladministration. Most people would agree but as he is

LIGHTEN OUR DARKNESS

Henley Road's lighting is to be improved in the current year. The sudden plunge from bright to dim lighting has caused a number of accidents, so this will be welcome news. Kidmore Road's lighting is also being considered for updating, although in spite of its trees and bends, few complaints are heard about its gloominess. Upper Woodcote Road and the roads off are of course without any lighting at all, yet opinion seems about

ROUND THE CLUBS

Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild. The August meeting of Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild took the form of a coffee evening with entertainment provided by the Drama Group and members discussing ideas for future programmes. A dinner is being arranged, and preparations are going ahead for the bazaar to be held in November.

Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild. August is a month for the open air, and, as there was no formal meeting, a garden party was held at the home of one of the members, Mrs Audrey Callen. A good number of members and friends enjoyed a happy afternoon in the sunshine. There were competitions and a bring and buy stall and afternoon tea was made and served by members of the committee. It made a pleasant interlude before resuming the programme in the autumn.

Chazey W.I. At the August meeting Mrs McCombe, the President introduced Mrs Roach of Pangbourne W.I. market to give a talk on W.I. markets; she explained how things should be packed and showed samples. The evening ended with a delicious barbecue of chicken, sausages, salad and cider. Also in August there was a ploughman's lunch hosted by Mrs Lindsey of Geoffreyson Road, this was a great success. An autumn visit to the ballet at Oxford has been arranged.

Caversham Community Association. The first meeting in August was for an Old Tyme dancing evening. May Plant demonstrated the dances and introduced some new dance routines to the members.

There was a full coach load of people for the tour on August 9th around some of the attractive villages of Berkshire and Oxfordshire. The coach went via Goring,

Dorchester and Abingdon to Witney where a stop was made for a meal to complete an enjoyable evening outing.

A Summer Bazaar was held on August 14th. Mrs Weal, the club's President, declared the bazaar open and then came a busy time for the stallholders. Refreshments were also available for the visitors when they had finished making their purchases at the stalls. Everyone seemed to enjoy the event which made £170 for the club funds.

On Monday August 16th, Mrs Sheila Flack brought some attractive fabrics to the club to show the members, who could purchase these if they so wished. Later Mrs Beynon gave a talk and demonstration on the uses of the latest articles of Tupeware.

A Whistdrive the following week was well attended. Mrs Lee Hammond had the highest score and won first prize, Mrs Olive Howard received the consolation prize.

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SUNDAY SERVICES IN OCTOBER

ANGLICAN

St Peter's

8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am PARISH COMMUNION
11.15am Holy Communion (1st, and 3rd Sundays)
11.15 Matins (2nd, 4th and 5th 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 (not October 3)

St Barnabas

8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST
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 Sunday)

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, 5pm 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 CHURCH AND THE CHILDREN

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

ST BARNABAS Sunday School in the Hall 9.15am. Contact Mrs Jean Carroll, 45 Brooklyn Drive (472598). Also Service for Parents and Children — last Sunday in the month at 11am.

ST JOHN'S Nursery Church (for children up to 8 years) in church during the Sunday eucharist at 9.15am. **Family Service** 1st Sunday in the month at 11am (mainly for children over 4 years).

ST PETER'S Sunday School meets at 43a Church Road (homes of Mrs Jane Kane) at 9.15am (except 2nd Sunday which is Parade Service).

ST MARGARET'S (MAPLEDURHAM) Family Workshop 2nd Saturday of each month 10am-12 noon. Contact Mrs Heather Robinson, 4 Hilltop Road (476873).

CAVERSHAM PARK At Caversham Park School 11am. Contact Mrs Paula Andrews, 5 Gifford Close (478430).

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST Junior Church — Sundays 11am. Youth Squash — Sundays 8pm.

GOSBROOK ROAD METHODIST CHURCH Bee-Gees — Sundays 10.15am. Sunday School — Sundays 11am Young Peoples Club — Sundays 7.30pm.

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH 10.30am Creche — up to three years. Beginners, juniors and seniors three to 14 years. Fourteen Plus Group. Secretary: Mrs M. Pilgrim, 64 Highmoor Road, Caversham (474017).

CAVERSHAM PARK HOUSE COMMUNIONS

Wednesdays at 10.30am.

October 6th: 10, Netley Close (Joy Abel).
October 13th: 7 Montpelier Drive (Rachael Jarvis).
October 20th: 1 Kelso Mews (Diana Etherington).
October 27th: 72 Kingsway (Betty Lewis).

QUEEN'S SCOUT AWARD



Jim Rumble of the 3rd Reading (St Peter's) Scout Group has just won his Queen's Scout award. And is seen here being presented with it by Distict Commissioner Bill Vincent. The work for this award took Jim over two years. It involved among other things helping with a camp for handicapped scouts, and a strenuous expedition in the Lake District.

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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