



## METHODISTS BACK HOME

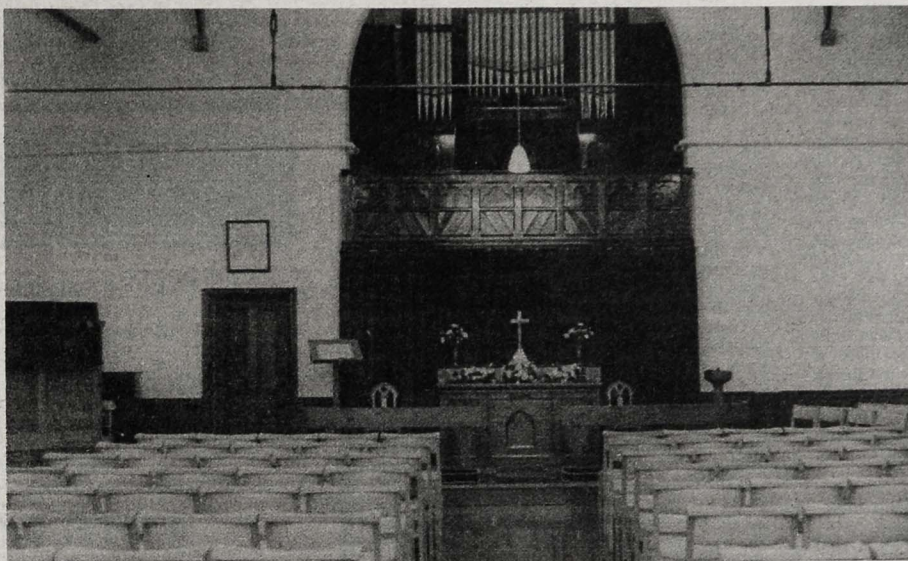
IF any of the Caversham Methodist Church members had any doubts in their minds as to whether over £30,000 should be spent in their church, those doubts were dispelled when the church was re-opened on October 9th. For they found the new Church not only airy, spacious and beautiful, but it was on this Saturday afternoon packed with friends and members, and later that evening in a youth demonstration, filled with young people.

To some it seemed odd that less than a year ago they had been celebrating the Centenary of Methodism in Caversham and that during that time the very life of the Church had been threatened. For, had many realized, when it was first discovered that the walls were being pushed apart, that it would cost such a colossal sum to correct it, they would not have been so sure that the money could be raised. But fortunately, or it was meant to be, the various problems were not all discovered at the same time. For first of all it was "merely" a matter of money to enable tie bars to be placed in position to keep the walls from being pushed further apart. Later more problems were discovered, the chief of which was dry rot in the floor. But by now the Church members were resolved to see the thing through. Major changes were enforced on them. The pews had to go, much to the regret of many older members. The writing around the organ loft vanished beneath emulsion.



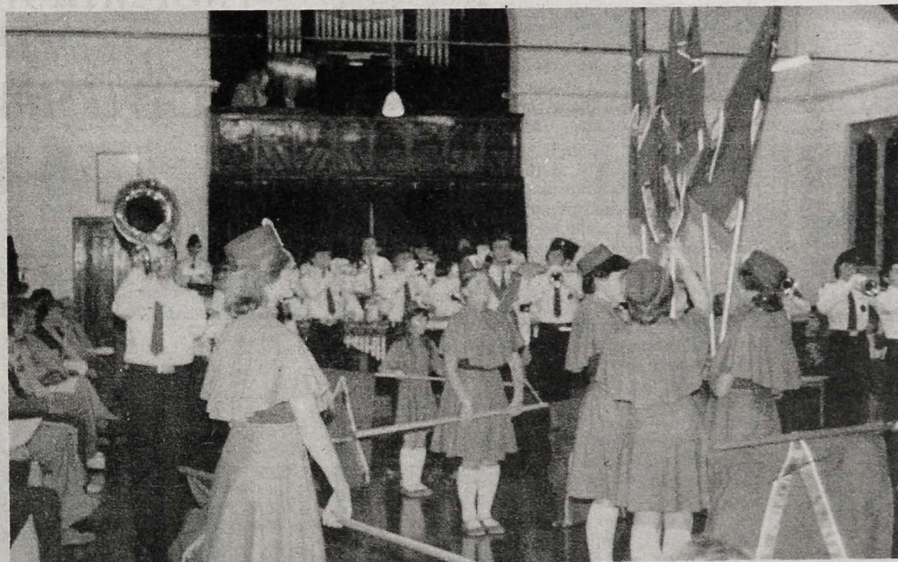
And so on this Saturday the Church members thanked God for His help in a transformed Church. A new pulpit held the Rev John Stevens (Superintendent of the Reading and Silchester Circuit); as he preached, the congregation sat on new chairs. There were visitors from all over the Circuit, and representatives from the Anglican, Roman Catholic and Baptist Churches.

Everyone was delighted to be worshipping in the "new" Church, but for all its new paint and furniture, there was still the same feel, the same atmosphere, and it was like being home again.



■ The interior of the re-furnished Church.

— E. S. ARCHER



■ Above and below — Re-opening celebrations.

— E. S. ARCHER



— E. S. ARCHER

## LINK GROUP

SEVERAL members attended LINK's October meeting. Chairman Mrs Audrey Preston opened the proceedings and gave her report. The treasurer sent a message that the group's finances were in good heart. Would readers please note the following diary dates:

- (1) 22 December, 1982 (Wednesday) Outdoor carol singing. Assemble outside the Community Centre, Northbrook Road, Caversham Park Village at 6.30pm. So, come sing with us and take a short break from Christmas preparations. Any money collected will go to local charities, as usual.
- (2) 10 January, 1983 (Monday) The group will meet at 159 Upper Woodcote Road, coffee at 7.50pm. Miss Celia Beck has offered hospitality for this meeting, which is earlier in the month than usual.
- (3) 15 January, 1983 (Saturday) Ecumenical lunch at Baptist Free Church, Lower Caversham, at 12.30pm. May LINK GROUP wish you all a happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

## DOCTOR PATEY

ABOUT 250 people attended a farewell gathering in St Andrew's Hall on October 20th to mark the retirement at the end of September of Doctor George Patey. Dr Patey had been in practice in Caversham for thirty four years and for much of this time had been the senior partner in the Bridge Street practice of doctors. Mr T. Collins, on behalf of so many patients, spoke of Dr Patey's great care and devotion to them over the years. The presentation fund amounted to £1,796 and Dr Patey was presented with a music centre and a cheque for the balance. Refreshments were served. Dr and Mrs Patey have no special retirement plans and intend to continue to live in Conisboro' Avenue.

## EILEEN LEE-BAPTY

WE regret to have to record the death on October 27th of Eileen Lee-Bapty, the wife of the Rev Philip Lee-Bapty, minister of St Paul's United Reformed Church. She came to Caversham with her husband earlier this year after many years in Coventry where she had been head of religious studies in a Coventry school. A keen gardener she had made many friends in her short time in Caversham. We extend our sympathy to her husband and two sons.

## Perhaps you can help

THE Lower Caversham Lunch Club which meets in the old schools meal canteen in Wolsey Road is badly in need of more helpers, especially one or two who could share the leadership. Mrs Elizabeth Griffiths has run the Thursday Club with great loyalty for eleven years but for family reasons is unable to continue.

Anyone who feels able to help is asked to contact Miss Tyers at the Social Services Department, 7 Cheapside. Tel: 586111.

D/EX 1758/19/12

## The Editor's Column

# SINGULAR AND PLURAL

MOST of us were brought up to say "I believe in one God" as the opening words of the Nicene Creed. Now we commonly find ourselves in our revised liturgies saying "We believe in one God." The Apostles Creed however remains unchanged with the opening pronoun still a singular one.

This variation points to an important truth; the need to hold in balance the individual and the corporate aspect of the Christian faith. Becoming a Christian is, or should be, a matter of personal decision and conviction. Love under compulsion is not love, for by its very nature love must be the free and voluntary act of an individual. The preaching in the Acts of the Apostles can be summarised in a nutshell as "Repent, believe, and be baptized." What we commonly call the Apostles Creed was the statement of Christian belief made from very early times by those who had accepted Christ and were seeking, through baptism, to become Christians. Consequently that creed always began, and still always begins, with the single personal pronoun "I". There have of course been periods in the history of the Church when there have been mass baptisms; whole tribes have followed the bidding of their chief and been baptized and this has not been a good thing for it has denied the individual the opportunity of voluntary acceptance of Christ as Saviour. Too often in the past, though fortunately not commonly so today, some school confirmations have been a little like this when all the members of the school of one particular year have been expected to be confirmed, and it has not always been easy for an individual to make a stand and say that in all honesty they do not feel this is right for them.

But if the Apostles Creed is a personal confession of faith the Nicene Creed is different. It was written later to express the mind of the Church as a whole about certain matters, especially about the nature of our Lord's person. In origin it began with the plural pronoun "We". At some point this seems to have slipped into the singular but has now reverted to its original form.

### Two reasons

There are two reasons why this restoration to the plural is important. In the first place the Nicene Creed is to be seen as expressing the mind of the Church as a whole; this is the faith which the Church believes and teaches but this does not necessarily mean that every single member has to dot every "i" and cross every single "t". Many people have sincere and genuine difficulties about certain things in the Christian faith while being ready and willing to assent to the Creed in general as stating the faith as the Church as a whole understands it. Obviously there are limits to this hesitation. Dogma matters but being over dogmatic can be very dangerous and some churches are now regretting certain statements they have made in the past and are looking for ways of disengaging themselves from them. We have also to remember that one very large part of Christendom, the Orthodox Church, is not willing to accept the Creed as we Western Christians recite it; Orthodox Christians always leave out the statement that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Son. We need to recognise that many people can sincerely say the Nicene Creed when it begins with the word "We" but are not happy about doing so if the singular pronoun "I" is used.

The second reason why the plural pronoun is important is that when we become a Christian we are inevitably involved with each other. Unlike some religions Christianity offers no escape from

the world; rather it is concerned to establish the Kingdom of God, and this means taking a stand against the evils of the world.

### Our Father

When the disciples said to Jesus "Lord, teach us how to pray" he answered "When you pray say Our Father." He did not tell them to say "My Father." He did not teach them to say "Give me my daily bread." Every pronoun in the Lord's Prayer is a plural one. The first commandment is love of God but the second which is love of neighbour inevitably follows from it, just as works follow as a consequence of faith. Love of neighbour must be a consequence of love of God, and love of neighbour means being concerned with the day to day conditions under which our neighbours live, whether they are the people next door or those 5,000 miles away. A Christian who tries to ignore the problems of unemployment or the evils of the drug or arms trades is not a proper Christian. I mentioned last month how seventy years ago the Orthodox Church by being too pietistic paved the way for communism in Russia and how the silence of the Lutheran Church in Germany made it possible for Hitler to get away with the massacre of the Jews. And when as happens from time to time that complaint is made that the Church is meddling in the affairs of the world it is all too often because the Church has spoken out on some issue and the truth has come too near home for the liking of some people, especially if it is affecting their financial interests. The opposition for so long by so many to William Wilberforce's campaign against the slave trade was because that trade was a very profitable business just as the arms trade to countries of the Third World is today very profitable, and also excessively evil.

### Both pronouns

So we need both pronouns. We must start by saying "I believe"; there is no escaping personal commitment to Christ at the beginning of the Christian life. This is one reason why Baptism has to be taken seriously and not administered without searching enquiry and preparation. I cannot speak for other churches but I am sure that we in the Church of England have still a lot to learn about personal commitment. You can discover a great deal about the extent of commitment in a congregation by enquiring the size of the congregation and then looking at the balance sheet (we Anglicans make a very poor showing in this respect). It was Father Kelly, founder of the Society of the Sacred Mission who spoke of the dangers of "running away from me under cover of us." Peter had to make his personal confession of faith at Caesarea Philippi. Thomas had to exclaim a week after the Resurrection "My Lord and my God." Such a start is necessary for all of us; but when the start has been made properly we realise that it is no more than the start. So at the end of the Eucharist Anglicans having partaken of the Body and Blood of Christ, pray to God "Send us out in the power of the Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory."

Our belief is no belief at all if it is not lived out in all departments of life.

*John Grimwade*

### CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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

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## SUE RYDER SUPPORT GROUP CAVERSHAM

BOOKS and Christmas came to Church House when the Group held its now annual Book Sale. £100 was made on the day, with half going to the Group's effort and half to headquarters who still fund the home at Nettlebed heavily. Members would like to thank everybody who helped in any way, including several donations in lieu of sales.

The Annual Christmas Fayre is this year to be held at the Old Town Hall on Saturday, November 27th, 10am-4pm. Come and Buy and help raise a large sum for this deeply caring home.

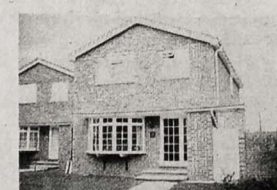
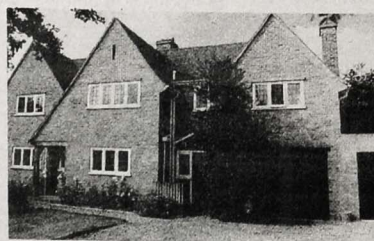
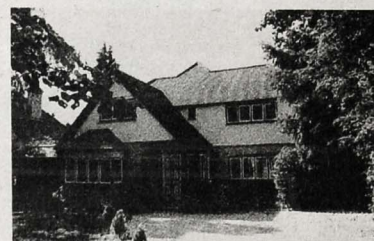
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— E. S. ARCHER

## Episcopal visits

ON St Luke's day October 18th the Bishop of Oxford paid his first visit to Springfield St Luke, the home for elderly ladies run by sisters of the Community of St Mary the Virgin. He is seen here, before celebrating the Eucharist, with the Sister Superior, Sister Natalie, the Rector and the Rev David Milling.

Ten days later on the feast of St Simon and St Jude the Bishop of Reading came to Caversham for the first time. He concelebrated the Eucharist at St John's with the clergy of the parish and licensed the Rev Alan Wilson as priest-in-charge. He is seen here talking to some of the congregation after the service.



— E. S. ARCHER

## RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT BY WATCHDOG

### SHOPS OR OFFICES?

The sauna in Prospect Street at least was a change from estate agents' offices, but for some reason it seemed not to be to Caversham people's taste and it has now disappeared and an application has been received to turn it into — yes, you've guessed right, an estate agent's office. There are already six of these in central Caversham, and this does not include building societies. Moreover, an application has gone in for a sizeable development on either side of School Lane fronting on to Church Street and Gosbrook Road, and this also is to include an estate agents as well as general offices and shops. How long, one might ask, before these shops also turn into offices?

No one is disputing the need for estate agents, but surely what could be eight is rather a lot for one small area. If we count in building societies, the offices already there and this new application for more, it begins to look as if Caversham is all set to become a copy of Reading, practically sunk and lost under office development. Is this what we want or is it an inevit-

able trend that we are powerless to prevent?

### RICHFIELD AVENUE

Where not so long ago cows used to graze an industrial estate has grown up and Richfield Avenue is busy all day with east-west local traffic. The estate may be less picturesque than cows, but it certainly provides a lot of jobs, even though it is ill served by public transport.

Why "Avenue"? is may be asked, to which the answer can only be that it is going to be an avenue one day when the trees have grown. Caversham will be glad of this, for as has already been said, the estate is not picturesque and that is what we see across the river. We, of course, present one of the best, if not the best, views in Reading.

A lot of dithering went on as to whether or not Richfield Avenue should be included in the Central Reading District Plan, and finally, after that had been published and presented for public consultation, it was decided to include it. The proposals are still very much in outline, but a leisure centre is proposed on what is usually referred to as

the pop festival site. There are plans for replacing and enlarging Caversham Bridge Hotel (the site is Borough Council owned) with the addition of a conference centre (the conference industry at least is enjoying a boom) and it is proposed to let off four acres between Richfield Avenue and Cow Lane for industrial purposes.

No one is likely to burst with enthusiasm about the latter, but the leisure centre has got to be paid for somehow. It might not be too unacceptable as long as it is not the start of gradual encroachment on to more and more riverside land of industrial buildings, thus repeating the fault of our Victorian forebears.

The Leisure Centre is going to cause quite a bit of controversy. Those who would not be seen dead taking any form of formal physical exercise will be left cold by it, but even they must admit there is a growing demand for it. It would however seem suitable that any kind of leisure use on that site should in some way be related to the river, and that the buildings themselves should not overwhelm the site. It would probably be asking too much to expect them to be beautiful. Neither should the centre attract so many cars that the rest of the site becomes a car park. It should also not be forgotten that one of the most popular and delightful forms of leisure use of riverside land is simply walking, sitting and picnicking. These people, mostly families and couples, should not feel pushed out by teams of ferocious rugby players or dedicated beady eyed joggers.

As for the hotel, must it be a hive of cells for workers on expense accounts, or can it still be a traditional riverside

hotel of which the Thames has many pleasing examples? The conference centre too could well become a white elephant when we already have in the town the University, only too anxious to let out its hall of residence during vacations, and even the Hexagon which would not object to aiding its ailing finances by doing duty as a conference centre with accommodation being provided by the nearby Ramada Hotel.

All this needs commenting on. Let us charitably forget that we were once told that pressures of the timetable made it essential for public comments to be received by the end of August, and instead weigh in with our comments, for it is we, the residents of Caversham who will have to look at what eventually goes on to that land.

You write to the Borough Planning Officer, Civic Offices, Reading.

### BIGGER AND WORSE

Members of Mapledurham Area Residents' Association were dismayed to hear at their Annual General Meeting that the Borough and Berkshire County Councils proposed for the time being to take no further steps to get lorries off the A4074. They were told that a traffic count held in May to assess the effectiveness of the advisory notices directing heavy lorries to the M4-A34 route showed a reduction in the number of lorries to the 1977 level. Yet by 1976, feeling against the use of this road by heavy lorries had grown so strong that a large protest meeting was held in Caversham at what was, and had been for years, a severe and growing nuisance.

The figures quoted came from a one day census and origin and destiny survey. It was carefully carried out,

but one day, even though picked at random and assuming no leaks, does not necessarily reflect what happens on the other three hundred or so working days. On the other hand, the lorries may be slightly fewer in number, though no one living along the route seems to have noticed a perceptible reduction, but they could be larger, and it is a moot point whether fewer huge ones are better than slightly more less-huge ones.

### THIRD BRIDGE

Certainly Cllr Stansfeld-Taylor's news did nothing to cheer up his audience. His only suggestion to press for a third bridge, needed though this is, is not going to do much to reduce the number of lorries. A northern by-pass would cause as many problems as it solved. Further pressure to use the A34-M4 route still holds out the greatest hope, even though Oxfordshire County Council having spent vast sums "improving" its section of the route is unlikely to be willing to co-operate. A weight restriction on Reading's bridges

is another possibility.

Meanwhile the Government is all set to increase the weight of lorries from their present 32 tonnes to 38 tonnes, coating this bitter pill with the sugar of minor improvements such as the compulsory fitting of mud flaps. So this

war, for it is far more than a battle, goes on. The road haulage lobby is powerful, and its voice, like the roar of its own lorries, drowns that of the ordinary citizen, who, like the Indian peasant of old, is at the mercy of their juggernauts.

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# The end of the Regal

THE Regal Cinema is being demolished at last and another change to the face of Caversham has begun. The delay in the Waitrose scheme has been due to the discussions taking place about the best way to control the increase in traffic that the scheme will bring. A decision has now been made that traffic lights are to be installed (paid for by Waitrose). These will operate at the junctions of five roads — Gosbrook Road, School Lane, Church Street, Prospect Street and South Street. Once tied in with other lights on the computer, this is meant to keep the traffic moving in a continuous flow. However, the lights in School Lane and South Street will operate on demand and this would appear to upset any computerized plan. The environmentalists preferred a mini-roundabout, or even a double roundabout, as the five roads do not quite meet at one place, even with the widening of School Lane. Certainly the actual installation of lights will mean a

greater disruption than making a roundabout, and in view of this, perhaps a roundabout could be tried while building is in progress and the great influx of private cars

has not begun. It is not too late for the Council to change its mind, but it will only do so if enough people express their views. Think about it, and if you want to take action, write to your local Caversham Council immediately.



— PETER SEAR

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Postbag



# POST BAG

Postbag



## CHURCH AND PARLIAMENT

Dear Editor,

I must thank you for your kind letter in last month's magazine in response to my October article. Your comments contribute further to those important discussions on the position of the Church in the State. I make one point from your letter, you mention the Falklands Service, it was one of the finer aspects upon which I expressed a personal view. I had hoped that more might have been made in that important Ecumenical Service of the thousands of people who have disappeared in Argentina, a country with an appalling record on human rights.

I wrote the article in the October issue in order to cause a genuine discussion, a point missed by the other two letter writers on the subject, an ex-Labour Councillor and a Liberal Candidate. I never mentioned the word "Politics" anywhere in my article. I was writing in a Church Magazine on an issue which causes many of my Constituents concern whatever their political views.

Charles Buck suggests a discussion, perhaps we could hold one in the Parish? **Tony Durant** (One is being arranged for Friday, January 21 at 8pm. Details next month. — Editor.)

Dear Sir,

Tony Durant is to be congratulated for raising the question of the Church's involvement in political life. He asked: "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?" The answer, surely, is yes to both. If we are really trying to love one another as our Master commanded us, we cannot label a major part of our lives "politics" and exclude Christ from it. Our attitude to all these issues ought to be ruled by asking ourselves "What does Christ want us to do?"

Once we ask this, we know the answer. Jesus is against nobody, but he is most of all on the side of the poor and the oppressed. In his ministry on earth he healed the sick and blessed the peacemakers. If the Church is truly his body, it must carry on his work, both by helping those in need and by proclaiming his teaching of love. If that teaching offends the rich and powerful, we should not be surprised — Jesus annoyed them too, and they crucified him.

Most of all, we must show our love

in our attitudes to peace and war. Christ did not say "Invade and recapture," he said "Turn the other cheek." Whether or not the Falklands war could be justified, we must respond to it as Christians. That includes penitence on behalf of all of us, here and in Argentina, for all the terrible sins involved — the covetousness, killing, anger and false pride — and it includes being prepared to forgive the wrongs of others. A service of thanksgiving for victory which ignored these responses would be an affront to God.

The Church should not aim to be a centre of power. It cannot coerce anyone, nor should it try. Still less could it "replace Parliament or the local Council as the nation's forum of opinion and law making process." But it must seek to exert Christ's influence in every area of public life, to counteract the pervasive effects of self-interest, intolerance, ignorance and hate.

If the Church of England felt that its relationship to the State would oblige it to compromise on Christ's teaching, then it would have to free itself from the State and become what Mr Durant dis-

misses as "just another Church." That would not lose it a "premier position," even if it has one. Rather, the Church of England could then claim in that instance to have followed the way of the Cross for Christ's sake. The Church Militant on earth has the prophetic task of calling attention to the sins inherent in our way of life, including every aspect of Parliament's work which falls short of God's will.

We are active members both of the Church and of the Labour Party. We do not claim that all our party's acts and policies are Christian, but we believe we can serve God and our neighbours through it, seeking to apply Christian principles in forming the party's attitudes. We would not want the Church to align itself with any one party, for that would cut it off from all the Christians who sincerely support the others. What matters is that Christians should try to change society as Christ showed us, using the political system to the full to do so.

Yours etc.

**Robert and Margaret Dimmick**  
8 Harlech Avenue,  
Caversham Park.

salutary counterblast.

If I might now put in my own word, I would commend the book called "Common Security" (Pan Books, £1.95) which is the report of an independent world-wide commission, on which the British member was Dr David Owen, while from USSR there was Giorgi Arbatov and from USA Cyrus Vance.

It marshals the oft-repeated elements of the armaments situation in irrefutable arguments, and puts forward a series of proposals and recommendations based on these principles: "A doctrine of common security must replace the present expedient of deterrence through armaments. International peace must rest on a commitment to joint survival rather than a threat of mutual destruction."

The book is in the library and in the Book Shop.  
Yours etc.  
**John L. Clark**  
6 Cawsam Gardens,  
Caversham.

Dear Sir,

Mr Durant's article on the Church and Parliament will, I trust, bring many replies. As a member of the URC I am not immediately concerned with what he has to say about the role of the Church of England, as the estab-

lished church; but as a Christian I am profoundly disturbed by his more general remarks.

Mr Durant admits that loving is one of the functions of the Church, but by what mental gymnastics does he divorce loving from a concern for man's "social security, his housing and foreign policy"? Loving, Mr Durant, is not a warm inner feeling; it is not only remembering the needy in prayer; it is not just being kind to people we meet; it is a vital concern for the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of our fellow men, their safety, peace of mind and dignity.

In our modern,

complex society such concern cannot adequately be expressed in individual action because power is not in the hands of individuals but of groups and parties. Our concern must be embodied in the very structures of society. The Church cannot avoid political involvement, either as a body or through its individual members, if it is to fulfil its mission, not in support of one particular party or sectional interest, but to be effective in our fulfilment of Our Lord's command to love one another.

Yours etc.

**Eileen Lee-Baptist**  
41 Highmoor Road,  
Caversham.

Dear Editor,

I receive my Caversham Bridge from a friend and therefore late, so this is a very late appreciation of the editorial letter to Tony Durant in the November issue. You said all (and more) that was in my mind when I read his article; and you expressed it so kindly I could not agree more with your statement of the concern of the Church with both aspects of man's life, for if the Church is not expressing in action the love of God towards those in any sort of need I cannot see that it is following the guidelines of Jesus. The reawaken-

ing of the Church in speaking out on these topics is one of the hopeful signs for the future. Whether or not it is "successful" is as you say beside the point. If it does not speak to the highest it knows that it is surely a failure. That is I think a sin against the Spirit. We must speak and act in response to any revelation on the nature of God or His love. Thank you again for putting the Christian point of view so clearly. I know I speak for the other Friends in Caversham, too.

Yours etc.

**Connie Jarratt**  
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Dear Sir,

Thank you for the October issue, and my thanks also to H. Duncan Marshall and John Madeley for their contributions. John Madeley's disclosure about Diego Garcia is for me the missing piece of a jigsaw.

I was sure that if one were better informed it could be demonstrated that there was inconsistency, and perhaps something worse, in the way we were lashed into hysteria over the Falklands and swept into a position from which now we cannot easily retire. Everything that has been said and done officially since April has been out of proportion, and if the facts about Diego Garcia could be sufficiently made known, they would provide a

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FIVE people from different Third World countries, all of them now living in Reading, came to Caversham during One World Week and told about life in their country. The small group discussion, which gave many of those present new insights into a Third World country, was preceded by an international supper and a gas pipe clanging down from the ceiling of the hall to hit the unfortunate Traidcraft representative on the head! (The tak-

## INTERNATIONAL SUPPER IN ONE WORLD WEEK

ings hopefully made up for it. Traidcraft sell Third World goods; most of the price paid goes direct to the producer.)

One World Week is organised by the churches committee of the World Development Movement, an organisation which

urges better treatment for the poor of the earth. The international supper in Caversham was organised by Caver-

sham members of the Reading World Development Group. The aim was to help increase understanding of the problems faced by developing countries.

Sam Ling Dorward, an electronics engineer from Malaysia, delighted people in her group by singing them a song before the serious discussion began.

Sean Moroney, of South Africa, editor of the magazine "African Business," told his attentive group of the situation as he saw it today in his country. Zamar Wall of Afghanistan gave an up-to-the-minute account of what is going on now in Afghanistan. Havia

Bravo from Mexico and Musa Conteh from Sierra Leone gave the benefit of their knowledge of some of the problems their countries face.

One World Week will, hopefully, take place again next year, probably in the third week of October. This year, activity in our churches was rather limited. Why not start planning now for next year? Further details of One World Week 1983 can be obtained from Pat Gerrard, One World Week, Christian Aid, PO Box No. 1, London SW1.

Should any reader wish to join the Reading World Development Group, please ring John Madeley 476063 for details.



■ The five overseas guests at the International Supper with John Madeley and Pat Gerrard. — READING CHRONICLE

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### READING DISPENSARY TRUST

So much interest has been shown in local history, I'm sure somebody must know the answer to this one. Apparently there was in lower Caversham, between 1883 and 1939, a branch of the Reading Dispensary Trust, a charity founded in 1802. The History of Reading Society would very

## KATY IN CAVERSHAM

much like to hear from anyone who can tell them anything about it.

### 'READING PAST AND PRESENT'

Talking of Reading history, readers will be interested to know that Daphne Phillips' new book is now in print and on sale at the local bookshop price £3.50. I popped in there today and was delighted with the range of books now on offer which, I'm sure, will make very suitable Christmas gifts. Apart from the excellent selection of paper backs (the "Barchester" series, for instance, to coincide with the forthcoming TV programmes) there are many books of interest to local people. "The Thames from Source to Tideway" by Chaplin is one, and the "Diary of a Rowing Tour from Oxford to London," extracts of a diary written in 1875 by Howard Williams is another. And if you can't run to anything expensive, who wouldn't welcome a pack of eight postcards on "Reading's Colourful Past," taken from Leslie North's book of that name.

### GIFTS GALORE!

I suppose many of us will be feeling the pinch when it comes to Christmas shopping this year, but there's no excuse for saying there's nothing in Caversham; never since the closing of Corps' shop has there been such a lovely collection of gift items for sale. "Visions" has a lovely range of goods, many of them well under £3. Indeed there are very attractive items from 35p upwards, suitable for youngsters to buy their mothers or, alternatively, as

stocking fillers. I particularly liked the Flower Fairy range, produced on cards, mirrors, tins, notebooks, etc, and the Victorian Animal Friends children's books. And of course there are the usual exciting items of enamelled jewellery, crystal and so on. Do go in — you'll get a warm welcome and even if your purchases are small you'll enjoy looking round.

Caversham Crafts too excel themselves in their variety and, besides the pottery, leather goods, Dartington glass etc, are especially proud of their prints. Did you know it's possible to choose your print and then have it mounted however you like? If you want framing done you really are in the hands of experts in this shop. What caught my eye was the set of six table mats,

beautifully printed, which will probably retail at something less than £7 and would make an excellent and lasting wedding or anniversary gift. And don't forget Brian Bates selection of printed cards of Caversham which the shop is selling. An added bonus for pensioners is that on Thursdays from now until Christmas they are being offered 25 per cent off anything they buy at this shop.

New to Caversham is the shop calling itself Bar Services and Cocktail Cabinet. They have a lovely range of crystal made by Cristalline Zwieser. These include glasses, vases, candle holders and so on — a lovely candle holder with candle would cost less than £3 and anyone would love it. But glasses of all shapes and sizes are from the cheapest, at less than 50p to more expensive cocktail glasses.

So before you dash off to Reading in an attempt to solve your problems, make sure you've had a good look

round Caversham. Apart from anything, you're sure to get a much more friendly welcome than in some of the bigger shops.

### QUALITY SECONDS

I suppose many of you will have noticed the new clothes' shop in Church Street. Don't be put off by the rather garish look of the contents — there are some real bargains to be had. A Shetland jumper at less than £5 is not to be sneezed at, and they have a lovely line in flowered skirts.

### ABBNEYFIELD

Readers will, I'm sure, be delighted to know that at last the Abbeyfield Society have acquired a property in St Peter's Avenue which they are converting into a home for seven residents and a housekeeper. The Society will probably be needing a lot of help in connection with this project, so do watch out for requests. You might need such a place yourself one day.

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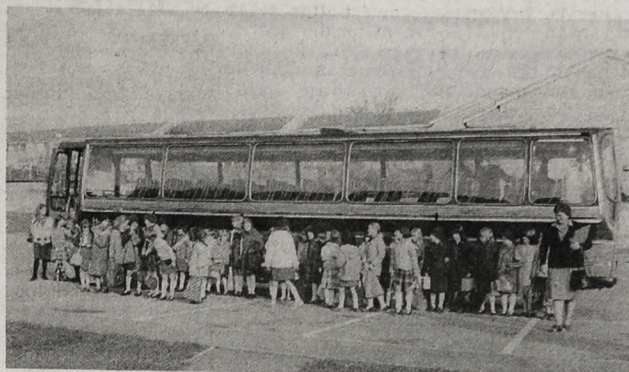
By PHILIP LEE-BAPTY  
(Industrial Chaplain for Reading)

# INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT IN READING

THERE is no doubt that the economy of Reading and of Berkshire generally is changing rapidly. Apart from the effect of the recession with its consequent high unemployment, there are considerable changes in the kind of industry and employment.

In the larger firms employment has fallen considerably in five years while there has been some increase in some smaller firms and in some new firms arising in the area. Manufacturing has declined markedly while administration, banking, insurance etc have increased. Many smallish new firms are developing in the new high technology — electronics, computers etc, both in hardware and in software. Semi-skilled and unskilled jobs in manufacturing are disappearing fast which confirms the trend away from manual towards non-manual and highly technical work.\*

Unemployment is growing though it is very much lower here than in other parts of the country. The October figures are: Reading 10,322 which together with Wokingham (1,295) and Bracknell (2,782) consist of 8.6 per cent of the working population. For Berkshire as a whole it is 8.3 per cent, the South East Region 10.4 per cent and nationally 13.6 per cent. The number of job vacancies in Reading is 1,040. Though there has been some improvement since the same time last year in vacancies people seeking work out-number jobs avail-



■ OFF TO LONDON. On October 28th a party of Brownies from the 1st and 3rd Caversham Park Packs together with some Guides went to the London Museum and St Paul's Cathedral. Mrs J. Vardy and Mrs C. Archer were in charge.

able by 10 to 1.† Let no one say that the unemployed could get work if they really tried, even though there is a shortage of skilled workers and especially in the area of new technology which employs comparatively few but highly specialised workers. Efforts to attract and keep skilled people here are greatly inhibited by the high cost of housing.

While there are some jobs in the area, there is a mismatch between skills required and those available. This has important implications for education and training, content and policies, for the present and future. No doubt we can see all around us jobs that need to be done but the community apparently can't afford to do them. There is here a matter of economic priority and political will. We do need to be aware of the political options. However it appears to be likely that the growth of the high technology and high value added indus-

tries, in which Reading has an increasing share, could generate the wealth to enable those jobs to be done. That is if we have the right economic policies and political will. It is doubtful however that even this will solve the problem of unemployment. We need to explore new ways of organising work in the kind of world which is rapidly developing — e.g. share out the

amount of work available which means a shorter working week, longer holidays, earlier retirement etc — or, creating new forms of work for which the demand is not yet apparent.

Clearly man needs to work. It is part of his essential nature and contributes to his total well-being, but it need not be in traditional paid employment. Clearly also the present situation of

over three and a half million unemployed is intolerable in any society which has any claim to be civilised and caring. Just how intolerable might be judged from some recent research. A direct correlation has been found between the rate of unemployment and several states of disease in society. Every increase in the rate of unemployment also increases the rates of mortality, cardiovascular disease, cirrhosis of the liver, suicide, murder, admission to prison and to mental hospitals, infant and maternal mortality, marriage breakdown etc. The money costs of all these diseases must be enormous and no doubt is calculable. The anguish and unhappiness is incalculable.

The church must surely be concerned, and as a high priority, in what ever way it can, urge our politicians and leaders to make it a very high priority also.

\* Facts and figures with assessment can be found in the Royal County of Berkshire report of the 1981 Survey of Employers — obtainable from the Planning Department, Shire Hall, Reading.

† Figures from the Manpower Services Commission, Berkshire District.

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All contributions for the January number of the Caversham Bridge must be at Church House by noon on Wednesday, December 1.

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## ANGLICAN NEWS

### Parish family ice skating outing

By Joyce and Dennis Aisbitt

WHAT a busy month October was for the Parish! We welcomed the Rev Alan Wilson to St John's, and enjoyed the lively round of harvest suppers and fetes. Then on Friday evening 15th October, over one hundred parish members climbed into two waiting coaches and at 6.15pm left Hem-dean Road and the now silent Balmore Hall behind.

Our destination was Richmond Ice Rink where the AROSA Rink was ours for the evening. All the churches of the Parish were well represented and we were

joined by our friends from Caversham Heights Methodist Church. It was like a church on wheels as carols and hymns rang out along the motorway and of course "Why are we waiting?" filled the rink car park as one hundred and eleven skate hire tickets were being collected from the booking office.

Suitably donned with skates, we brought the AROSA rink to life and what a joy it was to skate in comfort. What a

talented parish we are, from the tiniest chorister to quite a mature dad. The only triple-tralco of the evening was when a group of skaters tried to avoid Derek. "Getting to know you" had a trial run as we "bumped" into new friends.

With the evening ended and skates put to rest, followed by a visit to the hot dog van, the happy skaters sped homewards. "What a super night" was the comment. Roll on Friday evening 6th May 1983 when it can all be relived.

### St John's Notes

THE green carpet in St John's chancel had curled and frayed, and it was easy to trip when going to Communion. Cyril Badger organised buying and laying the new blue carpet. Then he "fitted out" the priest's vestry with the best of the old carpet. It is a great improvement in each case.

With the decorating finished, the floors in St John's house needed cleaning. So volunteers took brushes, buckets, soaps, cloths and elbow-grease (hot water on the premises), along, and scrubbed them. The ground floor was so dirty another group scrubbed them again the next week, so that Alan's carpets went down on clean boards.

On Christmas Eve, for several years past, there has been a panicky time putting the Christmas stable together. It was rather like a rickety chicken coop, and if there was no string available, someone had to tear up a hanky. Now Mr

Wilson has made a new stable out of "might-be-usefuls," which clips together and will pack flat for storage. The church is very grateful.

The children's choir cassocks had to be renewed. It would have been expensive to buy them, so Audrey Yates organised the purchase of the materials, and with three volunteers made them.

St John's is getting quite good at "Do-it-Yourself."

On October 10th Charlotte, whom many have known since she was three months, served at the Family Eucharist with her father Sean Holmwood. St John's congregation wondered if there was another "father and daughter" pair of servers in the parish.

(Yes. Until recently the Brown family at St Peter's produced a trio in father, son and daughter. And at present there are three pairs of brothers and sisters among the servers, Philip and Susan Hardy, Nigel and Caroline Croft and Ian and Sharon Smith. — Editor.)

### St Margaret's News

EVERYONE seemed to agree that this year's Harvest Supper was the best ever and Harvest Suppers have been happening at St Margaret's for almost twenty years now. The eighty or so people who came along to enjoy the evening on October 9th found Trench Green Hall gaily decorated with coloured lights and great stalks of corn on the cob.

After the usual mouth watering refreshments had been devoured the assembly was entertained by local talent. There is nothing like making your own fun, and members of St Margaret's did this with a will. It is probably the only time that Alf Martyn-Johns has lost his shirt in public. It was snatched off by the local witch who came along, complete with rolling drums, to try out a little magic.

The choir as usual put on an excellent performance and so did Maryanne and Sarah with their novel interpretation of the Owl and the Pussycat. Mapledurham Gents, a motley crowd including an Oxford don and a Musical Texan, sang a couple of songs. Messrs Martyn-Johns Senior and Junior shared a few epitaphs they had discovered, but not in Mapledurham! After a very accomplished and polished piece of piano playing by Derek "Liberace"

Spears it was the turn of the Mapledurham Ladies to do their bit. This consisted of a short skit which could have been entitled "When is a farm not a farm?" The answer being — a health farm.

So ended Harvest Supper 1982. Grateful thanks go to Bob Avis who once again organised everything so efficiently and made it such a happy evening. Thanks as well to all the ladies who arranged and provided the excellent meal and then did all the tidying up. The flowers on the tables looked lovely and everyone in "the Show" was first class, so was the evening. Many thanks to all who helped to make it such a success.

### St Peter's Wives

THE Wives held two meetings in October: the first was an interesting talk about the training and care of guide dogs given by Mr Warner accompanied by his own guide dog "Nap". The second meeting was an illustrated and informative talk by Dr Peter Durrant, Berkshire County Council Archivist, who spoke about the role of the Archivist, and the various records under his care.

Continued on page 9

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# ANGLICAN NEWS

Continued from page 8

SIDESMEN found themselves hastily bringing out extra chairs as an enormous congregation arrived for the Parish Communion on the Harvest Festival. Tinned and packet foods worth several hundred pounds were presented at the offer-

## St Peter's News A BUMPER HARVEST FESTIVAL

tory and these will be used as the basis for the 150 or more parcels to be distributed at Christmas to old and needy people in the parish. The

Church was magnificently decorated by Mrs Mary Smith and a large band of helpers and Sunday school children made a model farm. The Festival collection for a Train a Priest Fund amounted to £182. Two nights later

the congregation each Sunday and it was particularly pleasing that so many of them were able to come to the supper. The Social Committee is inviting different groups in the congregation to arrange in turn a monthly Saturday evening event in Balmore Hall and the first of these is to take place on Saturday, December 4th.



■ People of all ages like a Barn Dance.

— E. S. ARCHER



■ The farm made by the Sunday school

— E. S. ARCHER

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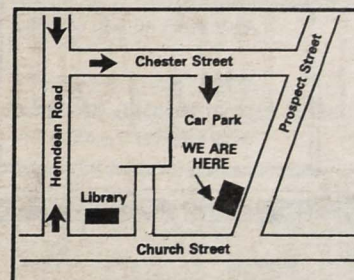
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## WE RECORD

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dence and Jane Atkinson;  
Steven Blight and Linda  
Tompkins; Jan Gaines and  
Julie Emmerson.

October 16: Paul Belcher  
and Amanda Wood; Ter-  
rence Davidson and Gillian  
Murphy.

St Andrew's  
October 2: Mark  
Greethurst and Kathryn  
Tillman.

October 9: Jeffrey Currie  
and Sylvia Herschy; Jeffrey  
Manning and Jane Roberts.

### FUNERALS

St Peter's  
October 26: William  
Harris.

St Barnabas  
October 20: Ted Whitaker.

St Peter's Church

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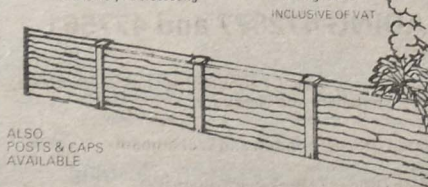
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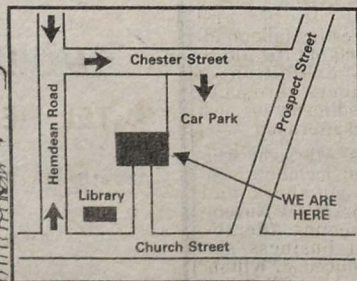
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## Methodist News

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS

### NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOME

During the first two weeks in September each year a House to House collection is held for the National Children's Home. This year the collectors in the Emmer Green, Caversham Park Village, Sonning Common and Caversham Heights area collected a total of nearly £1,600, in addition to that raised by the collection in Lower Caversham.

Money is urgently needed to enable the NCH to continue its work — helping children and their families in a variety of ways. There are family centres, where help and support is given; play groups; phone-in services; schools and residential facilities for both physically and mentally handicapped children; independence units to assist teenagers to make the transition into the adult world; intermediate treatment to help young people to find their own capacity for improvement; and the residential homes for children.

CHILDREN at Caversham Heights are selling Sunny Smiles to raise more funds and their contributions will be presented at the Festival of Queens at the Town Hall in February.

Postcards, used stamps and the tokens from Jacobs Club biscuits are being collected and can be left in the box in the hall of Caversham Heights Church.

### DYSLEXIA WORKSHOP

On Saturday, 16th October, the Berkshire Dyslexia Association held a Workshop for teachers at Caversham Heights Methodist Church. The speakers were from the Helen Arkell Centre, London, where dyslexics are taught and teachers are trained in the specialist

methods which are used to help these children.

Mrs Joy Pollock, principal of the Helen Arkell Centre, spoke on Spelling; Mrs Elisabeth Waller, on Handwriting; and Mrs Gill Rowley, on Reading. During the afternoon there was a group session and finally a discussion with the panel.

On November 9th the Principal Educational Psychologist for Berkshire, Mr David Brownhill, addressed the Association at the Palmer Building, Reading University. His subject was "On the brink of the 1981 Education Act — a psychologist's eye-view."

Further details about the Berkshire Dyslexia Association are available from Mrs D. Kelly. Tel: 470166.

## Baptist News

### 1984 and All That

That year of notoriety 1984 is not far away. Recently members of the Baptist Church were tempted to believe that it had dawned prematurely. Since completion of the extensive alterations to the Church building the vestry walls and those of the newly constructed rooms above had been reluctant to dry-out. Various theories for this had been advanced and pooh-poohed and attempts to deter the fungoid growth on the plaster were in vain — it marched on relentlessly. The situation became alarming when similar growths were noticed on the floors. The cutting of peep-holes through ceilings and floors revealed evidence of damp penetration but the question remained, where from? Fortunately a mini-monsoon revealed all, the parapet gutter was leaking. Regrettably it was too late, dampness had penetrated insidiously and had caused quite widespread rot in floor timbers. The situation had been aggravated by a restricted air flow under the ground floor

where the old boiler room had been demolished. Panic stations sounded — the architect rushed in — the builder was subpoenaed — and floor boards were torn-up but only after the carpet tiles had been lifted with a cold chisel — great stuff these modern adhesives. The following week saw feverish activity as dry rot and damp control specialists sprayed and soaked everything with their concoctions.

The devastation coincided with the approach of a busy and important week-end in the life of the Church in that five young ladies were to be baptised. With the co-operation of the builders and the hard work of a few members floor-boards were temporarily relaid and the place spruced up and all was well.

### WHILE THE MINISTER IS AWAY...

Strange things can sometimes happen within a church when the minister is away! The Church has seen one baptism since it reopened after the redevelopment some eighteen months ago, although its work has been growing steadily in other areas. However, the minister's departure to Canada during the spring for three months of sabbatical leave appeared to co-incide with revival! In fact, what led a number of the church's young people to commitment was the Thames Valley Crusade in the spring. By the end of this, the church's youth workers had seen over a dozen of their young people go forward in commitment to Christ.

Discipleship classes would normally be the next step, but the minister was not due back for another nine weeks. Happily the Revd Philip Webb, who is a member of the Church, was able to lead a group of older enquirers using material currently being prepared in his office in the Baptist Union Department of Ministry. With much support from others, the result was that when the Revd Dennis Weller returned it was to the delight of five applications for baptism and church membership.

So it was on 3rd October that the Church was packed with regulars, visitors and friends from near and far to witness the baptism of the five young ladies. The ladies joined a vocal group to sing two of Graham Kendrick's songs and one of them added to the backing with her flute whilst another gave a simple but powerful testimony.

By the climax there was scarcely a dry eye and even deacons who had seen many baptisms were grateful for handkerchiefs and so the service, led by the Minister assisted by Philip Webb came to a close.

The Church has no more plans to send its minister away but it is planning further baptisms for at the close of the service five more came forward to follow in the steps of those who had so recently been baptised.

## CAVERSHAM METHODIST CHURCH AMBASSADORS HIT THE HIGH SPOTS

THE Band of the 1st Caversham Boys Brigade based at Caversham Methodist Church, Gosbrook Road are practising hard for a very special occasion. The band have been chosen to represent the Boys Brigade in a national event.

On November 21st they will be taking part in the Festival of Youth Marching Bands at the Royal Albert Hall. Each band is asked to have a theme for their 10 minute entertainment. The Ambassadors have chosen holidays and play tunes such as Mexican Hat Dance, Mambo Jambo, Banana Boat Song, finishing with the British Airways tune and Home Sweet Home.

And so on the 21st there will be 5 coaches leaving the Church to go to London for what should prove to be a memorable occasion.

## AUTUMN FAIR SUCCESS

ON October 23rd, the Church held a successful Autumn Fair. There was a long queue of customers when the doors opened. The selling went well for some time and the refreshments were very popular. The Church took the opportunity of opening the new Church building for people to come and enjoy the peace of the new sanctuary. A good number took the chance to see the re-furnished church for the first time. The day was also a financial success raising £243.50 for General Church Funds.

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## ROUND THE CLUBS

### Caversham Community Association

The money that was raised on the sponsored walk by some of the club members and friends on the 19th July, to the Roebuck Hotel, Tilehurst and back, has now been collected and sent to the Ken Thomas Scanner Appeal fund. The amount of the cheque forwarded was £284.71.

At the first meeting in October a talk was given by Sandra Pomeroy, a club member, on health products.

After explaining how necessary the right foods and vitamins were for good health, Mrs Pomeroy gave a demonstration in beauty care using cosmetics made from fruits and herbs.

A speaker from one of the local departmental stores, Mr Walter Dickson visited the club on the 11th October. Mr Dickson brought with him a fine selection of haberdashery, sewing aids and knitting wools, he then gave the members ideas for Christmas presents such as kits for tapestry, toy making and bobbin lace making.

The following week a Bring and Buy evening was held with some good bargains sold in aid of the club funds.

An interesting talk and slide film show was given on the 25th October by Mr George Hayson of the Information Group of the Mary Rose Trust. Mr Hayson made the story of the Tudor warship fascinating listening for the members as he traced her history through the years, from the sinking in the Solent in 1545 to the wonderful feat of raising her to the surface in 1982. The slides depicted possessions and weapons belonging to the men who had lost their lives on the Mary Rose over 400 years ago. The mud of the seabed had preserved the ship's timbers and

many historical treasures which eventually will be housed in a maritime museum.

### Caversham Darby and Joan Club

The winter season began with a pleasant afternoon. Mrs Burden entertained the members with music at the piano. Later in the month The Reading Operatic Society gave a varied entertainment with some good music which was much appreciated by all the members.

In October the club enjoyed an afternoon trip to Lee on Solent, finishing with a fish and chip tea. Later in the month the infants of the Thameside School entertained all members with harvest festival songs and actions. Afterwards the gifts members had brought were auctioned by the Reverend Derek Spears.

For the last meeting in October a jumble sale was held when the magnificent sum of £102 was raised; the Club thanks all the voluntary helpers.

A club member, Mrs Gosnell, was awarded the first prize for her dressed doll in the competition run for all the WRVS members in the area.

### Caversham Ladies Club

At the October meeting the Club held its Autumn Fair. Committee and members had been busy during the past months preparing, and the tables were filled with goods. The craft table showed examples of their handiwork and the cake table was laden. The books, nearly-new and bric-a-brac stalls also did a brisk trade.

Preparations are in hand for the Club's Christmas lunch.

### Blagrove WI

The President, Mrs J. Price, welcomed fifty-four members and visitors to the

Harvest Lunch held at Mapledurham Pavilion in October.

Amongst those present were past Presidents, Mrs Phyl Wilkie and Mrs Margaret Haigh. Following the meal Guest Speaker Mrs P. Duckworth, demonstrated the art of pressed flower arrangements under the title "Flower Power," showing members and friends how to press, arrange and complete the finished articles. Mrs J. Messant thanked Mrs Duckworth on behalf of all members.

Final arrangements were made for members to attend the Group Meeting to be held at Earley in late October.

### Caversham WI

Mrs Hilda Adair presided at the September meeting and welcomed Mrs Elizabeth Wilson who spoke on "Thoughts for the over Forties," members enjoyed this hilarious talk and heeded the speaker's final advice to admit to their age but never submit to it.

The October meeting was very well attended and a warm welcome was extended to three new members. Mrs Miranda Mayne outlined the origin of making Fabric Pictures. Her talk was followed by a colourful demonstration on this art and she encouraged members to try their skill and create a fabric picture for themselves. The flower of the month was won by Mrs Olive Harris.

### Chazey WI

Mrs McCombe presided at the October meeting in Mapledurham Hall. Members were told of a very full and exciting programme that had been arranged for the winter, including two theatre trips, a movable feast and a wine and cheese party.

The speaker, Mrs Mayne, a retired VCO for Berkshire WIs

complimented the President on such an exciting programme of events and then gave an extremely interesting talk on her past experiences connected with some favourite items of interest which she had brought with her to show members.

The evening concluded with a competition to guess the origins of a collection of dolls provided by the treasurer and finished with the usual coffee and biscuits.

### Maplewood WI

Maplewood's October meeting was taken by their president, Mrs Joan Fry. The speaker that afternoon was Mrs M. Palmer, who had chosen the interesting title "Collecting old china"

as her subject. Members had been invited to bring along some of their own treasures, and Mrs Palmer gave each exhibit careful scrutiny. They were very beautiful and varied from a piece of Staffordshire flat back, Japanese plates, Crown Derby and Rockingham china, Minton and Spode ware, to some exquisite miniatures. There was the "Penie for friendship" collection on behalf of ACWW (Associated Countrywomen of the World) who do so much for the people living in the rural areas of underdeveloped countries. Tea was welcomed, as usual, after which there was a discussion on programme planning for 1983/4, the raffle was drawn, and a very pleasant afternoon came to an end.

### Rosehill WI

Mrs Allwright welcomed a visitor, two new members and members to the October meeting on a rainy, miserable afternoon, so numbers were down a little.

Arrangements were made to continue crafts, scrabble and rambling in the coming winter, and preparations for the jumble sale in early November and the harvest supper were put in hand. Mr Robinson, of the St John Ambulance Brigade, gave a most lucid and interesting talk on all aspects of First Aid.

An exhibition of members' brooches looked lovely on such a dull afternoon.

Mrs Allwright welcomed members, two new members and visitors to the November meeting. After the usual business she introduced Mr Wilton, a member of Reading Recreational Department who was to speak about Parks and Gardens in Reading. This he did admirably, though

naturally his chief subject was the Forbury Gardens, with lovely slides of flowers and trees following his talk.

The competition was for an arrangement of leaves and berries; first Mrs Barge, second Mrs Bluring, third Mrs Turner.

### Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild

Members started their new financial year with a talk given by Mr N. Stretton describing his own interest and collection of English Pottery over thirty years. He illustrated his special pieces on slides; there seemed no end to the possibilities in shaping teapots and coffee pots.

The Guild celebrates twenty one years in December and plans a tea party for that meeting and an evening dinner party in February.

A very enjoyable evening was spent at an Old Tyme Music Hall at the Watermill Theatre with Mrs Jessie Welburn winning the hat competition and an interesting and informative trip has been made to Anchor Butter Creamery.

### Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild

In the absence of the chairman, the October meeting of Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild was taken by the vice-chairman Mrs E. Hawkins.

The illustrated talk given by Mrs A. Ormrod and entitled Embroidery Today enabled members to see beautiful examples of needlework. Arrangements are going ahead for a visit to a pantomime.

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# CHRISTMAS SERVICES

## CHRISTMAS DAY

(Note — "Midnight" Services start on Christmas Eve)

### ANGLICAN

#### St Peter's

11.30pm Midnight Eucharist  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.15am Parish Communion  
11.15am Holy Communion  
4.30pm Evening Prayer (said)

#### St Andrew's

11.30pm Midnight Communion  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.15am Family Eucharist  
11.15am Holy Communion

#### St Barnabas'

11.30pm Midnight Communion  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.15am Family Eucharist

#### St John's

11.30pm Midnight Communion  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.15am Family Eucharist

#### St Margaret's

11.30pm Midnight Communion  
11.00am Parish Communion

(The clergy would like to know of any sick or house-bound people who wish to receive Holy Communion in their homes during Christmas week)

#### CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH

(in Caversham Park Primary School)  
10.00pm Holy Communion  
11.00am Family Service

#### CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH

11.15pm Christmas Communion

#### CAVERSHAM METHODIST CHURCH

10.30am Christmas Family Service (with Caversham Heights Methodist Church)

#### CAVERSHAM FREE BAPTIST CHURCH

10.30am Christmas Family Service

#### CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

10.30am Christmas Service

#### ST PAUL'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

11.00am Morning Service

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC

#### St Anne's

11.30pm Midnight Mass (preceded by carols)  
9.00am Mass  
11.00am Mass  
(5.30pm Mass for Sunday 26th)

### Our Lady of Caversham

11.30pm Midnight Mass (preceded by carols)  
8.30am Mass  
10.30am Mass  
Confessions (Christmas Eve):  
St Anne's 10.30-12 noon, 3.00-4.00pm, 5.30-7.00pm  
Our Lady after 10.00am Mass and 4.00-5.00pm

\* \* \*

## SERVICES ON SUNDAY 26th

### ANGLICAN

#### St Peter's

8.30am Holy Communion  
9.45am Parish Communion  
4.00pm Evensong

#### St Andrew's

9.45am Family Eucharist  
11.15am Holy Communion

#### St Barnabas'

9.45am Family Eucharist

#### St John's

9.45am Family Eucharist

#### St Margaret's

11.00am Parish Communion

#### CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH

11.00am Holy Communion (said)

#### CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH

11.00am Morning Service

#### CAVERSHAM METHODIST CHURCH

6.30pm Evening Service

#### CAVERSHAM FREE BAPTIST CHURCH

10.30am Morning Service (no Evening Service)

#### CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

11.00am Morning Service  
6.30pm Evening Service

#### ST PAUL'S URC

11.00am Morning Service (no Evening Service)

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC

#### St Anne's

9.00am Mass  
11.00am Mass  
No Evening Service

#### Our Lady

8.30am Mass  
10.30am Mass  
5.00pm Mass

## OTHER SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES

### ANGLICAN

#### St Peter's

Christmas Eve, 4pm Children's Gift Service and Blessing of the crib

January 2nd, 6.30pm Service of nine lessons and carols

#### St Andrew's

Christmas Eve, 4.30pm Solemn Evensong and Blessing of the crib

January 2nd, 6.30pm Service of nine lessons and carols

#### St Barnabas'

Christmas Eve, 5.00pm Children's Service and Blessing of the crib

January 2nd, 4.00pm Service of lessons and carols

#### St John's

January 2nd, 4.00pm Service of lessons and carols

#### St Margaret's

January 2nd, 6.30pm Service of lessons and carols

### CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST

December 12th, 11.00am Family Toy Service  
December 19th, 11.00am Christmas Service; 4.00pm Christingle Service

### CAVERSHAM METHODIST CHURCH

December 5th, 11.00am Toy Service  
December 12th, 3.00pm Micklands School Choir Carol Concert; 6.30pm Youth carol service  
December 19th, 6.30pm Church Choir Christmas Service

### CAVERSHAM FREE BAPTIST CHURCH

December 19th, 6.30pm Carol Service

### ST PAUL'S URC

December 12th, 11.00am Toy Service (toys collected for distribution among needy children)  
December 17th (Friday), 7.30pm Carol Concert  
December 19th, 6.30pm Service of lessons and carols.

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

#### St Anne's

December 12th, 6.30pm Carol Service

#### Our Lady of Caversham

December 19th, 6.00pm Carol Service

\* \* \*

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December 29th 51 Galsworthy Drive (Jane Lynch-Watson)



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