

CAVERSHAM

BRIDGE

SEPTEMBER 1981

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CELEBRATING THE ROYAL WEDDING

OVER 600 people joined in a special service at Caversham Court on the afternoon of Sunday, July 19 to celebrate the forthcoming marriage of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer. Members of cub, scout, brownie and guide units attached to the Anglican churches in the parish joined in the celebration. Unfortunately the service did not have official support from all the churches in Caversham, yet it was good to see never-the-less so many people from non-Anglican churches there. The music for the event was provided by the East Reading Salvation Army Band. Following the Archbishop of Canterbury's suggestion, married couples were invited to renew their marriage vows during the course of the service. At the end of the service the children present released balloons into the air. (See 'Postbag').

The sermon was given by Mr James Cobban, at one time the Headmaster of Abingdon School. In his sermon he called on the congregation in Caversham Court to rejoice, to be re-united, and to make resolutions. Rejoicing in the Lord, he said, should spill over into rejoicing in the good things of his creation.

"It is the marriage of one who will one day become our king, and of his future queen. A wedding is a family occasion: in a very real sense this is *our* family — we can all feel concerned with it. We live in a divided world. Many of us have relatives or friends who have suffered in Northern Ireland. In recent weeks we have learnt that what could *not* happen here has happened here. In this situation we value even more the factors that still make for reconciliation and stability. One of them is the Crown



■ Revd. Peter Sear returning colours to Martyn Strong of the Wolves pack of St Peter's Cub-scouts.



■ Guides and Brownies holding their balloons before releasing them.

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which stands above party, and symbolically represents every person in this country.

"Another is the family, and in his celebration both are united. The end product of any Christian marriage is a Christian family. A happy united Christian family is something for which many of us can thank God. To make a marriage succeed calls for unselfishness, patience, self-sacrifice — just the same qualities that we need if we are to be reconciled as a nation.

"The royal marriage challenges us to look again at our own marriages, to thank God for what is good in them. It challenges us to show more sympathy and understanding to those whose marriages have broken down or who have no proper home of their own behind them.

"There is also a wider challenge. We should support any steps that may be taken to maintain law and order, but equally, on the other hand, any action that would help those who are disadvantaged and unable to enjoy the good life — even if it means some reduction in our own standard of living. On the personal level it can start by such simple things as being nice to our neighbour next door and by making sure that while condemning those who loot from shops, we ourselves are not fiddling the expense account or own time sheets.

"So rejoice in the marriage of a much loved Prince of Wales to a fairy princess. Reunite by building bridges within the family and within the nation. And resolve to make this country a better and a more united place."

D/EX 1758/18/19

The Editor's Column

QUART INTO PINT POT AGAIN

NOW THAT the celebration of the 200th number of the Caversham Bridge is over our readers might like to know about the policy which shapes the content of our pages each month.

Caversham is a lively community and the Christian Churches are central to our community life: there are also many local clubs and societies and a variety of institutions whose activities feature frequently in our columns. The result is that more material is received most months than can be published: so we have to try and fit a quart into a pint pot. Some contributions can be held over to a later month — but not all. Readers hardly expect reports of summer fetes in November or of Nativity plays in May.

VARYING THE CONTENTS

Because we try to interest everyone who lives in Caversham and Mapledurham we aim to vary our contents as much as possible. But a single edition of twelve pages cannot of course include a bit of everything. If one month there seems to be rather a lot about Mapledurham it may well be that Emmer Green items will figure prominently in the next number. If the Baptists occupy the front page one month, the next month's front page may be about a youth leader or made up of a page of pictures of local events of different kinds. We like to publish as many photographs as possible but when there is a lot of written material the size of the photographs gets cut down and this is a pity. Some articles are planned in advance but others turn up unexpectedly and it is these which often have to be held over. We welcome articles of different kinds but prior consultation is appreciated.

A CAVERSHAM PAPER FOR CAVERSHAM PEOPLE

Articles need to be relevant to Caversham or Caversham people. We are a Caversham and not a Reading paper so we do not normally report news of Reading events unless some Caversham person is involved. Likewise there is little room for articles of general interest: any paper can publish cooking recipes or fashion notes, but if a Caversham resident designed a royal wedding dress then no doubt that would get reported in our pages.

The Caversham Bridge has become a community paper. But this does not mean it is not also a Church paper. The Church of England gave up its own monthly magazine to make the Caversham Bridge possible. Church news is given a certain priority but the production of the paper is part of the Church's contribution to our community life.

NO PROFIT — NO LOSS

We are not concerned to make a profit but equally we cannot continue if we make a loss. We raise our price reluctantly when production costs rise, but we do like occasionally to give contributions to local charities like the Good Neighbour Scheme which this paper sponsored from the start.

We often have enough material to produce a 16 page edition. We are able to give our readers a larger number in July. But four extra pages cost us about £150 and even allowing for some extra advertising revenue it would be necessary to sell a lot more copies to increase our income by £150 monthly. So a 16 page edition cannot be managed more than occasionally. But if readers would like a larger Bridge and would accept a considerable price rise we will do our best to give them what they want. It's your paper — we welcome your views.

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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MANY HAPPY RETURNS



— Graham Alsbutt

■ The Mayor of Reading, Mr Basil Dunning (2nd from right) with the Rector of Caversham and guests at the party to celebrate the 200th "Bridge."

ST ANDREW'S Hall packed full with people all chattering and laughing (and eating) bore witness to the immense teamwork that ensures that the Caversham Bridge drops on your doormat each month.

About one hundred and fifty distributors, members of the editorial and management board and a team of writers from all the churches and other sections of the community in Caversham were celebrating the two hundredth issue of this newspaper. The Rector and Editor, in welcoming the Mayor (Cllr. B. Dunning) and the Mayoress, referred to the growth of ecumenism which

made the continuing existence of the Caversham Bridge possible, which in its turn had contributed to the growth of a sense of community in Caversham.

To round off the evening, members of Reading Amateur Operatic Society provided a lively entertainment of songs, varying from Gilbert and Sullivan through Ivor Novello to Uncle Tom Cobbley and all, which such an audience needed no invitation to join in. Meanwhile, another team effort had washed up and cleared away what remained of the delightful spread prepared to refresh the party. M.C.

POSTBAG

ON SUNDAY, July 19 I went to Caversham Court to the service to celebrate the royal wedding. It was a hot and sunny day.

At the end of the service children collected balloons filled with helium gas. While we waited to let our balloons go, I wrote my name, address and telephone number on my balloon.

Later in the evening we had a telephone call from Horsham in Sussex. A farmer called Mr Bayne had found my balloon in his field.

Victoria Wall (age 10)
27b Grove Road
Emmer Green



— Graham Alsbutt

■ Dancers from Woodley adding their part of the worship at Caversham Court.

MARTIN AND PHILIPPA LOVELESS

OUR grandfathers would probably be horrified at the lack of respect we in the Anglican Church sometimes show our clergy, but it is a fact that recent years have seen a growing sense of affection towards them and it is always a sad occasion when they leave for pastures new. This is probably more so in the case of those young priests who have been ordained here and, in a sense, have grown up in our parish. Such a one is Martin Loveless who came as deacon to us with his wife Philippa and young daughter Judith in 1975, and was ordained priest at the parish church on St Peter's Day 1976. On that hot night in June, if one might slightly misquote John Betjeman, he "kneled a boy and rose a man, and thus a lonelier life began." Anyone who knows anything of the life of a priest will agree that this is, in many ways, very apt.

Love and support

Fortunately in Martin's case the loneliness was offset by the help of his wife, the support of the team clergy and, as he says himself, the tremendous love and support he received from so many of St Andrew's congregation when he moved there in 1978.

He and Philippa achieved much in drawing people into the church, particularly the young. They formed a youth group, Martin helped to start the Caversham Players and there is also now at St Andrew's a very flourishing Sunday School. Both keen musicians — they taught music before Martin



— Graham Alsbutt

■ Martin and Philippa Loveless with their children Judith, Lucy and Thomas.

joined the church — Philippa and Martin brought music very much into the life of St Andrew's and organised concerts with the help of Philippa's father, himself a cathedral organist.

Caring and loving

But there is more to it than that. Martin thinks and cares deeply. Impatient with his own shortcomings and with those he sees in the church, he is deeply disturbed by the gap between churchgoer and "those outside." He considers that perhaps the church is too preoccupied with doing rather than being. He is ever searching for ways to bridge the gaps and is constantly alive to new ideas and experiences; his association with Taizé, for example, moved him deeply. He cares very much about people and though he himself talks little about visiting, from all over the district one hears of his constant attendance, not just for the young but for older people in need of help. With their ever-open door, he and Philippa have been at pains to make themselves available, without formality, at any time, while still cherishing the odd occasions when they could be on their own as a family. For their marriage is of prime importance to them and because of this they have brought into the church many young married couples.

Affection for Caversham

And now this young family are leaving us for Carterton, near Witney, a district of some fourteen to fifteen thousand people, including many RAF personnel. They take with them all they have learned in Caversham; as Martin says, he will always have a strong bond of affection for Caversham for it was here he was ordained, here two of his children were born and here, as a member of St Andrew's said, he matured. They go with our love and we look forward to hearing news of them in the future, and, hopefully, return visits from time to time.

KATY IN CAVERSHAM

Is Reading entering for the tidiest town competition or is our street cleaner just being very conscientious? Whatever the reason, the friendly young man who appears from time to time to sweep our road has made a marvellous job recently, removing all unsightly weeds sprouting on pavements and under walls. It must be a very boring job, but I'm amazed how cheerful he seems. And that goes for the street cleaner in a road nearby who recently gave me a friendly smile and a very cheerful "Good morning." Wouldn't it be nice if we greeted each other more often — do we always have to be introduced first?

Window cleaning and decorating

The window cleaners who appeared on our doorstep just before Christmas, after some years of almost complete neglect, have, I'm glad to say, continued to come promptly every month. But they are still hoping to get more customers in this area. These two young men, made redundant some time ago, are determined to do their best to avoid sitting around waiting for jobs

to come along. They've branched out into decorating too, and are very flexible in their approach — what about that odd wall down the stairwell that you can't reach, for instance? They won't insist on doing anything you can do for yourself — so, if in need, do ring Glaze Clean — they can be found on 860344 in the evenings.

Grocery deliveries

Moaning recently about the days when groceries were delivered I was surprised to find at least one Caversham shop that still does — Watts of Gosbrook Road (471731). What's more, they carry a wide range of goods, are always cheerful and helpful and will deliver at odd times. No need for a regular delivery unless you want it, but we all know times of domestic illness, for instance, when it would be heaven to ring a grocer and ask him to send the staff around.

Greengrocers

And I've been taken to task by one of our readers for not mentioning the very friendly greengrocers on the shopping

precinct in Church Street. My apologies — they are friendly, and informative on best buys, for instance.

That darned clock

Hurray, they've actually put the library clock right — for how long I wonder. I'm sorry if I've offended the librarian and his colleagues — of course I don't blame them, and I promise I really will go in one day and get the low-down on library organisation. In the meantime, I'm grateful they take my remarks in good part.

Flower fairies

And talking of books, have you heard of the 'flower fairy books'. Talking to people recently I've come to the conclusion the world is divided into two halves — those who say "Never heard of them" and those who say in horror "Never heard of the flower fairy books! Good gracious, I was brought up on them." In any event, our local bookshop are now stocking a delightful series and at a comparatively small cost of 95p would make a charming, and educational, present for a young child.

Susan Smith and Leslie Clarke

Married at Kidmore End Church on July 25, young Sue will be familiar to many Caversham shoppers. For more than five years she has worked at the Prospect Street Co-op, mostly on the check-out where she has continued to be friendly and helpful despite all the upheavals of recent shop alterations. Until her marriage she lived at Tokers Green, though her family were originally from Caversham, and she attended school at Chiltern Edge.

Now she and her new husband, who works for the Blue Circle Cement Company, will be moving into Oxford Street, where she intends to become a regular reader of the "Bridge." We would like to welcome her and to wish them both a very long and happy married life.

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World Disarmament Or—?

"DO THE frightening facts about the arms race, which show that we are rushing headlong towards a precipice, make any of those responsible for this disastrous course pull themselves together and reach for the brakes? The answer is 'no'.... There are powerful voices around the world who still give credence to the old Roman precept — if you desire peace, prepare for war. *This is absolute nuclear nonsense.*"

(Earl Mountbatten of Burma, May 11, 1979)

No one can be in any doubt today that a nuclear war between the Great Powers would be the end of any kind of civilisation and lead to unbelievable destruction and horror. Every arms race in the past has, eventually, led to war.

It does not necessarily follow that we should unilaterally destroy all our nuclear weapons at once, though many may see it that way; but it surely does follow that we have actively to seek ways to abolish war as an institution — as our governments undertook to do, first in the covenant of the League of Nations, and then in the Charter of the United Nations. It means that for all us ordinary people — and particularly for all Christians — the least we can and must do is to urge our governments to give a much higher priority to issues of disarmament and of peaceful settlement.

Signatures

In June 1982 the governments of the world meet for the second time in a Special Session on Disarmament at the UN General Assembly. At that meeting we must make certain that a full programme for disarmament is considered and approved, and that positive and decisive action is taken afterwards to implement it. The blueprint for that programme is the Final Document of the first Special Session, held in 1978.

The World Disarmament Campaign is carrying out a massive exercise to ensure that every house in the country is visited to obtain signatures for a petition to be presented to the government. It will show the concern of ordinary people that the 1982 meeting shall be successful. The terms of the

by Donald Hughes

petition are printed below. They make it possible for *all whatever* their particular political stance on matters like Cruise missiles and European detente, to sign. It is multilateral disarmament, by general agreement, which is being sought; though that does not preclude unilateral initiatives by any one government.

National church bodies have enthusiastically endorsed the Campaign and the petition; and in Reading, the Council of Churches has urged individual congregations to give it their active support. The local petition campaign is being organised by the United Nations Association with the help of many others. The task of covering nearly 2,000 streets seems formidable, but if every churchgoer took one street, or a hundred homes, the job would be comfortably done. And nothing else

will do, because twenty million signatures would really convince our rulers that we want this as a priority.

There is no doubt at all, that on the issue of world poverty, the public response to the Brandt Report and the pressure put on government to respond constructively has had a considerable effect; in the May mass lobby of Parliament the churches played a big part. The same could be done with disarmament. In any case, the objectives of the Brandt Report cannot be achieved while the present astronomical expenditure on arms continues.

All canvassers will be given a "Questions and Answers" sheet which will answer most of the queries people are likely to ask. Experience so far shows that most people are very willing to sign, and there is a leaflet which can be dropped into letter boxes a day or two beforehand to prepare householders for your visit. All willing to help obtaining signatures are invited to a meeting at Church House on either Tuesday, September 8 or Thursday, September 24, both at 8pm.

The petition

To all governments and to the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Disarmament, 1982.

We, the peoples of the world, demand:

- 1 The abolition of nuclear weapons and all weapons of mass destruction.
- 2 The abolition, by agreed stages, of conventional arms, leading to —
- 3 General and complete disarmament.
- 4 Transference of military expenditure to end world poverty.

Local organiser — Dr Donald Hughes, 12 Woodford Close, Caversham, RG4 7HN. (Tel 473122).

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QUAKERS AND ANGLICANS TALK ABOUT PEACE

by John Madeley

ON MONDAY, June 8, immediately after a service of quiet worship in St Peter's, three Quakers and three Anglicans met together in the back of the church to talk about peace. They wanted to explore if they might be able to reach a common view about peace and disarmament and identify, if they could, the Christian view about these critically important issues.

The Anglicans at the meeting were aware that whereas Quakers talk about peace a lot, the Anglican church considers it rather less — although this does seem to be changing. But whereas Quakers generally desire peace, without armaments, many, if not most, Anglicans have so far taken the view that armaments, whilst they are admittedly ghastly, are

a necessary evil because of the threat they believe is posed by one of the super powers. Some Anglicans are however, nearer to the Quaker view, others are genuinely open minded and remain to be convinced either way.

At the June 8 meeting, the Anglicans probably represented all these three streams of Anglican thought. It would be fair to say that the meeting was not an outstanding success. We found it difficult to resolve the differences between us. The Holy Spirit seemed to be noticeable more by absence than presence.

It was in hope rather than in expectation of success that we agreed to meet again. We held our second meeting at the end of June. This was to result in a truly remarkable movement of the Holy Spirit and a coming together of views which seemed almost impossible after the earlier gathering.

At the end of the second meeting we were, praise God, united in the view that there is a Christian stance on peace and that if we are faithful we should proclaim it. Basically the view we reached was this: Jesus never told us to defend ourselves. When we take up armaments today, we defend ourselves, even if it is our government who does it in our name. But it is sin that makes us want to have

defence. If we were true to the teaching of Jesus, we should be happy to throw all our armaments away. It is sin that enables us to justify deterrence. If we were true to the gospels, we should be prepared to disarm, regardless of what anyone else was doing. Peace should be pursued by peaceful means.



What the meetings showed us is that it is worth talking about peace, even if we feel that others have a very different view to our own. If we explore peace together with an open heart, we have no idea of how a loving God will lead us and

help us to reconcile our differing views.

We ended our second meeting with the "Prayer for Peace." This was officially launched on August 6, the anniversary of Hiroshima. It is supported not only by Christians but also by Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jews. It is intended that people stop at midday each day to say the prayer and so form a continuous chain across the world. The prayer is:

Lead Me from death to life; from falsehood to truth.

Lead Me from despair to Hope; from fear to trust.

Lead Me from hate to love; from war to peace.

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By WATCHDOG

CYCLE POWER

GOOD NEWS for cyclists. These are no longer just the faithful few who always have cycled, even when it was considered slightly cranky to do so, but the growing numbers who are determinedly asserting their right to their share of the roads. Now instead of looking round for a bit of fence or a post to which to tether their noble steeds, they will find two sets of proper cycle stands which will shortly be appearing in Caversham, one at the entrance to Chester Street car park, and one in Church Street. And for those who do not confine their cycling to Caversham, additional stands are to be installed in the town centre, one beneath the watchful eye of Queen Victoria.

Moreover, the cycle lobby has grown so strong now that the Department of Transport which used to regard cyclists as a rather tiresome minority who would do the community a good turn if they quietly disappeared, has now issued a consultation paper on their legal rights and how life can be made easier and safer for them. The Borough Council too has seen the light sufficiently to welcome the Paper and add what they hope are their own helpful comments. Incidentally, how many Councillors already cycle?

PAY AND DISPLAY

Chester Street car park is also the subject of further proposed change. It has for long been used as a commuter car park, understandably enough as it is situated just about where the morning traffic starts to get really thick and a healthy walking distance from the town centre or railway station, and of course, it's free. The snag is that this makes it very difficult, if not downright impossible for short term parkers

to find any space left at all later in the day.

The Borough Council is therefore considering introducing a 'pay and display' system at Chester Street car park, though as they are too poor to buy the apparatus just now they have got to wait till the County Council has a cast-off to dispose of. This will have to allow free short term parking, as someone doing a quick bit of shopping will not want to add a parking fee to the cost and will try a bit of illegal street parking instead, which will not do anything to improve the situation.

GRANARY (contd)

Caversham Residents' Association has now received replies to its letters to the Borough Council and the Department of the Environment about the Granary. The Chief Executive of the Council's reply was a very full one, but still does not satisfactorily explain how this building should have been singled out for such exceptional treatment at such a time. Michael Heseltine in his letter speaks of the difficulty of drafting legislation "which will enable demolition to take place in cases where there is a genuine need to take action quickly in the interests of safety and yet prevent demolition when immediate action is not warranted or is deliberately used to circumvent the statutory procedures." The Parliamentary Under-Secretary in his reply to A. Durant, who throughout has taken an active interest in the case, says that although urgent action may sometimes become necessary "to stabilise or remove parts of a building which have become dangerous" it is hoped it will be used sparingly, as at a public inquiry "the structural condition of a listed building and its state of repair are often major factors in considering

whether preservation is feasible."

In the case of the Granary, the whole building was whipped away in record time, with what a few people can be persuaded to believe was "a genuine need to take action quickly." The Residents' Association is now considering placing the whole matter in the hands of the Local Government 'Ombudsman'. It will not bring the Granary back, but it might serve to prevent such precipitous action from being taken when alternative methods were available, and pending a public inquiry. As the Evening Post said, "The dust has not settled yet."

HUGE LORRIES

How much difference have the advisory notices made in keeping lorries off the A4074? Not much, those will say who saw the chaos that arose when a 68 foot lorry recently managed to get itself stuck across the Bridge Street junction. It is more than a little disappointing to see that even a local firm like Huntley and Palmers still continue to use this route. Some of the lorries seen struggling up St Peter's Hill are so huge that one queries whether they should be on any road at all. Bigger lorries are said to be cheaper, but their victims might well ask "Cheaper for whom?"

WOMEN'S LIB

As one who firmly rejects the notion that the human race consists of people and women, I stand reproved for referring to our neighbourhood constable as WPC, and assure Mr Fear that I will refrain from such sexist labels in the future.



■ Taking part in the slow bicycle race at the East Caversham Guides sports day at Emmer Green. — Anne Sear

TO HIRE A HALL

BALMORE HALL
Secretary: Mr L. Coward,
79 Chazey Road
Telephone: 472670

CAVERSHAM HALL
Secretary: Mrs C. H. Jordan,
7 St John's Road
Telephone: 478538

CHURCH HOUSE, CHURCH STREET
Secretary: Mrs W. A. Vincent,
The Parish Office, Reading
Telephone: 471703
(Mon-Thur 9.30am-3.30pm)

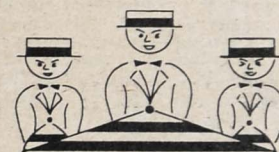
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ST ANDREW'S HALL
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3 Wordsworth Court, Emmer Green
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Thank you MIKE (Fishman)

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OCTOBER "BRIDGE"

Material for the October edition of the "Caversham Bridge" should be sent to the Editor at Church House, Caversham by Wednesday, September 2.



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Early accounts for St Peter's Church

THE EARLIEST existing accounts for St Peter's, all laboriously hand-written, began in 1672 when Thomas Cartwright and William Frewin were the church wardens.

In 1675 Edward Berry recorded paying one shilling "for washing the surplis." Three years later twelve shillings was spent on a new binding for the church bible. A little further on, in 1679, comes a rather strange entry: "Paid to Nicholas Deane for setting up the upping stocks, seven shillings." What on earth were upping stocks? A look in a reference book on the Records' Office shelf soon disclosed the answer. They were mounting stones used by horseriders. Local gentlemen would, in many cases, have ridden to Sunday service on horseback, so there were bound to be such mounting stones close to the church gate.

Around this time there seem to have been constant repairs done to the old steeple, so badly damaged in fighting at Caversham during the Civil War. It had evidently still not been replaced by the wooden tower of later years.

The next entry of any interest occurs in 1684. It says simply: "Gave a seamen who had a wife and children sixpence." Help was also given to a poor man in the parish who was "undone by fire." He received one shilling. The next year the church wardens had to dip into church funds several times for quite large amounts. First they gave twelve seamen two shillings and sixpence. Another twelve received two shillings, while nine more were handed one shilling and four pence. It was obvious that the Church Wardens were becoming increasingly annoyed after the first hand out, for they gave less and less each time they received fresh demands on their generosity. Perhaps they felt that the first recipients of their charity had told others that Caversham was worth a visit! At any rate their brotherly love was wearing rather thin when they made their third payment. It is interesting to speculate just why so many seamen were to be found in this Thameside village so far from the coast. The answer may lie in



■ The interior of St Peter's before 1924, before the chapel on the south east extended the south aisle. The east wall on that side is clearly visible and appears to just a little behind the pulpit.

the river itself, for in a book I have recently read it mentioned that on some occasions teams of men hauled the barges down from London instead of horses. It

may be that sailors, having been paid off from their boat found other work, or perhaps they had jumped ship and pulling a barge into the heart of the country was one way to disappear and earn a few pence at the same time. Anyway after diminishing hand-outs of parish charity in Caversham the sailors soon appear to have vanished from the scene.

In 1685 five shillings and eightpence was paid to "the old Church Warden for what he was out of purse." In fact it was quite a considerable amount in those days.

Visit from the Qwene

"The Qwene came through the street" at Caversham in 1687, and the bellringers were busy in action on the great day. She was probably passing through the village for this is the first and only mention of the Queen coming to Caversham in that year.

James Flexney, the priest in 1688, decided to replace Matthew Kerswell as church warden that year with Thomas Stamp. We shall never know why. According to the accounts it was a very ordinary year. Money was spent on "beare" for the ringers, "rayles" for the church yard, "bottels of wine" and washing the "suplises, not to mention the 'wrighting' of the accounts.

Spelling was never a strong point with the keepers of such

accounts and when reading them through one cannot sometimes help smiling at these good people's efforts and one also has to make some intelligent guesses as to what they are meaning.

Sometimes the parish seems to have made a real effort to stamp out vermin and then the accounts show that quite large amounts of money were paid to those who had helped in the exercise. One man received seven shillings for killing seven foxes and a woman obtained a shilling for a "boger," though nowadays a badger would certainly not be thought harmful.

Royal celebrations

As at Mapledurham, and all over the country for that matter, the ringers received money for a peal of bells each time the King had his birthday. They also had plenty of beer on the 'King's crown-fashion Day.' The Church plate was obviously kept clean and ten pence was spent yearly on scouring the flagons, bowls and plate.

The sundial seems to have come adrift in 1691 as John Edmonds was paid sixpence to secure it. In a print of the early eighteen hundreds it is still clearly visible on the South Wall of the church.

Five seamen turned up again in Caversham in 1692. They were given a shilling

between them. The ringers received five shillings for beer money when they rang the bells for the King's coming to London.

The following years comes the first mention of the church tower.

For some reason Henry Grayes had to go to Oxford in 1696, no doubt on parish business, and a long ride by horseback. His reimbursement was two pounds, eight shillings and ninepence, so no doubt he had to stay there for several days.

There seems to have been quite a party in 1701, for fifteen shillings was spent on the parish meeting on Easter Monday. The entry for this is in rather wobbly handwriting. Perhaps the church ale had been drunk a little in excess.

A visit to Henley cost two shillings in 1702 and that year there were several minor renovations to the church.

Again a rather strange entry in 1703 "for smoke farthings two shillings and sevenpence." Recourse to the dictionary soon solved the meaning of smoke farthings. It appears to have been a form of Hearth Tax.

Although the accounts continue in the book until 1706 there is little more of interest, save a short Christmas entry for 1705, "Holly to dress the church, sixpence."

M.K.

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BARCLAYCARD AND ACCESS WELCOME

"Suffer little children..."

THE OTHER day a small boy rang David Clifford to thank him for a hamster given to replace a lost pet. Nothing exciting about that you might think — but it does give some idea of the scope of David's work as an NSPCC Inspector.

Mention the organisation and most of us immediately think of battered babies and half-starved children, but David and his colleagues realise that it isn't only actual physical cruelty which makes a child unhappy. And in a home where there are probably already problems, a child's pet animal might be the one thing he can cling to.

Prevention better than cure

To talk to David is a real eye-opener about the work of the NSPCC. Of course cruelty and neglect figure largely in his job but he prefers to place the emphasis on prevention, and it pleases him that he is often able to help long before things reach this stage. Teachers, social workers, health visitors and often parents themselves frequently call on his services when domestic stresses show signs of getting out of hand. A father of three children himself, David is very aware of the tensions that can arise, particularly with housing shortages, rising unemployment and the increase in single parent families. Though NSPCC Inspectors do, in theory, have considerable authority and have an official function and professional responsibility which always has to be kept in mind, they don't see themselves as heavy-handed officials, preferring to approach families or children in distress as friends.

Confidence and tact

Their brief is to help children, in any legal way they can, up to the age of adolescence — and the problems that arise are legion. It is a round-the-clock job, often with calls for help in the middle of the night. All reports are investigated so it is important that inspectors should be able to communicate easily and deal in their approaches with a great deal of tact. What somebody might see as a neglected child might turn out to be no more than one living in a very untidy household; but it might also indicate health risks. In any event, they would sooner hear about any suspected case of cruelty or neglect and are particularly worried where young children are left alone for any length of time. Each case is treated in strictest confidence, so there is no need for anyone to hesitate. Most of all, David appreciates calls from parents themselves; as he says, there is no shame in a parent admitting that he or she finds young children at times very irritating, especially when the family is beset by social problems.

Help and support

Often all that is needed is for a parent to be able to talk to somebody who understands; sometimes continuous support, advice, or reference to other agencies is wanted. David thinks deliberate vicious cruelty, though it does occur, is probably a small part of the cases with which they deal; any parent will know the temptation to lash out at a child when life gets too much. And cases of neglect are often due to sheer inability of parents to cope. Then too there are short-term problems, such as illness, which require special help.



David has always been interested in children and has been — and still is — a keen scout, but it was a big decision for him to give up his work as a printer in Bristol and apply for work as an NSPCC Inspector. Even after preliminary interviews for both himself and his wife, Valerie, there was a year's tough training at the School of Social Work in London. It was about three years ago that he arrived in Caversham, where he took over an area covering the whole of Berkshire from this side of Maidenhead to Hungerford, and the southern part of Oxfordshire. It is a demanding job, but he enjoys it — indeed, he says he couldn't do it if he didn't.

There isn't much time for hobbies, but when he does have the time he enjoys sailing and is interested in

all aspects of railways and railway history.

But the job comes first, so perhaps it is not surprising that when asked if he had any special requests, he had no hesitation. He would like to remind people that the NSPCC is a charity, drawing very little in grants from local or central government, so they

need all the support they can get, either by way of donations to the Director, Dr Alan Gilmour, 1 Riding House Street, London, W1P 8AA or through the various fund-raising activities which take place. David himself is glad to receive toys and gifts especially at Christmas — he can always find a home for them. Food,

too, is welcome — though money is never handed over directly, there is the odd occasion when inspectors are called to a home where the larder is painfully empty.

His address is 12 Fraser Avenue, Caversham Park Village (phone 479547) — he certainly deserves our support.

PRESENTATION TO FREDDIE MOORE



— Graham Aisbitt

■ Mr Freddie Moore (left) who retired as Parish Warden earlier this year with Mr Ken Bennett his successor. To mark his retirement Mr Moore was presented with a copy of "British Cathedrals" by Paul Johnson, and a cheque for the Abbey Field Housing Trust of which he is a keen supporter.

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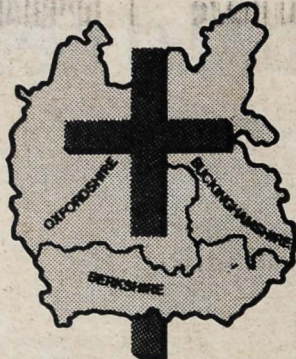
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DIOCESE OF OXFORD

Partners in Mission

Kortright Davis from Barbados. Dr Davis will be spending the afternoon of Friday 18th in Caversham. The remainder of their programme is arranged as follows.

■ September 7-11. The PARTNERS gather at St Stephen's House, Oxford, and prepare for the Consultation.

■ September 12-20. Groups of PARTNERS will be working in the three Archdeaconries, and with the Boards and Councils of the Diocese.

■ September 20-22. All the PARTNERS will be at Ascot Priory for rest and reflection.

■ September 22-October 5. The PARTNERS' work in Archdeaconries, and with Boards and Councils, continues.

■ October 5-10. The PARTNERS will be preparing their

report at Ascot Priory.

■ October 10. The final day of the Consultation. In the morning the PARTNERS will be present at a meeting of the Diocesan Synod at Dorchester Abbey. The PARTNERS will offer their report to the Diocese, followed by a sharing of insight and vision for the future.

After a picnic lunch in the Abbey grounds, there will be a service in the Abbey — A CELEBRATION OF PARTNERSHIP — in thanksgiving for the Churches represented by our PARTNERS, in mutual commitment to one another in Christ and in re-dedication to his service.

Tickets for the final day, necessarily limited by invitation, will be issued in such a way as to provide fair representation across the Diocese.



Mrs Janet Wesonga, wife of the Bishop of Mbale. Former Mayor of Mbale, she has been Provincial Secretary of the Mothers' Union in Uganda, and responsible for training M.U. workers.

The Rev. Dr Kortright Davis, 40, married, three children. Former Vice-Principal of Codrington Theological College. Now Rector of St Bartholomews, Barbados. Partner in the Canterbury and Rochester PIM Consultation 1979.



THE PARTNERS ARE ON THEIR WAY... to help us see *our* way — to help us discover what is God's will for his church in the 1980s and 90s. During September and the early part of October fifteen members of different churches from different parts of the world will be coming to the Oxford Diocese. They will be divided into four groups: one of the groups will spend time in each of the three Archdeaconries — covering Oxfordshire, Berkshire, and Buckinghamshire; the fourth group will spend their time with the central diocesan staff.

The three who will be in the Berkshire Archdeaconry and who will be spending time in Reading from September 18-20 are Dr Rainer Godel from West Germany, Mrs Janet Wesonga from Mbale in Uganda, and Revd. Dr

Nicholas Est. 1882

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WHERE WERE THEY?

THE ANSWERS to the quiz in our 200th edition.

- 1 Caversham's old police station in Church Road (opposite The Griffin).
- 2 St Peter's Hill School.
- 3 Emmer Green Church School in Grove Road (at the junction with School Lane). The School was destroyed by fire in 1977 (though it had not been used as a school since the 1930's).
- 4 The Yard in Prospect Street (now where the Co-op extension has been built). It was originally a Huguenot weaver's shed.
- 5 Caversham House — Mr Knighton's Academy for Young Men — now St Martin's Precinct.
- 6 Park Farm — now beneath Budgen's Supermarket in Emmer Green.
- 7 The Granary in Darrell Road.
- 8 The one which caused all the trouble — The "Spyglass and Kettle" — a 'public house' erected in 1976 at Mapledurham for the filming of 'The Eagle has Landed' and subsequently demolished. The sender of the best entry was Miss P. Fisher from Emmer Green. She wins a £5 voucher to be spent at Caversham Bookshop.



■ Buying and selling at St John's Food Fair — (left to right) Miss Audrey Vince, Miss Kate Harris and Mrs Florence Abell. The Fair raised £311 towards rewiring the church.

— Peter Sear

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St Peter's Wives' Group

Autumn fair

St Peter's Wives' Group will be holding their annual Autumn Fair on Saturday, September 26 from 10.30am until 12.30 at Church House, Caversham. Stalls will include cakes, groceries, plants and garden produce, white elephant and good-as-new. Coffee and refreshments will also be on sale. Please come along and have a look round or pop in for a coffee if you are out shopping in Caversham.

Summer outing

On a beautiful summer evening early in July members of the Group along with husbands and friends boarded a coach in Caversham bound for a tour of the Old Coaching Inns of London. Their tour guide, Mr Bryant Peers, joined the coach in South Kensington. Having Mr Peers aboard was something of a bonus since he is an acknowledged authority on the history of London and instigator of these popular private tours. For three hours the party toured London travelling along old roads steeped in history

and calling to mind travellers and merchants of a bygone era, not forgetting the notorious highwaymen! Parts of the capital were seen with new eyes, Notting Hill Gate, Little Venice, Hampstead 'Village' with its magnificent views of London, Highgate, Holloway, Southwark and so back to the West End. During the tour stops were made at two eighteenth-century Coaching Inns, two of only a handful that still stand to this day.

The coach eventually arrived back at Caversham with everyone having gained more than a little knowledge of the fascinating history and legends of their capital.

Families day

It was a lovely day at Stowe School on July 18. "Families Day" was organised by the Mothers' Union in the Diocese.

The weather was lovely — breeze and sunshine. The setting was magnificent, the great house built in the seventeenth century for the Duke of Buckingham and the enormous and fine grounds. In the house there were pic-

ANGLICAN NEWS

tures, and carving and statues, and flower arrangements to see; it could be explored alone or by joining a conducted tour. Outside the possibilities were endless, a walk to the lake, or over the lawns to admire the roses, visiting the parish church, watching displays, looking at exhibitions; children could ride in the donkey cart, or on a pony, or take part in competitions; anyone could buy from the stalls. Everything was sensibly priced so that families could enjoy it. Or there was the sun just to sit and relax in. There were two organ recitals in the school chapel, which was full for each performance.

The people were lovely. No one saw a child cry or heard a parent sound exasperated. Everyone smiled and chatted to everyone else, and a lot of acquaintances were renewed. The police on duty played with toddlers, joked with M.U. members, chatted to the Bishop and did splendid public relations work.

Needless to say everything was excellently organised, the M.U. Committee had been working since January 1980, and the result was a very happy day for a great many people.

St Margaret's Patronal Festival

What a pleasure it was once again to welcome so many good friends from the parish of Caversham on July 20 for the patronal festival. St Margaret's bells rang out on the summer evening's air for this special occasion. It is sad to think the bells so rarely peal out across the surrounding countryside these days.

After the service a presentation was made to Mr Harry Crocker by the Reverend David Milling on behalf of St Margaret's congregation who wished to demonstrate their appreciation of Mr Crocker's noble work in caring for the churchyard for so many years. This done, all present enjoyed the excellent refreshments laid out on tables beside the church path.

Those who wished were able to see at close hand the beautiful Savile Flagon which was used at the service for the first time in four years. This magnificent piece of silver, dated 1598, is one of a pair and was the gift of Lady Margaret Savile, wife of the Provost of Eton. Such treasures are unfortunately only able to be used on special occasions when they are brought out of safe keeping.

So a very happy evening yet again. The ancient bells ringing, the superb silver flagon

gracing the Lord's Table and no rain to spoil the gathering outside at the end. Many thanks to all who helped one more St Margaret's Day to be such a successful one.

St John's Notes

ST JOHN'S held their Food Fair on July 11. There was a variety of food to sell, and by 10am a queue of people to buy it.

They could choose from plants and garden produce, competitively priced groceries, and, sweets, freshly baked bread and scones, home made jams and marmalades, and sweet or savoury pies and tarts. There was cheese, honey, fresh farm eggs, home made salads, and, the first choice for many people, home made cakes. Remembering last year, most cooks baked twice as many cakes, and just as before, they were all sold. Indeed, by 11.30 most stalls were nearly empty, and the helpers were able to make a quick tour and buy something for themselves. Any late comers could buy "50p worth of electric wiring." Mr Hargreaves, who was visiting his daughter and her family, proved he was a good guesser — he won both the weight of the cake, and number of sweets in the jar, guessing competitions.

The fair raised £311 towards the cost of rewiring the church. St John's congregation would like to thank the committee who planned and organised the fair so efficiently, the local firms who generously gave goods, and the friends and neighbours who loaned freezer space, and gave contributions and encouragement.

In the afternoon a small number of people put the church straight again. They swept the floor, and replaced chairs, hassocks and books. Then the ladies arranged fresh flowers, while the men burned the rubbish.

St Peter's and St Barnabas Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union met in the Rectory Garden in July for the annual get-together of St Andrew's and St John's and all Free Church friends. In this very unpredictable summer they had a fine and very warm afternoon. As usual the Rector answered questions and Mrs Grimwade gave a description of the Royal Garden Party which they had attended the previous week. This was followed by tea and afterwards most of the guests walked round and enjoyed the garden until it was time to leave.



■ Susan Elvish of Peppard Road, Emmer Green and Paul Stanlake from Earley who were married at St Peter's Church earlier this year.

— John Hecford

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KEEP THOSE HOLIDAY TIMETABLES!

By Peter Shock

FINGERING through the leaves of my pre-war schoolboys' diaries I recall that my sabbath-day routine was observed as follows: 10.00am Church and Sunday School, then walk with Tim and Freddy before dinner. 2.30pm Children's Service, followed by enforced tramp round Caversham's environment with the family and Spot, the pet pooch of dubious pedigree. In mid-summer, the weather being fine, there was sometimes a special treat with a trip on Kemp's bus for a picnic in Woodcote Woods, and on one occasion a memorable excursion by Thames Valley omnibus to the cherry orchards around Fingest. Alas, it is now some 25 years since Harry Kemp's motor buses last plied between Reading and Woodcote, and the Thames Valley Traction Company

(now under new identity) no longer run to Fingest on Sundays or any other day of the week. I wonder if any older readers have ancient bus timetables tucked away in bottom drawers? Visiting a recent vintage bus exhibition at Southsea I was astonished to find that these old relics were valued at anything up to £10 (or 1,500 times their original price). Publications of extinct firms, such as Kemp's of Woodcote, Venture of Basingstoke, Newbury and District, or Blue Star Buses of Mortimer, to name a few local concerns, could well be of even greater value. The larger operators often produced their own "where shall we go" booklets, similar to the Thames Valley Co's "Tours, rambles, picnics and sports in the Valley of the Thames." These now rare publica-

tions offered suggestions for exploration and leisure in conjunction with 'Anywhere' day tickets costing 4 shillings (20 pence). Footpath Ramble No 1 is of special local interest describing a delightful stroll leaving service No 7 at the main gates of Caversham Park, then known as the Oratory School. After passing through the "kissing-gate" the footpath opens out to a field, a stile, then between deep hedgerows and within a quarter of a mile a lane is reached. Turn right, and the lane leads abruptly downhill to the Crown Inn at Play-hatch. Well, the last part of this ramble you will find almost intact to this day, but the 'rendezvous d'amour' at the start of the walk has been long removed. The BBC which superseded the Oratory, has spared the field, but the stile and deep hedgerows have vanished beneath the development of Caversham Park Village.

So those of you who are fortunate enough to get away this summer and expect to travel around the local buses in their holiday areas, do treat yourself to a bus timetable. Always keep it clean and flat, and on arrival home, store it away safely, and who knows — 20 pence spent now could accumulate to a staggering £300 or more 25 years hence! A worth-while investment in your retirement.

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BAPTIST NEWS

HENLEY BOUND

AND not for the Regatta — although there was a fervour when we got there not unlike that experienced at the climax of the Diamond Sculls. The occasion was a reciprocal visit to the Baptist Church at Henley, the members of which had, the previous week, invaded Caversham. The purpose of these visits was to share fellowship with kindred souls and to inspect each other's premises, both of which have undergone facelifts in recent months. The visits were interesting, illuminating, intriguing — especially that to Henley — where the folk were truly at home. There was a great evangelical aura surrounding the proceedings — not a bad thing in itself but not quite on the same wavelength as that on which the Cavershamites operate.

A GARDENER'S LUNCH

Someone suggested that this was a Ploughman's Lunch without the beer. In the event it proved to be without the bread and cheese as well — and it was not all fresh air and water although there was plenty of the former. It consisted of a delightful and ample meal for the most ardent gardener prepared and served by the ladies of the Friday Afternoon 'Meeting Point'



— Graham Alsbutt

■ Part of the colourful flower festival at the Baptist Church at the end of June.

in the lovely garden at the home of Mr Ken and Mrs Joan Shield. The object of the exercise was not just to satisfy the needs of lean and hungry gardeners, and anyone else who cared to tuck-in, but to raise a bob or two for the Building Fund and this it did to the tune of £75.

WHAT OF THE HOUR?

A smoke grinder would have been a more appropriate appliance than a computer to sort out the recent Shield Opinion Poll to determine the optimum time for morning and evening service. The Poll was prompted by the affliction

suffered by most Churches of diminished Sunday evening congregations. One could be forgiven for thinking that colour television was the counter attraction but when given the opportunity to opt for a late afternoon service during the winter months, what happened? Yes — you've guessed — we stuck to six-thirty, perhaps we were afraid to confess that television was the magnet. The only thing to emerge clearly from the exercise was a desire to drink coffee either before or after service, in fact there appears to be a distinct risk of drug addiction in that we shall all suffer from an overdose of caffeine.

The staging was simple but effective, (though certain scenes when the characters on the lower level of the stage sat down at the table, lost their impact because the actors were obscured by the audience's heads). Some young musicians provided live music of an appropriate flavour, including the song 'Passtyme with good company' — one of the few things, apparently, that Henry VIII did write. Marion

Thwaite as wardrobe mistress is to be congratulated on the excellent costumes. Thus all in all another redoubtable success for Mrs Byers and one that certainly suggests that given the right material the Players will rise to the challenge. Audience attendances were slightly disappointing, (perhaps it was the cold weather) but those who attended were rewarded by amateur theatre at its best.

MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

FOR THEIR summer production, the Caversham Players chose 'A Man For All Seasons' by Robert Bolt, which, considering the erratic summer we have had, they courageously produced in the open air at the home of their director, Mrs Dorothy Byers. Apart from a shower on the Friday night of the run, (July 15, 17, and 18) their luck held — and those hardy enough to brave the weather were rewarded by one of the most engrossing productions the players have given us.

Excellent choice

Much of their success must be attributed to the choice of play. 'A Man For All Seasons' is an absorbing play in that it works on several levels, the historical, the ethical and moral, the comical and yet manages to integrate these into a satisfying whole.

Perhaps that inspired the players to give of their best and certainly the level of acting was on a higher level than in some of their recent productions. The acting very rarely fell below that of competence and often was considerably more. This was equally true of the main characters as those who had only one scene in which to make their impact (illustrating, incidentally, the truth of a remark by a certain prima-donna, and who should know better?, that there are no small parts, only small actors). Among these were Peter Elliott's bluff King Henry, Allan Bliss' Cardinal Wolsey, Anne Bliss' 'Woman' and Martyn Allies Signor Chapuys (the first and last being notable debuts with the company).

Longer roles

Amongst the longer roles Ken Etherington as Sir Thomas More stands out vividly. This was an arresting portrayal in which he powerfully (and at the end movingly) fleshed out Bolt's conception of More. No less memorable was Chris Bowring as the Common Man, the necessary complement and antithesis of Sir Thomas More. This was a relaxed and entertaining performance, completely free from the occasional woodenness he has sometimes shown in the past. These and Joyce Boulding's vivid, down-to-earth portrayal of Thomas More's wife will remain in the memory for a long time. Only slightly less memorable were the performances of Richard Stainthorpe, (a debut), as Master Richard Rich and George Byers as Thomas Cromwell — unrelieved villainy is always hard to depict and perhaps the last ounce of oily Machiavellianism eluded them both. Robert Green as the Duke of Norfolk brought a no-nonsense approach to the part which accorded well with the character depicted by Bolt.

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BLAGRAVE WI

AT THE July meeting the President, Mrs J. Price welcomed Mrs Maun from the Home and Economics Department of the Berkshire College of Agriculture.

Mrs Maun gave a most interesting demonstration of chicken dishes. Miss D. Chapman gave the vote of thanks on behalf of the members. Mrs Margaret Haigh reported on the AGM of NFWI held at the Albert Hall in June. This was her last meeting before moving to South Devon. The raffle, given by Mrs Wright, was won by Mrs J. Price. A 'Cornish Fairling' competition was well supported and won by Mrs Popplewell, with Miss Wellstead second, and Mrs Hunter third.

CAVERSHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

MRS BETTY Atherton the Vice President chaired the July meeting.

After welcoming members and a visitor, she introduced Mrs Ann Tysoe from the Berkshire College of Agriculture, Burchetts Green who gave a mouth-watering cookery demonstration on 'Summer Entertaining'. The competition for home made short-bread was won by Mrs Lily Hensley and second Mrs Phyllis Colley. At the September 17 meeting Mr J. Terroni will talk about the Trinity House Lighthouse Service. The competition will be a vegetable monster.

CAVERSHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

ON JULY 6 Toni Johnson visited the club and brought a selection of cosmetics and jewellery to display to the members. Details of the bazaar to be held in August were discussed and stalls allocated.

An open air meeting was held the following week when members of the club gathered in Christchurch Meadow for a Games evening. Some of the members played a game of rounders whilst others were taking part in a modified game of bowls. Mr E. Howard and Mrs V. Scheel collected fish and chips for a supper after the games.

There was a wide variety of goods for sale at the Bring and Buy evening held on July 20 in aid of the club's funds.

The meetings in July ended with a party to celebrate the marriage of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer. Everyone brought food for the refreshment table and this resulted in an attractive array of good things to eat. The clubroom was decorated in red, white and blue and games were played with a wedding theme. The winners of the competition for the decorated hats were Evelyn Cook for the best hand-made hat, Joan Henwood for the best decorated bought hat. Barbara Benham won the prize for composing the most apt wedding telegram with Vicki Scheel the runner up. A toast was proposed by the Chairman to Prince Charles and Lady Diana.

CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

THE JULY meeting was the last to be held at Church House, from September onwards they will meet at Balmore Hall on the third Thursday afternoon each month.

The late Mrs Phyl Tiffen's many years of loyal service to the Guild were commemorated when Mr Ted Tiffen presented a Chairman's badge in the form of a pendant and chain.

"Elephants have right of way" at the entrance to a National Park was one of Mr R. Gillmor's

ROUND THE CLUBS

illustrations to his talk on the wildlife of Uganda and Kenya. His sense of humour was also apparent in his slides of lions sleeping off a heavy meal, elephants on parade with a small white bird as drill-sergeant and hippos yawning away as they kept cool by day in their wallows, with birds perched on their backs as if they were islands. But Mr Gillmor is an artist with a camera and has captured vividly on film the exotic birds of the region — kingfishers, pelicans, egrets, herons on the beautiful lakes — strange-looking maribou storks fighting for their tree-perches — predators like vultures and fish eagles — a colony of weaver-birds — all these and many animals from cheetah, har-tebeest and zebra down to the little hyrax kept his audience enthralled.

EMMER GREEN TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

THE EMMER Green Townswomen's Guild held their July meeting at Emmer Green Primary School, and had the pleasure of listening to a most interesting talk given by Dr W. Hassall entitled 'History through Surnames'. Members were surprised to learn that surnames were not introduced into this country until after the Norman Conquest; they evolved from place names and occupations mostly and many were anglicized forms of French place names. Dr Hassall was able to tell many members the origins and meanings of their surnames and suggested three excellent books for further reference.

The Chairman thanked Miss B. Brann on behalf of the members, for organising a most enjoyable outing to the Lullingworth Silk Farm and the World Wide Butterfly Farm near Sherborne in Dorset. Mrs A. Wiseman attended the meeting of the Reading Council for Racial Equality, and gave an informative account of the proceedings. Members were delighted to hear that Mrs M. White and her son Jeremy have been invited to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party, in recognition of the excellent work Mrs White has done on behalf of the mentally handicapped.

ROSEHILL WI

MRS ELLINGHAM welcomed members to the July meeting. Mrs Fry

table told where they came from.

CAVERSHAM DARBY AND JOAN CLUB

A VERY busy month for the club. At one meeting they were joined by Mrs Burdon who played for songs and dancing. At another meeting they were entertained by the Summerdown Singers with songs and poems.

The highlight was the last meeting when a party was held to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr and Mrs Haylock. Also there were old friends Mr and Mrs G. Palmer to entertain on piano and drums. Miss Southern and Mrs Turner from WRVS headquarters, Mr Nunn a previous leader and Mrs Godwin, and the car drivers who so willingly give their time every week for transport to

and from the meeting, Mrs J. Cheyney and Mrs P. Pierce. During the afternoon the Rector and Rev Derek Spears also came, just in time to present the two honoured guests with a basket of small gifts wrapped in gold, and a bouquet of flowers for Mrs Haylock. Tea was then served, and after tea the cake was cut and the couple toasted with wine. The Rector wished them, on behalf of the club, a very happy anniversary, and Mr Haylock thanked the leader and helpers for a lovely party, and everybody for their good wishes and gifts. Auld Lang Syne was sung, and the afternoon ended with the usual closing hymn. The club will commence meeting again on September 3, after the summer recess.

MAPLEWOOD WI

MRS JOAN Fry the president was in the chair; after the business she told of her recent week at Denman College to learn about Stately Homes' architecture. She was followed by the speaker, Mr Monty Moss, of Moss Bros who gave a most enjoyable and entertaining talk on the history of his firm from his great-grand-father down to the present international business, lending and selling garments, always of the best material and workmanship. He recounted some of the tales of customers who leave the most amazing things in pockets from £200 to a lb of butter!

After tea members who had brought interesting spoons, all so beautiful and all different, for the display

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

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

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

WHO, WHEN WHERE

WE RECORD

BAPTISED

St Peter's
June 28 — Claire Hendy

St John's
May 24 — Michael Carlton, Stephen Chambers, Emmer Chamber
June 28 — Darren Bonney, Ashley Ellison
July 19 — Hannah Clarke, Hannah Webb

St Andrew's
June 7 — Toby Hanks, Heather Carter
July 12 — Shanna Gray, Ben Williams

St Barnabas
June 28 — Roger May, Eliza Beazley
July 19 — Emma Leach, Stephen Oliver, Pamela Smith

St Margaret's
June 7 — Robert Hussey

Caversham Park
June 28 — Christopher Giles

Caversham Heights Methodist Church
June 28 — Nicola Attack

St Anne's
May 24 — Gareth Crampton
June 7 — Patrick McAndrew, Michael McCann
June 14 — Michael Szran
June 21 — Michael Downey, Matthew Carter

CONFIRMED

At St Barnabas, Shinfield Road, June 14
St Andrews — George Robinson, Brenda Truscott
Caversham Park — Karen McDonald, Neil McDonald
at St John's, Kidmore End on June 25
St Andrew's — David Cleare
at St James Stubbings on July 11
St Peter's — Claire Hendy, Kenneth Ward
St John's — Richard Smith

MARRIED

St Peter's
June 27 — Anthony Percival and Carol Smith
July 11 — Antony Gosney and Janet Gosling

St John's
June 6 — Stephen Hazell and Alison King, Gordon Brent and Sally Gowers

July 27 — Paul Masterman and Patricia Sumner, Bruce Delecia and Janis Ovenden
August 1 — Ricky Harvey and Christine Oates

St Andrew's
July 1 — Eric Hourigan and Kate Ormrod
July 4 — Peter Corre and Teresa Gall

St Barnabas
May 30 — Stephen Read and Joanne Harvey
June 20 — Richard Alban and Sarah Barton
June 27 — Mark Smith and Sandra Henwood
June 27 — John Miller and Louise Jennings
July 4 — William Tyler and Lesley Morris
July 11 — Leslie Conway and Julie Tow
August 1 — David Pollard and Rowena Phillips

St Margaret's
July 27 — William Critcher and Julie Lawrence
July 4 — Martin Stacey and Lynne Giles
July 11 — Graham Dawson and Susan Baker

Caversham Heights Methodist Church
May 16 — Rodney Baker and Cheryl Nairn
June 6 — Jonathan Brent and Amanda Coleman, Alan Coomber and Diane Burrell
June 27 — Garry Lewington and Philippa Douglas

St Anne's
April 25 — Robert Cherry and Ana Escano
April 25 — Andrew Koba and Alison Wheeler
May 16 — Stephen Kane and Marion McKay
May 30 — Richard Peppier and Susan Werrell
June 13 — Brian Gordon and Lena Stephens

FUNERALS

St Peter's
June 19 — Patrick Ross
July 2 — Linda Wise

St John's
May 6 — Carey Launchbury
June 1 — Agnes Andrews
June 16 — Andrew Titheridge
July 14 — Hilda Masterman
July 28 — Frederick Povey

St Barnabas (Memorial Service)
July 18 — Barbara Pirquet

St Margaret's
July 16 — Russell Allen

Gosbrook Road Methodist Church
May 9 — Arthur Champion

Caversham Heights Methodist Church
May 14 — Elsie Medley

St Anne's
May 6 — Winifred Busfield
May 18 — Pearl Sturges
June 19 — Mary Johnson

SUNDAY SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

ANGLICAN

St Peter's
8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am PARISH COMMUNION
11.15am Holy Communion (1st, 3rd Sundays)
11.15 Matins (2nd and 4th Sundays)
6.30pm Evensong

St John's
8.00am Holy Communion (not on 4th Sunday)
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST
11.00am Family Service (1st Sunday)
6.30pm Evensong (1st Sunday)

St Andrew's
8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

St Barnabas
8.00am Holy Communion
9.15am FAMILY EUCHARIST
11.00am Children's Service (4th Sunday)
6.30pm Evensong (2nd Sunday)

St Margaret's, Mapledurham
8.00am Holy Communion (2nd and 4th Sundays)
11.00am PARISH COMMUNION

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH
11.00am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH (The School)
11.00am FAMILY COMMUNION (1st and 3rd Sundays)
MORNING WORSHIP (2nd and 4th Sundays)
7.30pm Holy Communion (2nd and 4th Sunday)

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL
11.00am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

METHODIST

Caversham
11.00am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

Caversham Heights
11.00am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Anne's
9.00am, 11.00am

Our Lady of Caversham
8.30 and 10.30am Mass

St Martin's School
9.15am Mass

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