

SINCE THE READING BOROUGH COUNCIL INTRODUCED A BOTTLE BANK SCHEME IN MARCH 1979, the residents of Caversham and district have collected 670 tonnes of glass at the St Martins Precinct Bottle Bank up to the end of September 1981 and are currently collecting glass at over seven tonnes a week, equal to one bottle every ten seconds.

Only two other bottle banks in the United Kingdom receive more glass than St Martins and as the largest national collector is also in Reading, at Superkey, Tilehurst, our Town has become the nation's leading glass collector.

Glass collected in Reading, known in the trade as Cullet, is transported to Rockware Glass Ltd. in Yorkshire who pay the Council £20 per tonne for clear glass and £17 per tonne for green and brown glass.

### Profits for Kidney machines

Probably the main reason that Reading has topped the National Bottle Bank league is because from the outset, all profits have been donated towards the provision of Kidney machines, and of the two machines already provided in Reading, from the Bottle Bank Scheme, one is located in Caversham.

The Council are hoping shortly to introduce further bottle skips of a smaller size to be located at Hotels, Hospitals, etc., and one of these smaller skips may well be sited at Caversham Park Village. Discussions are also taking place with Material Recovery Ltd. for the siting of skips for the voluntary collection of tins. 'Catch a Can' will be the next slogan and whilst the income from metal-can salvage is minimal by comparison with glass, every ton of salvagable material voluntarily collected helps kidney patients and other charities and also helps to keep down local authority expenditure on refuse collection and disposal.

### Waste paper also

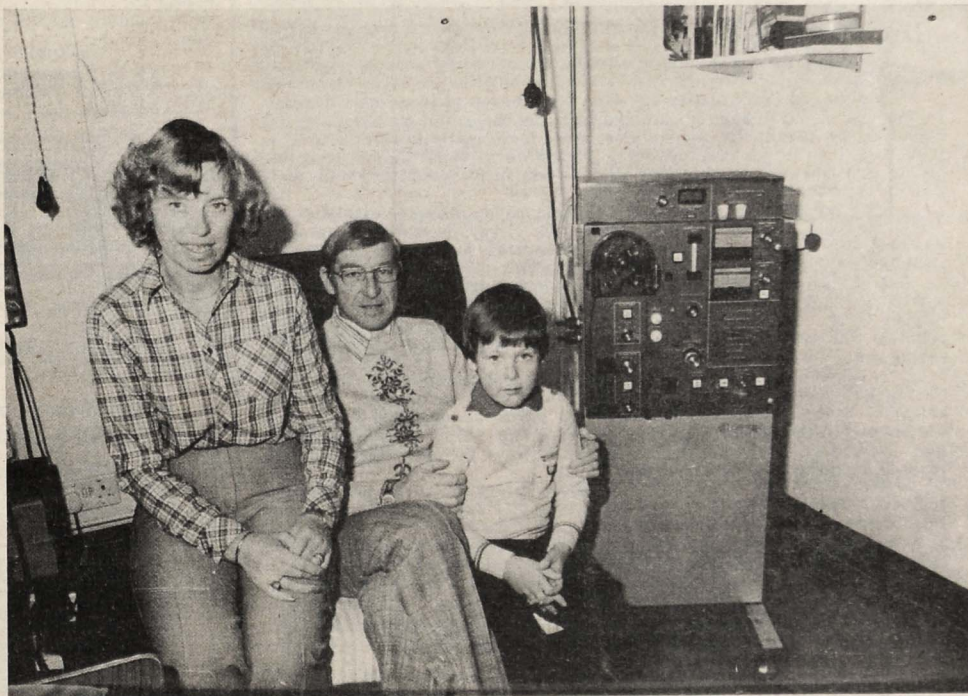
Waste Paper collection was introduced in April of this year and on the first Saturday in each month Caversham residents have been bringing their old newspapers and magazines to the St Martins Precinct car park, where volunteers from various charitable organisations stack the waste in skips provided by waste paper contractors.

During the first seven months 25 tonnes of waste paper has been collected at St Martins and in October the contractors increased their price from £5 to £8 per ton. All the charities participating in the Reading scheme share the proceeds equally and each charity is allocated one skip for a three month period. It follows that three or four volunteers from a local recognised charity manning a skip from 8.30 to 12.30 on three consecutive first Saturdays in the month can raise approximately £100 for their Charity.

Organisations wishing to participate in the waste paper salvage scheme should apply to Mr Colm Lyons, General Secretary, Voluntary Service Council for Reading, 38 Caversham Road; Tel. 54123.

The amount of paper salvage currently being collected at St Martins represents approximately only 15% of all newspapers sold in Caversham. What are we doing with the other 85%? Come on Caversham. If we can do so well with bottles why not paper? See you all at St Martins on Saturday morning, 5th December!

# WELL DONE CAVERSHAM



■ Mrs O'Mara of Talbot Close, Caversham with her husband and son. She has recently taken delivery of a new kidney machine, thanks to Caversham bottle bank.

— Graham Aisbitt



— Graham Aisbitt

■ The bottle bank in St Martins Precinct

D/EX 1758/18/12



## The Editor's Column

# DO YOU AGREE?

I WROTE two months ago of the Partners in Mission consultation in the diocese of Oxford. The Partners have now gone but the real work remains to be done. Are we willing to study and act on their report which has been published? The Partners were not all Anglicans: they came also from the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches and from four continents; it is because what they have said could be relevant to all the Caversham Churches that I quote from their report.

"In coming together for worship we celebrate a service of Word and Sacrament. These two are complementary, the one should not be allowed to overshadow the other... we heard sermons expanding the virtues of military alliances without any reference to the Bible: many sermons not springing from the lessons read. We also would like to implore parishes, give your priest time for preparing the sermon, it is one of his central tasks. Don't expect him to run on Saturday from one Jumble sale to the other flower festival."

"Should we not make clear what the Magnificat means for to-day? Who are the 'mighty' that are put down and the 'poor' that are filled with good things? In our intercessions it is not enough to pray for peace and then be silent. Rather we should indicate in which direction we plan to work for peace."

... Should not the female way of being human have a full place in the ordained ministry? We were shocked by some of the arguments used against the ordination of women, to those who use the argument of unity with Rome let it be known that some Roman Catholic theologians are not opposed to this possibility... is it right for the ordained minister to rush from one service to the other on Sunday morning, if there are lay people who can share in leadership?

"Baptism and Confirmation are often described as glorious opportunities. If they are, let lay people be involved in using them. But we must also ask ourselves: Are they really opportunities, or do they constitute a temptation? Is it right for the Church to accept every request for baptism? The result is that people give answers to questions they do not fully understand and make promises we know they are not able to keep."

"The pressures of modern life as well as the numerous tasks of the established church make it difficult for the clergy to provide a personal ministry... The active role of every committed and gifted Christian is therefore necessary and needs to be encouraged."

"It is strange to come from a Church where a bicycle is a rich resource and to hear that a huge building has to be heated constantly to keep the organ in good voice... we ask you to listen to the voices of the oppressed and to consider whether sometimes even in the Church privileges are accepted with complacency."

"It is not a solution to dismiss Sunday Schools as old fashioned rather than making them more interesting and joyful. Family services are 'nice' but cannot be a substitute for educational efforts... We have observed that Church life bound to ancient buildings, liturgy and solemn questions is a barrier for most youngsters. They need their own meetings and the opportunity to bring their own 'culture' into the services."

"We have found house groups in many places to be the tools for the renewal of Christian life. These groups are essential for sharing the Christian faith and experiences. They are a useful means of pastoral care. Prayer groups in particular are natural 'nuclei' of personal concern and help both inside and outside the Church. Furthermore they are an effective and probably the most acceptable method of evangelism"... "As partners drawn from different churches, we challenge you to recognise the other churches in your area as your closest partners in mission. Are you considering seriously in your parishes the significance of your acceptance or rejection of the Covenanting for Union proposals?"

"Inside the Church we are not sharing the real problems and tensions of daily life: our work, our families and the society and world in which we live. These and the concern for the oppressed and poor as well as the flagrant abuses of human rights are apparently too salty and would disturb the Church, we are absorbed with concern for maintenance of church life and buildings."

"The Church must begin not only to talk about the problems which deeply affect those in God's world around us, but become actively engaged and involved in helping to resolve them, whether it is unemployment, job problems on higher levels of management, nuclear arms race, North-South debate, concern for human rights etc. With regard to arms race, we ask whether the visible presence of symbols of the armed forces (regimental standards etc) in the churches is a help or a hindrance to discussing peace questions in the congregation?"

"Although almost no activity in the congregation is thinkable without women, we would ask if their distinctive contribution to Christian witness is really acknowledged and welcomed?"

### DISTURBING QUESTIONS

These extracts from their report make it plain that the Partners have asked disturbing questions. Are we willing to face up to the implications in their report, realising, perhaps somewhat reluctantly, that each time a Vatican Council or Lambeth Conference is held a greater proportion of the bishops do not have white faces and that our fellow Christians in Asia and Africa approach many problems from a viewpoint very different to our own. This may be uncomfortable for us but we shall not solve problems by pretending either they do not exist or else that the thinking of Western Christians has nothing to learn from the rapidly expanding churches of the Third World.

*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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### POSTBAG

Dear Sir,

My husband and I wholeheartedly support Bob Kynaston in all he has said in his letters to the Caversham Bridge.

It is cruel to lead the young, emotional, the unworldly and the idealistic 'up the garden' while the Brown Bear watches — and "How cheerfully he seems to grin, How neatly spread his claws, And welcomes little fishes in With gently smiling jaws".

Yours etc.  
Barbara Leatham  
Caversham

The staff  
and  
editorial  
board  
of

Caversham  
Bridge

wish all  
readers

a joyful

Christmas

## LINK GROUP

AT the October meeting, it was decided with great reluctance to stop receiving and distributing furniture, because of the heavy physical and personal demands involved.

The speaker was Mr David Eedell, who gave an illustrated talk on the work of The Spastics Society. It was so heart-warming to learn what the Society is doing to ensure that spastic children (and adults) are educated and trained to live happy, useful and active lives, within their disabilities.

The annual carol evening will be on Sunday, December 20: starting at 4.30pm.

Other business was discussed, and the meeting closed. Mrs Lynda Bates, Chairman of Link Group, was in the chair.



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# Tony Hindle, Bank Manager Extraordinary

AT a time when people like bank managers are becoming increasingly remote beings, it is a great pleasure to meet one who makes it his business to get to know as many of his customers as possible. Anthony Hindle, who in November celebrated his 25th year as Manager of the local Trustee Savings Bank, is well known to very many Caversham people — what is more important, he knows them and their problems. He tries to interview personally anyone who opens an account with his bank, and to assess their personal needs which, as he says, vary greatly. He frequently visits customers who cannot get to the bank themselves and is pleased when he hears that members of

his staff are interesting themselves in customers, even to the extent of visiting the sick and needy among them.

## Deep Personal Faith

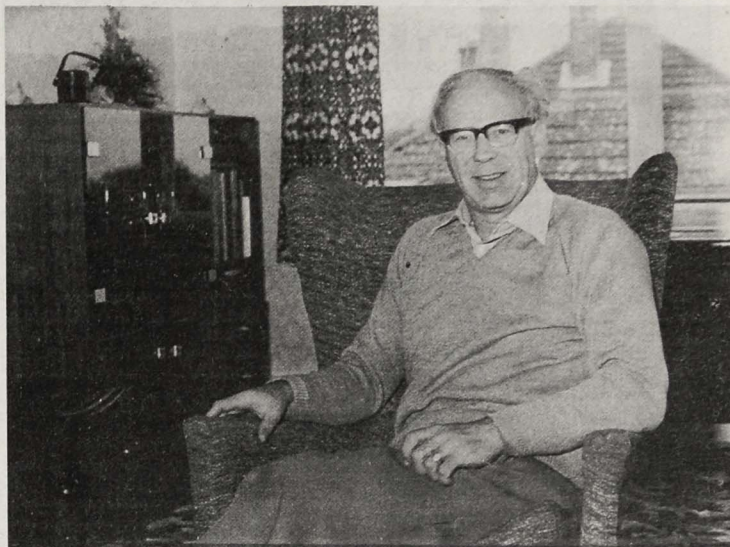
This is a delightfully refreshing attitude and reflects Tony's own deep personal faith, a faith which is not confined to Sunday worship at the Chapel on the Hill, where he is secretary, but permeates his whole life and shows itself in careful concern for all he meets, particularly his customers. Tony, who came here from Manchester and has lived in various places in the district, now lives with his wife Joyce at the Horse Close. She herself is secretary of the Women's Meeting at the Chapel and joint leader

of the junior covenants. They have a married daughter who lives in Northern Ireland, a son who is involved in town and country planning in London, and two grandchildren.

## Family relationships

They pay a great store by family relationships and it is not simply love of walking which frequently takes them on long outings on Saturdays; for them it has been a way of keeping one day a week in their very busy lives, as a family day. They have found Caversham people very friendly and are happy living here.

It speaks for itself that more than one person requested 'something in the Bridge' on the occa-



sion of Tony's jubilee. As one customer said: "I don't know what I'd

have done without him when my husband died." Thank you Tony

for all you do here, and our very best wishes on your 25th anniversary.

## The Wilkinsons

I'm sure many of our readers will remember the Wilkinson family who lived for a considerable time in Peppard Road and each in his or her individual way was very much involved in the life of Caversham. Penny, now Penny Nott, was in fact one of our first 'wedding photos'. Lots of people would like to have news, so here is a brief round-up of what has happened to them. Penny, with her husband, Hugh, an expert in duck breeding, and their two daughters live in a delightfully converted farmhouse near Lincoln, while Ray and Joe, Penny's mother and father, live a short distance away. Sister Jane, who worked at the university library, lives with her husband and three children in Suffolk and brother Clive is

married and lives in Canada. Penny herself did make a flying visit to Caversham earlier this year but regrettably was unable to visit all her old friends. She has happy memories of her life here and I promised to pass on their news in return for news from Caversham.

## The Young National Trust

Did you know there was such a thing as the Young National Trust — I didn't, but knowing that many Caversham people are keen members of the Trust, I was delighted to make their acquaintance at an exhibition recently. I think it quite possible that many of our young people would be interested to know about them. They exist largely as an active sup-

# KATY IN CAVERSHAM

port group of the Trust and do a variety of different tasks at Trust properties. Groups are springing up all over the country, so anyone who feels like joining or setting up a group themselves would be more than welcome. Unfortunately I've mislaid the name and address of the very informative young man who was in charge of the stall but I see that Robert Harland (Reading 53909) would be happy to furnish further information. Do contact him if you're interested — it all sounds great fun and links well with the work of the National Trust itself.

## Help from our Public Representatives

I've been asked — and I do this very willingly

— to offer a public tribute to one of our local councillors, Fred Pugh, and to our MP, Tony Durant, who recently came to the assistance of one of our readers over a personal problem. Obviously our MP cannot always be easily available for such problems and it is probably not realised that he can often be contacted through our local rep-

resentatives. In this case Cllr. Pugh came to the rescue and it was all much appreciated. Whether or not one subscribes to their political views, it is a fact that both these gentlemen will always come to the assistance of those whom they represent without asking questions about one's political affiliations. And that's very important.

## OBITUARY

**GEORGE MANDER**  
GEORGE Mander, who died in early October, was one of Caversham's well-known and well-loved figures. He was proud to be a Caversham man born and bred and always said that he had no desire to live anywhere else.

He did not however confine his interests and energies to Caversham. His social concern led him to become a town councillor for Reading and to work in many other capacities to improve the quality of life for the people of his home town, whether it was for

young people through the Woodcraft Folk or for older citizens through his involvement with the James Butcher Housing Association. Until the office was abolished, he was also an alderman of the Borough, a recognition of the respect in which he was held throughout the town.

Yet in spite of all the public work which George undertook, his family was always of immense importance to him. The Mander family, whose branches are well established in Caversham, has always been a united and happy family, but far from this being an excuse to avoid outside commitments, the whole family shared George's concern for social justice. His sons Bill and Geoff have followed him on to the Borough Council and both speak of the early interest in social affairs and local government fostered by their parents. To them and their families and to Rene his widow, our thoughts go out. Caversham and Reading are the poorer for his loss, but they are the richer for his life.

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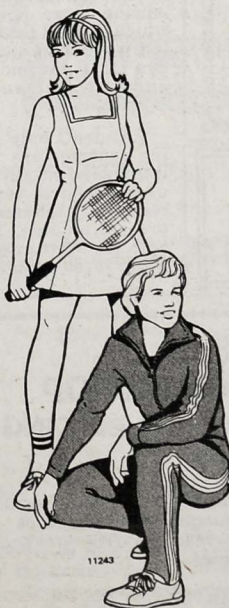
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## RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

By WATCHDOG

### Traffic Snarl-ups

WHEN it comes to Caversham's traffic problems it sometimes looks as if officialdom has given up, apart from the odd spasmodic

effort such as new lane markings in Caversham Road which have ended up by making matters even worse. This, however, according to Cllr. Fred Pugh, one of

Caversham's Councillors and Chairman of the Borough Transport Committee, is far from being the case. Speaking to a full meeting organised by Caversham Residents' Association, he gave news of a whole package of innovations designed to improve traffic flows and ease parking problems.

Traffic lights which had recently been accused in the local press of being the chief villain of the piece, are to be the object of immediate treatment, always remembering that if a week is a long time in national politics, it is a mere split second at local level. As Cllr. Pugh pointed out, it is not the number of traffic lights that are at fault, as anyone who remembers trying to make a right-hand turn into Bridge Street and George Street before they were installed will bear out, but the fact that they flash away in blissful isolation, in complete ignorance of what their neighbours just up the road are doing. So smart new up-to-the-minute technology is to come to the rescue in the form of computer-controlled lights, so that once you catch them green they will be green all the way. At least that is how it should work. Also being considered is making Caversham Road an urban clearway in peak hours, thus permitting three lanes in which a "tidal flow" system would operate, with two in, in the morning and two out in the evening.

'Residents only' parking schemes are to be introduced in all those areas where "except residents" schemes at present operate. These will be extended to other areas later, but

you cannot please all the people all the time, and never is this truer than of parking schemes, so that although residents will be assured of somewhere to park, their visitors will have problems.

The meeting had plenty of horror stories about the anti-social parking that goes on, particularly on yellow lines and on the pavement, and the same

Buses can play a major role. A flat fare for children is being considered which might make it financially worth while to let the kids bus to school instead of being taken by car. And something on the lines of a student bus card, five pounds for half fares perhaps, might also encourage greater use of the buses. If it all works out we might yet reach the stage when traffic

which includes housing, gardens and a general tidying of the towpath edge, will continue this welcome process. If the Three Men should happen to pass by again, they might even agree it was now worth lingering at instead of hurrying past as fast as possible. But unless they come soon they might find the Victorian iron-work loo has gone. The Borough Council, whilst not actively seeking to

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— Graham Aisbitt

■ Some of Caversham Parish Youth Group ice skating at Richmond Rink in October.

hoary old answers came up, that there are insufficient wardens to enforce the existing regulations. Apparently full strength is twenty-six, but cuts have reduced this to twenty-one, but currently there are (or were) only fifteen for the whole town. What the meeting could not understand was why this should be the case, when a warden could earn his keep in Caversham several times over in fines.

Mini-roundabouts versus traffic lights for when the New Ideal Homes and Waitrose developments were operating was also discussed, as was whether a nominal five pence for the first two hours parking in the Chester Street car park would be acceptable when a "pay and display" machine was installed.

Councillor Pugh did not favour a one-way system using the two bridges, as he felt they were too far apart and had too many feeder roads leading into them, but he thought a one-way system using Westfield Road and Prospect Street worth considering.

### Riverside improvement

Not that cars monopolised the discussion. For a meeting to which the majority had walked, the rights of pedestrians were also put forward, with more than one person suggesting that more walking and less driving would improve traffic congestion and health in one go. Cyclists had a look in too, and in fact, cycle routes are to be introduced before long.

ceases to be the main and constantly recurring problem in Caversham.

Some time ago the Borough Council prepared a planning brief for the land fronting the river between Lynmouth Road and de Montfort Road, a section of the river described by the Three Men in a Boat as dismal and, it must even be admitted dirty. Now, after discussion and a few amendments, it has been approved. This site is not of course in Caversham, but it is part of the view we look at across the river, and if we indulge in healthy exercise it is on that rather pleasant circular walk along the two river banks and over the bridges. There has been some improving and tidying up of the south bank recently, and this new development,

kill it, has no intention of officiously striving to keep it alive.

### Unsuitable for lorries

Whilst no one expected the front page of October's Caversham Bridge to have changed Oxfordshire County Council's mind about heavy lorries on the A4074, at least it seems to have prodded them in the job of getting on with putting up advisory notices on their section of the route. How much more effective, though, earlier co-operation would have been, with the notices appearing simultaneously with Reading's. Drivers who have already got into the habit of ignoring Reading's notices are not very likely to respond to Oxfordshire's. The two sets appearing together would have had more impact.

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WEDDING AT HOME PASSPORT



## WHEELING WAYS

By Peter Shock

IT was incredible news to Caversham's cyclists that Reading Council are giving consideration to ways and means of easing the problems of 'wheeling' into the town centre. To those who are well familiar with the hazards involved in running the gauntlet of competing traffic, it must be a pleasant surprise to learn that special cycleways are envisaged. Two particular locations are outstandingly perilous; for those who cycle towards the town, over Reading Bridge and want to reach the station, there is the difficulty of crossing over to the off-side lane at Pug's Hole Corner to enter Valpy Street. Those who use Caversham Road and require access to Greyfriars Road, Friar Street and the main shopping area also experience a teaser cutting across the flow of traffic in Tudor Road. So let us hope big things will come out of the proposals. More people will be encouraged to cycle into Reading, and this could be good news for motorists too. There

could be less of you to congest!

However, being a lifelong cyclist myself, and indeed, a motorist and a none-too-infrequent pedestrian, I must emphasise that all pedal-pushers should adopt their responsibilities. Just too often do we witness young cyclists in particular tearing along the pavements putting pedestrians in danger. Within the past few months I have personally reprimanded children on a number of occasions for their thoughtless actions. In one case, two young boys of about 11 years of age sped along the pavement from St Martin's Centre to the far-side of Caversham Bridge causing distress to rightful users of the footpath. More recently, I almost fell victim myself to two young hooligans as I stepped out of my gateway in the dark. The rider had a friend on the cross-bar, they were speeding along the pavement without lights. Fortunately my ears were sharp on the mark as I could well have missed seeing them. In both these inst-

ances my confrontation with the culprits resulted in verbal abuse and their stated intentions of not abiding by the law. In my young days, such disregard of traffic regulations did not merit just a ticking-off by the Bobby-on-the-Beat, but a trip to the Juvenile Court followed by a possible probation

order. We knew how to keep out of trouble!

So Caversham cyclists, let us keep the pavements free for those for whom they are intended — and if in the future Reading Council provide cycleways to clear the path for our motorised neighbours, then we might all be friends with each other!

### SPECIAL EVENTS AND SERVICES

Saturday November 28th 2.30pm  
ST BARNABAS CHRISTMAS FAIR  
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ST BARNABAS HALL

Sunday November 29th 6.30pm  
SERVICE OF ADVENT CAROLS AND READINGS  
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A limited number of tickets for reserved seats are available from the Parish Office. Please send s.a.e.

Monday November 30th 7.30pm  
ST ANDREW'S DAY PARISH COMMUNION  
at ST ANDREW'S  
Preacher  
The Rev. David Griffiths  
(Rector of Windsor and Chaplain to H.M. The Queen)

Monday December 21st 8pm  
A MEETING FOR WORSHIP AFTER THE MANNER OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS  
at  
ST PETER'S  
This is intended as a time of quiet and reflection in preparation for the keeping of Christmas



■ Susan Hardy who has recently achieved the Duke of Edinburgh Award.  
— Graham Aisbitt

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### OBITUARY

#### ERNEST PRENTICE

THE congregation of St Barnabas Church was saddened by the death of Ernest Prentice on Wednesday October 7th. He had been suffering from heart trouble and at the time of his death he was awaiting an operation with courage and hope.  
Ernest and Doris

moved to Emmer Green from Tilehurst three years ago. For many years they were members of St Mary Magdalene Church in Tilehurst, and they continued to worship there from time to time and had many friends there. Since his retirement, Ernest regularly drove his car for the Good Neighbour Scheme to

provide transport for people who might otherwise be housebound.

Many people both from St Mary's and St Barnabas' joined with other friends and relatives at the funeral service in St Barnabas' Church. The vicar of St Mary's — the Rev Paul Mellor — read the lesson and led the prayers.

We offer our prayers and love to Doris at this time of sadness.

#### MURIEL STRATTON

HER sudden death whilst on holiday in Turkey, with a party from her husband's former parish of Botley, came as a great shock to everyone.

Although she had not been living in Caversham for very long, she had made many friends and was always so willing to help, especially in the church life of St Andrew's. When she moved to Richmond Road her husband, who had recently retired from Botley, was alive, but he became ill and died shortly after moving in.

Muriel's childhood was spent in Reading and she was educated at Milton House School. Her father was the Vicar's Warden at St Mary's Reading for many years.

#### OLIVER CAIGER-SMITH

JUST before going to print with this issue we hear that our very good friend, Dr. Caiger-Smith has died. Although expected, this is sad news for very many of our readers. Already tributes are pouring in, and

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# THE CHILTERN NURSERY TRAINING COLLEGE

THE fiftieth anniversary celebrations of the College's foundation were held earlier this year.

During this period a new Principal, Mrs Pamela A. Townsend, joined the staff. The departure of one batch of students at the same time made this one of the fullest periods she is likely to encounter. That Mrs Townsend has emerged unruffled and well in command shows that the college has made an excellent choice in its new principal. She is no stranger to nursery nursing and has all round experience as student, teacher and examiner.

At the Chiltern, Mrs Townsend will have responsibility for up to 100 students. The college is just going through a change in intakes, reduced from three a year to two, in January and September. The course lasts two years, at the end of which students should obtain their National Nursery Examination Board Certificate. Most also take the Royal Society of Health Diploma in Nursery Nursing. Students must be 18 years of age and a minimum of three "O" levels is preferred. Some pay their own fees, some are

helped by local authority grants, though there are counties which refuse to fund students. There are now only 3 privately run Nursery Training Colleges in this country, but the demand is constant.

## The training

Training is divided equally between theory and practical matters. There are approximately 120 children on the register, though not all attend the centre every day. Their ages range from 0-5 years.

Because the N.N.E.B.'s Certificate includes the care of children up to 7 years of age, some part of the course is undertaken outside, mainly in primary schools and in other nursery schools in the area. For a period in their final year, the girls go into a hospital to work in the Maternity unit, the ante-natal clinic and with sick children in the wards. They can also choose to work with handicapped children during this time. The curriculum is full and the girls (no young men have yet asked to join the course) have to learn many skills.

Included in these are woodwork, where they have to construct a toy or a simple piece of furniture, crochet, knitting and needlework, where garments have to be made. A very wide range of art and craft work is undertaken as well as much music. The theory lectures, talks and discussions, films, cookery demonstrations and the library are in the main building. Good use is made of outside sources, eg. models and books are borrowed from the Education Museum and the Library Services, and changing themes can be provided throughout the year.

## The Site and Buildings

The Nurseries and administrative buildings are spread over two sites in the lower part of Peppard Road. One site contains an old house, The Rise and cottages nearby. The Rise must have been a lovely house in its day — it is now a scheduled building, but it is uneconomic to maintain. Plans are in hand to include all the func-



■ Mrs Pamela Townsend

— Graham Aisbitt

tions in the newer block and the buildings around it, thus selling the Rise as a first step and possibly dispensing with the cottages later on. This will make overall administration on one site so much easier. At present, the cottages are used for those babies who come for full day care from 8am to 6pm, and the Rise is used as the nursery school for the 3 to 5 year olds from 9 to 3.30pm, most of whom stay full time. Some of the students live in these older buildings and one way of keeping up numbers by utilising the main building to the full will be to take in a small number of day students. This idea has only recently been made public and much interest has already been shown. As the nurseries do not function at the weekends, day students should have no difficulty in participating fully in all the college's activities.

## New Principal

Each day is full for Mrs Townsend and with imminent changes, she will be even busier. But she has never been one for standing still. Her earliest ambitions were to become a nursery nurse. After a happy and secure childhood, and varied wartime schooling, she trained at a day nursery under the local authority in her home town of Enfield. After qualifying and gaining some experience, she married and started her family. She was fortunate in being able to combine her career with family life and ran a nursery group in her own home for several years. Being sometimes frustrated as a nursery nurse, she decided, once her children were beyond junior school age, to train as a teacher. She did this at All Saints, Tottenham,

and enjoyed teaching infants for several years. Eventually she decided to go back to the nursery field as a teacher and saw immediately that this was where her commitment lay. After two years, she took a post at a college of further education in Edmonton where she set up courses to train nursery nurses in the Borough. Here she was also able to instigate in-service courses for nursery nurses, providing lectures, films, discussions, outings and a variety of things connected with children's early learning. This was a marvellous refresher for those who had been working for many years, one even for 30 years, without any further training. She was also able to start a local group of nursery nurses, affiliated to the National body, which provided local contact. Although nearly all Mrs Townsend's working life has been spent very close to her home, she has had the opportunity of visiting other colleges as an examiner for the Board of Nursery Nurses.

Mrs Townsend's links with Enfield have been life-long, but both she and her husband, who now has a long journey to work in London, have made the move to Caversham without hesitation and have enjoyed looking at some of the countryside. Their 22 year old son has also joined them and they have a married daughter of 25 with two small sons. Closely connected with their parish church in Enfield, the Townsends have already begun to feel at home in the congregation at St Peter's.

Mrs Townsend wants to be the sort of principal accessible to staff and students alike. She considers it important to uphold the standards of the college and is keen to instil the mores of her own upbringing and what she has wanted for her own family to her students: good manners, common sense and clean living.

She has had tremendous support from teaching, clerical and domestic staff already and feels quite at home in all departments. All good wishes go to her in her challenging new post.

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# "Christmas is Coming and the goose is getting fat..."

AUTUMN half-term. First fleeting thoughts about planning for Christmas: gifts from mail-order catalogues, cards to New Zealand, Uncle Bert's annual visit. Where to get a cheap turkey, and will the decorating be done in time?

Don't worry, plans are two months late already. Traditionally, in many parts of Europe, preparation for Christmas should have started back at Harvest. On August 24th, St Bartholomew's Day, the farmers inspect their geese, examine the carp in their ponds, and check on the hare population in the woods. The choice of the three animals for Christmas fare was by no means arbitrary, for they represent the three elements — air, water and earth.

## Advent customs

A treatise on the Christmas goose, written by a parson in 1644 lists the virtues and vices of the bird, and tells us that we have a lot to learn from the clean, gregarious, alert and modest habits of geese, while their vices should give us due warning for the festive season — not to be garrulous or drink immoderately as geese do (albeit water) or eat like gluttons. Moreover, even in death the goose is of use by supplying us with feathers for a peaceful sleep, quills for writing, and goosefat to heal sores and inflamed ears. By what virtue did the turkey supersede the goose in this country?

Although we may have remained unaware of one purpose of St

Bartholomew's Day, there is still time for observing Advent. In Britain, the Advent Ring is becoming increasingly familiar, though not many families seem to make their own, and holly is used more than traditional spruce. It is not always understood that the evergreen wreaths on graves share the meaning of the advent ring; they both celebrate Christ's victory over death — the wreath for the Victor. The evergreen foliage stands as a symbol of hope in the middle of the dark winter.

Four candles decorate the ring, each is lit on one of the Sundays in Advent. The candle using itself up to nourish the flame which gives us light is to remind us of our Christian duty to be watchful and ready to serve. It is a symbol of self-sacrifice. With every Sunday in Advent the light from the ring increases until on Christmas Day it bursts into the full splendour of the lit tree.

On the continent Advent means a time of baking. Although many families are unaware of the fact, in their preparations they will be observing important dates in the advent calendar. On November 25th — St Catherine's Day — the first treats for the season used to be baked in the shape of links of a chain to commemorate the martyr's bittersweet fate of dying for Christ chained to the wheel.

On St Barnar's Day — December 4th — you might like to put some branches from flowering trees (apple, pear, plum, cherry, lilac or

rowan) into water, keep them in a cool place at first, renew their water every five days and cut their stems, sprinkle the leaves with water occasionally and they should blossom on Christmas Day, reminding us of the beauty and innocence of that young daughter of pagan Prince Dioscours who became a Christian martyr.

## St Nicholas

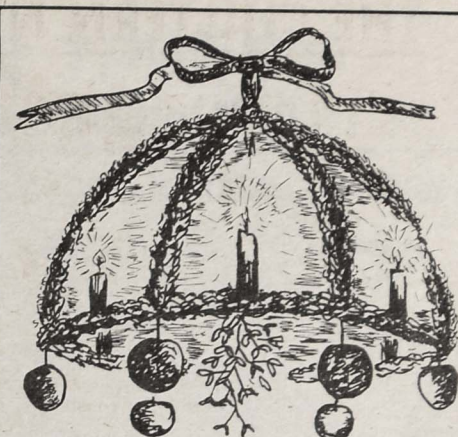
Many British delicatessen shops now sell a kind of biscuit called a 'Speculatus'. The traditional moulds for this delicacy tell the story of St Nicholas, known as the children's saint. As the bishop or 'speculatus' in Myra in Asia Minor, he took a special interest in the lives of the children in his diocese. When famine broke out in the town of Myra the bishop saved the people from starvation and from the demands of pirates by sacrificing the gold and silver plate from his cathedral. (To Third World children this story would have a very special and dire meaning.)

The ingredients of festive bakery carry in themselves an almost lost religious meaning. At Christmas time Mediaeval monks baked medicinal herbs into small biscuits and pastries, drawing attention to the healing aspect of Christ's birth. Later, the import of spices changed the recipes. As these, particularly pepper, were very costly they tended to be reserved for the festive season. Again their use had symbolic meaning: custom prescribed the use of either seven or

by  
Elke Handford

nine of them altogether. The holy number seven reflects the completion of God's creation, one spice for every day of His week. The nine spices of Mediaeval bakery mirror God's perfection in the form of the treble trinity; the three elements of earth, air, water; the three stations, heaven, earth and hell; and the Trinity itself. Other ingredients, nuts, almonds, raisins, poppy seeds (later replaced by coloured grains of sugar) point to the secret of life hidden in a seemingly dead shell, a picture for the word of God, the meaning of which is often hard to understand, but is life to us.

In Advent many children enjoy making endless coloured paper chains. Little do they realise that it is a reminder of the unhappy fate of early Christians at the time of the Muslim occupation of Spain. A church in Toledo still displays the heavy chains which weighed down the Christians taken prisoner. Later the custom of silver chains on Christmas trees grew in Spain and spread to other countries. The gold and silver baubles



CHRISTMAS IN ENGLAND, The Kissing Bough, forerunner of the Christmas tree — evergreens bound to a wire frame with a ring of candles above and a ring of bright red apples below. And hanging from the frame, a bunch of mistletoe. (from a wood engraving by John Hassall)

on the tree have their origin in the story of the Magi and their gifts.

## First Christmas tree

The first mention of a Christmas tree is said to go back to the year 1539 in the town of Strasbourg; yet the custom took many decades to spread through Europe. The cutting down of many young evergreen spruce trees, symbols of hope pointing up to heaven and retaining in every twig the shape of the cross, may cause nature-lovers some heart-ache, but Christians over the centuries saw the cutting down and sacrifice of the young trees as a simile of Christ's death. Legend has it that the

manger and the cross on Calvary were made of the same wood.

In the Christian year, Christmas Eve is also known as Adam and Eve. The story of Adam's fall from grace was told immediately before the Christmas story. On the continent people still hang apples from the branches of their Christmas tree — preferably red and white apples — the white half standing for death through sin, the red half for life through Christ. The glory of the lit-up tree, crowned by the image of the angel Gabriel, goes to the heart of Christmas — the light that shines in the darkness, the glory of paradise regained.

## WE RECORD

### BAPTISED

St Andrew's  
Oct. 11th Antony Noble  
Helen Tivey

St Barnabas  
Oct. 11th Katherine Phillips  
Kathryn Turtle  
Oct. 25th Abigail Ruffle  
Charlotte Ruffle  
Emma Ruffle  
Mark Ruffle  
Simon Ruffle  
Darren Cheshire

Caversham Heights Methodist  
Church  
Oct. 25th Emma Lascelles

Gosbrook Road Methodist  
Church  
Oct. 18th Darren Eagleson  
David Gray

St Anne's  
July 5th Luke Smith  
July 12th Benedict Kennedy  
July 26th Thomas Donegan  
Aug. 9th Nina Wright  
Sept. 27th Sean Leahy

Received into the Church (St  
Anne's)  
Janice McLellan  
Mary Batley

CONFIRMED at St Anne's by  
the Bishop of Elmham on Mon-  
day 20th July

Daniel Carroll  
Paul Chandler  
Jonathan Crabb  
Oliver Crosby  
Kevin Dance  
Richard Day  
David Durkan

Mark Edwards  
Paul Ferriss  
Timothy Fox  
James Gaughan  
Lawrence Hoare  
Sean Houghton  
Philip Irons  
Dominic Jackson  
Paul Johnstone  
Andrew Little  
Kenneth Lloyd  
Sean Lyons  
Matthew Moran  
Ivan Moss

Richard Mountford  
Brian O'Donnell  
Paul Palmer  
James Reynolds  
Gerard Semple  
Gary Smith  
Neil Smith  
Thomas Stapleton  
Matthew Swallow  
Stefan Wasylciw  
Stephen Welch  
Conor White  
Dominic Wicks  
Katherine Asser  
Rachel Berkeley  
Emma-Jane Broadway  
Catherine Burke  
Joanne Choules  
Maria Clark  
Marina Crook  
Alexandra Day  
Maria Fernandes-Amezquita

Nicola Ferriss  
Juliet Gardiner  
Annette Geraghty  
Lisa Hall  
Judith James  
Rachel Kean  
Jane Kenny  
Joanna Lee  
Caroline Lewis  
Lynn Lowden

Sheena Mallett  
Deborah Nile  
Jayne Nutt  
Fiona Pascal  
Anna Parsons  
Mary Reilly  
Bernadette Russell  
Louella Soares-Fernandes  
Teresa Sheridan  
Helen Thompson  
Frances Tolan  
Tracy Wardle

### MARRIED

St Peter's  
Oct. 24th Stephen Shears and  
Joanna Cox  
Caversham Heights Methodist  
Church  
Oct. 10th William Greenhalgh  
and Jacqueline Gray, Phil Hor-  
ton and Heather Grace, Oct.  
17th Peter Young and Marion  
Beek, Oct. 24th Michael Walsh  
and Lorraine Anderson, Oct.  
31st Anthony Price and Lind-  
sey Bouldin.  
St Anne's  
Peter Summers and Theresa  
Andrews, Mark Knipe and Pina  
Barone, Roderick O'Brien and  
Susan Davies, Gary Page and  
Linda Barnes, John Leggett  
and Leonida Krushelnicky.

### FUNERALS

St Barnabas  
Oct. 13th Ernest Prentice  
Oct. 29th Oliver Caiger-Smith

### St Anne's

July Percival Freeman  
August George Crabb  
Sept Sigmund Zaleckis  
Mary Tidbury  
Mamie Cotter  
Frederick Kearney

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## ANGLICAN NEWS

### ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

#### St John's Notes

THERE were two jumble sales at St John's in October. The Guides and Brownies organised one on October 3rd. The weather was cold, but dry, and there was a large crowd. The bric-a-brac stall did very brisk business, and everyone was pleased with their bargains. The Mothers' Union Jumble Sale was on October 17th, an extremely wet afternoon. The attendance was not so good, but there were satisfied customers, and the clearance men, who arrived early, had tea and home made cakes while they waited.

There is a Saturday Workshop for five to ten year olds on the first and third Saturdays of each month from 10.0-11.30 in St John's Upper Vestry. In each session they explore what it means, as Christians, to be alive in God's world. The first theme has been 'God's gifts to us' and on 17th October they thought about 'the abilities God has given

each of us'. Members from the congregation lent them articles which showed how they used their skill. The member who lent sculpture had mended the donkey from the crib, an artist had designed and made an altar frontal, a needlewoman lent a doll (bought at the Guides jumble!) she had dressed for the bazaar. The children saw too how carpenters, bricklayers and painters had maintained and improved the church building. One member came and played songs "on demand" and everyone joined in a vigorous sing song.

#### St Peter's Wives' Group

THE Group was especially pleased to welcome Miss Mary Kift at their October meeting. Miss Kift's main topic was the history of the Heights and Mapledurham, but such was the interest of her audience that she included several other

areas, both local and distant whose histories are interwoven with Caversham's. Members questioned Miss Kift at some length about local families as well as individual 'characters', houses, boundaries, archaeological finds and numerous other subjects they were curious to know the history of. Miss Kift's enthusiasm for local history is infectious and discussions on her talk could be heard amongst the members not only during the coffee break which followed, but also as they left Church House to return home.

## CHOIR SINGS IN GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL

More than forty members of the choirs of the parish journeyed to Guildford on Sunday October 25th to sing Evensong in the Cathedral. The setting of the service was Stanford in B flat with responses by Smith. The anthem was O Lords the maker of all things by John Joubert, the words of which were written by Henry VIII.

The choir was under the direction of John Dussek and David Butler was organist. Many members of the parish travelled by coach and private car and were present in the congregation.



■ Choir practice before singing Evensong in Guildford Cathedral.

— Peter Sear

### The Mothers' Union

AT a joint meeting in Church House of all three branches of the Mothers' Union, the speaker was Mrs Bohe, Diocesan President. Her subject was St Richard's Prayer. St Richard of Chichester was born in the thirteenth Century, he went to Oxford and his tutor was Edmund of Abingdon. He became Chancellor of Oxford, and when Edmund was made Archbishop of Canterbury, Richard was Chancellor. He travelled a great deal, and eventually became

Bishop of Chichester. He consecrated a church in memory of Edmund, and St Richards prayer is famous and used extensively.



At the Annual Meeting of St Peter's and St Barnabas branch a presentation was made to Mrs Hutson who had completed her nine year term of office as enrolling member, and also to Mrs Coome the

retiring treasurer. Both were thanked for work they had done with such loyalty. The Rector explained to members plans that had been made at a meeting of the enrolling members of the different branches. They felt that as declining numbers was making it very difficult to get speakers to the separate branch meetings it would be better to plan a combined programme for 1982. Mrs Stringer (St Andrew's) and Mrs Billingham (St John's) would be joint enrolling members.

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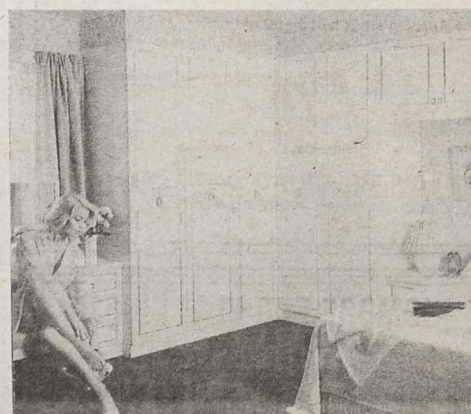
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# IK HOOP U GAUW WEER TE ZIEN

FOR those of us whose Dutch is something less than fluent, the heading reads "Hope to see you again soon" and the sentiments were those of the members of Emmer Green Youth and Community Club when they said goodbye to the party of youngsters and not-quite-so young who had been their house-guests for a week in October.

Last May a group from the Emmer Green Club went to Rotterdam and stayed with members of the Kamelion Youth Club in that city. As an exchange visit a group from the Dutch Club came to Reading, starting off with a welcoming party at one of the Club's manager's house and ending with a farewell party at the Club. In between they visited several of the local youth organisations, met the Mayor, who conducted them on a tour of the council chambers, were shown over Radio 210 at Calcot, visited Henley Brewery, and were guests at the old time dancing evening of the Rendezvous Club. They went also in small parties to London and Windsor and were taken out to see the local countryside by their host families.

Unlike the British, the Dutch are no slouches

in learning languages and the majority of the party spoke English. They were able to take part in all the activities arranged for them and our local Emmer Green Club hope that the two visits will set a pattern for future international involvement.

There is one aspect of local government which cannot — indeed, should not — be unduly hurried, and that is planning. Recently, our friendly neighbourhood MP., Michael Heseltine, has shown signs of impatience with the time it takes for some local authorities to process their planning applications and has instructed his minions at the Department of the Environment to let it be known that such sloth is displeasing to him. And in many cases where the proposed development is straight forward and of no direct impact on the locality, he is right. However, once a building is completed, it is going to be there for a span of two lifetimes, or more, and the planners rightly think that it is worth a few months' delay to get things absolutely right, or at least as right as is humanly possible.

This preamble is leading up to the fact that by the time you read this permission for three

## By Zoilus

important developments on Caversham's riverside should be agreed and, knowing the speed with which builders can act once they've got the green light, may well be started.

On the site of the old Cork Factory, at Caversham Mill, will be built forty-one houses to make what should be a high class estate of two and three storey dwellings in a variety of designs and with a special condition of sympathetic landscaping and the retention of most of the existing trees. There could be some worry in the adjoining streets about the increase of traffic, but this may not prove so tiresome as the passage of trucks and lorries if the site was retained for industrial use, for which there is existing permission. This application took just under a year to be resolved which makes it the quickest to be processed of the three with which we are dealing.



The other two sites have been in the planning pipeline for over two years. It must be well gone that time that the lease-holder of View Island asked permission to erect a river leisure complex at the end of the Island overlooking the weir. This project, consisting of a restaurant, boat store, chanclery and other river-orientated uses would take up a quarter of the Island, and the rest would be left free for use by the public as a park and picnic space and would be looked after by Mr Lucas, the present lease-holder. Because this would mean the Corporation relinquishing control of the Island for the next sixty years under the terms of a new lease, some members of the Planning Committee have fought a stubborn rearguard action at every step of the long drawn out planning process. But the matter should be decided at next council meeting where approval is known to have majority support, and View Island should soon become a pleasant amenity for the use of both river lovers and the residents of Caversham and Reading.

Another long running saga — at times verging on a soap opera — has been the future of the Old Regal cinema site



■ Some of the Kamelion Youth Club with their English hosts.

— Graham Aisbitt

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## BAPTIST NEWS

## And it was Free

The Church may not have been filled to capacity with people but every corner was filled with beautiful music when a Choir of some fifty children and their teachers from Mockmühl, Baden-Württemberg, West Germany, presented a concert of sacred music. The concert, arranged by Mr John Brearley and conducted by Herr Volkmar Drauz, was one of a series of three which the Choir and Recorder Group gave during a hectic week in the Reading area. Interspersed with the choral items were instrumental pieces not least of which were those played by Herr Drauz

on the organ. Herr Drauz really showed what our little old organ can do when it is put to the test — as one member of the audience remarked, it certainly had the dust blown out of it. The children obviously enjoyed singing and playing their recorders and it was a delight to see their dedication and discipline on such a demanding occasion — it was no mean achievement for the youngsters in the back row to stand on stools for five or ten minutes at a stretch without falling off and wrecking the whole performance. They were all polished performers in every sense and their performance was free.

## CHURCH NEWS

The Ladies' Friendship Group recently organised an antiques evening. Whilst husbands and friends were invited — antique though some may have felt — the purpose of the evening was to bolster the Building Fund and to provide interesting entertainment learning more about the trappings of yesteryear. The evening was divided, by the inevitable refreshments, into two parts. The first part was a talk by Mr Simon Jones, BA, on antiques generally and this was illustrated by slides of interesting 'finds' which he had come across during the course of his work for a well known firm of auctioneers and valuers. Mr Jones spoke in a lively and entertaining way to the obvious delight of his audience and during the second part he appraised items which friends had brought for an 'opinion' and 'valuation' — and how the eyes of RHO and JO sparkled but even they had to heed the Tenth Commandment. In brief the evening was a 'hit' which produced £54 — for the Building Fund.

## Caversham Heights Methodist Church

THE evening of Wednesday 30th September saw the official opening and rededication of the organ and a recital by Dr W. S. Lloyd Webber.

The instrument was built by Sweetland of Bath in 1878, for Trinity Congregational Church in Queens Road and was purchased by Caversham Heights in 1913, for the then princely sum of One Hundred pounds! It gave almost 50 years trouble free service until 1963 when the pedal action became so noisy and heavy that this part of the organ was converted to electric action and a few further minor adjustments were made.

About a year ago, the church council agreed that a major reconstruction should be undertaken and authorised the setting up of an organ committee and an organ fund raising committee, to find ways and means of affecting renovations and if possible include some tonal improvements. Under the guidance of the church organist, Ralph Lascelles and much valuable assistance from Dr Lloyd Webber and Clifford Harman of the Methodist Church Music Society, a specification was drawn up and quotations invited for undertaking the work. The organ committee decided that the most ambitious of three specifications should be carried out, if the necessary finance could be secured before the work

was commissioned, and the fund raising committee set about the task. The support of the church membership and friends for the project can be gauged from the fact that within a few months cash and promises were secured for the total sum of £21,000, and the work began in July. The Taunton firm of Geo Osmond were awarded the contract.

The present rebuilding has involved remodelling the console to Royal College of Organists standard, the fitting of electro/pneumatic action manual draw-stops and pistons, and tonal modifications including the addition of Trombone 16ft to the pedals, a Mixture on the great and an Oboe on the swell, and additional couplers including swell sub octave. The official opening was undertaken by one of the oldest members of the church, Mrs L. Calvert, and Mrs Sylvia Vinall recited her composition "In praise of our organ", and the dedicatory prayer was offered by Rev Ralph Rogerson. Dr. Lloyd Webber (Director of the London College of Music and organist at Central Hall Westminster) played a varied programme designed to highlight the wide range of tonal and textural colour of the rebuilt instrument, including works by Rheinberger, Karg-Elert, S. Wesley, Bach & Handel and a selection of pieces written by himself including the popular Verset in G minor. By special request he also played the first movement of Mendelssohn's 6th organ sonata "Our Father who art in heaven".

The evening concluded with the packed church singing "Ye servants of God" — a fitting climax to the occasion much enjoyed by the many musicians and friends present. A recording of the event is now available.

## ST ANNE'S

AS October is traditionally the month set aside for devotion to Our Blessed Lady and in particular the practice of the Holy Rosary, the Sunday Evening Service has been focused to these ends with good attendance throughout.

Father Meagher is very keen to resurrect the Guild of the Blessed Sacrament and to amalgamate it with the existing Guild of Our Lady of Caversham, and it is hoped that many, if not all parishioners over the age of fourteen years will join in this great devotion of the Church.

The beginning of the month saw the great spiritual event of Quarant Ore, namely the forty hours devotion of the Blessed Sacrament

and the number of parishioners who came along to 'watch' for a half hour or so was very heartening indeed.

The proceeds from the Jumble Sale and Auction held on the 17th October realised the generous sum of £110.45p which will be given towards prizes for the Christmas draw.

And so to news of the Heights chapel. A goodly number turned up recently on a very inclement Saturday afternoon to help clear the grounds and gener-

ally do a spot of gardening. On October 6th Father Meagher was due to consult with a stonemason about the possibility of moving the permanent altar forward a little and removing the temporary one resulting in a fixation of the tabernacle in a secure prominent position, and thus a possible reservation of the Blessed Sacrament. He was also due to consult with a Town Planning Officer to consider ways in which the chapel might be extended.

Congratulations to Mary Batley and Janice Bernadette McLellan on their recent reception into the church.

## January Caversham Bridge

All material for inclusion in the January Caversham Bridge must reach Church House by noon on Wednesday December 2nd. Contributions frequently have to be held over because they are received too late. The Editorial Board regret that from January the price has to be increased to 14p.

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## CAVERSHAM WI

THE President Mrs Hilda Adair chaired the October meeting and welcomed one new member. Mr R. Eagles-ton kept members entertained with a demonstration on paper sculpture, creating a beautiful floral picture, and with Christmas in mind, table decorations and mobiles.

The competition for a letter of complaint was won by Miss W. Darter, second Mrs Betty Ather-ton and third Mrs May Smith.

## BLAGRAVE WI

THE President, Mrs J. Price, welcomed members and friends to the Harvest Lunch at their October meeting. Also present were two past Presidents, Mrs Margaret Haigh and Mrs Phyl Wilkie. After the meal two members, Miss Dorothy and Miss Mar-jorie Chapman, delighted everyone with memories of their early life in Caversham and surrounding area. A vote of thanks was given by Miss D. Reynolds. A new member, Mrs Ross, was introduced and

given her membership card.

The competition, 'Snap of the area' was won by Mrs Popplewell with Miss Rowe second and Mrs Maule third. The raffle was won by Mrs Gooch.

## CAVERSHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

THE members met on the 5th October for a Beetle Drive. The Nearly New stall was also available to members looking for bargains.

On the 12th October the members attended a Skittle contest. The prizewinners were Frank Masterman and Colin King. The evening was completed with a tasty supper.

The following week Mr John Frew gave a talk, illustrated by his excellent film slides, on his travels in Western Scotland. During his well informed commentary Mr Frew explained that he and his wife

were keen walkers and had spent many holidays walking over the Scottish mountains. He had taken the opportunity of photographing the beautiful scenery and showed the members slides taken from dawn to dusk.

A Hallowe'en party was held on the last Monday in October. The members arrived to find the room decorated with paper witches on broomsticks, bats and cats, currant buns dangling from strings and a pleasant aroma in the air of sausages and onions.

After the traditional games were played there was a parade of the members dressed as witches, one member who came as a modern witch was accompanied by a fellow member dressed as her cat. The winner of the best dressed witch prize was Evelyn Wallis, the prize for the best mask and hat was won by Ivy Masterman.

## CAVERSHAM LADIES CLUB

THE speaker at the October meeting was Mrs Churcher, on her work as a store detective. She described how she had trained for five months, and had travelled all over England in the course of her work. It was not a very popular job, and one had to be one hundred per cent sure before stopping anybody. She had come into contact with a good many people of all ages, but she had enjoyed her work and was very sorry to leave.

## CAVERSHAM DARBY AND JOAN CLUB

DURING October the Club was entertained by The Firtree Club Singers. There was group harmony, several solos and a violin solo. This was very much enjoyed by all. Later in the month, Mrs Harmer, who had lived for many years in Rhodesia

before it became Zimbabwe, described her life there and showed slides of many interesting places, especially some beautiful shots of the Victoria Falls.

## MAPLEWOOD WI

MRS Fry, the President, was in the chair. After the minutes Mrs Evelyn Harden asked for generous gifts to the Pennies for Friendship, this year's project to provide bore holes for villages without water in the Third World.

The Speaker was the Dowager Lady Hambleton, lady-in-waiting to the Queen Mother all through her reign. She has the same gift of charming all around her; she told of travels in the Britannia and African safari sunshade blown inside out in scorching winds, with torrents of rain in other places. It was a most delightful afternoon.

After tea Lady Hambleton very kindly judged the competition for a garden in a saucer, all the entries were attractive, but Mrs Chapman's was considered the most like a garden.

## ROUND THE CLUBS

## CHILDREN AT TREE TOPS

*An example of creative residential care by Pamela Pick (published by The Residential Care Association. £4.50)*

In order to learn from any experience it is necessary to feel and to understand. If we are able to also enjoy the experience then our learning becomes positive and our knowledge grows. This enjoyment and growth of understanding comes through

very forcibly in Pamela Pick's book 'Children at Treetops'. It is an honest and very easy to read book, that carries you through the day by day problems and pleasures of dealing with children who, through no fault of their own, needed care.

Mrs Pick, with the

experience and support of her husband and staff shows us how, without pre-conceived ideas, they set out to provide a family life as well as a home for these children. She has been very honest in talking about the failures as well as successes. The humour of a situation often shows through. Certainly the venture must have given a great deal of creative satisfaction and happiness, as well as hard work and heart-ache to all those concerned.



The book will be of great interest to those who know and respect Mr and Mrs Pick, but it should also be read and enjoyed by anybody who is interested in or learning about the care of children. It is full of useful references as well as sensible insight into the needs of the child. Because it is straight-forward and without jargon or statistics, it should be readily accepted by students, and give encouragement to those setting out on similar ventures, whether they are fostering one child or a number of children. I feel sure, that once again, the reader will be reminded of the individuality of every child and the immense need for flexibility as well as day by day structure for security. Above all, constant love, care and attention.

A delightful book that reminisces on the lives of so many people who worked hard to create a more hopeful future for the children who came to them.

— Pamela Townsend

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## CHRISTMAS DAY

ANGLICAN		
St Peter's	11.30pm 8.00am 9.15am 11.15am 4.00pm	Midnight Eucharist Holy Communion Parish Communion Holy Communion Evening Pray (said)
St Andrew's	11.30pm 8.00am 9.15am 11.15am	Midnight Eucharist Holy Communion Family Eucharist Holy Communion
St Barnabas	11.30pm 8.00am 9.15am	Midnight Eucharist Holy Communion Family Eucharist
St John's	11.30pm 9.15am	Holy Communion Family Communion
St Margaret's	11.30pm 8.00am 9.15am	Midnight Eucharist Holy Communion Parish Eucharist

The clergy would like to know of any sick or housebound people who wish to receive the Sacrament in their homes during the 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 United Christmas family service

### CAVERSHAM FREE BAPTIST CHURCH

10.30am Christmas service

### ST PAUL'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

(York Road)  
11.00am Service for Christmas morning

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

### CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

10.30am Christmas service

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

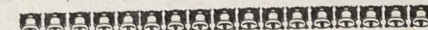
St Anne's	11.30pm 9.00am 11.00am	Midnight Mass preceded by Carols Mass Mass
Our Lady of Caversham (Richmond Road)	11.30pm 8.30am 10.30am	Midnight Mass preceded by carols Mass Mass

Confessions:—(Christmas Eve)  
St Anne's 10.30-12am 3.4pm 6-7.30pm.  
Richmond Road 9.30-9.50am 10.30-11am, 4-5pm.

### SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

(2 Church Street, Reading)

10.45am Meeting for Worship



## OTHER SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES

St Peter's  
December 24th 4pm Children's gift service and blessing of the crib.  
January 3rd 6.30pm Service of nine lessons and carols.

St Andrew's  
December 24th 4.30pm Children's service and blessing of the crib.  
January 3rd 6.30pm Service of readings and carols.

St Barnabas  
December 24th 5pm Children's service and blessing of the crib.  
December 27th 4pm Service of lessons and carols.

St John's  
January 3rd 4pm Service of readings and carols.

St Margaret's  
December 27th 3pm Service of readings and carols



### CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH

December 20th 11am Carol Service

★ ★ ★

Other services on Sunday December 27th at times and places as announced on church notice sheets.

### CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH

December 6th 6.30pm Advent Service  
December 13th 11am Toy Service  
December 20th 4pm Christingle Service

### CAVERSHAM METHODIST CHURCH

December 6th 11am Toy service and parade  
December 13th 6.30pm Carol concert with Mickland's Choir  
December 20th 6.30pm Carol service

### CAVERSHAM FREE BAPTIST CHURCH

December 20th 10.30am Toy Service  
December 20th 6.30pm Family Carol Service

### ST PAUL'S U.R.C.

December 13th 11am Toy Service  
December 18th 7.30pm Carol Concert  
December 20th 11am Christmas Family Service  
December 20th 6.30pm Service of lessons and carols  
December 24th 6pm Carol-singing in the neighbourhood of St Paul's

### CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

December 20th 6.30pm Carol Service  
December 24th (Christmas Eve) 8pm Family special

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Anne's  
December 20th 6.30pm Service of readings and carols  
Richmond Road  
December 6th 6.30pm Service of readings and carols

### SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

December 20th 3.45pm Carols and tea

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No House Communion  
5 Jordan Close (Hilary Outhwaite)  
5 Gifford Close (Paula Andrews)



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

ST JOHN'S Nursery Church (for children up to 8 yrs) in church during the Sunday eucharist at 9.15am. Family Service 1st Sunday in the month at 11am (mainly for children over 4 years). Children's Workshop fortnightly on Saturday mornings.

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

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

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

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

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

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