

Licensing of new Rector

The new Rector of Caversham Thameside and Mapledurham, the Rev. Mike Smith, started his new ministry with a licensing service, led by the Rt Rev. Andrew Proud, Bishop of Reading, and the Venerable Olivia Graham, Archdeacon of Berkshire, at St Peter's Church, Caversham on a gloriously sunny Sunday afternoon in March.

A large congregation from the three churches of the parish were joined by Mike Smith's former boss, the Rt Rev. Tim Stevens, Bishop of Leicester, and three more bishops: the Rt Rev. Stephen Lowe, the former Bishop of Hulme, who was Mike Smith's bishop in Manchester for eight years, the Rt Rev. Christopher Boyle, Assistant Bishop of Leicester, and the Rt Rev. Richard Atkinson, Bishop of Bedford, together with a number of clergy from the local area.

The service started with a hymn during which all the clergy, bishops, and churchwardens from the three churches processed into the church. After the introduction and greeting by the Bishop of Reading, the new Rector was introduced and commended to the congregation by the Bishop of Leicester. The Ven Martin Gorick, Archdeacon of Oxford, one of the committee who selected Mike for the position, presented him to be instituted and inducted. The members of the ministry team, Revs Jeremy Tear, Marion Pike and John Dudley, welcomed Mike, and undertook to work together in fulfilling the ministry of Christ.

Following the sermon by the bishop, the liturgy of Institution was performed, during which six symbols of ministry were presented to the new rector: water for baptism, oil of healing, a bible, a copy of Common Worship, bread and wine for the Eucharist, and a map, to help him find his way around the parish. He pledged himself to care for the church community, and to make the church a place where Christian people are equipped for their life in God's world. He declared his belief in the faith revealed in the scriptures, swore the oath of allegiance to the Queen, and the oath of canonical obedience. He signed the declaration and oaths, following which the Bishop read the Deed of Institution and commended the new minister and the ministry team to the people.

The archdeacon, Ven Olivia Graham, then inducted Mike into the possession of the three churches, with all the rights and responsibilities belonging to them, and a churchwarden presented the keys of the churches to him. The archdeacon led Mike to his stall in church, and placed him in it.

Mike was then welcomed to the parish by representatives of the church and community: Deacon Becky Lovatt (Caversham Methodist

Churches), Helen Lambert (chairman of CADRA), Ed Hopper (Thames Ward councillor), and churchwardens on behalf of the churches.

Mike's children presented three token gifts: a picture of a sheep to remind him of the flock he has to tend, a pair of spectacles to help him see the way ahead, and a child's folded paper game, which opened to reveal some advice for living. After the peace, an offertory hymn and prayers, the clergy processed out while the congregation sang the final hymn.

Following the service, those who attended were invited to a reception at the Caversham Canoe Club, where tea was provided, and there was an opportunity to welcome Mike and his family to Caversham.

The position of rector has been vacant for nearly a year, since the previous rector left. During this period, the ministry team have continued the work of the parish, and deserve everybody's thanks for their continued devotion and dedication.

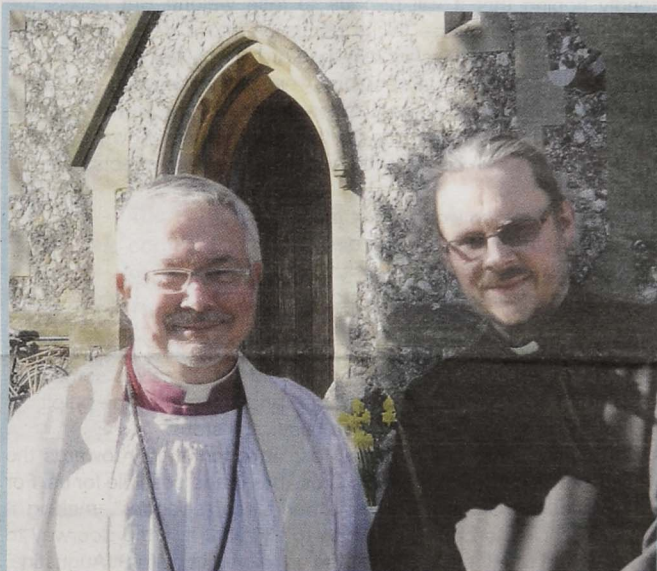
Mike has issued an open invitation to say "hello" when people see him around in Caversham, and to try out the three churches in his parish. "Starting a new ministry is an exciting time for any priest and the best way to get to know a new parish is to meet the people. When you see me around, please do say hello," said Mike, "and feel free to visit our three churches and join our worship. You'll always be welcome.

"We're a family of three churches along the Thames in Caversham and Mapledurham with different styles of worship to try out but all aiming to be inclusive, generous and life-giving.

We're also part of the community, involved in the Amersham Road Cooking Club, REinspired and its work in schools, and a number of holiday clubs with the other churches in Caversham. We have lots of regular services and special ones in the parish. Details are on the website www.ctmparish.org.uk, where you can even sample worship at St Peter's streamed live on Sunday mornings. You're welcome to join us."

Mike Smith's ministry as a priest began 18 years ago, and developed in urban and suburban parishes in Manchester until 2006. The Bishop of Leicester, the Rt Rev. Tim Stevens, who is convener of the bishops in the House of Lords and a lead spokesman for the Church of England, invited him to act as chaplain and policy advisor. He said, "Mike is essentially a pastor, priest and minister of the Gospel. He will make an outstanding parish priest in Caversham. I wish him well."

Mike is married to Rachel, who is also a priest, and has been leading her own parish in Loughborough; they have two boys aged six and three.



Andrew Proud, Bishop of Reading with Rev Mike Smith.



A Happy Easter to All Our Readers

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Caversham Clergy

ANGLICAN

St Barnabas

Revd Derek Chandler, 20 St Barnabas Road.
Tel: 947 8239.
www.saintbarnabas.org.uk

St Andrews

Revd Nigel Jones, St Andrews Vicarage,
Harrogate Road. Tel: 947 2788
www.standrewscaversham.org

St Peter, St Margaret, St John

Revd Mike Smith, The Rectory, 20 Church Road,
Caversham RG4 7AD Tel: 9479505
mike@c&mparish.org.uk

Revd Jeremy Tear

St John's Vicarage, St John's Road,
Caversham RG4 5AN Tel: 946 2884

Revd Marion Pyke

26 Priest Hill, Caversham RG4 7RZ
Tel: 947 5834

CAVERSHAM PARK ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP

Revd Margaret Dimmick, 12 Lowfield Road,
Caversham Park. Tel: 947 0258

METHODIST TEAM MINISTRY

Rev Jenny Dowding, 72 Highmoor Road,
Tel: 947 2223

Deacon Becky Lovatt, 1 Forge Close, Caversham
RG4 8BG. Tel: 948 2530
email: beckybawden@hotmail.co.uk or
beckybawden@btinternet.com

BAPTIST

Revd Rob Beardsley.
Tel: 07515 260019
email rob.beardsley@sky.com

GRACE CHURCH

(formerly Caversham Hill Chapel)

Colin Gault. Tel: 948 4151

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Fr Paul Martin, The Presbytery,
2 South View Avenue.
Tel: 947 1787.

Deacon: Mike Walker, Hugh Ancombe

Fr Paul Rowan

NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD

Rev H R Gayle Tel: 946 3009 (contact)

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

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The Editors also would like to bring to readers' notice that the
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TALKING POINT

by

Paul Martin

As I sit writing this Lenten reflection, the sun is shining outside heralding a beautiful Spring morning. After one of the dreariest winters on record, one which has brought misery to thousands of people forced to abandon homes and businesses as a consequence of the severe flooding, Spring has arrived at last. Lent is, of course, the Springtime of the Church. The word "Lent" refers to the lengthening of the days, and it is lovely to be able to wake up now and finally see daylight! After the "death" of winter, nature is springing to life again. There is blossom and there are buds on the trees, the daffodils and crocuses are in flower, and carpets of snowdrops and bluebells in our woods. Already our minds are filled with thoughts of new life as, in faith, we make our solemn Lenten pilgrimage towards Holy Week and Easter.

Traditionally, the hallmarks of Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. However we choose to observe Lent, what we do should always be directed towards God. We are inclined to use Lent to do something for ourselves, to cut out alcohol or chocolate for instance, fondly hoping that it will help us to lose weight! But unless the discipline of doing these things brings us into a deeper and more meaningful faith relationship with the Lord, it is a pointless exercise. Throughout Lent, we must keep our eyes firmly fixed upon the Cross, meditating upon all that Jesus suffered there for the salvation of the entire human race, and asking for the grace to somehow be able to unite ourselves with his suffering and with its saving effects.

*When I survey the won'drous Cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.*

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving can all help in this respect. Lent must mean that we slow down a little and set ourselves some new priorities. For instance, I once heard a priest say from the pulpit, "If you're too busy to pray, you're too busy...full stop!"

Of course, Lent does not direct our attention simply towards the Cross, but also towards what the Cross has made possible for us. For Christians, the Cross of Jesus is our "Jacob's ladder", making it possible for us to climb from earth to Heaven. It is the doorway to Heaven and to eternal life. It enables us to cry out, with St Augustine, "We are an Easter People, and Alleluia is our Song" because we know that it is God's Kingdom, and not the grave, that is meant to be our eternal home.

I hope and pray that Lent, Holy Week and Easter will be a holy time for all of you, a time when your friendship with God will be deepened and strengthened. God bless you all.

Fr Paul Martin

Our Lady & St Anne Caversham

SUNDAY SERVICES

ANGLICAN

St Peter's, St Peter's Hill

8.00am Holy Communion
9.45am Parish Communion
6.30pm Evensong

St John's, Gosbrook Road

8.30am Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)
10.00am Parish Communion (except 2nd Sunday)
10.00am All Age Worship (2nd Sunday)

St Andrew's, Harrogate Road

8.00am The Eucharist
10.00am Parish Eucharist (Sung)
First Sunday, Family Eucharist
11.30am The Eucharist first and third Sundays only, first Sunday BCP
6.30pm Evening Prayer (as announced)

St Barnabas, Grove Road, Emmer Green

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Family Communion (apart from 2nd Sunday)
9.30am Family Service (2nd Sunday only)

St Margaret's, Mapledurham

11.00am Parish Communion

CAVERSHAM PARK ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP

Meeting at Caversham Park School

11.00am Holy Communion (1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays)
Morning Worship (2nd and 4th Sundays)
All Age Worship (at Festival Times)

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH South Street

10.30am Morning Worship each Sunday
7.00pm Powerhouse Service - 2nd Saturday each month
3.45pm Messy Church - for all the family
Last Sunday of the month

GRACE CHURCH Old Peppard Road

10.30am Worship and Ministry, Children's Church
6.30pm Prayer Meeting

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN CAVERSHAM

Caversham Heights, Highmoor Road

9.00am (first Sunday), 10.30am
6.30pm (second and fourth Sundays)
Gosbrook Road
10.30am

Woodcote Parish Church

9.45am (second Sunday)

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Our Lady and St Anne's, Southview Avenue

Saturday 5.30pm,
Sunday 10.00am and 6.30pm

Mapledurham House 6.00pm Mass (last Sunday of the month)

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers)

Church Street, Reading

10.30am
(House study groups Sept-June Tel: 9475783)

NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD

Church Street, Caversham

9.30am Sunday School
11.00am Divine Worship
6.00pm Evening Service

Caversham Bridge

Contributions for the May 2014 issue should be sent to Caversham Thameside and Mapledurham Parish Office by **Monday 31st March**. The date for the June 2014 issue is **Monday 28th April**. Email address is secretary@ctmparish.org.uk

Advertising copy for the May issue should be sent to Mr A Wright, Twiggmoor, Upper Warren Avenue, Caversham by **Friday 28th March**. The date for the June 2014 issue is **Friday 25th April**.

PARISH OFFICES

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St Peter, St Margaret, St John
Church House, 59 Church Street, Caversham RG4 8AX
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9.30am to 12.00noon
Tel: 947 1703 email: secretary@ctmparish.org.uk

ST BARNABAS

St Barnabas Centre
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Tel: 947 6310 Website: www.saintbarnabas.org.uk



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Bible Friends

Jesus and Mary

Mary was very sad. She was so sad, she was crying. Mary was sad because Jesus had died on the cross. Mary was very puzzled. She was puzzled because Jesus' body had gone from the cave they had put it in. Mary did not know where Jesus was now.

As she was crying, Mary heard a voice say, "Why are you sad? Why are you crying?"

"They have taken Jesus away," she said, "and I don't know where he is."

Mary turned round to see who was there. What a surprise – it was Jesus! Mary was very happy. Mary was very excited. She could see that Jesus was alive!

Jesus told her to tell all his friends that he was alive and that she had seen him. So Mary ran quickly to tell them. Mary always remembered the special time she spent with Jesus that day!

John 20:11-18



CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editorial Team,

I read with interest the article written by Ian Lowry (March edition) about The story of Mother's Day and Mothering Sunday. There is now much commercialism relating to Mothering Sunday which is increasingly called Mother's Day denoted by the plethora of cards on sale in the shops. However, I am a pedant when it comes to the relevant Sunday in Lent having learned the history of Mothering Sunday many years ago. Every year my son with perseverance and tenacity manages to find a Mothering Sunday card to send to me despite the increasing difficulty in doing so.

Yours faithfully,
Jean Rae

Dear Sir

I am a veteran of many queues over Sonning Bridge, during my time at the old Met office in Bracknell.

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How about the bridge being east of Sonning Bridge and taking the present traffic onto the Henley Road?

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Yours sincerely
John E Williams

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0118 327 1128**CHURCHES****Damian's Papal Medal**

Damian with his father displays the certificate

Damian Colehan has been Chairman of the Finance Committee for twelve years at the parish of Our Lady and St Anne's, Caversham. He has been a constant support to three parish priests as well as many parishioners. Damian has served many roles within the parish and been deeply involved

with fundraising events. For his services and dedication to supporting the Catholic Church, especially at Our Lady and St. Annes, he has been awarded the Benemerenti medal by Pope Francis.

Fr Giles Goward, Parish Priest at St. Anne's until July 2013 and now the Pastoral Studies Director, at Oscott College, Birmingham came back to present the medal at the end of the Sunday 10.00am Mass.

The Mass was con-celebrated by both Father Paul and Fr

Giles with the plainchant, Missa De Angelis, sung by the choir and joined in enthusiastically by many of the congregation. Fr Paul and Fr Giles spoke movingly, about Damian's contribution to the parish and how he represented the parish community well over a number of years.

Fr Giles presented the medal to Damian who then expressed his gratitude to all who had helped him in his work. He articulated how exceptionally blessed and honoured he was to receive such an honour and remarkable award.

Many members of Damian's proud family came down from Bradford, Yorkshire to support him and partake in the Mass. Tina, Damian's wife provided an impressive buffet for all the parishioners to celebrate with the family and the wider parish community.

News from St Barnabas Church

A busy time continues to unfold at St. Barnabas Church. In February the annual fish and chip supper was held when the church hall was filled to capacity. Food, fun and fellowship were much in evidence. The performance of Aladdin by members of the Youth Fellowship was greatly enjoyed and thanks were expressed for all the teamwork involved.

Concerts continue to be arranged to raise money for the restoration of the organ and such events reflect the linking together of the church and the community.

**Easter Services for the
Caversham Bridge April 2014****St. Barnabas, Emmer Green**

Sunday 13 April	9.30am	Procession with Passion Reading
Thursday 17 April	8.00pm	Tenebrae Service
Friday 18 April	2.00pm	Reflections around the Cross with June Hardcastle
Sunday 20 April	5.30am	Dawn Service
Sunday 20 April	8.00am	Said Communion (BCP)
Sunday 20 April	9.30am	Family Communion

St John the Baptist Caversham

Sunday 13 April	10.00am	Parish Communion and Palm Procession
Thursday 17 April	10.00am	Holy Communion
Thursday 17 April	7.00pm	Agape with Holy Communion
Thursday 17 April	9-10pm	Vigil
Friday 18 April	10.00am	All Age Service
Friday 18 April	12noon	Churches Together in Caversham
Saturday 19 April	4.00pm	Walk of Witness
Sunday 20 April	10.00am	Once Upon a Tree
Sunday 20 April	10.00am	All Age Communion

St Peter Caversham

Sunday 13 April	8.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 13 April	9.45am	Parish Communion Palm Sunday
Sunday 13 April	6.30pm	Evening Service for Palm Sunday
Monday 14 April	8.00pm	Compline
Tuesday 15 April	8.00pm	Compline
Wednesday 16 April	8.00pm	Compline
Thursday 17 April	8.00pm	Sung Eucharist with foot washing, stripping of altar and watch
Friday 18 April	12.00	Three hour service
Saturday 19 April	8.00pm	Compline
Sunday 20 April	8.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 20 April	9.45am	Holy Communion
Sunday 20 April	6.30pm	Festival Evensong

St Margaret Mapledurham

Sunday 13 April	11.00	Eucharist
Thursday 17 April	7.30pm	Last Supper & Eucharist, Trench Green Hall
Friday 18 April	10.30am	Stations of the Cross
Sunday 20 April	11.00am	Eucharist

St Andrew's Caversham

Sunday 13 April	9.30am	Donkey Procession departs Copperfields
Thursday 17th April	7.30pm	Last Supper Liturgy includes meal and Holy Communion
Friday 18th April	2.00pm	Hour of the cross includes Holy Communion
Saturday 19th April	8.30pm	Easter Liturgy
Sunday 20th April	10.00am	All Age Eucharist

Our Lady & St Anne's

7.30pm	Penitential Service
5.30pm	Vigil Mass
10.00am	Mass
6.30pm	Mass
7.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
12.00	Children's Stations
3.00pm	Liturgy of the Passion
7.00pm	Stations of the Cross
10.30am	Morning Prayer
8.00pm	Solemn Easter Vigil
10.00am	Mass
6.30pm	Mass

New Testament Church of God

Thursday 17th April	7.30pm	Lords Supper & Feet washing
Friday 18th April	11.00am	Good Friday Service
	7.30pm	Baptism Service
Sunday 20th April	11.00am	Easter Sunday Morning Service

Caversham Park LEP

Sunday 20th April	11.00am	Easter Day Service
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Caversham Heights Methodist Church

Thursday 17 April	7.30pm	Service of Holy Communion and Tenebrae
Sunday 20 April	8am	Holy Communion followed by Easter breakfast
Sunday 20 April	10.30am	Easter Worship with Holy Communion

Gosbrook Road Methodist Church

Friday 18 April	10.30am	United service with the Baptist Church, followed by Ecumenical Walk of Witness
	7.30pm	Quiet service of meditation
Sunday 20 April	10.30am	Easter Worship for all ages

Grace Church

Friday 18 April	10.30am	Good Friday Service
Sunday 20 April	10.30am	Easter Sunday Service

St Michael's, Sonning Common

Sunday 13 April	9.00am	Blessing of Palms at Mass
Sunday 13 April	10.30am	Blessing of Palms at Mass
Monday 14 April	7.00pm	Service of Reconciliation
Thursday 17 April	7.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday 18 April	10.00am	Walk of Witness (through Sonning Common, gather at Christ the King Sedgewell Road);
Friday 18 April	12.00	Stations of the Cross
Friday 18 April	3.00pm	Good Friday Liturgy
Saturday 19 April	9.00pm	No 5.30pm mass (No 5.30pm mass)
Sunday 20 April	9.00am	Mass
Sunday 20 April	10.30am	Mass

Rock Choir

'Many men, many men, many men men men' to the tune of the William Tell Overture resounds through the school hall as we warm up for yet another fun singing session at Caversham Rock Choir. Of the many warm ups we sing – which are designed to get us breathing and wash away the day's worries before we begin – this is my very favourite. Why do we sing 'Many men'? As an ironic homage to the one or two male members of the choir in the hope that each week one or two more may appear!

Since joining Caversham Rock Choir when it started in September 2010, I've sung at Wembley Arena, the O2 Arena, the Madejski Stadium and The Hexagon Theatre as well as a number of smaller local events AND been a part of two Guinness Book of Records attempts! How many people can say they've performed at Wembley?! It was an experience I will never forget – singing my heart out with 10,000 Rock Choir members all cheering and waving as one big happy family.

These performances are the culmination of weeks of rehearsals on Tuesday evenings at Emmer Green Primary School. Each week we learn a new song, which will take us 2 weeks to perfect and we recap songs we have sung before. There are no auditions or requirement to read music – this took a bit of getting used to for me, having sung in many choirs before and always relied on the notes. It means that choir members sing out and don't have their heads buried in pieces of paper. We learn the songs by ear, bit by bit, until we have memorised both the lyrics and melody. This has been an invaluable skill for me to accomplish, being the sort of person who walks into a room and has forgotten why! It was only when I was leafing through my Rock Choir lyrics folder the other day that I realised I now know 36 songs off by heart!

These weekly sessions are great fun and always invigorate and revitalise me every time. We laughed such a lot mastering the Rock Choir moves – which, along with the singing, release many an endorphin – and if you're a diva there is also the chance to do a solo! I've done a rap solo for the gospel song 'Joyful Joyful' from the film 'Sister Act' – rap, me? At the ripe old age of 46, who'd have thought it? We sing anything from gospel to pop and rock, some upbeat and funky, others dreamy and melodious. My very favourite is Labi Siffre's 'Something Inside So Strong' which sent tingles down my spine when we performed it at Wembley. We are led by an extremely talented and patient music graduate Lucy who is not at all patronising is really encouraging and most of all she motivates us to sing with vigour. I feel incredibly privileged to sing and perform under Lucy's direction and am thrilled she is a part of my life.

What have I gained from Rock Choir? I can't even begin to tell you as it would take so long, suffice to say that it has helped me through severe post natal depression and a relationship breakdown, I have some fabulous memories and I have made some beautiful and lasting friendships.

So come along and see for yourselves and you never know, you may even be one of those elusive many men!

For your FREE taster session or to find out more go to www.rockchoir.com or call 01252 714276.

Polyglot Performance by Rivarate for Daisy's Dream



Pam and Hannah Asbury singing Tears in Heaven, accompanied by Josh Shires.

Rivarate, the Caversham based choir, gave its first concert of 2014 in the Methodist Church, Caversham Heights in February. Under their musical director, Alison Golby, and supported by accompanist, Pam Asbury, the choir of 80 voices sang a repertoire of songs in five languages – six, if you include American Broadway. In addition to English, they included Swahili, Latin, Russian and Italian as well as Broadway.

There were impressive performances from soloists, a duet and a barbershop ensemble. All these singers were drawn from within the choir and included two new members singing their

first solos with Rivarate. Lewis Hope, a student at Henley College, sang John Ireland's setting of Sea Fever and Matthew Smith sang Ferrando's aria Un'aura amorosa from Mozart's *Così fan tutte*.

Pam Asbury sang *Tears in Heaven* as a duet with her daughter, Hannah, accompanied by Josh Shires on guitar. Robert Foster, as always, sang his own composition. Alastair Muirhead brought back BBC memories of *Children's Hour* and bathtime to choir and audience members, of a certain age with Victor Hely-Hutchinson's setting of *The Owl and the Pussycat* and Carol Murphy transported everyone down the Mississippi with her energetic rendering of *Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man* from Showboat. Stephen Foster, the father of modern American music, was fittingly remembered by the barbershop ensemble as they harmonised *I Dream of Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair*, his plaintive ode to the wife he loved who had left him.

Rivarate supports local charities with its concerts. Following this concert, a cheque for £500.00 was donated to *Daisy's Dream*, the Twyford based support group for children and teenagers who have suffered bereavement. A retiring collection at the end of the evening raised a further £147 for the group. The service which *Daisy's Dream* provides is delivered by professionally qualified family workers but is totally dependent on fundraising and donations to meet its costs. You can learn more about the work of *Daisy's Dream* by logging on to www.daisysdream.org.uk

Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club Lions help Alzheimer's

At the February 10th dinner meeting, Club President Alan Lovegrove presented a cheque for £2,500 to Ellie Hughes, Community Fundraiser for the Alzheimer's Society (Berks, Bucks & Oxon).

The Alzheimer's Society, is the charity chosen to be the main beneficiary of profits from the

Lions 10k Charity Road Run held in January. Alan Lovegrove stated, "Only with the generous support of local businesses and individuals are the Lions able to continue raising these funds."

More than 50 volunteers were involved in helping with this event. Most thanks are due to the runners who took part and without whom nothing would have been achieved."

In thanking the Lions, Ellie Hughes said, "On behalf of Alzheimer's Society thank you to all who worked so hard to be able to donate such a fantastic amount. Alzheimer's Society supports people affected by dementia in a number of ways; through one-to-one support, information provision, activity groups, dementia cafés and befriending. There are currently more than 7,000 people in Oxfordshire and over 9,000 people in Berkshire living with dementia. Thanks to donations like this, we are able to continue to provide vital local support services and invest more into research. This £2,500 is enough to run five sessions of 'Singing for the Brain' which brings people together in a friendly and stimulating environment and uses singing to enhance communication, confidence and well-being."



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

EASTER EGG TRAIL IN CAVERSHAM COURT EASTER SATURDAY 19 April 2-4pm

Come along to Caversham Court on Easter Saturday, when the Friends of Caversham Court Gardens will be hosting an Easter Egg Trail on a nature theme in the lovely riverside gardens. All young competitors will win an Easter Egg prize. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Entry is free, but donations to the Friends of Caversham Court Gardens will be appreciated. The Tea Kiosk will be open for refreshments all afternoon. Further information from the Friends of Caversham Court Gardens - email friends@fccg.org.uk or ring 0118 9475062.

Local Planning and CADRA AGM

Following a brief AGM looking back at changes in Caversham over the year, the next CADRA open meeting will focus on how national and local planning policies work at local level. It will take place at Thameside School Hall, Harley Road, Caversham at 7.30pm on Thursday 8 May 2014.

CADRA is pleased to welcome two speakers. Lynette Baker is the Reading Borough Council area planning manager with responsibility for North and Central Reading. Professor Gavin Parker is professor of planning studies at Reading University with a particular interest in neighbourhood planning. Non members are welcome to attend and will be able to join that evening.

READING BACH CHOIR

Reading Bach Choir will be performing Brahms Requiem at the Old Hall, Queens Anne's School, 6 Henley Road, Caversham RG4 6DX on Saturday 5th April at 6:30pm.

Conducted by Matthew Hamilton, the soloists will be Christina Gansch (Soprano) and Simon Lasker Wallfisch (Baritone). Pianists are Tom Primrose and Finnegan Downie Dear.

Tickets priced at £15, concessions £13, NUS £8 and under-16 £5 are available from www.wegotickets.com or telephone 0118 947 8097.

Wine and canapés will be available after the performance.

For more information visit www.readingbachchoir.org.uk

Shiplake bowling club open day

Shiplake Village Bowls Club is having an open day on 26th April from 10am to 1pm.

Situated behind Shiplake Memorial Hall, on Memorial Avenue, Shiplake Cross, it is a mixed club founded in 1920 and affiliated to Bowls Oxfordshire.

You may be an existing bowler, new to the area, a new bowler or just interested in trying the game for the first time. We hope that you will come along and see what our friendly club has to offer. We have superb facilities including a spacious clubhouse with a bar (charging reasonable prices), garden patio, fine Green and attractive surrounds in a lovely setting. The Green is open every day, with points on a Monday afternoon. Coaching is available from qualified coaches throughout the season. We have members of all ages and playing ability (beginner to county players).

Bowls is a low impact activity, and an excellent way of keeping active, spending time in the outdoors and making friends. Bowling is easy to learn in just a few sessions, it is for all ages and can be family fun, a social activity or a competitive sport; it's what you make it.

Shiplake has a full fixture list with many local clubs and these are mixed matches. A men's team plays in the Oxford and District Bowls League and the ladies play several friendly games throughout the season. The club also has in-house competitions with cups and trophies for the winners and their names are recorded on the honour boards in the clubhouse.

The bowling season lasts from April to September. The winter programme consists of social events such as a dinner dance, race night, bingo and quizzes to name but a few. On Wednesday evenings from October to March, cribbage is played at the clubhouse.

We hope to see you at the open day and only ask that you wear flat-soled shoes or trainers; Bowls and other equipment will be provided.

If you miss the open day, please drop in any Monday afternoon from 2pm or Friday evening after 6:30pm to talk to any of our members.

Visit our website www.bowlsshiplake.com for more information.



**Caversham and District
Residents Association**

2014 A.G.M.

**7.30pm, Thursday 8th May 2014
at Thameside School**

followed by:



**Local
Planning**

**-Lynette Baker, Area Planning Officer, RBC
and
Gavin Parker, Professor of Planning Studies,
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News from the Caversham Neighbourhood Police Team (NHPT)

The team will face new challenges in 2014 and look to resolve community issues through our partnership working with the local community,

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partner agencies and Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAGs) etc. The team is available and contactable by a number of methods. If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call on the police non emergency number 101 but if your call is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email: MapledurhamandthamesNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk Peppard and cavershamNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

If you have information about crime or anti social behaviour in your area but you do not want to speak to the police, please call the Crime stoppers charity on 0800 555111. For information on your neighbourhood team you can visit the force website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk

Traffic Matters

The Caversham Neighbourhood team has been working recently on school patrols in the area, due to the increase of complaints about parents parking around the local primary schools. PCSOs are linked to individual schools and look at parking issues. Traffic enforcement officers accompany them.

The team would like to point out that drivers are putting children and others at risk due to poor parking around the schools, and the information below will help everyone understand the importance of road safety:

Do not park on the verges – the damage caused to these areas is both unsightly and costly to repair. In some places they are deemed part of the highway so any parking restrictions apply to the verge as well. Please drive slowly at school times. Children may suddenly step out into the road. Research shows if you hit a child at 40 mph there's an 80% chance they will be killed but if you hit them at 30 mph there is an 80% they will survive. At 30 mph vehicles travel 44 feet (about 3 car lengths) every second.

Even in good conditions, the difference in stopping distance between 30mph and 35 mph is an extra 21 feet – more than two car lengths. Consider the potentially fatal consequences of not sticking to the speed limit. It is 30, and in many school areas 20 mph, for a reason.

When picking up or dropping off children try to park so that they can get in or out on the 'kerb side'. Then they are not getting out straight into roads and the line of traffic. However, please be aware of other pedestrians using the footway before opening your doors, as you may hit or obstruct them.

Consider parking further away from the school and walking part of your journey – this disperses the cars and reduces the number in any one location to a safer level. It is an opportunity to talk to your child, teach them road safety skills and for them to learn about their surroundings.

Do not drive or park on the pavement – children are taught the pavement is a safe place to be. Do not park within 10 metres of a junction in

any direction – this allows motorists the safe visibility they need to see approaching traffic (the police have the power to enforce this restriction). You do not want to be responsible for an accident, and you do not want to face a fine.

Try to avoid reversing near a school. It can be very hard to see small children directly behind you. If you must reverse, please take extra care.

Please park so you do not cause inconvenience to anyone else – this includes double parking, blocking residents' driveways and parking right outside someone's window. Do not park where you are prevented from doing so by restrictions – single yellow line with date/time restrictions, double yellow line and especially school keep clear zigzags. These restrictions are deliberately placed to improve visibility for vulnerable pedestrians, to address road safety and allow safe crossing of the road.

Dropped kerbs are there to assist people with pushchairs and wheelchairs to cross the road. Although it may be tempting please don't park so that you block them. You are depriving someone of an accessible place to cross the road and you may be prosecuted for the offence.

Burglary

Burglary is still a concern for the area and as we get into spring and summer the figures will rise. There will be leaflet drops about burglary prevention and some 'have your say' events run by the police. These should help residents reduce burglary crime. However, too many burglaries are the result of carelessness, for example leaving windows open, doors unlocked, tools and ladders in gardens and keys in view of doors. Don't leave sheds, garages and outbuildings unlocked and report any suspicious activity and minor crimes to the police.

To help prevent your property becoming a target, the Caversham Neighbourhood Team is available to complete a home survey of your property and its perimeters. This is a free service offering advice on improving the security of your home and helping to make you feel safer and more aware of the security in and around your home. Please phone 101 and ask to speak to the Caversham Neighbourhood Team.

PCSO Karen Vaughan has been on patrol with the Environmental Department from RBC looking at areas of concern for fly tipping and littering.

Some areas were highlighted to the council which they will resolve in the coming months. Pedal cycles had been abandoned and left chained to posts and bike racks, Karen and the council officer had some removed from the Waitrose and Iceland car park.

The team executed a warrant on an address in Sheridan Avenue, and

found a cannabis factory which contained a high number of cannabis plants and equipment to grow them. One male was arrested at the address. The team would like to thank the residents in the road, who first reported the suspicious behaviour which led to the warrant.

PC Julia Clarke has been working hard and charged five people for shoplifting offences.

PCSO Chaston carried out a community visit to the local Rainbow group at St Barnabas Church. PCSO Karen Vaughan has been conducting talks to local scouts groups in the area regarding personal safety and the role of the neighbourhood team in the area.

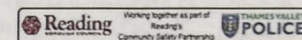
YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM Peppard and Caversham Mapledurham and Thames



Your local Neighbourhood Police Team work on issues identified by residents and businesses. To contact them call:

101

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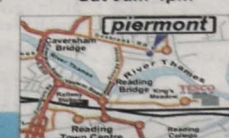
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Caversham Arts Trail

The fifth Caversham Arts Trail will be held on 10th–11th May and 17th–18th May 2014 with several venues also open on Friday 16th May. Admission is free and all venues are open from 11am–5pm.

To whet the appetite you can see a taster of the event with selected artists' work on display (and for sale) at the Blue Duck Gallery www.theblueduckgallery.co.uk/ with an opening preview on Friday 9th May 7–9pm. The Gallery will also be open during the Trail.

This year the Trail is even bigger, taking in 18 venues across Caversham and Emmer Green with 36 artists taking part. Some of the artists are regular exhibitors but there are also 12 new artists and four new venues. Details of all artists can be found on the website www.cavershamartstrail.co.uk where

there will be a map of the Trail to download. Much of the Trail is walkable and on local cycle routes.

Work will include a variety of media including ceramics, painting, collage, stained glass, textiles, prints, découpage, jewellery, sculpture and leather. The Trail gives members of the public the opportunity to meet the artists in their own studios, learn about their techniques and buy work directly from them. Some of their work is seen below.

Visitors to the Trail will also be able to see demonstrations of weaving, batik, pot-throwing, stained glass and more. Last but not least refreshments (including home-made cake) will be available at some venues.

You can follow the Trail on Facebook www.facebook.com/cavershamartstrail and Twitter www.twitter.com/CavArtsTrail.




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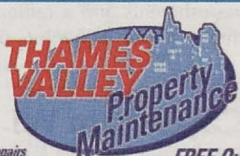
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preserve things worth preserving.

Unfortunately, the items near the bottom of the box had got wet at some time, and had gone mouldy. I got out the vacuum cleaner, and used a nozzle with a brush to get rid of the worst, and then I started reading.

Despite the fact that the papers had come from a house in east Reading, I discovered that they had belonged to a Miss Hasluck, of Warren House, Caversham, and that they dated from the 1920s to the 1960s. To be honest, most of them weren't very interesting, and wouldn't mean very much to anyone who didn't know the family.

Marjory Hasluck was the daughter of the Rev. Ernest Edward Hasluck. He had been Vicar of Sixpenny Handley in Dorset, and he and his family came to Warren House on his retirement in 1925. Why they chose Caversham we shall probably never know. Mrs Hasluck died in 1935, and her husband in 1949, when he was aged 90. Two of the children continued living in Caversham – Marjory, and her brother, whom she refers to in the letters as Reggie. Neither of them seems to have married. Reggie had spent some time in India, and had returned to Caversham, where he became a Reading councillor. The whole family seem to have been members of St. Peter's Church – Reggie was a churchwarden.

I have agreed to edit the hundreds of letters and photographs down to a reasonable size, retaining the most interesting ones, and the County Archivist at the Berkshire Record Office has agreed to look after them. My problem is that, despite there being so many photographs, I can't positively identify Miss Marjory Hasluck in any of them. It's the usual story – most of the pictures have nothing written on the back. Since she lived into the 1960s, I'm sure there must be *Caversham Bridge* readers who remember her. If you think you can help in identifying her, please give me a call – the number is 948 3354.

The family maintained their friendships from Sixpenny Handley days, and they had friends all over the world – Germany, Kenya, South Africa, New Zealand, and so on. They holidayed in Italy and in Switzerland, and were obviously well off. The very size of Warren House tells you that. At one stage, they employed a servant named Joe.

The house isn't in The Warren at all, but in St. Peter's Avenue, immediately and almost vertically above it. It is now divided into apartments, but was built for Dryland Haslam, the estate agent, in the 1880s. His son, Dryland Haslam junior, lived there after him. The Haslam family seem to have been there until the Hasluck family arrived. With the death of the Rev. Ernest Hasluck, Marjory and Reggie moved higher up St. Peter's Avenue, and the big house became a home for elderly ladies, run by Reading Borough Council.

The photograph – one of the few that I can identify – shows the orchard of Warren House, on a steep slope above The Warren, with the house above it.

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Caversham Inner Wheel

To celebrate the 90th anniversary of International Inner Wheel, members of the Caversham branch gave a useful gift, incorporating a wheel, to a locally based charity. A wheelbarrow was donated to the Ways and Means Trust. The trust was founded 40 years ago and now operates from premises in Caversham and Rotherfield Peppard and aims to support adults who have learning disabilities with training, education and work experience.

Inner Wheel was founded in Manchester in 1924 by Margaret Golding, a nurse and business woman. It has now spread to over 100 countries, worldwide. It is a women's organisation, dedicated to promoting true friendship, the idea of personal service and international understanding. In many emerging countries, it is often the only place where women can voice their concerns.

The wheelbarrow will be used at the five-acre horticultural therapy unit at Rotherfield Peppard, where there is a 60ft glasshouse and two polytunnels. Clients are taught to propagate a wide variety of fruit, vegetables and herbs, as well as bedding plants.



Pictured in the photograph Libby Lowry, president of Caversham Inner Wheel, handing over the wheelbarrow to Angela Fordham, with members of Caversham Inner Wheel and members and clients of the Ways and Means Trust.

Caversham Heights Society

Members of the Caversham Heights Society enjoyed three events during February. On the 5th Sally Botwright shared her passion for 'Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.'

Unlike the long-established and well-known charity, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Hearing Dogs for the Deaf has only been in existence since 1982. The income for the Guide Dogs is about £60 million and for Hearing Dogs is only £6 million, raised entirely through voluntary efforts.

The purpose of the charity is to develop independence and confidence for those who are profoundly deaf as well as to provide companionship through having a canine friend. As Sally pointed out, deafness is 'the hidden disability' because to an onlooker a deaf person is, to all extents and purposes, no different from anyone else. Deaf people however, live in a silent and often lonely world. This means 1/6th of the population of the UK-10 million people; of these 800,000 are profoundly deaf. It was the realisation of these facts that led to Lady Beatrice Wright and Bruce Fogel setting up the charity. Having a guide dog reduces the sense of isolation and loneliness and provides 'visibilty for the invisible'.

Sally told members that the most reliable dogs are labradors, spaniels, poodles and golden retrievers, but the most popular dog is a 'cockerpoo', a cross between a spaniel and a poodle! She also explained how the dogs are trained, usually by volunteers. As far as possible the charity breeds its own dogs and takes a year to train them. By 2012 over 1600 dogs had been trained and as far as possible each dog is 'matched' to its owner, at the age of 11 a dog is 'retired'. The breeding, training and life-long care costs £45,000. The majority of members, who knew little about the work of the charity, left the meeting inspired and encouraged.

On 12th February members visited the Haymarket Theatre in London to see *One Man, Two Guvnors*. An excellent day was rounded off by an evening meal in a nearby hotel. The only thing that marred the day was the torrential rain!

The final event was on the 19th February when Roger Askew, a member of the Windsor arts scene, entertained and enlightened members with his vast knowledge of *Gilbert and Sullivan - their lives and the Savoy Operas*. Not only was the audience treated to an intriguing history of the two men and their quarrels, and how and why certain comic operas fared better than others, but were also encouraged to join in a few of the best known

choruses!

New members of the society are always welcome. Further details can be found at www.cav-hts-soc.fsnet.co.uk or by telephoning 959 5307.

Caversham Horticultural Society

Our first public talk of the year takes place on Wednesday 9th April. Iain Tolhurst of Tolhurst Organic, Specialist Growers of Fruit and Vegetables is giving the talk on *Bio-diversity at work - vegetable grower's 40 years experience*. If you are planning to take up organic gardening or interested in finding out how to grow healthy plants using a rotation of green manures and utilising bio-diversity as a means of reducing pest and disease attacks we would be delighted to see you at this talk.

This will be held at our usual venue Caversham Primary School, Hemdean Road starting at 7.45pm. There is a charge of £3.00 for non-members. Why not join the society for £5.00, £3.00 concessions, and enjoy a series of free talks and the use of the trading shed to purchase supplies at competitive prices? Join us at this talk or contact the membership secretary 0118 947 0510.

Caversham Allotment Association

The next meeting of Caversham Allotment Association will be on April 8th at Church House. The speaker will be Geoff Hawkins who will be talking about *Growing Vegetables for the Smaller Garden* so this should be of great interest to many people. Do come along at 7.30pm for an interesting evening with free admission, refreshments and a raffle. For more details, contact Carol Wheeler on 01189 475802

Caversham WI

Members were enthralled by the talk from Malcolm Nelson. His subject - *40 years of catching smugglers* - proved interesting with touches of humour in the fight against drug smuggling.

The competition - a holiday memento - had 10 entries from around the world. Romayre Flight was the winner with Margaret Cameron and Sylvia Myzior runners up.

The business part was dealt with and included a reminder of the annual meeting and bring and buy next month. A bumper raffle ended the evening

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CAVERSHAM BRANCH

This year has been very busy for the Branch so far and will be very much busier in the coming months. The branch will participate in events marking the outbreak of WW1. There will be an event in Caversham on Armed Forces Day, Saturday June 28th and, hopefully a short Service at Caversham's War Memorial on Monday 4th August (the date War broke out) arrangements are being made to have a Garden of Remembrance in the Military section at Henley Road Cemetery.

The branch has continued its social activities by having a monthly supper/social evening at the Caversham Working Mens Club by kind permission of their Committee. Fifty or so Members each month have been on one of the Coach trips run by the Branch visiting Bristol (was to have been Cardiff but the weather was too bad and the Severn Bridge was closed!), Gloucester and Bath.

If you would like to know more about Caversham Branch of the Royal British Legion please get in touch with either Ron on 0118 9481147 or Pauline 0118 9475345.

**Caversham Heights
Townswomens Guild**

The Annual General Meeting, with cheese and wine was the final meeting at St Andrew's church hall, our home for the last 53 years. In April we move to the Caversham Heights Methodist Church Hall in Highmoor Road.

Several members travelled to London to see 'From Here to Eternity' and the ambling group slithered their way through the mud to Caversham Heath Golf Club for lunch.

Mr Tony King entertained the Social Studies group with a talk entitled 'If Dickens had a camera'.

A trip to Bristol was arranged to attend the International Women's Day luncheon.

Our next meeting will be at 7.30pm at the Methodist Church Hall, on 17th of April. Mr Paul Joyce will tell us about the Thames and Severn canals.

Any ladies wishing to join us will be very welcome.

Caversham and Chiltern Flower Club

Have you always wanted to make an impact with a flower arrangement but don't know how?

Why not come along to this month's floral demonstration by Alison Mount entitled 'French Connection' on Wednesday 9th April at 7.30pm at Caversham Heights Methodist Church, Highmoor Road, RG4 7BG? Entrance fee £4.50 for visitors. We offer a warm welcome to new members, so why not come along, sit back and enjoy the evening. For more details contact Shirley Sexton 0118-9412329

Rosehill

At the February meeting, President Margaret Pyle welcomed members and guests saying she was pleased that so many had braved the weather to attend. Margaret said that the record of the January meeting was available if anyone wished to read it. She was pleased to announce (in the absence of treasurer, Doris Goddard) that Rosehill WI is 'in the black'.

The next meeting will be the AGM and an appeal was made for people to be nominated to serve on the committee as several officers will be standing down.

Attention was also drawn to several outings and workshops that will take place in the near future and these all appear in the current Berkshire News publication.

The speaker was Mr Chris Butler who gave an interesting and informative talk about the redevelopment and enlargement of Reading station. It is hoped that when all the work is finished it will speed up journeys through Reading. It will cost a total of £850m and six new platforms have already been installed enabling longer trains from Waterloo to stop at Reading. The development also includes work at Cow Lane, where a new viaduct is being constructed to enable fast

trains to pass through without the need for interruption from local trains going south. It is hoped the work will finish in summer 2015. His talk ended with a computer generated view of how everything will look when it is finished, and Chris then answered several questions from members.

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at St Barnabas Village Hall, Emmer Green, at 2.00 pm and we hope that some visitors will join us.

Chazey WI

Chocolate truffle making was the subject for the February meeting, when Pat Williams came to give a demonstration. With a tempting display of truffles, she enthused about the techniques essential to making the perfect truffle. The proper equipment was brought along and members were also given a guide to different flavour combinations.

Members were even more delighted when Pat gave them the opportunity to sample some truffles which she had brought along.

Afterwards Pat judged the competition, which appropriately for February was a home-made Valentine's card.

With coffee and WI news to finish, it was a very enjoyable evening and Pat was warmly thanked for her efforts.

Chazey WI meet on the first Tuesday of every month, 7.30 for 7.45pm at the Caversham Heights Methodist Church Hall, in Highmoor Road, Caversham. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

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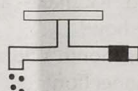
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