

CALLED TO THE NORTH

WHEN JOHN AND JO STEVINSON AND THEIR TWO BOYS MOVED TO SUNDERLAND ON THE TUESDAY AFTER EASTER they were greatly missed by many people in Caversham, Mapledurham and Reading. It is over 10 years since they came to 9 South View Avenue, Richard, their elder son, was 9 months old and David had not yet arrived. Both John and Jo were keenly interested in the ecumenical movement and soon interdenominational house groups were set up in the St. John's area. It was members from such groups who provided much of the energy behind the Shop during Caversham's May Day Festival a few years ago.

In October 1969 the Stevinsons moved to 222 Upper Woodcote Road and John became responsible for St. Margaret's, Mapledurham. Soon their new home was the scene of much church activity. The choir met there regularly for practice and in no time it was a much larger and enthusiastic group involving many of the younger members of the parish. House Communion were also held and each Good Friday a children's Three Hours took place there. Out of the latter came Saturday open study days for junior members of St. Margaret's in connection with Confirmation.

Work with Reading Council of Churches

At the time he moved to Mapledurham John became very involved with the whole development of industrial mission in Reading under its Council of Churches. He became industrial chaplain to Heelas. Together he and Jo were among those who revived the Social Services' luncheon club in the town. This has now trebled its numbers. They were also among those responsible for the ecumenical act of worship at the Town Hall on recent Good Fridays. This year Jo has done both the writing and production. No mean task when she had all the worry of moving four days later. Another area where they both help is the Reading Council of Churches Urban Planning Group. This arose from the Reading Festival when John was organising secretary for a conference on local urban planning. The group's interest is two-fold, in secular planning and ecumenical development.

Work involving social and economic problems

John's new work is to be Sunderland's Churches

Social Responsibility Officer. Although his post is paid for by the Anglican church it is interdenominational. The town is one of five selected for special study because of acute social and economic problems. Over twice the size of Reading, it has among its industries three or four shipyards, a coal mine and factories for Plessey and Pyrex. There is a lot of unemployment. Women find work more easily

TWENTY PAGE EDITION

This edition of the Caversham Bridge is a special Family Festival number, giving details of all the arrangements for the Festival that takes place in Caversham from June 28th to July 14th. The twelve pages devoted to the Festival will also be available price 2p at the Festival shop and in Caversham Churches.



The Stevinson Family

—Walton Adams

than men, many working in the two large mail order firms and two tailoring businesses. It is often the men who find themselves at home without a job, whilst the wife is employed. Part of John's work will be as chaplain to those involved in the social and civic spheres of the community. In many aspects of his work he will have Jo to help him, for she will find herself, with both boys at boarding school, free to take even more of a share than she has so generously done already whilst in Reading.

Well done boys!

As for the boys, both are excited at the thought of being boarders. David has won a choristership to Durham Cathedral Chorister School, and Richard goes to Durham School. A ten minute walk across a bridge over the river Wear separates them during term time. This same river runs into

the harbour at Sunderland just four hundred yards from their new home at 21 Park Avenue, Roker. A corner terrace house, it was once the Vicarage and still has remains of a speaking tube in the main bedroom. It is very close to the beach and just a little further from the football ground so Richard and David should have plenty to interest them during the holidays.

It all sounds quite an adventure—very different and very challenging. John and Jo thank everyone for the friendship and help extended to them in the last ten years. Caversham Bridge thank them, too, for all they have contributed to the life of the community. Their time here will be remembered with gratitude by many. We hope they will come to see us whenever they travel south and they offer a warm welcome to any of their friends here who are making a trip to the North.

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The Editor's Column

FAMILY FESTIVAL

THIS MONTH THE CAVERSHAM BRIDGE IS CONCERNED TO GIVE ITS READERS FULL DETAILS OF THE EVENTS THAT HAVE BEEN ARRANGED DURING FAMILY FESTIVAL.

When Mayday Week was held in 1970 a special brochure was published. This time it was decided to give publicity through the medium of Caversham's Church and Community newspaper which reaches so many homes; but extra copies of the twelve pages being devoted to the Festival are being printed and will shortly be sold as a separate supplement. The Festival is certainly an ambitious undertaking, made possible after months of careful planning by the organising committee who deserve the grateful thanks of many of us in Caversham. It should perhaps be said that the Festival could not have been planned without the happy relationship that exists between members of the Anglican and Free Churches. But although sponsored by the churches, the wider Caversham community has been drawn into many of the different events.

CHANGE IN MARRIAGE

Family Festival takes place at a time when much thought is being given to the changing nature of marriage. The Sunday afternoon conference which was a prelude to the main festival and which was held at Highdown School on May 12th had as its principal speaker Dr. Jack Dominian, the well known Roman Catholic consultant psychiatrist. Only shortly before he came to Caversham on May 12th his recent pamphlet "The Marriage Relationship Today" had been given wide publicity. In this he refers to the challenge arising from the changed role of women in society, longer expectation of life, lower infant mortality and other factors, and he points to the need for an entirely different education for marriage in all its stages.

"Education for marriage means that every parish community should orientate itself to help married people understand themselves in the different phases of their marriage. This will require discussion, family groups, a liturgy that highlights the changes in marriage itself, and a restructuring of care, support and help in the community, supplementing material needs with personal counselling services. The Christian community is totally unprepared for these inevitable changes."

These are challenging words. In the autumn it is the intention of the churches to follow up Family Festival with a number of house study groups. It would seem that in his recent pamphlet Dr. Dominian has provided us with plenty of material for our study.

John Grimdale

Queen Pamela

THE CROWNING OF MISS PAMELA IDE AS READING TEMPERANCE QUEEN FOR 1974/75 TOOK PLACE AT THE SALVATION ARMY CITADAL, ANSTEY ROAD, READING, ON SATURDAY, 27th APRIL.

Our picture shows Pamela following the crowning ceremony which was performed by Mrs. Mason wife of the Revd. Donald Mason of Whitley Hall Methodist Church. Pamela lives with her parents and sister, Jeannette, who was one of her attendants, at 3 Ibstone Avenue, Caversham Park, and is an active member of the Baptist Church and Youth Group. During evening service on Sunday, 5th May, Pamela had the opportunity of speaking about her new-found duties and obligations and it was a joy to all present to recognise her in this role when so many of her age group, abetted by television, the popular press and advertising, take the opposite approach to responsible living.



Pamela Ide—Temperance Queen

Photo by courtesy of Reading Temperance Association

JUNE FESTIVALS

Tuesday, June 11th

ST. BARNABAS DAY at ST. BARNABAS
7.30 p.m.: THE PARISH COMMUNION
Preacher: DR. BRIAN MORRIS

Monday, June 24th

ST. JOHN'S DAY at ST. JOHN'S
7.30 p.m.: THE PARISH COMMUNION
Preacher: THE REV. JOHN DEUCHAR

Saturday, June 29th

ST. PETER'S DAY at ST. PETER'S
11.30 a.m.: THE PARISH COMMUNION
Preacher: THE REV. JOHN CROWE

On each of these days there will also be a celebration of Holy Communion at 7 a.m. in the Festival Church

POSTBAG

Dear Sir,

I feel that I must write to congratulate Mr. Norman Kent and the Revd. L. Burn on the Good Friday Children's three-hour project they organised at Caversham Primary School this year. A great deal of preparation must have been done to ensure such a successful, smooth-running afternoon.

Children were divided into groups and dispersed to make cards, models, folders; to watch films and tour a model city of Jerusalem. Each task was supervised by Sunday School staff, local clergy and parents. A packed lunch was taken in the dining hall where soft drinks and coffee were served.

Well over a hundred children took part in the project, coming from Sunday Schools of at least eight local churches of all denominations. The children, who went about their tasks with great enthusiasm and politeness, were all a credit to their Sunday schools and to their parents.

Yours etc.

Audrey Asquith.

York Lodge,
4 Chelford Way,
Caversham.

JULY EDITION

All contributions for the July edition of the Caversham Bridge must be sent to Church House, Caversham by 10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 29th. It is regretted that no material received after that time can be printed.

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RESIDENTS' VIEWPOINT

by WATCHDOG

HANDS OFF

U.D.I. for Caversham, with which the local press amused itself when the possibility of Caversham forming a local government unit with the five neighbouring rural parishes was first mooted, appeared less ludicrous when the real threat from Berkshire was revealed, namely to annexe seven parishes north of the Thames. This stretch of countryside would then come under serious pressure for development and could even become part of one large built-up area spreading eastwards to London and sprawling south-eastwards beyond that. Reading District Council is opposed to these plans and is submitting its own to the Boundaries Commission. These, though considerably more modest than Berkshire's, go far beyond what the residents of Caversham and district, in the statement Development North of the River, indicated would be the maximum

acceptable extension of boundaries, namely to the limit of the present built-up line.

It is hoped that all who are opposed to these schemes have sent their comments to the Boundaries Commission. If they haven't, it is, alas, too late.

PEDESTRIANS ARISE!

The campaign by Reading District Council to get cars and lorries off the pavements is to be welcomed. The pedestrian has been the underdog for too long, but at least he, and more particularly she, when pushing a pram and with a toddler in tow, should be allowed the freedom of the pavement. Away with cracked paving stones, intruding posts and worst of all, cars and lorries. The pavement for pedestrians!



— Walton Adams

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EISTEDDFOD

On Saturday, March 30th, This venture proved to be in Caversham Methodist an enjoyable and rewarding Hall, the Rangers, Guides one, and it is hoped, an encouragement to all those and Brownies of the Caversham West District held an concerned in Guiding in the Eisteddfod. This was the first District. To keep the Movement flourishing help is needed and offers, especially in respect of the Guides, would be very welcome.

During the day there was an exhibition of the work done, and in the evening a concert, incorporating the winning events with additional items from the Rangers. Certificates were awarded and presented by the Division Commissioner, Miss Shurmer; and cups, donated by the Local Association, were presented by Mr. Robinson to the 11th Caversham (Baptist) Guide Company, and the 4th Caversham (St. Andrew's) Brownie Pack, the two Units who had gained most points in the Eisteddfod.

PUBLIC MEETING

AT

Church House
CavershamWEDNESDAY,
MAY 29th

7.30 p.m.

to

DISCUSS PROPOSALS FOR
HOSTEL AT 20 PRIEST HILL

Chairman:

COUN. V. ANGELL

The Committee of the Caversham and District Residents' Association has expressed concern at the proposals to open a hostel for men in Priest Hill. The Caversham Bridge, while realising that at the Public Meeting fuller information may become available, hopes that the Christian community in Caversham will find itself able to welcome the proposals.

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AN ANCIENT CHURCH BESIDE THE THAMES

BY 1200, AND POSSIBLY EVEN BEFORE, MAPLEDURHAM POSSESSED A PLACE OF WORSHIP IN CHARGE OF AN ORDAINED PRIEST.

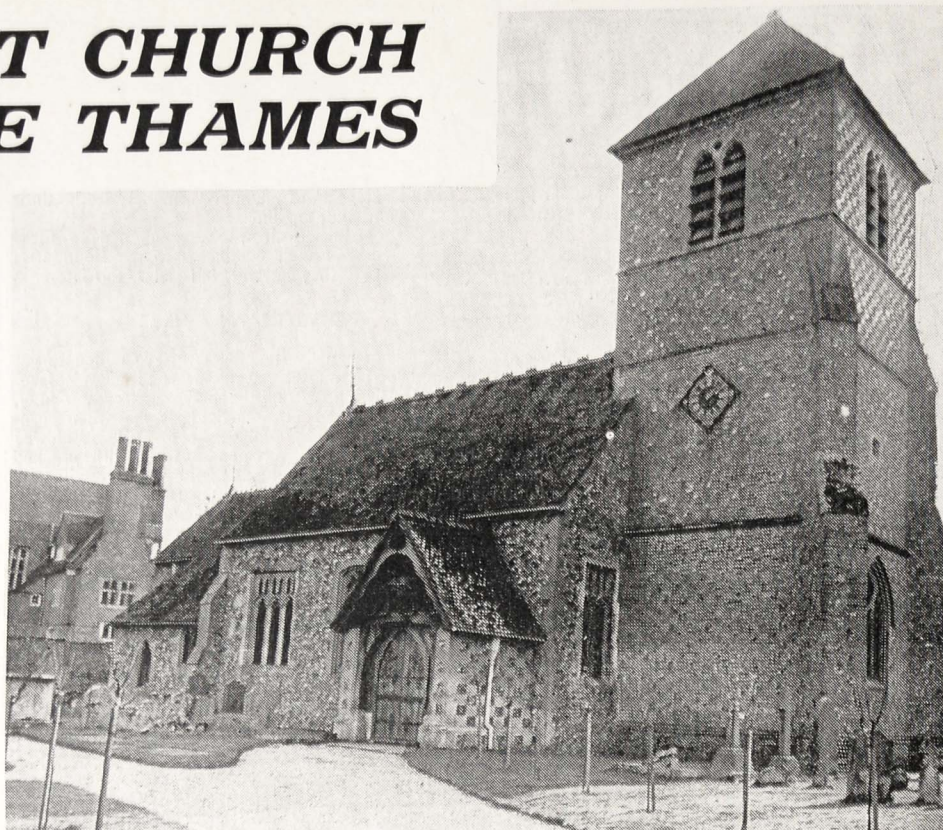
There is mention of a vicar, William de Mapildreham in 1184, in documents at Christ Church and the British Museum. The first building was probably a rude wooden erection standing close to the manor house. Just when the manorial chapel at Mapledurham became a parish church and under whose lordship the first stone building was built is not known.

FEW OF ITS KIND

Between 1381 and 1395 the Bardolf Aisle was added to the existing church by the then Lord of the Manor and his wife and to which they gave their name. It was evidently a chantry to the main building. Later for many years it became simply a mausoleum for the Roman Catholic family who owned the manor from 1490 onwards. The last burial in the Bardolf Aisle was in 1874. This combination of an Anglican Church attached to a Roman Catholic chapel is very rare and occurs in only two or three other places in the country. Another example is at Arundel.

MASS DIAL

On the South East corner of the Chapel's outer wall can be seen a scratch or mass dial. By it the country priest could tell the time to ring the bell for mass and other religious observances. The church attached particular importance to the third, sixth and ninth hours and these lines are shown on most mass dials. The third hour, 9 a.m. in summer and approximately 10 a.m. in autumn and 11 a.m. in winter were the usual times for celebration of Mass. The Mapledurham dial has also been converted at some time in the past to tell clock time as well, most useful years ago deep in the countryside.



—Walton Adams

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1863 AND ALL THAT

In 1863 extensive restorations and additions were carried out by the vicar, the Reverend Edward Coleridge, at his expense. He removed the gallery built in 1722 at the west end of the church; added a false aisle on the north side marked off by two oak pillars on stone bases; took down the three decker pulpit and raised the tower another twenty-four feet, closing the west door and enlarging the window, also taking away the battlements. He had a brick and cement wall put under the western-most arch of the Bardolf Aisle so cutting it off from the rest of the church. At one time it was said that only sheepurdles formed this division. During all this and more upheaval several old brasses in the church disappeared, so did boards containing the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments. These had been fixed to the front of the gallery. Old fresco work found during the restoration was covered up by plaster.

One very attractive feature of the church which has survived since late Norman times is the font. It stands on a modern base and its massive barrel-shape is decorated with a transverse raised rope pattern having smaller raised work between.

Under the central arch of the Bardolf Aisle can be found the large stone tomb of Sir Richard Blount and his wife Cicely. They were Lord and Lady of the manor around the turn of the seventeenth century.

ROYAL GIFTS

On the north side of the tower can be seen a clock, gift of William IV and dated 1832. He also gave the church a barrel organ which stood in the gallery and ground twelve tunes. Mapledurham received these royal gifts because from 1829-1854 Lord Augustus Fitz-Clarence was the incumbent. This worthy gentleman was fifth son of King William IV (then Duke of Clarence) and Mrs. Jordan.

Lord Augustus presented seven pieces of Church plate to St. Margaret's. His grave lies under a yew in the centre of the churchyard.

Far more interesting is the Savill flagon, hallmarked 1598, a gift from Lady Margaret Savill and now on loan to Eton College.

With petrol so expensive many people are regaining the pleasure of country walking. A visit to Mapledurham on a fine summer day would certainly be enjoyed by those who love rural ways. You can begin your walk by St. Peter's Church, Caversham, walking along the Warren and on to Mapledurham. For those who become weary and feel they could not manage the whole trip there and back a bus can be caught at the top of the hill on the Goring road. You will see the bus shelter and can catch a bus to

Caversham, just before three-thirty, five to five and half past six, but get there a few minutes earlier and be patient. Country buses are country buses!

The Bardolf Aisle is not open to the public yet as it is being restored by the owner. Anyone wanting to see inside the church can obtain a key from the Post Office in the village, but please see that you lock up securely and return the key safely. It is a responsibility to be in charge of such an item and your co-operation would be greatly appreciated.

M.K.

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CAVERSHAM AND MAPLEDURHAM

FAMILY



FESTIVAL

JUNE 28th

JULY 14th



A MESSAGE FROM QUEEN ELIZABETH, THE QUEEN MOTHER

"Queen Elizabeth conveys to all those involved in the Family Festival her warmest good wishes for the success of their endeavours."

AN INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FESTIVAL

If Family Festival is about nothing more than the cosiness of my own family life then it will have failed. Hopefully Family Festival will be a movement from the cosy and familiar to the challenging and not so familiar.

So our first concern is with those who don't have "normal" healthy family life. And with the Charities that help them:

Old people who no longer have the support and care of relatives — HELP THE AGED;

Children who are handicapped — READING MENCAP;

Adults who have come on hard times and hit the bottom — THE SIMON COMMUNITY;

Homeless families — THE READING COUNCIL OF CHURCHES HOUSING TRUST.

We want to raise a lot of money for these four charities. But we also want to try and understand the position of the people they seek to help and the way the charities work.

Our second concern is with the rapid social change in which the family is caught up. Careers for mothers; Husbands and the home; New dimensions in the marriage relationship; What's happened to discipline? Moral education and R.E. in the schools.

In the face of such change we might be tempted to withdraw into the cosy and familiar. But Family Festival is about exploration into the challenging and unfamiliar. Discovering a little more clearly where I might stand in the shifting social scene.

The third aim of Family Festival is celebration. To share with one another our fun and joy. Because it's good to feel these things together.

So come, everyone in the Caversham and Mapledurham community who wants to share in our joy, understanding and help for others.

STEPHEN BARTLETT

A MESSAGE FROM LADY ELIZABETH BRUNNER, OUR PRESIDENT

"The idea of this Family Festival, with all the various activities being held, reflects the enterprise and enthusiasm of its organisers. It also reveals vision and sensitivity to today's needs—when so much talk is about the generation gap and dis-integrating family life.

It is high time to proclaim positive happy relationships and the strength and purpose they can give to the generations that make up the family."

Elizabeth Brunner,
Greys Court, Henley.

THE FAMILY ARTIST

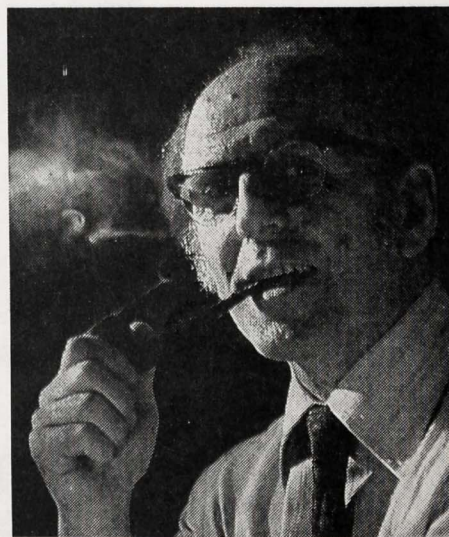


Photo — Peter Handford

Dennis Monham, design has to be symbolic, not only to cope with the variety of forms Festival symbol, is a lecturer in Graphic Design to enable people to at the Berkshire College identify with an idea of Art and Design. He rather than a particular trained at Twickenham type of person.

College of Art and has worked in a variety of fields before coming to his present post. The key to the Festival is family, that is, people, and so hence the design. One can also see in the symbol the joy of the family.

Dennis feels that the family.

THE PEOPLE WHO ARE LEFT OUTSIDE

by
**DOREEN
BENNETT**

□ When the idea of joining together the families of Caversham and Mapledurham in "Family Festival" was first conceived, we decided, rather as a sideline, to give the proceeds of the events to "Charities." It is a very impersonal word, and we thought perhaps we should find out where the money was going.

□ So we visited the Mencap Nursery in Brock Barracks, and we met Mandy. We went to Camden Town to see the Simon Community reception centre and we found out Mrs. Young, who now lives in one of "Help the Aged's" housing schemes.

□ And we stopped thinking about statistics! These were living, feeling PEOPLE.

□ Their needs were just the same as ours, but somewhere along the line they had missed out on the things we look upon as our right.

□ They have rights too—but they don't always get them, without the help of the so-called "Charities."

□ And this stopped being just a sideline. It became very, very important! Certainly the organisations need money—and I hope we can give them plenty during the Festival—but most of all these people need us. They need us to understand them, and to draw them back into the Family circle WHERE THEY BELONG.

□ In a really Christian society, they should be coming to the Fair, having fun at "Gaieties Galore," following the Boys' Brigade Band, but I doubt if they will be this year.

BUT ANOTHER YEAR — MAYBE — AS A RESULT OF FAMILY FESTIVAL THEY WILL!

Read all about them in this paper, and do come along to the Teach-In to find out what else we can do.

THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE wishes to thank all who have held preliminary fund-raising events and given prizes.

Who's Who on the Family Festival Committee

Chairman : The Rev. Stephen Bartlett,
2 Blackwater Close, Caversham Park (475152).

Secretary : Mrs. Doreen Bennett,
157 Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham.

Treasurers : Mr. C. Belfield Smith,
7 Hewett Avenue, Caversham (472601).
Mr. C. Bentley,
12 Auburn Court, Church Road, Caversham
(478237).

THE FESTIVAL SHOP

- Come along to the Festival Shop at 6, Church Road and see what marvellous opportunities there are to buy presents and restock your larder.
- At the shop — which will be open from Saturday, June 29th, to Saturday, July 6th, inclusive (except Sunday, June 30th) — you will find produce of all kinds, home-made cakes, sweets, biscuits, preserves, fresh fruit and vegetables and also toys, household goods and good secondhand clothes for all ages. Everybody is welcome to come and see and of course, buy from the attractive range of goods.
- Information and posters about the four charities being helped by the cash raised, will also be on display.
- The ladies of Caversham and Mapledurham are combining to run the shop and many individuals are taking part, making this a truly Family and Community effort.
- They have produced many of the articles on sale and will be manning the shop during opening hours, which are 10.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. each day, except Wednesday, July 3rd, when it will close at 1.00 p.m.
- The display and decor in the shop has been carried out by Kent Studios, of 42 Highmoor Road.

WANTED . . .

FOR SALE IN THE SHOP

Household goods; knitted garments; toys; glass; china; jewellery; toiletries; clothes (these must be new or almost new). These non-perishable items would be gratefully received as soon as possible.

Wanted DAILY from June 28th until July 6th: home-made cakes, sweets and biscuits; garden produce and plants; preserves.

All these items can be taken to the following collecting points:

CAVERSHAM : Mrs. D. Vincent, Church House, Church Street
(471703).

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS : Mrs. H. Barnett, 310 Kidmore Road (473904).
Mrs. E. Crutchley, 41 Matlock Road (472959).
Miss M. Kitt, 2 Darell Road (471143).

CAVERSHAM PARK : Mrs. S. Bould, 11 Holyrood Close (478906).

EMMER GREEN. Miss E. Hawthorne, 27 Highdown Avenue (473849).

MAPLEDURHAM (COUNTRY) : Mrs. J. Beacroft, Lilley Farm (Kidmore End 2218).
Mrs. A. Martyn-Johns, Greendene Farm (Kidmore End 2198).

MAPLEDURHAM (TOWN) : Mrs. M. Sholl, 139 Upper Woodcote Road
(473627)

Some Summer Reading

YOU MIGHT LIKE TO TAKE FURTHER SOME OF THE IDEAS WHICH CAME OUT OF THE CONFERENCE ON MAY 12th. YOU MIGHT LIKE TO PREPARE SOME GROUND FOR THE DISCUSSION GROUPS IN THE AUTUMN. YOU MIGHT JUST LIKE READING.

HERE ARE SOME TITLES WHICH YOU MIGHT FIND OF INTEREST.

ON MARRIAGE GENERALLY :

Church Information Office — "Marriage and the Family in Britain Today" — C.I.O. pamphlet.

Fletcher, R. — "The Family and Marriage in Britain" — Pelican.

Dominian, J. — "Marital Breakdown" — Pelican.

"The Marriage Relationship Today" — Mothers' Union.

Haughton, R. — "The Mystery of Sexuality" — Libra (D. L. & T.).

Do you know your Caversham?

- 1 When did Caversham become part of Reading ?
- 2 Where do a yew, a copper beech, a Wellingtonia and a strawberry tree grow near one another.
- 3 Where was Caversham's sewage works ?
- 4 Where and what is the oldest building on Caversham Heights ?
- 5 What department of the B.B.C. is at Caversham Park ?
- 6 St. Peter's is the oldest church in Caversham — which is the next oldest ?
- 7 How many pubs are there in Caversham ?
- 8 Where is a special well ?
- 9 Where are Caversham's almshouses ?
- 10 When was Reading Bridge opened ?
- 11 Where used Caversham House to stand ?
- 12 Why was Charles I at Caversham Park in 1647 ?
- 13 It is at the back of the white one but is used for the black one as well. What is it ?
- 14 What is the population of Caversham ?
- 15 When was the Public Library built ?
- 16 Who was the "Iron King" ?
- 17 Why is one part of Caversham called Lower Caversham ?
- 18 After whom is the West Memorial Hall, Gosbrook Road, named ?
- 19 Who was arrested in School Lane and is in the Chamber of Horrors at Madame Tussaud's ?
- 20 Where is The Clappers footpath ?

Answers on Page 6.



ON CHILDREN

Axline, V. — "DIBS" — Pelican.

Winnicott, D. W. — "The Child, the Family & the Outside World" — Pelican.

Lee, Helen — "The Growing Years" — Falcon Press.

Lee, Roy — "Your growing child and Religion" — Pelican.

Haughton, R. — "Where do we go from here" — Geoffrey Chapman.

NEW PATTERNS IN MARRIAGE :

Rappaport, Rhons & Robert — "Dual Career Families" — Pelican.

S.C.M. — "Theology & Sexual Politics" — S.C.M. Pamphlet.

THE FORCE OF UNSPOKEN FEELINGS :

Berne, E. — "Games People Play" — Penguin.

Harris, T. — "I'm O.K. — You're O.K." — Pan.



The Reigate Liturgical Dancers

ST. PETER'S FLOWER FESTIVAL



— Walton Adams

A member of the Thames Valley Flower Club preparing one of the many floral arrangements in St. Peter's Church during the 1970 Flower Festival

Friday, June 28th
Saturday, June 29th
Sunday, June 30th

Hundreds of people flocked to Caversham's 800-year-old parish church to see the first Flower Festival that was held there in 1970, and to admire the wonderful floral decorations for which the Thames Valley Flower Club was responsible. The Club has again agreed to arrange this year's Festival. Be sure you come and see the superb flower arrangements. The Church will be open on June 28th and June 29th from 9.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. and on Sunday, June 30th from noon till 6.30 p.m. Teas will be served in the magnificent gardens of Caversham Court on the banks of the River Thames each day, and on Friday, June 28th lunch will also be obtainable. Each day during the festival a special event has been arranged in St. Peter's Church, and there will be the usual Sunday services on June 30th.

The Parish Communion on St. Peter's Day

THE FLOWER FESTIVAL HAS BEEN DELIBERATELY PLANNED to take place over the period of St. Peter's patronal festival. On St. Peter's Day, June 29th, it has always been the custom for all the congregations of the Anglican parish to worship together in the parish church. This year a special invitation is extended to members of other denominations to come and share in this service of Holy Communion.

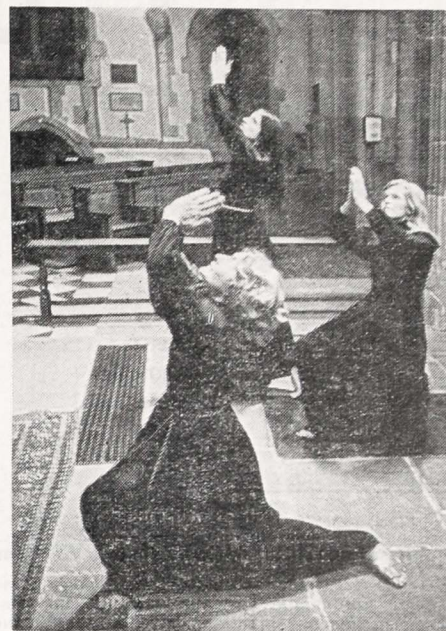
The St. Peter's Day service is at 11.30 a.m. on Saturday, June 29th. The combined choirs of the parish will lead the singing, and at this service the Reigate Liturgical Dancers led by Margaret Stevens will be performing. These dancers have appeared in churches and cathedrals in many parts of England. They have also appeared on television.

Come and take part, among all the beauty of the Flower Festival, in what is being designed as a great and joyous act of Christian worship on St. Peter's Day.

St. Peter's Day Preacher

THE REV. JOHN CROWE RETURNS TO CAVERSHAM

The preacher at the St. Peter's Day service on June 29th at 11.30 a.m. will be the Rev. John Crowe, formerly curate of Caversham and now vicar of Hampton, Evesham. John Crowe's name is especially associated with Caversham's Mayday week of 1970 and it is therefore particularly appropriate that he should be returning for Mayday week's successor Family Festival.



Some of the Reigate Liturgical Dancers

THE CLERKES OF OXENFORD

On Friday night June 28th at 8 p.m. there will be a unique opportunity to hear a recital of medieval and renaissance music in a setting of flowers. The Clerkess of Oxenford, who are former members of Oxford College choirs, make their first appearance in Caversham. The programme includes works by John Dowland and Orlando Gibbons as well as an excerpt from a 12th century liturgical drama, the Play of Daniel.

Admission is by programme price 65p obtainable from Caversham Churches; from Messrs. Kitcher's, 5a Church Road, Caversham; Belle Boutique, 8 Church Road, Caversham; and Western Tower, Station Hill, Reading.

Sunday, June 30th at St. Peter's

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

9.15 a.m. Parish Communion with Public Baptisms.
Preacher: The Rector.

11.00 a.m. Matins.

6.30 p.m. Evensong sung by the choir of St. Mary's, Redbourn, Hertfordshire.

On St. Peter's Day, Saturday, June 29th

7.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

DURING THE FLOWER FESTIVAL

Friday, June 28th, 8 p.m.
Concert by the Clerkess of Oxenford.

Saturday, June 29th, 11.30 a.m.
St. Peter's Day service with the Reigate Liturgical Dancers.

Sunday, June 30th, 3.30 p.m.
Special ecumenical service with renewal of marriage vows.

Renew your Marriage Vows

It seemed only right when planning Family Festival that an opportunity should be given to every married couple in Caversham and Mapledurham to renew their marriage vows. To make this possible a special ecumenical service has been planned to take place in St. Peter's on Sunday, June 30th at 3.30 p.m. which will have Christian Marriage as its theme. The preacher will be Canon O. K. de Berry, Rector of St. Aldate's Church, Oxford. Make this a family occasion and have tea afterwards in Caversham Court.

ST. PETER'S FLOWER FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

wishes to record its gratitude to

Messrs

CARTER & SON LTD. who have kindly given the free use of a marquee for refreshments in Caversham Court.



The Clerkess of Oxenford rehearsing in Magdalen College Chapel

FESTIVAL

FRIDAY, JUNE 28th, TO SUNDAY, JUNE 30th

FLOWER FESTIVAL in St. Peter's Church
(see page 5 for details)

FRIDAY, JUNE 28th

FLOWER FESTIVAL CONCERT
in St. Peter's Church at 8.00 p.m.
(full details on page 5)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3rd

FULL HOUSE

at Highdown School, Emmer Green at 8.00 p.m.

An evening of theatre, poetry, singing, and folk music organised by St. Barnabas Church. Features will be the World Development Movement Action Drama Group and sketches from the Scout Gang Show.

Tickets: 30p (children and Senior Citizens 20p)

SATURDAY, JULY 6th

CRICKET MATCH and CHILDRENS SPORTS

at Mapledurham Playing Fields,
Upper Woodcote Road

Start of play at 2.30 p.m.

This event will be a not too serious confrontation between two teams, which will include members of the clergy. At the same time there will be races and games for the children.

Teas and refreshments, provided by Caversham Heights Methodist Church, will be on sale.

SATURDAY, JULY 6th

FESTIVAL CONCERT

at 7.30 p.m. at Caversham Baptist Free Church,
Prospect Street.

Choral and musical evening from the pupils of Thameside and Highdown schools.

Tickets: 30p (half price for children and Senior Citizens)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10th

TEACH-IN ON THE CHARITIES

at St. Andrew's Hall, Albert Road, 8.00 p.m.

A chance to meet the four charities that will benefit from the Festival, and to question them on their work.

FRIDAY, JULY 12th

DUSK-TO-DAWN

An all night event from 7.30 p.m. until dawn
Featuring live groups such as "Parchment," discos, films, skits and happenings. The ticket cost will include breakfast, for those who can stay the course. No one under the age of 16 will be allowed to attend after 11.00 p.m. This rule will be strictly enforced.

SATURDAY, JULY 13th

COMBINED CHURCHES FESTIVAL FAIR

in Caversham Court at 2.30 p.m.

Caversham Boys' Brigade Band will lead a cavalcade of decorated cars to Caversham Court, where the Festival's patron Lady Elizabeth Brunner, will open the event. There will be stalls and sideshows for everybody to enjoy and Stoneham School Band and a team of Morris Dancers will provide entertainment during the afternoon.

Admission: 5p

The Fair will be followed by an Edwardian evening of

"GASLIGHT GAITIES"

beginning at 8.00 p.m.

at St. Andrew's Hall, Albert Road

Organised by Caversham Park Church and

Drama Group

Tickets: 30p

For list of ticket agents see Page XII.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

- 1 1911.
- 2 Caversham Court.
- 3 Amersham Road.
- 4 Corner of Darell Road and Highmoor Road — the old granary of Toots Farm (early 17th century).
- 5 The Monitoring Service.
- 6 Caversham Hill Independent Chapel (1827).
- 7 14—Black Horse, Clifton Arms, Crown, Fox and Hounds, Gardener's Arms, Golden Key, Griffin, Grosvenor House, Miller's Arms, Prince of Wales, Red Cow, Star, Traveller's Rest, White Horse.
- 8 St. Anne's Well, on Priest Hill—its healing waters attracted many people in the Middle Ages.
- 9 Westfield Road — they were founded in 1874 by Admiral Coffin of Springfield, Surley Row.
- 10 1923.
- 11 Where St. Martin's Centre is now.
- 12 He was a prisoner of the army.
- 13 The car park for the "White Horse" and "Black Horse" at Emmer Green.
- 14 About 20,000 within Reading plus about 6,000 in the built-up area immediately outside the boundary.
- 15 1907.
- 16 William Crawshaw, who built the present Caversham Park after a fire in 1848. He died in 1869, worth £2,000,000, and is buried by the south door of St. Peter's. His wealth came from his iron works at Merthyr Tydfil.
- 17 It is lower down the river than the other original part of the village by Caversham Bridge.
- 18 The Rev. Ebenezer West (died 1895), Principal of Amersham Hall boys' school (where Queen Anne's School is now), and a great benefactor of Caversham Baptist Church.
- 19 Mrs. Dyer, a murderess of babies entrusted to her care (1896).
- 20 It runs from Mill Road to the footbridge over the weir.



Caversham Court where the fete takes place on July 13th and the open air service of Holy Communion on July 14th

PROGRAMME

FAMILY FESTIVAL WORSHIP

SATURDAY, JUNE 29th

11.30 a.m. at St. Peter's

St. Peter's Day Parish Communion
Preacher: The Rev. John Crowe
The Reigate Liturgical Dancers

SUNDAY, JUNE 30th

11 a.m. at Caversham Heights Methodist Church

Cradle Roll Service

3.30 p.m. at St. Peter's

Service for Renewal of Marriage Vows.
Preacher, The Rev. Canon O. K. de Berry, Rector of
St. Aldate's, Oxford

SUNDAY, JULY 14th

10 a.m. in Caversham Court

United Service of Holy Communion
President: The Bishop of Reading
Preacher: The Rev. Laurence Stevens.

(N.B. If wet this service will be held in St. Peter's)

THINK NOW EXHIBITION OF ART IN CAVERSHAM

To be held at

WEST MEMORIAL HALL

JULY 8th-13th 10-12 a.m. and 2-7 p.m.

Examples of the following will be welcome :

Paintings	Pottery
Drawings	Woodcarving
Collage	Tapestry
Sculpture	Jewellery

The organisers hope that some items will be offered for sale. For details of how to enter see the pamphlets which will be distributed in Churches, Schools and other public places, or contact :

Mr. L. Cooper, 41 All Hallows Road. Tel. 478607

or

Mr. P. Tipton, 73 Southview Avenue. Tel. 474076

What contribution can your family make to his exhibition ?

N.B.—THIS IS NOT A COMPETITION

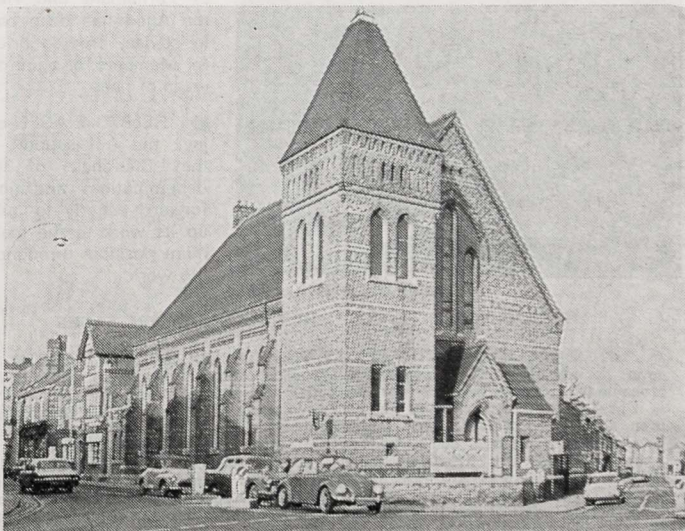


Caversham Park Drama Group who perform in St. Andrew's Hall on July 13th



—Walton Adams

St. Peter's Church—The scene for the Flower Festival



—Walton Adams

Caversham Baptist Church, where a concert takes place on July 6th

HELP THE AGED

A brief guide to the work of 'Help the Aged'

● **HELP THE AGED HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR 12 YEARS.** Although this means that it is a relatively new Charity, its growth has been such that it has provided a significant channel for the British people to express a deeply felt concern. Its income, in cash and kind, rose from just over three quarters of a million pounds in 1970 to nearly £2½ million in 1973.

● **ALTHOUGH ONE OF ITS VERY FIRST APPEALS WAS FOR THE AGED IN BRITAIN** as well as the needy overseas, in its earlier years all its work was for aged refugees and aged destitute abroad. It found that in the under-developed countries the old people were always the last on the list of those to be cared for. Naturally, relief organisations and Governments have to look to the future, so the emphasis has been on educating the young and middle-aged to fend for themselves. While this is obviously a good thing, old people are left out of such schemes.

● **HELP THE AGED HAS GIVEN SUPPORT IN SUCH AREAS TO THE LIMITS OF ITS ABILITY.** It has provided clothing, shelter, medical care and regular food for the needy aged in such places. It has no relief workers of its own in the field, but channels supplies through Christian Missionaries and other accredited organisations working in the area. Because over the years it has built up such a chain of workers receiving grants from Help the Aged, this means that in any time of disaster it is able to have relief supplies distributed speedily.

● **MONEY AND SUPPLIES FOR SUCH WORK ARE RAISED IN BRITAIN** through local appeals which are held each year in every major town and city in the country. These appeals are given the support of prominent local people, the local churches, youth groups and other organisations, and provide stocks of good used clothing and blankets which,

after careful processing, are shipped abroad. It can always be said that supplies from these appeals are on the seas, or in emergencies on an aeroplane, to some area in need at any given time.

● **EMERGENCY GRANTS ARE MADE AVAILABLE** because of donations received during these appeals, from money received from regular supporters, from the Youth Campaign for Help the Aged which is developing rapidly, as well as from people all over the country who run special events for the work, such as the Family Festival.

● **IN 1966 THE DECISION WAS TAKEN TO EXTEND THE WORK TO THE AGED** in this country while continuing to expand the work for the needy aged overseas. It was decided that provision of sheltered housing was of first importance, so a Housing Association was formed. Sheltered housing consists of groups of self-contained flats where a

single person or married couple can lead an independent life with their own furniture around them, and where there is always a warden on hand in case of need. The development of this housing has been rapid. The Help the Aged Housing Association (U.K.) Ltd. formed in 1968 now has a programme of £30 million-worth of housing either occupied, being built, at the planning stage, or at an advanced stage of negotiations. The 2000th tenant was housed during 1973. A separate housing association is operating in Scotland.

● **ATTENTION HAS NOT BEEN CONFINED TO HOUSING IN THIS COUNTRY.** Over the years grants have been made to groups who wish to build a Day Centre. This led to a campaign for Day Centres being launched in 1973, under the sponsorship of Mrs. Jeremy Thorpe. This has already met with a good response and local authorities, as well as individual groups, have been stimulated by Help the Aged's action and encouraged to go ahead with plans.

● **AMONG OTHER WORK UNDERTAKEN HAS BEEN THE "Telephones for the Aged"** appeal sponsored by Her Grace the Duchess of Norfolk; a special appeal by children to provide minibuses to enable the house-bound to attend Day Centres, and the stimulation of a Good Neighbour scheme whereby people throughout the country were encouraged to keep an eye on their elderly neighbours and to watch for signs that all was well. Help the Aged has also recently launched "Yours" — a free monthly newspaper for pensioners which has already achieved a circulation of over three-quarters of a million copies, and its readership continues to expand.

● **Good contact has been maintained with Members of both Houses of Parliament** and Help the Aged has been able to advise, provide briefs for Members, or point out areas of need.

● **HELP THE AGED enjoys the full support of the Churches** of all denominations and goes forward eagerly to build up its work to the maximum possible throughout the world.



Photo: HELP THE AGED

THERE IS NO HEATING. HER BLANKETS ARE SACKS

INDOORS AND OUTDOORS, IN THE WINTER, MISS ELIZABETH W. never discards her scarf, gloves and thick woollen overcoat. To do so would hasten probable death from exposure. For Elizabeth — 62, and not strong physically — lives in a broken-down terraced slum where to keep warm she has to huddle beside a gas oven, there is no other heating. On desperately cold days she stays in bed all day; on milder days she does not crawl there until mid-afternoon. And then she has no guarantee of comfort. Practically the one item of furniture in a basement hovel is the bed, an almost springless mattress tossed across a couple of tea chests and half a dozen sacks for bedding. There are no goodies on Elizabeth's table: she pays the rent, keeps herself and her dog Judy fed, and "pours money" into the gas meter to keep the oven going when she can. She makes do with one hot meal a day, often cooked and eaten at nine in the morning. The oven swallows up 5p pieces at the rate of two an hour.

"On the bad days the way I feel is almost the last straw — low — no money, no heat, no-one to keep me company, and feeling lousy — what more must I take?"

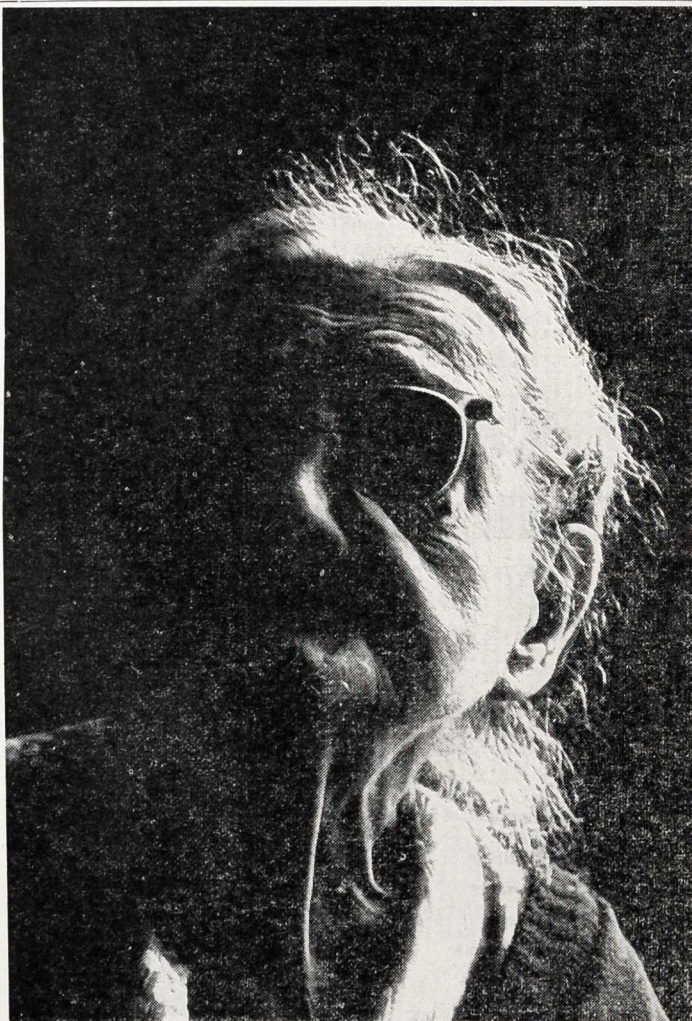


Photo: HELP THE AGED

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS TO BE ALONE. NO-ONE TO COME IN? NO-ONE.

MRS. A. IS 95 YEARS OF AGE AND HOUSEBOUND. Partially blind and finding it difficult to walk unaided; she is frightened to leave her two second floor rooms where she has stayed for the past five years.

"It's nerves you see. I'm frightened should I go down and then I should be a wretched nuisance to somebody. That would upset me . . . I split it up so I have something in hand to do. Other days I just sit and cry . . . It's because I'm on my own so much. You don't know what it is to be alone — no-one to come in. I sit here and listen to every step but no-one ever comes to my stairs. I can't do anything. You can't when you've done your day's work and put everything straight and tidy. You don't have to let yourself go down. If I sat and thought a lot or gave way to it I should be crying all day. I think to myself, well you ought to be more grateful to God for what you are and what you've got. There are a lot of people worse off than me."

THE SIMON COMMUNITY GAINED ITS NAME FROM SIMON OF CYRENE, THE UNKNOWN CITIZEN WHO HELPED CHRIST CARRY HIS CROSS TO THE CRUCIFIXION. SIMON DID THE JOB UNWILLINGLY BUT THE COMMUNITY WILLINGLY HELPS TO BEAR THE CROSSES OF MANY.

SIMON

"SIMON WAS CREATED TO MEET THE NEED WHERE THE NEED WAS GREATEST: IT AIMS TO COME IN WHERE THE 'OTHERS' LEAVE OFF—AND TO WORK FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT EXISTING HELP, OR FOR WHOM NO ADEQUATE PROVISION EXISTS." THEY DON'T ALWAYS SAY THANK YOU, THEY ARGUE AND ASK FOR MORE — AFTER ALL THIS IS THEIR FAMILY AND THEY FEEL AT HOME.

SIMON COMMUNITY TRUST

by JOHN M. JAMES, Secretary to the Trustees

From a small campaign in a flat to an international venture in care for the non-citizens of an affluent society. That is the record of the Simon Community Trust in its ten years working among the homeless and rootless — people without a home who have additional problems, which include alcoholism, sexual deviation, drug addiction, discharged prisoner care and ex-psychiatric patients.

A farm for long-term care exists near Canterbury and other projects are at Hastings, London, Liverpool, Cheltenham, Rochdale, Glasgow, Belfast, Dundalk, Dublin, Limerick, Cork, Waterford, Kenya and Nigeria. No one project is the same as another. They vary in the standards of environment

and the kind of residents. But all are staffed by people — ranging from clergy to university students — who give up part of their life to work full-time for two pounds a week pocket money plus board and lodging. Therefore administrative costs are kept low.

That is why, though a registered charity, Simon will not accept Government grants. It is a mission to the misfits of Society on behalf of everyone, relying solely on voluntary donations. Its work is on behalf of those who would help if they could.

Almost 10,000 men, women and children receive the support and care of the Simon Community each year.

Simon holds to the principle that their care is an ex-

tension of your care — that their homes of hospitality are an extension of your own hospitality.

A number of Reading people help the Simon Community part-time, one regularly visiting the London projects—there are three at weekends.

It is work that fills a gap. Local Authorities either do not have sufficient facilities to meet the demands made on them by homeless people with additional problems or, alternatively, council schemes are not flexible enough to cope with multi-problem people.

The sad fact exists that the problem of homelessness and the tragic side effects it produces, is greater now than when Simon started ten years ago.



Meet and talk, Anton and a friend.



The Farm, the House of Hospitality.



There are always spuds to do, and always time to argue about them.

THE HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY from "The Simon Scene"

by ANTON WALLICH-CLIFFORD

The House of Hospitality is a place in which to sleep without too much concern over the state of the sleeping quarters.

It is a place in which to work without being over-worried by the presence of people who tend to sit around, stand and smoke, or who always seem to be just under one's feet.

It is a place to eat frugally what is, in the main, "conned" food, in mixed company without fussiness about table linen, utensils or milk in bottles. It is a place which should always try to make the kitchen its heart (even if the cook is a rather tetchy, semi-skilled, pocket dictator) and where the little we have in the way of food is always readily shared.

Here is the house where a team of caring and cared-with moved in and created a home. Untidy and grotty, it always seems chaotic: there are too many people and too little space. It has the characteristic

smell of always simmering soup; offices which seem to be living rooms and living rooms which are used as offices and sleeping rooms; corridors with too many piles of clothing, sellable bric-a-brac, and the inevitable gift of books. Such are the hallmarks of a House of Hospitality.

Of course the administration gets behind and things go wrong. Not unnaturally, disturbed people "freak out" and create temporary havoc; certainly some so called responsible persons are irresponsible in the early experimental days of taking on and accepting responsibility. Not unnaturally, those being trusted for the very first time in their lives, break their trust and steal the weekly house-keeping or drink their benefits. Yet slowly, very slowly and painfully, some of the men and women rejected as human debris in the sump of Skid Row begin to look up, and together with workers along-side them, learn to live all over again—or even for the very first time.

SIMON ALWAYS NEEDS

1. Men's pullovers.
2. Men's shoes.
3. Just a little more money.
4. Your prayers for the cared-with and the caring.
5. Full-time, dedicated, long term stable help.

DONATIONS

If you read this after the Family Festival is over, it will still not be too late to send a donation direct to the Simon Community Trust, 118 Grove Green Road, Leytonstone, London, E.11.

THE READING SOCIETY FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

THIS IS MANDY! She's just three, and she's affectionate, loveable, sometimes naughty, sometimes sad. **JUST LIKE ANY OTHER LITTLE GIRL!** She likes to play and to have friends—just like any other little girl.

But her mother was desperate with worry when Mandy was a baby. She was so afraid that her little Mongol daughter would not have the opportunity to play with other children. Yet she knew that Mandy would need **EXTRA HELP** and encouragement in everyday skills, and in building up relationships.

So it was a **RED-LETTER DAY** in her life when Mandy was one of the first children to be accepted into the new R.S.M.H.C. Nursery School. She just loves it, and the skilled staff are helping her to lead a full life, within her limitations. And making her mother feel that she can share the responsibility.

But Mandy lives in Caversham Park. She's one of **OUR** children. So we can help her too.

If your little girl is "different," you sometimes imagine slights, rebuffs, withdrawals, that are not intended. So Mandy's family need a lot of reassurance from other families that Mandy **CAN** be accepted as one of the community.

It was another red-letter day when Mandy was accepted on one afternoon a week into a primary school playgroup. And yet another when Mandy's mother took her to Church and she was welcomed into their Sunday School!

Most of us take these things for granted for our children. Mandy's mother and father do not. They are delighted and thankful.

Mandy will be a child all her life. With the R.S.M.H.C.'s help—**AND WITH OURS!** she can be a happy one.

Mandy



POINTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE SOCIETY'S CHAIRMAN (MR. ALFRED BOOM)

... there are over 600 families **IN OUR AREA** where there is a mentally handicapped child or adult. . .

... our Society seeks to provide a **LIFE-LONG**, positive support service. . .

We have . . . a Nursery School for young children (a special unit within this School is for autistic children). . .

... two Clubs—a Junior Youth Club (9-16 years) and a Senior Club for over 16s, offer a rich variety of leisure activities. . .

... a Counsellor and Social Worker offer to parents in their homes immediate support and advice. . .

... baby-sitting service . . . Saturday morning playgroup (full-time during school holidays). . .

... family outings . . . a holiday each year for up to 40 children (our Handbook containing all details is available from the Secretary, Brock Barracks). . .

... our Society offers a Family service, but at the same time is conscious of alerting the public and local government to our special needs. . .

OUR GREAT NEED — NOW — A SHORT STAY HOSTEL WHERE CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WHO ARE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CAN GO FOR A FEW DAYS IN A CARING ATMOSPHERE WHEN AN EMERGENCY ARISES AT HOME.

We cannot stretch the Society's meagre resources any further—**IS THERE NOT A PUBLIC-MINDED BENEFACTOR WHO COULD HELP ??? — WE NEED A HOUSE!**

JEREMY'S MOTHER WRITES :

Jeremy, the eldest of our three children, is eleven. He is a Mongol. Jeremy will always need us. The other two will leave and make their own way in the world, but not Jeremy.

Life with a mentally handicapped son is never dull—so many things that we take for granted Jeremy will discover—pieces of paper blowing in the wind, leaves falling make games for him, and for all of us.

But there are also the problems. When Jeremy was two years old, our second son started to walk. Jeremy couldn't. He was terribly frustrated, and we began adjusting our lives to suit him.

We had to be the first up otherwise we would find the house turned upside down, talcum powder over everything, shampoo over the baby, or Jeremy missing! When Jeremy was three, I asked for help from the local authority where we then lived. I was offered three alternatives—he could be "put away," he could attend a nursery if he were "clean" or he could be put under sedation! How nice now to visit the playgroup in Brock Barracks run by the R.S.M.H.C. and see the under-5s having the opportunities that were not available when Jeremy was younger, the

chance to have their frustrations channelled into useful play activities.

Life at home is so much different for us than for a "normal" family. I remember when Jeremy started to go out of the front door in the early hours of the morning, no matter how we locked and bolted it he managed to get out. When we found him curled up in a florist's van at the end of the road, we knew we must put a stop to it—we put a shop door bell over our front door so that every time it opened it made the most fearful noise—we were then able to catch him before he could make a get-away!

Jeremy now attends Wakefield Lodge (the Reading Council Special School) and he is so happy. But he spends his Friday evenings at a youth club run by the R.S.M.H.C., and this has been one of the best things that has happened to him, as our other children are now finding other activities outside the home and once again the frustration starts for Jeremy—he so much wants to be a Cub, or go out on his own and play, and the youth club provides him with just such an outlet—he is off on his "own!"

So much has happened in the eleven years since Jeremy was born. In another eleven years I hope that children like Jeremy will be accepted as part of our community, not something to be "put away" or kept under sedation.



Sarah joins in the fun at the Nursery School at Brock Barracks. Her mother is one of the voluntary helpers.



Jeremy

A HOUSING PROBLEM IN READING?

READING, like most growing towns, is not alone in having a housing problem. An inheritance of bad planning and worn out buildings from our Victorian forebears, coupled with new commercial and industrial developments with their insatiable appetite for land, mean that many properties and areas are no longer suitable for modern living as they now exist.

HOMELESS PEOPLE — both individuals and families — are just one of the problems that this form of social change throws up. A family without a home is a family in need. Often the homeless family is split up either by a marriage breakdown — hardly surprising — or by social authorities who put the father in a men's hostel, mother in a women's hostel, and the children are taken into care. The family ceases to operate as a family unit and so ceases to exist.

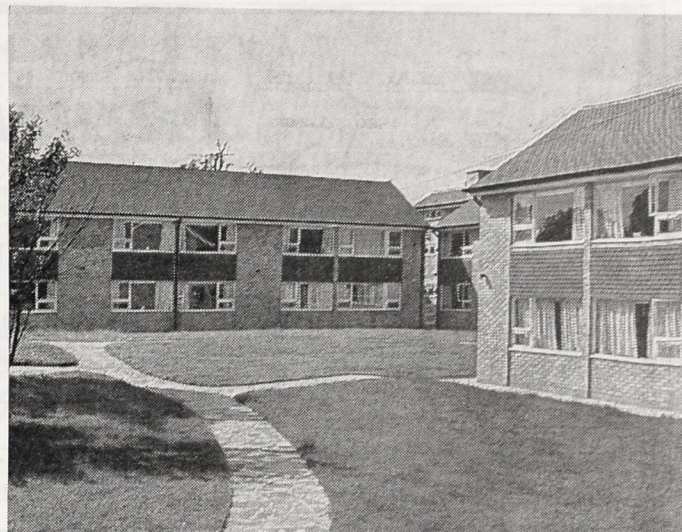


Photo: CHARLES ADAMS LTD.

An example of what can be done by a Churches Housing Association. This is a project built by Churches at Southgate, North London.

WHAT CAN THE CHURCH DO?

What can Christians do about this problem?

How can we help? What has been done already?

Some years ago the Reading Methodist Christian Citizenship Committee discussed the problem of homeless people in Reading and the urgent need for assistance for those looking for a home. The problem was so urgent, it was felt that the matter should have wider consideration and so it was brought to the attention of the newly-formed Reading Council of Churches. The Council was quick to realise its responsibility and a conference was called, which was addressed by Mr. G. Beanland, the Field Officer for the British Council of Churches. The forming of a Housing Association was considered, but it was felt that the Council should go ahead by stages and in the first instance the Housing Advisory Service was established. The service has operated successfully for several years and has done much excellent work.

The Association was formed as a result of collaboration between the British Churches Housing Trust and the Reading District Council of Churches and has been registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, 1965. The Bishop of Reading has agreed to become President.

The British Churches Housing Trust is the ecumenical organisation of the churches for the promotion of voluntary housing. In areas of housing stress, particularly where there is land available, the Trust develops housing associations so that they are capable of building on the sites and also of undertaking improvement and conversion of old property. In order to increase activity the Trust encourages Churches to sell unwanted land or buildings to housing associations so that they can provide good rented accommodation. The Trust tries to bring together all those who have concern for housing, and increasingly congregations are forming themselves into "pressure groups" in order to gather precise information on the housing problems in their area and use this as a way

of encouraging their local authority to give housing a higher priority. They will also, where appropriate, request financial help for housing associations. Fund-raising is necessary to provide launching grants for administration costs and to pay the small proportion of deficit on building work. The Trust is beginning to make contacts with industry as well as strengthening its ties with charitable foundations to see that an adequate flow of funds is forthcoming. A new loan scheme is soon to be launched.

The B.C.H.T. has helped, or is in the process of helping, its affiliate associations to build five-thousand homes. The problem of homelessness and poor housing is more acute today than even ten years ago, with house building nearly at an all-time low. So the role of the Trust is becoming more crucial in its efforts to help all men of goodwill to understand their responsibilities to the homeless and show them the most effective way of giving positive help.

The Reading and District Housing Association is endeavouring to carry out the aims of the British Churches Housing Trust in the Reading area, as its name implies. Most of the churches in the District have been circulated with an appeal for members and for land suitable for housing purposes, and some response has been received. The Association is now examining, in conjunction with St. Giles Church, the feasibility of building on the site of the old churchyard in Southampton Street, and a meeting has been held with representatives of the Town Planning Department of Reading Council, as a result of which a scheme is being prepared showing how the site could be developed.

The Honorary Secretary of the Association, from whom information can be obtained, is Mr. E. J. S. Beckley, of 33 Richmond Road, Caversham.

DATES & PLACES OF FESTIVAL EVENTS



GRATEFUL THANKS

The organising committee is glad to have this opportunity of thanking the following sponsors whose generous donations have made the production of this Festival Supplement possible.

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Mr. R. Kitcher, 8 Blenheim Road.

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Mr. M. Matthews, 11 Wetherby Close.

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Mrs. I. Bickford, 47 Grosvenor Road.

St. Margaret's

Miss J. Martyn-Johns, Greendene Farm, Mapledurham.

St. Peter's

Mr. D. G. Aisbitt, 45 Queensway, Caversham Park.
 Mr. K. Bennett, 157 Upper Woodcote Road.

IN 1964 THIS GROUP HAD LOST ALL ITS LEADERS AND CONSISTED OF ONLY FIVE SCOUTS AND EIGHT CUBS. Now it has a Cub-Scout Pack and Scout Troop each of the maximum practical size and a thriving Venture Scout Unit, with a full complement of enthusiastic Section Leaders and Assistants backed by a Group Council and a hard-working Group Supporters' Association.

In the past it has had the use of Balmore Hall on one night only of each week for training purposes. Now it has a £20,000 permanent Headquarters of its own, for use on any or every night of the week.

NO EXPERIENCE

The Group was to be closed, ten years ago, through lack of leadership when a young man found himself with the task of keeping it going. Although he had been a Scout himself he had no previous experience as a Scouter. However he had great assets in an understanding of and a love for people—particularly young ones—great determination and wonderful support from his wife and family. With these assets he has been able, while he taught himself Scout Mastering, to enlist a lot of support along the way. But there is no doubt that the main credit for this transformation in the facilities available to the boys of Caversham belongs to Walter Nicholls (Nick).

First, he found other adults to help him as Section Leaders and Assistants and they built up the numbers of Scouts and Cubs. Then equipment was needed for training purposes—but the Group's funds were virtually exhausted. So he found other adults, non-Scouters from amongst parents and well-wishers and formed a Group Committee (as it was then called) to raise funds and to be responsible for the Group's "property." That was in February '65 when a target of £100 was set for the year.

In May of that year the first of many Jumble Sales was held and it was possible to start buying or hiring ropes, first-aid and camping equipment.

THEIR OWN H.Q.

It was expected that properly equipping the Group would take three years. However, the one-night-a-week limitation on training was proving such a handicap and causing such a long waiting list of would-be Cubs that before the end of the first year Nick had directed the Committee's thoughts towards a Headquarters of their own. As £240 had in fact been raised—thanks largely to the ladies—a Building Fund was started with an investment of £100, towards the £1,000 it was expected a hut would cost.

During the second year a generous gift from St. Peter's District Committee enabled most of the outstanding camping equipment to be acquired and £150 added to the Building Fund. Then early in '67 one of the Committee members formed a Supporters' Association and fund-raising really took off.

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WHAT CAN BE DONE IN TEN YEARS

SEARCH

The search for a suitable site began—and accelerated when provision was made by the Government for generous grants from both central and local funds for buildings for youth purposes.

By December '71 eight sites which had appeared to be not only suitable but quite possible had fallen through. One remained and seemed to be quite the last chance. However when that was turned down on Planning grounds—it was on Council property and designated as open space—friends on the various Committees concerned took the Group's needs to heart and the present site in Grove Hill was made available and sold to the Group in late '72. In January '73 Planning Consent to Nick's proposal was granted and volunteers began clearing the site.

Now, thanks very largely to the tremendous efforts of those volunteers a 45ft. x 70ft. pre-cast concrete framed building, cleverly adapted to the site and to the needs of the Group, containing a large hall, a raised stage-cum-workshop area, individual rooms for six patrols, the Venture Scouts and the Leaders, an equipment store, a kitchen and conveniences was officially dedicated and opened on May 4th, 1974.

MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday, 11th April, 1974. Mr. B. A. Fowles, Chairman of the Council, presided at the meeting.

The Council were advised of the details of tenders that had been opened in connection with the construction of the new pavilion on the playing fields. The lowest tender was that of Messrs. R. Brooks (Builders) Ltd. in the sum of £33,136.36. This total sum is in excess of the amount the Council has currently available, and it will therefore be necessary to make modifications to the original specification before any contract can be finally approved.

It is hoped these modifications can be achieved in the very near future and when these have been agreed building operations should then commence.

Disappointment was expressed at the high cost, but the Council were reminded of the many difficulties experienced over the past year that delayed the specifications being sent out sooner.

Boundary Changes

The Council gave further consideration to matters relating to the possible boundary changes that might affect the Parish; as previously stated, the Council have already made preliminary representations to the Boundary Commission, and they now await the proposals to be made at the end of this month by Berkshire.

A further planning application has been received from the local planning authority for a school site off Shepherds Lane. The site proposed is the original one selected by Oxfordshire in 1972. However, the Council re-affirmed its previous decision that of the three sites proposed in the Shepherds Lane/Tokers Green Lane area, the one on the corner of the site is the most suitable.

A letter from the Mapledurham Area Residents Association was considered referring to the site that Oxfordshire Education Committee had proposed as an alternative school site on the east side of Kidmore Road. This has however subsequently been refused by the Reading Planning Authority. The Association considered that Oxfordshire should appeal against the Reading decision and the Parish Council agreed to support the Residents' Association and are to write to the Oxfordshire Education Committee and the S. Oxon District Council accordingly.

Illegal Parking

Attention was drawn to the illegal parking of cars on the passing bays along the road from Trench Green to the Village, and a letter has been sent to the Thames Valley Police asking them to take action against offenders.

A request is to be made to the S. Oxon District Council asking whether arrangements can be made to collect paper as a separate item when the weekly collection of domestic refuse is made having regard to the acute shortage of paper materials.

ACHIEVEMENT

In the meantime the object of the operation—the training of Cubs, Scouts and Venturers—has not been forgotten. By December '66 the Group already had five boys eligible to attend the coming World Jamboree and in fact two went to the U.S.A. in August '67.

Regular Camps and Pack Holidays have been held in various parts of the U.K., while members of the Group have taken part in cooking contests, gliding courses, "Explorer Belt" journeys and have gained Chief Scout awards, "Scout Wings" and other marks of merit and have been a credit to Scouting and a benefit to their parents and the neighbourhood.

For three years of this period not only was Nick the Group Scout Leader—and the chief architect, organiser and driving force for the prospective HQ—but he doubled up as Leader of the Scout Troop itself.

It is ironic, then, that he is not here to share the benefits of the new Headquarters he did so much to provide. For he has given up his profession to devote his whole time to young people—but in North Woolwich. But his work will not be wasted!

Not only will a new G.S.L. be found, a second Cub-Scout Pack be started as soon as a Leader is found, the activities of the present Pack, Troop and Venture Unit expanded and the Group properly managed and financed, but the real pleasure which comes from association with such an ideal as Scouting and with the people whom Nick enlisted to further, unselfishly, its aims in Caversham will be shared by an increasing number of parents and other neighbours.

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 The Rev. Brian Gardiner, St. Andrew's House, Harrogate Road. Tel. 472788.
 The Rev. Stephen Bartlett, Caversham Park House, 2 Blackwater Close, Caversham Park. Tel. 475152.
 The Rev. Leonard Burn, St. Barnabas' House, 33 Grove Road. Tel. 473095.
 The Rev. Bernard Metcalfe, 25 Ilkley Road. Tel. 472070.
 The Rev. Denis Shaylor, 17 The Mount. Tel. 476988.

BAPTIST

The Rev. Laurence Stevens, 80 Balmore Drive. Tel. 478668.

METHODIST

The Rev. Terence Harris, 17 St. Anne's Road. Tel. 472223.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

The Rev. William O'Malley, The Presbytery, 2 South View Avenue. Tel. 471787.
 The Rev. Plunkett Shannon, 2 South View Avenue. Tel. 471787.

WHO, WHEN, WHERE

SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN CAVERSHAM

Church of England

St. Peter's Hemdean House School, 11 a.m., aged 4 to 7 years.

Superintendent: Miss R. Eves, 6 Wrenfield Drive. Balmore Hall, tel. 476494, 11 a.m., age 7 upwards (not 3rd Sunday of the month).

St. Andrew's. St. Andrew's Hall, 11 a.m., age 4 years and upwards.

St. Barnabas' — Church Hall, 11 a.m. (1st, 4th and 5th Sundays).

Methodist

Caversham Heights — In Church, 11 a.m., age 3 years and upwards.

Superintendent: Mr. D. Tutty, 5 Carlton Road. Tel. 477384.

Baptist

11 a.m., aged 3 years and upwards.

Secretary: Miss I. Marshall, 16 Albert Road. Tel. 474478.

East Caversham — Age 3 to 7, Ardler Road Schoolroom, 11 a.m. to noon.

Enquiries to Miss K. Harris, 4 Valentine Crescent tel. 472084; or Mrs. S. Holley, 41 Briants Avenue, tel. 477142.

Age 7 upwards, Ardler Road Schoolroom, 11 a.m. to noon (in Methodist Church for first 15 minutes). Enquiries to Mrs. J. Trevis, 40 All Hallows' Road.

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

There is no United Reformed Church in Caversham. The nearest is at York Road, Reading.

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

Minister: The Rev. Stephen Haine, 41 Highmoor Road. Tel. 477490.

SUNDAY SERVICES IN JUNE

ANGLICAN

St. Peter's

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
 9.15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION.
 10.30 a.m. Family Service (3rd Sunday).
 11.00 a.m. Matins (not 3rd Sunday).
 11.15 a.m. Holy Communion (3rd Sunday).
 12.15 p.m. Holy Communion (1st Sunday).
 6.30 p.m. Evensong

St. John's

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
 9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.
 6.30 p.m. Evensong (1st Sunday).

St. Andrew's

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
 9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.
 11.15 a.m. Holy Communion.
 6.30 p.m. Evensong

St. Barnabas'

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
 9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST
 11.00 a.m. Family Service (2nd Sunday).
 6.30 p.m. Evensong (2nd Sunday).

St. Margaret's, Mapledurham

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th Sundays)
 9.15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION (4th Sunday, Matins)
 10.00 a.m. Family Service (2nd Sunday)

NORTH CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

10.45 a.m. Morning Service
 6.30 p.m. Evening Service.

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

11.00 a.m. Morning Service.
 6.30 p.m. Evening Service

CAVERSHAM PARK CHURCH (The School)

11.15 a.m. Ecumenical Half Hour Family Service.

METHODIST CHURCHES

Caversham Heights

11.00 a.m. Morning Service.
 6.30 p.m. Evening Service (not 3rd Sunday).

Caversham

11.00 a.m. Morning Service.
 6.30 p.m. Evening Service.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St. Anne's

8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m., 7.00 p.m. Mass

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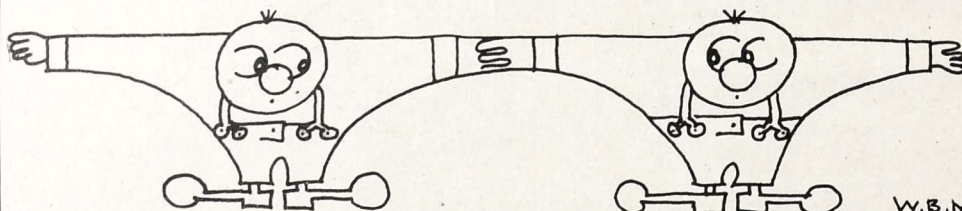
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Area Organisers:

Dr. E. V. Beale (North Caversham), 1 Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green. Tel. 471644.

Mrs. M. Coombs (South Caversham), 5 Kidmore Road. Tel. 472689.

Mrs. E. B. Evans (East Caversham), 50 Grosvenor Road. Tel. 473596.

Mr. D. E. Thomas (West Caversham), 15 Kidmore Road. Tel. 472364.

Mrs. G. Thompson (Mapledurham), 205 Upper Woodcote Road. Tel. 471328.

Mrs. S. Bould (Caversham Park Village), 11 Holyrood Close, Caversham Park Village. Tel. 478906.

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CHURCH NEWS

CAVERSHAM METHODIST CHURCH

PALM SUNDAY

A service of music and drama was held on Palm Sunday evening entitled "Objects of the Cross". The service portrayed through music and readings the cross itself, the wine, the hammer and nails, the sponge and vinegar, the robe, the crown, the inscription and the spear. These objects were brought and placed on the communion table by various members of the church and the Boys' Brigade. The readings were shared by Miss M. Kimberley, Mr. J. L. Clark and the Rev. T. R. Harris. A fitting climax to the service was the anthem sung by the choir "Is it nothing to you". Our thanks to all who took part in this very impressive service.

JUNE FAIR

All members and friends of Gosbrook Road Methodist church are invited to the annual June Fair, which will take place on the 8th June in the grounds of the church. The afternoon will commence at 2.45 p.m. and will include stalls, slideshows, competitions, teas and an entertainment by the West Reading Salvation Army Singing Company.

THREE VISITS IN MAY

The Bishop of Reading makes three visits in quick succession to Caversham during May. On May 14th he joined the staff at their weekly meeting, celebrating Holy Communion first. On Tuesday, May 21st, he returns to St. Peter's at 7.30 p.m. when he will be confirming over fifty candidates, several of whom will also be baptised at the same service. Then he comes back again on Wednesday, May 29th, at 7.30 p.m., this time to St. Barnabas for a special celebration of Holy Communion at which he hopes to meet those whom he confirmed on May 29th, 1973.

TWO FAMILIES MOVE AWAY

Mr. and Mrs. David Burnside and their three children have recently left Caversham for Speen as Mr. Burnside has taken up an appointment with Barclays Bank at Newbury. Mr. Burnside had been a sidesman at St. Peter's. About the same time Mr. and Mrs. Peter Whitby are shortly leaving Emmer Green for Cheshire. Mr. Whitby has served on the Church Council and though only in the parish for a few years has been actively involved in many aspects of the

life of St. Barnabas'. Best wishes to them all in their new homes and parishes.

CANON DALTON

News has been received recently from Canon Arthur Dalton, who has just completed twenty-five years as vicar of St. Augustine's, Honor Oak Park. He came to Caversham as a deacon in 1930 when Dr. Longford was rector, and is still remembered by older members of the congregation, especially for the dramatic group which he organised. He is still both writing and producing plays.

CHOIR DINNER

The four organisers of the parish were guests on April 30th at the annual choir dinner which was held this year at Caversham Bridge Hotel. Forty four members of the parish were present.

DANCE BY THE RIVER

The University folk dancers are paying another visit to the parish, and will dance at a social evening to be held in the Rectory Garden on Friday, June 14th. Their visit last summer gave great pleasure and tickets will shortly be available.

JUNE PREACHERS

His many Caversham friends will be pleased to know that the preacher at St. Barnabas on the patronal festival will be Dr. Brian Morris, a former Reader in the parish, who is now professor of English at Sheffield University. Dr. Morris has appeared in "Any Questions?" on a number of occasions, and also in several programmes on television. On St. John's Day, the vicar of Christ Church, Reading, makes his first visit to the parish, and as announced in the Family Festival supplement the Rev. John Crowe returns to preach at the Eucharist at 11.30 a.m. on St. Peter's Day, Saturday, June 29th.

ST. PETER'S WIVES

A local magistrate, Mrs. M. Wood, J.P., was welcomed to the well-attended April meeting of St. Peter's Wives and treated everyone present to a most entertaining and informative evening. The members learned how a magistrate is appointed, the duties and responsibilities, and also a few of the humorous incidents that occur.

As a result of the very successful Fashion Show held at St. Andrew's Hall early in April, the Wives were able to

send a donation of £37 to the Family Festival.

During June the Wives look forward to their annual Skittles Match at Balmore Hall with the Marian Group, and also to the regular monthly meeting when the members will learn about the professional approach to flower arranging.

BAPTIST NEWS

A MISSIONARY BREAKFAST

As part of the educational Church a Missionary Breakfast was held on Sunday, April 28th. Following breakfast of cereals, hot rolls and marmalade, the guest speaker, Mr. James Metcalfe, a member of the Overseas Missionary Fellowship, spoke on the subject 'Behind the Barriers—by Missionary Radio.' Mr. Metcalfe has served in Malaysia, in Chinese settlements and in the Philippines and Thailand doing missionary work by radio and is at present on furlough and working with the B.B.C.

PARISH OF CAVERSHAM ASCENSION DAY

Thursday, May 23rd

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 6.30 a.m. | Holy Communion (St. Andrew's) |
| 7.00 a.m. | Holy Communion (St. Peter's) |
| 9.30 a.m. | Holy Communion (St. Peter's) |
| 10.00 a.m. | Holy Communion (St. John's) |
| 7.30 p.m. | Sung Eucharist (St. John's, St. Andrew's and St. Barnabas') |
| 8.00 p.m. | Sung Eucharist (St. Peter's) |

Those who will have been confirmed on Tuesday, May 21st, will be receiving Holy Communion for the first time at the evening services on this day.

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NEXT MONTH'S BRIDGE

WILL FEATURE

"A LIFE BESIDE THE
THAMES"



—Walton Adams

ST. JOHN'S HAPPY BRIDE

A full church of relatives, friends and well-wishers was present on 27th April at St. John's for the marriage of Jennie Maslen and Michael Artivich. Jennie has been a member of St. John's for all her life. Until recently she taught in the Sunday School and for many years has been a valuable member of the choir. She also has a keen interest in the Rangers. Her husband, Michael, formerly from Wargrave, is an advertisement salesman. All members of St. John's wish them well as they move to their new home in Whitley Wood and hope to see them again as often as possible.

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Round the Clubs

THE HOME COUNTIES MAGICAL SOCIETY

In December last the Council of the Society made one of its best decisions, namely to change their Headquarters (a move sprung upon the Society almost without warning) to Church House. Since January the monthly meetings have been held within the excellent accommodation available and if any readers have wondered at the strange comings and goings they may rest assured that the Magic is purely of the entertaining variety!

Any readers with a genuine interest will be made most welcome. The Secretary will be pleased to hear from you at the following address: Keith Churcher, 46 Rotherfield Way, Caversham. Telephone Reading 473353.

MAPLEDURHAM JUBILEE CLUB

In recent months the Club has enjoyed various activities, including a pleasant afternoon at the theatre in Oxford, an evening's entertainment given by the South Chiltern Lions International Group, and a visit by Mr. Magic. The Easter meeting was shared by several members of Checkendon's senior citizens' club and they had an excellent film show on Oxfordshire birds. Everyone went home armed with a posy of spring flowers and an Easter egg. Members were sorry indeed to say goodbye to their very good friends John and Jo Stevinson, Richard and David, and are most grateful for the way in which they all took such an interest in the Club, helping in so many ways.

EMMER GREEN TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

The speaker at the April meeting was Mr. F. J. Malpas, whose subject was 'Caversham in the 19th Century'. He had maps to show the development of Caversham between 1800 and 1900 when it was completely separate from Reading. Emmer Green was still part of Caversham Parish and Caversham Park was a stately home with landscaped gardens. What a difference now.

There were two stalls, one for plants and the other an Easter stall which did a great trade. Mrs. Weaver had made a beautiful Simnel cake, which was raffled. Altogether a welcome addition to the funds.

CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

In the springtime the ladies' thoughts are mostly on spring cleaning, and Mr. J. M. Ryan, of Radiant Homes, showed Caversham Afternoon Guild the right way to paint and paper the rooms in an amusing demonstration on Home Decorating.

Mrs. Stratford gave a tribute to their late President, Miss Brown, who died on March

18th. Miss Brown was an active member of the Guild until her recent illness and she will be sadly missed.

MAPLEWOOD WOMENS' INSTITUTE

The President, Mrs. B. Osborne, at the April meeting welcomed the guest speaker, Lt.-Col. S. Houghton, a member of the National Trust, who gave an informative and interesting talk illustrated with slides on the conservation of some of the country's beauty spots and historic houses. Mrs. Charters gave the vote of thanks. Members were reminded that the Hospital Fair is on June 1st. Mrs. Charters invited to her house, "West Chazey," Upper Warren Avenue, on June 4th at 2 p.m., members who would be interested in forming a music group.

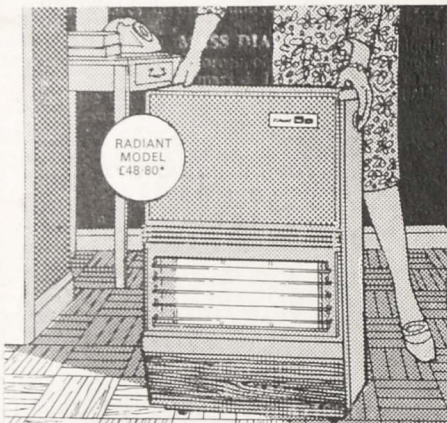
Mrs. P. Briggs, treasurer, gave her budget report and said Easter Eggs had been given to St. Benet's boys as usual. Mrs. Belfield-Smith, the delegate to the Spring Council Meeting held in Oxford last month, read her report. During social time members were able to view "A Treasure" which some members had brought from their homes. The various objects were much appreciated.



— Walton Adams

FAREWELL PRESENTATION

A large number of Caversham and Mapledurham friends of the Stevinson family gathered in Balmore Hall after Evensong on Easter Day for a farewell presentation to be made to the Rev. John Stevinson. Tributes to him were paid by Mr. F. C. Moore, Mr. B. A. Martyn-Johns and Mr. K. J. Nicholls.



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MAPLEDURHAM CRICKET CLUB

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BAPTISED

April 21	St. Peter's Charlotte Dell
May 5	St. Andrew's Paula Quillian
April 7	Caversham Park Mark Leaver Leigh Lester Stuart Warmington Neil Davidson Christopher Leng
Caversham	Baptist Free Church—Believers' Baptism
April 14	Jeanette Ide Pat Jenkins Joy Ousley June Smith Richard Shield

MARRIED

April 27	St. John's Michael Artovich and Jennifer Maslen
April 6	St. Margaret's Nicholas Tovell and Judith Farmer
April 27	St. Barnabas' Peter Little and Rosemary Brown Michael Churchill and Jennifer Simmonds

FUNERALS

April 16	St. Peter's Florence Simmonds Basil Cobbett
April 26	St. John's Beatrice Simms.

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