

# Driver was so dedicated inquest told

HEAVY goods vehicle driver Stephen Burrows, (23), of 46 Drayton Road, Medbourne, was a conscientious worker — and it probably cost him his life, an inquest heard last week.

He died after a forklift truck overturned as he tried to unload machinery parts at Stotts agricultural contractors, Crosscrake, near Kendal, on March 31.

The jury at the Kendal inquest returned a verdict of manslaughter.

The inquest heard that the truck was being repaired and had no fluid in the braking system. When Mr Burrows got onto it, the truck rolled down a ramp colliding with a wall and overturned, pinning him to the ground.

His boss, Mr Stephen Sanderson said it was usual for drivers to either roll crates off the lorry or open them up and unload the parts one by one.

"He was the sort of driver who would go to a lot of trouble rather than create hazards for other people," he said.

Mr Burrows was an experienced fork lift truck operator and mechanic and had been with the firm for two years. On the day of his death he

had been delivering a 4 cwt crate of agricultural spares.

Mr John Stott, agricultural contractor said he left his premises about 10 am to work on land about half a mile away. There were no other people on the premises.

The fork lift truck was parked by the side of his home. The starter motor had been taken out and there was a wooden chock in front of the wheels. "It was obvious it was being worked on and if a man wasn't a mechanic he would have stayed clear," he said.

When Mr Stott returned at 11.10 am he found the fork lift on its side and a man pinned to the ground underneath. A doctor was called and he pronounced Mr Burrows to be dead. The body was released by the fire service.

Consultant pathologist Dr Brian Beezon said death was due to traumatic asphyxia with multiple injuries a contributory factor.

South Cumbria coroner Mr Cyril Prickett said he was quite clear Mr Burrows had no authority to use the fork lift truck.

"He went to the fork lift truck which was obviously under repair and it was obvious to me he was going to use it to get the crate off the lorry," he said.



## Priests' farewell victory

### Churches join together

DESBOROUGH, Rothwell and Geddington United Reformed Churches along with Kettering Toller Church have now been inaugurated as a group.

This is the culmination of 18 months of work between the four churches, which will be shared between the Rev Sheila Dickson, minister of the Desborough church, and the Rev John Parker, newly arrived from Yorkshire.

At the inauguration service at the Rothwell church on Sunday afternoon were representatives of the United Reformed Churches District Council, and the Provincial Moderator, the Rev John Slow.

Also there were people from Mr Parker's previous church in Ossett.

After the service there was a faith tea in the church hall, when Mr Parker was welcomed to the area by the Mayor of Kettering, Cllr Les Marsh, who was accompanied by the Mayoress, Mrs Hilda Marsh. The Rev Stanley Whiffen welcomed the two ministers on behalf of the Kettering London Road Group of Churches.

### MARKET

RUGBY Livestock Sales Ltd. report an entry of 140 cattle, 332 sheep and 376 pigs in Rugby cattle market last week.

**Cattle:** Steers, light (7) 105.4p (top), 102.4p (av.), Medium (23) 106.2p, 100.8p. Heavy (12) 102p, 96.8p. Heifers, light (1) 94.2p, 94.2p. Medium (11) 104.8p, 99p. Heavy (1) 94.8p, 94.8p. Ungraded clean cull to 106p per kg. Barren cows (29) made to £602 (av. £391.38p).

**Sheep:** Lambs, standard (25) 256p (top), 242 (av.), Medium (67) 251p, 235p. Heavy (11) 226p, 208p. Hoggets standard (7) 179p, 172p. Medium (26) 225p, 207.5p. Heavy (90) 226p, 198p. 28 kg and over (74) 187p, 176p. Fat ewes to £34.50.

**Pigs:** Porkers (176) 78.8p (top), 76.4p (av). Cutters (134) 77.6p, 74.6p. Baconers (46) 77.6p, 70.2p. 102 kg and over (6) 64.6p. Fat sows (10) made to 64.80p per kg (av. 63.30p per kg.).

A MOTION that "God is man's most dangerous creation" was lost during a debate at the Robert Smyth School, Market Harborough, on Monday.

Taking part were the Rev Kevin Ashby, curate of Market Harborough Parish Church, and Pastor Louis Smith from Hothorpe Hall.

The occasion was a farewell debate for the two clergymen who are shortly to leave their present positions.

The motion was moved by Mr Steve Huggins and seconded by Mr Les Dodd, two members of the school staff, and opposed by Mr Ashby and Mr Smith who won the day with a vote of 41-9 with nine abstentions.

The picture shows the Rev Louis Smith, the Rev Kevin Ashby, Mr Bill Davage (chairman), Mr Steve Huggins and Mr Les Dodd. (Photo: Harborough Mail.)

## CLUB'S ANNUAL TEA

SIXTY-six members of Desborough WRVS Welcome Club attended the club's annual tea last Wednesday, when guests included founder member Miss N. Grocock.

The club began nine years ago with five members. Because the present headquarters in the recreation pavilion is too small to hold more, there is now a waiting list of people wanting to join. Members enjoyed a tea of cold meat salad and fruit flan, prepared by committee members and helpers. There was also musical entertainment by Christine Howlett and party.

## Collections

HOUSE-to-house collections in Clipston realised £36 for Dr Barnardo's Children's Homes.

Collectors were Mrs Betty Noble, Mrs Grace Tebbutt-Smith and Miss Louisa Fox.

# Top dogs at society's show

MORE than 150 dogs were entered for Market Harborough and district Canine Society's Limited Show when it was staged at Welland Park College.

Among major award winners were a number from Market Harborough and Lutterworth areas.

Show judge was Mrs Thelma Lowe. Best in Show for the Leicester Building Society Trophy, was a Cocker spaniel (Cochise Chance Step) shown by Mrs Bailey, of Rushton.

Local major trophy winners were: Mrs Savage, Broughton Astley whose Irish Setter (Tagamago Gypsy Moth) gained Best of Breed Irish Setter.

Another Irish Setter, shown by Mr and Mrs Sharran, of Market Harborough (Tagamago Lively Lady)

— won the Best Sporting Cup.

A Pembroke Corgi (Beeckvale Augustina) owned by Mrs Hill, Market Harborough, gained B.o.B. Pembroke Corgi.

Best Rough Collie Cup went to Carristina Shimmering Star belonging to Mrs Evans, Billisdon.

The Harborough Mail Junior Trophy was presented to Mrs Van Raalte, of Thorpe Lubenham, for her whippet (Ermonrig Acantis).

Mrs Fallon, of Lutterworth, won the Best Veteran Award for her Boston Terrier (Harvey of Headfall).

The Vet Trophy for the best child handler was won by David Moore, of Fleckney, and the Best Welsh Springer Spaniel trophy went to Pamicks Rufs Red shown by Mrs Wells, from Broughton Astley.

## Sing-song date

FLECKNEY Village Hall was packed when the Melodians entertained old folk to a sing-along on Saturday.

Guests from Fleckney and the surrounding villages attended with the help of Age Concern.

Feet stamped and hands clapped to When the Saints Go Marching In and Any Old Iron, while the mood changed for songs like Blue Moon and Amazing Grace.

Children dressed in Victorian costume acted as waiters and waitresses during the interval, serving cakes made

by members of the Melodians. Cups of tea were provided by Age Concern.

The Melodians asked Mr John Shaw to be their guest singer. Accompanied on the piano by Mrs Jill Garratt, he performed Sing a Song of Sixpence in the style of Handel, followed by Count Your Blessings and Glorious Devon.

After the show, Mrs Jenny Baker, on behalf of Age Concern, thanked the Melodians for an enjoyable evening.

## Making a hanging basket

THE art of making hanging baskets was the subject of a talk and demonstration to Desborough Townswomen's Guild May meeting.

Speaker was Mrs J Bosworth, from Burton Latimer, who demonstrated two types of baskets. One was the wire type basket and the other a modern plastic variety complete with drip tray.

Mrs Bosworth answered a number of questions on her subject, and was thanked by Mrs S Mason.

A competition for the most attractive bow was won jointly by Mrs M Payne, Mrs K Sparks and Mrs L Freeman.

Events planned for the coming months were discussed over refreshments.

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