



WINTER SCENE

by Joy Tobin, Bookham Camera Club

Bookhams Bulletin

SPRING 2002

LOCAL NEWS FROM BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

ISSUE 262

www.bookham.net

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 207429

The Bookham Community Association has a new President, Chairman and Secretary. Alan Zoers has retired after many years of service to the BCA. David Wilkins, who has been Chairman for the past 5 years has resigned because of family commitments. An appreciation of Alan and David is included in this edition of the Bulletin.

Beryl Warne, who has been our Secretary for the past 9 years is our new President. We are fortunate that Beryl agreed to take this important position, for her detailed knowledge of BCA affairs, her contacts with Mole Valley Council, Surrey County Council, the Charity Commission and others will be a great help to the Committee.

Keith Slark, who has had experience as Chairman on another Executive Committee is our new Chairman. David Wolstenholme takes over as Secretary.

for the running and maintenance of the Old Barn Hall.

Many of you have told me how lucky we are to have the Old Barn Hall. Managing it is a big responsibility and every effort is made to keep it in first class condition. This is expensive, so please continue to support us by using the Hall and assisting in money-raising events such as Village Day and Week.

Eric Lloyd Jones

David Wilkins and Alan Zoers stand down.



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CHANGES IN THE BCA COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

“Managing the Old Barn Hall is a big responsibility.”

A newcomer to the Committee, David's role involves much more than taking the minutes of meetings.

Margo Sullivan continues in the demanding role of Treasurer. Regulations applicable to charities have made the task arduous. Jennifer Blackburn continues as Membership Secretary and Eric Lloyd Jones as editor of the Bookhams Bulletin

Peter Blackburn, Peter Clarke, Genie Hancock, David Harding and Gordon Jenner continue to serve on the Committee and Peter Raw joins us as a new member. All have responsibilities



From left to right: Margo Sullivan (Treasurer), Beryl Warne (President), Keith Slark (Chairman), Eric Lloyd Jones (Editor), Jennifer Blackburn (Membership Secretary) and David Wolstenholme (Secretary).

Bookhams Bulletin

69TH YEAR

ISSUE 262

What's Happening

MARCH

Saturday 2nd - Bookham and Fetcham Liberal Democrats Mini Fair with coffee, a variety of stalls and raffle - Old Barn Hall - 10 am to 12 noon.

Saturday 2nd - Dancing to the "Perfidia" 16-piece Band - Old Barn Hall - 8 pm. Tickets £8.50 from Peter Walker (452375) or phone 01342 842570.

APRIL

Saturday 6th - Bookham, Fetcham and District Garden Society Spring Show with refreshments - Old Barn Hall - 2.30 to 4.00 pm.

Saturday 13th - Bookham Camera Club Annual Exhibition of prints and slides - Old Barn Hall - 11 am to 5 pm. Light refreshments. Admission free.

Thursday 18th, Friday 19th & Saturday 20th - Bookham Players present "Gaslight", a Victorian thriller by Patrick Hamilton - Old Barn Hall - 7.45 pm.

Tuesday 23rd - see page 5.

Wednesday 24th - Bookham Friends of Queen Elizabeth's Foundation Bridge Tea - Old Barn Hall - 2 pm. Tickets from Carol Kunesch on 454008 or 452695.

Saturday 27th - Annual Rotary Supper-Dance with live band - Old Barn Hall - 7.30 pm. Tickets from Tony Greenman on 451534.

BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Bookham Community Association was established in 1947 to advance education and provide facilities for the leisure time of the communities of Great and Little Bookham and the immediate neighbourhood. This is achieved by encouraging organisations with various interests, managing the Old Barn Hall, publishing Bookhams Bulletin four times a year and organising the annual Village Day and Village Week. See page 22 for full details.

MAY

Thursday 9th, Friday 10th & Saturday 11th - Bookham Evening Townswomen's Guild Spring Revue "Time to Celebrate" - Old Barn Hall - 7.45 pm. Tickets on 458664.

Saturday 11th - Dawnay School May Fair - 12 noon to 4 pm. Stalls etc. including bouncy castle and tug-of-war. Details from school office, tel. 456774.

Saturday 18th - Royal Marsden May Bazaar with all the usual attractions including hanging baskets and planted garden containers - Old Barn Hall - 10 am to 12 noon.

Thursday 23rd - Bookham Commons National Trust Wine and Cheese Event with illustrated talk by Dr. Anne Bebbington of Juniper Hall Fields Centre "The Flowers of Boxhill" - Old Barn Hall - 7.30 pm. Tickets £7 from Granary Crafts, Church Road on 458600 and Ron Smith on 452361.

Saturday 25th 1 to 5 pm and Sunday 26th 10 am to 4 pm - Bookham Flower Arrangement Group present 'Celebrations' - Old Barn Hall. Exhibits to be judged by Mrs. Joan Cooper. Refreshments available. Any profits to The Stroke Association.

EDITORIAL

We have received an unprecedented number of events for 'What's Happening'. This shows that Bookham is a vibrant community and that the Old Barn Hall is the favourite location for nearly all the events. I have reduced the Editorial to one column to make way for these future events.

We are delighted that the recent additions to the Committee of Management include 'younger' members. This bodes well for the future.

While Bookham and District is plagued by mindless vandalism, recently the window of the Red Cross shop in the High Street was smashed and now telephone kiosks are a target, it is encouraging to read about what Paul Stanbrook did as a relief worker for Tearfund in Sierra Leone and Kosova, both places ravaged by war.

Many of you have been kind enough to tell me that you enjoy reading the Bulletin. Now in my fifth year as editor, I am looking for new ideas and would appreciate your suggestions and perhaps contributions of a different nature. However, clubs, please continue to tell me what you will be doing.

Eric Lloyd Jones

NEXT ISSUE SUBMISSIONS BY 31st MARCH

Articles and Bulletin Board

Eric Lloyd Jones, 27 The Spinney, KT23 3PZ. ELLOYDJONES@email.msn.com

'What's Happening' Notices to
Joy Tobin, 4 Downs Way (453340)

CHURCHES

All Saints, Little Bookham Father Charles Lawrence, 4 Fiona Close
KT23 3JU (458314) - Parish Office: (451697)

Bookham Baptist Church Rev Ian McFarlane, Church Office, Lower
Road KT23 4DH (811313)

Bookham United Reformed Church Rev. Brian D. Treharne,
Christ Church Manse, Epsom Road, Leatherhead KT22 8ST (372968)

Churches Together in Fetcham & Bookham Miss M. Denne,
7 Blackthorne Road KT23 4BN (453894)

Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Spirit Father Michael
Benjamin, 5 Bell Lane, Fetcham KT22 9ND (373387)

St. Nicolas Church Rev. Penny Fleming, The Rectory, Fife Way
KT23 3PH (452405)

Weekly Events at The Old Barn Hall

Citizens Advice Bureau - Monday Afternoon in Office at rear of Old
Barn Hall

Afternoon Bridge Club - Monday & Thursday

Players - Monday & Thursday Evening

Bookham Toddler Group - Tuesday Morning

Evening Bridge Club - Tuesday

Welfare Day Centre - Wednesday Morning & Afternoon

Bingo - Wednesday Evening

Old Time & Modern Sequence Dance Club - Wednesday Evening

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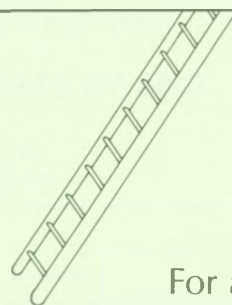


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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A blank piece of paper is a daunting sight for a new boy facing his first Chairman's Report. A look through previous editions of the Bulletin for inspiration only highlights the difficulty of following such an able Chairman as David. The BCA has been well served by all three of the officers who stepped down at the AGM, David Wilkins, Alan Zoers and Beryl Warne. Beryl's knowledge remains with us as President and I know that David and Alan will still be there in support.

Personally I know that I have a great deal to learn but what I do know is how passionately I believe in the Bookhams, the community and the Old Barn Hall. We are privileged to have such a wonderful amenity in our midst and I look forward to playing a small part in preserving it not only for us but for future generations.

There are few places left to live so close to London where you can still have a sense of belonging. When Sue and I moved to Bookham we expected to be Northerners lost in an urban mass - instead we found ourselves living in a village for the first in our lives. The village was large then,

and even larger now, but still retains its special character despite the current spate of graffiti and vandalism. Let us make sure we never lose that 'Bookham Feeling'.

On New Year's Eve the Old Barn Hall reverberated to the big band sound of Perfidia and a great evening was enjoyed by 140 revellers. Earlier in the month Arthur Gamble and Amanda Lee took on the Community Entertains for the first time and produced an excellent show on two evenings. Thanks to all who helped make those events possible.

At the AGM we welcomed two new members of the Committee being David Wolstenholme as Secretary and Peter Raw. At the meeting thanks were expressed to Roger Musgrove, our Hall Manager, and Alan Clarke for their work over the year to make the hall ready for use by the numerous organisations who enjoy it.

I look forward to seeing you at our General Meeting on 23rd April and on Village Day, 15th June.

Keith Stark

The Bookhams Bulletin

Quarterly Journal of the Bookham Community Association

No. 112

SPRING 1962

30th year



THE OLD BARN HALL
THE BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION CENTRE.

From The Bulletin 40 Years Ago

This is edition 112 and in June the Bulletin will go into its 30th year. But will there be a thirtieth year? The answer depends on you! If you think it is worth continuing you will join the Community Association, so indicating your support.

The Community Association is losing money because the subscriptions of members are not being collected. Many people forget to send half-crowns by post but would be very happy to pay if asked personally. It is quite impossible for me to get round all the village and I would be grateful for assistance from you. If you feel that you would have time to collect subscriptions from members living in your own road please write to me or ring and I would let you have a collecting card.

The Membership Secretary.

Times have not changed!

GENERAL MEETING OF THE BCA

An open meeting of the Bookham Community Association will be held on Tuesday 23rd April at 8.00pm in the Old Barn Hall.

Mrs Jean Rooke JP will speak on her experience as a magistrate.

This should be a very interesting talk, so please make an effort to attend. By doing so you will support your new BCA Committee as well as the speaker.

OUR NEW CHAIRMAN - KEITH SLARK

Born in Northampton Keith moved to Birkenhead with his family at the age of 3 living within the sound of Tranmere Rovers - the team of Merseyside. He joined an insurance company in Liverpool as a trainee where, a few years later, he met Sue and they married in 1967.

They lived in Heswall and then on the Lancashire coast at Ainsdale. By the time they arrived in Bookham in 1977, they had three children, a dog and a goldfish (all in a Ford Capri with the hi-fi in the boot!)

First came the Friends of Eastwick School followed by Eastwick Middle School PTA. Keith was the Chairman of the Bookham Scouts Executive Committee and on the committee planning the new scout center - having been a Scout Leader in a previous existence.

Having moved down to work in London, which he did for five years, Sue and Keith started their own financial services firm in Esher. This continued for fourteen years until merging with a larger company in Leatherhead where he still works.

DAVID WOLSTENHOLME OUR NEW SECRETARY

David Wolstenholme was born in Preston but brought up in Coventry. A career in Metallurgy and Welding involved work in the aero engine and power industries. After the closure of CERL at Leatherhead he spent a year working in Kuwait, one practising for retirement and a few commuting to Lloyd's Register at Croydon.

David & Gillian married in 1965 and have lived at Thornbury Gloucestershire, and Dibden Purlieu Hampshire, before arriving at Great Bookham in 1989. They have three sons, and a grandson, but only Robin still lives at home when not studying at Sheffield University.

Now two years into retirement, his interests are golf, gardening and wandering around the countryside bird watching. Exploring France has encouraged an interest in wine.

He has enjoyed using the Old Barn Hall and is very happy to contribute to the activities encompassed by the BCA and the goodwill apparent in Bookham.

THE COMMUNITY ENTERTAINS

It was no mean task to replace Shirley and David Cooper as the show takes a great deal of work and effort to produce. In the early part of 2001 the situation did not look very hopeful, but we felt that it would be a pity to dispense with this event which had brought so much pleasure over many years. One character who seemed to pop up in the shows was of course Arthur Gamble. I was delighted when he volunteered to produce and direct the show, together with Amanda Lee for two very entertaining evenings.

The band, Kelvin Downey, Sheila Andrews and our regular drummer Graham Cannon opened the show with a Little Light Music. There was representation from all ages with a delightful extract from the Nutcracker ballet by the students of the Rosalle and Horsham School of Dancing directed by the Principal Rosemary Walters.

Amanda Lee and Arthur then appeared to remind us how we had survived without the modern amenities of life back in our youth in typical humourous style and this was followed by two ladies from a group called Reflections represented by Rosa Atkinson and Debbie Brett. This was

followed by two charming young ladies Sarah Van Duijuenvoorde and Ellen Osborne playing three duet pieces on the piano.

By this time you could have been forgiven for asking the question, where is he, but we were not to be disappointed as Arthur appeared with his usual monologue and all the humour that he brings to these events.

After the interval, during which we had an excellent meal, the Band gave another boisterous start to the proceedings and then the Bookham Evening Townswomens Guild and their ~~men~~folk gave a selection from shows.

My thanks go to Arthur and Amanda for all the hard work, time and effort which was put in to produce the show and of course to all the cast who performed so well and with such enthusiasm. My thanks also to all the support group, John Chadwick, Viv Lawson, Pat Chadwick, Neville Povey, Nick Moss, Graham Peck, Doreen and Alan Zoers, Anne Peck, Jan Clarke, Vera Pollard, Elvina Froggatt and Margaret Wilkins and her catering team.

David Wilkins.

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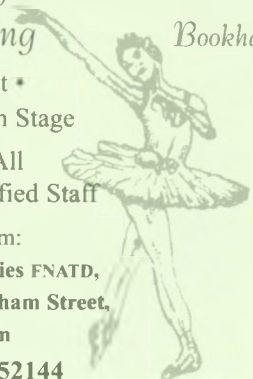
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THANK YOU DAVID (and MARGARET) WILKINS

In 1995 and, again, in 1996 David served on the Village Week Committee: in 1996 the week as a whole made a surplus of £8,840 - the highest ever amount, not exceeded even to to-day. Flushed with success, David agreed to join the Executive Committee (the "E.C.", now the Committee of Management) and, by a sleight of hand by others, found in October 1996 that he had been elected Vice President and Chairman of the E.C. This all happened without him having served any "apprenticeship".



It was soon apparent that such experience of the workings of the B.C.A.

was not necessary in his case. He very quickly had a firm grasp of what was required to make the organisation "tick" successfully, and where a little coaxing was required if all was not going to plan. Sometimes others were asked to volunteer their services but, more often than not, David stepped in himself to fill a gap, or to provide support where a particular task was not being performed to his high standards. This was particularly true when he took responsibility for the co-ordination of 1998 Village Week following the untimely death of Peter Hancock: he retained the position in 1999. Also, from January 1999 he was effectively holding two appointments after Alan Zoers, the President, had his severe stroke. For a number of years Margaret and David have organised the New Year's Eve (and Millennium Eve) Dance. David's enthusiasm for taking on additional assignments meant that he had considerable difficulty in finding someone to take over from him.

Under David's Chairmanship much has been done to maintain and improve the facilities at the Old Barn Hall. His approach has always been thoughtful, measured and (in the words of Beryl Warne at the 2001 A.G.M.) "unflappable" even in the most dire circumstances, when his sense of humour has come to the rescue. His enthusiasm is unbounded and infectious. He has enrolled and kept a loyal Committee, and many other friends, who have enjoyed the help they have given to him and the Community. His achievements are even more remarkable when it is appreciated that one of his grand-daughters became very seriously ill not long after he accepted this appointment. He and Margaret spent (and continue to spend) many, many hours transporting her to and from various hospitals, staying with her whilst she was in hospital and looking after her when she was allowed home. Lesser mortals would have asked the B.C.A. to be relieved of the burden: these two took it all in their stride. We owe them both a great debt of gratitude for all they have done for the B.C.A. and wish them happiness in their "retirement" with their grandchildren.

Patrick Hawkins

ALAN ZOERS RETIRES AS BCA PRESIDENT

After twelve years of service to the Bookham Community Association, four as a committee member, three as Chairman and the last five as President, Alan has finally decided to retire now he is 80, and to watch proceedings from the sidelines.

A Major in the army at 21, he spent his war in India for four years, the latter part with the Chindits. After demob and as a structural engineer, he became property manager for the Union Castle Shipping Company whose ships plied regularly between the U.K. and South Africa, and aboard which I understand he made several trips.



He met Doreen in Essex and they were married in 1947, the same year as the Queen and Prince Philip, and were able to join in the Royal celebrations in 1997. They moved, with daughter Claire, to Bookham in 1953 and witnessed the growing of our village.

In 1989 he joined the BCA Management Committee having the year before become a founder member of Armada Probus, and was its second chairman. Throughout his entire time with the BCA he has shown a singular determination to achieve results for the benefit of The Old Barn Hall and all the associations which make such good use of it. He was never frightened to spend money and always enthusiastic in raising funds.

Alongside all this, his interest in wine led him to form part of the inaugural committee of the Bookham Winemakers Club, and he was closely involved in helping to form the successful U3A Wine Appreciation Group.

To paraphrase a poem I read in our own Golden Jubilee of the BCA:-

What would we do without it,
our lovely Old Barn Hall.
It's the center of the village,
a meeting place for all.
Especially in June when they
support Village Day,
And help to bring the shekels in,
to keep the debts at bay.
A word for the Executive, to whom
all praise is due,
We thank them most sincerely for
our brand new "super loo".

Alan would be the first to acknowledge that all the improvements are not due to him alone, but also to the efforts of his hard working committee which he has led so well.

Thank you Alan, and may you and Doreen long enjoy your "retirement"

Peter Corliss



Why not be a Volunteer Room Steward at Polesden Lacey?

A number of residents in Bookham already give their time and energy to helping at Polesden Lacey in many ways.

Perhaps you know someone who is a volunteer. Volunteering is a vital role within the National Trust and at Polesden Lacey in particular.

From March 2002, the house will open from 11am-5pm, five days a week, which is an increase of 10 hours per week. This is in response to public demand for longer and more consistent opening arrangements at all Trust properties. However, as a result, more volunteers are needed to act as Room Stewards.

Volunteer Room Stewards assist National Trust staff in looking after the house and its visitors. They learn about the history of the house, showrooms and contents and become part of a friendly team of people. There are also social events organised for them throughout the year by PVC - the Polesden Volunteer Club.

Full training is given and all the relevant information is provided, so no previous experience is necessary. However, due to the nature of the job, Room Stewards do need to be able to stand for quite long periods of time.

Volunteers receive free entry to National Trust properties and discount at National Trust shops once a certain number of hours have been worked.

Husband and wife teams often choose to work as volunteers so that they can meet new people and because of specific interests such as antiques. "I especially love the chandelier in the Gold Room and the Meissen china in the study" one wife said. "We both thoroughly enjoy volunteering at Polesden and recommend it wholeheartedly."

If you would like to find out more about becoming a volunteer Room Steward, please contact Jane or Christine on 01372-452048.

Howard of Effingham 20-Year School Reunion for former pupils and teachers

There will be a 20-Year School Reunion for pupils who left the school between 1982-1984. Teachers and Staff will be there too. Former Headmaster, Mr. Eric Ewington, and Deputy Head, Mrs. Sheila Palmer will be attending. The buffet and DJ evening is to take place June 15 2002 at a nearby hotel. Patricia Rykiel (known as Patricia Dodd during her days at the Howard) would like to hear from you if you would like to attend. £25.00 per person. Send your e-mail to Patricia.Rykiel@BTinternet.com or call (01444) 253702 if you would like more information. Also see the website www.friendsreunited.com.

When asked what prompted Patricia to plan a reunion, she responded, "My husband is American. In October, he received in the post a lovely invitation for a 20-year high school reunion. Americans make a huge deal out of reunions. It just got me thinking. Why not for me and my friends, and my former teachers." Patricia contacted a handful of former classmates through the popular website 'friendsreunited' and one thing led to another.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

AQUABOXES

At the moment the club is putting together "Aquaboxes". While the box itself can be used to store water for everyday needs, the contents are basic clothing for two adults and two children, eating utensils, basic "camping" needs - tools, torch, string and most important a water filter pack. Now imagine you had just lost everything in an earthquake, flood or typhoon. You have just what you stand up in, and the "AQUABOX" arrives. A change of clothes and some of life's basics to help you do something useful for your family. We are looking especially for knives, forks, spoons, plastic cups and plates (they do not have to be new or match!), large saucepans, and especially towelling nappies (yes, the old fashioned ways are best in an emergency), towels that can be cut up are just as useful. If you want to help contact David Ridge on 01483 283580.

YOGA THERAPY

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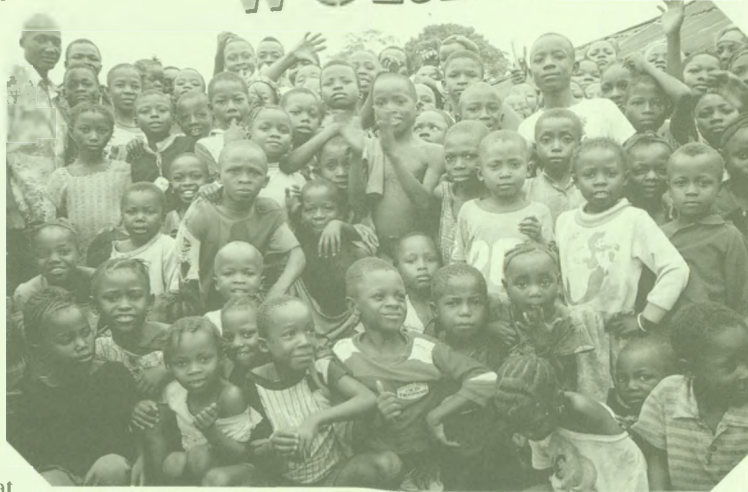
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Paul Stanbrook spends much of his time away from our Bookham community, living and working in some of the most troubled communities of the world. We see news teams covering the latest disaster but, as they move on and we forget, relief workers like Paul arrive to help the shattered people restore some kind of life for themselves. Shortly before Christmas, Paul returned to his home in South Bookham from his latest posting, looking drained and needing a break. The 'Bulletin' asked him to tell us a little about his work.

RELIEF WORKS



mind of people running for their lives. The piles of rubble that represented all that people had in this world. I left Kosovo in August 2000 with a sense of accomplishment. We had provided over a thousand roofs and rebuilt 76 houses which had enabled thousands to survive the Balkan winter. As part of the international community we had started the process of rebuilding the region. Here in Sierra Leone that process was starting all over again.

Sierra Leone. A country that invokes images of war, poverty and the slave trade. The pictures in the media focus on amputees and child soldiers. Yet behind the headlines of a ten year rebel conflict there is a nation determined to put the war behind them and work together towards recovery and reintegration.

I have recently returned to Bookham having spent 13 months in Freetown working for Tearfund - a Christian relief and development agency. My job took me to villages right across the country as we developed projects to assist people resettle in their home communities. Many of the buildings in these villages were completely destroyed during the conflict. However, the scenes at the makeshift schools were surprisingly normal. Children sitting on wooden benches learning to read and write, boys playing football on sloping pitches with bamboo sticks for goal-posts and groups of children laughing and joking under the shade of the trees in the yard. As I talked to village elders and teachers I learned that many of these children had been combatants. Some had been AK-47 carrying rebels at the age of eight or nine. Some of these children had been forced to fight - the others forced to flee from their homes. To see them now laughing and joking together again is evidence that most people are tired of the war and want to move forward as a nation.

My initial reactions to the sights in the villages was 'oh no, not again!'. To see villages completely destroyed by the actions of a few took me back to my first few days in Kosovo in 1999. The scenes of devastation. The empty villages. The images in my

water and latrines for each family. Our aim was to provide materials and technical expertise where it was needed. The enthusiastic response we received from the whole community was a real encouragement. On my final visit to the villages, before returning to England, it was great to see the men digging their latrines and helping other families who could not dig their own pits. Everybody was eager to learn about the health issues associated with water and there was a motivation to complete the project on schedule.

Life as a relief worker provides a new challenge every day. Whether it is dealing with government officials, village authorities, a women's group or school children. Some days go well and the project moves towards its goals - others seem to lurch from crisis meeting to trouble-shooting session to endless officialdom. Flexibility is key as itineraries seldom go to plan!

Much of my time was spent listening to the experiences of people. Events that back here in the UK seem almost unbelievable. The resilience of people to deal with the atrocities that they have been forced to witness can be staggering. I often try to imagine myself in their position. How would I have coped? what would I have done? Would I still be smiling? I had the option to come home. To come back to Bookham. I can choose what to do next. But I still think of the people in Kosovo who have lost so much and the people in Sierra Leone as they only have one choice... to rebuild their lives and their communities.


Paul K Stanbrook

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WEDNESDAY	9.30-10.30	Fetcham Village Hall	Step
WEDNESDAY	18.40-19.40	South Bookham School	Step
WEDNESDAY	19.45-20.45	South Bookham School	Aero/BC
THURSDAY	9.30-10.30	Fetcham Village Hall*	Step
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NEW SOUND SYSTEMS FOR THE OLD BARN HALL

Background

The existing sound systems have given sterling service over the years, but they are based on 1970's technology and have many limitations, and there have been complaints about the quality of the system by modern standards. Technology has moved on apace during the last decade, and quite complex functions can now be implemented reliably and cheaply.

Apart from the basic sound systems themselves, a review of the microphones and associated hardware has been undertaken. Also the condition of all plugs and leads has been examined and damaged and vulnerable items replaced with more robust alternatives.

Main hall system

The existing loudspeakers in the main hall are adequate for speech but little else and have been replaced to give music reproduction in stereo.

Equipment is fed through a mixer which may appear frightening at first sight, but simple instructions will be made available to users of the hall. A briefing session can be arranged if required.

Harrison Room system

Historically this system has doubled as an outdoor system for events such as Village Day, and this dual role is being retained. However, the two channels can be operated completely independently. Therefore, for Village Day for example, one channel can be used for announcements via the existing horns mounted on the tower, while the other channel can be used for good quality music reproduction via a separate robustly constructed portable loudspeaker provided explicitly for this purpose. Music reproduction in stereo is also available in the Harrison Room.

Peter G. Clarke

News from Bookham Choral Society

Bookham Choral Society's two concerts of carols and Christmas music during the week before Christmas brought pleasure to those who attended - a packed house on both occasions. Only one sad note was struck. It was the announcement that the Society's hugely popular conductor, Nicholas O'Neill would not be appearing at the Carols Concert of 2002.

Nick will leave to occupy another post after the Leith Hill Music Festival is over. At present the choir is rehearsing for this event in April, determined to earn marks that will propel it to the status of top choir - something they have missed by only one mark in 2000 and

2001. All Bookham's music lovers should come to Dorking Halls on Thursday, 11th April to hear the competitions in the morning and the performance of the chosen pieces in the evening. This year the selected works are Haydn's Nelson Mass and Durufflé's Requiem.

The choral society is supported financially by its members and a few well-wishers, supplemented by concert proceeds. Its next fund-raising venture is the Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy sale on Saturday, 9th February.

More information about the society can be obtained from its secretary, Pat Price-Tomes, telephone 01372 375664.

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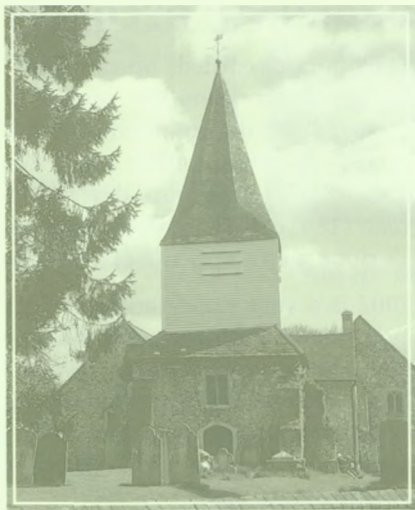
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In 1876 Queen Victoria is declared Empress of India, Custer makes his last stand but is killed by North American Indians and Bell invents the telephone. Meanwhile, in Bookham... the population is about eleven hundred, made up of a Vicar and a curate, one member of the medical profession, a surgeon, about twelve families of the gentry



BOOKHAM IN 1876

and about nine farmers. The twenty-six tradesmen include four shoemakers, three grocers, two builders, two painters, two harness-makers, a butcher, a draper, a carrier, a confectioner, two bakers, two blacksmiths, one publican, three beer-sellers, a bricklayer, a stationer and a miller.

The Vicar, is Revd William Heberden, M.A. (rural Dean). His father presented him with the living, which included land, purchased at a cost of £10750 while William was at Oxford, so his brother-in-law, the Revd Andrewes, was persuaded to nurse the Parish until William was ordained in 1821.

William is the son and grandson of two very important men in medical science: both were doctors in Ordinary to George III. The Herberdens were wealthy and soon William replaced the Vicarage with a very fine Rectory. His wife, Elvina, died but their children, Maria, Catherine and Francis, are still living with him. There are five staff - a housekeeper/cook, a lady's maid, a housemaid, a kitchen maid and a man servant. William's will was witnessed by Mary Ann Smith, the children's nanny and by William Ragge, the Parish Clerk. His wealth enables him to spend three months each year in the South of France, which means leaving the Parish duties to his son (the curate) John. John lives at the Laurels, Church Place (which has become part of the High Street by the 21st century). His wife Elizabeth and three children live there also - but no servants. Due to his haughty manner, Revd Heberden senior is known as 'The Pope'.

In this year, 1876, a man named Newton Arrow is walking around Bookham and recording what he sees. We will follow in his footsteps and turn right at the church down Church Road. We pass two Villas and the butchers shop. As we go further along the road we reach the Post Office, which is a money order office and Post Office Savings Bank. Opposite is the Vicarage where the Revd William Heberden lives, and then the house where the Doctor lives, Doctor Arthur Stedman, M.R.C.S.

The next building we meet is the Mill, four storey's high, then the four Almshouses, Flushings Farm and pretty Flushings Cottage. The farm belongs to William Leach (who is a minor) and is the last building we see on the road leading to the Isle of Wight Ponds.

We now retrace our steps back to the Church, and next time will go in another direction.

Libby Matts

A VISIT TO BOOKHAM'S WI MARKET

On a sunny Friday morning I paid a visit to the WI Market - as a newcomer to Bookham this was my first introduction to a local event.

I arrived at the Old Barn Hall at 10.10 am for admittance at 10.15 am. The front door of the Hall stood open - but not a soul in sight! Had I mistaken the day, time, the place. But no, there was a notice on the gate! I approached the door and was politely told it could only be used once the Market opened, and until then I must queue round the side.

As I rounded the building I heard the queue before I saw it - a chattering air of expectation greeted me and there at the far end on the benches against both walls sat two long rows of people who judging by their settled stance had been there long before 10.10 am. Then came the standing queue - seeming somewhat younger was there an unwritten rule that only those of certain years were worthy of the benches?

Falling into conversation with those in front of me I learned that for many this was not only a practical outing to buy delicacies from the ladies of the WI, but a much looked forward to social outing as well. Old friends looked forward to meeting week after week.

The doors opened, and as if by a miracle the bench sitters rose, turned into those whose agility would not have disgraced a long distance runner and disappeared into the Hall without a backward glance.

On catching up, I found tables laden with all sorts of goodies, cakes, pies, eggs, plants, meat, gifts, presided over by pristine clad ladies in striped red pinafores. Having mistakenly caused mayhem at the previously ordered cake stall, by trying to buy goodies allocated to others, I was politely but firmly pointed in the right direction. Spoilt for choice, I bought a selection of wonderful cakes ready to pass off as my own when friends came to tea, and left with the impression that here in Bookham was a thumbnail sketch of village life. Long may it be so, and I shall certainly return.

Penny Clarke

GOLDEN JUBILEE CARNIVAL

Preliminary Notice

On Bank Holiday Monday, 3rd June, the people of Bookham will have the opportunity to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee at a Grand Jubilee Carnival being held at the Leatherhead Leisure Centre.



The event will commence at 12:00 and there will be a walking procession from Leatherhead Town Centre, leaving at 1 p.m. The theme of the procession will be "The past 50 years - a golden Celebration". Anyone interested in taking part will be welcome - please let us know.

A vintage bus, will run from Bookham at no charge.

For full details of the whole event, including times and routes of the buses, please see the next edition of the Bulletin, or the website www.leatherheadcarnival.co.uk

The Carnival is being organised by the local Service Clubs - Rotary, Lions and Round Table. Information from Brian Gourlay 453820.

We are the Eastwick Allotments and Gardens Association; **NOT** the Flower Society!

This is an oft heard response in the huts of the Eastwick Allotments and Gardens Association. We are not the 'Bookham, Fetcham and District Flower Society' and carrying their membership card does not entitle one to make purchases at the huts, however, for a mere two pounds annual subscription we will be delighted to enrol you! Our membership runs from October first to September thirtieth.

The EAGA is a trading organisation and members can purchase a wide range of basis gardening materials at very competitive prices. Whilst we can not hold stocks of perishable items such as seeds, seed potatoes and onion sets we do purchase to order at a considerable discount on member's behalf. For the gardening staples, soil-based composts, soil-less composts, fertilizers, weed killers, pest killers and sundries we stock a representative range and more expensive items such as tools can be ordered at about a week's notice.

We trade from huts on the Eastwick Allotments site bounded by Eastwick road and Keswick Road in Bookham. The huts are open for trading between 10am and noon most Sundays of the year and doing a turn in the huts is currently a condition of membership. Even if you are not in the first flush of youth or A1 able-bodied you could be of help. The main hut is heated in the cold weather. There are stools to sit on if required. We supply an apron to protect your clothing and identify you as an official helper.

There is always at least one committee member on duty to organise things and deal with enquiries or problems. Sometimes business is slow, sometimes frenetic but nearly always fun and there is something satisfying about being able to provide a small service to the community.

Our aim is to give as good value for money as possible and our best strategy is to strive always to increase our membership because economies come mainly from scale of operations. We are lucky to have a dedicated and stable committee that looks after the day to day business of the Association. A strategy to provide value for money is to avoid duplication. As far as pesticides go the range available for amateur use is generally decreasing. Those that are left are often marketed in many formulations and by more than one supplier. We try to stock a range of the most popular formulations that avoids duplication so if we do not appear to have what you want please ask; we probably have an equivalent product at an even better price!

If you have any enquiries we would be pleased to answer them in person at the huts during trading or through our Honorary Secretary, John Humphreys, who can be reached on 454383.

BOOKHAM RECORDED MUSIC CLUB

Bookham Recorded Music Club embarked on its 50th Season in September with John Dicker as our new Chairman, and as in previous seasons the chosen music has been both varied and at times unusual. Two programmes of particular note were devoted to one tragic and defining year (1801-1802) in Beethoven's life and the other to the glorious music of Schubert, who died tragically young.

2002 is a very important year for the Club as it marks its own Golden Jubilee and it is also our very pleasant task to host the annual reunion of the Federation of Recorded Music Societies, West Surrey Region. The coincidence of both events falling in the same year has resulted in a decision to combine both celebrations in the Old Barn Hall on 18th May, 2002.

Representatives of approximately six Clubs of the Region and other persons or bodies with whom the Club has had contact over the years will be invited to join us to celebrate both aspects of the evening, and although at this stage nothing has been finalised, it is hoped the first part will be taken up with a talk by Dr. Messenger, who was once Head of Music at Guildford University. The second part will be devoted to musical entertainment provided by Trevor Pratt, pianist (and Fetcham-born) and a cellist, to be confirmed.

Buffet refreshments will be provided in the interval and details of ticket prices may be obtained by telephoning our Hon. Secretary on 453599. In the meantime, if anyone has any knowledge of the Club in its early days, will they kindly contact the same number.

The Club has benefited so much from the facilities provided by Bookham's wonderful Old Barn Hall, so please support us by helping to fill it to capacity for such an important milestone for our Club.

Mary Chandler

ANY QUESTIONS

St Nicolas Church is organising an Any Questions evening for Thursday, March 21st 2002, at 8 pm, in the main Barn Hall. All residents of Bookham are invited and it is hoped that members of all the churches will encourage friends to come and listen to the panellists or ask questions (in advance please, to the Parish Office, Fife Way) on the challenging topic: "How should, and does, the Christian Faith affect our lives and also the decisions taken by our leaders, on our behalf". The panel is expected to be - Canon Christopher Vallins (Chaplain at Epsom Hospital), Lydia Gladwin (wife of the Bishop of Guildford), Rev Ian McFarlane (Bookham Baptist Church) and one other. The Rector of St Nicolas Church, Rev Penny Fleming, will be in the chair to keep the evening moving along and ensure a lively response to all questions from you, the people of Bookham.

Bob Pragnell

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BOOKHAM LIGHT OPERATIC SOCIETY



Looking forward to another succesful year

We are very thankful to report that 2001 was, again, a good year for Bookham's Operatic Society. We staged "The White Horse Inn" in April and "Ruddigore" in September, as well as enjoying our usual busy programme of social outings and social activities.

The White Horse Inn was a great show to be part of and we had lots of fun, both in rehearsing it and in performing it. Our audiences enjoyed the lovely music, which brought back happy memories for many of them. Our leading man was not so fortunate; he tore his Achilles tendon on opening night. It took a long time for him to get better, but happy to say, he is better now and taking the lead in our current production. We supported The British Red Cross Society with these performances, enabling them to add a modest amount to their funds.

Ruddigore, another well loved Gilbert and Sullivan (G&S) classic, proved to be one of the most enjoyable and well received shows we have produced for several years. We were helped tremendously by having a first class orchestra, which The Mole Valley Arts Forum helped us to fund with a small grant. Five principals and more than half of the chorus repeated the roles they played in our 1993 production.

We are now in the final stages of our rehearsals for another G&S favourite, "Iolanthe". It has the usual ingredients of a G&S show - wonderful music, biting social comment and a topsy turvy world of the highly improbable until all is resolved to everyone's satisfaction in the final scene.

We will be supporting another charity with these performances, but at the time of writing the choice of charity had not been confirmed.

This production will be staged at The Adrian Mann Theatre, Ewell on 17th to 20th April, Box Office 01372 4534779.

Bookham's Operatic Society rehearses every Friday evening in Bookham. We are affiliated to the National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) and last year

saw another six of our members presented with a NODA 10 year service award.

We perform two shows every year. Each April, we present five performances of our main show at the Adrian Mann Theatre at Ewell. Over the past 10 years there, we have staged a wide variety of classic and popular musicals. Our second show is performed locally in September and usually runs for three performances. By popular demand the September shows tend to be mainly G&S .

New members are always welcome, aged 14 and upwards. We have room for singers and non-singers, for dancers, for on stage people and for back stage people. We would particularly like to see more young boys and girls/young men and young women - but as we said, all are welcome.

We are a friendly and a social lot, having fun whilst treating what we do with appropriate seriousness. Anyone interested is welcome to ring Ray Spooner 01372 457248 for an initial chat.

Ray Spooner

Bookham, Fetcham and District Garden Society



The Society held its 125th Annual General meeting last November and was able to look back on a very successful year, which included a trip to Prince Charles' gardens at Highgrove for a select band of members who were impressed with what they saw. More or less the same stalwarts were re-elected on to the committee with the exception of Phyllis Berry who retired after 9 years sterling service as Secretary. Derek

Bean has bravely taken on the General Secretary role in addition to his onerous duties as Show Secretary. A notable addition to the committee was his wife Joyce who, I think, has decided that "if you can't beat them join them !".

At the time of writing we are experiencing our first hint of snow but by the time this Bulletin is issued the end of Winter should be in sight and Spring will be just around the corner. This heralds the first major event of the year, which is the Spring Show to be held this year in the Old Barn Hall on Saturday 6th April. The weather over the next few weeks will play a part but, hopefully, we can look forward to another fine display of daffodils, tulips and spring flowers. It is well worth a visit and refreshments are available. Better still join the Society and put in an entry - you don't need to be an expert and Derek Bean (458711) would be pleased to give you all the necessary information and advice.

Derek can also tell you about the Society's other activities which include a monthly programme of evening meetings with talks on a variety of subjects, open gardens and the occasional trip to places of interest. As a member you can also draw upon the Society's extensive library of over 70 books, covering all aspects of gardening, to help you design, develop, plant and maintain your garden - whatever its size. To join us call the Membership Secretary Christine Hutchinson on 452614.

Peter Almond

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT MUSEUM – A Look back over 2001

Leatherhead & District Local History Museum, now closed for the winter, looks back on the most successful year of its 21 years' existence.

Success came in many forms. The arrival of a new curator, Graham Evans, led to immediate improvements in the quality of the displays. Many visitors, returning after a lapse of time, have congratulated the staff on the improvements in terms of interest and diversity. Much has also been done 'behind the scenes' to improve the recording and cataloguing of the artefacts. As a result of all these factors the museum is now classified as a **Registered Museum**, an enviable status for any museum.

A rise in the numbers of visitors was the reward for the efforts of The Friends



of Leatherhead Museum. Intensive publicity brought an increase in attendance in excess of 240 adults and children. This culminated in a record day's attendance on the occasion of the museum's 21st birthday, 6th October, 2001. That day turned out to be a truly festive one for the town of Leatherhead and visitors from surrounding villages. A Victorian open-top horse bus plied the streets, a Victorian school took place in the Swan Centre and the chairman of Mole Valley District Council arrived to give his support.

Plans for the year 2002 are already taking shape and even greater success will be sought with still more visitors encouraged to learn about Leatherhead's past. When the museum opens next April new displays will supplement some of the 'old favourites' like the Victorian kitchen and the well in the garden (now illuminated). There will be greater efforts to stimulate the interest of youngsters : new links with local schools throughout the area are being planned.

Only one shadow could perhaps mar the otherwise bright outlook. The museum, which is run independently of any outside authority, looks to its band of voluntary stewards to be in attendance during opening hours. There are just enough to cope with the present situation and new volunteers are urgently sought. Stewards, many of whom

live in Bookham, enjoy their work -just three hours a month-and the duties are not onerous. Readers with an interest in local history might well wish to consider joining. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary to The Friends, Thelma Lucas whose telephone number is 01372 844345.

LUNCH IN THE OLD BARN HALL

For the first time ever, the Armada Probus Club held its annual Christmas lunch in the Old Barn Hall. Approximately one hundred and thirty Members and guests sat down in a beautifully decorated hall at tables which were tastefully laid out with gleaming cutlery, table decorations and, of course, crackers.

An admirable lunch of seafood cocktail, traditional turkey and Christmas pudding was provided by the caterer, who made use of the facilities of the Old Barn Hall kitchens. The lunch was followed by the traditional raffle of prizes for the ladies who all left with a present.

The committee has received many congratulations from Members and their guests for this initiative which we hope to be able to repeat.

At the recent Annual General Meeting the club voted to increase membership from 75 to 80 so that there is now no waiting list.

The name Armada Probus Club was chosen because the club was formed in 1988, the four hundredth anniversary of the defeat of the Spanish Armada by a British fleet commanded by Lord Howard of Effingham with the assistance of Francis Drake.

Bill Whitman

☆ CHRISTMAS BAZAAR ☆

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A big thank you on behalf of the Royal Marsden for all the support we received at the Old Barn Hall on 1st December. Despite the rain an overwhelming number of people came and we made a record making £1600 in 2 hours! We hope to see you all again in May.

Patricia M. Beale

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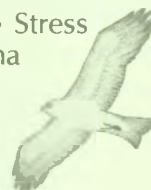
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Bulletin Board

Anyone wishing to join one or more of the affiliated groups should write to or telephone the contact listed below. All groups welcome new members (especially those who will be active), although one or two do have waiting lists. If you wish to assist Bookham Community Association in any way contact the Chairman; the Membership Secretary and the Distributor of Bookhams Bulletin (453430) will be pleased to hear from volunteers to become road stewards. Articles for publication in Bookhams Bulletin should be sent to the Bulletin Editor. Businesses who want to advertise in the Bulletin may contact Surrey Litho Ltd. (456060). The Old Barn Hall has three rooms for hire for private as well as group functions (accommodating 36, 100 and 200 people respectively). The Hall Manager, Mr. Roger Musgrove, is always pleased to explain in detail the facilities available. Write to him at the Old Barn Hall, 55 Church Road, Great Bookham KT23 3PQ or telephone 01372 456307. The office is open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

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Bulletin Editor Eric Lloyd Jones, 27 The Spinney KT23 3PZ (454228)

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Listed below are the groups who are affiliated to the BCA. Changes to these details, and applications from new clubs, should be forwarded in writing to the Editor.

BRA

Bookhams Residents' Association Andrew Freeman, Highlands, Crabtree Close (451357)

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Friends Bookham Commons Peter Corliss, Amberly, Park Green KT23 3NL (452304)

Friends of Little Bookham Church Mrs Valerie Winter, 3 Sheridans Road KT23 4RZ (454273)

Friends of St Nicolas Church Mrs Elizabeth Lee-Kelley, 1 Groveside KT23 4LD (450580)

National Trust Bookham Commons Committee K. Poulton, Oakhurst, Edgeley KT23 3BE (454323)

EDUCATION

Art Class Ms Zelda Glanville, Galveston, Giggs Hill Road, Thames Ditton KT7 0BT (0208 972 9995)

Bookham & District U3A Tony M. Kunesch, 33 Childs Hall Road KT23 3QF (454008)

Eastwick Junior School P.T.A. Secretary, Eastwick Middle School, Eastwick Drive KT23 3PP (453277)

Friends of Dawnay School c/o The Dawnay School, Griffin Way KT23 4JJ (456774)

Friends of Eastwick Infant School Mrs Amanda Shamp, 22 Richmond Way, Fetcham KT22 9NR (458788)

Friends of Howard of Effingham School c/o Howard of Effingham School, Lower Road, Effingham KT24 5JR (453694)

Friends of South Bookham School School Secretary, Oakdeng Close KT23 4PT (456533)

Leatherhead U3A Terence Eccersley, Lavender Cottage, Leatherhead Road KT23 4RR (457217)

Peter Pan Playschool (Bookham) Ms Michelle Baggs, 90 The Street, Fetcham KT22 9RF (376473)

Rainbow Playgroup Mrs Lucy Mason, c/o Baptist Church, Lower Road, KT23 4DH (811313)

South Bookham Playschool Mrs Jayne Cox, 2 Oakdene Close KT23 4PT (801048)

Surrey Adult Education Service Mid Surrey Area The Mansion, Church Street, Leatherhead KT22 8DA (386851)

The Dawnay Playgroup Mrs Janet Kennet, Lower Road KT22 4JJ (453796)

WEA (Fetcham & Bookham Branch) Mrs Sylvia Hole, 39 Howard Road KT23 4PW (454181)

MISCELLANEOUS

Alzheimer's Disease Society Mrs Penny Weaver, Hope Lodge, 10 Church Street, Epsom KT19 4NY (729988)

Armada Probus Club Brian V. Maurice, 4 Sharon Close KT23 4HL (457583)

Bookham & Horsley Rotary Club Tony Greenman, 10 Post House Lane KT23 3EA (451534)

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Bookham Homeopathic Group Mrs Carolyn Hinde-Smith, The School House, Townshott Close KT23 4QD (458972)

Bookham Toddler Group Mrs Cathy Terry, 30 Oakhill Close, Ashstead KT21 2JQ (815843)

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Bookham Light Operatic Society Mrs Pat Barnes, 20 Lebanon Road, Cobham KT11 2PR (01932 865196)

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Bookham Scottish Country Dance Club Mrs Jean Preston, 7 Childs Hall Road KT23 3QD (452695)

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Mole Valley & Epsom & Ewell Green Party John Tebbs, 3 Mead Crescent KT23 3DU (450966)

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Dressmaking Group Mrs Lilian Slark, 9 The Lorne KT23 4JY (453712)

Eastwick Allotments & Garden Association John Humphreys, 15 The Lorne KT23 4JY (454383)

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Bookham Sports Association John Prince, 3 Murrells Walk KT23 3LP (457229)

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Dorking & Mole Valley Athletic Club Graham Taylor, "Treva", Links Way KT23 4HQ (452724)

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Bookhams Evening WI Mrs Beryl Gilham, 38 Eastwick Drive KT23 3PR (451980)

Eastwick WI Miss J. Durbin, 6 Cochrane Court, Church Road KT23 3JJ (458715)

Emlyn Downs Group of WI's Mrs Stella Phipps, 69 Little Bookham St. (450937)

Little Bookham WI Mrs Joyce O'Donovan, 71 Strathcona Avenue KT23 4HR (454498)

National Women's Register Mrs Kim Kitson, Tapogee, Burhams Road KT23 3BA (451972)

Royal British Legion Women's Section Mrs M. Blackburn, 5 Canonside, Fetcham KT22 9LE (373854)

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1st Bookham Scout Group Chris Sheppard, 48 Hazel Way, Fetcham KT22 9QD (450376)

3rd Bookham Scout Group Chris Hallett, 8 Durlleston Park Drive KT23 4AJ (458068)

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We appreciate that collecting subs may mean calling on some houses several times, so if you are not called on to contribute, it will be much appreciated if you cut out and fill in the form below and put it through Jennifer Blackburn's letter box at 1, The Moorings (next to The Old Barn Hall).

This appeal has been so successful that we will continue to put the form in the bottom left hand corner of the back page.

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BOOKHAM SWINGS INTO 2002

More than one hundred and fifty revellers saw in the New Year at the Annual Dinner & Dance organised by the BCA in the Old Barn Hall. The party goers sat down to a sumptuous three course meal with a main course of Bookham Crumble, all of which was prepared and served by the Committee members and their friends. During and after the meal, the big band sound of Perfidia kept people on their toes, providing dance music that certainly helped the party go with a swing! At midnight, signalled by the chimes of Big Ben the company welcomed in the New Year with bubbly, dancing and more revelry, with the festivities continuing into the early morning.

Mention must be made of the many people who contributed to the success of the evening. They included Genie Hancock, Jan Clarke, Pam Hyde, Mary Attewill, Judith Harding, Mary Raw, Margaret Brelsford, Jennifer Blackburn, Audrey Gregory, Joan Crook, Sue Slark, Margaret Wilkins, Pam Hall, Jill Fayers, Vivienne Varley, Pam Sexton and Vera Pollard. The whole evening was organised by the sub committee of Genie Hancock, Peter and Jan Clarke under the leadership of Margaret and David Wilkins, who have been the twin driving forces behind the event for the past few years.

David Harding

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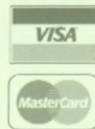


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