LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

August 1974 No 157 42nd Year

The Bookhams Bulletin

Quarterly Journal of the Bookham Community Association



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The Bookhams Bulletin

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August 1974

No 157

42nd Year

Editor: Mrs E Harrison. Telephone Bookham 58702 Distribution: G Everett. Telephone Bookham 52404 Advertisements:

Mrs M Emery, Telephone Bookham 58730

26th AGM Bookham Community Association

Council Meeting Bookham Community Association

Tuesday, 29 October, 8.15 pm, Barn Hall

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Election of Executive Committee

Tuesday, 22 October, 8.15 pm, Barn Hall

Election of Officers, Membership Secretary and Assistant Secretary

Election of Representatives of Individual Members—30 approximately (Nominations may be sent in advance to Mr L Clark, 1A Howard Road

Reports

General Business

EDITORIAL

Autumn is approaching, 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness', as the poet describes it. The first flush of red and yellow gilds the countryside and The Bulletin drops through your letter-box, making, we hope, more impact that a falling leaf. A journal twice its size is needed to list the many activities which start up again in September, but details can be obtained from the Secretaries listed on the back.

Bookham is a lively neighbourhood and it has a community association which tries to publicise available facilities and, if possible, fill gaps. The BCA is a local forum and it is therefore important that representatives of all the affiliated bodies, as well as individual members, attend the AGM as well as the periodic meetings of its Council.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE AND HALL

Bookham is a large and straggling village which makes it difficult for us to win an award in the annual competition organised by the Surrey Voluntary Service Council. The winners this year were:

Large Villages 1st Limpsfield 2nd Wonersh 3rd East Horsley Village Halls 1st Godstone 2nd Woldingham 3rd Newdigate

Our near neighbour, East Horsley, which

entered for the first time this year, won an award. We congratulate them and, for our comfort, note with pride that the judges instructed that Bookham should be commended for its efforts and evidence of community spirit. The organising committee add that 'the standard was uniformly high and the judges found great difficulty in making the selections.'

Once more we thank all who participated in the 'spring cleaning', especially all the WI's, the Townswomen's Guild, The Guides, the Residents' Association and our own members. We have been encouraged to enter again next





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year and we would be glad to do this if we could be more confident that the maintenance of standards was an on-going thing. Dropping of litter is still a problem. Fortunately, when the judges came, it must have been shortly after spring cleaning week-they did not see much litter and they observed that the bins were well used and well sited. They did point out, however, that the tidiness of the playing fields and recreation grounds was only fair.

The excellent maintenance of St Nicolas Church and graveyard was commended. Our tradesmen and innkeepers will be pleased to know that the external appearance of their properties, too, was described as excellent and this, indeed, is progress when we recall that the 1973 report was, on the whole, unfavourable. Their surrounds and flower beds were considered very good. Finally, praise was given to our gardens and the upkeep of private verges, this adding significantly, it was said, to the attractiveness of the locality. We reached the satisfactory level of an 80% mark.

Even though the Barn Hall got a ranking of 86%, we were unlucky in the day chosen by the judges. Our Grounds, which are usually immaculate, showed evidence of litter and the dustbins were neither clean nor tidy. For the record, we would like it to be known that the dustmen had not visited us and our volunteer groundsman was on holiday. All the same, we take this opportunity to appeal to all users of the Hall to deposit rubbish and leftovers in an orderly fashion after their events. Most of them do so but there are the occasional defaulters and this is disheartening to our volunteers and caretaker who give considerable and continuous service.

We are glad to finish with glad tidings. Heating and lighting were described as excellent, furniture and curtains excellent, notice boards excellent and fire precaution equipment excellent.

VILLAGE DAY

Lovely weather and a fine turn-out of more than 2,000 people made our 25th Village Day a great success. It is heartening to observe that the tradition with which we began of making this a real family occasion still continues. Long may it do so! The cooperation of so many organisations and clubs in running stalls and sideshows creates the neighbourhood spirit. It is good to meet old friends, some of whom we may not

have seen for years and some who have left the district but are attracted back to this special

We can only give an 'omnibus' thank-you to all who helped so generously and we append, as usual, at the end of this column a list of the firms and traders who so willingly supply us with gifts

and prizes.

We estimate that some 1,500 came into the Exhibition. This is a feature of Village Day and is always of high standard but we think it is probably true to say that this fourth show of 'Bookham Past' exceeded all others in excellence of presentation and imaginative interpretation of a theme which always interests Bookhamites. We are indebted to the little band of enthusiasts who worked so hard to give us a visual picture of the history of our country as shown in the development of our own village.

As we go to press it is impossible to give exact figures of the profits of Village Day and Village Week but it should be over £900, a sum which will help the Community Association to carry on its many activities for the benefit of the

whole neighbourhood.

Acknowledgements. We are indebted to the following local traders and business houses for their generosity in donating prizes and extend to them our very grateful thanks:

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BOOKHAM COMMONSBought by the People for the People

The story of the Commons should cover 3 areas: Great Bookham, Little Bookham and Banks Common-a total of some 447 acres.

Early in the 1920's the Lord of the Manor of Great Bookham, Mr H Souchon, planned to live abroad and sell his estate, but it was only when a new entrance road (now The Park) was made into Eastwick Park from Church Road that residents realized that portions of the Estate had been sold to a building firm (Harvey Estates Ltd). The firm had also acquired the rights over the Waste of the Manor, known as Great Bookham Common, at that time much favoured by gypsies as a venue on the way to Epsom Downs for Derby Week. The land was used for grazing. The Contractor also had possession of the timber-fine oak and ash treesand it was learned that it was intended that these should be cut down and removed.

A hurried meeting of a few residents was held, resulting in a request to Mr Souchon to halt the sale of the Manor Rights over the Common. The residents were given, by him, 3 weeks to buy back the rights for £1,200, in those days a large sum of money to raise at short notice. It was accomplished. There were only 23 subscribers but their love of Bookham, which, at that time, was essentially a rural area with a population of about 2,000, saved the pending vandalism. The Rights were vested in the National Trust for all time and, we of this generation, have a responsibility to maintain what they preserved.

A strip of land-the Waste of the Manor of Little Bookham, to the west of Great Bookham Common and extending to Hundred Pound Bridge, still remained in private ownership. The Lord of this Manor, Mr H C Willock-Pollen, noting what had taken place, generously presented to the National Trust his Rights over Little Bookham Common.

Shortly after, Mr R R Calburn, of Effingham, brought together the whole area of Common land lying to the north of Bookham by presenting to the National Trust, the 3rd portion, some 33 acres, known as Banks Common.

The National Trust, as is its custom, established a Management Committee of local residents to be responsible for the maintenance of the whole area, in consultation with the Area Agent at Polesden Lacey.

This sub-Committee, under the chairman-

ship of Dr A Easton, meets regularly and is advised by Mr John Simson, Assistant Agent for the Surrey and West Sussex Region of The Trust, based at Polesden.

The Commons were not endowed and The Trust cannot be financially responsible for their upkeep. Consequently the sub-Committee must rely for its income upon grants from local authorities (£600 in 1973) and subscriptions from local residents (under 200). More could help in this latter direction, remembering that conservation begins at home. You can, for example, join the National Trust by joining through the Bookham Commons' Treasurer, Mr W Rombach, Arbor Vitae, Vicarage Close, whereby the sub-Committee receives a rebate from The Trust. You can subscribe annually or, preferably, by covenant.

In recent years, Eric Youngman, the Commons Keeper, with some voluntary help, has made major improvements. Glades have been opened up, paths cleared, ditches drained, horse rides marked and the Eastern Plain, grazed before the war by cattle, and subsequently overgrown with bracken and silver birch, restored to its original beauty.

Water fowl have returned to the Isle of Wight Pond which was completely cleared last year. The restoration of the Upper Eastern Pond is now under way with voluntary labour.

The Commons are of special scientific interest. Of the 139 families of flowering plants and ferns found in Britain, as many as 82 have been reported over the last 20 years in the flora of Bookham Commons. Here, also, have been recorded about 1,200 species of two-wing flies, 1,000 species of beetles, 264 of butterflies and moths, 180 of spiders, 100 of birds and 22 species of mammals.

With such a splendid amenity in our possession, it is good to hear that a small group of people are endeavouring to form a Friends of Bookham Common, whose object would be to raise money and stimulate voluntary help. Those interested should communicate with Dr J Sowerbutts, 63 Church Road. Events planned are:

September 21-Mini Fete, 2.15, garden of 63 Church Road.

October 18-Meeting-J Workman (NT Adviser on Forestry and Conservation) on 'Are we really looking after our trees?' Barn Hall, 8.00 pm.

October 19-Mini Dance.

December 21-Barn Dance in Barn Hall. J.S.

ACT NOW!

We know that there are many people in Bookham who would like to support the work of the Community Association but are not able to give active help. They would, we are sure, be willing to join as members-the annual subscription is only 15p and this includes free entrance to Village Day-but are not informed how to do this. Our membership secretary, Miss M Corner, has kindly supplied us with a list of road stewards, so that it will be easy for well-wishers to get in touch. Incidentally, she tells us, that it would be of great assistance if collections could be completed in the autumn and, failing this, not later than March. Volunteers would be welcomed by her to cover Candycroft, Priors Mead, Norbury Way, Sheridan Road, The Paddocks, Mill Close, part of Leatherhead Road.

Road Collectors Keswick Road, R Wood, 41 Keswick Road Lang Close, Spring Grove, Kennel Lane, R Barnish, 51 Kennel Lane Leatherhead Road, Mrs E White, Silverdene, Leatherhead

Road Leeside, Meadowside, Mrs Pelling, Whitegates, Meadow-

Little Bookham Street (Lower), Mrs Oldershaw, 99 Little

Bookham Street Little Bookham Street (Top), and Long Meadow, Mrs

Eversden, 16 Little Bookham Street The Lorne, Mrs Slark, 9 The Lorne Lower Road (Church to Preston Cross), Mrs Day, 261

Lower Road
Lower Road (Church to Fetcham even numbers), Mrs Love-

day, 140 Lower Road Lower Road (Church to Fetcham odd numbers), Mrs Essen,

41 Durleston Park
Fox Lane, Maddox Lane, Burnhams Road, The Park, R

Catt, Ashlar, Maddox Lane Mead Crescent, Mrs Benny, 12 Mead Crescent Meadow Way and Greenway, Mrs Smith, 66 Eastwick Drive Merrylands Road, Mrs Thorley, 19 Barn Meadow Middlemead and Sole Farm Avenue, C Upton, 51 Sole Farm

Walk, R Whalley, 9 Greenacres
The Grove Estate, Mrs Stemp, 58 Whiteway
Oakdene Road, Burrows Close, Mrs Strand, 16 Burrows

Oakdene Close, Southdene, West Down, Dawnay Road, Dorking Road, Dowlans Road, Howard Road, A Tupper, 15

Dorking Road, Dowlans Road, Howard Road, A Tupper, Dorking Road
The Park, Mrs Neil, 2 Greenacres
Posthouse Lane, W Rombach, 9 Vicarage Close
Pine Dene, Mrs Puttock, 3 Vicarage Close
Richmond Way, Harecroft, J Farrier, 22 Richmond Way
St Nicolas Avenue, Mrs Sinclair, Wrens Nest, St Nicolas

Avenue Stonehill Close, Vicarage Close, Mrs Freeman, 6 The Gars-

Swanns Meadow, Mrs Perris, 5 Swanns Meadow Swanns Meadow, Mrs Perns, 3 Swanns Meadow Timber Close, Mrs Meier, 4 Timber Close Tudor Close, Mrs Whitman, Amberley, Tudor Close Twelve Acres Close, Mrs Wilde, 17 Barn Meadow Lane Westfield Drive, Mrs Kelly, 15 Westfield Drive Woodlands Road, Griffin Way, Guildford Road, Mrs VanScolina, 54 Norwood Road Allen Road, Mrs Wear, 22 Allen Road

Atwood, W Pedrick, 14 Atwood Atwood, W Pedrick, 14 Atwood Barn Meadow Lane, Mrs Hemming, 7 Merrylands Road Barrett Road, R Wood, 41 Keswick Road Blackthorne Road, Mrs Comber, 12 Blackthorne Road Browning Road, Mrs Ransom Burney Close, Mr Brockwell, 8 Burney Close Childs Hall Road, Mrs Preston, 7 Childs Hall Road Church Road (Station to Sole Farm) Mrs B Fell, Byron House, Church Road Church Road (Sole Farm to Crown), Mr Humphries, 7 Vicarage Close Commonside, Mrs Baldwin, Windrush, The Glade Downsway, Mrs Cathles, 4 Dawnay Road Dowlans Close, Groveside, Mrs Tarrington, 4 Dowlans Close
East Street, Mrs Knight, Blossomfield, East Street
Eastwick Drive (1-42), C Whalley, 9 Greenacres
Eastwick Drive (44-85), Mrs Forbes. 79 Eastwick Drive
Eastwick Park Avenue, Mr Brand, 33 Eastwick Park Avenue
Edenside Estate, Mrs Hodson, 19 Elmwood
Eastwick Road, Mrs Forster, 39 Keswick Road
Elmsfield, Mrs Pilling, Whitegates, Meadowside
Fairlawn, Mrs Everett, 35 Sole Farm Road
Fife Way, Mrs Evans, 7 Fife Way
Fiona Close, Mrs Prower, 7 Fiona Close
The Garstons, Mrs Pimm, 27 The Garstons
Gilmais, Mrs Wing, 20 Gilmais
The Glade, Mrs Baldwin, Windrush, The Glade
Halepit Road, Mrs Ditchman, 7 Allen Road
Hawkwood Rise & Dell, Mrs Perris, 5 Swanns Meadow

LEISURE & PLEASURE

The Gramophone Club season opens on Thursday, September 12th with an open meeting to which non-members will be welcome. A special 'farewell' programme, entitled 'Ancient and Modern', is to be presented by the secretary, Mr John Marriage, who will soon be leaving the district.

Meetings are held in the Barn Hall on alternate Thursdays. The programmes are enjoyable, entertaining and informative and the evenings are always sociable.

High quality reproduction is now ensured by the acquisition of a pair of Splendid BCI Studio loudspeakers. The manufacture of these speakers is based on design information from the BBC and they are actually used by the BBC as programme monitors. F.B.

Dramatic Society. Make a date for the November Production, starting November 25th. Those of us who so enjoyed the April play, 'Blithe Spirit', will undoubtedly be booking in advance. Rumour has it that next time it will be a 'thriller', but, so far, the title is a secret.

The new Committee, of which Ron Frohock is Chairman and Valerie Dodds, secretary, is bubbling with ideas for fund raising and producing new ideas for the informal Monday evening sessions, including poetry readings, acting techniques and, of course, play readings. Judging from the laughter which comes from the Members Room on these occasions, it must be

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great fun to be part of them. So join now. As Ron says, 'Please ring us-we can't ring you.' Telephone 58474, or 56933. Women's Lib please note-there is no sex discrimination-but males seem to move about rapidly nowadays and there is a shortage of men. Here is a chance for our newcomers.

Forthcoming functions include a Show for the Red Cross on October 30th, a Tramps Ball on December 7th and a Spring Sunday Dinner. Linda Covey leads the sub-committee for the second event and Jean Preston is organising the third one on the lines of the previous Curry Lunch run for BCA Funds.

The Old Time and Modern Sequence Dance Club is a flourishing and friendly club. It is fortunate in having as leaders Hugh and Joyce Westaway, who hold professional qualifications, but the sociability of the group is such that beginners as well as expert dancers can get equal enjoyment. Officially the club starts at 8.00 pm, but at 7.30 there is a practice time for beginners. Mr and Mrs Westaway have just completed a six week series of classes specially for novices. The new season starts on September 18th and continues every Wednesday.

The Scottish Dancers, who meet weekly in the Harrison Room, from the first Friday in October, would welcome newcomers, and would be specially pleased to see those who have no experience of Scottish dancing, assuring them that they will thoroughly enjoy this graceful and, at the same time, lively type of dancing.

The Bridge Clubs are doing well. The Afternoon Club has a waiting list and the Evening Club, which meets every Tuesday in the Harrison Room, 7.30–11.30 pm, can take more members on application to the Secretary.

The Flower Arrangement Club meets all the year round on the first Monday of the month in the Barn Hall at 2.30 pm. On 7th October the theme will be 'Dried Flower Pictures'. Nonmembers should look out for posters advertising a very special evening meeting, admission by ticket, when Derek Bridges, whose name is a household word, will be demonstrating.

Bookham Winemakers has a growing membership (70) and meets on the 2nd Monday in the month in the Harrison Room. 'Cooking with Wine' is the subject to be given by the SEEB in September.

The 10th AGM will be reached in October when there will be the Autumn Competition. The decade will be celebrated with an anniversary dance in March. D.B.

The Red Cross. We have been asked by the Director of the Leatherhead Division, Mrs Avis Davies, of 25 Norwood Road, Effingham, to say that new members are badly needed, both parents and children (over 8 years old) to assist in their good works. These include escort of disabled to functions and first aid cover at public events. There has recently been a Celebration for the Junior Red Cross at Leatherhead to mark its 50th anniversary. The Division supplied supper for the Disabled Club when they were entertained by the Cygnet Youth Club.

Morning talks to housewives and mothers of young children at the Barn Hall were appreciated. A First Aid Course is planned in the autumn as a follow-up.

The Surrey area can show impressive figures, 3,000 volunteers give service. 60 elderly men and women are cared for in their 3 homes. 209 holidays were arranged for the elderly or handicapped.

If you can help please ring Mrs Davis, Bookham 54112.

The affiliation of the WEA, Fetcham and Bookham Branch has been welcomed by the Community Association. It has an honoured place in the history of further education. As a democratic, self-governing body, the members choose the subjects they wish to study and discuss. The University supplies the lecturers for the session.

Beginning on 25th September at Fetcham Middle School at 8.00 pm there are two courses, one on the Novel in England and USA between the Wars, and another on Holland's Golden Age of Painting, the 17th century. Dr Starkey will be leading a group of Eastwick Middle School, at 8.00 pm, 26th September, on Court and Society in Tudor England. An innovation is an afternoon course on Bird Watching, from 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm, at the Barn Hall.

The Effingham Further Education Institute offers classes in almost every subject of interest from sport to languages. Space allows mention of only a few but watch out for the prospectus and make sure you note the enrolment times. Examples: Top to Toe Beauty Course, Bridge, Golf, Home Deep Freeze, Coastal Navigation, Painting.

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Women may be interested in daytime classes such as Slimming at the Congregational Hall, Medau at the Barn Hall, Art at the Youth Centre, Bridge at the Barn Hall, Dressmaking at all levels at the Baptist Hall and Antiques at the Barn Hall.

A Sporting Finale. Congratulations to Bookham Football Club on winning, for the first time, the League Challenge Cup in the Surrey Intermediate League (Southern Section). 100 supporters went to cheer on the team. The First Team has also been promoted to the First Division.

The season begins in September but training has been going on for some time. Newcomers will be welcome as the club boasts three teams-if we had more playing fields we could have more teams. The supporters' group, under the chairmanship of Mr R Satchell, works manfully to provide the necessary financial help.

RREVITIES

Have you visited the WI Market? Cakes, eggs, cream, garden produce, chickens and other delicacies of first rate quality, as well as crafts can be purchased between 10.30 and 11.30 at the Scout Hut, Leatherhead, on Fridays, provided you get a good place in the queue. 10% commission is taken by the market organisers, who are attached to the WI movement and qualified controllers supervise the standard of the goods. So popular is the enterprise that consideration is being given to starting one in Ashtead.

Lucky Winners Help Good Cause. Mr Kirby, of Middlemead, who is well known and has lived in Bookham for many years, scooped £1,323.43 in the Top Ten Promotions—a charity football pools run on behalf of Spastics. He says that he has been contributing for years because he considers it a worthwhile object. He was, however, delighted and surprised at winning on such a scale. Mrs Stenner, of South End, also won in the same week £294.10. We are told that two prizes of £78 were gained by Bookham people in the previous week.

To mark the occasion a presentation was made in the Harrison Room by the President of the BCA, delightful refreshments being provided by the local collector, Mrs Gould. The introduction was made by Mr E S Hargreaves, Ashtead 72274, who started the scheme on a voluntary basis in 1957. It grew so rapidly that he agreed to take it on full time. Over the years £30,000,000 has been collected and there have

been 30,000 winners.

Eastwick Middle School Filled the Breach when one of our displays for Village Day was cancelled. We thank the pupils and teacher for their attractive demonstration of Scottish Dancing. We take this opportunity of congratulating them on their recent school concert when the children performed with skill on a wide range of musical instruments, including violins and 'cellos. The programme included poems composed and read by the pupils. One frank and satiric example amused us:

'School is a place where we go each day, More to learn and not to play. There are thirty children in our class. The teachers really have a hard task, To try and get our concentration usually leads to their frustration,

Unless its sport which we do with glee, Especially boys that are just like me. I really must try with work much harder Or I will be in trouble with my father.'

The Pony Gap was Filled on Village Day by Mrs Leolie Wilson. At the very last minute, when we had explored many contacts unsuccessfully, she offered her pony and one from her friends. So the children were not disappointed. We are grateful to her. It is, however, perhaps not surprising that a daughter of the Dahlstrom family, really old Bookhamites, should so readily have assisted.

The Post of Education Welfare Officer for the Epsom and Ewell area has been filled by Mrs Audrey Edwards, of Kennel Lane. She will have gained from her previous experience as Helper at Eastwick School and Assistant Road Safety Officer at Dorking.

Community Health Councils could well be the sounding board for local reaction in the newly organised National Health Service. Elections for 7 representatives of voluntary organisations to serve the Mid Surrey Health District were recently held by the Surrey Voluntary Service Council, where the BCA were represented. We are pleased to report that Mrs Graham, from the WVS, who lives in Bookham, was elected, and Dr Soutar, formerly Medical Officer of Health for Surrey and Chairman of SAFE, who now lives near us on the Badingham Estate, also became a member. Our voice can be heard in an area which is vital to our community.

All Interest-free Loans from individuals to the Barn Hall Building Fund have now been paid back. We thank the public-spirited people who helped us in this way and are pleased to say that we have accomplished this two years earlier than was forecast.

The British Beekeepers Association have elected a new President for its centenary year. It is Mrs R E Clark, of The Park, well known to many of us as she was previously County Adviser on this subject. She is also President of the Surrey Beekeepers Association.

Another Link with the BBC. It may not be generally known that we have among us a weather forecaster of distinction. He is Mr Colin Finch who broadcasts on Radio London on Fridays at 7.27 and 8.27 pm. He was interviewed in the

You and Yours programme and selections from his talk were repeated on Pick of the Week. He is not, by training, a metereologist, but the weather has been his particular interest for many years. He has in his home at Woodlands Roads all the scientific equipment for forecasting. His special line, however, is that he has kept careful records of weather conditions over a long period and, from these, he is able to make reliable deductions which may cancel out the professional data. There was one recent occasion when his was the only correct forecast for the coming day's weather.

Polesden Lacey Open Air Theatre. As we go to press we are in the middle of the productions but we are able to report that bookings for all the performances are up on last year. This is very satisfactory as it was thought that adverse

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weather conditions in 1973 would have restricted demand in 1974.

Windfall from POSE. We congratulate the group of mainly young people who attracted such large audiences to 'Oh What a Lovely War.' Contrary to general expectations they made a profit, which, considering the ambitious set and props, was a fine achievement. We thank them for entertaining us so well and for the generous donation of £40 made by them to the Community Association.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING SO IS OUR CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Note the date. Saturday November 9th, Barn Hall.

If you want real bargains and good quality do not miss this opportunity. Judging from our experience last year, you will be able to find just the right present for the grandchild and for the family between, right up to grandmother, not to mention the sophisticated young lady who has an eye for the gift which is a little different.

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Remember, too, that what you spend will come back to you because the proceeds are for community association funds which are ploughed back into activities for the village.

The organisation is well under way under the efficient leadership of Mrs Audrey Wing and Mrs Frances Catt, who will welcome enquiries and offers of help.

Stalls will include: Cakes run by the Bowls Club and the contact is Mrs Mary Flowers. Toiletry under the aegis of the Dramatic Society. Plant Stall and Flowers and Garden Society is, of course, running this. The Old Village Shop, which will stock just everything, has been allotted to the Modern Sequence and Old Time Dance Club. Here is an opportunity to off-load on to Mrs Dulcie Cuddeford that nice present which just does not fit into your colour scheme.

Stationary of all shapes, sizes and kinds is being organised by the Gramophone Club and they are in the field for willing donors. The Tie and Scarves Stand, for both sexes, is under the control of Mrs Win Holmwood and she is looking for new as well as good-as-new items.

Flower Decorations are a must, and who better than the Flower Arrangement Group to run this. With their usual enterprise, they have arranged a work-in all day Friday, 1st

November, and non-members of the Group who are interested in this craft are invited to come along and participate.

Arts and Crafts. Molly and Charles Emery are working on this project. Mr Emery tells us that this is an unusual stall...he promises they will sell nothing useful! But how does one define useful? He adds that among other items will be original paintings, etchings etc and local artists who would like to cooperate are invited to ring them at Bookham 58730.

Jewellery under Mrs Gillam, of Eastwick Park Avenue, is sure to be a big draw.

Father Christmas will, we are informed, be with us and he will have a well assorted sack of gifts.

Congratulations and good wishes to
Mr David John Barnish and Miss Muriel Griffith who were married in July and honeymooned in Minorca. David, who is an
accountant, is the only son of Mr and Mrs Bill
Barnish who take an active part in local life and
give great help to the Community Association.
To

Mr John Godden, of Folkstone, and Miss Susan Salmon who held their wedding reception at the Barn Hall. The mother of the bride was pleased that this important function could be held in the Hall where she has so often helped in the arrangement of exhibitions for the B.C.A. Mrs Salmon is a well-known local artist, teacher of painting and W.I. member. Mr David Salmon, who gave the bride away, is legal under-secretary in the Department of Industry.

То

Miss Suzanne Weston, whose engagement to Mr Robert Legg has just been announced. Her mother, Mrs Thelma Weston is delighted to obtain the Harrison Room for the wedding reception on September 21st. Suzanne, who was a pupil at the Howard of Effingham chose hairdressing as a profession and has done well in this. She studied for 3 years at the Carshalton College of Education and has just passed with credit the City and Guilds examination in Ladies Hairdressing.

To John Armstrong and Sandie Read, both well known in local youth circles where they have played a responsible part in promoting activities for the over-twenties. John is in the final stages of a sandwich course in structural engineering at the South Bank Polytechnic. They plan to marry on March 1st.

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High-Flyers. Peter Bullard, of Eastwick Drive, and Andrew Halcrow, of Beales Road, took top honours at the British Aircraft Corporation's Gala Sports Day. Peter won first prize in the under-15's age group for his home made radio-controlled glider with a 7 foot wing span, and Andrew took the second prize with his free-flight glider with a 4 foot wing span.

Both boys are members of the Leatherhead

Model Flying Club.

The Dorking Palm Court Orchestra made their second visit to the Barn Hall in July and played to a packed audience a programme of instrumental and vocal music, entitled a 'Tribute to Ivor Novello'. Last year their theme was Strauss. The evening was so enjoyable that the decision has been taken to make this an annual event. The B.C.A. appreciate the cooperation of such a fine orchestra who have played with success at the Pump Room, Bath, and at the Brighton Pavilion.

The Old People continue to help. Mrs E Peart gallantly goes on with her match box collections and was able to hand over to the Treasurer of the B.C.A. another contribution of £7.56. We thank her for her enthusiasm and we wonder at her persuasive technique.

Better Kitchen Equipment for the Barn Hall has resulted from the Dress Show, organised by the Modern Sequence and Dance Club, through the good offices of Mrs Slark. It realized £45.

Bookham Camera Club's 28th Exhibition was well up to its usual high standard and, we noticed, included some fine photographs from new members. This is encouraging to local people who may be shy at starting a new and, what they might imagine, a highly complicated interest. The Club caters for all levels and, at its meetings every Thursday at 8.00 pm at the South Bookham Infants School activities cover talks, demonstrations, practical evenings, discussions, competitions, colour section, outings, projects. Photographic journals are available.

Ladies of Bookham Bowls Club have carried off the season's honours in the Surrey County Championships. In the unbadged singles competition, Mary Flowers fought her way through to the fifth round, where she was beaten by Mary Aldred, of Dorking. But Mrs Aldred was beaten in the sixth round by June Shaw, of Bookham, who was unlucky to lose in the quarter final by only 21 shots to 18.

In the Fours competition, Ann Williams, Chris Medway and June Shaw, with Mary Flowers as 'Skip', battled their way against really stiff opposition to the Semi-Final. At Croydon, in the pouring rain, they played a four which contained two County players and one International, and lost by only two shots.

Perhaps next year they will bring the Trophies home to Bookham. C.F.

Obituary. The short illness followed by the death, on May 5th, of Arthur Weston was a great shock to those of us who knew and respected him. Staffordshire born, he had the qualities of integrity and persistence which are characteristic of people bred in that country.

He came down from the village of Cauldon on the 28th January, 1963, with his wife, Thelma and their family, to be with her mother, Nellie Cox, in Bookham during the final days of her life. Thelma immediately stepped into the gap left by her mother among the Over Sixties and her husband backed her up in her work for the elderly. He was a motor engineer and he willingly undertook the voluntary maintenance of the coach owned by the Leatherhead and District Old Peoples Welfare Committee, a commitment he continued to the end.

It is not generally known that he experienced the hazards of Dunkirk and the various landings made during the last War. He served in the Royal Army Service Corps in the vehicles maintenance section. It was indeed fitting that the British Legion Standard draped his coffin.

Throughout his life he showed courage of a high order and he endured his final painful illness with the same fortitude. We offer our sympathies to his widow and children.



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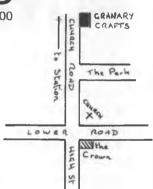
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