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Quarterly Journal of the Bookham Community Association

No. 109

SUMMER 1961

29th year



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THE BOOKHAMS BULLETIN

Quarterly Journal of the Bookham Community Association

No. 109

Summer, 1961

29th year

EDITORIAL

Village Day this year falls on Midsummer Day, June 24th, and this gives us our theme for 1961. At 2.30 p.m. Mrs. E. Newton will open the proceedings. We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Newton to this event because, as chairman of the Surrey County Council Youth and Community Services Committee, she can help us in the work we try to do here. She is also chairman of the Secondary Schools Committee.

Roundabouts, stalls and sideshows will be provided as a supplement to our special attractions. Many local organisations will be helping to man and

prepare these.

The magic of Midsummer Day will be caught in the Dream Mime which will be performed out of doors by children from the Infants' School while children from the Junior School will convey in music, dance, costume and drama the revelry on the old village greens. An attractive item from this will be the fairy scene from Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream. Finally we shall see traditional dances by kilted members of our own Scottish Dancing Group.

"The Countryside" is the title of the exhibition in the Hall. Here, too, local people are collaborating to collect and show items of interest found in our surroundings. rural Beetles. butterflies and birds will be specially featured, as well as the flora and fauna of the district. We shall also see badgers, lizards and, perhaps, snakes. Recordings of bird songs and calls will be played during the afternoon. The object of the exhibition is to sharpen and freshen our appreciation of the pleasant place in which we live and to show that we do not need to be scientists and experts to become naturalists.

Children and adults will be well catered for and, if the weather is kind, it should be an enjoyable day. Rain, however, will not stop the show. The exhibition will not be affected but the sideshows and the displays will be transferred, if the rain is heavy, to Church House.

Admission by Church Road and the Garstons entrances will be 1/-, children 6d. Members of the Association will be admitted free on production of membership cards.

Although much voluntary help is given us for Village Day, the Secretary would still welcome offers of assistance from those who may not have helped on other occasions. Although it is pleasant to come and be entertained it is also enjoyable to be one of a working group on such an occasion. Nevertheless it is true to say that those who work and those who pay are all participating in a worthy cause. The Community Association needs much money to carry on its activities for the locality and to make badly-needed repairs and extensions to the Hall. Pressure accommodation resulting from requests from organisations in the village which cannot be met has necessitated the erection of a wooden subcommittee building but this can only provide makeshift relief.

Although many people come to Village Day there are still a lot of residents who do not support the occasion. We are sure that, if they came, they would thoroughly enjoy themselves and come again. Let us have a bumper attendance for our own local charity.

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W.I. FLYING HIGH

Tulip Time in Holland was once the subject of musical comedy and, latterly, "pop" songs. We English imagined fat, pier. stolid Dutch people in national costume, complete with patches, solemnly performing slow, handclapping clog dances round windmills backed by the flat countryside ablaze with colour.

Post-war air travel has put an attached. end to these archaic ideas. Recently a party of 108 members and friends of the Fetcham and Bookham W.I.s flew to Rotterdam on a day trip to see the Bulbfields. We flew in three planes from Gatwick and on arrival after 1 hour 20 minutes were met at Rotterdam by coaches. Our driver Charles and the courier, Nell, and they were charming and helpful people. It was a modern and most comfortable coach

We drove to The Hague, where an excellent cold lunch was ready. We had only a short time in which to look around this pleasant city with a Deer Park in the centre. Decorations were birthday. Juliana's illuminated at night.

On to Scheveningen where we more. saw the Herring Fleet preparing

to sail and a few elderly women in national costume. At the further end of the town was a modern seaside resort with sandy

gloriously coloured fields. our own

Back into the coach again and on to the Keukenhof, a wonderful National Park, beautifully landscaped with flowering trees and shrubs. There were lakes and flamingoes and 100,000 tulips in 700 varieties.

We arrived at Delft and drove round the picturesque old town over narrow humpback canal bridges to the famous Pottery for individual scores. "De Delftse Pauw". Here we saw the various stages in the art of pottery and many of us bought jugs, mugs, etc.

The coach sped back to the Airport and the plane was soon off once more to England. We had all spent a happy day in this going up in the main streets and small and busy country. We had squares in honour of Queen only just glimpsed the modern Connaught's Branch, of which Orange reconstruction of the country flowers and bunches of orange devastated by war fifteen years place on May 28th. This is an lamps hung in the trees to be ago. It was, however, a glimpse interesting event because the that was fascinating and we Branch is composed of members would like to return and see who have given outstanding

M.E.

ROUND THE VILLAGE

Eastwick Park Cricket Club has beaches, hotels, cafes and a new a paid-up membership of over 150 players and non-players, and enthusiasm is the keynote of the Only the bulbfields conformed new club. We are told that the to the old idea. They were as social side of the club is also imagined, acres and acres of flat, being encouraged. For example, We the Inaugural Dance at the Red were allowed to select and pick House had capacity attendance tulips with bulbs with the Surrey cricketers, Ken Barrington and Michael Stewart. bringing good wishes.

> The British Legion, Effingham and Bookhams Branch, can be proud of its billiards record. They were the winners in the Legion's County Four for Surrey and in the Oxshott and District League while Mr. James, one of their members, was runner-up

> During the summer they will be the hosts for the Surrey County Conference on July 8th when the guest speaker will come from the National Benevolent Committee. Meanwhile preparations are under way for the annual Fete on July 1st.

> The Parade of the Duke of Canon Hughes is Padre, will take to the Legion and service received a certificate of merit.



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Annumummummummumm

Eastwick County Primary School. which they could donate to the help with gifts of garden produce, is working hard to raise a sum of can be started? £400 for the installation of the filtration plant for the outdoor swimming pool. This is over and Polesden above a similar sum raised to pay for the construction of the pool which was built by volun-The Easter Fair tarv labour. brought in about £90 and it is hoped that, with the support of the village, a large amount will result from the Summer Fete on June 17th. When the work is finest school pools in Surrey.

at the Barn Hall on Mondays at 7.30 p.m. There are over 35 members of an age range from 14 to 18 but more would be welcomed. It has a varied programme of indoor and outdoor activities. For example, ten of its members went on an Easter Monday hike and came back muddy but happy. It held a treasure hunt recently and has visited the Effingham Youth Club for games and dancing. It has a new table tennis table as well as equipment for other games. There is much interest in football for which it is hoped coaching can be arranged. If the numbers are sufficient cricket also will be encouraged.

The Parent-Teacher Association club in order that a skiffle group cooking equipment, and most

Lacey Open Air Theatre. Many local people are working in the organisation of this year's production of the Miss Elsie Green is again producing and the set, which is very which works with the National modern in conception, has been Trust, they have spent a day in designed by Ronald Kirkwood. The performances are completed this will be one of the 7.30 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 13th-15th, a Saturday Matinee and 2.45 p.m. Tickets can The Bookham Youth Club meets obtained from Mr. E. E. Oldershaw, Upalong, Guildford Road, up to 7 p.m. All seats (3/- to 10/6), may be reserved.

> Over Sixties Day Centre. The Leatherhead & District Old People's Welfare Committee are allocating £200 for a pioneer day centre scheme at the Barn Hall. Bookham people will know that for a long time Mrs. N. Cox has chosen for this experiment and encourage their children to enter. we are sure that with the good-

especially with car transport are invited to refer to Mrs. N. Cox (Bookham 2706).

Bookham Baptist Scout Group. This new group is showing enter-"Merry Wives of Windsor", prise. In co-operation with the Nature Conservancy clearance work on the Common. at Everybody would agree that this is a matter of urgency. They have now been allocated a patch of their own which they will keep permanently in good order.

> They are looking forward to their first camp at Whitsun by invitation of the 1st Horsley Troop.

Garden Society. schedules for the Summer and Autumn Shows are now available and can be obtained from Committee members. The Summer Show is to be held at the Barn Hall, Saturday, July 22nd, the been eager to start such a centre. closing date for entries being the It is proposed to bring the old 19th July. The Summer Schedule people along to the Hall for the has a new face but still maintains whole day and to provide them a full range of classes. There is with lunch and tea. We are an extension of Children's Classes proud that our Hall has been and it is hoped that members will

The garden competition for the will of the village it will be as Leavis Cup will be held during Has anybody got an old- great a success as the Over- the first two weeks in July, as fashioned metal scrubbing board Sixties. Anybody who could hitherto. There should be a

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much larger entry from members. Usherettes for Polesden. Mem- Old Tyme Dance Club. It was for this competition.

held at Fetcham, on 16th September.

a good start. The event of the Bookham 3498. vear is the Surrey County Championship on the Bookham The Over Twenties Club will in Recreation Ground on Sunday, June 25th. There was a record crowd last year and it is probable that records will be broken in June as everybody so much enjoyed the 1960 event.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWS

Visit of St. Pancras Old People. This annual visit, which takes place on Saturday, July 8th, has grown into something of a civic event. It is arranged in conjunction with the Mayor of St. Pancras, and the chairman of the Leatherhead U.D.C. is usually present to receive the party at the as sweets, cigarettes, garden Hall until the end of July. The the pages of the Bulletin. We Cuddeford, Bookham 3498.

future be known as the Barn Hall Club. This was decided at its annual general meeting, when Miss P. Barfield was elected Hon. Scottish Dancers. This talented Secretary and Mr. F. Van-Scolina like to drop in for a game of table tennis, darts, or cards, or just a cup of tea and a chat. a good sprinkling of young people. It only needs a few more members to make it a flourishing group.

Barn Hall. It started with one Camera Club. It is a sign of the The standard of shops in coach-load of pensioners and has times that over ninety colour Bookham is high for its size, due now risen to two. We would be transparencies were submitted at to the enterprise of its traders, glad to entertain more if the Hall the annual exhibition of the many of whom advertise in The could accomodate them. Presents club. Anybody wishing to polish Bulletin, which helps them and are given to each old lady and up their performance for the helps us. Newcomers to the gentleman on leaving and we holidays will still be able to join district often tell us that their would welcome gifts from well- the Club which is meeting introduction to shopping in the wishers in the village such alternate Thursdays at the Barn district has been made through Apply Mrs. more expert members are only thank our advertisers and ask our too willing to help the novice. readers to support them.

Gardens of up to ½ acre qualify bers wishing to volunteer as reported at the A.G.M. that usherettes at the Polesden Lacey membership of the club has The Autumn Show is to be Open Air Theatre on Thursday, dropped slightly over the year the Village Hall, Friday, Saturday evenings and but that attendance at the club Saturday afternoon, July 13th, evenings on Wednesday at the 14th and 15th should get in touch Barn Hall has been maintained. with: Mrs. E. Harrison, Book- Quite a selection of new dances The Stoolball Club has got off to ham 2702, or Mrs. D. Cuddeford, have been introduced into the club by the demonstrators, Mr. and Mrs. Hilder. Officers elected were: Chairman Mr. F. Harvey, Hon. Secretary Mr. J. Hilder, Hon. Treasurer A. Slark.

> group is in demand for displays Chairman. The club is closing at charitable functions. At the for the summer but when it re- end of May they did two displays opens in September there will be at the Fete organised by the a warm welcome for any member Friends of Queen Mary's Hosof the Association who would pital for Children at Carshalton.

> Addresses of all secretaries can This is a very friendly club with be found in the Directory at the back of The Bulletin.

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new idea in hotels, a large house famous Eligug Stack Rocks, the bird sanctuary.

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Dinner is at 7.30. Everything is grounds. Our experience, however, on a very "free and easy". There is

the last fifty years. There are of to time to visit the adjoining when you go to tidy up for course a few motor cars, and the Islands of Skomer, Skokholm, dinner, it is just as well to shut sanitary arrangements are not and Ramsey. You can bird quite so primitive, but generally watch all day, and badger watch life goes along at the same happy half the night, if you are so inclined; if not, the district is full We were recommended to a of interest. Wonderful cliffs, the

with three hundred acres of home of thousands of guillimots, grounds, partly farm, and partly gulls and sea birds of all kinds are in the district, and Atlantic All home produced milk, seals are to be seen in the remoter places. There are ponies After breakfast, everyone is for the children to ride. If you you revisit somewhere you have supplied with a "pack" lunch do not fancy any of these things and tea, and you can do what you can laze all day in the is so changed, that you are dis- you like for the rest of the day. garden or wander round the

There is also a room for recent holiday, was quite the a bar and you join the club to dancing, and a billiard room for those who are still energetic at Wales" has changed very little in Trips are arranged from time the end of the day. Incidentally, your bedroom window or you may find a bat in your bed later!

The coastline is partly cliffs, and partly beautiful sandy coves with generally safe bathing.

If you want "Life", there is Tenby only some 10 miles away.

I said that this district hadn't changed much, and here is an example. We called at a small village pump for petrol (garage cum Post Office, and general store). The proprietor said he was sorry but he had no petrol; later, his wife said to him, "You know, George, you really must get some petrol in before the Summer "!

One village on a very little used road has a cattle pound which is now in the middle of the road, so as this is at a cross roads, it has been made into a roundabout.

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Continued on page 18

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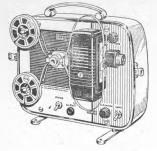
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coast, there are several very is set for a most successful career interesting castles, Pembroke in the Royal Navy and is a credit being the most famous, King to yourself and your school." Henry VII having been born is not far away.

wall and Devon.

However, at present, it is all very delightful, and I am not going to disclose where this Hotel is.

E.E.O.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Promising Recruit. William Armstrong, "Bill" as until he was 18. After leaving the Howard of Effingham School, where he was captain of his House, he served as a trainee butcher at Sainsburys until June of last year when he was recruited at Croydon and entered the Navy on August 2nd. He is now assistant steward in the Supply School at Chatham and training. Writing to Bill's former fourteen years.

I admit this holiday was early Headmaster, Captain H. in the year, but we heard that Spittle says: "He is a smart Whittaker and Avril Stacev were even in August there is plenty of young man of excellent bearing married at Easter and have made command. He is also a tower of If one wants a change from the strength on the sports field. He

William, who married during here, and St. David's Cathedral his Christmas leave, belongs to an old and well-known local One day, I suppose this lovely family. Older residents will countryside will be "discovered," remember well his grandfather, and then there will be no more the late Mr. W. Armstrong, room than there is now in Corn- whose comfortable and imposing taxi took pride of place at village functions.

Chairman of the Association goes James and Avril were together at to Edinburgh. Although we are Dorking Grammar School. sorry to lose the Chairman of the Community Association, Mr. Back to Canada and Romance. Stuart Hall, we have to con- We were pleased to meet Mr. gratulate him on his recent Les Penegar when he was on appointment in Edinburgh. He holiday for a month in Bookham he is known to his many friends is at the Headquarters there of from British Columbia, Canada. in Bookham, always wanted to the Ministry of Aviation and will Les was a lively and useful join the Navy, but he had to wait be concerned with the design of member of the Community airlields and the operation of Association in its early days aerodromes generally. The when he was working with the appointment is for three years Electricity Authority at Dorking. and he and his wife, Mrs. Una He left the authority to train as Hall, will be much missed as they a probation officer and, after a have entered fully into the period of service in the London activities of the village. Fortun- Courts, he took an appointment ately we shall have Mrs. Hall as Senior Probation Officer in with us for a little time as she is Courtney, has been awarded the Captain's to join her husband later. They This is an interesting appoint-Prize for outstanding merit under have been in Bookham for ment because the probationary

S. A Home in Guernsey. James their home in Guernsey where James has been put in charge of the islands of Guernsey, Sark, Herm and Alderney for the Ocean Insurance Company. Both young people were pioneer members of the Congregational Youth Fellowship. Like her parents, Avril has a good singing voice and she is using this in her new work. She is in charge of music and singing in the primary school in Guernsey where she has been appointed to the staff. Formerly she taught at the Goodwyns School, Dorking.

> British Columbia. service in Canada is of recent

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origin and is still pioneering. What has staggered and pleased the many friends who met him while on holiday is the news received in a letter to his mother Courtney that he has become to him.

At California University. went to the University California to work for an M.A. activities of the Association. in English. He graduated at Oxford in Philosophy, Politics and Economics. After one term in the university he has been made a Graduate Assistant.

tions go to Mr. and Mrs. Brian Scrimgeour (nee Valmai Daily) on the birth of a daughter, Jane Elizabeth, who was born in West Germany where her father was a serving Brit'sh officer. The family have now returned to England and will settle at Kings Lynn.

And to Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Knightley (nee Heather Grainger) on the birth of a son, Robert John. They are now living at Basingstoke.

POINTS FROM THE **PARTIES**

We are starting in this issue a a week after his return to new feature composed of items set by the local political parties. engaged to Miss Mollie Chapple, The pages of the Bulletin are who is a secretary in the Agri- open, subject to space, to all cultural Bureau in Victoria, organisations affiliated to the Canada, and who previously Community Associations. Only worked with him in the Dorking the local political groups were office. We send our good wishes barred. This seemed unfair in view of the fact that representatives from these groups serve on the Council of the In Association and in the most September Mr. John Harrison amiable and co-operative way of assist considerably

It was therefore decided that news items from the local parties could be accepted for publication on an entirely non-partisan basis. If this new move could, even in the most modest way, New Babies. Our congratula- stimulate further interest public affairs it would be well worth while. A serious threat to our democracy today is the apathy about which there is widespread complaint. The Community Association, along with every other organisation, is concerned about this.

> The Bookham Conservative, Liberal and Labour Associations have volunteered to man sideshows on Village Day.

the Great Bookham Conservative coach and river trip.

Association, tells us that the series of whist drives held at the Barn Hall proved very popular, largely, they believe, because of the free and easy atmosphere, the tasty refreshments and the attractive prizes. These functions will be continued next winter, starting in October, and will be advertised, as usual, by posters throughout the village.

The Jumble Sale organised by the Labour Party raised a sum of over £26. Apart from a small donation made to the Scouts this was divided equally between the Leatherhead Refugee Home and Christian Action. We are asked to thank all those whose ready response made this possible. Plans for the future include the first annual dinner for the constituency, which will be held in Epsom, and a meeting in the autumn in Bookham to meet the new Surrey County Councillor, Mr. Frank Finch.

We hear from the Bookham Ward Liberal Association that at their recent Annual General Meeting Mr. F. C. Van-Scolina was elected Chairman; Mr. W. B. White, Secretary; members of the Committee: Mesdames M. Byrne, E. Brown, T. Temlett; Messrs. C. E. Breed, G. Lillywhite (Treasurer) and J. P. Mathieu. The summer programme includes visits to the Mr. V. L. Austin, chairman of B.B.C. and I.T.V. studios and a

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