



The BOOKHAMS BULLETIN

Organ of the Bookhams Social Service Bureau

No. 59

JUNE, 1948

One Penny

Editorial

This issue might almost be called a housing number, so much space having been given to Bookham housing news.

Those of us who knew Bookham before the war remember well the number of "for sale" boards to be seen in every part of the village and how few the number of new dwellings erected. Now every house is fully occupied, many overcrowded, and even some condemne I for human habitation in 1939 continue to be used for dwelling purposes; further, numbers of houses including many council houses are being erected in Bookham, so that the day cannot be far distant when Bookham will be little better than say Stoneleigh.

We must applaud the energy and efficiency of our Council's Engineer & Surveyor, who certainly causes envy amongst our neighbouring local councils when comparisons in housing progress are made, but aren't we moving a trifle too fast when plans are already produced for Bookham Grove and approved by the Leatherhead U.D. Council. Has any sort of census been taken to justify the erection of more shops and business premises ?

Can "the charm and character of the rural community" be maintained by leaving a few trees standing if council houses and shops are to be erected at eight or more to the acre?

Have our Councillors given any independent thought to thismatter? Because in ten or twenty years' time when the problem of housing accommodation is less acute, the same conditions will operate which nude Bookham house owners wish to sell before the war and caused so little new house building. Bookham will once again have many houses empty and what will the Council do if it cannot let all its property!

In the old draft Town Planning Scheme provision was made for a recreation ground near the works of Messrs. Wildt & Co., but as a result of the new Town Planning Act all town planning matters we are told are at the moment in the melting pot. We would therefore plead with Leatherhead Council for "second thoughts" over the development of Bookham Grove.

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Local Housing

The following is taken from a report to the May meeting of the Leatherhead U.D.C.:

"The housing progress in this district seems to be very satisfactory indeed. The Council have now completed 220 permanent houses and 50 aluminium prefabricated bungalows. In all provided accommodation for over 1.000 people. In addition to this, over 250 people have been housed in requisitioned properties.

In addition to the good progress made on Council Estates, private enterprise housing has not suffered and a total of 348 private enterprise houses have been completed; 27 war destroyed buildings have been rebuilt and 33 conversions to flats have been carried out. Summarising then, 678 new dwellings have been constructed in this district since the end of the War, providing homes for approximately 3,000 persons excluding those housed in requisitioned properties."

Oakenwood Estate

Tenders for the erection of houses on the Oakenwood Estate, Gt. Bookham have been accepted by the Leatherhead U.D. Council from Messrs, R. & D. Barton for two pairs type Λ houses at a cost of £3,588, Messrs. Perren Houses Ltd. for five pairs type B houses for £10,975 and Messrs. G. J. Gardner Estates Ltd. for three pairs type C houses for $\pounds 7,140$. The fifty "Orlit" houses are to

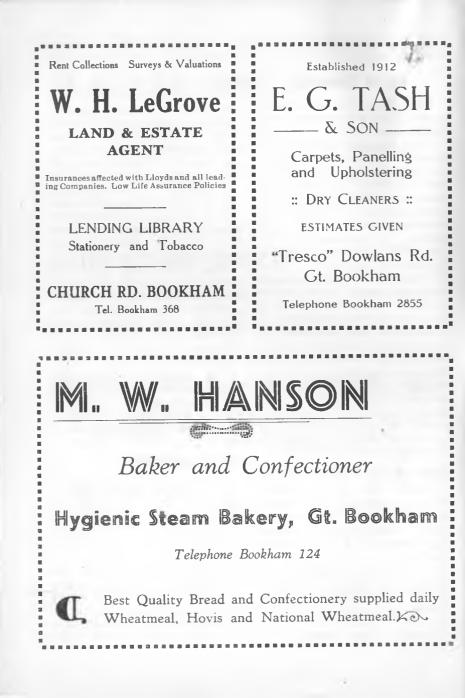
be erected by Messrs. Y. J. Lovell & Son Ltd. for the sum of $f_{61,300}$; the additional cost above that for traditional type houses will attract a government subsidy. It was reported to the last Council Meeting that all 50 houses have now been started, 44 foundations and sub-stanchions constructed. 22 floor concrete & strip foundations in and 10 frames up to first floor level, 8 more frames are up to eaves level and the cladding of the external walls commenced.

The 20 traditional type houses have all been started and foundations and brickwork are making good progress. There will be a mixture of three different types of of three bedroom houses, semidetached two bedroom houses and old people's bungalows.

The Ministry of Health bas authorised the Council to proceed to tender for a further 48 houses on this estate subject to priority being given in the allocation of houses to agricultural workers.

Bookham Grove

The eight flats at these premises are nearing completion and in connection with this scheme the Engineer and Surveyor to the Leatherhead U.D.C. has recently designed a lay-out for this site to make provision for the future shops and business premises. The design takes the form of two sides of a square; the new development being at right angles to the Bookham Grove house and fronting on to a service road running round



(Housing continued)

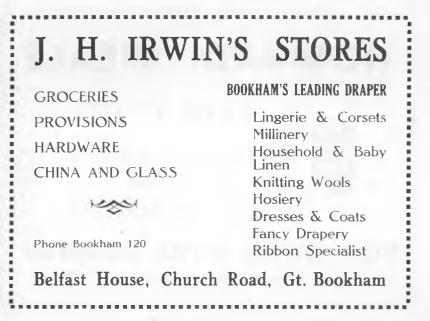
the perimeter which, in conjunction with the existing highway, encloses and preserves the large belt of trees now existing in the front of the premises. Provision is made for a car park and for the Council's Depot to be walled off and screened from the public view and for the large building known as The Stables to remain for future use as a public building. By these means, the old house will be open to the public view and if the design of the new buildings is made to harmonise with the old, this will make a very pleasant corner.

In the report of the Town Planning Committee at the last

Council Meeting the Engineer and Surveyor & Planning Officer stated that the subject of road widening and improvement works at the corners adjoining the Victoria Hotel and Bookham Grove had been under consideration for some considerable time, and it would now appear opportune for a scheme to be tabled presenting an effective solution.

This plan has been approved by the L.U.D.C. and the Engineer authorised to proceed with his proposals when the time is opportune.

The scheme, as submitted by the Engineer and Surveyor, made provisions for the diversion of the Leatherhead—Guildford Road to



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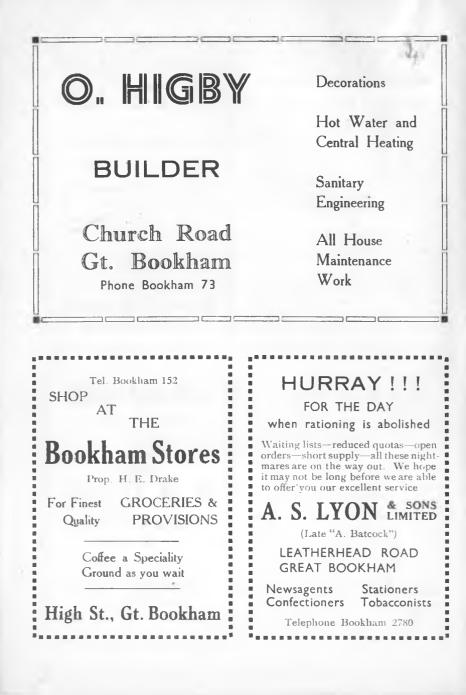
Housing continued.

eliminate the present double S bend; additional road width to accord with the ultimate widening scheme agreed by the Surrey County Council when the Draft Planning scheme was formulated in 1938, and the provision of a sub-depot yard adjoining the Dorking Road branch.

The Engineer and Surveyor was of the opinion that ultimate development of the Bookham Grovegrounds for housing purposes would necessitate an extension of shopping facilities in Bookham and consequently provision had been made for the development in depth of the Bookham Grove frontage with business premises, which would form the nucleus of the shopping centre, such buildings to be designed to accord with a comprehensive architectural scheme embodying the adjoining property and the character of the village itself.

The Committee noted that the scheme retained the maximum amount of woodland by the proposal to construct service roads and thus maintain the charm and character of the rural community and concurred with the Engineer and Surveyor that the financial liability of the Council caused by the purchase of the property would be offset by selling or leasing sites for approved business purposes.





Bookham Community Association

Membership of the Bookham Community Association is steadily rising, but the rate of progress is not fast enough if the programme planned for the winter months is to be carried out in full. The Community Association is composed of delegates from the village organisations and individual members.

Membership is open to all on payment of a minimum subscription of 2/6. Funds are urgently needed to finance the activities of the Association, which will probably be centred at the Barn Hall.

The Celebrities Brains Trust on May 28th was an indication of what the Association can do. A Village Day is planned for the late summer and a series of social events, classes and groups is scheduled for the winter.

The Community Association is everybody's club. Subscriptions, donations and gifts of games equipment will be gratefully received by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. West, Melrose, Dawnay Road.



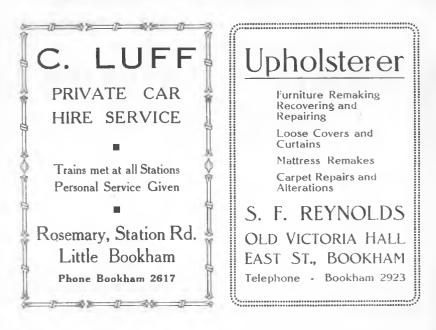
Communal Effort

When the Community Association was first formed it was thought by many that Bookham was already well catered for in most directions by the Church organisations and other societies already in existence.

There is a suggestion, however, which if carried out will demand all the resources of the villages of Bookham and fill a need which has been unsatisfied for a very long time and for which there is no early prospect of fulfilment in the future.

The demand for cheap swimming facilities within the reach of the pocket of large families is very great in this district. Here is an opportunity for the Community Association to take a long view and set up a target worth working for. Let the construction of a swimming pool, much of it unskilled excavation work, be a communal effort. Consult an architect, get preliminary estimates and see what the Community Association can do for Bookham.

The Leatherhead U.D.C. are supporting the application made by the Bookham Residents Association for the supply of electrical energy in Woodlands Road and Downsway.



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An application to the L.U.D.C. for permission to use the old Atlas Works, Little Bookham for the manufacture of paint and distemper has been refused on the grounds that :---

(1) the premises from which the business was to be conducted was not situate within a business area.

(2) the type of business proposed would tend seriously to injure amenities.

(3) the use of the buildings for such a business would tend to increase traffic in the district.

A similar application was refused in September, 1947.

It was reported at the last meeting of the Leatherhead Council that the London Transport Executive had agreed to terminate the bus route 418 at Bookham Station subject to the consent of the licensing authority.

The Leatherhead Council are to be congratulated on the return to the pre-war weekly collection of refuse. This has only been done by team work amongst the collectors, and it is only fair to expect ratepayers to support the Council in their efforts to provide a satisfactory service. The salvage of bottles, jars and clean wastepaper and rags and bones is profitable to the community, and householders are requested to sort these items from their refuse, the wastepaper particularly being kept clean.

A further piece of land has been requisitioned and added to the allotments at Eastwick & Keswick Roads, which has made another 23 plots available. Nine of these have been let already and applications for the remainder should be made to Councillor T. Kille, Downsview Leatherhead Road, Gt. Bookham.

The rent is the nominal wartime charge of 1. - for ten rod.

BOOKHAM SOCIAL SERVICE BUREAU

We have received the following Financial Statement from the Hon. Treasurer

1947		£	S.	d.	1948		-f,	S.	d
Oct. Balance	39	9	7	Jan. Coal Distributi	on	- 6	10	0	
	sement fees				Groceries Printing :				
					Bulletin No.	57	15	0	0
					Circular	-	1	5	0
					May Balance		91	6	1
e.	£1	115	17	1		£	115	17	1
NOTE. Liabi	Distrit	outio	n of	Coa	os. 58-60 45 l, &c say 10	.0	0		
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Directory of Bookham Organisations, etc.

Secretary or Officer in charge, address and telephone number. Usual place of meeting, day and time.

All alterations and additions should be sent to Hon. Editor. Bookhams Bulletin Jonod, Dowlans Road. Bookham 465

Boys' Brigade

D. G. Cook, J.P. Flushings Farm Bookham 320

Baptist Church Hall Monday 6 30 Boy Scouts

G.S.M. L. R. Hutchison, M.C. Maddox Farm, L.Bookham Tel. 47 Scout Hall Thursday 7 15

Senior Scouts R. Bishop, Jonod, Dowlans Road Bookham 465 Scout Hall Annexe Fridays 7 30

Rover Scouts A. G. Hall, Tudor House Howard Road.

Scout Hall Annexe Alt. Thurs. 8 0

Scout Recreation Club J. D. Coomber, Eversley, Blackthorn

Road Bookham 2680 Scout Hall Saturdays 70

Wolf Cubs Miss Attawell, Rosemary, Lower Road. Scout Hall Weds. & Thurs. 5 30

British Legion (Effingham & Bookham) F. Shrubshall, Ritasoli, Orestan Lane Legion Hall, Lower Road

- Bowling Club W. E. Ebsworth, Vigo, St. Nicholas Avenue Dorking Road Recreation Ground
- Brotherhood Mr. Brazier. Station House, Bookham Victoria Temp. Hotel Tuesdays at S Congregational Church 1st Sunday 3

Camera Club D. Hamshar, 14 New Pound Cotts. Lt. Bookham Cliurch House Fridays 7 30

Chess Club-A. S. Keane, Stepping Stones, Woodlands Road Choral Society L. R. Neville, Lone Pine, Lower Rd Bookham 2075 Congrel. Church Hall Tuesdays 80 Citizens' Advice Bureau 14 Waterloo Road, Epsom Tel. 9205 Civil Defence Sports & Social Club C. T. Burberry, 1 Pretoria Cottages Church House Tuesdays 7 Christian Endeavour G. McIntosh, Sarum, Eastwick Rd Baptist Church Hall Wednesday 7 45 Children's Circle, Co-operative Mrs. Davies, Rosemarie, Howard Rd Co-operative Hall Tuesdays Juniors 60 Seniors 70 Community Association H. C. West Melrose, Dawnay Rd Bookham 2251 Congregational Church Guild Congl. Church Hall Thursdays 7 30 Folk Dancing R. Lambert, Foure Wynds, Hale Pit Rd Bookham 2206 Church House, alternate Sats. 5 p.m. Garden Society I. H. Stevens, Roselea, Sole Farm Rd Annual Show last Wednesday in July Girls' Friendly Society & Girls' Club Miss Trickett, Tetbury, Dowlans Rd The Spinney Mondays 730 Girl Guides Miss Loveless, Chetnole, Eastwick Dv Scout Hall Fridays Brownies 515 Guides 630 Girls' Life Brigade Miss B. Etherington, Meadow View Childs Hall Road Baptist Church Hall Thursdays Cadets 5 Juniors 615 Seniors 715 Goat Society Miss Rigg, Green Acres, The Park Hospital Linen Guild Mrs. Chaston, Dolwaenydd, Lower Road Bookham 396

Leatherhead Hospital Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 to 4 (Mending Party Tuesdays 10 30 to 12 30)



Directory—cont.

- Leatherhead & Dist. Local History Soc. A. T. Ruby, 53 Nutcroft Grove, Fetcham Leatherhead 3127
- Life Boys Mrs. Palmer, Groudley Glen, School Lane, Fetcham Baptist Church Hall Tuesdays 60
- Literary & Social Society Mrs. Bowen, Sunnycot, Lower Road Bookham 542
 - Church House, Alternate Weds. 815
- National British Women's T. A. Union Mrs. Bradshaw, 2 Merrylands Road Cong'l Church Hall 2nd Tues. at 3
- N.S. P.C.C.—Inspector G. H. Ferguson 46 Agraria Rd. Guildford Tel. 5999
- Nursing Association Mrs. Emuss, The Hermitage, Lower Road Bookham 80
 - District Nurses Home Leatherhead Road (near Beckley) Bookham 347

Howard of Effingham Secondary School Parents' Association

- L. W. Earle, 4 Fairfield Cottages Meetings at School
- Residents Association (Bookham) F. Cooper, Frantina, Keswick Road Bookham 360
- Bookham Rifle Club R. Dyer, Euroa, Hale Pit Road Bookham Grove Weekends
- Social Service Bureau R. Andrews, Five Beeches, Dorking Road Bookham 201
- Bookham Spiritualist Church Mrs. Wootten, 1 New Parade, Leatherhead Road Bookham 575 Co-op. Hall Sundays
- Women's Institute Mrs. West, Melrose Dawnay Road Bookham 2251
- Women's Fellowship Mrs. Williams, 2 The Park Church House Mondays 2 30
- Women's Own Mrs. G. H. Cook, Mount View, The Mount, Fetcham Baptist Church Hall Mondays 30

Young Conservatives Miss P. Eve, 6 Church Road, Leatherhead

- Young Farmers Club John Parrett, Nanjizell, Eastwick Dv Bookham 2784
- Young People's Guild, St. Nicolas N. W. Alexander, Newlands, Crabtree Close Church House
- Young People's Society H. V. Mann, Normandene, The Drive, Fetcham Baptist Church Hall Saturdays 730
- Co-operative Youth Club
- Bookham & Effingham Youth Council Miss Austen
- Bookham Labour Party Mrs. Harrison Commonend, Eastwick Dv. Tel.2702 Co-operative Hall 1st Mondays 80
- Women's Co-operative Guild Mrs. Cox, Theldor, Keswick Road Society of Friends (Quakers)
 - W. T. Cooper, The Croft, Dowlans Rd Co-op Hall Alternate Sundays 6 30

M. A. PERRY

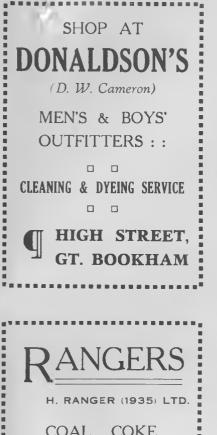
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