

The Bookhams Bulletin

Quarterly Journal of the Bookham Community Association

No. 65

DECEMBER, 1949

One Penny



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The BOOKHAMS BULLETIN

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Foreword

by *Dr. N. E. Waterfield*

*President of the
Bookham Community Association.*

It is with much pleasure that I accede to the Editor's request to write a Foreword in this the first number of the *Bulletin* appearing as the official organ of the Bookham Community Association.

Mr. Bishop, who has done so much to make the *Bulletin* the success it has been, is obliged to resign the Editor's post as his duties as Councillor prevent his devoting the necessary time to the work. The very real thanks of the Community Association are due to him for the time and labour he has placed at our disposal.

We are fortunate in having obtained the services of Mr. W. T. Cooper as Editor; and with the Advertisement Section still in the very capable care of Mr. W. O. Groom, with Mr. R. H. J. Kepple as Business Manager, we can look forward to the future with confidence.

The features which have made the *Bulletin* so useful and popular

will be retained, and as time goes on the publication will be expanded and new features introduced. It is hoped that the *Bulletin* will be not only a source of useful information but also will provide a record of local events. This will help to bind us all more closely together, making us feel that we are members of a community and not simply isolated units.

Editorial

In taking up the pen to address myself for the first time to fellow residents of the Bookhams, I am deeply conscious of the responsibilities attaching to the office of Editor. There is, first, the responsibility of proving worthy of the confidence of the Community Association, which has shouldered the task of producing and distributing this Journal. Secondly, there is the doubt whether one will be able to maintain the high standard set by previous Editors and in particular by my immediate predecessor, Councillor R. Bishop. Finally, and of more immediate

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Editorial—*continued*

importance, because upon their judgment rests the fate of the Journal itself, there are the readers to be considered.

The *Bookhams Bulletin* will continue to find its way into every household in Great and Little Bookham; and it will be the task of the Editor to ensure that every copy is read and re-read. As the official organ of the Community Association the *Bulletin* will give first priority to Association interests and activities, but there will be in addition local information which no resident should be without. This then, is another condition that must be fully satisfied if the *Bulletin* is to continue to deserve the support of the local advertisers.

The *raison d'être* of the *Bookhams Bulletin* ever since it was launched in the early thirty's has been social service: and this will continue to be its central theme. I am often told that in the present order of things there is no place for voluntary service such as was given 20 years ago for the unemployed of this country, and which through the intervening years has been provided for all in need, week in and week out, by the devoted workers of the Bookhams Social Service Bureau. Never was there a greater travesty of the truth! True, the State has taken over many of the duties formerly discharged by the voluntary societies. But the State is of necessity

impersonal and in the nature of things must confine itself to satisfying material needs.

At the present time spiritual needs are paramount. Friendship, the sense of personal caring, are the things we need to-day perhaps more desperately than ever before. These things the Community Association has set itself to foster among the residents of the Bookhams, and there is good hope that through its help they may in time learn the difficult but satisfying art of living successfully together.

W.T.C.

Bookham Community Association

A Survey of its Progress

by the Hon. Secretary, E. E. Oldershaw

This Association came into being in the early part of 1948, and since then has been growing steadily. To help members to get to know each other a series of whist drives were held in the Scout Hut at fortnightly intervals until the end of May that year, when they were discontinued with the coming of the brighter weather.

Later in the year a table tennis equipment to standard match specification was purchased and arrangements made for a local tournament with a view to forming

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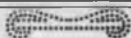
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Bookham Community Association — *continued*

a table tennis club.

The "high spot" of the year, however, was a Village Day with displays of their work by many Bookham voluntary organisations. Those who attended will long remember that very popular event in the Old Barn Hall and the field adjoining, and especially the glorious weather with which it was favoured.

Later, a drama class and a music class were formed, to be run in conjunction with the W.E.A. While the former was a failure owing to lack of support, the latter continues to flourish in the comfortable surroundings of "Foulis," thanks to the kindness of Dr. and Mrs. Manclark.

It was with great regret that we accepted the resignation, last December, of our Honorary Secretary, Mr. H. C. West. Happily his active support and helpful advice are still freely at our disposal.

1949 has been full of activity. Early in the year arrangements were made for another Village Day, in the form of an outdoor performance of "Merrie England" at Polesden Lacey on June 18th. The village responded magnificently to the call for support in carrying through this ambitious venture.

Two other developments must be mentioned in this necessarily brief survey, namely the transfer by the Leatherhead U.D.C. of the

management of the Barn Hall to the Community Association and the acceptance of the offer, made to the Association by the Bookhams Social Service Bureau, of the management and production of the *Bookhams Bulletin*. Both these developments enhance the status and increase the responsibilities of our Association, while enabling it to come more closely into touch with individual members and the Village as a whole.

The Old Barn Hall

The Hall is available for hire both by affiliated organisations and by any other society or individual who wishes to make use of it.

Early booking is advisable, and application should be made direct to the Hon. Secretary of the Bookham Community Association, E. E. Oldershaw, Upalong, Guildford Road, Great Bookham.

Sport

The summer has been a memorable one and Bookham's Sports Clubs have taken full advantage of the fine weather. It is good to be able to report that the Rifle Club won all its matches in the Surrey Small Bore Rifle League, while the Cricket Club won 22 of the 33 matches played.

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Our Personal Page

*News of Men and Women of
Bookham*

HAROLD BOSTOCK

A Note in Appreciation

A little more than thirty years ago there came to Bookham a Civil Servant—a robust, active man in his forties. His advent was not remarkable among the steady post-war influx of city workers, but his presence was soon to be clearly felt.

For twenty years he lived the double life of his kind—in London by day and in Bookham by night.

In his spare time he grew absorbed in village affairs, to emerge eventually as a local leader, sponsor of new ventures and the conjuror who helped to produce nearly £10,000 for the benefit of the district—in short, Harold Bostock.

His interests first embraced sport—he has been President of the Cricket Club for 21 years and is a Past President of the Football Club—but he was soon to begin a long association with the Garden Society, of which he is still the active President.

In the middle 1920's Mr. Bostock's value was recognised by election to the Parochial Church Council and a year later he became a

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Churchwarden, in which capacity he carried through the project for which he will be best remembered, the creation of Church House.

He needed £4,000 for the building and he raised it in a dozen different ways by sheer persistency at a time when, like to-day, the talk was all of financial depression and saving money. Church House arose and was opened by the Duchess of York, now the Queen.

Harold Bostock's work did not end there. A hundred-and-one causes needed money and there were dozens of social events to be encouraged, for Bookham was a lively place in those days. He worked for nearly all these things with results which to-day seem almost fabulous. There were the three-day village fêtes which raised some £300 a day, the memorable Gift Day on which the Rector and Mr. Bostock sitting in the Church received £580; and a long list of other triumphs.

In 1939 Mr. Bostock retired from his daily pilgrimage to prove wills in the Probate Court, but only this year did he relinquish the post of Churchwarden he had occupied for an eventful 21 years.

Now, at the age when he qualifies for extra tea and an occasional allocation of bananas, Harold Bostock still helps where he can to mould village life with his kindly experience and the inspiration of his vigorous guidance, which did so much to foster the real community spirit in Bookham between the wars

His present home in Park View,

open land over which he went beagling when he first lived at Fife Lodge, is the spot he likes best in Bookham and there he is happy tending his garden.

Only one pursuit will now take his interests away from the village and his flowers—racegoing, the hobby of a life time. There has not been a Derby run since 1906 without Harold Bostock in attendance and he hopes to see 50 of them. The pleasure of being there and the love of the sport mean more to him than the winners, though he is no novice at picking those.

Such is the story of Harold Bostock. Bookham will be fortunate to find another of the same mettle.

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Council Chamber Notes*by "Joe Bumble"*

The valuation of small dwelling houses under Parts III. and IV. of the Local Government Act, 1948, promises to be a formidable task if it is going to be completed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Health, the Board of Inland Revenue, the local Council and last, but I hope not least, the ratepayer. Many of the rating staff of local authorities are being transferred to the Inland Revenue and in this district will work from the new offices at The Red House, Leatherhead, which should be ready early in the new year.

Under the new Act gross value for rating a dwelling house is to be ascertained in accordance with the following provisions:

(a) Post-1918 local authority or housing association dwelling houses, including flats and maisonettes, to be 5% of the hypothetical 1938 cost of construction, plus 5% of the 1938 site cost.

(b) Small post-1918 dwelling houses not being local authority or housing association dwelling houses, excluding flats or maisonettes and dwelling houses to which Section 72 of the Local Government Act, 1929 (Agricultural Dwelling Houses) applies, will be assessed for rating purposes at 5% of the hypothetical 1938 cost of construction, plus 5% of the value of the site on the 1st April, 1949.

Detailed specifications with the

appropriate hypothetical costs have been compiled by the Ministry under 13 heads, and site specifications have to be completed by the Local Authority for submission to the Minister.

Two new points will be obvious immediately—first, that Council houses will receive the benefit of 5% of the difference between 1938 and 1949 site values; secondly, that houses built on large plots with large frontages will be rated considerably higher than hitherto.

The Station path has recently been re-surfaced, and thanks are due to the Leatherhead U.D.C. for their prompt attention.

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Table Tennis

The setting-up of a Table Tennis Club in Bookham is an achievement of which the Community Association, under whose aegis regular meetings are held on Monday evenings at the Barn Hall, may well feel proud.

In the spring of this year, a number of us were surprised to learn that the Association was to hold a Table Tennis Tournament for the residents of Bookham and neighbourhood. There was a good response and, apart from being a successful evening in itself, the Tournament showed that there was considerable local interest in the game. The result was that the Community Association agreed that facilities should be made available for local talent to get together and form a Club. So, on the 1st April, 1949, the Table Tennis Club was born.

Apart from the provision of accommodation one evening a week at the Barn Hall, the Community Association purchased a new table tennis table for the Club. A Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Committee were elected from among those interested, and a report appeared in the local Press concerning the formation of the Club. The membership, now 10 men and 7 women, has grown to a point where a second table is essential, and we have been fortunate in securing one on loan from the Civil Defence Club (Bookham Branch).

All the members of the Table Tennis Club are members of the B.C.A., and it is insisted that they must be resident in the parishes of Great Bookham, Little Bookham, Fetcham or Effingham. Visitors are welcome on Monday evenings, whether as players or spectators, a fee of 6d. being payable by the former. Inquiries may be made at the Club on Mondays, or by post to the Hon. Secretary at "Pen-y-bryn," Dirtham Lane, Effingham, Surrey, from whom forms of application for membership may be obtained.

The Club as a whole wishes to take this opportunity of recording its appreciation of the great assistance afforded by the Committee of the Bookham Community Association. It is hoped that, in return, the Club will put Bookham on the Table Tennis map.

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Bookham Community Association

Winter Programme 1949-50

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Tournament organised by
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„ 17 Concert, with items by
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„ 21 Whist Drive

„ 31 New Year's Eve Member's
Party

Jan. 7 Children's Party

„ 11 Whist Drive

„ 14 Children's Party

„ 25 Whist Drive

„ 28 Social

„ 31 Annual General Meeting

Feb. 8 Whist Drive

„ 22 Whist Drive

„ 25 Social

Parking

To meet complaints about the number of cars and lorries parked for long periods on the Council housing estates, car parks are to be established on the sites set aside for garages, since permission to build these garages is being withheld by the Ministry for the present.

A sum of £350 for the improvement of the Bowling Green is included in the revised reconstruction scheme for the Bookham Recreation Ground.

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Directory of Bookham Organisations

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

All addresses, meeting places and telephone numbers are Bookham unless otherwise stated.

All alterations and additions should be sent to the Business Manager, Bookhams Bulletin, Riddlesdale, Church Road.

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Organisations marked * are affiliated to the Bookham Community Association.

*Baptist Church Y.P.S. H. V. Mann, Leader, Normandene, The Drive, Fetcham Sats. 7.30 L'head 2539
Bowling Club W. T. Street, Askrigg, Lower Road

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Commons Committee
T. E. Ware, Merrylands Farm Tel. 2

Communist Party, Bookham Group
F. T. Oels, New House, Lower Road

Fridays 7.45

Community Association
E. E. Oldershaw, Upalong, Guildford Road Tel. 241

*Congregational Church Guild
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Literary & Social Society Mrs. Bowen,
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*Little Bookham Village Hall R. Stev-
enson, 2 Hansard Cottages Tel. 3083

Model Engineering Club R. J. Collins,
Roslyn, Blackthorne Road

Toc H Hall, The Crescent, Leather-
head, alternate Tuesdays 730

Mothers' Union Mrs. Jacob, Woodcote
Tel. 2699 Church House 2nd Thurs.

*National British Women's T.A. Union
Mrs. Bradshaw, 22 Merrylands Road
Congregational Hall, 2nd Tuesday 30

Nursing Association

Mrs. Emuss, The Hermitage, Lower
Road, Tel. 80

District Nurses Home Leatherhead
Road (near Beckley) Tel. 347

Old Tyme Dance Instruction Class
Mrs. Burberry, 1 Pretoria Cottages,
Lower Road 1st & 3rd Wednesdays
at Barn Hall. 80

Pig (Owners) Club A. Botten, F.I.A.C.
Ivydene, Downsway Tel. 2484

*Poultry & Rabbit Club E. C. Wyatt,
Cumnock, Eastwick Drive Tel. 585
Barn Hall or Scout Hall 3rd Monday

Residents Association F. Cooper, Fran-
tina, Keswick Road Tel. 360

*Rifle Club O. Rattenbury, Latching-
don, Dorking Road Bookham Grove
(Dorking Road entrance) Weekends

St. Nicolas Parochial Church Council
P. Fogden, Bonnymuir, Childs Hall
Road Tel. 2897

St. Nicolas Club Miss M. Clack, Mal-
veen, Leatherhead Road Tel. 246
Church House, Mondays 70

St. Nicolas Folk Dancers R. Lambert,
Fowre Wynds, Hale Pit Rd. Tel. 2206
Church House, alternate Sats. 5-6 30

*Scouts (1st Bookham Group)
L. R. Hutchison, m.c. Group Scout-
master, Maddox Farm Tel. 47

Rover Scouts D. Cameron, Leader,
Nôremac, Dowlans Road Tel. 2599
The Log Cabin, Thursdays 80

*Boy Scouts, Vikings Troop B. Charles
Scoutmaster, Allandale, Dawnay Rd.
Scout Hall Wednesdays 7 15

Saxons Troop—P. F. Cooper, Scout-
master, Frantina, Keswick Rd. Tel. 360
Scout Hall Thursdays 7 15

Cubs "A" Pack—Miss Attawell, Cub-
master, Rosemary, Lower Rd. Tel. 176
Scout Hall, Monday 4 45, Wed 6 15

"B" Pack—A. S. Mace, Cubmaster,
Montmartre, Dorking Road. Scout
Hall, Wednesdays 6 15

Society of Friends (Quakers)
W. T. Cooper, The Croft, Dowlans
Road Tel. 2256

Co-op Hall, 2nd & 4th Sundays 6 30
The White Crusaders Christian Spiritu-
alism. Sunday Services 6 30, Co-op.
Hall, Kingston Road, Leatherhead

Healing, Wednesdays 6 30 at Mrs.
Wootten's private entrance, 1 New
Parade, Leatherhead Rd. Tel. 575

*Women's Co-operative Guild Mrs. Cox
Theldor, Keswick Road Tel. 2706
Co-op. Hall, Thursdays 3 0

*Women's Club, Little Bookham
Mrs. D. Brazier, Station House
Women's Fellowship Mrs. L. Edkins,
Small House Tel. 187
Church House Mondays 2 30

Women's Congregational Fellowship
Miss A. M. Cripps, Charmdene, Ken-
nel Lane, Fetcham Tel. 454
Congrel. Church Hall, Weds. 3 0

Women's Own Miss L. Hull, Ewhurst,
Grove Side Tel. 191
Baptist Church Hall Mondays 3 0

*Women's Institute Mrs. West,
Melrose, Dawnay Road Tel. 2251
Church House, last Thursdays 2 45

Young Conservatives (Leatherhead,
Bookham & Fetcham) Miss D. Clare,
Knaresboro', Sole Farm Rd. Tel. 3023
Y.W.C.A. Church St., Leatherhead

*Youth Club, Bookham & Effingham
Miss Nicholls, Manor Farm, Little
Bookham Tel. 56 Village Hall, Little
Bookham Mondays & Thurs. 8 0

Youth Council, Bookham & Effingham
Miss J. Edwards, Hill Crest, Groveside
Youth Fellowship (Congregational)
Girls: Miss B. Bailey, Dawlish,
Leatherhead Road Tel. 311
Boys: C. Collins, St. Edmunds,
Crabtree Lane
Cong. Church Hall, Mondays 7 45

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