



Snow Scene by Joy Tobin, Bookham Camera Club

Bookham Bulletin

WINTER 2000

LOCAL NEWS FROM BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

ISSUE 257

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0700 is 4 FULL



The rebuilding starts.

Is it a cryptic crossword clue, a sign writer's aberration, or a new product about to be revealed? 0700 IS 4 FULL has been the talk of Bookham over recent weeks, ever since the strange message appeared on a sign outside the premises formerly occupied by Bookham Baptist Church at the heart of the village.

In fact, the premises have only been vacated on a temporary basis and what is currently an active building site will re-emerge as the twenty-first century home for the church come March 2001. Bookham Baptist Church has occupied the Lower Road site since the 1920's and following its original opening the amount of change has been relatively minor. The last extension in the 1980's saw the sanctuary extended to the rear to accommodate a growing congregation and in subsequent years there has been continuing growth in membership. More recently the members have felt an increasing need to become more involved in the local community and the physical limitations of the buildings have been seen as a major limiting factor.

So in 1995 the church members decided to plan for the future by thinking about the premises needed to support the activities envisaged for the new century, and after much thought and prayer created a quite radical scheme that is now being implemented. Much of the premises had become below modern standards and had cost increasingly large sums of money from the maintenance budget. The new buildings will offer accommodation of all kinds, flexibility to support many varied activities, and essential facilities in line with the very latest building standards.

Central to the redevelopment is a two storey building that will have an extensive glazed frontage to Lower Road with the intention of opening up the work of the church to passers by. The church offices will be on the first floor of the new block while at ground level there will be a welcoming foyer, new toilets and revised meeting rooms. Other changes see the enlargement of the hall, removal of the old boiler house at the rear, and elimination of the affectionately named 'carbuncle' that juts out into Lower Road, helping access for all. Indeed, increased accessibility was a key factor in the design with improved entrance ways and ramps to front and rear.

Continued on page 5

Bookhams Bulletin

64TH YEAR

ISSUE 257



What's Happening

NOVEMBER

Thursday 16th, Friday 17th, Saturday 18th
- Bookham Players - Triple Bill with Fish-'n'-Chip supper - Old Barn Hall - 7.45 pm.
Tickets £8 from Jean Preston on 452695.

Saturday 18th - Royal National Lifeboat Institution Coffee Morning plus Christmas cards and cakes - Harrison Room - 10 am to 12 noon.

Saturday 25th - Bookham & Fetcham Art Group Annual Exhibition and sale of paintings - Harrison Room - 9.30 am to 5 pm.
Tea/coffee available.

DECEMBER

Wednesday 13th - The Friends of St. Nicolas invite all Friends to the A.G.M. followed by "The Undercroft Show" presented by Stephen Fortescue to which all interested in the history of our ancient parish church are invited - Pastoral Centre (entrance in Church Road) - 8 pm.

Thursday 14th and Friday 15th - Community Entertains - Old Barn Hall.
Tickets from Barn Hall Office, tel. 456307.

Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st - Bookham Choral Society Carol Concerts - Old Barn Hall - 8 pm. Tickets from Fanny Lines on 01483 285229.

FEBRUARY 2001

Saturday 10th - Bookham Choral Society - Coffee Morning with music and stalls - Old Barn Hall - 10 am to 12 noon.

CHURCHES

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

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

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

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

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

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

BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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

EDITORIAL

Village Day and Week are the most important events for raising money for the upkeep of the Old Barn Hall. The photographs in the last edition of the Bulletin are a way of saying thank you for all your efforts in making it such a success. We added 4 pages to the Bulletin and once again we are grateful to Harold Hopkins, of Bookham Camera Club, for taking so many excellent photographs which make up the melange on the centre pages. Simon Jordan, of Surrey Litho, spent many hours preparing it and he also reproduced it in colour. This was on the notice board in the vestibule of the Old Barn Hall for several weeks and I hope you all saw it. Simon also put it on a floppy so that I could put it on the web - in colour. Thank you, Simon, for this tremendous effort which has been admired by many, including those who saw it on the web.

Do you believe in Gremlins, those mischievous agencies which are the editor's nightmare? Well, I do after a computer glitch which cut out a couple of words in the last edition and it was not something missed by our proof reader. Those of you who use PCs know that strange things sometimes happen.

The advertisements in the Bulletin are revised once a year in early July. Most carry on from year to year with a few changes. This edition has 67 adverts which make a major contribution to the cost of the Bulletin. Many of you have told me how useful it is to know whom to approach for certain requirements. Do look through them, and when you can, use local shops and businesses.

It is often difficult to decide what to use as the front page article but something always turns up. When I saw 0700 IS 4 FULL" from the Lower Road car park, I must admit that I was baffled. I had forgotten that old type telephones have letters as well as numbers, but when I was using my mobile the penny dropped - so it was clearly 'Front Page'. Thank you Martin Kruger for your enlightening article.

An e-mail from an ex-resident living in Brisbane asks if anyone has a video taken some years ago of a school Christmas Pageant. Please let me know if you can help.

Affiliated Clubs, thank you for your articles. Those of you who have not been 'in' for some time, please do send me something about yourselves.

Eric Lloyd Jones

NEXT ISSUE SUBMISSIONS BY 31st DECEMBER

Articles and Bulletin Board

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

'What's Happening' Notices to

Joy Tobin, 4 Downs Way (453340)

Weekly Events at The Old Barn Hall

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

Afternoon Bridge Club - Monday & Thursday

Players - Monday & Thursday Evening

Bookham Toddler Group - Tuesday Morning

Over 60s - Tuesday Afternoon

Evening Bridge Club - Tuesday

Welfare Day Centre - Wednesday Morning & Afternoon

Bingo - Wednesday Evening

Old Time & Modern Sequence Dance Club - Wednesday Evening

WI Market - Friday Morning

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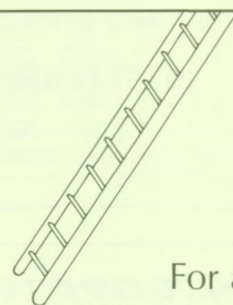
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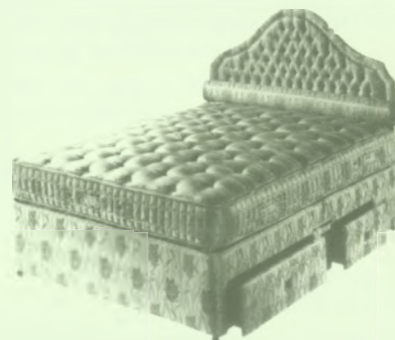


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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

When this issue of the Bulletin comes through your letterbox we shall have completed another year in the life of the Bookham Community Association. In addition the Annual General Meeting and any changes to the committee will have taken place. As is usual at this time of year we say goodbye to one or two members of our committee. This year Chris Roberts is having to step down a little earlier than he had hoped due to the fact that his work commitments have made it necessary for him to spend more time away from home. In addition Maurice Gover who has been Membership Secretary for several years and has given a lot of time and effort is reluctantly having to retire due to ill health. We thank both members for all they have done during their time on the committee and in particular we hope that Maurice will now have time to recover. It is also an appropriate time to thank all of the helpers who supported Maurice through his years on the committee. In addition it is a good time to thank Bill Whitman and his team of helpers who have the task of delivering in excess of five thousand Bulletins to the area.

It has been a busy year for BCA, and those who use the hall regularly will have noticed that we have replaced drain covers, ensured that the flat roof is leak proof, steam cleaned the kitchen, replaced the crockery in the Harrison room and installed new central heating boilers to replace the old one which had given good service over many years, but could not be repaired due to the fact that the company no longer make the parts.

As is usual at least once a year I receive complaints about the parking of cars at the Old Barn Hall. There are clearly marked bays for parking both at the front of the Old Barn Hall and at the rear for those who are using the Harrison Room. Unfortunately, one thing that we cannot legislate for is the behaviour of people. The complaints this time have been directed to the Friday morning parking at the front of the Old Barn Hall. It appears that some people are not using all of the spaces available when they arrive for the WI Market, leaving a lot of empty spaces at the rear thus prohibiting anyone else from parking and causing some distress. I realise that everyone wants to get away quickly after they have attended the market, but I would not imagine that anyone would have to wait too long. On behalf of those who have expressed their displeasure at the situation could we have a little more consideration from everyone.

Just to remind you that the Community Entertains will take place on Thursday 14th December and Friday 15th December this year. This will be the last time that Shirley and David Cooper will be producing the show as they feel they would like a rest, unless of course I can persuade them otherwise.

Finally, on behalf of the Management Committee I wish you a happy New Year for 2001.

David Wilkins

Continued from page 1



View from Lower Road of new Baptist Church

Bookham Baptist Church has uprooted itself and is currently functioning at the Dawnay School, continuing with worship services on Sundays and various activities in the week. This temporary home has already proved to be a great success with attendances well up to expectations and a good working relationship with everyone at the school. Part of the determination to upgrade the premises was driven by a desire to be a church that is accessible to the Bookham community and working alongside the school is the start of this process. With premises that are attractive and welcoming there will be opportunities to offer a range of activities that will develop increasingly strong ties between Bookham and its Baptist Church.

Of course, rebuilding has its difficulties along the way and the Church has been concerned about the disruption while work continues. However, now that the demolition phase is well past and something of the shape of the new buildings is emerging there is something to show in return. So far the builders have worked very hard to maintain good relations with the neighbours and the progress is such that everything is on schedule for next March.

So that takes us full circle to the signage. The builder's name is FULL and 0700 IS 4 FULL is a telephone number for contacting them - as long as you have a telephone with letters and numbers. Quite simple, really!

Martin Kruger

A Remarkable Lady

Margot Camp died peacefully in her sleep on 27 September, after being ill for eighteen months.

Margot was born in Kirby Muxloe on the outskirts of Leicester on 6 November 1919. The majority of Bookham residents will know that she was married to Philip Camp who until recently was the owner of the village Post Office, which he acquired in 1962. Margot and Philip first met in 1938 when Philip was in the R.A.F. They lost touch during the war, but met again by chance in 1947 and were married in 1948. They had two children, son Timothy and daughter Deborah, a grandchild Christopher and a great granddaughter Sasha.

Margot, well known as a former member of the Bookham Players, was best known as a founder member of Bookham Flower Arrangement Group, having become Chairman, President, and ultimately being elected as an Honorary Life Member. She was well known nationally as a demonstrator, judge and teacher of flower arranging. She had also competed very successfully in numerous national and local competitions, and was particularly famed for her beautiful pedestal designs. A knowledgeable plantswoman, her garden was well stocked with interesting and unusual plants, which she was always pleased to share with other flower arrangers. She also gave freely of her knowledge and experience to encourage those less practised in the art.

Margot will also be remembered for her sense of fun. One day she was in Leatherhead with her Pekingese dog, Jasper, when a voice behind her called inquisitively "Tricki Woo?". Margot turned round and was astonished to see Christopher Timothy from "All Creatures Great and Small", who was currently appearing at the Thorndike Theatre. He then exclaimed "and Mrs. Pumphrey!" Margot, of course, found this very amusing and dined out on the story for many weeks.



Even when Margot knew that she was terminally ill, she retained her normal enthusiasm for all people and things she came into contact with, never showing for a moment that anything was amiss, and never losing her dignity. She made meticulous plans for her funeral, including those for the flower arrangements at St. Nicolas Church, where the memorial service was held on 9 October. She will be always remembered and sadly missed by all who knew her.

Peter Clarke

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BOOKHAM MEMORIES

The Finches and their family business featured in Issue 251 of the Bulletin – and now Elsie Finch, widow of Snowie, has given me more of a woman's-eye view of our village in times gone by.

Elsie moved to Bookham in 1931, when she was 14, and Bookham was having one of its growth-spurts. Farms had become uneconomic, so land had been sold for development and 'invasions' of Welsh and Geordie men in the 1920/30s dug drains and cesspits. Roads weren't lit, nor surfaced, apart from East Street, Eastwick, Lower, Guildford and Dorking Roads. Elsie remembers that well since she had to deliver green-grocery to people's houses. The butcher, the coal-man, the Co-op – all made deliveries, and the Casselden boys would faithfully collect and return shoe repairs each Monday, 'like some-



thing from "Snow White on bicycles". Keswick was the first of the 'new' roads to be surfaced, though the strong-rooted lucerne which had been grown there, pushed up through the tarmac. New roads like Downs Way and Crabtree Lane had to wait and mud more or less kept people imprisoned in wet weather, making deliveries vital. The entrance to Downs Way had a real ridge and Elsie would have to help the horse and cart over it. She would lead the horse to be shod at Percy Hampshire's, the blacksmith on Lower Road, near Preston Cross. Singleton's museum of historic buildings in Sussex re-constructed his whole shop there later, right down to the leather apron left hanging on a hook after Percy's grandfather had last used it.

Those were hard times. Elsie, born in Clapham Common, was orphaned at the age of eleven. She went to live with a childless couple and had to take their name, Dixon, though they never adopted her. She did their housework and cooking as well as helping with their green-grocery business. They fed her well but refused to let her continue her education – and burnt all her paintings, along with those of her dead father. Life grew no easier after they moved to Keswick Road in Bookham. Elsie would start work at six in the morning and not finish until ten at night. Even in cold, wet weather she wasn't allowed to wear gloves, lest she miscount the money. Nor was she allowed to bring friends to the house or read, though her friend Nellie Cox would smuggle her books from the library.

All kinds of social activities took place, from spelling bees, a literary club and girl's Friendly Society run by St Nicolas' at Church House (near where The Garstons meets Lower Road) to Girls and Boys Life Brigades and a silver band at the Baptist Church. Its young people would go 'camping' in huts on the Isle of Sheppey, while Bookham Scouts and Guides used tents. Elsie also remembers the famous Bookham Stoolball team (all female), though she never played herself. Her friends included Mary Longhurst, who worked as a parlourmaid at Sheepbell

Farm near Stoke D'Abernon – Elsie would walk there across the common to make deliveries.

Many tramps walked through Bookham on their way between Guildford and Epsom and would knock on 'friendly' doors, asking, 'Could you spare a little hot water for me tea leaves, lady?' or 'Have you any stale cake?' Buses transported people to Guildford, Leatherhead, Epsom and Ewell, but Elsie never understood why a Green-line bus from Uxbridge should have terminated at Great Bookham! The Absoloms converted half their sweet shop into a tea room which made quite a good trade from the bus drivers. Plenty of people came to stay in Bookham's two temperance hotels, set up by Mrs Chrystie.

After Elsie became ill with nephritis she spent two months in Leatherhead hospital (where the Victoria home is now). Dr Easton was very good to her at this time and when she did return to the Dixons, would not let them make her work until she had regained her strength. Finally she plucked up courage to leave after they forbade her to stay overnight in order to attend a friend's wedding. She returned to the Dixons' only once after disobeying them – to collect her things. Then she found a job with Freemans (a large mail-order firm near the Oval) and lodged with some old friends from Bookham who had settled in Wimbledon Park. Though it was fun to work alongside 'cockney girls with hearts of gold', Elsie missed the countryside. Granny Finch invited her to bring some of the girls down one weekend and they all swam in the pool at Gilmais. As war approached, Freemans moved up north. Elsie found a job in the International Stores in Leatherhead and lived with one of the Finch daughters. She remembers the siren going off in the days of the phoney war. Peggy Finch was picking beans on their allotment and ran home, dropping the beans. Her young brother Charlie exclaimed, 'We don't want Hitler having those!' and raced off to fetch them.



Elsie and Snowie, the Finch family's oldest son, fell in love and were married in 1942. Elsie worked in the Co-op store, next to the active Co-op Women's Guild near the present petrol station on the Guildford Road. A small bomb near there amazingly leaving the co-op intact, while the nearby hairdressers and off-licence had to be pulled down. Later Elsie found work cooking for pupils of the Spinney School, run by the Misses Eleanor and Dorothy Jose. The sisters were convinced of the health benefits of hot beetroot, which featured in every meal, turning even shepherd's pies pink! When Snowie returned from the RAF after the war it was the end of an era. Gradually life became easier for Elsie – and for most people in Bookham.

Elsie's last word is, 'Despite all the changes during my time here – the farming and industry that we've lost and the terrible price of houses today – it's still a wonderful place to live and no one ever wants to leave!'

Christine Leonard

Bookham in the Twentieth Century

As a resident of Bookham for the last 34 years and a member of the Leatherhead and District Local History Society, I was asked by David Bruce, a committee member, if I would look into and report on my findings regarding the recent history of Great and Little Bookham in order to bring the Society's information up to date. Having read Stephen Fortescue's two books on Bookham, I felt that there could be little more for me to add and that a few weeks of my time would be sufficient to take care of the request. How utterly wrong I was. It was nearer to six years.

Later, it was proposed by the Society that I should give a talk in the Barn Hall based on my findings, accompanied by slides made from early photographs of the village, the proceeds of which would be passed on to the Society's Museum at Leatherhead. Because of the large amount of information and slides that I had collected, I was able to give an illustrated evening talk in the Barn Hall in 1995 / 96 / 97, each one covering a different part of Bookham. In spite of the fact that my name would convey very little to members of the audience, the hall was filled each evening. This I found was typical of the people of Bookham and their interest in the village in which they live.

The talks were conducted on the basis that I would be leading an imaginary guided tour around Great and Little

Bookham. From the many comments that I subsequently received, it was conveyed that this type of presentation was extremely popular. Since then and undoubtedly for the same reason, I have received many requests to repeat the series of illustrated talks amid an equal demand for a book that would cover the whole subject

The encouragement that I received from the Chairman of the Leatherhead and District Local History Society, Peter Tarplee, persuaded me to respond to the latter.

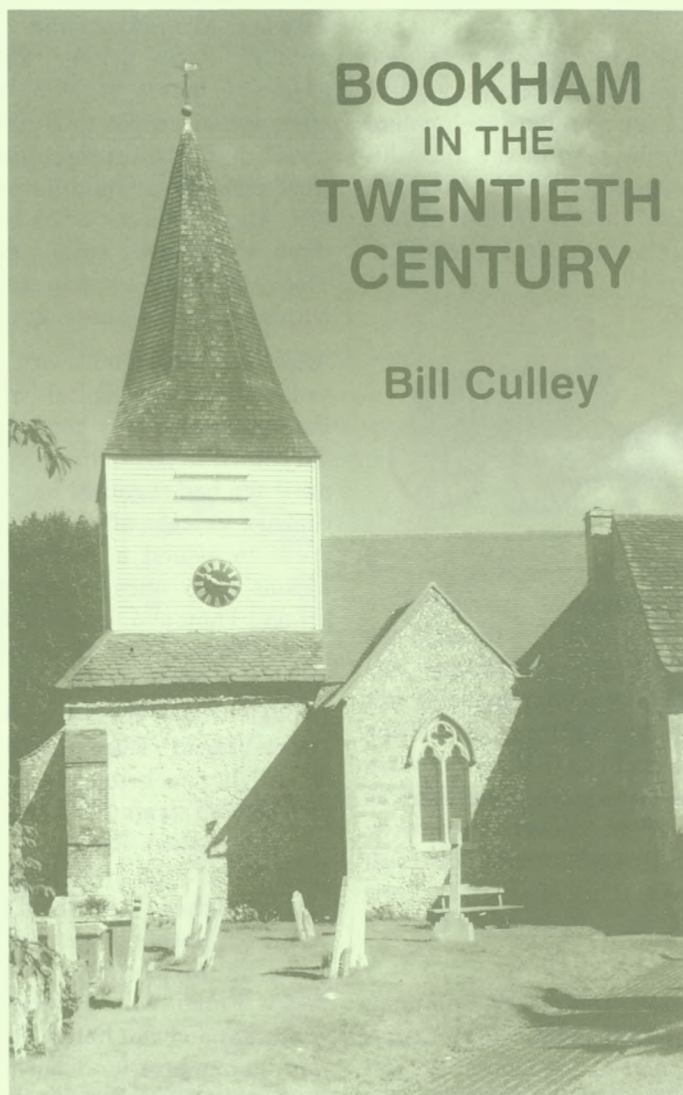
Although I have spent many hours researching relevant material, without the numerous meetings at my house of groups of Bookham folk (of the required age) and the considerable number of visits that I have made to individuals that were not able to attend because of health or for physical reasons, it is doubtful whether such a book could have been produced.

The L.D.L.H. Society has supported the publication of the book and has made arrangements for the printing and distribution. By the time that this article is published, the book entitled "Bookham in the

Twentieth Century" will, among other places, be on sale at the Bookham Post Office and Bookham Library, price £6.50.

I hope you will enjoy reading the book as much as I have enjoyed producing it.

Bill Culley



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BOOKHAM IN THE TIME OF Elizabeth I

Libby Matts continues her story of Bookham, writing this time of its connections with scandals and famous naval victories in the reign of the first Queen Elizabeth.

It is the turn of the century, 1600 and William Hylder¹ is asking his father Anthony to remember Bookham.



William: Father our family has lived a long time in Bookham, can you tell me about it?

Anthony: Now, let's start at the beginning of Queen Elizabeth's reign. When she came to the throne in 1558 she gave to poor churches a silver chalice. As St Nicolas' was not a recipient of this gift, you will understand that Bookham was a prosperous place. Much oak had been felled to build Nonsuch Palace at Cheam and many more houses were built, to house our neighbours, the Martyrs, Woods and Attewells.

William: When did Mary Jernegan² come?

Anthony: After the scandal.

William: Scandal?

Anthony: As you know our altar, is a trellis table with a detached top and made of wood, situated in the nave. At Cossey Hall, a 'love feast' was held in the chancel. The communion board served as a table for the profane entertainment – an entertainment which ended in scandals too shocking for a detailed description.

William: Was there much crime?

Anthony: Butcher Thomas Briggs was hanged in 1593 after being found guilty of breaking into a property at Newdigate and stealing two oxen worth £8.

William: Bookham has several wealthy families living here.

Anthony: The Slyfields who live in the large mansion in the north are wealthy enough to have had a visit from Queen Elizabeth! Edmond Slyfield was made Sheriff of Surrey and Sussex in 1582 and, after he died in 1590, his son Henry and wife Elizabeth continued to live there. They all went with their family to the special service to give thanks that England was saved from the Armada. Of course the battle took place from 21-29 July 1588 but the service was held in the November when a letter from the Queen was read out by the Revd. John Reeve, our Vicar at this time.

William: Of course, the Lord High Admiral lived at Little Bookham.

Anthony: The Manor of Great Bookham was granted to Lord William Howard in 1550 and he gave it to his son, Lord William, in 1569. Then in 1586 Thomas Howard, Earl of Surrey, settled the Manor of Little Bookham on Lord William Howard, who was created Lord Howard of Effingham. The two Manors were together until William's death in 1573, when Little Bookham was inherited by Charles. It was Charles who was appointed Lord High Admiral in 1585. He is of the Old Religion.

William: No wonder that, with two such powerful families living in Bookham, we did not receive a chalice.

1 *William is buried in St Nicolas Church, Bookham*

2 *Mary, wife of Henry Jernegan of Cossey in the county of Norfolk lies buried in the church, her ledger being in the north aisle. The east window (which is of fifteenth century Flemish glass) was smuggled out of France during the French Revolution is made up of six lovely panels from the Chapel of Costessy (Cossey) Hall, Norfolk, home of the Jerningham family.*

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Wednesday	19.45 - 20.45	South Bookham First School	Aerobics/BC
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BOOKHAM GUIDES GO TO THE TOP OF EUROPE

Having camped last year on Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour, which was the birthplace of Scouting in 1907, this August 30 girls from 4th Bookham Guides and 10 adult leaders spent a week in Switzerland. They stayed close to one of the World Guide Centres in Adelboden, in the Bernese Oberland and shared a 300 year old farmhouse with a pregnant cow, two calves and a wayward goat who on the last morning had to succumb to two of the older girls milking it!

swan song for their leader for the past 18 years, Jenny 'Wren' Denison.

Extremely varied activities each day included swimming in the local village open air pool, Disco Dancing on Ice at night, hiking to the local woodcarvers and watching and tasting, how Swiss chocolate and mountain cheese are made.

Days were spent further afield going up the Jungfrauoch by cog train to the highest railway station in Europe (11,333 feet). Having slid and slipped their way through the Ice Palace and walked on the glacier in brilliant sunshine, freezing temperatures and a biting wind they were then rocketed up by express lift to the 'Top of Europe' viewing platform at 11,782 feet where they had marvellous views of the surrounding mountain peaks.

They also experienced the mighty force of thunderous water pounding its way through a chasm in the rock formation at the Trummelbach Falls and by way of contrast an afternoon was spent on the Rodelbahn (dry toboggan run) having had a leisurely ride by chair lift up to

Lake Oeschinensee near Kandersteg in the morning.

The last night's entertainment, where each group put on a performance, had the girls and their two coach drivers in fits of laughter. Thankfully the long over night and over land journeys by coach were without mishap and they even arrived back so early in the morning the parents had to be got out of bed to collect them!

Jenny Denison



Early on, four of the guides were presented with their highest Award, the Baden-Powell Trefoil, as a reward for their hard work over the years with the unit. This took place on the steps of the European World Centre 'Our Chalet' in a fitting ceremony witnessed by other international guides staying there.

Unlike the usual camping under canvas experience, this was to act as a holiday for everyone concerned and as a

Bookham Players

The year began sadly for the Players with the sudden death of Keith Preston, a founding member with Jean in 1963. He was our guiding light and inspiration for 37 years. However in the tradition of the theatre the shows have gone on and we have enjoyed a successful year to date.

In February our entry to the Betchworth Festival - 'The Monkeys Paw' - received commendations in the categories best actor, best character actor and best presentation. We will be presenting it at the Old Barn Hall as part of a triple bill on November 16 - 18.

Our April production of 'Arms and the Man' was well received belying the commonly held view that the works of George Bernard Shaw are not good 'box office'. We will continue Keith's policy of providing a wide variety of plays to delight and stimulate.

As an integral part of village life we need your continued support both as audience and as active members of the Society. New members are always welcome, particularly those interested in acting, stage management and stage lighting. Call me on 453739 for further details.

John Bashford

Because of the Queen Mother's association with St Nicolas Church, the Parochial Church Council sent her a card offering congratulations and greetings on behalf of the Parish.

A letter of thanks was received from her Lady-in-Waiting



CLARENCE HOUSE
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To: The Parishoners of St Nicholas Church
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kind thought of Her Majesty.

Elizabeth Lambrough

Lady-in-Waiting

9 August, 2000

THE BOOKHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

As Chairman I would first of all like to thank the BCA Committee for giving me the honour of opening the Village Day Fete last June. It was a tremendous occasion, very well attended on our one real summer's day! I am so pleased that the proceeds exceeded previous records, marking the Millennium Village Day as a really outstanding one.

Meanwhile the BRA continue to keep their eyes and ears open for any untoward developments in Bookham as well as trying to preserve the good points. We are ever busy with monitoring any new building plans and keep watch on all these developments.

We are in favour of a new Medical Centre on land previously belonging to the Dawnay School so long as the parent parking problem can be resolved. We would also like to see a toilet built in the Lower Road car park - even at the cost of replacing the one in Lower Shott. Most people are to be found in the High Street when out shopping and having to cross the A246 is a dreadful drawback when the need arises.

Our new notice board by the post office in Church Road was made by the late Ben Cannon and is proving to be very well used. Ben would have been the first to applaud this as he was always interested in all Bookham events. His gift to us all is greatly appreciated.

As usual we continue to need new and enthusiastic Committee Members, so anyone who has the care of Bookham at heart would be most welcome on the Committee.

I shall be retiring as Chairman at our AGM in April 2001 but still hope to serve on the Committee. Who would like to take over? Do phone 458114 if you are at all interested.

Brenda de Bruin

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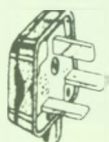
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URC'S CRAFT PROJECT

As Christmas approaches what do most of us do? Fish the old decorations out of the loft and rush to the shops for some fresh tinsel? A group in Bookham took a different and unusual approach for the new Millennium, employing all kinds of crafts, both from Britain and from the other side of the world.

A group of eleven people from Bookham's URC church first started discussing ideas in early November 1999, and soon embarked on making sixty stars. It was such a fiddly job, looping basket cane* into star shapes, that they joked that it felt more like a whole galaxy at the time! Former art teacher Susi Dunsmore learnt the technique when she was living in Borneo. There the Iban people tied the shapes together to make plate or pot holders and carriers. The Bookham group modified the basic design for Christmas by adding gold thread* and a shiny hologram circle in the centre. The church has eight windows down both sides and each window is paned in rectangles. By now fourteen people were involved. They stuck orange tissue paper over some of these panes in each window, making a cross shape, against which they hung six of the stars. Others were used to decorate the Christmas tree. 'Stars are special, because they symbolise light and guidance,' said Susi.

Many more talents were put to work. Professional batik artist Judith Browning made an exuberant wall-hanging in yellows, oranges, reds and purples, while musician and calligrapher Gill Gowan designed the lettering both for this 'Christ is born' hanging and for another which proclaimed 'Gloria in Excelsis'. Ann Cheeseman embroidered the second wall-hanging on a transparent net background.

Mike Wanstall constructed a crib from pieces of old timber, then thatched it with Norfolk rushes (two more crafts!) Crib figures, based on moveable wire frames, had hands and faces which required yet more skills including working with wax, papier maché, clay and wood. Then someone brought along a box of fabrics and everyone took a figure home to clothe it.



The Millennial Christmas was not the URC's first craft project. They started with two large wall-hangings, one made in 1996, the other in 1998. Amazingly each person wove a small piece on tiny home-made looms, then the whole was stitched together and details added, from knitting and crochet to lettering. 'We so enjoy working together because we get to know each other better and keep discovering new talents in one another, and can thank God for that,' said Susi. 'We all find it so satisfying seeing the bits come together, then looking at the finished project and thinking "I helped make that!"'

They hope to improve and add to the crib in time for Christmas this year – and to replace those of the stars which people took home in January 2000. So if you get a chance, do visit the URC in Keswick Road over the Christmas period, to see what a few 'ordinary' Bookham residents can do!

Chris Leonard

** Basket cane and embroidery thread used in the stars was obtained from Granary Crafts, 63 Church Road, Bookham, weaving materials from the Handweaver's Studio and gallery 29 Haroldstone Road, London E17 7A
Tel 0181 521 2281*

THE LOCAL CHRISTMAS CHARITY POST

Very many thanks to all those willing volunteers who worked so hard last December selling stamps and delivering cards thus making the Charity Post such a worthwhile undertaking. Intermediate Technology (our usual nominated beneficiary) gratefully acknowledged our donation of £2102.

In late 1999, the organising Committee held a crisis meeting to decide if we could continue to run the Charity Post as helpers of many years standing felt obliged to stand down. Each year it has become increasingly difficult to find sufficient volunteers for the vital tasks of selling stamps and delivering cards. If we don't sell the stamps we don't raise a worthwhile sum for the Charity and an inability to deliver all the cards we receive is unthinkable.

We are again therefore looking for new sellers and deliverers. If you able to assist by selling stamps and/or delivering cards we should be delighted to hear from you. (Please do remember that we sell stamps and deliver cards in Fetcham, Bookham and parts of Effingham – NOT Leatherhead). Please put your name forward by telephoning Anne or Graham Peck on 453725.



BOOKHAM CHORAL SOCIETY



The traditional start-of-season 'Come and Sing' meeting of the society has come and gone. It was on 5th September, and, to join the regulars there were some welcome new faces. The society is always on the lookout for new members – men especially – since, like the majority of choirs, we need men's voices to balance the more numerous ladies.

This September meeting is not the sole opportunity to join: newcomers are welcome at all times. Anyone wishing to try their hand at choral singing can come along to any Tuesday rehearsal. These take place at the United Reformed Church Hall, Keswick Road starting at 7.45 p.m.

Last year's season was highly successful. At the Leith Hill Festival the choir achieved second place in the competition – only one mark behind the winner. The coming season promises to be equally so, the choir having made great strides under its conductor, Nicholas O'Neill, who joined us just one year ago.

A concert was held at St Nicolas' parish church on 28th October which included works of the Baroque period. There will be the usual Christmas concerts at the Old Barn Hall on 19th and 21st December. Also, the choir has been chosen to sing at a charity carol concert at Dorking Halls on Saturday, 2nd December. After Christmas the choir will make preparations for next year's Leith Hill Music Festival in the third week of April.

Anyone interested in joining the society or in any of the events mentioned here are invited to ring the society's secretary, Pat Bradley, telephone 375664.

John Wettern

50TH YEAR OF OPEN AIR THEATRE AT POLESDEN LACEY

The 2001 Season of plays and concerts in the open air theatre will be the 50th.

Sheila Warner is hoping to prepare a display of memorabilia and if anyone has a photograph, programme poster or anything which will bring back memories of the past 50 years, please let Sheila (374567) or your editor know.

B.A.T.S.

Since June 1999, B.A.T.S. has been raising funds to provide more playground equipment at the Lower Road Recreation Ground in Bookham. B.A.T.S. has raised £21,640 through grants, donations and fund raising events. Mole Valley District Council Leisure Services are contributing another £20,000 and together this has enabled B.A.T.S. and MVDC to provide four pieces of Adventure Trail, two swings, an Activity playframe with slide, two small rotating discs, all the necessary safety surfacing, a wear-pad around the Trail, fencing, benches, and a plaque. We hope that this will all be installed in late October 2000. We would like to thank everyone who has supported this project which will provide many hours of enjoyment for the children (and their carers!) for many years.

SPONSORED HIMALAYAN TREK

I hope to take part in a sponsored Himalayan trek next February, when I shall be nearing my 75th birthday, with the aim of raising money for the National Hospital to repay in small measure the treatments it has given me. The trek, which will be for 6 days in February 2001, will be over a distance of about 100 km.

I have ventured on this fund raising effort in response to the current major appeal of the hospital to raise £3 million to pay for the installation of a special scanner to be installed in one of its operating theatres. The scanner, which will be the first of its kind in the UK, will relay 'real time' images of the brain to the neurosurgeon during surgery or laser treatment, and will enable quicker and safer treatment. It has particular significance in removal of brain tumours, the taking of brain biopsies, early intervention in stroke patients and for epilepsy surgery.

The National Hospital is the birth place of neurology. It provides the most comprehensive range of neurological and neurosurgical services in the UK and has research teams of world renown. The diseases treated include epilepsy, MS, Parkinson's disease, stroke, brain tumours, Alzheimer's disease and head injury.

Reg Carlier (458629)

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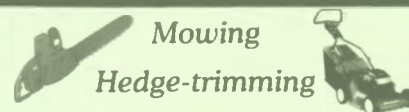
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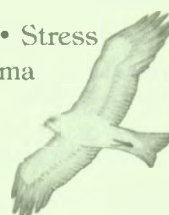
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Your Guide to Bookham

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

BCA COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

President Alan Zoers, 11 Park Green KT23 3ML (453475)

Chairman and Vice President David Wilkins, 63a Church Road KT23 3EG (456166)

Hon Secretary Mrs Beryl Warne, 9 Twelve Acre Close KT23 3HH (458425)

Hon Treasurer Mrs Margo Sullivan, 31 Dowlans Road KT23 4LF (453012)

Membership Secretary Maurice Gover, Southeyfield, Park View KT23 3JN (453283)

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

Members Peter Blackburn, Peter Clarke, Mrs Genie Hancock, David Harding, Gordon Jenner, Chris Roberts

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

BRA

Bookham Residents Association Mrs B.C.O. de Bruin, 33 Barn Meadow Lane KT23 3EZ (458114)

CONSERVATION

Friends Bookham Commons Gordon Little, Yew Trees, Church Road KT23 3PQ (456335)

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

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

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

EDUCATION

Art Class Ms Zelda Glanville, 8 Mill Street, Kingston-upon-Thames KT1 2RF (0208 5462983)

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

Bus Stop Playgroup Mrs Kate Rice, 6 Beales Road KT23 4LZ (452660)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MISCELLANEOUS

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

BCA Over 60's Committee Mrs Thelma Weston, 60 Keswick Road KT23 4BH (458706)

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

Bookham Friends of Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for Disabled People Mrs Jean Preston, 7 Childs Hall Road KT23 3QD (452695)

Bookham Help-your-Neighbour Scheme Mrs Shirley Neish, 23 Childs Hall Road KT23 3QF (458237)

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

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

British Red Cross Mrs Audrey Wing, 20 Gilma's KT23 4RP (453687)

Friends of Keswick Mrs Marjorie Creasey, 45 Poplar Avenue, Leatherhead KT22 8SH (377741)

Hard of Hearing, Bookham Group Richard Pankhurst, 4 Elmfield KT23 3LQ (454897)

KGV Playing Fields Mrs Penny Osborne, 45 Woodlands Road KT23 4HE (453088)

Leatherhead & District Lions Club Jim Watts, 10 Hazel Way, Fetcham KT22 9QD (456615)

Leatherhead Round Table 171 Steve Whitcombe, 3 Manor Gardens, Effingham KT24 5PF (452348)

NSPCC Mrs Dorothy Conlong, 7 Mill Close KT23 3JX (454065)

Royal National Lifeboat Institution Geoffrey Barkway, 4 Allen Road KT23 4SL (454838)

Save The Children Fund Mrs Mary Eason, Slinfold Cottage, 220 Lower Road KT23 4DA (452483)

Talking Newspaper for the Blind Mrs Ruth Little, Yew Trees, Church Road KT23 3PQ (456335)

The Grange Centre Supporters Mrs Beryl Warne, 9 Twelve Acre Close, KT23 3HH (458425)

Weight Watchers Ms. Sue Westwood, 155 Cobham Road, Fetcham KT22 9JD (377031)

MUSIC & DANCING

Big Bands Bookham Derek H. Pegg, 4 Fox Lane KT23 3AT (452793)

Bookham Choral Society Mrs Pat Bradley, 8 St. John's Road, Leatherhead KT22 8SE (375664)

Bookham Folk Dance Club Ms Monica Peters, 26 Carlton Road, Redhill RH1 2BX (01737 762549)

Bookham Recorded Music Club Tony Williams, 23 The Lorne KT23 4JY (453599)

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

Bookham Sequence Dance Club Alex H. Cross, 15 Humphrey Close, Fetcham KT22 9PZ (457308)

Mole Valley Silver Band Mrs Sarah Kent, 26 Gilma's KT23 4RP (456176)

The Barn Operatic Mrs Pat Barnes, 20 Lebanon Road, Cobham KT11 2PR (01932 865196)

The Slater Symphony Orchestra Christopher Slater, 12 Crabtree Lane KT23 4PF (454963)

POLITICAL ACTION

Bookham & Fetcham Liberal Democrats Mrs Angela Hunt, 22 The Garstons KT23 3DS (457948)

Conservative Association (North Bookham) Mrs Freda Walker, 1 Fernlea KT23 3NJ (454976)

Conservative Association (South Bookham) Mrs Carol Glenister, 25 Merrylands Road, KT23 3HP (453854)

Leatherhead & Bookham Labour Party Mrs Mary Jenkins, 12 Sole Farm Avenue KT23 3DE (456158)

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

SOCIAL PASTIMES

Afternoon Bridge Club Keith Lawrance, White Gables, 35 Fairmile Avenue, Cobham KT11 2JA (01932 863689)

Bingo Raymond W. Loynes, 23 Sole Farm Avenue KT23 3DG (454229)

Bookham & Fetcham Art Group Mrs S. Snow, Handley Cottage, The Common KT23 3HZ (453366)

Bookham Camera Club Mrs Pauline Blackwell, 44 Crabtree Lane KT23 4PN (801047)

Bookham Craft Club Mrs Sheila Hall, 13 Lodge Road, Fetcham KT22 9QY (373195)

Bookham Flower Arrangement Group Mrs Beryl Hopkins, 3 Downs View Road KT23 4PP (457362)

Bookham Medau Club Mrs Doreen Zoers, 11 Park Green KT23 3NL (453475)

Bookham Parchment Craft Group Mrs Wendy Stone, 18 Turville Court, Proctor Gardens KT23 4DD (453452)

Bookham Stamp Club Rodney E.J. Partridge, 20 Mill Close KT233JX (456760)

Bookham WI Market Mrs Mollie Snow, 48 The Park KT23 3LS (452863)

Bridge Club (Evening) Henry Hunt, 19 Pine Dean KT23 4BT (456074)

Dorking & District Fuchsia Group Mrs Hilary Burlinson, Lingnell, Silkmore Lane, West Horsley KT24 6JB (01483 282492)

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

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

Effingham Bridge Club (Evening) M. Atkins, 47 Richmond Way, Fetcham KT22 9NU (458275)

Garden Society Mrs P.A. Bailey, 12 Gilma's KT23 4RP (453800)

Over 60's Club Mrs Mary Longhurst, 42 Groveside KT23 4DL (453946)

Winemakers Club Mrs G. Gowen, 6 Vicarage Close KT23 3DZ (454721)

Yoga Club Mrs Teresa Rumball, 21 Kennel Lane, Fetcham KT22 9PQ (456314)

SPORT

Bookham Badminton Club Malcolm Jordan, 15 Sole Farm Road, KT23 3DW (459782)

Bookham Bowling Club M.H. Owen, 3 Revell Drive, Fetcham KT22 9PS. (454722)

Bookham Football Club David Mumford, 8 Murrells Walk KT23 3LP

Bookham Sports Association John Prince, 3 Murrells Walk KT23 3LP (458598)

Bookham Tennis Club Mrs Alison Gatford, 87 Eastwiche Drive KT23 3NS (458598)

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

Effingham Rugby Club Mike Scoltock, 5 Dowlans Road KT23 4LF (453134)

Leatherhead Tennis Club Mrs I. Gawne, 76 Eastwiche Drive KT233NX (456817)

THEATRE

Bookham Players John Bashford, 3 Swanns Meadow, KT23 4JX (453739)

POSE Miss Heather Watkins, Flat 2, Arndell House, 48 Benhill Wood Road, Sutton SM1 4HN (0208 6434269)

Polesden Lacey Festival Alec M. Garnham, 29 Dorking Road KT234PU (454407)

WOMEN'S GROUPS

Bookham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild Mrs Shirley Cooper, 22 Barrett Road, Fetcham KT22 9HL (458276)

Bookham Afternoon WI Mrs Sheila M. Morley, 9 Barn Meadow Lane KT23 3HJ (452766)

Bookham Evening Townswomen's Guild Mrs Rachel Boxall, 95 Sole Farm Avenue KT23 3DG (458235)

Bookham's Evening WI Mrs R.M. Little, Yew Trees, Church Road KT23 3PP (456335)

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

Emlyn Downs Group of WI's Mrs Gwyneth Laxton, 1 The Copse, Fetcham KT22 9TD (452562)

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

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

Royal British Legion Women's Section Mrs L. Brooker, 33 Beales Road KT23 4NA (454768)

YOUTH

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

Army Cadet Force, Leatherhead Detachment ACF Hut, Oaks Close, Leatherhead KT22 7SH (01483 414170)

Bookham Youth & Community Centre The Secretary, 164 Lower Road KT23 4AQ (452541)

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All producers of baked goods have been awarded their Basic Hygiene certificates and the Hall is inspected regularly by the Environmental Health Officer (without prior notice).

We can offer anything from special celebration cakes down to the humble Victoria sandwich. Pastries, both sweet and savoury, are nearly always available. Most items can be frozen.

Do you have problems with Christmas or birthday gifts for those special people who live in another part of the country? Why not take advantage of our parcel scheme? For further details call in at the Market on any Friday morning and have a chat with our controller who will be pleased to help.

Christmas is fast approaching and you will find many ideas on our craft stall. Children's knitwear and clothing, soft toys and greetings cards for all occasions are available alongside carved wooden items and many other fascinating gifts to tempt you. Our gardening stall has shrubs, plants, vegetables and fruit in season. Eggs, poultry, sausages and ham are all from local producers - and, of course there is a wide selection of jam and marmalade along with other preserves.

Editor - Eric Lloyd Jones (454228)

Assistant Editor - Christine Leonard (458850)

'What's Happening' - Joy Tobin (453340)

Proof Reader - Eileen Strutt

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The Market is open every Friday, except Good Friday and sometimes Christmas, from 10.15 to 11.30 am. Our longstanding customers start to arrive by 9.30, so be warned and come early.

For newcomers to Bookham this is a good opportunity to make friends over a cup of tea or coffee and to see what the WI Market has to offer. New cooks and producers are always in demand. Come along one Friday and learn more about us.

Mollie Snow

E-MAIL TO THE EDITOR

I periodically check the Internet for Bookhams Bulletin and was pleased to see it is now available. As past members of the community we spent many happy years there.

In our first year, 1983, one of our daughters participated in the annual Spinney Nursery School Christmas pageant. At the time I noticed several of the fathers had video cameras and I should like to get in touch with them in the hope of obtaining a copy. She is easily identified as the angel Gabriel and gave quite an amusing performance. I do hope you will be able to assist.

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