

Bookhams Bulletin

SPRING 2001

LOCAL NEWS FROM BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

ISSUE 258

EDITORIAL page 2 What's page 2 Happening Maurice Gover page 6 AURICULA BOOKHAMI Page 9 ANCIENT **FOUNDATIONS** page 13 The water beneath our feet page 15 **BULLETIN BOARD** page 22 & 23 Your Guide to Bookham

40 – 50 years continuous service (nearly!) Thelma Weston and Mary Longhurst deserve medals!

hey don't make them like this any more' – those were my thoughts after talking with Mary Longhurst and Thelma Weston about their long-term voluntary service on behalf of the elderly in Bookham.

www.bookham.net

This Autumn two of Bookham's longest running voluntary services came to an end when the Old Barn Hall's Day Centre and Over 60s Club ceased. These had their roots back in 1949 when the BCA formed a Women's

Committee, chaired by Nellie Cox, with Mrs Oldershaw as Secretary. They proposed to 'develop suggestions for a weekly creche, sitters-in service, theatre parties, old people's club and talks on practical problems'. Once a year or so they entertained around 50 old people from St Pancras. A coach brought them to Bookham, then they were taken to Polesden Lacey and given tea at the Barn Hall. One year the Mayor of that Borough invited two of the helpers – Dulcie Cuddeford and Mary Longhurst – to lunch and sent his Rolls to collect them.

The Women's Committee set up the Over 60s Club in March 1951, meeting at the Old Barn Hall under the chairmanship of Nellie Cox. In August 1951 Mary Longhurst became involved and remained for nearly 50 years of continuous service! For twenty years she took groups of 20-90 elderly people on holidays to Selsey on her own. Over 100 people used to attend Over 60s but numbers in recent years averaged 20. They had two outings a year and a fine Christmas party but on 'normal' days played cards or bingo.

Around 1956, Nellie Cox put a notice in the Post Office inviting OAPs to a meal at the Barn Hall. Six or seven turned up and Mary Longhurst cooked a leg of lamb and some bread pudding in the Hall's old kitchen. She was used to cooking with electricity and the high temperature of the gas oven cracked two of her oval dishes. The Day Centre was the first of



its kind in the district and numbers coming grew rapidly until the capacity of 50 was reached and people had to produce a doctor's certificate to prove eligibility! Mary remained an active helper until the Day Centre closed this Autumn.

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 207429

When Nellie Cox died in 1963, aged 58, the BCA's Betty Harrison asked Thelma Weston, Nellie's daughter, to take over cooking the Day Centre's

meals 'for a couple of weeks while they found someone else.' Thelma told me, 'Mum loved old people. It was her dream that the elderly should have somewhere to go'. So Thelma served faithfully until this Autumn – nearly 40 years. 'I'm never ill, she said, 'And they're a good crowd. It was never a chore, I enjoyed seeing them enjoy it!' Her day started with buying the meat at the local butcher's around 7.30 in the morning and she wouldn't get home until well after five in the evening. She collected all the food and most of the old people, many from as far afield as Ashtead. She cooked on a rota basis, with the help of the WIs, the Inner Wheel ladies and some schoolchildren. 'The old people had a good two-course meal with all fresh ingredients for just £2.50!' she said. Thelma had an equally long history of service with the Over 60s.

In the late 80s around 70 people came to the Over 60s and Day Centre meals were served to, among others, their oldest member, Mrs May Snow, aged 95. In recent days of sheltered accommodation and residential homes, as old people ventured out less numbers dipped below 20. Thelma transported most of them in her car but when this was involved in an accident no one else could be found to take on all the work of transporting the members, nor of delivering the food to the Barn Hall, which Thelma had also undertaken. It was with great regret that the club and day centre decided to close. Thelma and Mary in particular felt very sad – in a few more months Mary would have served fifty years and Thelma, through her mother, had been involved from the beginning. What an achievement!

Bookhams Bulletin



MARCH

Saturday 3rd - Liberal Democrats MINI FAIR - The Old Barn Hall, 10 am to 12 noon. Coffee and stalls (plants, books, preserves, cakes, bric-a-brac, jewellery, raffle, tombola). All welcome.

APRIL

Saturday 7th - Mole Valley Silver Band Spring Concert - Fetcham Village Hall, 7.30 for 8 pm. Tickets from Mrs. Sarah Kent on 456176.

Sunday 8th - Bookham, Fetcham and District Garden Society Spring Show with refreshments - Fetcham Village Hall -2.30 to 4 pm.

MAY

Saturday 5th - Bookham Camera Club Annual Exhibition of prints and slides (plus competition for non-members - see separate details) - Old Barn Hall - 11 am to 5 pm. Light refreshments. Admission free.

Thursday 10th, Friday 11th & Saturday 12th - Bookham Evening Townswomens Guild present a musical revue "In the Space of Time" - Old Barn Hall - 7.45 pm.

Ticket enquiries on 453521

Thursday 24th - Bookham Commons National Trust Wine and Cheese Event -Old Barn Hall, 7.30 pm. Illustrated talk by Linda Heath - "Fanny Burney – The Bookham Years". Tickets £7 from Granary Crafts, Church Road - 458600 and Ron Smith on 452361.



- 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 The Church Office, 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

It is sad that the Luncheon and Over 60s Clubs have had to close. As Christine writes, both Thelma Weston and Mary Longhurst deserve medals for outstanding service over so many years. It was unfortunate that Thelma had a car accident, which was not her fault, for this is what brought about the closure. Thelma has now moved to the Isle of Wight to be near her daughter. Bookham has lost a dear friend and we wish her a restful and happy 'retirement'. Mary is sorry she did not quite achieve 50 years service, but what an achievement. Whether she will be content to take things easy remains to be seen.

After concern about the future of the Youth Centre, we are delighted that a new leader has been appointed. Helen Hughes is relatively young and well qualified, and will receive the full support of long-term helpers. Helen has written me an article about herself and I hope this will encourage more volunteers to come along. Paid helpers are also needed for the total attendance during a week has exceeded 400.

A few youngsters have been blamed for 'crime' in Bookham – graffiti, tipping over 'keep left' signs and so on, so it was very encouraging to see how many youngsters contributed to the community in functions leading up to Christmas. Howard of Effingham pupils put on a very professional 'Sweeney Todd', as well as performing in the Community Entertains. Scouts and Guides of all ages held Christmas services in St Nicolas to packed congregations. There were also other activites reported to me.

I am mindful that a major responsibility of the BCA is the management of the Old Barn Hall. This involves maintaining it to a high standard and introducing improvements aiding the many activities which take place. We are dependant on a number of money raising activities, as well as the generosity of affiliated clubs, but whereas individual annual subscriptions could amount to an important contribution, they are not easy to collect, and collectors are loath to call on a household several times because they were not at home. Jennifer Blackburn has taken over as Membership Secretary and has agreed that to ease the task of collectors, I insert a cut-out in the Bulletin so that uncollected subs can be put through Jennifer's letter box.

Eric Lloyd Jones

NEXT ISSUE SUBMISSIONS BY 31st March 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 ALL CLEAR

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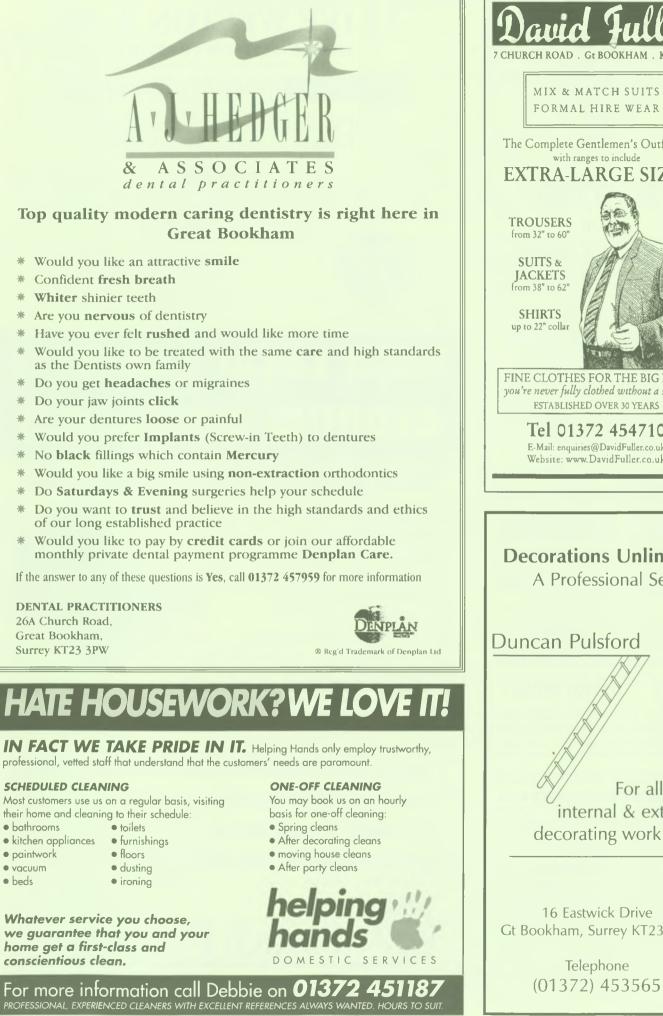
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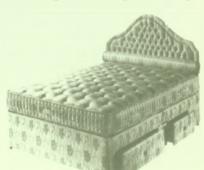


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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

hen this issue reaches your door our thoughts will be turning to Spring and the last Annual General Meeting which was held last October seems a little distant. At that meeting the Committee of Management were joined by two new members. The first was Keith Slark and the second was our new Membership Secretary, Jennifer Blackburn and we welcome both to BCA. However, it might seem a little early to be asking for help for next October but we need to sow the seed in peoples minds in advance. Beryl Warne, our present Secretary has served BCA for more years than she would care to admit and really would like a break. We would therefore like someone to come forward to take on this important role. You can either speak to Beryl or myself in order to find out what is involved and by considering this, contribute a little time to ensure the future of the management of the Old Barn Hall.

During the last few months we have lost the services of Ray Loynes who has spent several years assisting Roger Musgrove, our Hall Manager. We are sorry to lose Ray and thank him for his conscientious approach to the job and I know I speak for you all when I say he will be missed. This obviously raises a problem as we are now looking for someone to fill the vacancy. It would suit someone who has recently retired who would like to spend a few hours each week at the Old Barn Hall. A separate advertisement has been put in this issue of the Bulletin.

Two events took place towards the end of the year 2000. The first was the Community Entertains which was the last production by Shirley and David Cooper, so the event was a mixture of pleasure and sadness. There is a separate report on the event but many thanks are due to Shirley and David for all the time, energy and enthusiasm that they gave to the Community Entertains over many years, which was appreciated by the BCA Committee and of course all those who were lucky enough to attend the various shows. We wish Shirley and David a restful experience in the future. What will they find to do?

The final event of 2000 was the Dinner Dance on the 31st December which was well attended again. Thanks go to the sub committee of the BCA who organised the event and to all those who helped on the day.

Looking to the future our General Meeting will be held on 24th April 2001 at the Old Barn Hall when our speaker will be Margaret Hunter who will be talking on the Greville influence on Polesden Lacey. Finally our thoughts are concentrating on Village Day 2001 and our theme this year will be Fantasy Worlds. There will be more information in the future.

David Wilkins

THE COMMUNITY ENTERTAINS

On the 14th and 15th December 2000 two well attended houses enjoyed an evening of the Community Entertains. The scene was already set prior to the evenings entertainment with a festive glow to the hall with all the Christmas decorations which had been put up by the Sequence Dance Club supported by the 3rd Bookham Scout Group. We are very grateful for their support every year. Shirley and David Cooper directed and produced the show and the occasion was tinged with sadness as this was to be their final show after many years.

The event commenced with the Howard of Effingham School Dancers giving us an excerpt from their next musical 'Oliver'. This was followed by two talented instrumentalists, Matthew Jones on clarinet and Shiva Feshareki on violin who had enchanted us all last year when she appeared, and we were not disappointed this year with her repertoire. The school choir then performed under their new Musical Director and Conductor Stephen Bean to round off a fine performance by the school. They were all ably supported by the accompanist Clare Harris and the coordinator Saira Shaikh.

We really could not have a show without an appearance of Arthur Gamble and this year he only appeared twice, assuming that I recognized him in the pantomime sequence. His rendition of the Yorkshire Messiah was as usual amusing with the flair that he seems to have with this type of presentation. Bookham Players followed with a sketch by David Campion called Home from Home and this was directed by Dick Bradsell.

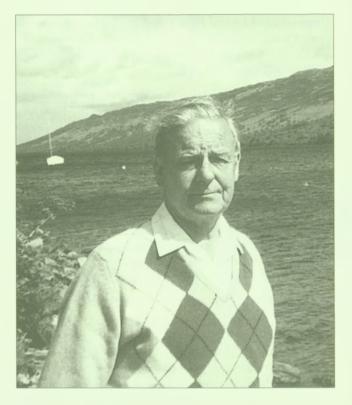
Two Ladies was the next presentation in the shape of Claire Kingsbury and Mary Baum which caused much amusement with the songs and poems which had been written by Mary Baum while Claire also delighted with her voice with several well known songs from the shows. They were supported by their accompanist Joan Dawson. Then Bookham Players returned in a short sketch entitled 'Octopus' once again by David Campion and directed by Dick Bradsell. As has been usual for the past couple of years the first half of the show was closed by the Bookham Townswomen's Guild and Husbands Entertainment Group who presented an excerpt from their pantomime Sleeping Cutey. This was rather loosely based on the Sleeping Beauty with a twist. Pat Chadwick set the scene as the narrator although you might have found it hard to recognize her, and then Tarzan appeared leaping to the rescue of the damsel in distress. As usual the group sang with great gusto and ended the first part of the programme on a high. The pantomime was produced by Amanda Lee, supported by Calvin Downey the Musical Director and percussionist Graham Cannon. Just a point of interest Tarzan was obviously very fit as he was seen yet again on the Saturday evening energetically dancing at another function.

The second half of the show was given over to the Mole Valley Silver Band who gave us their usual mixture of fun and many well know tunes to end a very enjoyable evening. Their conductor was of course Alec Warne.

Thanks are due to all those who performed for us and all the time they put into rehearsing prior to the event. Thanks also go to Beryl Warne who organized the refreshments as usual and to Doreen and Alan Zoers who organized the Sherry Reception. Many thanks to the stage management John and Pat Chadwick, Viv Lawson and the lighting crew of Neville Povey and Phil Perris. The raffle was run by Anne Peck, Jan Clarke and Dorothy Conlong and the tickets and programmes were produced by Graham Peck. The BCA Committee is very grateful to Shirley and David Cooper for producing not only this show but all the shows over the last sixteen years. They have provided a lot of pleasure for many people and will be missed. What now you may well ask. David is putting a separate article about this subject in this issue of the Bulletin to try and persuade someone to come forward for next year. Let us hope his appeal is successful.

MAURICE GOVER

e are sad to report the death of Maurice Gover who was the Membership Secretary of the BCA. The task had its frustrations, but Maurice never complained and any problems were dealt with in a highly professional manner.



Maurice was born in Wallington and attended Dulwich College. He served in the RAF during the war as a Dispatch Rider, serving in Libya, Western Desert, Sicily, Italy and Burma, latterly doing what he called 'chucking supplies out of Dakotas' for the ground forces in the jungle.

A keen sportsman, he played scrum-half for Sutton RFC for nearly 30 years and was a member of the Leatherhead Tennis Club from its early days at Gilmais. He was a proficient marksman and a founder member of the Vintage Motor Cycle Club. He also rode the Cresta Run several times, much to the terror of his wife and children.

A solicitor by profession, Maurice was one of those kind and considerate people who never sought the limelight but in his quiet way contributed in many ways to the life of the community in Bookham where he lived since 1953. He was very proud of his family; wife Barbara, three daughters and five grandchildren.

A keen and active Rotarian, he joined the Hounslow Club in 1968 moving to the Bookham and Horsley Club in 1981. He served on the National Trust Bookham Common's Committee for 14 years such was his interest in the environment. As Treasurer of the Garden Society his courteous and helpful nature was much appreciated and he was a great help to his successor.

Maurice will be greatly missed by family and friends alike for whenever there was a need he would be there to offer help.

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AURICULA BOOKHAMI

History can be grey and murky, pages of discoloured paper with barely distinguishable letters and faded photographs of pompous old men with huge bushy beards staring uncompromisingly at the viewer. But sometimes life and colour suddenly emerge.

A lecture on old Surrey plant nurseries explained the movement of many of the old London nurseries into the country along the web of railway lines which spread through the land in the 19th century. To be near a station was to be near the market, and so it was that areas like Woking flourished. But I had not realised that there was a famous Auricula nursery near Bookham station. It was also famous for carnations and pinks, but it was the Auricula which drew my attention.

Primula auricula, also known as Bears Ears, Sows Ears, Mountain Cowslip, or Giddiness Plant (because it grows clinging to mountain ledges), is a plant which came to England in 17th century, perhaps with Huguenot refugees from Europe. There are basically two types: the alpines, which are garden plants and the others which are the really special ones with white powdering on flowers and leaves which means they have to be protected from the rain, or else the magic will wash away.

Growing and showing Auriculas was very popular, especially among silk weavers in pre-Victorian days. An inn with a copper kettle hanging outside would denote the site of a flower show where local competition flourished. The florist with the best exhibit would win the kettle - a cherished prize. Later, special plants might change hands for as much as two and a half guineas - not quite as much as a black tulip, but not bad!

Plants used to be grown in cold frames under glass, and it must have kept the growers busy opening the frames to let in the air but closing them when rain or even heavy dew threatened. But plants in frames at ground level could not have their beauties fully appreciated, so the custom grew to put up special roofed structures against a wall where plants could be displayed on staging. The shelves might be backed with rich velvet cloth or paintings of fabulous scenery. Even mirrors were used at the sides to extend the appearance of the display. Hence these special flowers became known as Stage Auriculas.

Their particular attraction was their unusual, almost unreal look, similar to a polyanthus and yet so different. Each flower is very flat with a central yellow tube round which is a pure white circle covered with powdery farina. Outside this may be petals coloured, crimson, purple, yellow or in the most unusual flowers even green or almost black with rays radiating outwards to where the flower may be edged with green. In the most dramatic flowers the green edge is so densely covered with farina that it appears as white as driven snow. They look like a meticulously painted flower portrait made by an alien who did not realise that flowers aren't quite like that. But they are. Sacheverell Sitwell thought they should be looked at in silence, for fear that they should vanish!

James Douglas grew these plants in the 5 acre Edenside Nursery which he set up in Bookham when he was already 60, in 1893, just 8 years after the railway's arrival. He was born in Scotland and intended for teaching or the ministry, but his passion for plants was such that



at 14 he refused to do other than work in horticulture, meeting Auriculas in his youth at the Scottish Edenside Nursery after which the Bookham enterprise was named. He worked in various gardens in Scotland and England, including the famous Veitch Nursery in Chelsea for whom he assisted in exhibiting at the opening of the Royal Horticultural Society's gardens at South Kensington in 1860. Later, he joined the Whitbourn family in Essex where he spent more than 30 years as greatly appreciated head gardener. During this time he obtained first prize for a pine apple exhibited in London, as well as many other awards for a variety of plants. He published a book on Florists Flowers in 1880 (in those days a florist was anyone who concentrated on growing flowers) and was a recipient of the prestigious Victoria Medal of Honour in Horticulture in 1897. As well as all this he served on committees, the RHS Council and studied and collected fine china.

He lost one son in the Boer War but another, James, known as Jimmy, continued the work of the nursery, breeding new, exciting varieties of carnations and Auriculas, including a grey carnation and a black Auricula. Jimmy also wrote and exhibited - he gave a paper to the RHS in 1934, reviewing the history and culture of the Auricula. He refers to a treatise of 1819 in which a compost was recommended which "will cause your Auricula to increase as rapidly as couch grass in the fields". It consisted of equal parts of goose dung, sugar bakers scum, night soil and loam - a powerful mix! But James Douglas Jr. did not follow this technique, preferring a milder substrate based on loam, horse manure and well rotted leaves. The plants however flourished and were taken to RHS shows in Vincent Square, not by train but by the Finch family who ran the local haulage business. Haunting memories of early mornings, packing up the strange black and green flowers and helping to display them for the admiration of the visitors.

The Edenside Nursery continued until 1967 when it was bought by the local council for a building development which included an old peoples home called the House of Douglas. The new roads were named after people who had worked on the nursery - Greathurst, Elmwood and Beattie. Gordon Douglas, grandson of the founder of the nursery, was wounded in 1940, suffered as a prisoner of war and was awarded a medal for bravery. When the nursery was sold he continued to grow plants in a 100 foot greenhouse in the garden of his house and to breed new varieties and distribute seeds to enthusiasts. But eventually, in 1985 these plants with their aura of impeccable Victorian precision, like lace edged handkerchiefs, moved away from Bookham, the collection being cared for by an enthusiast in Kent. Many of the varieties raised by the 3 generations of the Douglas family continue on the show bench and in the breeding of yet more fascinating plants.

New Year Dance

Tet again the waiting list for this event started early in the year long before we were even aware as a BCA Committee if we would be allowed to have a Dinner Dance on Sunday the 31st December 2000. Fortunately for us the Mole Valley issued us with a licence and all who attended seemed pleased that we had surmounted that obstacle. As with the last few years we had to restrict our numbers and ended the year not being able to satisfy everyone. However one hundred and forty revellers sat down to a three course meal rounded off by coffee and mints and then enjoyed the dancing to our usual band, the Blue Tops, who always seem to read the audience well by ensuring that an enthusiastic crowd join in the dancing. At the chimes of midnight the whole company wished each other a happy and prosperous year for 2001 and the proceedings came to an end in the early hours of the New Year. This whole evening cannot be put together without the hard work of many people and it is appropriate that we thank them accordingly. They are Anne Bryant, Joan Cross, Pam Hall, Mary Attewill, Anne Peck, Sue Slark, Jan Clarke, Judith Harding, Doreen Adamson, Jennifer Blackburn, David Harding, Alan Bryant, Peter Blackburn, Keith Slark, Rosemary Patterson, Eric Llovd Jones, Graham Peck, Pam Sexton, Jill Barrett, Jill and Peter Fayers, Sheila Edwards and Pam Hyde. The whole evening was organised by the sub committee consisting of Genie Hancock, Jan and Peter Clarke and Margaret Wilkins. From the feedback after the event I think we can say that it was an enjoyable evening.

Welcome to Bookham

My husband and I received the following poem from very good friends welcoming us to the area. We have had it framed and hung it in our hall

Incidentally our friend who wrote it is not a poet, so we appreciated it all the more!

We're glad you came to BOOKHAM We hope you'll want to stay We're sure you will be HAPPY And not wish to go away

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NEW FRIENDS you will be making OLD ONES are here to stay And two of the VERY OLDEST Are surely ME and RAY

WISE PEOPLE move to BOOKHAM Those who are DISCERNING We thought you'd want to join us At the 'BARN' for CLUBS and LEARNING

When at last the PANIC'S over And you've had time to calm yourself down We'll have to break a 'BOTTLE' And meet you at the 'CROWN'

WELCOME TO BOOKHAM GRAHAM AND LORRAINE

Lorraine Dunn

David Wilkins

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THE COMMUNITY ENTERTAINS NEEDS NEW PRODUCERS

Some of you will be aware of our decision to retire from producing Community Entertains. Over the past eighteen years we have produced sixteen shows and now feel it is time for someone to come forward with fresh ideas and take the show forward before the existing format becomes dated and not very entertaining.



Shirley Cooper comperes at the last Community Entertains produced and directed by Shirley & David.

If you are interested or you know of someone who may be interested, the BCA will be very pleased to hear from you. We have told David Wilkins, the BCA Chairman, that we will give every assistance to the person or persons, who take over, to make the transition as painless as possible. Even if you are only vaguely interested at this stage, please call us and we can explain in more detail what it entails in producing Community Entertains. There must be someone out there who has the capability to take over the show. We look forward to your call!

We can be contacted via David Wilkins (456166), Roger Musgrave, the Halls Manager (456307) or you can phone us direct on 458276.

Finally may we take this opportunity of thanking everyone who has had an involvement with Community Entertains over the years and helped to make the event a successful and enjoyable occasion.

Shirley & David Cooper







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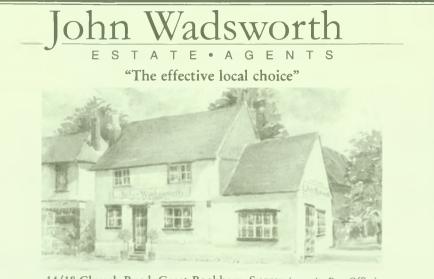
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After Presentation of the Silver in 1677 Thomas Holt asks for information

homas Holt, the Clerk and registrar of the Parish has been to the service in which Sir Geo. Shiers and his mother Elizabeth presented the Church with a new Silver Chalice, paten and Alms dish. It starts him

branch of the family died before 1669. Mr Robert Shiers, of the Inner Temple died in 1668, he had many stories to tell of the Great Fire of London.

Should he ask the Howard family? They live in the Manor House at Eastwick, which was

thinking, what happened to the original, and especially of the Vicar. What had happened to **Rev. Samuel Cherrie?**

The only surviving Parish Registers begin in 1633, so let us start at that date. In 1633, the Vicar paid for repairs to the Vicarage and in 1644 is an entry of the Baptism of his child Anthony on Feb 15 and burial the following day. Only one other entry follows this before there is a total change

in handwriting. Was he replaced? His Successor was Samuel Wickham (Minister) who baptised his sons Samuel on 12th May 1645 and John 2nd July 1646. The minister must have been appointed by Rt Hon Francis Rous, who lived at Polesden. He was one of the Lords of the Privy Council. In 1653 he was Speaker for a month and continued during the whole Sitting to effect what Oliver Cromwell planned, he with others resigned their powers into General Cromwell's hands, thus enabling the Protector to sign the King's Death Warrant. He died in

1657, leaving the property to his son, Samuel.

Would the Shier's family know? They have lived in Bookham a long time, even before they bought Slyfield. In Oct 1633 Geo. Sheers-yeoman, Robert Rogers Edward Wood jnr and Elizabeth wife of Robert Marghall were excommunicated, the following July 1634, Mary wife of Geo Shiers and Robert Rogers were excommunicated, but on May 14 1635 George Shiers was absolved. All this

built in 1626. On 10th July 1651 we buried Sir ffrancis, he was the grandson of Lord Howard of Effingham, and great grandson of the Duke of Norfolk. Now we have many young Howards living William, son here, Thomas Howard, Elizabeth, Margaret and Charles, children of Mr Francis Howard, but we have buried many sons and daughters of the family. So we will not trouble them.

of

It was a hard time during the Interregnum which lasted from 1640 to 1660. There were no marriages in Church, it was so sombre and joyless.

There was a skirmish at Slyfield and shots were fired. The Army mutinied at

Leatherhead, but after the re-instatement of the Monarchy, things were better. John ffleminge became the Vicar, he died in 1668, so now Hugh Shortrudge is the incumbent.

The Elm planted by Ralph Hilder in the Churchyard in 1627 is doing well, and should last a few centuries.

Well, what happened to Rev. Samuel Cherrie? I expect he went to France, like most of the Surrey Clergy, but if you have any information perhaps you would let me know.



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12

A NCIENT FOUNDATIONS **OF ST NICOLAS**

The AGM of the Friends of St Nicolas was held in December, when David Woolsey was re-elected Chairman. The Friends are in urgent need to expand their membership so that they can continue to support the church authorities with maintenance and restoration projects.

Following the meeting, Stephen Fortescue showed the picture of the ivv clad Parish Church of St Nicolas, which is taken from a water colour dated about 1800. He then gave a presentation of his research into the Saxon foundations of the building, which he surmised dated from about 750 AD.

The early wooden structure was discovered by a 'Dowsing' method which showed a rectangular building 16 ft. wide with an Eastern apse. This occupied the space from the chancel steps to the present site of the Norman Font.

A recently developed method using 'Ground Penetrating Radar' was then used, which confirmed the original findings. The outline wall position was broken in the S.W. corner which the speaker put down to later ground disturbance.

The present church has parts dating from the 11th century, additions being made every century right up to 1979, when the Church Room was added.

Details of the structure from the 11th century to the present day were covered. These included the large underground vault outside the South door adjoining the tower which contains 29 coffins of the Howard of Effingham family. There is also a crypt beneath the Nave floor access to which was by a door near the pulpit.





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The water beneath our feet

If I take my car and drive North from the old Church in Bookham, I come to the Railway Station. Crossing over the long bridge and parking, if I continue in the same direction I am walking underneath the old oak trees on Bookham Common. Low, wet, heavy soil, used in the old days only for grazing cattle and sheep. Now it is an exercise yard for local dogs. If I walk long enough I come to the largest of the three ponds, continually fed by the springs rising in the village.

Taking the opposite direction, I drive South up Downsway or Crabtree Lane, I am up on the chalk down-lands, under the beech trees. Wide open spaces here, better agricultural land.

And in between these two types of soil, the heavy clay of the North and the light dry chalk of the South, lie the Thanet Beds. A wide strip of sandy soil, following the line of the Lower Road, where the springs rise. These three distinct types of soil make the geology of Bookham of great and unusual interest.

It is thought that thousands of years ago a river ran down the Thanet Beds, laying down the light sandy soil as silt. No doubt this light, dry, sandy soil brought the first settlers, to live under the beech trees, naming the village "Bookham" hamlet in the beeches.

And, of course, there were the springs.

One of these springs is in the sports field alongside the Lower Road, opposite Buggs Farm (renamed Childs Haugh). Earbourne is a periodic spring which is reputed to rise every seven years and at times of trouble. This woe-water flowed for more than two weeks after the severe winter of 1947. Years ago it would flood the field and flow over the road, but it has been tamed now with houses built nearby. But it still quietly and constantly flows finding its way to the ditch

running along at the bottom of the gardens in Childs Hall Road, and out to the end of Sole Farm Road, originally called "By-Brook" where there were clapboard bungalows over the drain, now demolished and smartly rebuilt with brick. The water flows on Northward, following the line of Little Bookham Street, in front of the houses' front gardens this time, and across the road at the Station and on to the



ponds. So the ponds are constantly replenished, bringing an area of great and changing beauty to our very door step.

Barbara Leat

Editor's note: Barbara wrote this article before the recent heavy rains. There are also springs in the George V playing fields, and with the ground being saturated, water from them flowed down to the Lower Road covering the footpath and road near Manor House Lane and opposite the Nursery to a depth of several inches. Howard of Effingham pupils walking to school arrived with very wet feet (it is apparently infra dig to wear wellies). The school boiler house was then flooded necessitating closure for several days, much to the relief of parents and pupils.

- Bookham Neighbourhood Youth Worker

History. During her time at university Helen was involved with the Student Union as Women's Officer and a member of the Student Union executive: the main decision making body which was responsible for the management of the Student Union building and staff.

Helen has experience of both church and statutory youth work. Prior to taking up the post of the neighbourhood Youth Worker, she worked as the parish youth worker at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Ashtead and part time for Surrey Youth Service as a Leader in Charge at the Stephen Woods Centre in Epsom.

At St. Michael's she was responsible for co-ordinating St. Michael's Youth Project developing youth work provision for young people aged between seven and eighteen years old to promote their spiritual, emotional, physical and social development. This work included facilitating a series of workshops on conflict resolution, third world debt, participation and teamwork as well as open club nights. The post also involved managing and recruiting the yolunteers for the project and organising their training.

Helen as Leader in charge at the Stephen Woods Centre was responsible for planning and managing two youth club nights with a variety of activities such as sports and quizzes. The post also involved participating in planning borough wide youth events.

Currently Helen is in the process of completing a dissertation, as part of an MA in Health and Community Development at De Montfort University, looking at the role of youth work in promoting young people's well being. Helen has also undertaken training in working with young women, assertiveness, counselling, promoting creative activities and the role of health promotion in youth work. Helen sees youth work as a rewarding job with the opportunity to make a positive contribution to young people's development.

At Bookham Youth Centre Helen plans to develop the youth working provision as a model of good practice in youth work placing equal value on relational and educative youth work.

Volunteers Needed!

- Do you enjoy working with young people?
- Would you be able to volunteer (occasionally or regularly) to help at the club nights?

If you can answer YES, Helen would like very much to hear from you on 01372 452 541.

BIG BANDS BOOKHAM

A very successful year 2000 concluded with a millennium Christmas Party for 70 members and friends in the Old Barn Hall with a supper and a most entertaining programme provided by Francis Dobby who with his brilliant cartoons and ready wit, together with appropriate music, gave a skit on the life of a famous jazz musician Jelly Roll Morton.

Our Inter-Society Musical Quiz, mentioned in the Autumn issue of Bookhams Bulletin attracted ten teams of Big Band Societies in the South of England plus three well-known musicians - Don Lusher, Tony Fisher and Ronnie Hughes, - and an audience of 82, who all enjoyed the evening. At the end of the quiz the 'home' society came fifth.

An interesting programme of bands and vocalists is planned for the next twelve months with such diverse subjects as Memories of Alan Dell (of BBC Radio fame); Lesser Known British Dance Bands and the American band leader, Les Brown.

Big Bands Bookham meet on the second Friday of every month (the first Friday of April and May) at 8.0pm in the Harrison Room of the Old Barn Hall. Admission is only £1 (including tea/coffee and biscuits). We can assure you of a warm and friendly welcome to all who like the music of the '30s to the '60s.

Steve Stratton

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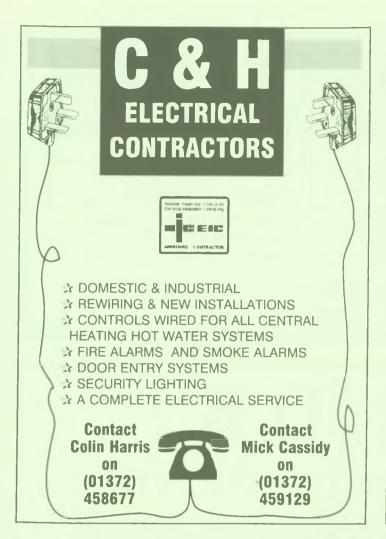


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Eastwick Allotments & Gardens Association

F irst and foremost I should draw attention to the fact that the EAGA is a garden club for anyone with an interest in horticulture, not just allotment holders. In order to join we ask just two things of prospective members; firstly a two pound annual subscription (runs 1st October to 30th September) and secondly that they do a morning duty up at the hut on one of our Sunday morning (10am until noon) openings. The first can soon be recouped in savings and the second most find an unexpected pleasure, the company is congenial and there are elevenses of tea or coffee with a biscuit!

Our 46th Annual General Meeting was held on Monday 13th November 2000 at 7.30pm in the United Reformed Church Hall opposite to the allotment site. The dry and relatively mild evening encouraged a good attendance. A double booking relegated us from the main hall to a side room which made the meeting seem positively crowded and gave it a more cosy, informal feel than usual. Business flowed smoothly and threw up a few points of note. First and foremost was that our membership is holding steady after several years of decline and that is an encouraging sign! Perhaps the increased media coverage of gardening has helped our various recruitment initiatives. Secondly the range of products stocked has increased to meet the requirements of our members. Whilst we are still without a Hut Manager we have managed to fill one of the vacant committee member seats. Garth Paterson-Borland who has moved into the district volunteered his services during the year and was co-opted onto the committee. His previous experience in local government and his enthusiasm have been welcome assets and we were pleased for him to be officially elected to the committee. This left us with one place still to fill but since the AGM two members have shown an interest in helping to run the EAGA so we may be up to full strength yet! Finally the annual subscription has been kept at two pounds, which makes it even better value than ever.

From a practical point of view the year has not been an easy one for gardeners. Such rain as we have had might have been better spread throughout the year but has caused amateur growers less problems than it has for commercial growers. In spite of harvesting difficulties we hope to supply onion and shallot sets and seed potatoes early in the year. Another addition to our range is windbreak fabric which is much in demand! There are many items we do not stock but can supply to order including garden tools, garden shoes and boots, Cuprinol woodcare products, Hozelock and Gardena watering equipment, bird feeders and many others; just ask to see the catalogues up at the hut.

Jeremy Bishop

POLESDEN LACEY EVENTS

MONDAY 16th APRIL

EASTER EGG TRAIL

Join Trusty the Hedgehog on a _ _ _ Trail leading to an edible prize.

LECTURE LUNCH PROGRAMME

Join a member of the Polesden Lacey team for an illustrated talk on their chosen subject, and follow this with a two course lunch with coffee in our Tea Room.

£15 per person (exclusive of drinks). Please book in advance on 01372 452048

Wednesday 21st February

"To Clean or Not to Clean...?" with Tina Sitwell

Wednesday 28th February "The Gardens Year : Winter and Beyond" with Edward Ikin

Wednesday 7th March "Polesden Lacey Uncovered" ~ a tour with Paul Dearn and the House Team

Wednesday 14th March "Polesden Lacey - 2000 BC to 2000 AD" with Heloise Collier

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BOOKHAM CAMERA CLUB ANNUAL EXHIBITION

Old Barn Hall - Saturday 5th May 2001.

For the Competition for the Public this year, the Camera Club are inviting you to enter two prints. The prints, in black & white or colour, should be no larger than 7" x 5" with your name, address and telephone number on the back of each print. Entries will be judged and displayed at the Exhibition. The winner will be awarded a year's free membership of the Camera Club together with an enlargement of his/her favourite print. There will be cash prizes for the two runners up. Entries should be handed to the Caretaker at the Old Barn Hall or to Joy Tobin at 4 Downs Way before the end of April. Exhibition of the Art Group was held in the Harrison Room last November. This has always been a popular event with a variety of excellent paintings. Don Morton, a former member of the club, has had to give up painting because of failing eyesight. He asked that his last two paintings be raffled, and with the generous support of 300 visitors who braved the wet weather, a cheque for £92 was sent to SeeAbility.

Village Day **2001**

he Barn Hall area on **Saturday 16th June 2001** won't replicate the science fiction world of Arthur C Clarke exactly, but with its theme for 2001 of Fantasy Worlds, Village Day will be trying its best to present a parallel universe to it.

Village Day is a major annual event in the life of Bookham and it gives children and adults alike the chance to enjoy themselves and to contribute to the maintenance and development of the Barn Hall as a focus of Bookham life.

But it doesn't take place without a great deal of hard work, both in the preparation before the day and in the successful operation on the day. The planning committee is already meeting and early decisions have been made about providing more for the children and creating a varied arena show.

Anyone with ideas, experience or simply enthusiasm is welcome to contribute to the organisation.

You may prefer to leave your talents for planning in the workplace or at home. In which case, why not consider giving an hour of your time to help with marshalling the procession, setting up the field or just moving tables and chairs.

Whatever your situation, if you would like to help in any way then contact **David Harding on 801567.**

After Village Day there is a programme of events during the following week, ranging from quizzes and bingo to craft markets and dancing, and culminating with a Jazz Evening on Friday 22nd June. More details will be available in the next bulletin and in the Village day programme that you will receive gratis by the beginning of June.

Make a note of Bookham's Village Day Saturday 16th June 2001



BOOKHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

R or many years the popularity of the traditional Christmas Concert of carols at the Old Barn Hall has grown. The original single performance was clearly not enough, so, several years ago, it was decided to double up. Even then there was scarcely a spare seat at both performances.

But the Christmas season of 2000 produced something near to a crisis. Even before the posters went up both performances became fully booked with an ever lengthening waiting list for tickets. So the choir played to two packed houses and the Society's committee started thinking about what to do next year. There were two possible solutions : one was to find a larger hall somewhere else; the other was to move to the parish church of St Nicolas. Both of these had less appeal. Firstly the Society felt that it would be unthinkable to take the carol concert away from their very own village. Secondly the event was clearly a concert and not a service so a church venue did not seem the best way ahead. In the event it was thought preferable to keep things as they were (in the best of British tradition) but all should note the warning for 2001 : "Book early for the Bookham Choral Society's next carol concert".

The concert itself was pronounced a success, in fact "better than ever". There was plenty of audience participation and a welcome mixture of traditional and less well-known carols performed under the direction of the choir's conductor Nicholas O'Neill. The choir was particularly pleased that its former Director, Keith Willis, now in charge of Surrey's Youth Music organisation, was able to be there in spite of many other engagements.

A hearty welcome to allcomers was extended on the morning of



Saturday, February 10th when the Society hosted its Coffee Morning. There were the usual stalls with much to offer including books, records, plants, jewellery and curiosity items. Also a raffle, a lucky dip and musical interludes.

For further information about Bookham Choral Society ring the Secretary, Pat Bradley on 375664.

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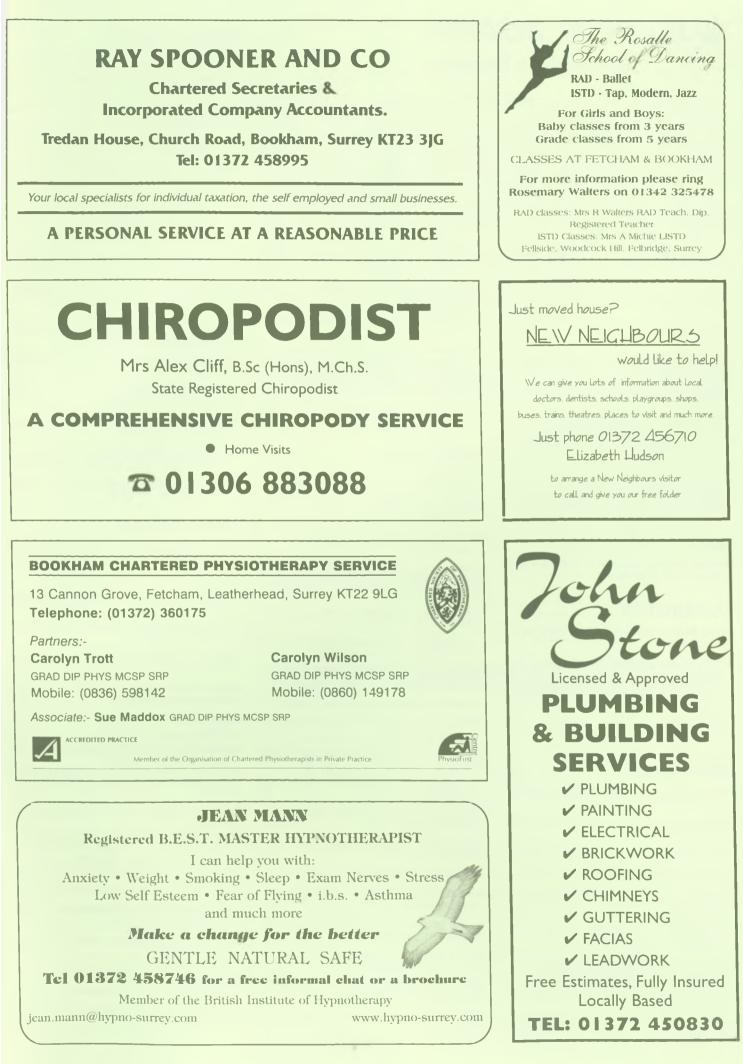
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BULLETIN BOARD Your Guide to Bookham

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.

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- Chairman and Vice President David Wilkins, 63a Church Road KT23 3EG (456166)
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Members Peter Blackburn, Peter Clarke, Mrs Genie Hancock, David Harding, Gordon Jenner, Keith Slark

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 Editor.

BRA

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

CONSERVATION

- Friends Bookham Commons Peter Corliss, Amberly, Park Green KT23 3NL (452304)
- Friends of Little Bookham Church Mrs Valerie Winter, 3 Sheridans Road KT23 4RZ (454273)
- Friends of St Nicolas Church Mrs Elizabeth Lee-Kelley, I Groveside KT23 4LD (450580)
- National Trust Bookham Commons Committee K. Poulton, Oakhurst, Edgeley KT23 3BE (454323)

EDUCATION

- Art Class Ms Zelda Glanville, Galveston, Giggs Hill Road, Thames Ditton KT7 0BT (0208 972 9995)
- 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)
- Leatherhead U3A Terence Eccersley, Lavender Cottage, Leatherhead Road KT23 4RR (457217)

- 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 Carolynn Hinde-Smith, The School House, Townshott Close KT23 4QD (458972)
- Bookham Toddler Group Mrs Cathy Terry, 30 Oakhill Close, Ashtead KT21 2JQ (815843)
- British Red Cross Mrs Audrey Wing, 20 Gilmais 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 45L (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 RHI 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 Gilmais KT23 4RP (456176)
- The Barn Operatic Mrs Pat Barnes, 20 Lebanon Road, Cobham KTII 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, I 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 KTII 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 Stuart Edmonston, 148 Cradocks Avenue, Ashtead KT21 INL (275770)
- 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, Lingmell, 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 Gilmais KT23 4RP (453800)
- 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 (457229)
- Bookham Tennis Club Mrs Alison Gatford, 87 Eastwich 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 Eastwick Drive KT233NX (456817)

THEATRE

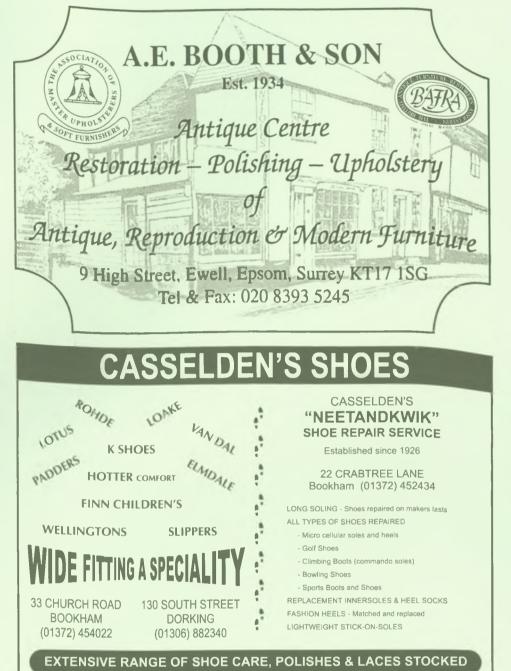
- Bookham Players John Bashford, 3 Swanns Meadow, KT23 4JX (453739)
- POSE Miss Heather Watkins, Flat 2, Arndell House, 48 Benhill Wood Road, Sutton SMI 4HN (0208 6434269)
- Polesden Lacey Festival Alec M. Garnham, 29 Dorking Road KT234PU (454407)

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)
- Bookhams Evening WI Mrs Beryl Gilham, 38 Eastwick Drive KT23 3PR (451980)
- Eastwick WI Miss J.Durbin, 6 Cochrane Court, Church Road KT23 3JJ (458715)
- Emlyn Downs Group of WI's Mrs Gwynaeth Laxton, I 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

- Ist Bookham Scout Group Chris Sheppard, 48 Hazel Way, Fetcham KT22 9QD (450376)
- 3rd Bookham Scout Group Chris Hallett, 8 Durleston 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)
- Friends of Bookham & Effingham Guides Alan Wilson, 15a Halepit Road KT23 4BS (450173)
- Guides Bookham & Effingham District Mrs Gillian Arnold, 156 Lower Road KT23 4AQ (452046)



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Bookham, Fetcham and District Garden Society puts on a Good Show !

This year the Society celebrates its 125th Anniversary and, with gardening becoming an increasingly popular pastime, looks forward to another busy year. The society holds meetings throughout the year covering a range of subjects to which everyone is invited but the more public side of its activities is the three Annual Shows.

The new millennium has seen a minor renaissance with entries at our shows beating records for recent times. The Autumn show in September tested the capacity of the Barn Hall to its limits and was notable for the number of prize winning entries by new members. Judging by the activity at the local garden centres there are lots of you out there who enjoy, and possibly take pride in, your gardens but have never thought of entering in a show. There is bound to be something in your garden, conservatory or allotment that could be a worthwhile, and potentially prize winning, entry. As a relatively new member myself I can allay any fears that showing is only for "professionals" – most of us are just enthusiastic amateurs and there are novices classes in the Summer and Autumn shows specially designed for newcomers. There are also classes for children of all ages as the society is keen to encourage the gardeners of the future. If you don't have green fingers you can still join in the fun by entering the variety of home-craft and floral art classes.

So why not come along to the Spring Show on Sunday 8th April in Fetcham Village Hall at 2:30pm to see for yourself, enjoy the displays of daffodils, tulips and spring flowers, have a cup of tea and find out more about the society.

You can get information about the society's activities from the Secretary, Phyllis Bailey (453800). You can join at the show or at any other time by contacting the Membership Secretary, Christine Hutchinson (452614). A modest membership fee of £1.50 (£2.00 for a family) gives free entry to all the shows.

Peter Almond

Subscriptions

I have recently taken over as Membership Secretary of the Bookham Community Association and as there are a number of roads where no collections are made, I would very much like to hear from any Bookham residents who might like to help with this once per year.

The membership subscription is a very modest £1 per year, but the total sum does make a very useful contribution towards the maintenance of the Barn Hall for the many activities held there.

Otherwise I would be delighted to receive subscriptions from any residents who do not have the opportunity to donate to the BCA during house to house collections. Please cut out and fill in the form below and put it through my letter box. I am next door to the Old Barn Hall, 1 The Moorings.

Jennifer Blackburn

Editor - Eric Lloyd Jones (454228)	
Assistant Editor - Christine Leonard (458850)	
'What's Happening' - Joy Tobin (453340)	
Proof Reader - Eileen Strutt	
Business Manager - Margo Sullivan, BCA Treasurer (453012)	
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BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SUBSCRIPTION October 2000 – September 2001

subscriptions YES / NO

