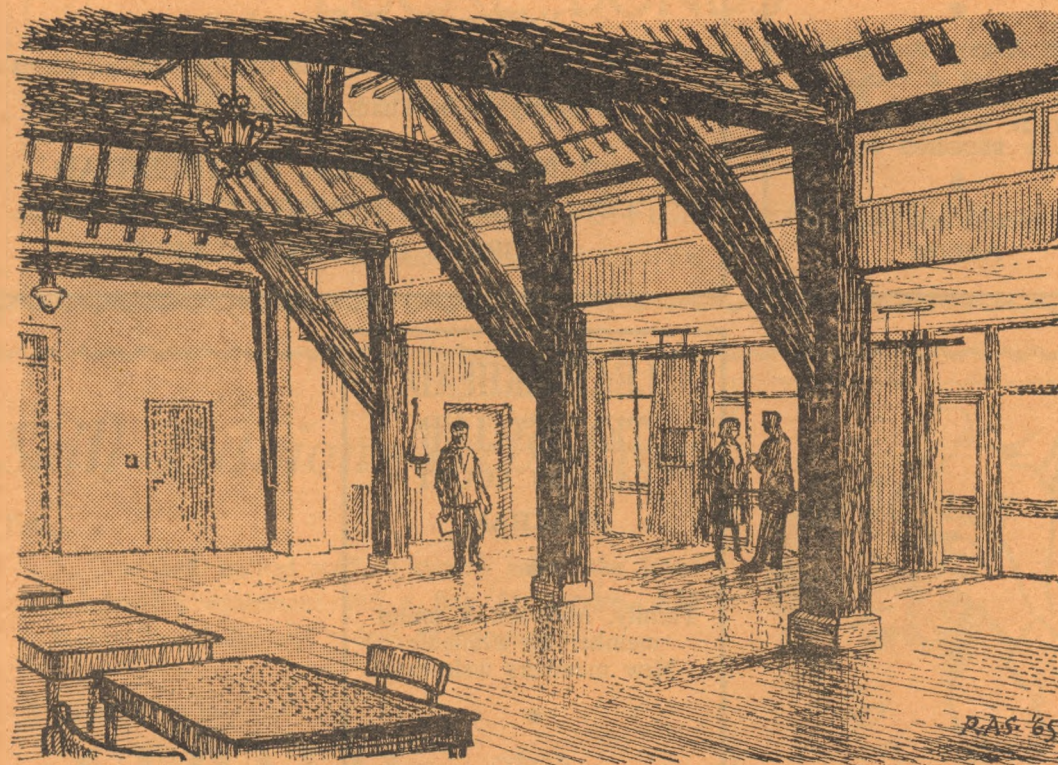


The Bookhams Bulletin

Quarterly Journal of the Bookham Community Association



No. 136

June 1968

34th Year

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The Bookhams Bulletin

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No. 136

June 1968

34th Year

BOOKHAM VILLAGE DAY Appeals

Saturday, JUNE 22nd

BARN HALL AND GROUNDS

Gates open 2 p.m.

Official Opening 2.30 p.m.
by Mrs. L. White

Country Dancing by
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Stalls, Competitions

Dancing in Grounds in the
Evening — Group — Barbecue
See Programmes, available in
local shops, for further details

To our local traders—B.C.A. members will be calling on you to ask for your assistance in making Village Day and Village Week popular and successful. You have always been most generous in the past and we can assure you that the hundreds of local residents who attend very much appreciate this. We are confident that we can rely on you again, and we promise you that we shall let everybody know of the support you give to this big village event.

To all young people with pets—The Pet Show on Village Day this year is being organised by Mrs. Evans, who is the local Secretary of the Animal Rescue Service of the British Anti-Vivisection Society. Dogs of all shapes and sizes will be welcomed and also other pets (such as hamsters, white mice, etc.), but no cats because they do not mix well with dogs. Col. Codrington, M.R.C.V.S., has agreed to act as Judge. Full details will be circulated to local Schools and will be appearing on Notices in the village.

Entrants must be between 6 and 14 years of age, an entry fee of 6d. per class will be charged. It is anticipated that there will be 6 classes for the dogs and could include the one with the longest tail, the one the vet would most like to take home, the smallest one, etc. Certificates and prizes will be awarded.

VILLAGE WEEK

June 24th - 30th

in the Barn Hall

Monday—Youth Club Dance
Tuesday—Barn Dance organised by Square & Folk Dance Club
Wednesday—Olde Time Dance Club Open Evening
Thursday—Scottish Dancers entertain
Friday—To be arranged
Saturday—B.C.A. Midsummer Dance
Sunday—Combined Youth Service
Stoolball Tournament. Dorking Road Recreation Ground.
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LOCAL CLUBS

Dramatic Society. It is a long time since the Betchworth Drama Festival but readers may like to know that our dramatic society achieved a mark of 68%. Even so, the standard of entries was so high that the society did not get an A classification but it is confident that, with the experience it is gaining, it will do better next year. The one-act play put on, "The Tricolor Suite," by Peter Preston, was perhaps a little too ambitious. It had 13 characters and a set divided into five acting areas. As the stage at Betchworth is no bigger than dear old Church House this was quite a challenge.

The April production was our first go at a thriller—"The Whole Truth" by Philip Mackie — and was well received by both press and audience. It is very encouraging to find that our audiences do not necessarily want comedy every time, especially as we ourselves do not want to do comedy every time!

We had man trouble with this play and one of the parts was cast four times. The first member selected went to work in Bradford, the second member got married. The third left the district. The fourth took over the part of Sergeant Briggs half way through rehearsals. This story underlines our need for **Men**. They seem to be will-of-the-wisp creatures and we need a constant supply. To all interested males we say—join now before devaluation forces up the membership fee.

At the moment we are busy

making toys and collecting toys and books for our Village Day Stall and all contributions will be gratefully received by any of our members.

Please make a note that our next production will be on 21st, 22nd, 23rd November at Church House and we hope to see you all there. Prospective new members of either sex should contact the secretary, Anne Lawrance (see Directory). A.L.

The Flower Arrangement Group continues all the year round, and anyone interested is invited to come to a meeting on the first Monday in the month. It should, however, be noted that the June meeting is on the 10th when the well-known demonstrator, Mrs. D. Tuffin, will take the theme of "Colour." On July 1st, Mrs. M. Sargent will speak on "Summer Abundance" and the August meeting is in the delightful garden of Mrs. P. Mills-Thomas, at 31 The Park.

Formal and informal classes are arranged for members who wish to acquire or develop greater proficiency—at the end of May there was a Day School for Advanced members covering the Hogarth Curve, Modern Line, Driftwood and Interpretative design using figurine—fortunately the excellent kitchen accommodation at the Barn Hall adds to the comfort of such a day out.

Bookham Square and Folk Dance Club were so encouraged by the success of their New Year Ceilidh that they organised a similar one, calling it a Barn Dance this time to avoid misunderstandings, on April 20th at

Leatherhead. This, too, was very popular. The B.C.A. is disappointed that pressure on the Barn Hall has obliged this enterprising club to go to Leatherhead for adequate facilities. All the same, we are glad that our link with the club is a close one and that it has agreed to put on a Midsummer Barn Dance at the Barn Hall during Village Week on Tuesday, 25th June, at 7.30. There must be many young, and older people who would find these evenings great fun — the Midsummer Dance gives an opportunity to come along and have a try.

The club season ends with the Village Week event. At this point the club wishes to record its appreciation of the services of its resident accordionist, who for the last three years has been Treasurer, and this he must give up because he is leaving the district. Fortunately he will continue to play in the band. Quite a number of the dancers seem to be joining the band, so new members and visitors will be welcomed at the fortnightly dances which will begin again in September at the Congregational Hall. Look out for further details in the next issue of the "Bulletin."

The Gramophone Club ended a very successful season at the end of March and released its members for their gardening activities in the light evenings. The opening concert of the 68/69 season is on September 5th, and details will be published later in the summer.

Officers elected at the A.G.M.

were: Chairman, Mr. A. E. Jeal; Secretary, Mr. A. Harrison; Treasurer, Mrs. Longton; Committee members, Messrs. A. E. Baker, E. Stewart and F. W. Morris.

The Club's equipment has better reproductive quality now than at any time in the past due to patient and skilful work on it by club members, aided by a grant from the B.C.A.

The Garden Society is one of the oldest organisations in the district and has a wide membership. The Committee arrange periodic meetings of interest to gardeners. A popular event is the "Spring Sale," held this year on May 18th at the Barn Hall. Early attendance at this is desirable for trade is very brisk, mainly due to the quality of the plants supplied by members and

other residents, which are sold at most competitive prices.

The highlights of the year are, of course, the two shows — the Summer Show on Saturday, July 13th, at the Fetcham Village Hall, and the Autumn Show at the Barn Hall on Sunday, 15th September. A Sunday Show is a new experiment—it is anticipated that a Sunday could attract more local exhibitors and visitors and, for the first time, it is hoped that an inter - society competition could be instituted for other villages round and about Bookham.

It is now some months since the new Canteen Extension to the Bookham Boys' Club was opened but it is appropriate that this further achievement of a successful club should be recorded. It was made possible by a donation of £500 from two

members of the Keystone Committee, a body, chiefly of business men in the City, which raises money for youth organisations. One condition only was attached to the gift — that the boys themselves worked on the completion of the interior—and this they did with a will, putting the finishing touch at 2 a.m. on the morning of the official opening.

**THE NATIONAL TRUST
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The annual report of the Committee emphasises that the finances for the maintenance of Bookham Commons are not helped in any way from the Headquarters of the National Trust. Funds are derived solely from investment interest, dona-

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tions and above all from subscriptions. The Surrey County Council made a grant last year of £450 and the Leatherhead Urban District Council one of £30. The Committee deserves much stronger support from the neighbourhood; the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. H. W. Freeman, would be pleased to answer inquiries. It is interesting to note that the Commons Committee has been observing the impact of the development by the L.U.D.C. of the old Atlas Works in Little Bookham Street as the site for a block of Council flats and has helped to secure the reinstatement of the unsightly forecourt in front of the factory as Common in keeping with the pleasant areas around.

With the object of stimulating greater public interest in the Commons the Local Committee has decided to hold

A Free Photographic Competition

(1) All photographs must be taken on Bookham Common this year and submitted by September 14th this year.

(2) Any subject may be photographed, e.g. scenery, plants, or human or animal activities.

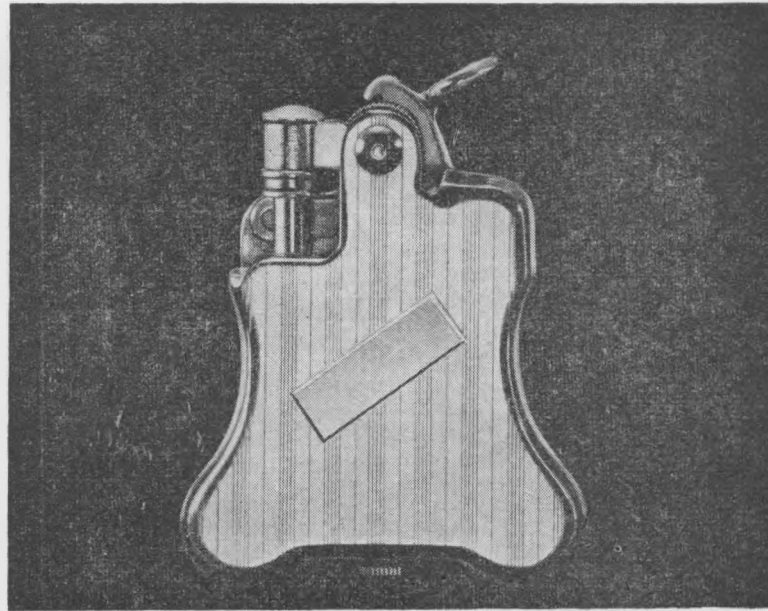
(3) There will be 3 classes

(a) Transparencies and Colour Prints

(b) Black and White Photographs

(c) Any type taken by children under 16

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(4) Any number of entries may be submitted to Dr. J. G. Sowerbutts, 63 Church Road, enclosing name and address of sender, and age if 16 or under.

(5) The entries will be judged by J. A. Carver, Esq., and one member of the Bookham Commons Committee. Their decisions will be final.

(6) The successful entries will be announced at the Public Meeting of the Bookham Commons Committee on October 4th, at Church House.

(7) The prize money has been donated by members of the Trust Committee who reserve the right to keep the entries if necessary.

ROUND AND ABOUT

Congratulations to Mrs. R. Simmonds, of Lower Road, on again securing a high award at

Crufts.

To David Townsend, of Dorking Road, and Alan Jinks, of Eastwick Drive, on qualifying as Queen's Scouts. Both are keen on climbing and hiking and belong to the 1st Bookham Troop. Alan hopes to continue to help his troop and ultimately to become a scoutmaster.

To two new Queen's Guides—Claire Zoers, of Tudor Close, and Wendy Kirk, of Lower Road. They bring up the number of Queen's Guides in the 3rd Bookham Company to eleven — a remarkable achievement in its five years of existence.

To Ann Macpherson, of Eastwick Drive, who has been accepted for training by the Metropolitan Women Police. She is one of the last group of recruits to be taken on till the

present financial stringency ends. Candidates are interviewed by a Board of four at Scotland Yard. They must have four O Levels, including English and mathematics, or sit a special exam. Ann has seven O Levels, which she took at the George Abbot Girls' School. She has 13 weeks of residential training, with an exam every four weeks. This successfully completed, she will be attached to a Division for a probationary two years. Many branches of the Police Force will then be open to her, including the C.I.D.

To Mrs. Elizabeth Knight, who formerly lived in Barn Meadow Lane and has many friends in Bookham, who was awarded the prize as top student in the Section 243 City and Guilds (Domestic Cookery) Class in the Home Economics Department of Ewell Technical College. She received her prize from Sir George Edwards, who has only just left Bookham after many years of residence here.

Mrs. Knight is now in the second year of her four year course which will qualify her as a teacher of Domestic Science.

Dr. and Mrs. Knight are keen members of the B.C.A. Scottish Dancing Group. Dr. P. Knight is Senior Medical Officer at the R.A.F. Rehabilitation Centre at Headley Court.

Visiting the Elderly. Ever since the Community Association started its Over Sixties Club many years ago under the energetic leadership of the late Mrs. Nellie Cox and Mrs. B. Oldershaw it has operated an informal

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scheme of visiting old people. This continues and is organised by Mrs. T. Weston, who is Chairman of the B.C.A. Over-Sixties Committee—a sub-committee of the B.C.A. Executive charged with the responsibility for the smooth running of all facets of assistance that can be given by the B.C.A. to the elderly. Together with Mrs. M. Longhurst, Secretary of this Committee, she is the representative of the B.C.A. to the Leatherhead U.D. Old People's Welfare Committee. Both serve on the Executive of this important body, which has appointed Mrs. Weston their welfare officer for Bookham.

Although the Churches and other local organisations also give care to the elderly in need, there are still gaps in the provision made. We are aware of this, but volunteers are few in number. On many occasions we have appealed in these columns for helpers. Once more we ask, will interested individuals who could occasionally spare a little time, especially in emergencies, get in touch with Mrs. Weston, Tel: Bookham 5706?

The Management Committee for the new Youth Centre at Southey Hall has been appointed after a successful recent public meeting of interested people. It will have the considerable task of equipping and allocating the use of the fine building which it is hoped will be completed in July. Besides housing an open youth club it will be available to individual clubs in the neighbourhood catering for young

people and will also provide a suitable environment for the development of specialised activities. Old Bookhamites are well aware of the changing picture of Bookham and must be cheered by the sight of so many babies and children in our very pleasant roads. There is a great future for a properly run youth centre. Some of us hope that when the financial situation improves it will be possible to have a playing field adjacent to the Centre.

Sister at the Westminster Hospital. Miss Pamela Grainger is Sister in charge of the Ear, Nose and Throat Ward of the Westminster Hospital. She was appointed to this responsible post when she returned to her old hospital after a working tour of some months in Australia. Her parents have lived for many years in the district. Mr. Grainger was formerly a Scoutmaster and Mrs. Grainger is a keen member of the Bookham Afternoon W.I.

First Holiday with proud Grandparents. Mr. and Mrs. Hemming, of Merrylands Road, were delighted to have staying with them over Easter, for the first time, their son, Frank, and his wife, and three young children. They are naturally proud of their son who is a Lecturer and Research Fellow in the Department of Biochemistry at Liverpool University. He took a First Class Honours Degree at Liverpool University, followed by a Ph.D., and spent a year at Guy's Hospital as Assistant Lecturer before proceeding to his present post.

Mr. Hemming (senior) is Vice-Chairman of the Bowls Section of Wildt's Social Club. He was one of the original three who came down to Bookham 22 years ago when Wildts took over from Gilletts and set up their plant for the manufacture of hosiery machines. (Some Bookham people will still remember when one of these large machines was a working exhibit in a Village Day Exhibition of local Industries.) Mr. Hemming is now Production Controller. Mrs. Hemming is active in local organisations and a helpful member of the Bookham Afternoon W.I., being specially interested in the Produce Guild.

Howard of Effingham School. We have received some interesting details of successes of former pupils of this school in a variety of careers. We publish these because we meet critics of the school who know nothing of these achievements. First comes Basil Bye, who attended the school under the previous Headmaster, Mr. P. Hewitt. After starting work in the normal way he decided to go for a teaching career. He attended Ewell and Kingston Technical College, transferred to Hull University where he took a Degree in Economics, followed by a Ph.D., and is now Lecturer in Economics and Industrial Relations at Southampton University. Other pupils have gone on to universities but, up to date, we have not been able to get precise details.

Several former pupils have completed or are starting on Teacher Training. Sandra

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builders. Although the care of the nave was always the affair of the parishioners, they would doubtless have found it easy to engage a master mason of standing, through the good offices of the Abbot of Chertsey or his steward.

At Little Bookham the first church itself belongs to the years around 1100, and was perhaps endowed by the Halward of Domesday. Hardly more than a manorial chapel at first, it was enlarged by the middle of the twelfth century with a south aisle like that added at Great Bookham, and belonging to the same extremely narrow type, as has been shown by the excavations some years ago by Mrs. Blair. The promise of development in Little Bookham was not ultimately fulfilled, and this aisle later disappeared, presumably owing to the very small number of inhabitants, who neither needed the additional aisle, nor could afford its maintenance.

In the absence of written records of the period a little information may be gleaned by examination of the early names applied to places and fields in Bookham, and which even though they are not found written down until the thirteenth or fourteenth century, certainly derived from the twelfth century if not before it and, as has been seen, included the main north-south line of the High Street and the Lower Road crossing it at Great Bookham Church, as well as the highway from Leatherhead to Guildford running straight across the southern end of the

High Street, for it was not until the eighteenth century that the awkward diversion was made to avoid the mansion of Bookham Grove. The roads and lanes leading southward across the Downs must have been of considerably greater importance than they are now, the Dorking Road being described as the King's Highway which leads to Dorking soon after 1200, while even earlier there is a lane now represented by Townshott Close, which in the twelfth century ran parallel to the High Street, crossed the Guildford Road just west of Bookham Grove, and bore off in a south-westerly direction through the open field, then over the hill just west of the manor house of Polesden, entered Ranmore Common at Trespass Hatch and ultimately joined the Old Drove Road on the ridge of the Downs on its way to Dunley Hill. The section of this lane which crossed the open field was known as White-way, no doubt from the chalky soil. Further west was Preston (now Chalkpit) Lane, worn deep into the ground along the boundary between Great and Little Bookham, and further east lay Elfare (now Crabtree) Lane, a corruption of Aylvehawe, the haw or close of Aethelgifu, a Saxon lady.

Next to Elfare on the Bookham side of the boundary lay the Vynye, later Vines and now Phoenix Farm, which got its name from growing grapevines. English wine, though sharp, was a normal product of the southern counties in Norman times.

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Stephens, who qualified at Bognor College, is now on the staff of Eastwick School. Margaret Stephens has been accepted at Avery Hill Training College, and Marilyn Bradbeer is going to the Bishop Otter College at Chichester. Margaret was Head Girl at the Howard of Effingham and obtained seven O Levels before going into the Sixth Form at Roseberry. Marilyn also got seven O Levels at the Howard of Effingham and went for two years to Roseberry.

Catering is a favourite choice for boys at the School. Michael Jago is taking the catering course at Guildford Technical College. Among those who have scored successes in this field are Colin Longhurst, Geoffrey Brooker, who is swiftly going up the ladder of Hotel Management, and Keith Dunmur, who is Assistant Manager at Royal Turks Hotel, Newcastle. Shirley Clack became Catering Supervisor in the School Meals Service. Her sister, Linda, has gained top awards in the field of Hairdressing, and is planning to go to Canada for a few years' experience. She did her training with Gerald, of the High Street. It has just been announced that another of his apprentices, Gillian Freeman, former pupil of Howard of Effingham, has been awarded the Apprentices Cup at the Academy Award Hair Style Contest at Surbiton.

Eleanor Harvey, daughter of Mr. John Harvey, scholar and author, who has written the history of Bookham now being serialised in the Bulletin, is

working in the Repertory Theatre.

Allan Reiter, Head Boy at the school two years ago, has completed his two A Levels and is a trainee air traffic control officer.

Quite a number of girls are holding senior posts as secretaries in government and commercial departments. An interesting assignment went to Shirley King who was Mr. George Brown's personal secretary at the United Nations.

Music has always been encouraged. Outstanding in this field is Ralph Wallace, who completed his L.R.A.M. at the Royal Academy of Music, received an award for further study in Italy, and is now Head of Department at the famous Boulting School of over a thousand boys in Brentwood, Essex. Music in the school as an interest has rapidly developed and many pupils are seeking instruction in the playing of all types of musical instruments including string, percussion and brass, Gillian Gatton, who has just entered the school, plays tenor horn in the North Downs Silver Band, and we shall have an opportunity to hear her on Village Day. Douglas Weiland is co-leader of the Surrey Youth Orchestra.

Athletics are encouraged. It will be remembered that Effingham Junior Girls Team won the District Cross Country Competition, and Elaine Allen and Pauline Easton recently represented Surrey in a Somerset-London - Surrey gymnastics Match.

A SHORT HISTORY OF BOOKHAM

Part IV

by John Harvey, F.S.A.

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For about one hundred years after the compilation of Domesday Book hardly anything is heard of Bookham in documentary records, which are scanty indeed. Yet we know from the fabric of Great Bookham Church that it was considerably enlarged during the twelfth century, a narrow aisle being first thrown out upon the south side about 1140, while some fifty years later there was a more extensive reconstruction. At the end of the reign of Henry II, or early in that of Richard Coeur-de-Lion, the Norman north wall of the nave was pierced with the early Gothic arches that still remain, and the foundations laid for a massive western tower. The head of the font probably belongs to this period, and it may originally have stood against the eastern face of the central pier of the north arcade, whose unusual plan is otherwise difficult to explain. These massive enlargements suggest both a growing population and increasing prosperity, while the method of building an arcade into an existing solid wall and then cutting away the old masonry from beneath the new arches after an aisle had been built proves a considerable degree of structural knowledge and ability on the part of the

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