The Bookhams Bulletin

Quarterly Journal of the Bookham Community Association



No. 127

Winter 1965

32nd Year

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Quarterly Journal of the Bookham Community Association No. 127 Winter 1965 32nd Year

B.C.A.

President: Miss E. Micholls. Hon Sec.: Mrs. E. Harrison, 61, Eastwick Drive, Bookham 5702.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. G. Medway, 35, The Garstons, Bookham 4967.

Barn Hall Manager: A. M. Marson, 94, Kingston Road, Leatherhead 3053.

Membership Sec.: Mrs. B. Oldershaw, 99, Little Bookham Street, Bookham 2241.

Bulletin Advertisement Manager: H. B. Atkinson, 3, Park View, Bookham 2933.

Barn Hall Club: Miss P. Barfield, Merrilees, Maddox Lane. Camera Club: K. H. Williamson, 4, Vincent Close, Fetham.

Gramophone Club: A. E. Baker, 81. Eastwick Drive.

Old Time Dance Club: R. H. Pimm, 27, The Garstons, Bookham 4196.

Over Sixties: Mrs. T. Weston, 50, Keswick Road, Bookham 5706.

Scottish Dancers: G. R. Marshall, 63, Eastwick Drive, Bookham 2096.

Flower Arrangement Group:
Mrs. S. McLeod, 11, Allen
Road, Bookham 4809.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWS

Executive Committee for 1965-1966:

Chairman: Mr. B. Stockwell. Vice-chairman: Mr. R. Woodrow-Clark.

Other members: Mesdames Cuddeford, Marshall; Messrs. Larkin, Marshall, Harrison, Cuddeford, Marson, Catt.

SECRETARY'S REPORT, 1964-1965

The Official Opening of the Barn Hall Extension has made this a memorable year. There has been general approval of the new amenities and much competition for the use of the Hall. The complete cost has now been met, showing a net saving of some £200 on the contract figure. For this and for the diligence shown during the entire operation our thanks and appreciation must be given to our architect, Mr. W. E. Larkin.

The new hand-wrought lamps at the entrance gates are both beautiful and efficient. These were donated by the two Women's Institutes to mark their Jubilee Year, and their generosity is much appreciated. Furthermore, the Evening W.I. are also financ-

ing the provision of a Village Notice Board which will shortly be erected in the Grounds. The Shrub Border has been filled with gifts from various organisations and individuals. The Blue Siberian Spruce, planted with the co-operation of the National Trust in memory of the late Mr. Oldershaw, is well established and the bulbs planted in memory of the late Mrs. N. Cox will make a delightful show in the Spring, as they did at the beginning of the year. We thank the Leatherhead U.D.C. for paving the alcove by the wall where a seat given by the family of the late Dr. Waterfield is now standing, flanked by three magnolia trees donated by friends and neighbours in memory of the late Miss I. Freeman.

Meanwhile much remains to be done in the maintenance of the premises and grounds. A Grounds Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. A. Harrison, has been set up, and a Hall Committee. under the chairmanship of Mr. R. Marshall, to form working parties and to advise on general upkeep. Great service has been rendered by both committees. The chairmen will always welcome help

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from further volunteers. Similarly with the new Social Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Sowerbutts whose object is the provision of more money for the needs of the Association and the organisation of social functions for the benefit of our members and the village generally. A number of successful dances have been run. The Thursday Coffee Mornings need more support but are already giving an opportunity for friends to meet and make more friends.

Our membership is just over 500 but should be much higher. Mrs. B. Oldershaw, our membership secretary, has given much time to the organisation of collections of subscriptions, but the situation will not improve until we have more road stewards. Mrs. Oldershaw would much appreciate offers of help from individuals who would collect in their roads, a comparatively easy job as the subscription is only 2s. 6d. annually.

Forty local organisations are affiliated to the Association and entitled to send representatives to our Council meetings. The County Council and the U.D.C. also have members on the Council, and so as the Youth Committee and the W.E.A. This makes the Council, which meets about three times a year, a really representative body.

A number of our members serve on the National Trust Advisory Committee. It is worthy of report that so much help is now available from the village that it has been possible to meet the public demand for more performances and these have now increased from the original two to five. The Macbeth presentations last summer were well supported and well received.

The "Bulletin" continues to be appreciated and, even though the Association has to subsidise it, its continuance has never been questioned. It is regretable that owing to printing difficulties its distribution is often delayed. This is something over which we have no control.

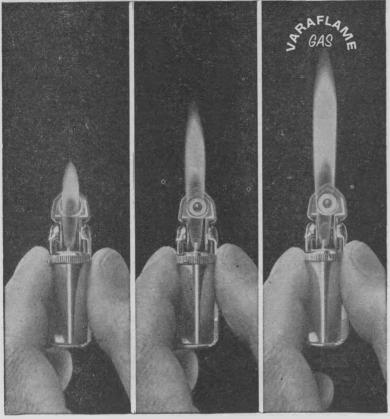
Our work for the Over Sixties continues to increase. Mrs. T. Weston and Mrs. M. Longhurst, together with a host of volunteers. give devoted service both at the Over Sixties and the Day Centre. We have been able to start a Chiropody Clinic with the help of the County Council. There is still a great need for people who may not be able to give regular help but who could assist by visiting old people who are ill, or confined to their homes by disabilities. Mrs. Thelma Weston will always welcome help from those who feel they could undertake this worth-while social work.

We are sorry to lose our Treasurer, Mr. R. W. Saunders, who has been Treasurer of the Association for 11 years. We shall miss him when he leaves Bookham. We thank him for all he has done for us and offer him

our good wishes for a happy retirement.

Any Volunteers for Road Stewards? The following roads are at present without road stewards. The Membership Secretary, Mrs. B. Oldershaw would welcome offers: Allen Road. Beales Road, Blackthorne Road, Downsway, Fiona Close, Flint Close, Gardeners Walk, Greenway, Glebe Close, Greenacres, Griffin Way, Guildford Road, Hawkwood Rise and Dell, High Street, Howard Road, Keswick Road, Leatherhead Road, Lower Road, Lower Shott, Maddox Lane. Manor House Lane. Middlemead, Newenham Road, Oakdene Close, Oveton Way, Rectory Lane, St. Nicholas Avenue, Sole Farm Avenue, South End. Swanns Meadow. Strathcona Avenue, Water Lane, Westfield Drive, Woodlands Road.

Bookham Dramatic Society.— Since the beginning of the present season the Society has enjoyed theatre outings to the Leatherhead and National Theatres. The Playbill, consisting of three oneact plays, held at Church House in November was very well received and the Society would like to thank all those who came along to support them. The evening afforded acting opportunities to 20 members, and the experiment of presenting the play for three nights instead of two has proved to be worthwhile and will be continued. A further performance



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of the plays in Leatherhead Parish Hall in aid of the Childrens' Society resulted in the sum of £33 being sent to their funds by the local committee.

We have welcomed several new members since the summer, while losing a few to various parts of the country. Rehearsals are under way for a short play to be presented to the Merstham Old People's Club and for an entertainment during the Society's next social function to be presented at the Barn Hall, on Saturday, January 29th, the proceeds from which are to go to the Barn Hall Extension Fund.

The next production will take place in the last week of April at Church House. Further details will be announced in the next issue of the Bulletin.

J. P.

Garden Society. — Non-members are welcome at the following open meetings: March 11th, 8 p.m. Bookham Junior School. Talk by Mr. R. Fletcher, assistant secretary. National Vegetable Society. April 1st, 8 p.m. Fetcham Junior School. Talk by Mrs. M. Good, "Flower Arrangement." May 6th, 8 p.m. Bookham Junior School. Film, Evening, including "The Garden Lawn." The Summer Show will take place in the Barn Hall, on July 23rd.

The Flower Arrangement Group, meeting on the first Monday of the month at the Barn Hall, at 2.15 p.m., has a membership of over 40. So enthusiastic are the members that quite a

number of them have enrolled in Evening Institute Classes, resulting in a remarkable rise in standards in the monthly competitions. Four members have now gone into the senior section and are competing in this division, while in the basic section a number of competitors are well on their way to achieving the marks which entitles them to move up. This is good going for what is for all practical purposes a new group.

The Club has recently entered its first inter-society competition and was pleased to achieve a good place.

The next meeting on January 3rd, will have Mrs. U. M. Mason on "Winter Beauty." The February meeting is the A.G.M., and on March 1st, Mrs. Tuffen will demonstrate on the theme of "What to grow for flower arrangements."

The B.C.A. Scottish Dancers have again demonstrated their quality in open competition. They were placed first in the Senior Open Competition at Welwyn Garden City held in November and each member of the team received a silver medal, of which they are justly proud. The competing teams came from well-known towns. It is not surprising, therefore, that our people were asked—"Where is Bookham?"

The club, which meets on Fridays at the Barn Hall, extends a welcome to prospective new members.

The Bookham Square and Folk Dance Club holds dances every Monday at the Congregational Hall, at 8 p.m., to which everybody is welcome. This applies also to the Grand Folk Dance at the Barn Hall, on Friday, January 28th. Further details can be obtained from the Hon. secretary, Mrs. D. G. Thomas.

Youth Club.—The adult management committee of this club has gallantly taken over the running of it until a new leader can be found. It is going well. The numbers are increasing and members seem to enjoy the social evenings in the Barn Hall every Monday. Ever since the Hall was extended and re-decorated they have respected the amenities. If there are any readers who criticise modern youth and write it off as beatnik, we invite them to pop into the Barn Hall any Monday



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and see for themselves young people of both sexes, well dressed and groomed, behaving with decorum and responsibility.

The Secretary, Mrs. Littlewood, would be glad to hear from any adult who is prepared to give a hand. A prospective leader would be specially welcomed. A qualified person would be entitled to payment by the County Council, but a volunteer would be equally acceptable.

The Club would like to put on record its thanks to Mr. A. E. W. Cross, of Orchard Grange, for the use of his swimming pool during the summer. It is encouraging to learn that Mr. Cross himself enjoyed having the young people there. He says that he has totted up the number of times it was used by members and the total comes to 137. He adds that "it

was with much regret that I said goodbye to them — until next year."

As a tailpiece to this report we print a poem by one of the young people who is not alone in venturing into this specialised field.

"In days gone by men killed by sword and spear,

On bloody battlefields, Death entwined its evil hand

Around the throats of innocent, misled beings.

But the days of chivalry have passed,

Today the sword of science thrusts its evil spear, the bomb to all,

No more will men die on fields of conquest,

But be destroyed by the thoughts of fellow men."

R. D. B. (aged 18)

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Ever since the Howard of Effingham School was built it has been under attack from Bookham. In the beginning this was probably due to the unfortunate siting of the school outside the Bookham boundaries, with the consequent rejection of it by a village which has always been highly Bookham-conscious. Prejudices die hard: their tendency is to become self-perpetuating. feeding on rumour and criticisms which are sometimes legitimate but more often exaggerated or illfounded. It is significant that this campaign of denigration does not exist in Effingham or the Horsleys.

Our readers may then appreciate some facts about the school. These are not new. Many of them have already been published, but we are printing them in the "Bulletin" so that they can speak for themselves.

The School has been taking the G.C.E. examinations for three years only and on each occasion the results have been very creditable. In 1965 27 pupils took the G.C.E. exam. Total number of subjects offered were 96 and there were 72 passes, eight of them being Grade I. These results compare favourably with similar bilateral schools and are above the national average. Of the 27 pupils entered, six obtained three passes, four obtained four passes, three obtained six passes and one had seven passes.

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For the first time this year 40 pupils took the new Certificate of Secondary Education. In all, 121 subject were taken, resulting in 117 passes. There were no unsuccessful candidates.

On the result of the 1965 examinations, four pupils qualified for placement in the Sixth Form of Grammar Schools. Two girls took places in Roseberry. Thirteen of the school leavers are taking fulltime courses in establishments of further education. Quite a proportion of the others have entered careers which permit day release training. One boy has been admitted to a naval training school, and another has been accepted for training for the merchant service, having satisfied the stringent entry tests for personality and academic attainments.

Additions to the amenities of the school this term from School Funds include a trampoline and musical instruments, these last being supplied for the growing number of participants in the school orchestra, trained by Miss Portlock. A number of successful school concerts have been given of choral and orchestral items, and at the end of next term a more ambitious entertainment is planned when a production of Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" will be presented.

Service to the community is encouraged. As an instance of this we can report that two of the older girls have been assisting in a child welfare clinic and four others have helped in two local day nurseries. E. H.

POLESDEN LACY OPEN-AIR THEATRE

The 1966 Production at the Open-air Theatre will be Shake-speare's "The Taming of the Shrew" and will be given on July 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th.

Members of the Community Association will be interested in a letter recently received from Mr. I. E. Hills, Area Agent of the National Trust which we print below:

"We have travelled a long and successful journey since those early meetings which led to the National Trust assuming responsibility from the Bookham Community Association for organising and running the plays here."

"My purpose in writing to you is two-fold: (1) I wish to thank the Association, on behalf of the Trust, for the help which your members have given us so unstintingly. As you know, a vast amount of organising work is involved and it is astonishing to see the number of people involved each year: we look forward to seeing this increasing circle of friends.

(2) "I should like to remind you all of the promise which you gave that the Trust would always be able to count on the continuance of such help: not only is such help vital to our enterprise but it is right that the

Association's continued participation should be recognised by both parties in view of the original pioneer work carried out by your members."—I.E.H.

The Association itself would like to pay tribute to all those willing people in the village who cheerfully come up to Polesden every year and so make it possible for us to carry out the promise we gave to the National Trust so many years ago.

JOTTINGS

Apologies.—The name of Williams, the Grove Bakers, was omitted from the list of traders who contributed gifts for Village Day. We apologise for this and thank them for the beautiful iced cake they offered for competition.

Memorial Seat.—It may not be generally known that the seat recently installed at the junction of the High Street and Leatherhead Road was put there at the request of the family of Mrs. Alice Maud Jackson, of Dawnay Road, who passed away in May. Although she had only been a resident in Bookham since August, 1964, she had lived in the neighbourhood since 1940, when she moved from London. She became deeply attached to the county of Surrey. It was the wish of her family that she should be remembered with something in keeping with her general outlook

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on life which was always to be of help to others. She was a good wife and the dearest of mothers. "She will always be remembered with love" by those who were nearest to her.

Over Nineties. — Towards the end of October there was a special celebration at the Barn Hall Day Centre, when a cake was cut to mark the 95th birthday of Mrs. E. Boddy, a lively nonagenarian, who enjoys every minute of the day because, as she says, "I am content with everything and everybody now." She is also a member of the B.C.A. Over Sixties' Club, where she is affectionately known as "Granny." She is now residing with friends in Crabtree Lane. where she can happily "do nothing" in a congenial home atmosphere.

Miss Kleboe, another wellknown Bookham personality, celebrated her 97th birthday on November 21st. Unfortunately, this had to be celebrated in Leatherhead Hospital, where she is recovering from the effects of a fall, but her family came from far and wide for the occasion. Presents of all kinds were showered upon her, and she had a very special birthday cake containing a generous supply of walnuts. This was baked by Mrs. Kleboe, sen., who knows her sister-in-law's liking for nuts.

Although Miss Kleboe is a little deaf, her mental faculties are still

first rate. She takes an intelligent interest in the arts, especially music and drama; her anecdotes of the "good old days" are fascinating. She continues her supervisory interest in her dress shop, "Frances," which she opened before the war. Her knowledge of the trade, acquired from long experience in Bond Street, enabled her to buy just the right models for her clientele.

We wish her a speedy recovery. Ex-Guider maintains traditions of Service -- Miss Pamela Pulling, of The Park, who has worked hard for the local Guides and was herself a Oueen's Guide has given up her post as a teacher at St. Andrew's Convent to go to Jordan under a United Nations Organisation Scheme to help countries in need. She will work for a year among Palestinian refugees at Ramallah, one of the first teacher-training colleges for women in the Arab world. She will stay for at least a year and the decision will shortly be made as to whether she will continue for a further year.

Message from the Rev. G. W. Byrt.—The Rev. G. W. Byrt, who left Bookham in October and resigned his Ministry at the Baptist Church to take up a new post as secretary to Bristol Theological College has asked us to convey this message to all readers from his wife and himself.

"Could you please find room in the next edition of the Bookhams Bulletin to convey our good wishes to the Bookham Community Association, and our very real gratitude for the kind references to our ministry during the past six years?

We leave for Bristol at the end of the month and we shall take with us many happy memories of Bookham and of the great kindness and good will shown towards us both within and outside the Baptist Church.

May the Community Association long continue its very useful work for the Community in the 'green and pleasant' surroundings of the Bookham."

Six Queen's Guides for 3rd Guides.-Mrs. L. Mills, Captain of the Bookham Third Girl Guides, and its members are very proud to announce the award of Oueen's Guide to two more of their company. This makes six Queen's Guides in six months, which must be something of a record. The two latest award winners are Mary Daniel, who served as a Cub Leader for her social service badge, and Anne Pennack, who received her service badge after helping for six months at the Blind School.

Weddings.—Our good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Godding, who are now residing in the Lower Road. The bride, Janet Mary, is the elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Littlewood, of Groveside. She is on the staff of the Youth Employment Office at Epsom, but she is also a good Home Economist. She won a prize of

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£200 from Brown and Polson's in a competition for brides of the year setting out the menu for a wedding reception meal. This helped to finance the honeymoon in Tunisia.

Like her mother, who is secretary of the Bookham Youth Club, Janet is interested in social work and is doing the four-year course leading to the Diploma in Sociology of London University.

We also offer our good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. T. De La Salle who were married at St. Nicolas Church. The bride, Penelope, is the younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Bishop, of 36 Dowlans Road, and atended many civic functions when her father was Chairman of the Leatherhead U.D.C. The reception was held at the Barn Hall and the honeymoon was spent in Portugal.

We have referred in previous issues of the "Bulletin" to the brilliant academic achievements of Mr. David Dunmur, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Dunmur, of Merrylands Road, and a former pupil of Bookham School. Our readers will be interested to head of his recent marriage to Miss Juliette Maufe, granddaughter of Sir Edward Maufe, the architect of Guildford Cathedral. Juliette is a geographer and is still at Oxford completing her thesis for a Ph.D. Meanwhile, it will be remembered that David is already a Ph.D. of Oxford, receiving the award for a thesis on special properties of gases. He now holds a Fellowship at Bristol Univer-

sity, where he is working with the well-known physicist, Professor Buckingham. He is also a keen climber, and he met his wife, who shares his many interests, while mountaineering in the Lake District

OUR WALL

The Church Road boundary of the Barn Hall grounds had been deteriorating steadily for some long time (largely the result of frost and ice action on the coping). The stage had been reached when it was positively dangerous and many felt that it would be necessary to take it down completely.

However, the removal of the old elm tree stumps on the adjacent roadside verge gave an opportunity for a new look at the problem and, when the Leatherhead U.D.C. generously agreed to pave the alcove at the end, it was felt that the least the B.C.A. could do was to renovate the wall.

Repair was the first thing, and it was found that a large portion of the coping had to be completely renewed; this work, together with making good various cracks in the wall and the remainder of the coping, was most competently carried out by Mr. R. P. C. Wales. Decoration was the next thing and, preceded by a vigorous wire brushing, the wall received two coats of the most recalcitrant paint ever devised by man.

Graced by the W.I. lamps and buttressed by its old iron pillars, our face to Church Road now looks sturdy enough for many years to come. A. H.

B.C.A. Vice-Presidents: Mr. V.
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Prize-winning Poems from Bookham Junior School

THE LITTER LOUT

Buses, trains and aeroplanes.
All are full of litter:
The litter-lout has been at work,
He makes you bitter:
The litter-lout is selfish
In town and country-side,
It makes you feel unhappy
As through the streets you ride:
He drops the litter all around
Spoils parks of pleasure;
To make out towns look ugly
He uses every measure.

Rosalind Waton (age 10)

THE LITTER LOUT

There was a naughy litter lout, Who left his paper all about. People said he must not do it, But he said the wind just blew it. He was one day by a policeman caught.

And a lesson he was taught, For leaving litter on the ground, The penalty was five pound.

Carol Maynard (age 9)

Take coffee with your friends at the Barn Hall THURSDAYS, 10.30 to 12 noon

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Boys' Brigade. L. S. Kay, 13, Nutcroft Grove, Fetcham. Leatherhead 4302.

Bookham Boys' Club. K. A. Vincent, 1. Sole Farm Avenue.

British Legion, Effingham and Bookham Branch. M. S. Pickering, Standardhill, Guildford Road, Effingham.

British Legion, Women's Section. Mrs. L. A. Pickering, Standardhill, Effingham. Bookham 5581.

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Conservative Association, Great Bookham Branch. D. J. Woolsey, 17, The Lorne. Bookham 3777.

Bookham Dramatic Society. Mrs. J. Preston, 7, Childs Hall Road. Bookham 2695.

Bookham Football Club. D. Oliver, 27, Middlemead Road. Bookham 4236.

Eastwick Allotments and Gardens Association. C. B. Martin, Omira, Leatherhead Road.

Garden Society. R. C. Wing, 4, Long Meadow. Bookham 3687.

Bowls Section—Gillett Sports. C. A. Upton, Bybrook, Sole Farm Road.

Eastwick Parent and Teacher Association. R. A. Brackpool, 21, Allen Road. Bookham 2933.

Girl Guides, 3rd Company. Mrs. L. Mills, 38, Strathcona Avenue. Bookham 3602.

Labour Party, Bookham Ward. E. H. Churcher, 6, Twelve Acre Close.

Liberal Association, Bookham Branch. W. B. White, 46, Sole Farm Avenue.

Bookham Girls' Life Brigade. Mrs. F. Palmer, The Lodge, Randalls Road. Leatherhead 4729.

Leatherhead and District National Savings Group, Bookham Ward. Mrs. D. Leonard, 25, Allen Road. Bookham 3432.

Bookham Branch — League of Friends, Leatherhead Hospital. Mrs. Easun, 220, Lower Road.

Polesden Lacey Camping Club. Mrs. M. White, 26, High Street, Collier's Wood, S.W.19.

Bookham Red Cross Cadet Unit. Miss D. Rush, 94, Overdale, Ashtead. National Trust, Bookham Commons Committee, Dr. J. G. Sowerbutts. Riddlesdale, Church Road, Bookham 3308.

Rifle Club. O. J. Rattenbury, 17, Dorking Road. Bookham 3308.

Bookham Square and Folk Dance Club. Mrs. Thomas, 49, The Garstons. Bookham 4607.

Ist Bookham Scouts. G. S. M. G. V. Child, 9, Sole Farm Road. Bookham 2147.

2nd Bookham Scouts. G. S. M. E. Tarrington, 4, Dowlans Close. Bookham 2960.

3rd Bookham Scouts. G. S. M. B. Charles, Chapri, Dowlans Road.

Bookham Stoolball Club. Mrs. M. Francis, 38, Newenham Road. Bookham 3075.

Women's Institute (Afternoon). Miss M. G. Corner, Westcott, St. Nicholas Avenue. Bookham 2250.

Women's Institute (Evening). Mrs. D. Edwards, 60, Kennel Lane, Fetcham.

Catholic Women's League. Mrs. B. Kirby, 35, Middlemead Road.

Bookham and Effingham Youth Tennis Club. Mrs. A. Ray, 37, Norwood Road, Effingham.

Bookham Youth Club. Mrs. Littlewood, 39, Groveside. Bookham 4716.

Conservative Association, Little Bookham Branch, M. C. Pope, Little Oaks, Childs Hall Road, Bookham 4018.

Square and Folk Dance Club. Mrs. D. Thomas, 49 The Garstons, Bookham 4607.

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Local Guide Association. Mrs. R. A Connellan, 28 Mead Crescent. Bookham 3930.

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