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Quarterly Journal of the Bookham Community Association

No. 121

SUMMER 1964

32nd year



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THE BOOKHAMS BULLETIN

Quarterly Journal of the Bookham Community Association

No. 121

AUTUMN, 1964

32nd year

EDITORIAL

Is it necessary to have both a Community Association and a Residents' Association? This question has been asked at recent village meetings and echoed in the columns of the local Press. In our view both have a place in our particular neighbourhood. Certain objectives, such as general amenities and civic responsibility, are common to both associations, but there the similarities end.

The Residents' Association, by close perusal of the minutes of the Leatherhead Urban District Council, keeps a continuous watch on the actions, or lack of action, of the Local Authority, especially in the sphere of Planning, and is in a position to express the views of its members authoritatively. It strengthens its direct contact with the Local Authority by sponsoring or supporting candidates at local elections.

The Community Association, on the other hand, is much more closely involved in the leisure-time activities of residents—a function which becomes increasingly important as advanced education and shorter working hours spread. Its policy-making council includes representatives from its many affiliated organisations

and clubs, elected representatives from its own members, and two councillors directly appointed by the County Council and the Leatherhead U.D.C. This unique constitution enables it to speak for the village as a whole in a responsible and informed way on social, recreational and educational needs, which are its special concern. It has demonstrated its ability to take action in the field of welfare by pioneering services for the elderly at the Barn Hall and its interest in youth by encouraging a youth club in its premises.

The expansion of local activities and the promotion of new ones to fill existing gaps, the circulation of information about what is going on, and the stimulation of corporate action for common aims is the constant purpose of the Community Association. It devotes much of its energies to the maintenance of the Barn Hall as a village centre, a task which necessitates the support of everybody living in Bookham. It also produces and distributes the Bulletin to every house in the village. It organises the annual Village Day, with its accent on local activities and interests. It plays a major part in the administration of the yearly productions at the Polesden

Lacey Open Air Theatre.

It will be seen from this brief description that the Community Association and the Residents' Association are two quite distinct organisations, with different objectives and different methods, each working in its own sphere. There are occasions, however, as in the case of Gilmais, when the work of the two organisations corresponds and it is possible for them to consult and act together for a common aim. It is the wish of both associations that no such opportunity shall be missed.

ROUND THE VILLAGE

Bookham Football Club has triumphantly finished its season by winning the Cup in the Intermediate League (Southern). It defeated its opponent, Chipstead, 3—2 in an exciting match. The team is in Division I of the Surrey Intermediate League and its tally of games is 8 Won, 5 Drawn, 4 Lost; Chris Pyne again leading the goalscorers with 22. A. Donnelly scored 10 and C. McGarvie 9 goals.

The Club is keen to form a reserve side next winter so that it can compete efficiently in league football. The new Secretary, Mr. D. Oliver, Bookham 4236, would welcome inquiries from interested players. There is time be-

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fore August to make contact, but prospective members might like to see the team in action in an unfamiliar role when they play the Ladies' Stoolball Club in a return match at the Dorking Road Ground on Saturday, July 19th.

The Supporters' Club, which for many years under the late Mr. Dave Longhurst was the backbone of the playing side, has a new, young secretary: Mr. Chris Booth, 9 Eastwick Drive, Bookham 2924, who will be pleased to receive offers of help.

Bookham Boys' Club. The optimism and enthusiasm of this energetic Club is always at boiling point. After losing their temporary centre at the Co-op. Hall they moved into a new headquarters in a bungalow along the Leatherhead Road. Although they knew that this was only temporary, they set to work immediately to put it in good order. So well has the job been done that they feel confident enough to put their Canteen in for a Clubs' Award. They are busy selling "bricks" at 6d. a time for their new headquarters in the Dorking Road Recreation Ground. Their Leader, Mr. Ken Vincent, is still hopeful that the new building will be ready for occupation in September. He is backed by a strong Fund-Raising Committee. A new supporter is Col. Haig, of the Kenilworth Riding Stables, who has arranged for the boys to assist in five forthcoming horse shows by working at the jumps; at the end

of the shows a collection will be taken which goes to club funds.

There is a full programme for the summer. Swimming has begun, three adults at least being in attendance every week, and the boys are working for the Life Saving Awards. Three of the adult helpers are attending the Adults' Fitness Course at Headley Court, which will involve three week-ends of training in gymnastics, athletics, swimming, etc. Five boys have entered for an organised Boating week-end, covering rowing, sailing and canoeing.

Many of the boys are working on the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Bookham Dramatic Society can truly rest on its laurels during its summer break. The expectations aroused by its first production before Christmas were not disappointed by its second production of the three-act play, "Who's your Father," in April. On this occasion full houses showed by their laughter and applause their enjoyment of this well-presented comedy. The producer, Margot Camp, one of Bookham's newer residents, is experienced and talented and overcame all the difficulties arising from an inadequate stage and a team of players, some of them novices, who had not previously worked together. The result was a polished, word perfect and balanced entertainment. As the critic of the "County Reporter" wrote: "Amateur incompetence is too often the death of this racy type

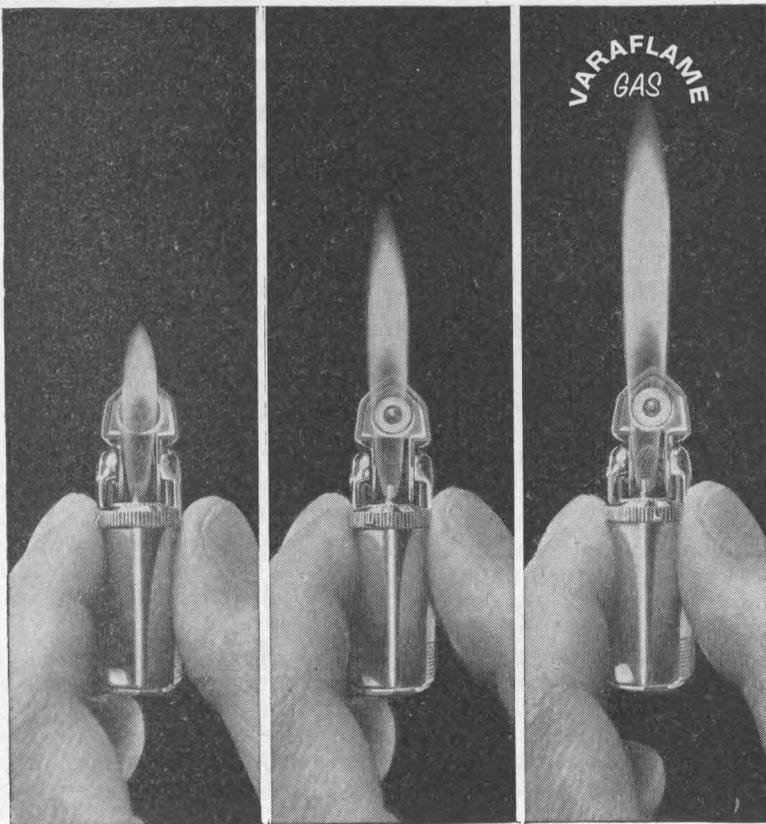
of play, but after seeing this meritorious performance, against odds, one anticipates the company's next venture eagerly."

Rehearsals for the autumn play will begin in September. Anyone interested in drama is invited to get in touch with the Secretary, Mrs. Preston.

The Flower Arrangement Group has changed its day of meeting to the first Monday of the month at 2.15 p.m. This has been done to enable more members to join. An increase in numbers means an increase in funds which is necessary if the best demonstrators are to be obtained—and nothing but the best is good enough for Bookham. While alterations are proceeding at the Barn Hall meetings will be held at Church House in June, July and September.

The Camera Club Exhibition again attracted many visitors. Quite a number of old members who have moved from the district made quite long journeys back to see the show and meet former friends. It was therefore appropriate that the Club President, Mr. A. Day, should tell a number of reminiscent anecdotes when presenting from his collection black and white colour slides after the Exhibition had closed down.

Sixty prints and 44 transparencies were on view, together with an invitation panel of prints from the judge, Mr. O. H. Downing, A.R.P.S. The Egerton-Ryerson Cup was awarded to Miss J. M. Field for gaining the



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highest marks during the season for colour slides. The Gordon Stephens Challenge Cup went to Mr. J. W. Selby for monochrome prints.

Evening Institute. The summer holidays lie before us, but some of us may be thinking, even now, of our autumn activities. An increasing number of local people are writing an evening institute class into their diaries as a "must." The Head of the Evening Institute, Mr. G. Scoble, the Chase, Guildford Road, is busy arranging the classes to suit our requirements, and is always willing to discuss any ideas we would like to put to him. Among the new suggestions he is working on are Public Speaking and Elocution, Creative Writing, Continental Cookery—a good proposition after those wonderful meals abroad, Beauty Care and Grooming—another winning idea after sun-tan and sea-dried hair. He also plans an unusual session for pianists on group work for improving technique and attempting composition. It may have the uninspiring title of The Piano for Adults, but its purpose is creative.

All the old favourites will go on—pottery, painting, photography, sport, woodwork, metalwork, and so on. It is interesting to record that even during the summer 22 classes continued, including the swimming class for novices. Student numbers have doubled in the three years that the Institute has been running. The new session at the Effingham School should be more attractive,

in so far as arrangements are to be made for canteen facilities, and this makes for friendliness.

Make a note that enrolments are in the second week of September and look out for the prospectus in the village shops.

Animal Defenders. This is a junior group of the Fetcham and Bookhams Branch of the R.S.P.C.A., and is open to all young people between the ages of 9 and 15 who are interested in animal welfare. It has been working for some time without any publicity at all, but it is a lively little group and keen to widen its ranks. It runs its own meetings at the Congregational Hall on the third Sunday in each month at 3 p.m., and has already organised a number of small, fund-raising events. Its leader, Richard Green, Brownrigg, Eastwick Road, will be pleased to answer enquiries. He will be happy to visit personally any interested boy or girl. His telephone is Bookham 2928.

Bookham Youth Club. Because of extensions to the Barn Hall the Youth Club has had to discontinue its indoor meetings for the time being, but hopes to recommence in late September. The Community Association is very appreciative of the help given by this club in fund-raising for the Building Appeal. Its latest contribution was a sum of £3 10s. (half the proceeds of a recent dance), donated to the Chairs Fund. Assistance has also been promised on Village Day.

Members participated in the

Leatherhead and District Youth Table Tennis Tournament, Martin Temlett acting as Treasurer. Winners of the Mixed Doubles were Kay Knightley and John Beck, who were presented with medallions from the District Youth Committee, and record tokens by the Youth Club.

CHORAL SOCIETY

Once more the Leith Hill Festival has come and gone. Bookham Choral Society competed in the Towns and Advanced Villages Division and, although it did not bring home any banners, bowls, shields or other trophies, its members had their usual feast of song. As with so many other choirs, Bookham finds it hard to keep a balance between the voices. Sopranos and basses are fairly plentiful but true altos are rare and tenors seem to be a disappearing race. Nevertheless, when

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all choirs joined together under the baton of Sir Adrian Boult to sing Vaughan Williams' "Sea Symphony" all regrets were forgotten and the whole winter's practice was splendidly justified.

The Society does not meet in the summer but will resume practice at the end of September.

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approached and said quite brightly: "Go on. Enjoy yourself! Enjoy yourself!"

It would all have ended there but for one of my young friends who had had an academy success. She refused to accept my defeatist attitude and led me gently but firmly along the path to ART. In no time at all I was an addict. My door was locked against intruders whilst I produced creations which, though poor things, were undoubtedly mine own.

Apart from the pleasure of working with paint, the effort has been worthwhile in so many ways. Instead of merely receiving impressions of things, I now have heightened awareness of shapes and colours and a new dimension on "seeing."

Do not let a feeling of age or inadequacy prevent you from

trying to do something new. It is never too late to open another door. D. D.

BOOKHAM BREVITIES

Talented Family of Baptist Minister. Mr. David O. Byrt, son of our Baptist Minister, has an important position in the world of music. He is Director of Music at Westminster School, where he followed Doctor Arnold Foster in 1957. The choral achievements of this ancient school are nationally known. Three concerts are given by them each year, two in Westminster Abbey and one "Up School"—the beautiful new Hall rebuilt since the War. Mr. Byrt is also responsible for the annual Carol Service in St. Margaret's Church, which he introduced.

He received his training at the Royal College of Music, and he is a composer in his own right of organ music for schools and orchestras. He resides during the week in Gt. College Street, London, but he spends most of his weekends at home with his parents in Bookham.

He has one sister, Dorothy, now married and living in Hamburg, who did well in the medical field. After doing two years in orthopaedics at the Wingfield Hospital, Oxford, she trained at St. Thomas' Hospital and had the distinction of receiving her Nightingale Badge from the Queen Mother at St. James' Palace.

The Rev. G. W. Byrt, who came to Bookham five years ago, has carried on and developed the tradition of the Bookham Baptist

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Church as a friendly family centre with live social as well as religious roots. He is gifted as a speaker and a writer. He has two books to his credit, and has given two series of broadcasts in the "Lift up your Hearts" programme. He recalls one such series during the War when he regularly cycled from Hammer-smith early in the morning—no petrol being available—to the studio deep underground in Broadcasting House where he gave his talk, and then had the pleasure of breakfasting with Mr. Stuart Hibbard.

Besides his Ministry of the Baptist Church, Mr. Byrt is also chaplain to three Surrey Hospitals and Industrial Chaplain to the Leatherhead Research Laboratories. He receives great support in his work from his wife. She, too, is an author and has written books and articles on natural history. In her very limited spare time she still likes to spend time outdoors in an area like our's, rich in wild life.

Our apologies are extended to Mr. Patrick Lynch for our mistake in describing the Manchester College of Science and Technology, at which he is a student, as a College of Advanced Technology. It is, in fact, a Department of Manchester University. We have also to congratulate him on his appointment to the national Council of the Liberal Party, a position to which he is entitled as a member of the Executive Committee of the Union of Liberal Students. He is a keen political enthusiast and

finds time, both at university and at home, to work for his party.

Retirement of Canon Alec M. Hughes. Bookham people are sorry to hear of the impending retirement of Canon Hughes and will miss him when he leaves in September after close on 30 years as Rector of the Parish Church of St. Nicolas. He has seen Bookham grow from a comparatively small village and has become part of it. His quiet kindness and his warm sympathy with individuals, especially children, has won him a wide circle of friends outside the bounds of his own parish.

As a scholar with a keen analytical mind—he was formerly a barrister of Middle Temple—he has given outstanding service in diocesan administration. Up to three years ago he was responsible for administration of church schools in the diocese, covering the period of their reorganisation under the 1948 Education Act. From 1948 he was a member of the Surrey County Education Committee, and he is Chairman of the Bookham Schools Managers. He was appointed an honorary Canon of Guildford in 1944, and is Rural Dean of Leatherhead.

Son of a civil servant of the old school and member of a Gloucestershire family, he was born and brought up in Middlesex. His university was Oxford, for which he retains great affection. After a series of administrative posts he took Orders in middle life.

We are pleased to have Canon Hughes among us for a few more months and we hope that he will come back often to renew old ties; our good wishes will go with him and Mrs. Hughes to their new home in Bridport.

Golden Wedding. We are happy to extend our good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. John Lambert, of East Street, who celebrated their Golden Wedding in April with a large family party, including two great-grandsons. Mr. Lambert, who is 79, and Mrs. Lambert, who is 78, are keen and long-standing members of the Over Sixties' Club. When they were in better health they helped in Community Association activities and for many years their bran-tub was a popular attraction for the children on Village Day.

Mrs. Lambert has lived in their East Street house for 70 years. It belonged to her mother, and she and her husband continued to live there after their marriage.

Old People's Welfare Committee. We congratulate Mr. A. Marson on his election as Chairman of the Leatherhead and District Old People's Welfare Committee. It is an honour which he richly deserves. He has given many years of fine service to this cause.

Although Mr. Marson resides in Leatherhead he is very well known in Bookham where he is Hall Manager of the Barn Hall, being a member of the Executive

(Continued on page 18)

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of the Community Association and a former chairman. He has put in a good deal of time at the Barn Hall on make-do-and-mend jobs, of which there is no end in a voluntarily maintained hall. He is also chief organiser for the Polesden Lacey Open Air Theatre productions, a job which likewise requires energy, foresight, and an ability to rally voluntary helpers.

The Community Association is always proud when its active members receive recognition in the locality because neighbourhood service is the keynote of its constitution. We therefore offer our congratulations, also, to Mrs. A. Weaver on her re-election as Secretary of the Old People's Welfare Committee, where she follows the late Mrs. N. Cox. She obtained her experience in the Bookham Over Sixties' Club, in which she still takes a very active interest, especially in connection with the hobbies competitions and the fancy dress parades.

Bookham's Centenarian. Thirty-two years ago Mrs. Marion Bailey came to live in Meadowside. Earlier this year she celebrated her 100th birthday and received a telegram of congratulation from the Queen. Her daughter, Mrs. F. Phillips, with whom she lives at Beechcroft, was busy all day taking in presents, flowers and greetings cards. On doctor's orders, Mrs. Bailey took the day quietly but, even so, she had a celebration lunch to which a few intimate friends and members of the family were invited, and, after an afternoon rest, a small dinner

party in the evening. For her age she is in very good health. She gets up for a 9 o'clock breakfast and retires for the night between 9 and 10. She likes to help with little jobs about the house, she watches television, writes letters and does a little cross-stitch embroidery. Good wishes, Mrs. Bailey—we are proud of you.

Well-known Puppeteer leaves Bookham. Hundreds of children, over the years, have enjoyed the puppets of Mrs. M. Boardman, who lived in Eastwick Drive. Many adults, too, have been delighted by her shows in which colour, movement, drama and exquisite expertise were cleverly combined. Especially remembered are her puppet productions of "Iolanthe." We are very sorry to say goodbye to her and her husband, who have gone back north to be near their son, who is Medical Director of Parkside Hospital, Macclesfield. Mrs. Boardman was at one time President of the Bookham Afternoon W.I., and an active member until her departure.

Former Presidents of the W.I., who have left the district, are still remembered with affection, and contact is kept with them. We had a visit recently from Mrs. Phyllis Newman, who is living at East Coker, Somerset. She looked very well and energetic. She has become quite a globe-trotter, and was just off for a holiday in Greece. She is still active as a drama producer in her village. We remember how outstanding she was in this capacity, and we hope that she will return for the

production of Midsummer Night's Dream in July at the Polesden Lacey Open Air Theatre. It will revive memories for us all, as she produced the original Midsummer Night's Dream when we presented the newly-constructed stage to the National Trust in Festival of Britain Year. It was an ambitious and outstanding show, and incorporated local ballet schools and the Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra, under its conductor, Kathleen Riddick.

Two other W.I. Presidents who have left Bookham are Mrs. Balch, now living at Ropley, Hants, and still deeply involved in W.I. activities, and Mrs. G. Neville, at Worthing, who is doing good and satisfying work as Assistant Matron in a Nursing Home for old people.

Queen's Scout. Congratulations to Graham Skinner, of the 3rd Bookham Scouts, on becoming a Queen's Scout. The award is a difficult one to achieve and involves many tests of scouting proficiency, general knowledge and competence, endurance, and personality. Bookham Scouts are proud to have two Queen's Scouts, Graham's award following close on that of David Mills, who is in the 3rd Bookham Seniors. David started in the 2nd Bookham Scouts; he has had great encouragement from his parents, his mother being Bookham Guide Captain and his father a Scouter. In recognition of his contribution to the Movement David was privileged to head the St. George's Day Parade at Leatherhead.

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Congratulations to Mr. Tony Woodrow-Clark on his engagement to Miss Jeanette Hocking, of Worthing. Jeanette, who will be 21 in August, is a dress designer. Tony went down to Worthing in September when he took the post of Registrar for Worthing after serving for a time in the Westminster area. He was well known in Bookham, especially for his work with the Young Conservatives (he was Chairman of the Leatherhead and District Y.C.), and it was in the same group in Worthing that he met his fiancée. They will both be very busy in the next few months as Tony has been made Chairman of the Worthing Young Conservatives.

The Rev. Roy Trevivian, who will succeed Canon Hughes as Rector of St. Nicolas Church in October, comes from St. Francis Church, Guildford, where he has a reputation as a forthright and hard-hitting exponent of the modern approach to religion. He has had great success in attracting young people to his church, and to the new building in Park Barn, erected by the parishioners themselves, where the first Communion Service was recently televised. The building of the church-cum-hall started in 1961, a year after the Rev. Trevivian and his curate had enrolled on a two-term bricklaying course at the Guildford Technical College so that they could work alongside their parishioners in the exacting task they had set themselves. The construction was completed in record

time, thanks to the enthusiasm of all concerned.

Bookham has Guide District Commissioner. The Guide Movement in Bookham is growing so rapidly that it has been found necessary to give the area its own District Commissioner. Mrs. Ruth Peryer has been appointed to the position and will have under her control 4 Brownie Packs and 3 Guide Companies. More will be established, provided that leaders and premises can be found, because there is already a long waiting list of juniors. The new Commissioner has a long experience of the Movement. She became a Brownie at the age of 8 and has been through all the sections. For the past eight years she has been Brownie Guider in Bookham.

FOR YOUR DIARY

- June 13. Fete. Kenilworth Riding Stables. In aid of Boys' Club.
- June 20. Village Day. Barn Hall.
- July 16, 17, 18. "Midsummer Night's Dream." Polesden Lacey Open Air Theatre.
- July 15, 16, 17. "Pirates of Penzance." Eastwick School.
- July 4. Fete. Eastwick County Primary School.
- Aug. 23. Ken Barrington Benefit. King George V Playing Fields.
- Sept. 2. Garden Society Show.
- Sept. 12. Fete. Ronson's Ground. Leatherhead & District Old People's Welfare Committee.
- Sept. 19. Scouts' Jamborette.

Village Day. As we go to press it is still too early to give the final arrangements for Village Day. It is anticipated that there will be displays of Fencing, Judo, Scottish Dancing, Folk Dancing and Music. A feature of the Day will be an Open Air Exhibition of the paintings of local artists. There will also be a demonstration of Pottery. Many local organisations will have stalls to show their work, some of which will be on sale. We are catering specially for the children by providing roundabouts, ponies and junior side-shows. Dr. Barnes Wallis, of Dam Buster fame, has kindly consented to open the Day at 2.30 p.m., in the Barn Hall Grounds. If the weather is bad some of the displays and stalls will be transferred to Church House. Whatever the weather, please come along. There will be plenty to see and do, and you are sure to meet a lot of your friends. Incidentally, while really enjoying yourself, you are helping the funds of the Community Association and improving your Village Centre.

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- Bookham Boys' Club. K. A. Vincent, 1
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- British Legion, Effingham and Book-
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ham.
- British Legion, Women's Section. Mrs.
L. A. Pickering, Standardhill, Guild-
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- Choral Society. L. S. Hughes, 2 Black-
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- Bookham Cricket Club. L. W. Denning,
48 Middlemead Road. Bookham 3091.
- Eastwick Park Cricket Club.
- Conservative Association, Little Book-
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Lyons, 25 Childs Hall Road. Book-
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- Bookham Dramatic Society.
- Football Club.
- Bookham Football Supporters Club.
- Garden Society. R. C. Wing, 4 Long
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- Girl Guides. (Friday) Mrs. Mills, 38
Strathcona Avenue. Bookham 3602.
(Tuesday) Mrs. E. Graneek, 19 Melvin-
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- Grove Association. F. A. Edwards, 22
Dorking Road. Bookham 3113.
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- Liberal Association, Great Bookham
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Fiona Close, Bookham 4182.
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