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Croxley Green
Parish Council

The Parish Pump

No. 12 March 1998



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Most of the everyday business of the Parish Council, is just that, everyday. However, we do get time to consider, and carry out, less everyday things. Our proposed Craft Fair is just such an innovation. For the last few months we have had a team working on this venture, contributing ideas and obtaining information. Our Vice-Chairman, being a bee keeper, is used to Craft Fairs and is, naturally, very pleased that we have chosen to take on this project. It is part of our wider plan to see that the Green is used regularly, being the centre of our village, for the pleasure of our residents. We already have a very successful Revels day each year, but we cannot expect their willing volunteers to take on more. We felt that, if we wish the Green to be used more, we should set an example. We started with a Picnic Fun Day, which has now begun to take off. Don't miss it. Equally, the new Craft Fair, is hoped to become a regular fixture.

That still leaves space for other ideas, hopefully from volunteers. The Parish Council could not, at this time, consider taking on more. Without the dedicated work of our Clerk and his assistant, over and above the time for which they are paid, it would not be possible. Any team needs leadership and this they have shown.

However, lest you should think that we only think about the Green, and some people accuse us of that, there is now a second walks leaflet, this time covering the Moor and Croxley Hall Woods. There will be an inaugural walk soon.

We are also busy in the community elsewhere. We have provided, with Three Rivers District Council, some new bus shelters. Despite the fact that one has been demolished in an accident, it will be replaced or repaired soon, we have a rolling programme to serve the whole of the village. Two more shelters are on order and will provide shelter at two more well used bus stops. More will follow. We are ready to listen to suggestions as to their siting.

Our annual Garden Competition is now firmly established and much appreciated by a number of our residents. Why don't you take part. Who knows it may give you an incentive to work hard and outshine your neighbour, they might respond.

We have recently completed an exercise in re-signing footpaths. Though we have done the actual work, most of the funds were provided by the Parish Paths Partnership. This work has been slotted in between the ordinary work carried out by our rangers. Many of you have told us how much you appreciate the work that they do in keeping our village neat and tidy. Many people are unaware of their activities but they spend their time, all around the parish, carrying out mundane but necessary tasks in maintaining hedgerows and other public places. Some time is spent on the Green, but it is a small proportion of their care.

We have, of course, been involved in many statutory duties, such as monitoring planning applications. The majority, naturally, are for minor extensions to private houses and there is often little upon which to comment. We cannot get involved in neighbourly disputes. Contrary to some perceptions, we can only comment, we do not give or refuse permission. That is the prerogative of Three Rivers Planning Committee. However, our opinions do carry some weight, as many petitioners have found. We feel that this watchdog role is well worth the effort and your input is always welcome.

This has left space for some local articles, outside our normal business. We are not seeking to rival or emulate the Resident but we hope that this newsletter will help to keep you better informed.

COUNCILLORS

North Ward

John Hedges 222715
Chairman - Council

Brian Norman 779331
Vice-Chairman - Council

Lesley Rees 248126

Mark Rumsey 239059

A N Other

Croxley Green Ward

Gabriel Gallet 771098

Christine Jefford 771769

Margaret Pomfret 720088
*Chairman - Environment
& Amenity*

Robert Ridley 778638

Sheila Wright 772460

Clive Hunt 773870

South Ward

David Bains 441480

Vivian Rhodie 777124

A N Other

Roger Cattermoul 441269
*Chairman - Planning
& Development*

Tim Davis 772918

Clerk to the Council
Derek Fineberg 710250

The Council Offices
Community Way
Croxley Green
Rickmansworth
Herts. WD3 3SU.

Croxley Green Parish Council • Founded 1986

PARISH COUNCIL - A WINNER

In May 1996, the Parish Council published a book called **"A History of Croxley Green through its Street Names"** written by Shirley Greenman, illustrated and designed by John Kirkham. It was decided to enter this publication for the Alan Ball Local History Award.

This award is made by The Library Services Trust. Seeking to encourage local authorities to produce local history publications of a high standard, the Trust makes up to five awards annually. The awards are named after Alan Ball, formerly Borough Librarian of Watford and Harrow, in recognition of his service to libraries and his keen interest in local history.

In June 1997 the Parish Council was notified that it was one of only three winners for that year, the others being the City of Sunderland and Lancashire County Council. The citation read "This was the first entry ever received from a Parish Council, and the judges were impressed by its overall content, its striking cover featuring an aerial view, and its delightful line drawings by John C Kirkham.

On 22 September, Mr Michael Saich, Chairman of The Library Services Trust, presented the award, an engraving of an old map mounted on a polished hardwood plaque, with the name of the recipient (the Parish Council) engraved on a copper plate, to the council at their monthly meeting. This now hangs in the Council Chamber.

As past Chairman of the Committee which oversaw the publication of this book by the Parish Council and its entry for the award, I was pleased to be able to receive the plaque on behalf of the Council, the author and the illustrator. Mrs Greenman and Mr Kirkham, who were present, received certificates recording their achievement. Presenting the award, Michael Saich emphasised how pleased the Trust had been to make an award to a Parish Council, as previous winners had always been much larger local authorities.

Copies of the book, priced at £4, are for sale during opening hours at the Parish Council Offices and Croxley Green Library.

Mrs Norma Stubington



pictured left to right
Mr Michael Saich, Mrs Norma Stubington, Mrs Shirley Greenman, Mr John Kirkham

FULL CIRCLE

Many years ago, when I left school, I worked as a library assistant in Watford Central Library and it was here, in the Reference Department, that I first realised how little information was available on Croxley Green. There were general histories of Hertfordshire, the Rickmansworth Historian and Kelly's directories of the area dating back one hundred years - little else. Croxley Green was almost forgotten - sandwiched between Watford and Rickmansworth.

A few years later, Alan Ball became Borough Librarian at Watford. Alan had a great enthusiasm for local history and he soon began researching a "History of Watford through its Street Names". I had always been interested in how people and places got their name and this seemed an interesting way to record history. Several years later, Adrienne Jacques of Rickmansworth Library published a small pamphlet "The Street Names

of Rickmansworth". This prompted me to start collecting information on Croxley Green with the idea of publishing a similar small booklet. By now I had become friendly with Norma Stubington, librarian responsible for the local collection at Croxley Library and I told her of my manuscript. Norma was now a Parish Councillor and with her husband, the former Librarian at Rickmansworth, they encouraged me to enlarge my draft bringing in additional material and introduced me to John Kirkham, a local illustrator and printer who had been involved in producing the Croxley Green Parish Map.

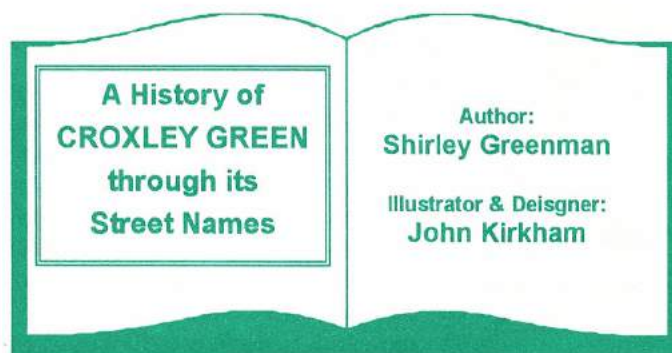
Norma presented the draft manuscript to the Parish Council who agreed to support the project and publish the book. Hence, in May 1996, the completed book was published.

Later that year, Norma told me that the book had been entered in a national competition set up by the Library Services Trust to encourage local authorities to publish books on local history. In July 1997, I heard that the book had won the Alan Ball Local History Award 1997 and only then did I realise the award was named after my former boss!

It was with great pleasure that I accepted the award last September, from Michael Saich, chairman of the Library Services Trust, on behalf of the Parish Council. It is the first time a Parish Council has won the award and a great achievement as the book was in competition with publications from large City and County Councils.

My thanks to all those who helped and supported the project.

Shirley Greenman



Available from:

**Croxley Green
Parish Council
&
Croxley Green
Library**

Price: £4.00



WHY WE HAVE TO TAKE BIG TREES OUT OF WOODLANDS

I can tell you
bristling already. It's
a contentious subject, felling mature
trees. We can clear scrub and
coppice till our wrists ache, but
suggest taking down anything
bigger, and everyone gets nervous.

We've grown up in an age where
trees are nearly sacred and not to
be touched, where timber comes
from somewhere else, and where
most of our native woodlands were
last looked after sometime before
the war. But we all want nice
furniture - the frame in your sofa is
probably beech, we like fitted
cupboards in the kitchen and some
of us even pull up carpets to show
off the beauty of the floorboards
beneath. And all these things were
part of a woodland once. They grew
in a wood where the trees were
looked after and cosseted to be in
the best health possible. When they
were felled the sunlight poured in,
allowing woodland flowers and
plants to flourish, and most
importantly, allowing
young trees room to
grow to take the
woodland on for the
next eighty years.



Which is exactly why we need to be
brave and start doing it again. The
trees in our woodlands are getting
older and the young trees aren't
ready to take over, because their
growth has been held back by the
shade of their older relatives. So if
we take out some of the biggest,
and let the youngsters grown on,
then we're getting back to a more
natural system where there will
always be a range of ages within the
wood. Which is not only good for its
long-term survival, but is also
perfect for the resident wildlife -
more variety in habitat means more
variety in living space and food!

Occasionally trees might be taken
out for aesthetic reasons. In Oxhey
Woods (just south of Watford) for
example, there are several
wonderful beech trees which were
planted when the area was part of a
large country estate. When they
were put in they stood proud and
elegant in open fields, but over the
years the woods have grown up
around them and their beauty is lost
in a tangle of scrubby trees and

shrubs. By clearing around them we
can restore them to something of
their former glory, and let local
people see the living history in their
midst.

Sometimes fell is just down to good
old-fashioned safety. Woods these
days are popular places to visit, so
the landowners have to think about
where people want to walk, and how
far away from the path a potentially
dangerous tree is. With any of these
practices, we're not talking about
clear felling the whole wood. This
sort of work is only done in areas
which will most benefit from the
work, with other
sections of the wood left
entirely to their own
devices as "non-
intervention zones". In
woods managed for
nature conservation,
work won't even start
until the area has been
surveyed for birds and
other potential residents
- a tree that is home to
a family of bats or a woodpecker will
be left just as it is.



So you see, far from just "chopping
things down willy nilly", which was a
comment I overheard in a wood last
week, woodland managers spend a
long time thinking about the long-
term future of their woods. People
often think trees are cut down to
make money, but in most cases it
costs more to fell them than the
timber is worth, and in most
Council-owned woods any small
profit goes back into the woodland
budget to be spent on looking after
the site the following year.

Liz Carlisle, CMS

VILLAGE SURVEY

The Parish Council are keen to
instigate projects of benefit to our
village and of course the priorities
must reflect the needs of the
residents. In order to achieve this,
we discussed in depth the best way
forward. We thought of employing
an outside agency to conduct a
"Village Appraisal". The argument
against this was that we would be
spending lots of money to obtain a
mass of statistics and information,
much of which could be obtained
freely from Three Rivers District
Council, also it would only show
current trends and soon be out of
date.

We decided that a better way would
be to use the "Parish Pump" as a

way of advising you how we are
thinking, and you telling us what we
should be thinking. It will mean that
continuous dialogue can be
achieved reflecting all our ideas.
The problem of making decisions at
a council meeting is that most often,
an action helping one section of the
village may have an adverse
reaction from other villagers. The
benefit of using the "Pump" as a
means of communication is that we
are all aware of differing opinions on
various matters. The council can act
accordingly.

There are many subjects on which
we can and will seek your views.
Each subject will be covered with a
leading article setting out the pros
and cons as we see them. This will
give you a chance to have some
input and help us in our decision
making.

There may be ideas, which we have
not considered, that you will wish to
bring to our attention and, after
some consideration, we would come
back to a wider constituency to seek
your views.

In the next edition of the "Pump" we
will, I hope, be able to start this
process and seek your views on a
range of new and current ideas.
Please write or fax the Parish
Office, or contact your local
councillor to express your ideas.

Cllr Roger Cattermoul

COSTING VANDALISM

Defacing with graffiti, uprooting
signs, smashing kiosks, shelters,
damaging the property of others, fly
tipping etc etc.

Its a laugh!



Anyone who does any of the above,
and more, is vandalising their
environment. You could respect it
instead. What amount per annum
does it cost Croxley Green £2 -
£10,000,000, who knows? Yet every
time someone vandalises, others
pick up the bill through higher
charges, either on their insurances
or Council charges. Vandals don't
do it in public, for all to see, it
usually is out of sight of the public.

I don't know what the answers are
except diligence.

Three Rivers have a hot line for Fly
Tipping (01923 710940) for example.
Remember it's your environment
that is being damaged and you pay
in the long run.

Cllr Robert Ridley

GARDEN COMPETITIONS IN THE PARISH

Do you know when the first Garden Competition took place in Croxley Green?



Over 100 years ago, in 1891. John Dickinson purchased Milestone Field in 1887 for 50 new cottages and a house for the Mill Manager to be built, the Chairman of John Dickinson offered prizes of £5, £2, £1 for the best kept gardens in any Mill cottages and the Board gave an extra £10 of prize money. (This area was renamed Dickinson Square).

On many occasions since this time Croxley Green gardeners have taken part in competitions to celebrate national events.

However, over the past five years the Parish Council considered this activity as a yearly venture for the residents and has proved so successful that we will be inviting you to take up the fork and spade or lawn mower for the **6th Croxley Green Garden Competition**.



Any garden big or small can enter - immaculate, or with a will of its own, will be most welcome!

The entry form is on the back page, all you need is a pen.

Cllr Margaret Pomfret

ANNUAL GARDEN COMPETITION 1997

1997 was the third year that I have had the privilege and pleasure to be involved in the preliminary judging of the entries for the Garden Competition. Once again, I was most impressed by the sheer hard work and TLC which goes into all the gardens entered in the competition.

My dictionary describes a garden as, and I quote "Piece of ground devoted to growing flowers, fruit or vegetables". However, I find the most fascinating aspect of the competition is the diversity of interpretation that is given to the worked "garden".

My colleagues and I saw both small and large back gardens, together with varying sized front gardens. We discovered a "secret" garden which gave a keyhole impression of looking at a charming cameo of water features, plants and miniature shrubs, another had waterfalls, a mini-stream trickling its way under bridges through the back garden, complete with a compact immaculate vegetable plot at the bottom. Another gem was a secluded walled garden which had a variety of water features, barbecue area, masses of flowers and not least, a flower bedecked London lamp-post.

The large back gardens I saw were a profusion of shrubs and flowers, creating either a riot of colour or subtly themed colour schemes - in fact, I must say that they just took my breath away! Not only were there such splendid displays of flowers, there were immaculate lawns, water features, hanging baskets, cascades of roses, containers overflowing with colour and not a weed to be seen!

Lastly, there was an unusual pebble front garden which had been created on a limited budget which stirred the imagination at its originality and simplicity.

I am now looking forward to judging this years entries as, truly, every garden is so different and fascinating that I go home afterwards totally dissatisfied with my own garden but full of inspiration.

Cllr Christine Jefford

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

We have 18 Rights-of-Way in our Parish, many leading to the rural areas. Until recently these footpaths were under the District numbering system but changes through the Parish Paths Partnership which comprises Hertfordshire County Council, Countryside Commission and Parish Councils have meant footpaths are numbered within a parish.

Initially, the Environment Committee members, surveyed the paths to inspect their condition. Some were impassable etc but are now kept clear and maintained by



the Rangers. The next phase revealed, there were few sign posts on these paths directing walkers on the correct rights of way and those that did exist had the District numbers. Once again, the paths had to be surveyed to determine where new posts should be sited - what they should say etc - Quite a task for the Committee.

However when that was complete, signs and post ordered. Over the recent weeks the Rangers have been steadily placing these post/signs throughout the Parish and hopefully not only local residents but visiting walkers can be assured they are on the right path.

Cllr Margaret Pomfret

WALKS LEAFLET No 2 COMMON MOOR



After a successful launch of our first walks leaflet last Easter the committee approached the

Countryside Management Project Officer - Jonathan C Wilshaw, who has been involved with Common Moor. English Nature has recognised and designated Common Moor a Nature Reserve, so it seemed appropriate to consider this area for another leaflet.

This is a joint venture with the CMS, TRDC and the Parish Council and will shortly be available.

We anticipate holding another event similar to last year but on Sunday 19 April. Details will be advertised around the Parish nearer the time.



Note:- The first leaflet that was produced included three walks accessed from The Green, both these leaflets are very attractive A5 size and are Free of Charge available from the Parish Office and the Library.

Cllr Margaret Pomfret

Croxley Green Craft Fair

Croxley Green Parish Council will be holding an Inaugural Craft Fair on The Green over the weekend of 19 and 20 September 1998. The aim is to establish an annual community event that puts local people in touch with all the creative activities that are going on in the area.

The Fair will provide a forum for local individuals, clubs, societies and schools, involved in creative activities in its widest sense, to show what they are doing. We hope to include as wide a spectrum of activities as possible, from art and crafts, music, dance and drama, through to horticulture, photography and winemaking and all things in between. Whatever you are involved in, we are interested in hearing about it. We wish to involve as many of the people of Croxley Green as possible and to make the Fair an interesting and fun experience for all who visit.

The Fair will run over the Saturday and Sunday and will also include craft demonstrations, commercial exhibitors, street entertainers, guest Morris Dancers etc. Plenty for all to see over the two days. At the end of the first day of the Fair, there will be an evening of music on The Green open for all to enjoy.

If you would like to find out more about taking part in this exciting event, or have any comments or ideas that would help with its planning please contact:- Mr D Fineberg, Clerk to the Council.

Cllr Vivian Rhodie

PAINTING/ART COMPETITION

Over the past few years the Parish Council has encouraged residents to take part in several competitions. Initially they were aimed at the school children and focused on Litter and Dog Hygiene. We received in excess of 300 paintings for each competition from the local schools. More recently we held a Photographic Competition that enabled all residents to take part. To coincide with the Parish Council's first Craft Fair we have decided to hold a Painting/Art Competition and exhibit the entries at this event in September.

There are three groups:

- Under 11 yrs
- 11 yrs to 16 yrs
- Over 16 yrs



There is no restriction on the type of picture entered. It can be a landscape, flora, fauna, etc and can be painted/drawn/made in any kind of medium.

Any number of pictures may be submitted by each entrant.

The Closing date will be one week before the Craft Fair.

Entry forms will be available in the next edition of the Parish Pump.

Cllr Margaret Pomfret

Best Dressed Window Displays for Christmas 1997

- 1st - Brower Opticians
- 2nd - Roberts Fruits
- 3rd - T Bone & Sons

It was a bright sunny morning as I walked into the Parish Office to hand in the tickets and money from the Parish Bus run. While I was there, Cllr Pomfret came in to collect the prizes for the winners of the Best Dressed Window Display. Margaret asked me if I would like to accompany her and Lesley the secretary of the Parish Council, who would be taking the photographs of the window displays, to give out the prizes. We first went to Browers in Watford Road. The owner was taken by surprise, she was thrilled to have won, a couple of photos of the Window Display were taken and Mrs Brower receiving her cheque and Winners Certificate to mark the occasion. We then went off to T Bone & Sons at the bottom of Baldwins Lane. Mr Bone was very pleased as he was presented with his prize and certificate. The shop was very colourful and photos were taken outside. The last port of call was Roberts Fruits at the top of Baldwins Lane, who came second this year, last time he was the winner. Robert did a little dance in the shop with delight as he was given his prize and certificate and photos were taken once more.

As all the shops looked so colourful and festive it had been a close decision between them all. It was good to see that so many shops took the trouble to join in the competition making the Village look festive. We are hoping that even more will join in next year - Councillors and all at the Parish Office would like to thank our local shopkeepers.

Cllr Gabby Gallett

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT



The Parish are keen to supply equipment primarily for our 10-16 year olds to use. If you are between these

ages just drop a note into the Parish Office with your age and address telling us what you care about. For example, would you like?:- (list in order of preference)

- Skateboard ramp.
- Multi purpose sports area - ie football, basketball, hockey, roller hockey, cricket, where a ball can be used for many activities
- Adventure frames - for climbing, agility etc
- Other - please state



We need your opinion, it's your chance to have direct input. Don't complain if we get it wrong and you had the chance to affect the decision.

Consultation not Dictation

Cllr R Ridley

Croxley Green Neighbourhood Watch



PROPERTY MARKING

On Saturday 25 April 1998 a property marking session will be held by the Crime Prevention Panel in conjunction with Croxley Neighbourhood Watch. The Crime Prevention Caravan will be situated next to Bones the Greengrocers in Baldwins Lane from 10.00am to 3.00pm.

Facilities will be available to stamp, photograph, vibro etch, or to use ultra violet pens on your items of value.

It cannot be stressed too strongly that the only way to return stolen items to their rightful owners or to obtain a conviction of persons suspected of stealing them is by positive identification.

We therefore hope you will use this opportunity to gain some security for your personal property.

We are hopeful that this session will be as successful as those held last year.

Croxley Co-ordinators

**CROXLEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION 1998
ENTRY FORM**

HOUSEHOLD SECTION.

1. I wish to enter my front garden in this year's competition.
2. I wish to enter my back garden (less than 60' x 30') in this year's competition.
3. I wish to enter my back garden (more than 60' x 30') in this year's competition.

Name (Block letters please) Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address:

Telephone No: Signed: Date:

BEST FLORAL DISPLAY FRONTING PUBLIC HIGHWAY

PUBLIC HOUSE SECTION

Name and Address of Public House:

Name of Licensee: Telephone No:

Signature: Date:

SHOPS AND OTHER COMMERCIAL PREMISES SECTION

Name and Address of Premises:

Nature of Business:

Name of person submitting entry: Telephone No:

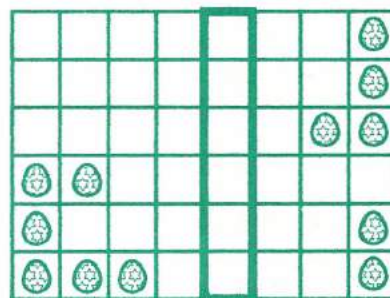
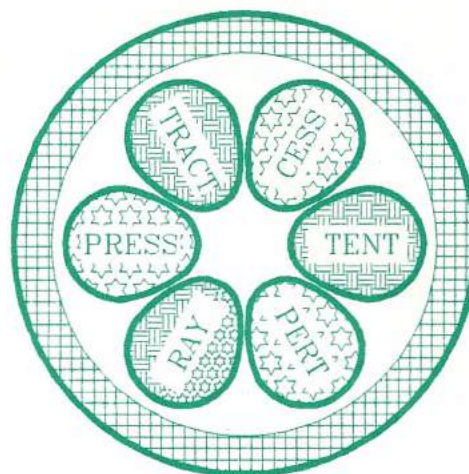
Position in Business (eg Proprietor, Manager etc.):

Signature: Date:

Entry forms to be returned no later than Friday 26th June 1998 to:

Derek Fineberg, Clerk to the Council, Croxley Green Parish Council,
Parish Office, Community Way, Croxley Green,
RICKMANSWORTH, Herts WD3 3SU.

**EGGS-CITING PUZZLE
FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS.**



**Can you find the EGGS-words
and fill them in the grid?
What is the seasonal word?**

CROXLEY ALARM SYSTEMS

ALARMS ★ LOCKS ★ CCTV

DOOR ENTRY SYSTEMS

**FREE ADVICE AND QUOTATIONS FOR ALL
YOUR SECURITY REQUIREMENTS
DOMESTIC OR COMMERCIAL**

**YOUR LOCAL
NACOSS APPROVED INSTALLER**

**204a NEW ROAD CROXLEY GREEN HERTS WD3 3HH
Phone 01923 771920 - Fax 01923 772901 - Mobile 0468 274750**



FUN PICNIC DAY

5 July - Wimbledon
12 July - World Cup Final
but on

SUNDAY 19 JULY

from 2.00 to 6.00pm

(weather permitting)

Come onto The Green - Revels Site - and picnic or partake in the event. See possible future World Champions in Egg and Spoon, Sack, Three Legged and Running Races. There is no age barrier from 2 to 92 welcome. Young children can paint faces on their own eggs ie boil egg, then apply white emulsion (if you wish), allow to dry then paint a face with felt tip pens and give it a name.

Bring footballs and meet other Croxley residents.

Make a team for the "Tug of War" and join in the rounders match.



*Enjoy your Green and Environment
Hope to see you there*

Cllr R Ridley

BARTON WAY ALLOTMENTS

The allotment site at Barton way dates back to the 1920s. Since then the site has been continuously cultivated by the residents of Croxley Green. Today we have 150 plots of varying sizes.

Allotment plots are measured in the ancient measure of poles. Full plots are normally 10 square poles (30 x 10 yds) but most of ours are now half that size (5 square poles). We also have some smaller plots. The cost is £1.20 per pole per annum with reduced rate for pensioners.

Our members also come in all shapes, and sizes, sexes and ages. A feature of Sunday afternoons at the allotments is the broad cross-section of our local community working on their plots, sharing produce and exchanging tips. We have pensioners in their 80s and families with small babies all enjoying the pleasures of "The Good Life".

The pleasures of renting an allotment are so many:-

- the peace and quiet
- the healthy outdoor life
- meeting your friends and making new ones
- keeping fit and mobile

- lots of fresh vegetables and fruit
- growing your own favourite varieties
- planting unusual species
- masses of beautiful flowers
- watching the fruits of your labour grow
- saving money

Renting an allotment doesn't have to be about allotment widows, slipped discs and smelly manure. Allotments can also be about an alternative life-style where all the family can have a "day out" in the fresh-air digging, planting, weeding, watering and harvesting. Yes, some of the work is physically hard, but you don't have to do it all at once or on your own and you have always got the picnic, the thermos and the hot bath to look forward to!

One of the great pleasures of a day, or an hour, on the allotment is admiring your work just before you leave for home. The sense of achievement is hard to beat, and unlike so many jobs that we do in life, we know that when we return to the plot the next time we will see the benefit of our labour - the germinating radishes, the sprouting lettuces or the ripening raspberries.

Renting an allotment is a regular commitment but in reality between October and April there is not that much to do. Most of the work comes in the spring and summer when the days are longer and warmer. A plot with a wide range of produce will require about four hours-a-week maintenance, but some of that time will be dedicated to harvesting and trimming the produce for the kitchen.

On the allotments you will meet wonderful characters who will give you all the advice you need. Most of us took on our plots without any idea of how to drill a beetroot or chit a potato. You can learn by speaking to us on the allotments or by watching TV series or reading books and magazines. But, at Barton Way, you can also learn by ringing a group of us who are willing to give you advice over the 'phone or meeting you at your plot to share our experience. We can answer your questions on:-

- Clearing an overgrown plot
- Crop rotation
- the planting calendar
- Propagation
- Composting
- Pest control
- The Organic Method
- The "no dig" approach
- and much, much more.....

If you are interesting in joining our merry band or would like to be shown round the site, please give Pam Morgan (Secretary) a ring on (01923 - 773079).

The Barton Way allotments are on the same site as The Croxley Green Horticultural and Allotment Holders Society. The society has its trading hut next to our site, behind the library. They are open on Sundays from 10-12 am from March through to October. Membership to the society entitles you to use the trading hut and benefit from its bargain prices. It also allows you to enter the Society show in September. Throughout the year the society runs outings and arranges speakers for the benefit of its members. For the princely sum of £2.00 per annum you can have all of this and much, much more besides.

Why not drop in one Sunday morning at the trading hut for a chat? You never know, you may find there all the goodies you need to get you going on your new allotment!

Don't delay it another year. Call Pam today and tomorrow you can look forward to new potatoes, freshly picked sweet-corn and summer pudding all from your own allotment and by your own fair hands (chemical free if you go Organic)!



Pam Morgan

Secretary - Barton Way Allotment Association

Tel: 01923 773079

Back to School

- Anyone for Maths?

More and more children are avoiding falling behind at school by joining popular after-school Maths classes in Watford.

All students start with an individual assessment and begin the programme at a level that matches their current ability.

Starting at this level enables students to gain the magic 100% immediately and this boosts confidence enormously.

If possible, students attend class

twice weekly. In class they study for up to half an hour; they also take a small amount of work home. With daily practice they will master the basics and develop good concentration.

All this helps them to realise that maths needn't be such a mountain to climb - it can even be fun! Special stickers and certificates are collected by all students for good work and add to the atmosphere of fun and achievement.

Once enrolled, each student pays a £38.00 per month membership fee.

Give your child

CONFIDENCE & SUCCESS

with **Kumon Maths**



- Free Enrolment (save £15) 21/1/98 to 20/4/98
- Individual programme
- For all ages and abilities

Watford Study Centre
01923 774455

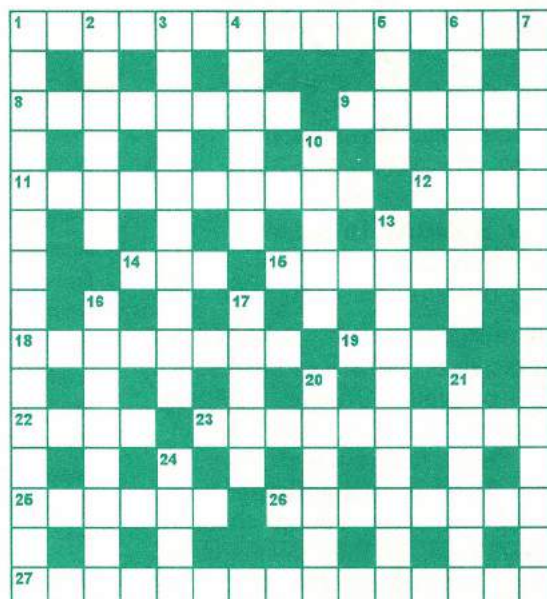
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD - WIN £10 VOUCHER

Across

- 1 Paper maker's unfashionable in this street (9,6)
 8 A road to roam and yawn strangely in (5,3)
 9 A padre oddly in a procession (6)
 11 Spirited transport at the fairground (5,5)
 12 Direction for actor (4)
 14 Luton or Sutton (3)
 15 Crane is odd before love situation (8)
 18 Put everything in these bags (8)
 19 Consumed blended tea (3)
 22 Musical for jazz lovers (4)
 23 Orwell grew no crops here! (6,4)
 25 Hobble the self, it's clear (6)
 26 Secret ices tore apart (8)
 27 County, meadow, pod. The children wear red here! (5,4,6)

Down

- 1 March explicitly for how the population is structured (15)
 2 The group of ships is initially carrying oriental nickel via old Yarmouth (6)
 3 Not logical, a share in an unusual lair (10)
 4 A flight sounds like it looks hard (6)
 5 One of four in the playground (4)
 6 Lovers of not being paid (8)
 7 "Vote for old bird!" Claim he made oddly.
 "It's potentially elemental." (15)
 10 Drink around a hundred makes one cringe (5)
 13 No good at games, is it the football team of the international organisation? (10)
 16 Antique clock, not so young in the wild west (3,5)
 17 A thousand alight on the liver, perhaps (5)
 20 "Morning, American journalist." said Queen Victoria, who wasn't. (6)
 21 Musical party at the barbers (4,2)
 24 Sounds like the rent has gone up! (4)



Name

Address

The winner will be the first correct entry drawn at random at the Council Meeting on Thursday 25 June 1998.

Entries to be received by The Parish Council no later than Friday 19 June 1998

Compiled by: Cllr Tim Davis

CROXLEY GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE



As Chairman of Croxley Green Community Centre, I would like to introduce the activities of the Club to your readers as they may not be aware of all the different organisations who regularly hold meetings or classes there. For example, there is a children's nursery school each weekday morning, Musical Minis for ages 6 months to pre-school children on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, an aerobics class on Monday evenings, One to One Fitness on Wednesday evenings, the Evergreens over 50's club on Thursday afternoons and folk dancing on Friday afternoons. If you are seeking a hall in which to hold your meeting, class or function,

please give us a call. Our rates are extremely good.

We also hold Bingo on Friday and Sunday evenings commencing at 7.30pm, not to mention the various entertainments held once a month in the Hall on a Saturday evening on Club Nights. We also hold other events so keep an eye on our notice boards. Please note that "Play Your Cards Right" evening advertised in the Croxley Green Resident for 16 May is now to be held on Saturday 23 May.



Croxley Green Community Centre is here for the community. Why don't you come along and give us a try. For further details contact Marion Johnson, Club Secretary on 01923 778607 during the morning, or Bob Hallett the Steward on 01923 777647.

Cheryl Frost, Chairman

SPILL LESS THAN A PINT AND SAVE SOMEONE

Have you visited someone in hospital lately? After an operation some unknown person apart from the fantastic doctors or nurses might have helped. Who? The Donor!

As cars need oil, bodies need blood. Can you give up to an hour of your time for someone else. If you phone 0345 711711 and are between 18 and 60, you could be accepted as a donor. You don't get a cape and cowl just a feeling you might have helped someone else, and who knows one day you might be the recipient, or perhaps one of your family.

Fact:- Less than 6% of the population give blood. Less than a pint, not a lot really, for a life!



Cllr Robert Ridley