

Published by:
Croxley Green
Parish Council
 The Council Offices
 Community Way
 Croxley Green
 Rickmansworth
 Herts WD3 3SU
 Tel: 01923 710250
 E-mail: croxleypc@btconnect.com

The Parish Pump

Issue No 26
Winter 2004

EDITORIAL

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce to you two new members of staff for the Parish Council. The Clerk – David Allison and his PA – Sylvia Stratford who will be pleased to deal with any enquires you may have.

Once again it is the time of the year that we at the Parish Council (Councillors and Employees) would like to wish all the people of Croxley Green a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

It has been a very eventful summer period on the Green, with the classic cars, steam fair and also the motor bike event with another fair. A lot of people enjoyed these events judging by the telephone calls that we received at the office

Our rangers were kept very busy keeping the Green in tip top condition

for the people of Croxley Green to enjoy. One of our best assets in the village.

The multi sports court is now ready for use and I hope that the people of Croxley Green, will enjoy this facility that has been created in shared partnership with Three Rivers District Council.

It has been noticed that some of the bus shelters suffered from vandalism, with graffiti or broken panels. Our aims at the Parish Council are to make our village safe and clean so that we can all be proud of Croxley. It is a shame that there are some who want to spoil it.

The next event will be The Best Dressed Christmas Window Competition. Like every year the best three windows are given prizes. February will be the month for the Chairman's Charity Quiz. The charity to be announced later.

Watch this space for future events which your Councillors will be bringing to Croxley for the enjoyment of fellow parishioners.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
 A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Cliff Vassiliou
 Chairman CGPC



The next edition of the Parish Pump will be published in Spring 2005.

Parish Council Office opening times:

Mon-Thurs: 10am – 3pm
 Fri: 10am – 1pm

COUNCILLORS

North Ward:

Ian Bignell	777722
Michael Johns	231203
Hazel Seeley	772696
2 vacancies	

Croxley Green Ward:

Colette Hanson	226530
Christine Jefford	771769
(Chairman – E&A Committee)	
Ron Jefford	771769
David Lee	777004
Cliff Vassiliou	779927
(Chairman of Council)	
1 vacancy	

South Ward:

Nick Bennett	773623
Tony Bennett	711651
Robert Ridley	778638
(Vice Chairman of Council)	
Mark Saxon	772581
David Wynne-Jones	251905
(Chairman – P&D Committee)	

The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views or policy of the Parish Council.

Croxley Green Parish Council • Founded 1986

Croxley 'Green' Group

The Keep Croxley 'Green' Group are an action group comprised of residents who strongly oppose the recent application by London Underground (LUL) to build a rail track replacement depot on a greenbelt site in Croxley. We are not against the replacement of the rail track, which is undoubtedly necessary to improve a rail network that has been poorly managed and allowed to degrade to what is presently an antiquated and unreliable method of commuting. However, we firmly believe that the Croxley greenbelt site is totally unsuitable for this highly industrial development, and that LUL, if pushed, have other alternatives for this depot.

Where is the proposed site?

The site is situated on the edge of Long Valley Wood at the back of Frankland Road. It is bordered by the Grand Union Canal and Common Moor on one side and ancient woodland on the other. The site is accessible from Lavroc Lane (Footpath 11) and Mill Lane (footpath 17). Several well used paths cross the site linking Frankland Road to the canal towpath.

What is the history of the site?

The site was originally an old quarry where evidence of ice age habitation was uncovered over a century ago. In the 1950's the site was compulsorily purchased by London Underground to be used **solely** as a tip for earth, spoil and waste products resulting from the development of the London Underground. At this time, the site became known locally as the old Croxley Tip. However, London Underground stopped tipping on the site over 20 years ago and since then it has been left abandoned. Consequently, the site has slowly evolved into a tranquil area enjoyed by hundreds of local residents as a local amenity. LUL have failed to maintain the land or care for it in any way so it has been local residents who have, over the years, cleared the site of illegally tipped rubbish, kept foliage cut back from paths, planted grass seed and generally maintained the area. The site now merges with the surrounding woodland and provides a safe habitat for a wealth of wildlife including some rare and protected species. Deer are regularly spotted foraging on the site and rare birds and butterflies are regularly recorded. Buddleias grow in abundance and the locals now know the site as the Buddleia Walk.

Why are residents so opposed to the development of this site?

Residents and local councillors feel that the proposed rail track depot would be a totally inappropriate development of this tranquil greenbelt site. The depot requires the use of large industrial equipment and operational hours will include trains shunting up and down the Metropolitan line to Watford and back in order to enter or exit the site during the night and at weekends. The site will require high levels of lighting which risk disrupting nocturnal animals, especially several bat species known to use the canal as a feeding corridor. The only road access available to the site is down public footpath 11. It would be totally impractical, not to mention dangerous for pedestrians to share a footpath with HGV's accessing the site. After considering these, and other concerns, the Three Rivers Planning Committee voted unanimously to reject this application.

If the application has been rejected, why are residents still so worried?

LUL has the right to appeal to the Secretary of State against the decision made by the Council. This would very likely involve a Public Enquiry and the battle to prevent this development will continue. They have until 16th December to lodge their appeal. It has already taken residents hundreds of hours to research LUL's application and with only limited resources, we feel the battle is tipped in favour of a large organisation with professional expertise at their fingertips. The Keep Croxley 'Green' group are therefore calling on the whole community of Croxley to stand together against this development of our precious greenbelt. Residents already have the full support of MP – Richard Page; District and local councillors; the Parish Council; Residents Association; Campaign to Protect Rural England; Planning Aid; amongst others. Posters are being delivered by the Residents Association to display in your windows and it will help greatly if residents also write to Richard Page MP expressing their concerns as it is the weight of objection that will help to influence an appeal decision. For more information, please don't hesitate to contact a member of the Keep Croxley 'Green' Group on 01923 778660 or 01923 772798 or visit our website at www.keeptocroxleygreen.co.uk.



STONES ORCHARD

Every year we plant new fruit trees in Stones Orchard. Every year some get snapped, uprooted and thrown around the Orchard. Why? Who knows, perhaps boredom, perhaps just bloody mindedness or maybe ignorance. More unfortunate vandalism.

These trees are carefully selected and have to be especially grafted for us. They are all local Hertfordshire fruit varieties, are very hard to obtain and have to be ordered up to a year in advance. So to see them snapped and uprooted for no reason is very frustrating.

This year so far we have put in five trees, with more to come. The trees were planted on a Friday and by Monday morning one had already been snapped and uprooted. Where is the sense in this? It seems a shame after careful selection that someone deems it "fun" to ruin them.

Hertfordshire fruit varieties are chosen to keep old, local fruit varieties from extinction as these are seldom grown in people's gardens due to the better fruiting and growth qualities of newer varieties. The only way of keeping such varieties alive is in orchards like Stones Orchard and other less commercial orchards with a

view towards conserving traditional varieties.

If the perpetrators read this article please think about what you are doing. What does it achieve? Nothing! You're spoiling something for everyone so please leave the trees alone.

Hopefully the remaining trees and any we plant in the future will be left intact. We are looking into new ways of protecting them and hopefully we can solve this problem.

Andrew Goddard
Ranger
Croxley Green Parish
Council



Walkies

"Hello, my name is Bess" a feisty black and white Jack Russell cross I'm going to tell you about my friends and the acquaintances I meet when I take my owner for his daily walk in and around Stones Orchard.

I usually walk with my best pal "Jasper" a rather laid back springer and meet up with "Charlie" a white staffie. We see a great many friends, such as "Gilbert" the lurcher, "Pebbles" the greyhound and "Jessie", Jasper's sister.

We used to see "Cracker" the black retriever, but not lately. Sometimes we see "Champers" the golden retriever, "George" the bulldog and a new friend "Pippa" the spaniel, also "Archie" the toy poodle and

"Reggie" the brown staffie who delights in eating logs and tree stumps, and a playful "Schnauzer" called "Louis".

We do have continental cousins, a fierce looking but handsome Dogue de Bordeaux called "Wilf", there is also a Bouvier Des Flanders who I chase after quite a lot.

There are of course many other nodding acquaintances such as, Alsatian, the Border Collie twins, setters, greyhounds, jack russells, Scotties, weimaraner, yorkies, cairns, mongrels, rescue dogs, Pomeranian, basset hound, boxer, cavalier KC, Doberman, Dalmatian, Labrador, poodle, great dane, South African ridgeback. Have I forgotten anyone?

I have no idea what the owner's names are or where they live, but as long as they keep us warm, well fed and watered, what's in a name.

Bess Neighbour

And on the subject of dogs:

Dog Waste Bags Are Available From Croxley Parish Council Offices, Community Way Free!

Got the bug?

Having written a number of articles about the flora and fauna to be found in the orchard, this year I thought I would write about "creepy crawlies" beetles, insects etc - "Big Mistake".

Identifying twenty four easily named and common species I came to a dead stop with "Ichneumon suspiciusus". Most beetles seem to have names such as this and would mean nothing to all

but the serious bug hunter. I gave up. Listed Meadow grasshopper, common earwig, ladybird 7 spot and 22 spot, violet ground beetle, lock chaffer, click beetle, hoverfly, blue bottle, house fly, wasp, bee, red and black ants. Millipede, garden spider, common wood louse, slugs and snails, stag beetle, ground beetle, lace wing, field digger wasp. There was

however some consolation in noting the continual spread of wild flowers, bryony and common toad flax in particular, and much to my delight an evening primrose, much to my regret this flowered and was cut down and dug out (hope you are reading this you vandal). Fortunately I found one other plant and some cuckoopint.

Two ring necked parakeets have been seen and a green woodpecker has been visiting, the jays have reared a family. Butterflies and moths have been a little scarce, but one painted lady came for a short stay.

Enjoy this delightful walking area and help to keep it tidy by using the bins provided.

David Neighbour

Croxley Common Moor – An Appreciating Asset

Did you know there is a wild open space in Croxley Green where, if you're lucky, on a fine day you can see kites, buzzards, kingfishers, woodpeckers and the occasional muntjac deer?

Yes, more and more walkers, bird watchers, orienteers and just about anyone who fancies wilderness and fresh air are discovering this heath land. On a summer's evening one can imagine oneself walking in the Peak District, rather than just sixteen miles from Trafalgar Square as the crow flies.

When I first came to Croxley in 1962 there were about a dozen 'commoners' who had special rights on the land there. Back in Victorian times to have rights on a common could be a very valuable thing – the right to trap rabbits, to graze geese, to collect fire wood and rushes for thatching, not to mention the right to graze five sheep and two cattle or three goats and a horse. Up to the First World War there were thirty commoners, each of whom had some special rights.

The number dwindled to about five in the seventies and only one used his right to graze cows. The right of 'commonage' was regulated by Act of Parliament to keep in tune with the times and the moor is now administered by the Countryside Management Service, Three Rivers and the Friends of Croxley Moor; of which I am the Chairman. In fact, it is a site of special scientific interest (SSSI). We do bush clearance, ragwort control, putting up nesting boxes and general 'management'. If you would like to be involved, please ring 01923 251905.

David Wynne-Jones

Chairman FCCM

12th Annual Garden Competition

I am always amazed at the many lovely gardens there are in Croxley Green. The standard of entries was very high this year, which made judging quite challenging. As always, the final judging day was very hot, and our thanks go to Mr and Mrs Edwards and Mr and Mrs Mead for providing much needed cold drinks. Thanks too to Elizabeth Boléat, District Cllr who presented the prizes at a very enjoyable evening at the Parish Council offices in September.

There is a display of photographs of the gardens entered at the Parish Council offices, so please do come along and have a look. The results of the competition are shown elsewhere in this edition of the Parish Magazine.

Cllr H Seeley



12th Annual Garden Competition 2004

RESULTS

FRONT GARDENS

1 st	Mrs D Gander	-	87 Sycamore Road
2 nd	Mrs B Gibbons	-	76 Sherborne Way
3 rd	Mr D Jeffs	-	6 Owens Way

Highly Commended:
Mr and Mr D Edwards - 3 Lancing Way

SMALL BACK GARDENS

1 st	Mr D Jeffs	-	6 Owens Way
2 nd	Mrs D Gander	-	87 Sycamore Road
3 rd	Mr and Mrs D Edwards	-	3 Lancing Way

LARGE BACK GARDENS

1 st	Mr L Mays	-	88 New Road
2 nd	Mr and Mrs D Sheriff	-	126 Valley Walk
3 rd	Mr T French	-	83 Frankland Road

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Croxley Guild Bowls Club

PUBLIC HOUSE

The Red House - Watford Road

Received from **Chalmers Court**

The residents of Chalmers Court would like you to know how appreciative they are of the weekly free bus service to Watford which you have provided for them.

Most are unable to walk up the hill to the bus stop and for others it is the only opportunity for independent shopping with help and company of others. Thank you

Received from **Mr D Edwards, 3 Lancing Way**

I am writing this letter to express my appreciation to whomsoever it applies for the wonderful events that have been organised on our Croxley Green during this summer.

I've always said that we have a beautiful Green that's not used to any where near its potential. But at last somebody has ignored these so called 'DO GOODERS' and given the residents and others some lovely evenings with well planned Fairs, Revels and Classic Car Shows.

Usually we have one event to look forward to being our lovely REVELS. Well now we have had two fairgrounds and a steam rally. Apart from the Revels, the Classic Car Show was my favourite. Not because I'm a fan of these, but the wonderful serene atmosphere it generated. People sitting by their old cars with the picnic tables and wine bottles. As you walked by they were offering you a glass of wine etc.

Although I've lived in Croxley Green since 1954, strangely enough I didn't meet anybody I knew, and I guess there must have been

as many people as at The Revels. They did have a glorious evening for it weather wise as well.

Thank you again and keep up the good work and hope to see these events next year. One last comment. None of these events left any mess behind (you wouldn't know they had been there the next day.

Yours gratefully

Dave and Carol Edwards

The Parish Council would like to thank Mrs Jo Gardiner for the donation of a tree for Stones Orchard.

Also a thank you to Mrs Rowley for the donation towards a tree in Stones Orchard.

Received from **Cllr Mark Saxon**

Last Thursday I telephoned Bernie Ecclestone, the Formula 1 Supremo and asked him for his comments on the new F1 track being developed in Croxley Green. When he admitted surprise at my question, I pressed him further indicating that a number of potential F1 drivers were obviously testing the roads in Croxley Green for suitability in running this high powered sport. He stated that he had no knowledge of any such event taking place and advised me to look elsewhere for an answer.

Well what could these men in their Vauxhalls, Fords, Volvos and the like be doing throwing their vehicles around the roads of Croxley

Green? I've seen it myself on The Green, Harvey Road, Frankland Road and other places. Vehicles speeding down these roads at a speed where, should anybody have the temerity to cross the road in front of them, their ability to stop safely would be seriously hampered by their total lack of regard for road conditions. The ability to 'do a donut' (that is turning a car round and round in one spot with the tyres squealing) is an impressive one BUT not one to be practised on public roads.

I have a simple message to these drivers – Track days are available at most circuits. The public roads of Croxley are NOT the place to show off the prowess of either your car or your driving skills or the lack of them. Please have some respect for other road users, residents and pedestrians. It will only take one fatal accident with the accompanying jail sentence to bring you back to your senses.

If you're reading this and see yourself or someone you know described in this article please take note, a gentle reminder like this is far better than a Court appearance for driving without due care and attention, or, heaven forbid, something worse.

CARDBOARD RECYCLING

You are now able to recycle cardboard in Barton Way Car Park on the second Saturday of each month between 9am and 12 noon.

Obituary – John Hedges

Most people will be aware that on Monday 27th September, John Hedges, at the relatively young age of 69, died of a heart attack in Watford General Hospital following an operation on his foot from which he appeared to be recovering.

Whilst repeating members deepest condolences to his family on this sad occasion it is appropriate to acknowledge and pay tribute to the significant part John played in the affairs of Croxley Green Parish Council.

Born in Croxley Green and attending Central School, he left to join a firm of architects with a view to qualifying.

Between 1953 and 1955 his studies were interrupted while he did his National Service in the RAF, becoming an expert on interpreting aerial photographs. On leaving the RAF he resumed his studies and became interested in RICKMANSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH YOUTH CLUB AND YOUTH FELLOWSHIP where he became leader and remained so for 25 years.

It was at the YOUTH FELLOWSHIP that he met Molly, they were married in 1963 and subsequently had three children, Naomi, David and Petra.

After their marriage, for economic reasons, they moved to Chesham where they lived until 1967 then moving to Rickmansworth until 1976 when they moved back to Croxley Green.

John qualified as an architect in 1964 and although no longer living in the village, maintained interest in village affairs working with his father who was also involved in most things locally.

Resident once again in Croxley Green, John became a member of the Croxley Residents Association, becoming editor of The Resident in 1986 and remaining so until the end.

He also became a member and increasingly involved in the Croxley Green Society, whose major interest was organising and running The Revels on the Green. John's father had been a senior organiser of The Revels for many years and John took over from him in 1986. Ably assisted by Molly, John worked tirelessly on The Revels for almost 20 years and derived immense satisfaction from its annual success.

Early in the 1980's, together with several other members of the Residents Association, he became involved in discussions regarding the creation of a Parish Council., Although initially somewhat reluctant he progressively became more enthusiastic and eventually Croxley Green Parish Council was formed in 1986, and with 15 other people, John was formally elected a founder member.

Elected Chairman in 1992, he presided over the development of the Council from having a part-time Clerk with the Parish Office in his dining room and meetings held in the Reading Room of the old Croxley Library, to having a full time Clerk with an assistant in their own office together with a Council Chamber and two Rangers with a purpose built garage/workshop for their equipment. With a short break between May 1999 and July 2000 he remained Chairman until May 2001. He retired from the Council in January 2002.

John had three loves in his life, his family, his church and Croxley Green. He also had one major dislike, this was confrontation and he firmly believed that any problem could be solved by rational discussion between reasonable people, most of the time he was right.

Qualifying as a lay preacher with the Methodist Church at St. Mary's Church, Rickmansworth in 1994, as the years passed John spent more and more of his time on this activity.

Always ready to listen and to help, one thing is for sure, there are very few people left in Croxley Green with John Hedges dedication to the community, he will indeed be sorely missed.

**CROXLEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
COMMUNITY BUS
DO YOU USE THIS SERVICE?
TO WATFORD TOWN CENTRE – EVERY FRIDAY**

1ST JOURNEY

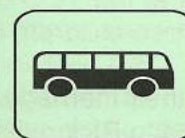
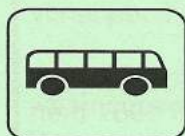
Winton Drive Approach	9.30am
Shaftsbury Court	9.32am
Malvern Way/Barton Way	9.34am
Fuller Way/Barton Way	9.36am
Hanover House	9.37am
Baldwins Lane/Baptist Church	9.40am
Return from Watford	12 noon

2ND JOURNEY

Sycamore Approach	10.00am
Valley Walk (Green)	10.01am
Valley Walk/Beechcroft Ave	10.03am
Frankland Rd/Harvey Rd	10.05am
Chalmers Court	10.08am
All Saints Lane Outside Church	10.10am
New Road	10.12am
Return from Watford	12.30pm

3RD JOURNEY

Junction Links Way & Warwick Way	10.30am
Junction Links Way & Dover Way	10.31am
Junction Links Way & Little Green Lane	10.32am
Junction Little Green Lane & Durrants Drive	10.33am
Junction Durrants Drive & Dover Way	10.34am
Kenilworth Drive/Baldwins Lane Footpath	10.36am
Manor Way	10.38am
Grove Court	10.40am
Return from Watford	1.00pm



FREE FARE

*For the exclusive use of Senior Citizens and
persons in sheltered accommodation.
You may be required to show proof of eligibility*

Croxley Camera Club

Croxley Camera Club are a small group of photographic enthusiasts who meet weekly, at 8pm every Wednesday between September to April at St. Oswalds church hall.

We have been meeting in Croxley for over forty years, and usually have a tent full of our pictures at the Revels on The Green in June. We also give an annual show in March when our audience are taken on trips around the world through the lens of a camera. Cameras can of course be a simple "point and shoot", a slightly more complicated SLR, or even, as is becoming more popular, Digital. We cater for all mediums at this club and if you just want to come to watch the pictures you will also be made very welcome!

Our weekly meetings vary from talks by experienced photographers with slides or prints, slide competitions, print competitions and practical workshops.

We also produce the Croxley Camera Club calendar, which is now on sale in the local library. The views within this calendar are all the work of members of the Club and are chosen for their representation of our local area.

If you enjoy photography in any shape or form please don't be shy in coming to join us. A warm welcome will always be extended to any visitors or prospective members.

Paul Bradley
Chairman
01923 220240

Family Fun at Croxley Common Moor

During the summer (which seems like a long time ago now!) just under 200 people visited Croxley Common Moor to enjoy the sunshine and take part in a series of fun activities run by Three Rivers District Council. Children participated in events which ranged from practising their origami skills to hunting out all sorts of creepy crawlies that were hiding on the moor – no bug was safe! We grabbed our nets, put on our wellies and took a dip in to a shallow part of the River Gade. On emptying our bulging nets we found an array of life ranging from freshwater shrimps to Bull's Headfish (also known as Miller's Thumb due to their flat heads) which like to lurk amongst the relative safety of the river bed.

A mini-beast safari led to the discovery of an interesting assortment of insect life, some of which the children (and parents) were seeing for the first time. Wiggly worms and spiders produced shrieks from some. Colourful shieldbugs and ladybirds produced smiles. However, the aerial acrobatics of click beetles, which lie on their backs and use their wing cases to jump up to 12 cm in the air, did not fail to delight even the most squeamish.

If you fancy joining the next Bug Hunt which will take place round Easter 2005, swishing your net in the River Gade, or you would like to arrange a specific activity for your own group then get in touch with Kay FitzGerald of Three Rivers District Council at kay.fitzgerald@threerivers.gov.uk, or on 01923 727105.

Kay FitzGerald
Community Liaison Officer

Three Rivers Museum on the Map

In June Three Rivers Museum was contacted by an independent television company asking whether they could come and film in Basing House. They asked for maps and other information relating to Money Hill House to be available. Barbara Owens, the Chairman, and Ann Vernau, the Secretary, collected together the required items and welcomed members of the film crew when they arrived. Passers-by soon became interested when they realised there was a 'celebrity', Vic Reeves, in their midst. Barbara was filmed inside the Museum showing Vic the various artefacts and explaining the history of Money Hill. It is hoped some, at least of the footage will have survived to feature in a new programme *Who Do You Think You Are?* to be shown on BBC2 this autumn.

In a somewhat more academic vein the Museum also welcomed three geologists and archaeologists employed on the Ancient Human Occupation of Britain (AHOB) project. In their quest to find out when the first humans reached Britain, Dr Danielle Schreve of the Royal Holloway College, Dr Mark White of Durham University and Professor John Catt of University College London visited Three Rivers Museum to examine the many bones, flint hand-axes and other tools in the Museum's collection. Funded by a £1 million grant from Leverhulme Trust, they are researching sites and re-examining existing collections using modern scientific techniques. They were able to identify several locally found artefacts of interest to the AHOB project and in the process helped the Museum to gain a better appreciation of the historical value of certain items in its collection.

The Museum in Basing House between Watersmeet and Rickmansworth Library, is open to the public from 2pm to 4pm on Mondays to Fridays, and 10am to 4pm on Saturdays. It can also be opened for group visits by prior arrangement at other times.

Mrs Barbara Owen, Chairman
Three Rivers Museum

Barton Way MSC

In July this year we were able to open the Multi Sports Court. After involving our Three Rivers District Council Councillors they agreed to use the money that had been in their budget to revitalise the disused tennis court. This amenity is there for use by all of the residents of Croxley Green. However, some people can't help but try to spoil others enjoyment. Vandalism has already occurred and makes you wonder why, whilst some try to better the environment they reside in, others are determined to ruin the facilities. Structural damage isn't the only way to vandalise; dog owners are allowing their pets to foul the MSC playing area, which is one reason why it is fenced in, as are children's play areas. If you know who allows their dogs to foul the MSC, please inform the Parish Council so we can take the appropriate steps.

Tennis Wall

After discussion with Three Rivers District Council Councillors, it appears that they are in full support of building a tennis wall in the Baldwins Lane Park. Apparently Three Rivers District Council are going to refurbish the tennis courts, so incorporating a tennis wall makes economic sense at this time. The Parish Council is attempting to create ongoing dialogue with our District Councillors and we hope that further joint projects in Croxley can come to fruition for the benefit of our residents.

Barton REC Sports Walls

Your Parish Council are in dialogue with Three Rivers District Council to hopefully build two sports walls (6 foot

high, 8 foot wide?) in Barton Way Rec. These walls hopefully could be placed at the approximate distance of goals on an under elevens size pitch, and could be multi-use for anyone with a ball. We have asked Three Rivers District Council to fund this project and are awaiting their reply.

Winton Crescent Parking

The residents of Winton Crescent were contacted by Three Rivers District Council informing them that parking restrictions were to be introduced which would lead to no parking Monday to Friday 9am to 6pm in their road. The Parish Council was in the process of surveying the residents about whether they would prefer Winton Crescent to become one way, lose their grass verges and have parking bays where appropriate, or to have a period of time daily when there would be no parking during the week. We arranged a meeting with District Cllr R Seabourne where the residents were able to express their views. The consensus was to have a one hour parking restriction during the day, this is now in the process of being implemented.

We hope that dialogue with the residents of Winton Crescent has resulted in a solution to their problems and we have now also surveyed the residents of Springfield Close for their views on car parking. We are still attempting to get NPC to put better signage relating to locality and tariff/spaces available in the station car park.

Parish Councillors

The Parish Council needs residents who take an interest in Croxley to join the Parish Council. You would have to be able to donate a few evenings per month and some odd days throughout the year. Why do it you ask? You may have ideas that you believe would enhance Croxley, ideas that could improve the environment that you live in. That's what the existing Councillors believe. We might get things wrong, but we do come to the table to discuss issues of concern to local residents. You may think what are the Parish Council doing for us? If you think you could improve Croxley for the benefit of others then consider becoming a Councillor. Telephone the office for details.

Scots Hill Planters

Three Rivers District Council refurbished the retail area on Scots Hill this year. Part of this refurbishment included the siting of two large concrete planters on the pavement. The Parish Council deem these to be unsightly and unsuitable for this area. However, if you, the parishioners, believe that they should stay, be placed somewhere else in the parish, or not be there at all, please contact the office, otherwise we will endeavour to have them removed.

Fun on the Green

In July of this year we held this annual event. The day started off dodgy with a shower of rain in the morning that put Fun on the Green in doubt, however, the day brightened up and some 85 people showed up. The usual games were played and picnics were

eaten. It was good to see regulars and greet new ones. Even if you do not want to participate in the fun and games, then utilising the green and enjoying yourselves is fun in itself. Next year don't think about it – do it. You never know, you might enjoy yourself.

Cllr Ridley

"Skinner" Gibson

After reading the very interesting account of the Croxley Revels submitted by Margaret Hobbs, it led me to think that my husband is probably the oldest resident who was born and has lived in Croxley for the whole of his 90 years.

After leaving "NEGGIE" Wilson's school at the age of 14, he worked for the next three years for Clarks the Butchers in Vicarage Road, Watford, delivering to customers unable to get to the shop. The bike he was given was twice as heavy as he was. The large basket on the front was enamel lined which upset the balance of the bike, causing it to fall over and distribute some of the contents. No sealed plastic bags, just a small piece of paper for wrapping, no prizes for guessing what happened to some of the meat, or what he did with his apron. A few years previous his dad had started a coal business and Croxley was expanding so people needed coke for their nice new boilers, so Frank at age 17 changed from butcher boy to coalman. The firm of J A Gibson & Sons were well respected in the district and very generous too, loaning a lorry and driver for many occasions, scout holidays, furniture moving, tables and chairs for garden parties

etc., and of course on regular call for the Croxley Revels all at no expense to the recipients. A year before war broke out in 1939, he joined the Auxiliary Fire Service, the "Headquarters" being in a garage in Copthorne Road. Again, using one of Gibson's lorries to tow equipment needed for fire fighting. One response was to the extensive fire at the oil refineries on the Essex Coast.

He was a very keen footballer, known locally as "SKINNER" sharing his years with "Rickmansworth Town" and "Dickinsons Croxley" plus two sessions with Watford FC after the war.

Naturally he has seen Croxley grow from a few streets to the thriving community which we know today. He just hopes and prays that he will never see his lovely "GREEN" desecrated. He has a very caring, loving family and although failing in mind and body during the last few years, he still hasn't lost his sense of humour.

Mrs W A Gibson
34 Beechcroft Avenue

Custody Visitors

The Hertfordshire Police Authority is responsible for recruiting and administering Independent Custody Visitors.

These are volunteer members of the public from all ages and backgrounds who visit detainees held in police custody areas to check on their welfare and conditions. They then report back to the Police Authority.

Due to changes made by the Home Office, Hertfordshire Police Authority now require

more custody visitors in the Western area to carry out visits to Watford or Hemel Hempstead police stations. The Authority provides training, travel expenses for visits and values the visitors' opinions, which provide reassurance for the police and community alike.

If you are interested in becoming an Independent Custody Visitor please contact Roger Bardle, Hertfordshire Police Authority for an application form or further information on 01992 555628.

A Bargain!

What can you get these days for £2.00? Let me tell you about a locally available bargain.

£2.00 will buy you a year's subscription to the Croxley Green gardening club.

You do not have to be a gardener or indeed own a garden! Just an interest in gardening matters.

Your membership will give you the opportunity to attend our coach outings to places of interest such as country houses, there are three trips a year.

In the winter months there are talks at St Oswald's hall on various topics, not all associated with gardening.

There is, of course, the hut which sells composts, weed killers, fertilisers, canes, pots etc and is situated at the entrance to the car park in Community Way.

All this for £2.00 per household.

If you want to know more, please phone GED Meador – Secretary on 01923 775912.

Kathleen Perry
Chairman – Croxley Green Gardening Club



FARMHOUSE PIZZA

188 b Watford Road,
Croxley Green, Rickmansworth

**FREE
DELIVERY**



**20% Off
COLLECTION
PIZZAS ONLY**

(not valid with any offers)

Tel: 21 1733

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
FROM 12 NOON TILL LATE

2nd SPECIAL

Any Two 9" Pizzas
for £9.99

Any Two 12" Pizzas
for £13.99

Any Two 15" Pizzas
for £15.99

LUNCHTIME SPECIAL

Any 9" Medium Pizza
from the set menu,
1 Tub of Coleslaw
& 1 Can of Soft Drink

£4.95

Monday to Friday, 12.00noon - 3.00pm

SUPER SPECIAL

9" Cheese & Tomato Pizza
+ 3 Toppings & choice of
1 Can of Soft Drink or 1 Coleslaw

£5.99

12" Cheese & Tomato Pizza
+ 3 Toppings & choice of
2 Cans of Soft Drink or 1 Coleslaw

£8.99

15" Cheese & Tomato Pizza
+ 3 Toppings & choice of
1 Bottle of Soft Drink or 1 Coleslaw

£9.99

Conditions: 1. Please mention the offer when you are ordering. 2. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.
3. We reserve the right to refuse any offer that we judge to be unreasonable. 4. No cash refunds or alternatives on any promotion.
5) Drivers carry only £10.00 in change.

SHAMMA DRY CLEANERS

200 Watford Road
Croxley Green
WD3 3BX
Tel: 01923 210000

- Same Day Cleaning
- Duvet Service
- Tailoring Alterations
- Keycutting

- Unbeatable Service
- Competitive Price
- Leather Care
- Shoe Repairs

and
passport photographs

DELIVERY\COLLECTION OF DRYCLEANING

Autumn

Chilly dawns, misty morns,
A garden cobweb hung,
Tawny owls at night,
Starlings last flight,
His summer song is sung.

All autumn's gifts are in my garden laid,
Apples like jewels, nuts, blackberries displayed
These bounties ripe galore
We pick store and gather more
Our labour well repaid.

Thanksgiving, harvest, sight and far into the night,
Burn red and orange bonfire fingers bright.
So now to Christmas, holly's red and green,
In this drab garden nothing else is seen,
'Till crocus time thrusts colour through the drear
snowbells, bring promise of New Year.

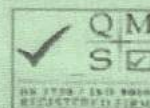
David Wynne-Jones
12 October 2004



**FREE
CONSULTATION
& WRITTEN SURVEY**

**RESIDENTIAL &
COMMERCIAL
PREMISES**

Alarms, Lighting,
Doors & Windows,
Locks, CCTV, Access
Control, Etc.



APPROVED INSTALLER

**0800
197 9469
FAX (01923) 441118**

276 New Road, Croxley Green,
Rickmansworth, Herts WD3 3HH

Parish Council Achievements

Without blowing our trumpet, sometimes we fail to inform you the parishioners, what the Parish Councils has achieved.

Free community bus.

The Parish Map, an award winning map that presents Croxley's history (over 4,000 sold) – reprint possible.

A History of Croxley Green through its Street Name, along with valuable input from local residents, as its title explains, the origins of the road you live in (over 1,000 sold).

Fun on the Green, an annual event that encourages residents of Croxley to use the Green, indulge in games and to mingle with others.

The Skate Park, we instigated the idea of the Skate Park.

Barton Way MSC, refurbishing the tennis courts, which did not even have nets for years, into a multi sports court.

Winton Crescent, by surveying the residents of Winton Crescent we were able to implement a parking scheme that should work, instead of the onerous scheme that was proposed by Three Rivers District Council.

Annual Garden Competition, an annual event that allows light hearted competition between the gardeners of Croxley, including the Public Houses.

Croxley Parish Council Quiz, annual event that allows the brain cells to work whilst having a great evening and raising money for worthy charities (over £3,000.00 raised).

Parish Paths, to have signage/direction and path numbers for all the paths throughout the parish.

Parish Path Walks, to create a number of looped walks throughout the parish along

with some quiz questions to accompany them (available from the Parish Council Office).

Parish Magazine (Parish Pump), delivered to over 5,000 houses twice a year.

Maintenance of the Green/Stones Orchard.

Acting as your consultant to Three Rivers District Council.

The Duke of York

The Duke of York they say
marched all his soldiers up a hill
he marched them down again

The hamster in it's man made
wheel induces rotation with manic
activation but for all it's effort stays
totally inert unmoved in juxtaposition

How many of our personal activities
produce so little, or so small result
for so many frenzied animation

They say that planning gives us
point, a purpose to our actions,
intentions our consequent achievements.
maybe

Take on the blessings of this spring like
summer day, lie in the long grass
listen to the music in your head

The gentle rustle of the trees responding
to the calm caressing forces of
a gentle balmy breeze. running for
cover when the April showers you

To hell with faction, power dressing with
non-achievable ambition, forget the failures
of the day think of your lover

But then this exercise could
easily become, counter productive
in the grand pursuit of sane tranquillity

PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED BY UNITED
PRESS

Cllr Michael Johns

CHARTWELL DENTAL CLINIC

194 WATFORD ROAD, CROXLEY GREEN, HERTS, WD3 3DB

Tel: 01923 244133

DID YOU KNOW?.....

In the confines of our quiet rural village, lies Chartwell Dental Clinic - a practice that prides itself in creating a comfortable and caring environment, while providing a high standard of NHS and private dentistry.

Chartwell can boast that: -

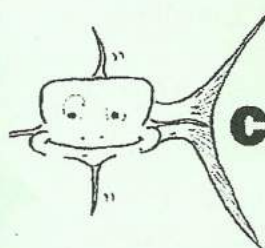
- We have an established sedation unit that has been operating for 25 years. Our Experience and expertise in this field has allowed us to cater for patients with a range of anxieties.
- We have an implant center headed by our highly qualified oral surgeon, Dr Guy McLellan. As well as providing the latest in implant technology, he also holds teaching forums for the dental practitioners in the local area.
- We receive over 3000 referrals every year from dentists who take full advantage of our multidisciplinary set-up.
- We are one of the few remaining practices who are still able to offer sedation under the NHS for diverse courses of treatment.
- Our team includes an oral surgeon who has medical and dental qualifications, consultant anaesthetist, specialist prosthodontist as well as highly qualified support staff.
- We also have an ever increasing NHS patient list of our own and we would love to welcome you too!

For further information, please phone or visit our website at:
www.chartwelldental.com

THE SPORTSMAN

2 SCOTS HILL
CROXLEY GREEN
RICKMANSWORTH
HERTS WD3 3AD
TEL: 01923 443360

- THE ONLY LOCAL PUB TO BE
FEATURED IN THE GOOD BEER
GUIDE 2003
- WEEKLY LIVE MUSIC
- GUEST BEERS
- FRIENDLY FAMILY ATMOSPHERE
- DOGS WELCOME
- LUNCHTIME PUB FOOD



Croxley Divers

Looking for a new leisure activity?

Why not buy a Discover Scuba course!

Drop in and enquire about the wide range of courses on offer, from beginners to advanced.

The one stop shop for the sales and professional servicing of all your scuba diving equipment.

125 New Road, Croxley Green

Hertfordshire WD3 3HU

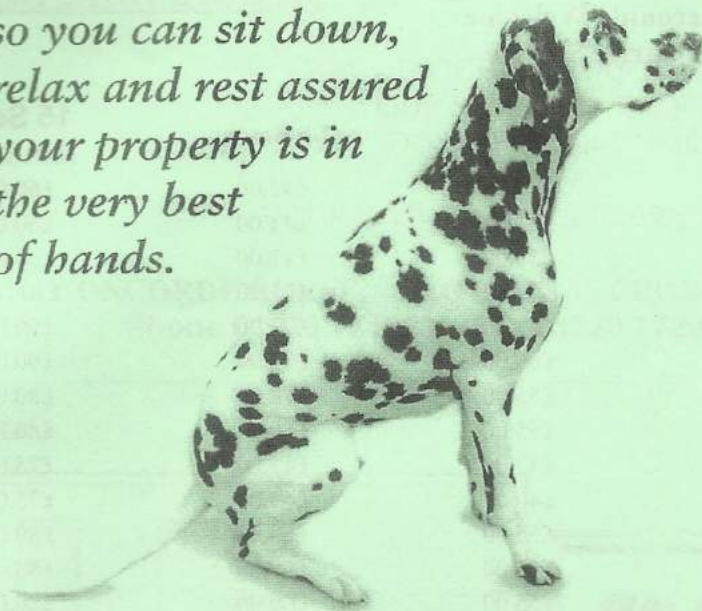
Tel: 01923 777700

Open 6 days a week

www.croxleydivers.co.uk

...we do all the chasing!

*so you can sit down,
relax and rest assured
your property is in
the very best
of hands.*



As the leading independent estate agent for the local area, our proven reputation and experience knocks the spots off the competition.

If you are thinking of moving talk to someone who listens and gets results, talk to Maureen James Associates for a Free No Obligation Valuation of your property.

**Maureen
James**
ASSOCIATES

estate agents

141 New Road, Croxley Green
Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 3EN

www.maureenjamesassociates.com

01923 710500

GROSVENOR **ESTATES**

ESTATE AGENTS

Croxley Green's local Estate Agents for sales, purchases and lettings of all types of property.

We are a family run business established for over 15 years and offer a fast, friendly and efficient service to vendors and buyers alike.

As the only Estate Agents in Croxley Green to be associated with the National Association of Estate Agents we abide by their stringent Codes of Practice.

So, if you're thinking of buying or selling choose Grosvenor Estates – big enough to matter, small enough to care!!!

TEL 01923 711651. FAX 01923 711656

www.grosvenorestates.co.uk

Eagle Cars Croxley

139 Watford Road, Croxley Green, Herts WD3 3DY

Tel: 01923 771111 Fax: 01923 718622

Accounts Welcome

Courier Service

Destination	Car	5/6 Seater	7/8 Seater	15 Seat Minibus
Heathrow T1-T3	£27.00	£35.00	£42.00	£60.00
Heathrow T4	£29.00	£37.00	£44.00	£60.00
Luton	£27.00	£35.00	£42.00	£60.00
Gatwick	£56.00	£68.00	£72.00	£100.00
Stansted	£56.00	£68.00	£72.00	£90.00
City Airport	£56.00	£68.00	£72.00	£90.00
City of London	£40.00	£55.00	£70.00	£80.00
West End	£40.00	£55.00	£60.00	£80.00
Euston/Kings X/St Pancras	£35.00	£42.00	£47.00	£75.00
Paddington	£32.00	£40.00	£45.00	£75.00
Liverpool Street	£40.00	£55.00	£60.00	£80.00
Victoria	£40.00	£55.00	£60.00	£80.00
Waterloo	£40.00	£55.00	£60.00	£80.00
Milton Keynes	£45.00	£52.00	£55.00	£70.00
Chessington	£45.00	£52.00	£55.00	£70.00

Note: London prices DO NOT INCLUDE congestion charge

Estate car prices plus £5

Airport pickups are plus car park fee

PEARSON TURNER PARTNERSHIP

141 New Road, Croxley Green,

Rickmansworth, Herts

Tel: 01923 771588

Fax: 01923 710555

LANDLORDS –

Thinking of letting your property?

Contact us for free valuation and our landlord's guide

TENANTS –

For our property list call Judy Pearson-Turner, MNAEA on 01923 771588

www.croxleygreen.com/ptp

THE NEW ROAD DENTAL PRACTICE



119 NEW ROAD
CROXLEY GREEN
RICKMANSWORTH
HERTS
WD3 3EN
01923 776270

Here in the heart of Croxley Green we believe you will find a practice, which offers a uniquely individual service catering for all your dental needs.

We endeavour to create an agreeable, comfortable atmosphere and offer an attentive service for all ages in a family orientated setting.

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

CONCORDE HOUSE, 4 SCOTS HILL, CROXLEY GREEN, HERTS WD3 3AD
Phone 01923 771920 – Fax 01923 772901 – Mobile 07768 274750



HIGH RISE SCAFFOLDING

**A LOCAL COMPANY FOR ALL
YOUR SCAFFOLDING NEEDS**

Mobile: 07769 900 438

Tel: 01923 350 254

Fax: 01923 896 254

“NO COMPROMISE ON SAFETY”

FULLY INSURED UNDER HEALTH & SAFETY ACT

CROXLEY TYRES



NEW and PART WORN – FITTED FREE

BALANCING ★ TRACKING ★ PUNCTURES



174-176 NEW ROAD · CROXLEY GREEN · HERTS

TEL: 01923 710323

**OIL CHANGE AND SERVICING
CARS BOUGHT AND SOLD**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

REVELS ON THE GREEN
Saturday 18 June 2005

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE
Sunday 13 November 2005

Tommy Cooper

Give unto me a bent a rusty
supermarket trolley
possessing defective steering

Give unto me a plate of eels
a bag of cashew nuts and I will
demonstrate to you the godliness
of Plato, Homer, Tommy Cooper

PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED BY UNITED
PRESS

Cllr Michael Johns

Croxley Guild Bowls Club

Croxley as we know it today is still a wonderful place to live, and in my opinion a place that maintains a village atmosphere, as it was many years ago.

We have our churches, clubs, village pubs, allotments, good schools, shops and library, our own parish council, not forgetting "The Revels" on our beautiful green.

If you like walking, we've got the best with Whippendell Woods, the Chess valley and Croxley Moor to name a few.

What we haven't had for the last 23 years is the John Dickinson paper mill, who after 150 years closed in January 1981. They built up Croxley and employed many from the village. It became a father and son etc family mill. "The Guild house" local meeting place is long gone.

What they did leave for Croxley was their Guild of Sport, a large area opposite the Artichoke Pub on the Green, there is a good club house, football, cricket, tennis and bowls. The ground is leased by the Council for a peppercorn rent, ensuring that it remains a sports ground for us Croxley folk.

We at the bowls club wonder how many locals know that such a bowls club even exists. It's a sport for all ages, we have a ladies and men's section, we play in beautiful surroundings, having this year won the "Community Garden Award" for our grand displays and well kept green and surrounding hedges - a very tranquil and relaxing environment. Although we are very competitive in the Watford and District and County, we also have local friendlies visiting other clubs in the area. We welcome new members and complete beginners.

We open from April to September, all those summer months out in the fresh air playing

with local friendly people. More enjoyable than watching television or snoozing off in the chair with boredom. If you enjoy sport it's better to take part than watch. Why not ring our secretary - Moira Wishart on 01923 443239 for further details for the 2005 season.

Formed in 1926 - Still going strong. Why not be one of us. You will be most welcome.

Roy Wiggs

Croxley Green - A Poem by Geoff Revell

The fairest sight I've ever seen
Is at Croxley on the Green,
Lying lazily in the grass,
As leisurely the cars go past.

Buzzing bees, butterflies,
Burling larks, clear blue skies,
Hot sun, birds a-twittering,
White-clad lads a-cricketing.

Ditches, dells, gravel roads,
Horses and carts with heavy loads,
Cows that amble slowly by,
Udders full, and dull of eye.

Old "Nobby," leaning on his bike,
Tries in vain to light his pipe.
Curses at the gentle breeze
Whispering softly to the trees.

Silent as a waiting mouse,
Sleepy stands the public house,
The "Coach and Horses," old and quaint,
Badly needing a coat of paint.

People having time to talk,
Finding pleasure in a walk;
Well-worn paths on which to stroll,
Grassy slopes down which to roll

Fairest sight of all to me,
Croxley Green as it used to be
Mirrored always in my mind.
Because then friend, I was not blind!

The full article appeared in a recent copy of the Watford Observer and was sent to the Parish Council by a Croxley resident.

The poem, entitled "Croxley Green" is by well-known local personality Geoff Revell. Geoff, whose courage, philosophy and fortitude have won the admiration of all who know him, now sees his native village only with the "inward eye" of memory. His war service brought a trail of suffering, including blindness.

Croxley Green Parish Council

Community Way Croxley Green Rickmansworth Herts WD3 3SU

Notice of Meetings 2004/2005

		2004	2005											
		Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Environment & Amenity Committee	TUESDAY	7	4	1	1	5		7	5		6	4	1	6
Planning & Development Committee	WEDNESDAY	1	5	2	2	6		8	6	3	7	5	2	7
Finance & Administration Committee	THURSDAY	16	13	10	10	14		9	14		8	13	10	8
Planning & Development Committee	WEDNESDAY	15	19	16	16	20		15	20	17	21	19	16	21
Council Meeting	THURSDAY	23	27	24	31	28	12 AGM	30	28		29	27	24	22

All Meetings are held in the Council Chamber and commence at 8.00pm unless otherwise notified.

Members of the Press and Public are welcome to attend.

Please note: There shall be no audio or video recording or photographs of the meeting without the express approval of the Council.

YOU MAY WISH TO DETACH THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Telephone No: 01992 555555
or 01923 471320 (Highways)

Archives
Education
Emergency Planning
Environmental Health
Fire and Public Protection
Footpaths
Highway and Transport Planning
Highways Maintenance
Household Waste Sites
Libraries
Planning
Public Transport
Registration of
Births/Deaths/Marriages
Road Safety
Smallholdings
Social Services
Trading Standards
Traffic Regulations
Waste Disposal

THREE RIVERS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Telephone No: 01923 776611

Allotments
Arts
Building Control
Business Rates Collection
Cemeteries
Concessionary Fares
Council Tax
Development Control
Electoral Registration
Environmental Health
Housing
Local Planning
Museums
Parking
Recreation
Recycling
Refuse Collection
Sports
Street Cleaning

CROXLEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Telephone No: 01923 710250

Bulb Planting
Christmas Illuminations
Community Bus
Dog Hygiene Bins/Dog Bags
Fun on The Green Event
Garden Competition
Library Flower Beds
Litter Picking
Parish Pump Magazine
Public Footpath Maintenance
Public Footpath Signs
Public Seating
Quiz Night
Maintenance of Stones Orchard
Maintenance of The Green
Tree Works