

# The Croxley Green Resident

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS' AND RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

No. 115

Editor — John E. Gell

Autumn 1972

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To all members

The Annual General Meeting of the Croxley Green Residents' Association will be held on FRIDAY, 10th NOVEMBER, 1972, at 8 p.m. in the Dickinson Guildhouse, New Road, Croxley Green. All members are earnestly requested to attend.

P. W. A. DIXON  
Hon Secretary.

33 Winchester Way,  
Croxley Green, Herts.

### AGENDA

- 1 Minutes of the 1971 Annual General Meeting held on 8th November, 1971.
- 2 Matters arising therefrom.
- 3 Chairman's Report.
- 4 Hon. Secretary's Report.
- 5 Hon. Treasurer's Report and statement of accounts for the year ended 30th September, 1972.
- 6 Election of President and Vice-Presidents.
- 7 Election of Officers and Committee for the ensuing year.
- 8 Election of Hon. Auditors.
- 9 Resolutions.
- 10 Open Discussion. (Prior notice of items for discussion should be handed to the Hon. Secretary five days prior to the meeting.)

N.B.—All members of the Association are eligible to serve on the Committee. If you are willing to serve, kindly write to the Hon. Secretary at least five days prior to the A.G.M.

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### CROXLEY GREEN — WATFORD JUNCTION BRANCH LINE

Members will have heard no doubt that British Rail have decided to keep open this line despite heavy losses incurred since it has been established that there is a social need for this service.

Whilst benefiting various local factories and schools in the West Watford area—ensuring that certain trains are comparatively full—the public at large do not appear to be using it. I myself travelled on the line one weekday evening at approximately 6 p.m. and there were never more than four people on the train.

What can we do about it? Perhaps publicity might help. British Rail inform us that they propose to issue leaflets publicising the line to firms in the vicinity.

The chief disadvantage to most people is the fact that this service only operates in rush hours and not at all at week-ends. But would they use it if there was say an hourly service?

The Editor would welcome any correspondence on the subject.

### THE COFFIN SITE

The Council have agreed to use this area as a small football and kickabout pitch with some swings and roundabouts and possibly an adventure playground.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANISATION

The Council are seeking people's ideas on a suitable name for the new district which, as you will know, is to take in Rickmansworth, Chorleywood, Sarratt, etc. At present it is District No. 8. Two names have so far been considered—S.W. Herts and Three Rivers (Gade, Colne and Chess for

those 'not in the know'). If you have any ideas please let us know.

The proposed composition of the new Council would consist of 44 members and the total population of the area would be 80,187. Croxley North Ward would have four members as at present, but Croxley South would have three—one less than at present. Rickmansworth and Sarratt Ward have two members each.

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCE — NEW ROAD

The tender is about to be completed to erect a Public Convenience.

### ELM TREE — BALDWIN'S LANE

The Council's Tree Consultant has confirmed that the large Elm tree opposite 290/292 has Dutch Elm disease and is to be felled.

### FOOTPATH PLAN DROPPED

A scheme to provide a further footpath between the service road to the car park and New Road has been dropped by the Council.

Objections to it have been made by local residents and members of the Public Works Committee who considered the access would be too dangerous to have any merit.

### RICKMANSWORTH CHARITY CUP

Proceeds from last season's competition came to £50. Cheques have been sent to Herts. F.A. Benevolent Fund, Ricky Darby and Joan Club, Ricky Blind Club, Wensum Court, Croxley Green Welcome Club, Croxley O.A.P. Club and Croxley House.

*Jack Robinson, Hon. Sec.*

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## HELPERS REQUIRED

Help is required for distributing the 'Resident' in Richmond Way and Fuller Way. Also helpers for collecting Annual Subscriptions—a rewarding job. Please help, you can choose your district by coming along to the A.G.M.

## CROXLEY GREEN YOUTH CENTRE

The Centre is just really getting under way for its second year and the pattern of events is only beginning to emerge. Most of the members have now enrolled and the club is settling down after the inevitable slackening-off during the summer period.

It is probable that on two evenings in the week, the emphasis will be on one or two main activities only, while for the other three sessions, the social side will be uppermost, with a variety of activities available. For any parent or young person who would like a detailed programme, this can readily be obtained from the Leader at the Centre in Barton Way on most evenings.

The Junior Club (for the under 14s who are at secondary school) will in future meet on Tuesday evenings instead of Sunday afternoons. The juniors meet at the same time as the seniors and usually join in the same activities. We have had to lose our Junior Leader, Mr. Tither, and are looking for a replacement. If any man or woman, especially one with a Christian commitment, feels that they would be interested in working with the younger age group, would they please contact the Leader.

Meanwhile we are as always very grateful to the ladies from the churches who have so nobly run the coffee-bar for us during the past year. It can be a rewarding job for those who enjoy all kinds of young people, but it also calls for a lot of patience and good humour. Thanks, too, to the men who volunteer to give their services to the club in so many ways. It is often far from easy to carry out the job one comes to do, and these men and women of Croxley deserve the heartfelt thanks of the community, as well as of the Club Leader and the Management Committee.

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## HERTFORDSHIRE GIRL GUIDES

Croxley Green District Local Association.  
Jumble Sale,  
Saturday, 14th October, 1.45 p.m.  
All Saints' Church Hall.

## DICKINSON GUILDHOUSE

The Dickinson Guildhouse, Croxley Green, together with some adjoining allotment land, is to be put up for sale, it was stated by the John Dickinson Company recently.

It is presumed that any purchaser will want to redevelop the site, and the price will depend on the planning permissions which might be obtained for it.

The Guildhouse was originally built at the turn of the century, when Croxley Green was very much smaller, and many of the residents were employed at Croxley Mills. Its aims were moral, intellectual and physical improvement, and it became a focal point for the district.

A spokesman for the company said: "The sale has been fairly recently decided. Now that the district is very much larger and there is less dependence on Dickinson's, the Guildhouse is just not being used for its original purpose. The company feel there is nothing to be gained by retaining it. We have told the members, and it will remain open for the present time."

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

3 Barton Way,  
Croxley Green

Sir,

I have read in 'The Resident' that a committee member has written to the Council complaining about the parking restrictions in New Road and Barton Way. I can assure him that if he lived in any of the houses at the New Road end of Barton Way he would be thankful to have some relief from the everlasting slam of car doors, and the inconvenience of having a car parked across his drive-way.

Ever since the Library and Welcome Club have been built, we have had to endure this nuisance; if we go out in our car, nine times out of ten we are unable to drive out.

He also states that parking is only of brief duration; this may be so, but as soon as a car draws away another one takes its place. I should also like to know why he thinks the ratepayers' money has been spent on a free car park if nobody is going to use it. After all it is only a few steps through the footpath into the New Road and the shops. It is my opinion that the parking of cars in New Road has been nothing but a death trap to old people and children, who have had to step out either in front or from behind these cars and have never had a clear view when trying to cross the road. In fact it is a miracle that there has not been a fatal accident somewhere in New Road between "The Fox and Hounds" and Lovells confectioners and paper shop.

Yours faithfully,

E. Cox (Mrs.)

Imperial Machine Company (Peelers) Ltd.,  
Harvey Road.

Sir,

We write on a difficult matter and one which we would avoid, if possible, giving offence. Nevertheless, we find great difficulty in preventing

children from entering our premises at the end of Harvey Road and would seek your co-operation in requesting parents to persuade their children to respect this property.

It would be an over-statement to claim that the children have done significant damage, although there have been wanton and destructive acts on occasions. We are concerned principally on two counts: one being privacy; the other being safety.

The more important of these is certainly the safety aspect, and with the children riding bicycles and playing at the entrance from the roadway, there is considerable risk of an accident with one of the company's or its tenants' vehicles sooner or later.

Such irresponsible acts as climbing on sheet asbestos roofs have also occurred in the past, and the risks of serious injury are obvious.

On the privacy aspect we believe we have the same rights as a private householder, and are not obliged to tolerate young people wandering our grounds at will. At the very least these intruders constitute an undesirable distraction to us, and sometimes their incursions become a positive nuisance.

We have from time to time spoken to the children and asked them in reasonable terms not to use our entrance as a playground but this has generally been ignored. We believe, however, that the recent episode of bicycle races around our car park may justly be regarded as a "last straw" and it has occasioned this letter to seek the co-operation of the Residents' Association and of those parents who live in Harvey and Frankland Roads.

It has always been the policy of this company to live at peace with the local inhabitants and to allow our industrial activity to cause as little inconvenience as possible. May we ask for a return of this consideration and your assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

R. E. BECKETT, *Managing Director.*

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## '68 CLUB

The Club would like to welcome new members, that is any ladies over 18, to our weekly meetings at the Guildhouse on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. where we have a variety of speakers.

We also have a drama and dance section and undertake a number of outings, as well as entertaining Senior Citizens locally. If anyone is interested in joining please contact Mrs. A. M. Lipscombe at 25 Harvey Road (Telephone Rickmansworth 79027), who would be pleased to put them in touch with their nearest member or arrange to meet them herself.

## NATIONAL FEDERATION OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

### Croxley Green Branch

We have held one or two Members' Meetings at the Welcome Club since our last contribution to this wonderful journal and our members appreciate, very much being associated with Croxley life in this manner. "It makes you feel as though you belong", someone said, as indeed our monthly meetings do. They stroll round to the Welcome Club and obviously enjoy meeting old friends and making new ones. Police Sgt. Conway came and addressed us on Crime Prevention and convinced us of the need to "lock up" carefully. Then we had a rather special evening arranged by Croxley Travel & Theatre Service Ltd. Mr. Miller introduced two films to us, one from Wallace Arnold who showed a delightful film of a tour of the Isle of Wight and the Channel Isles and a representative of Sunair Holidays Ltd. who also showed a film of cheap holidays on the Costa Brava in the winter for senior citizens and in the interval we were treated to glasses of sherry. Nobody got "merry" but we all felt very happy and content. Later we had a visit from Mr. Hayden who reported fully on the Annual Conference held at Douglas on the Isle of Man and he was able to answer many questions on pensions, telephones, etc. He is the Secretary of the Watford Rural Parish Branch and has done much to improve social and public services. We are associated with the Watford Group and our Chair-

man and Secretary meet regularly with Watford Central, Watford West, Watford Rural, and Carpenders Park Branches at the home of Mr. Horwood, who was one time Mayor of Watford. We joined in the dance and cabaret at Watford Town Hall on the 11th September in connection with the Watford Borough Golden Jubilee. We are indebted to The Boro' Council and Jubilee Committee for granting the use of the Town Hall and Mr. Leslie Wise for providing the band and entertainment and quite a number of firms and individuals for their practical help; from our own area we were delighted to have such a wonderful contribution from Thos. McNerney & Sons Ltd. Our transport official, Mr. Doggett, arranged an outing to the Royal Windsor Safari Park and two coach parties enjoyed an afternoon in glorious sunshine. We enjoyed the privilege of having a tent on The Green for The Revels and being able to meet many old friends and invite others to join us. Members air their views, either by letter to me, or at the Members' Meeting, on such matters as the new 'buses, cheaper telephones for the elderly and infirm, hearing aids, pedestrian crossings, etc., etc., and they also express their joy on being able to join such a vast organisation. It does not cost much to be a member, 24p for a year, 12p for six months or 6p for three months and we will be delighted to welcome you to this mighty army.

*Mr. C. W. Pearson, Hon. Sec.*

## TO ALL OUR READERS AND DISTRIBUTORS

During the past ten years I have been greatly helped by the loyalty of the many distributors of our journal. I thank them with much appreciation for their friendly help. Due to changes, I will be succeeded in the New Year as Central Distributor by Mr. Lucas of 200 Baldwins Lane. May I ask that the same help and loyalty be extended to him as I have received.

*J. W. Broome.*

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## B.P. SCOUT GUILD

The B.P. Scout Guild is a fellowship uniting ex-members and friends of Scouting and is part of the World-Wide Scout Movement. The Guild in the main consists of men and women who have served in Scouting as youngsters or parents of boys in the movement plus a large number who wholeheartedly subscribe to the principles of Scouting yet were never actually Scouts or Guides.

The objects of the Guild are to keep alive among its members the Spirit of the Scout Law and Promise and to put this into action by helping to meet local Community needs and strongly supporting the local Scout and Guide organisations when asked.

Typical of our Guild activities are assisting the Scout Group in raising funds, helping with improvements at the camp site and headquarters premises. For our Community service we help elderly and infirmed and raise funds to provide holiday homes for families with a handicapped member.

Our national project is our Holiday Homes for the Handicapped; we have at present eleven (11) caravans and three (3) chalets situated in various holiday resorts around the country where families with a handicapped member can have a holiday at a reasonable cost. Branches of the Guild assist by raising the money to purchase and equip these and by finding the families needing help. While branches in the districts where the caravans and

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chalets are situated assist with the bookings and general administration. All the work is done voluntarily. In both 1971 and 1972 we at Croxley Green sponsored a local family, paying for the caravan and providing transport for the journey.

Wherever you travel you are likely to see a B.P. Scout Guild badge being worn by someone, for the Guild is world wide, joining countries together in the International Fellowship of Former Scouts and Guides. At our general assemblies we have met members from Australia, Denmark, Iceland.

The Branch at Croxley was formed in 1949 and we still have some founder members. Apart from our service which also includes acting as stewards at the Burma Reunion each year, we enjoy a good social atmosphere. Our meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at Scout Headquarters, Watford Road. We vary these meetings as much as possible, speakers on all sorts of subjects, film evenings, rambles, etc., and each year we have a Dinner Dance which is held at the Welcome Club.

The Guild is often referred to as the Family behind Scouting. It is open to husband and wife alike, in fact anyone over the age of eighteen (18) years of age who will state acceptance of and the intention to adhere to, the Objects of the Guild and will make or re-affirm the Scout Promise. We assure you of a welcome, for more details please contact The Secretary, 38 Sherborne Way, Croxley Green. Tel. No. Rick. 74139.

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## CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU

### "He Who Knows, Knows Who Knows!"

This old Chinese proverb is as true today as it ever was. Do you find it difficult to keep up with the complexities of modern life and to keep pace with the ever-changing environment of present-day Britain? If you do, you are most certainly not alone, as the vast majority of people nowadays are bewildered by the constantly changing pattern of normal living, new legislation, new and numerous forms to fill in for everything—pensions, family allowances, supplementary pensions, hire purchase, income tax and so on. It is not any wonder that so many are not aware of their rights and some too are so bewildered by the complex forms sent to them to fill in that they fail to apply for many benefits they could claim. Do you know your legal rights in cases of Hire Purchase Agreements?:

What if you should be unable to keep up the payments?

How can you deal with faulty goods?

What to do about poor servicing of home appliances?

What happens if you have an accident at work or are dismissed or made redundant?

Do you understand your rights as a tenant?

Do you understand what Legal Aid and Advice Service is and who is entitled to it?

Does the income tax form perplex you?

These are but a few of the 101 problems arising every day, and no one person can find answers to every one of them. This is where the Citizens' Advice Bureau is of invaluable service within the community. Staffed by a team of trained and experienced workers in a well-equipped office with up-to-date information, the Citizens' Advice Bureau is able to deal with any type of enquiry, giving a great deal of assistance to those who

require it. The Citizens' Advice Bureau Central Office in London keeps all local Bureaux constantly informed of all changes in laws and regulations, and are at all times available to local Bureau staff if further information is required on a specific question.

Your local Citizens' Advice Bureau, situated at Northway, Rickmansworth (behind the Library) is open on Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. throughout the lunch-hour and on Saturdays 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. All enquiries are conducted privately and are treated as strictly confidential. All services are free. No appointment is needed. In special cases where anyone is housebound and unable to visit the bureau, a worker will make a home visit if requested. Maybe you are fortunate enough not to require the services of your local Citizens' Advice Bureau, but know someone who does. Please also tell your friends.

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### NEW ROAD—STREET LIGHTS

It will be recalled that the Council undertook an experiment for improving the lighting in this road. Due to the recent outcry by residents over the disfigurement of the Green by monstrous lighting columns, six of the 125 watt fluorescent lamps near the junction with Barton Way were converted to 55 watt sodium vapour lamps. As this has proved a success all the lamps in the road are also to be converted.

### ANNUAL SCOUT FAIR

Croxley Green Scout Group.

The Fair will be held at Durrants School on Saturday, 28th October. Doors open at 2.30 p.m.

### 385 BUS ROUTE

A large volume of complaints have been brought to the Committee's attention regarding the very unsatisfactory service provided on this route terminating at Manor Way. Why this service should be worse than any in the district is not clear, but those who use it will know of the very many times the bus fails to turn up at all. A

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member of our committee is intending to raise a petition for action to be taken on this matter. Please support him.

### R.U.D.C. MEETINGS

The public are admitted to certain meetings of Rickmansworth U.D.C. at Basing House. Commencing at 8 p.m. as follows:

Council Meetings: 7th November, 19th December, 30th January.

Public Works Committee: 19th October, 30th November, 11th January, 22nd February.

Community Services Committee: 17th October, 28th November, 9th January, 20th February.

Housing Committee: 10th October, 21st November, 2nd January, 13th February.

### COUNCILLOR P. ROBINSON

Councillor Robinson has been adopted as the Liberal Parliamentary candidate for the Welwyn and Hatfield division.

### CROXLEY GREEN YOUTH CENTRE

The Residents of Croxley might also like to know that there are several vacancies for day-time bookings at the Youth Centre. Organisations who would like to use the hall in the day-time should contact Mr. J. Hughes, 28 Girton Way, for prices and application forms.

### C.G.R. & R.A.

*The Croxley Green Residents' and Ratepayers' Association is pleased to publish this magazine quarterly, and ensures that a copy goes into every house (about 4,500) in Croxley Green irrespective of the householder being a member of the Association. We would like to achieve a 100 per cent membership. The annual subscription for the year to 30th September next is still only 10p, which covers husband and wife. Expect our collector to call on you soon or kindly direct to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. W. Broome, at 114 Links Way.*

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