

The Croxley Green Resident

Published by

CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS' AND RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

No. 135

Editor: Bob Hampson

Summer: 1978

Secretary: L.W. Fry, The Orchard, The Green

Croxley Revels on the Green

CARNIVAL and PROCESSION at 1.30 p.m.

to launch

CROXLEY WEEK

Saturday, 24th June, 1978

- * Last year's Procession was a mile long *
- * Flags or bunting decorated houses and streets *
- * Croxley enjoyed itself for all the world to see *

THIS YEAR WITH YOUR HELP
YOUR CARNIVAL WILL BE EVEN BETTER

THIS YEAR - IT'S A WEEK

The Procession & Revels opens a week of activities
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from 7 p.m. onwards on THE GREEN on Saturday, JUNE 24th.

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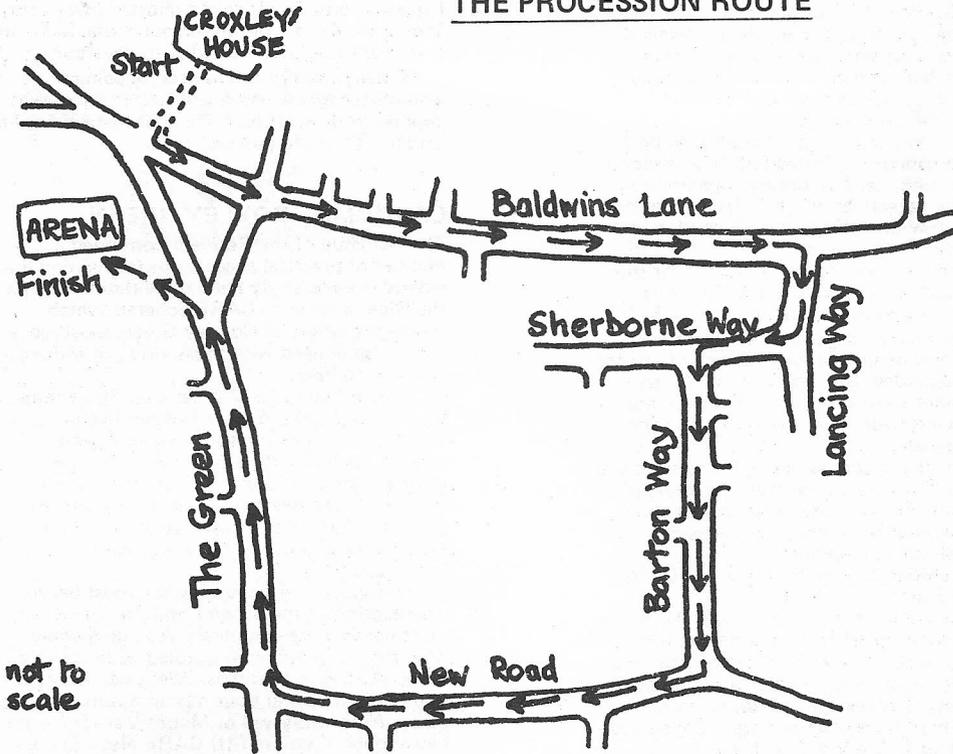
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THE PROCESSION ROUTE



**CROXLEY REVELS on the GREEN
SATURDAY 24th JUNE 1978**

ENTRY FORM – TO BE RETURNED NOT LATER THAN 17 JUNE TO MRS. J. LUCK, OF
53 WATFORD ROAD, CROXLEY GREEN.

<input type="checkbox"/> Decorated Car.	Name:
<input type="checkbox"/> Decorated Float	
<input type="checkbox"/> Horse & Rider (Group or Individual)	Organisation:
<input type="checkbox"/> Horse Drawn Vehicle	Address:
<input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian (Group or Individual)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fancy Dress (Other than walking)	
Age:	Telephone No:

ASSEMBLY POINT: Croxley House, The Green.

JUDGING: 12.45 p.m.

PROCESSION STARTS: 1.30 p.m.

Entry forms also from schools or Mrs. J. Luck, 53, Watford Road, Croxley Green or Procession
Marshal, Mr. Don Griffin, 26 Windmill Drive, Croxley Green.

EDITORIAL

I must start this issue with an apology for a ghastly oversight in the last one, when I detailed some suggestions for setting up a participation organisation, when such an organisation already exists. I refer of course to the Rickmansworth Care Scheme. My only excuse is that Care's publicity is so professional, that I took it to be a semi-official organisation, instead of being exactly what I had in mind, i.e. a voluntary organisation, fulfilling all the objectives which I was calling for, and based entirely on voluntary participation in the community.

To make amends, I have asked "Care" for the article which appears opposite. So will anyone wishing to respond to my appeal, please contact "Care". In the meantime I am passing on the names of the five people with gardens too large for them, who responded. But where are all those people who want some more garden? So far not one reply! So lets hear from you — the planting season is upon us!

Again referring to the last issue, I am pleased to say that there is an improvement in the hours of opening of both Riverside Rickmansworth and Old Mill Road, Hunton Bridge, Civic Amenity Sites — rubbish dumps to which you can take your civic amenities(?) — which are extended to cover 8 am — 8 pm.

Some more good news:— The County Highways Committee have been asked to downgrade the A.412 through Watford and Rickmansworth, to a "primary distributor route" — that should deter any lorry trying to sneak through on a short cut! What a pity Three Rivers Council were not successful in changing it to the B.412. Is it not strange how many times decisions on local affairs are taken by people in remote places?

And now for one of the highlights of Croxley's year. After the long dreary winter, some sort of summer is inevitable and, our indomitable spirit being what it is, when summer comes, whatever the weather, the plans which have been fermenting in the minds of many of our voluntary organisations will inevitably burst into blossom. So I have given over a lot of space to the publicity of several of our local societies. Pride of place for this issue, of course, must go to the Procession, Carnival and Croxley Week. Last year our Procession was a fantastic expression of our community spirit, for all to see, which is why we must strive for something even better this year, just in case some of our neighbours, like Watford say, think they can challenge us!

Nevertheless this annual event must not blind us to other activities which are going on — Adventure '78 — and those which are going on continuously — Bowls Club, Keep Fit, Music Society and, of course, Care and the Community Association. Please let me have an introductory FEW words from other organisations.

In fact, please let me have more articles of general interest about Croxley. We have had some fine background history from Mrs. Leader and Mrs. Rogers, so let's keep the ball rolling! There must be plenty of young "old 'uns" who can tell us some interesting stories — how about some interesting tales of old buildings or cottages which have disappeared. What stood where the Two

Bridges P.H. now stands? Did anything of interest happen there? Did it have a ghost? How about some comments from the "young 'uns" on how they want the future Croxley to develop?

Finally, we are still in need of some more committee members, in addition to those who replied to the last issue. Please let Lewis Fry know and he will make you welcome.

CARING IN CROXLEY GREEN

The last issue of the Resident contained a number of practical suggestions for helping the elderly. Readers may need to be reminded that the Rickmansworth CARE Scheme, which covers the whole of Croxley Green, exists to link those in need with those who are willing and able to help.

Established in 1972 it has over 300 volunteers on its books, many of whom live in Croxley. It covers transport, visiting, jobs around the house including decorating and some gardening — about 50 new tasks every month. Countless odd jobs have been undertaken for folk who would love to be able to manage for themselves but find they no longer can.

Transport is undoubtedly the most heavily used section of the Scheme and the one which most needs more volunteers. A large number of journeys are made to enable people to visit close relatives in hospitals. (What do you do if you're disabled and your husband is in Napsbury or Holywell or Mount Vernon? — it's bad enough if you're fit!) CARE also provides a team of drivers for the Rickmansworth Society minibus, which is used regularly for the Croxley Welcome Club and the Blind Club, to name just two.

But CARE is not just for the elderly — it will come to the aid of anyone who needs the helping hand of a neighbour. There are no hard and fast rules about what jobs can or can't be accepted — each case is decided on its merits. About half the people who CARE help are referred by their GP or the Social Services — the rest ring CARE themselves on Rickmansworth 73311. This is intercepted by the telephone exchange who refer the caller to the number of the Duty Officer for the day. There are about 40 Duty Officers and each is on duty for a period of 24 hours. The Duty Officer who has a complete index of all volunteers, uses the telephone to find one who can accept the task. The more volunteers there are the easier the job of finding one, so why not join the Scheme and help care in Croxley Green by ringing Rickmansworth 73111 NOW!

Chris Pettit.

GETTING OUR PRIORITIES RIGHT

People who value their privileges above their principles, soon lose both.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

Croxley Green COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Croxley Green Community Association Executive Committee

Chairman:

Mr. M. Watkins,
123 Winton Drive, Watford 35190.

Vice-Chairman:

Mr. D. Reader,
121 Kenilworth Drive, Ricky 74630.

Secretary:

Dr. D.C. Miller,
126 Kenilworth Drive, Ricky 72183.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Association held on February 17th 1978, it was agreed that the Croxley Green Youth Club should become the Youth Section of the Croxley Green Community Association. The building at present leased to the Youth Club Trustees, to be transferred to the newly-instituted Croxley Green Community Association. A guarantee has been given that the youth would have use of the building for three evenings plus one other session per week. The adults to have complete use of the building at all other times including four evenings per week.

Three Rivers Council, the lessors of the building have agreed to the transfer of the lease to the newly-instituted Association, subject to the approval of the Charity Commissioners. It is hoped that the approval will be received by July.

If the application is successful it is intended to put into effect an immediate small extension to the building to enable us to provide a comfortable lounge, also some minor alterations to give us a bar and small stage facilities, (the bar will not be open or available during Youth Section sessions). It will be necessary to purchase furniture for the lounge, also tables and chairs for the hall. The initial cost will be in the region of £12,000 and it is hoped to borrow a proportion of the money required from Three Rivers Council. The building extension, it is anticipated will be completed by December to enable a Grand Opening during that month.

The amalgamation of the Youth with the Community Association and the consequent acquisition of the building is felt to be a large step forward. It is not the large scale building with which we had hoped to commence our activities, but although of a moderate size, it will enable the Association to embark upon a number of activities and the Centre will be used to full capacity.

When the building is operational the Association will concentrate upon fundraising events, firstly for the repayment of the loan and subsequently for the accumulation of funds to embark upon the next stage of extension to enlarge the Centre to enable us to have a hall to accommodate a large number of people for concerts, dances and other activities. A building that will be a worthwhile Centre for Croxley Green.

It is the intention of the Committee to encourage youth activities and to give all the help and assistance needed to build a lively and worthwhile Youth Section, the membership of this Section to be confined to the children and youth of Croxley Green.

During the past two years the Community Association have organised various social activities, the most well-supported events have been our Barn Dances at Watersmeet, Family Night Parties at All Saints Church Hall, and our Ballroom Dances at Durrants School.

Your hard-working committee have put on many functions with one hope in mind — A Community Centre. Thanks to the Youth Committee who approached us with the offer of joint use of their building, we are looking forward to having a Community Centre by the end of the year.

The future of the Association is in your hands, *you*, the people of Croxley Green. We need your support NOW.

We need Membership Subscription collectors. We will be needing decorators, carpenters, electricians and gardeners to give us a little assistance, so, please — offer your help.

If you are not a member of the Association, do consider joining us for we are already 2,650 strong and remember it is Croxley people — working and helping — Croxley people.

M.A. Watkins, Chairman.

FUTURE EVENTS

JUNE 9th	—	BARN DANCE AT WATERSMEET
SEPTEMBER 2nd	—	FAMILY NIGHT PARTY AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH HALL
SEPTEMBER 22nd	—	BARN DANCE AT WATERSMEET
OCTOBER 22nd	—	200 CLUB DANCE AT DURRANTS SCHOOL
DECEMBER 22nd	—	BARN DANCE AT WATERSMEET

MATTERS DISCUSSED BY YOUR COMMITTEE

Nuisance from Model Aircraft. Control of the flying of model aircraft is covered by a general bye-law. In addition, it is understood that the Director of Environmental Health will set up a monitor system with a view to further action if there is no decrease in this obnoxious form of pollution.

Buses. Under the proposed new Services for September, it appears that for LOCAL journeys, Croxley will not be much worse off. It is to be hoped that, if accepted, the timetables will be staggered to reduce "bunching" followed by long intervals between services.

Long distance services beyond Watford will entail a change of buses, but Middlesex will be cut off from Croxley Green except for Green Line services. Representations are being made by your Association to obtain a stop in Croxley for the 724 route, with fares on a par with existing buses.

The idea of books of bus tickets to be sold at Newsagents was suggested. This would help recruitment of drivers, as drivers without financial skills are easier to come by than the present hybrid driver/conductor. Such a system, reducing time spent in collecting money would reduce "bunching" and improve adherence to timetables. Newsagents would benefit from increased use of the shops.

Planning Permission. In most areas, most Banbury and other standard garages can usually be erected with just a notification to the local Council. But Three Rivers require six copies of plans and other requirements with consequent delays. Why this waste of money?

COLLECTORS' PIECE

It has not happened yet, BUT . . . the well-oiled wheels of your Association are in danger of grinding to a halt because of an acute shortage of volunteers, to collect subscriptions. With our present skeleton framework to cover Croxley, it means that some volunteers have in the past had to do the work of ten, or valuable revenue has been lost.

A scheme has now been devised by John Hedges and Howard Smith to reduce the number of houses per collector to about 25. This means each collector giving up an hour or so for two evenings between now and say, the end of July — the second evening only to visit those who were out on the first time round. Of course, it could take longer if you care to stand and natter, as most residents are very friendly and welcome a chat! Addresses with hostile dogs have been ear-marked (or is it dog-ear-marked?), so the danger is minimal.

It is a rewarding little contribution to the smooth working of the Association — renewing old friendships and making new ones. The end of the year brings another reward in the form of the Collectors/Distributors Social Evening, which was such a success last year — see last issue.

Please volunteer your services to John Hedges, 44 Ludlow Way, or Howard Smith, 10 Frankland

Road; without the new scheme our financial stability will collapse and without that your Association will inevitably disappear into obscurity.

It has not happened yet. BUT . . . IT IS UP TO YOU!

RICKMANSWORTH AND CROXLEY GREEN FAREPAYERS ASSOCIATION

The response to the Spring edition of the "Resident" was such that, to date, the Association is in contact with 82 people from Croxley. While this number represents a welcome increase on the 50 who had previously shown an interest, we are only talking about 10% of those known to travel daily from Croxley Met. — Enough said!

Herts. C.C. have added their weight to suggestions that the losses attributed to the spur are too high. It is worth remembering that even if more realistic figures were produced, Croxley would still appear loss-making. The reasons for this are threefold:—

1. The service is for the benefit of main-line stations into London as well as for Croxley commuters. Thus there are too many trains.
2. With 800 people using the service daily, and the majority of these travelling during the "rush hour", it is hard to imagine any regular service being profitable. This situation suggests that London Transport should consider some way of encouraging "off-peak" travel.
3. With the accounting system employed by London Transport, only £92,000 of the total revenue collected at Croxley is applied to the costs attributed to the station. The balance of fare income is apportioned over the other main-line stations into London. From this we can deduce that if Croxley were to close, London Transport would suffer only a £92,000 fall in revenue!

A meeting with L.T. has been arranged for late April, when it is hoped that the Association will at last have its questions answered. Already a softening of attitude is discernable as the 10% general increase in June this year will apply to the Moor Park — Watford spur, (instead of much more) despite the fact that Herts C.C. has not made any contribution towards the expected deficit.

If anyone would like to join the Association or would like to raise questions about the spur, please contact —

*Howard Smith,
107 Frankland Road, Croxley Green.
Telephone: Rickmansworth 74960.*

MIDDLESEX IS NOT LOST!

Following pressure from this Association, the 724 Green Line Coach (Staines, Heathrow, Uxbridge, Rickmansworth, Watford, St. Albans, Hatfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertford, Ware, Harlow, Romford) will stop at Croxley Green, near the Met. Station, starting it is hoped, on 20th May.

L.W. Fry.

LOCAL SOCIETIES etc.

A CONTRIBUTION FROM OUR PRESIDENT, BEN TULLETT, WHO IS STILL BOWLING ALONG IN FINE FETTLE.

RICKMANSWORTH BOWLS CLUB

Have you thought how the game of bowls could get you out into the open air regularly during the Summer months and provide you with some much needed exercise? If not, why not give some thought to this now? In this day and age bowls is a comparatively cheap sport, and once your basic equipment has been obtained many hours can be spent on the bowling green acquiring a mastery of the relatively simple game. A novice can soon become reasonably proficient and take part in club activities.

The Club, Rickmansworth Bowls Club, was formed over 50 years ago, and we have prospered, with various successes, during this time. It is affiliated to the English Bowling Association, and both the County and Watford & District Associations, and the purpose of this article is to recruit new members for the Club. The Club has a qualified coach and once a week during the Season we hold a coaching evening for new members to the Club. In addition, the Club provides a match programme at week-ends for those interested, competitions for competitors, and gentle roll-ups for those so inclined.

Our green is situated in Basing Gardens, High Street, Rickmansworth, to the rear of the main Council offices, and our Secretary is Mervyn Williams, who can be contacted on Rickmansworth 78034 and he will be happy to supply you with any further information you may require. Why not give the game a try, and you may find yourself with a hobby for the remainder of your life. The game is open to all ages, and as an example the average age of those in the County's representative team is usually around 40. I would stress that this is an average.

Ben Tullett.

KEEP FIT

Quite a number of ladies of all shapes, sizes, ages, differing temperaments and ideas, meet on Thursday evenings at Croxley Green Red Cross Centre, why?

These ladies belong to the Eileen Fowler Keep-Fit Classes which have been held in Croxley since 1961 without a break. Many of its original members still belong, and many return after an absence for various reasons, to this most enjoyable method of staying fit and youthful.

Simple movements, to delightful music, played by their excellent pianist Mrs. N. Warren, and led into activity by Mrs. Queenie Cherrill, L.I.S.T.D., R.A. who is well known to Eileen Fowler, and well known as a former dancing teacher.

Why don't you join them? Enquiries: telephone: Rickmansworth 74285 or Watford 29634.

CROXLEY GREEN BAPTIST CHURCH, Baldwin's Lane, Croxley Green.

HOLIDAY ADVENTURE '78

Your children are welcome to the programme of games, talks, singing, handicrafts and refreshments. It is all free.

Adventure '78 — for those 5 years (or starting school full time in September 1978) to 11 years. Monday, 31st July to Friday, 4th August. 9.30 am-12 noon and 2.00-4.30 pm.

Junior Adventure — for those 3 and 4 years. Tuesday, 8th August to Thursday, 10th August. 10.00-11.30 am only.

Early enrolment is suggested. Completed forms should be forwarded to one of the Youth Leaders at the Church or to:

Mrs. C. Abbiss, 32, Repton Way. (Rick. 73463);
Miss W. Horton, 227, Watford Road. (Wat. 29356);
Mrs. D. Stone, 63, Malvern Way. (Rick. 73462).

----- *Cut along here* -----

Adventure '78 — Application for Enrolment.

Name:

Address:

.....

Date of birth: Tel. No:

I would like to be considered for the Holiday Adventure Morning/Afternoon; Junior Adventure. (Please delete the two that do not apply).

Confirmation of enrolment and full details will be sent to you early in July.

THREE RIVERS MUSIC SOCIETY

The fourth concert in the 1977/78 season took place in the Gade Theatre, Watersmeet on Thursday 2nd March, when the Capriol Orchestra under Roy Budden played works by Vaughan Williams, Wagner, Mozart, Copland, Delius and Britten. In the afternoon of the same day, the orchestra had performed to a capacity audience comprising groups from a number of local schools.

Our concert for Rickmansworth Week this year will be "An Evening of Viennese Music" with the Repertoire Orchestra from the Royal Academy of Music, including items by Nicolai, Schubert, Mozart and, of course, Strauss. Tickets will be on sale at Rickmansworth Electrics, 129 High Street, Rickmansworth during May at £1 and £1.50.

Next season's programme of concerts will be available at Watersmeet, Rickmansworth Electrics and Public Libraries throughout the Three Rivers District. The voucher ticket scheme will enable Society members to purchase tickets at a discount. For full details of this membership and this voucher scheme, contact the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S. Weeden (Telephone: Rickmansworth 72457).

"HAVE YOU A CLUE?" Competition

The winner of our little competition, last issue, based on studying the advertisements, was picked out of four winning entries by our charming and helpful Librarian, Carol Hudson. The winning entry was sent in by Mandy Blackwell of 75 Winton Drive, who will receive her £2 prize. Well done Mandy, and thanks to everyone for joining in the fun. There will be another competition in the next issue, so start studying the advertisements NOW.

FUTURE EVENTS

On JUNE 10th & 11th the country's largest sponsored walk ever organised will take place along our INLAND WATERWAYS. Part will cover Croxley - Details from Editor: Watford 28418.

ON SUNDAY JUNE 4th A CROXLEY SUMMER STROLL

At 2.30 pm at the shopping parade car park at the top of Baldwins Lane, our Summer stroll through leafy footpaths will commence. Our aim will be to show you some paths around Croxley you may not know about - "impossible" some will say, no doubt, but *do* you know all the paths in the Croxley area? This will be a mystery stroll; no prior plans will be divulged except to say the walk will not be too long - about five miles altogether - well within the reach of everyone. So come along and learn something about your very own attractive countryside.

Roger King.

CANOEIST ON CROXLEY GREEN!

I am sure that the passers by who saw the most strange sight of a canoe on Croxley Pond in January must have thought that the extreme cold had made some local residents go slightly potty or pondy. The Chiltern Society have a pond squad to carry out work on cleaning out derelict village ponds. To date we have cleaned out well over 30 ponds including the two Croxley Ponds. However, I must point out that all the labour was provided by that excellent body The Friends of the Green and the Chiltern Society provided its special tools and waders and a bit of technical assistance. Not that our ponds were derelict, all they needed was a wash and brush up. The job was completed over one weekend with the assistance of two skips provided by Three Rivers District Council.

To spend a day almost up to the armpits in mud and water is not everyone's cup of tea, but it does beat the daily grind at the office desk. Someone said we looked like small hogs trying to get as filthy as possible and I am sure there is something in this. However, when we had finished the pond, Roger Figg of the Friends said he would like to round the day off by having a paddle in a boat on the pond. So out came my canoe and Roger had his wish fulfilled. It's a case of not 'Jim'll Fix It' but 'Roger'll Fix It'.

Roger King.

DON'T IGNORE A CRY FOR HELP

Imagine you were walking down a quiet street when you heard a buzzing sound coming from inside one of the houses. What would you do? The chances are that you would wonder what it was, shrug your shoulders and carry on. Unless, of course, you had heard of 'Operation Buzzer'.

Operation Buzzer is a scheme set up as a result of a joint effort by many of the Service Organisations in the Watford area to help elderly and infirm people, generally living on their own. They are supplied with a battery-powered alarm which can be carried on the person, and, in the event of them falling or any other emergency whereby they require help, they operate their alarm which emits a loud buzzing sound.

Over 160 alarms have been distributed in the Croxley area so far, but the organisers believe that there must be many people who are unaware of the scheme and could possibly benefit by the reassurance and peace of mind that possession of the alarms brings. If you know of any such persons who might be considered for a buzzer, which incidentally, is free! the organisers at 15, Harwoods Road, Watford, would be pleased to make contact.

12 lives have been saved and emergencies within the home helped by the alarm.

So, if you hear such a buzzer or even think you can hear one, don't hesitate, dial 999 and tell the Police if you cannot easily gain access yourself. Remember, one day it could be you, so don't ignore a cry for help.

Carry the alarm with you when you go out, and have that added feeling of security.

In the Croxley area, please contact
Mr. W. Walmsley, 149 New Road,
Telephone: Rickmansworth 74519.

READERS LETTERS

To bring a little sunshine to my gloom and doom image of Mondays (see last issue), Mrs. Lilian Hickson of Durrants Drive, writes:-

*"As our fun days are usually Mondays
Rainy days are taboo,
I'm afraid it's the same old story
Of what suits me
Does not necessarily suit you . . .
. . . and/or you!*

Thank you Mrs. Hickson and for your kind comments.

--- ● ● ---

Mrs. M. Bruce of Beechcroft Avenue would like to know what a "Potato Man" looks like, as her local fish and chip shop is advertising for one. She also enclosed a cutting reporting on a County Music Festival, which ended by saying that "All three sinners were from the Luton Amateur Dramatic Society".

(I always wondered what they got up to north of Watford! Ed.)

Thank you too Mrs. Bruce - it is a pleasure.

--- ● ● ---

AS OLD AS NEW

A door onto a new type of official thinking on the housing problem was recently opened when Councillor Ron Graves, Chairman of the Council turned the key of No. 56, Norfolk Road and admitted a party of officials and guests to view the results of a change of policy.

The general area of Norfolk Road and Talbot Road had been scheduled as a clearance area, to provide space for new Council houses, a prospect which many viewed with frustrated anger.

However in March 1977, thinking was turned upside-down. The Council declared the area a General Improvement Area, entailing, in general, the rehabilitation of most of the old houses to preserve one of the last examples of the once picturesque and historic village of Rickmansworth.

Judging from what we saw, these substantial old properties can be converted into comfortable modern homes if the exercise is a success. The homes will consist in general of two living rooms, a modern kitchen with a gas cooker — without a spit-in-the-eye-level grill — two bedrooms, a bathroom, centrally heated from a gas fire and back boiler — drain cocks should be low down, but not right on the floor please! — large airing cupboard, power points — but why put meters and main switches at kiddy level? — and access to the loft.

Modernisation of 66 houses at a cost of £7,500 each, and completion of the whole project, with some infilling, landscaping — how officialdom loves that euphemism! — is scheduled for 1980/1.

The houses are for rental or for purchase by people on the housing list. How about selling a few as they are today to young people to convert themselves? Government grants are available — some as of right — for providing inside lavatories, bath, kitchen, wash basin, H & C water.

I was delighted to see this scheme beginning to take shape. There is a desperate need for houses which people can afford; new houses are in short supply and costly. But we have a reservoir of old houses which are quite capable of being restored — bigger rooms, more character — for a fraction of the price of a new one. Well done Three Rivers.

ARTICLES FROM AMENITY SOCIETIES

I shall be delighted to accept SMALL articles from Societies which give an introductory indication of the facilities they offer to the community to foster a community spirit. But I must stress that space is very limited and very expensive, and with the best will in the world, we just cannot offer whole pages of what is effectively free advertisement delivered to nearly 5000 homes. If an organisation wishes to exceed a free one-off 2" column, then we can supply the space, but we must regretfully pass on the cost. This issue has, apart from the Revels, Publicity as its theme, so we are standing the cost of the extra space given to some organisations. I would like to give a page to every Society, but with something like 150 groups, it just cannot be done. Sorry folks!

THE LION AND EAGLE SCULPTURE IN RICKMANSWORTH

On Saturday, 15th April, 1978, the Lion and Eagle Statue from the War Memorial was salvaged from the Council Store near the Bury and re-erected on a plinth in Northway, adjacent to the Library. The building of the plinth, using old bricks from Parsonage Road School and the transporting of the statue to its new home, was undertaken by the 1st Rickmansworth Scout Group, directed by Mr. G.W. Shilling. The statue was originally erected in 1921 on the corner of Ebury Road and Uxbridge Road, the sculptor being Sir William Reid Dick.

During the war the memorial was removed because it was feared that in the event of an invasion, the Germans might be a bit touchy about our lion standing on *their* eagle!

With the prospect of an invasion having receded, 1951 saw the lion back in its accustomed place, but in 1968, events again forced its withdrawal, to allow for roadworks. This time the war memorial itself was moved to the churchyard, but, because of its symbolism, the lion was banished to the Council store, for possible sale as scrap. (It took a little longer for the powers-that-be to insult the French by featuring Wellington on our £5 notes!).

Happily for the lion, Mr E.V. Parrott, secretary of the Historical Society at that time, heard of its plight. First things first — he contacted the Council and stopped any possible sale. Then for the next decade he patiently set about mustering the forces of the Historical Society, Residents Association and many other organisations, against the Council's entrenched position.

Eventually the Council relented and, with a grant of £500 towards the cost, approval was given for its re-erection in its present position. A little bit of history has been preserved — which is what it is. Whatever the lion's symbolism, it does represent the feelings of people at the time of its erection, and is therefore part of our Heritage.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Many Residents will be pleased to know that the Citizen's Advice Bureau now have an office open every Thursday, in the Croxley Library from 10 am to 1 pm.

Information is available on a wide range of subjects and a warm welcome is extended to all who may wish to seek advice.

MORE REVELS ON THE GREEN

Do you know what happens at a Mother + Toddler Club afternoon? If you don't, come and see us in action on the Green, at our Play-In on June 28th, 1.30 — 3.30 pm. Refreshments will be available, so you can sit back and watch the under 5's at play.

Jan Fallon,
Croxy Mother + Toddler. W. 37852.

CROXLEY GREEN ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

Any person interested in Road Safety is asked to contact the Hon. Secretary (Mrs. Reed — telephone Watford 31144) with a view to possible membership of the Croxley Green Road Safety Committee which meets approximately every six weeks.

The Committee is officially recognised by the Three Rivers District Council and welcomes the views of residents on various aspects of local Road Safety.

Mrs. W.W. Reed, Hon. Secretary.



EDITOR'S CORNER

DON'T BANK ON IT

An instalment loan may take the waiting out of wanting, but does it not also put the worry into hurry — or the waste into haste?

THE GHOSTS OF CASSIOBURY PARK

A visitor to Cassiobury Park may be forgiven for thinking that the waterway between the Park and Whippendell Woods is a meandering river as it gently nears the end of its descent from the Chilterns, but in fact, it is a man-made canal, The Grand Union. It is an early example of landscaping an industrial feature. Another example is the same canal through Regents Park.

In the early 1790's when the route for the Grand Union Canal was being planned, it was obvious that a route through Cassiobury Park would be far cheaper than through the already started tunnel nearer Watford — later to be used by the railway. It so happened that the Earl of Essex, who owned the Cassiobury Estate, was on the general committee of the Canal Company. In this capacity of canal builder, he managed to persuade himself in his capacity of landowner, to part with the necessary land for £15,000. Fortunately for us, he made an extra condition — that the new canal was to look as much like a river as possible and in fact, two of the worst double bends on the whole canal were deliberately built. The Earl's concern for his contemporaries produced the heritage which we, as boaters, as anglers, as walkers and students of Nature, enjoy today. In fact, so successful was he, it is rumoured that some of his successors enjoyed the beauty of the canal to such an extent that they did not want the barges (or narrow boats as they are called) passing through the property. So their servants were dressed up as ghosts which "haunted" the locks, so that very few boats would traverse this stretch after dark. In recent years a collection of old lock windlasses, abandoned by panic stricken boat crews, was found in a hollow tree.

But today all the ghosts have in turn been frightened away by hundreds of leisure seekers who crowd round the locks to watch pleasure boats passing through, or by the anglers sitting like sentinels all along the towpath, whilst a London Transport poster encourages the populace to relax in the sylvan glades of Cassiobury Park.

WHAT'S COOKING?

The French have, over the centuries, evolved a culinary vocabulary streamlined to conjure up visions of gastronomic delights, but only for their own native gourmets. What about we poor foreigners, just a short "Hovertrip" north of Calais, to whom a liaison means nothing more than an illicit weekend without, necessarily, any French connections? So for the benefit of those brought up on a diet of Lancashire Hot Pot or the pudding made famous by the inhabitants of that less renowned county to the east of the Pennines, I have prepared a translation of some "Gallic Goulashes".

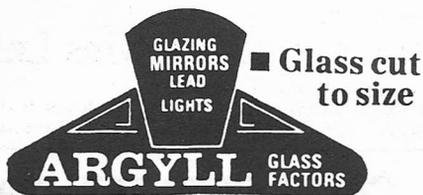
<i>The French say:</i>	<i>Does it mean?</i>
Au gratin	Keys dropped down the drain.
Bain Marie	Mary's bath time.
Blanquette	For a cold night.
Bouchées	Mealy-mouthed.
Canapés	For a rainy day.
Casseroles	Part played by a character in "Julius Ceaser".
Chaufroid	Curry and ice.
Chiffonade	A soft drink.
Compôte	Gardener's Garnish.
Concasser	Nut-crackers.
Duxelles	A mallard's harem.
Entrée	"Baby, it's cold outside".
Fondue	"Love thy Neighbour"
Garniture	"Till death us do part"
Julienne	Would have been Romeo's daughter if he had not taken too many sleeping tablets.
Liaison	Roughly, orgy-de-deux.
Macedoine	A massacre or Turkish delight.
Noisette	Nuts to you, too!
En papillote	Soggy boiled cabbage or any canteen catastrophe.
Petits fours	Set of Dachshund legs.
Pot au feu	Boiled-over soup or time to chopsticks.
Purée	A feminine monk; a nun.
Réchauffée	Bubble and squeak.
Roux	Australian slang for kangaroos.
Sauté	Jumped on Potato crisps or sweet wine.
Vol-au-vent	Bird caught in air-conditioning.

TALKS FOR ORGANISATIONS

If the Secretary of a local organisation would like a speaker to talk on Inland Waterways, please contact me on Watford 28418 — Bob Hampson.

WHY DO YOUR SNAPS GO SNAP?

A packet marked clearly PHOTOGRAPHS DO NOT BEND was received bent and buckled with an added inscription — OH YES THEY DO!



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than to put confidence in men.*

Psalm 118, Verse 8.

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As many short articles as you can please!