



The Croxley Green RESIDENT

Published by
CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS'
ASSOCIATION

Editor: John Hedges
Assisted by: Molly Hedges

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Spring 1994

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does not necessarily represent the views
of the Association nor its Committee.**

EDITORIAL

As I write this I am still awaiting the final article to set into place, which is unusual, but then it is difficult to reach people over Christmas and a little waiting is usual at this time of year. From our survey and the numerous comments that I receive, it is evident that you appreciate the twice yearly *Resident* and we can be certain of a good reception both for ourselves and our advertisers, without whom it would be impossible.

At the risk of being repetitious, I will again plead with you to refuse our travelling 'friends' when they call at the door offering garden and tarmacadamming services - not only is their work sub-standard but it encourages them to invade our Green.

CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday
13th April 1994
at 8.00pm in the
Methodist Church Hall
New Road

* * * * *

Business Meeting to be
followed by a slide show
presenting views of the
Village in days long and
not so long past

* * * * *

Come and
show your views
and then
view our show

ALL WELCOME

We have looked into ways of keeping them off but the remedies always seem to be worse than the problem. Please press our MP to seek to bring forward legislation against them.

This issue sees an article from the Parish Ranger, as though many of you have met him, his activities are a mystery to some. Please let the Parish Council hear your views on his work and your ideas for his employment.

Have you brought a Parish Map yet? They are selling like proverbial hot cakes, don't miss out! I am probably biased but I think this is an important addition to our Village heritage, when all around us is showing threat of change. In this edition also there is an article concerning the proposed merger of our hospitals, unfortunately happening too fast for a publication such as this. We are also currently being reviewed by the Local Government Commission, who are seeking to discover our minds on how we should be governed locally in the future. Keep an eye on the local press and make your voice heard, it is important.

Everything changes but nothing changes, we shall continue to serve you, help us to do it well.

AGM - AN INTRODUCTION

Whilst we were gathering information and ideas for the Croxley Green Parish Map Project, we unearthed many old photographs of our past. Some of these were displayed at the Canal Festival and later at the *Revels* day in June last year, where they attracted a good deal of interest, not only from residents that remember some of the 'good old days' but also younger 'new-comers' to the community.

We now feel that a slide show, with views of old Croxley Green, would be pleasing to people. With this in mind, we are putting together some material to be shown at the AGM of *Croxley Green Residents' Association* on Wednesday 13th April 1994 at the Methodist Church Hall, New Road at 8.00pm. Do come and enjoy a fascinating evening to include the Guild Hall Fire 1965, Views of the Green c.1910 and the Church extension (All Saints) 1912. Do you remember the 'pre-fabs' in Grove Crescent? We have the first bus to Croxley Green taken in 1912. Did you know that the Garage in New Road was once Gibbs the Blacksmith? Spend an evening of local nostalgia - you will be most welcome.

We are still seeking further material which would help us build up a more comprehensive picture of Croxley Green and enable us to make a start on producing a history of the Village. If you have anything - photographs, articles, programmes etc. that depict life in our Village and would like to see it included, please let me know (42 Repton Way or 0923 720088), your help would be very much appreciated.

In the meantime we look forward to seeing you at the Annual General Meeting - **you do not have to be a member of CGRA to join us on this evening - and it's FREE!**

Margaret Promfret

Please send advertisements to:
Rosemary Hanscomb
22 Dickinson Avenue (0923-779966)
and letters and contributions to:-
John Hedges
44 Ludlow Way (0923-222715)
by September 1st if possible

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I sat down to write this column on the evening of January 6th - but by the time you read this, that date will probably mean nothing to most of you. However, you will remember the day - or rather the evening - itself. Outside the window, Croxley Green looks incredibly, dramatically beautiful; because tonight it snowed heavily. The roads and public transport are a shambles - the weathermen and the district councils were well and truly caught out - and an eerie silence has descended on the village. The only sound is of children, of all ages, playing snowballs!! Mother Nature has achieved a transformation in just a few hours and turned the ordinary into the amazing. An evening to treasure - unless you were somewhere outside and struggling to get home!

With the last edition of the *Resident* we included a questionnaire that, the Committee hoped, would help us to firm up some of our options for the way ahead for our Association. The circulation of this publication is around 4700 households per issue, and we received 18 replies - a response rate of less than one half of one per cent. Obviously, such a low response rate really has not helped us very much in our efforts to determine the role of the Residents Association in the years to come. Three messages did come through loud and clear - the Association should be more active in lobbying local councils, we should continue to arrange interesting open evenings - and above all we should maintain our non-party political stance. All three of these messages will be heeded.

Somewhat to my surprise, there was a clear majority in favour of increasing the annual and life membership subscriptions - I am pleased to say that at present we don't need to do this, as long as the *Resident* continues to be self-financing from advertising, but it is encouraging to see that you would be prepared to pay a little more to preserve a truly independent Residents Association.

Even though the questionnaire response rate was very small, those who did respond will have their views taken into account in our deliberations. Your Committee hopes to be able to bring forward for approval at the Annual General Meeting some firm proposals for the future of the Association. Please try to attend the AGM - the date is confirmed elsewhere on this page - the Residents Association does after all try to represent **every** person who is a resident of Croxley Green.

John Larter - Chairman

"The word of God is
living and active"
(Heb 4 v12)

You are warmly invited to the
Baptist Church, Baldwins Lane
Morning Worship: 9.15am
11.00am Rev Derek Fraser B.D.
Evening Worship: 6.30pm Telephone: 231403

A SPRING PRESCRIPTION

Spring. It should be happening any day now and I've been looking forward to it throughout a long, wet and windy winter. I prescribe medicines all day long but I often think '...if only I could prescribe a dose of *spring*', if that spring energy and vitality could be tapped, it would cure a good many winter ills. Sunshine, lengthening days and signs of new life bursting out (no, I don't mean Mr Lamont's green shoots!) can, for me anyway, provide the spiritual uplift that a bottle of tonic can't match. But now that it's almost here, how do we tap into its revitalising energy?

At midnight, on New Year's Eve, I made a health resolution for 1994. It was formed out of a burst of new year goodwill and excitement, flourished briefly, and was then washed away by the wettest, coldest January that I can remember. At least that's my excuse. The middle of winter is a most inappropriate time to take up a cold, painful outdoor pursuit and give up a warm, pleasant indoor one. Pounding the pavements of Croxley Green, headlong into driving rain on a cold dark night (I take my hat off to those of you I've seen doing it) is a poor exchange for the seductive slide into the role of a hibernating couch potato. As you see, my resolution could not withstand the onslaught of overwhelming rationalisation! But perhaps now could be the time to try again....

Prescriptions, of course, come in all shapes and sizes but regrettably most, nowadays, take the form of pills. Oh, we also have elixirs and syrups, patches and implants, and the pill for other places (suppositories and pessaries in the trade), but the pill, tablet or capsule still holds pride of place. So why say 'regrettably'? There are after all some remarkably effective drugs available, many derived from natural sources. Some of the best have been around for

a long time and many are available over the counter. The humble paracetamol (when taken in the correct dose) is an excellent painkiller that usually doesn't upset the stomach and also lowers the temperature; in its liquid form, such as Calpol or Disprol, it is invaluable to help bring down fevers in children; and many arthritis sufferers, who don't get on with anti-inflammatory drugs, get great relief from *regular* doses of paracetamol, without any long term side-effects.

Antibiotics are more sophisticated drugs that have made a big impact. They are extremely effective against the bacteria that cause common illnesses such as tonsillitis, bronchitis, pneumonia or cystitis. So effective, in fact, that the expectation has arisen that they can cure all infections - and yet they remain utterly useless for all colds, most sore throats and many coughs. I think this gives a clue to the answer. Pills are fine in their place. They can work miracles in some cases; they can cure many illnesses; and they can ease symptoms in yet many more. But that is all. They cannot comfort the bereaved, they cannot undo the consequences of the twentieth century life or heal the symptoms of malaise in society. They don't work against the pain of unemployment, the stress of family breakdown or the spectre of financial ruin. It would be so easy if they could; we *will* them to do it. But pills cannot even cure the common cold; and they don't make the average disease-free person feel healthier or become fitter. A different kind of prescription is required.

One of the most salutary experiences for doctors can be the discovery, in a patient's home, of a vast collection of unused and out of date pills, accumulated over years of assiduously *not* taking the tablets! Doctors call it non-compliance but, I suspect it has more to do with over-prescribing and poor doctor/patient communication.

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on the
GREEN
June 18th 1994**

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Stalls and Procession

Graham Judge: 0923 228195
Arena & Events

The potential for unpleasant or dangerous side-effects is tremendous, not to mention the waste and cost. If you do have any leftover drugs at home, please take them back to the chemist, who will know how to dispose of them safely (rather than putting them in the bin or flushing them down the toilet!); and if you find it difficult to remember to take your tablets regularly, it is worth having another word with your doctor, who may be able to change your prescription to something that is only taken once or twice a day.

So, back to spring, and my prescription. It's really my New Year's resolution Mark II. It's only a modest one, like the humble paracetamol and, of course, it only applies to me. It is to shake up my just-the-wrong-side-of-forty frame and give it some exercise to do. Turn the pale couch potato into a slightly fitter beast by finding time, in the week, for a regular dose of exercise. It should be good for my heart and, if I avoid the television, it will also work wonders for my soul. It might also mean that I have less need of more unpleasant prescription in years to come. Well, that's me taken care of. **What are you going to prescribe for yourself this spring?**

Nigel Corp - General Practitioner

PS: If you see me on my bicycle, please stop me for a chat to enable me to get my breath back!

**LITTER DAYS
23rd & 24th APRIL**

**LITTER DAYS
23rd & 24th
APRIL**

**ILLUSTRATED MAP OF
CROXLEY GREEN**

Work was finally completed in October 1993 and given to the printers early in November. Although you might expect us to say this, we are pleased with the result and relieved that after twelve months, it is finished.

We publicised the map with posters, visits to schools and by handbills distributed with the **Free Observer**. The **Watford Observer** gave us some valuable time and space, which was much appreciated. We were also featured on **Three Counties Radio**. Even after these efforts, there was no certainty that more than a small number became aware of the project. However, on the launch day, Saturday 4th December 1993 at the Parish Office, we were pleased to welcome quite a number of local residents and around 300 maps were sold. Everyone has been generous in their praise of the work.

At the time of writing, about 900 maps have been sold. The costs, incurred by the Parish Council, will be covered after 1000 sales and any further income will be used for local community projects.

We thank everyone who has worked on and supported the Map Project, which is a fitting celebration of Croxley Green. We have already thanked the artists, Daphne Simmons and June Thomas, and our researcher/scribe, Norma Stubington but would add our thanks to all who believed in and supported us.

Maps may still be purchased from the Parish Office between 10am and 2pm on any weekday morning or from the Library during normal opening hours. The **give-away** price is £3.00 per copy, size 28" x 22", including protective cardboard tube. A special thankyou to Library staff for promoting and selling the map so effectively.

Ernest Burdis & Margaret Pomfret.

CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATION

On behalf of my household I
of, Croxley Green
Apply for life membership of the association and enclose remittance of
£5.00. Signed

Cheques payable to the Association. Return to:-

Polly Burdis 17, New Road, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth WD3 3EJ

BARTON WAY ALLOTMENTS

First let me apologise for an error which crept into the last edition of **The Resident**. The correct telephone number for the Allotments' Secretary, Roger Simmonds, is 0923 236236, to whom all enquiries concerning rental of plots should be made and who will arrange to show you the available plots.

It is still not too late to start work on a new plot with the intention of cropping this season. Potatoes form a good basic crop able to produce tubers on the most unlikely soil, and some other root crops are planted later in the season with good results; among which are carrots, swede and the old favourite beetroot, which seems to grow well anywhere. Salad crops of lettuce and tomato plants, bought in ready for planting, will provide welcome fresh produce. If you are buying in seedlings, do not forget the greenstuff - cabbage, cauliflower, brussel sprouts and broccoli are all useful supplies to have throughout the autumn and winter. A word of warning for your first season; only buy one strip of each (usually 5 or 6) or you may find that you will be giving away too much produce. Until you have fed your plot avoid F1 hybrid seeds as these prefer the ground to be well prepared to give of their best. Established seeds perform well, especially runner beans, which are of course not planted until well into the season. Most of the peas and beans can usually be relied upon to produce abundant crops.

I wish all our new and regular allotment holders a successful season, whatever the weather, and trust that you will support your committee whenever such needs arises.

Eric Hill - Chairman BWAHA

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CHURCH ARCHIVES

In the Autumn issue of the *Resident*, I asked the question when was the Mill Square re-named Dickinson Square, so far no one has come forward with any ideas, this is a question I will keep in mind.

Recently I have been asked about Scots Hill Court, which stood on the hill just above Chalmers Court, now I have to admit that I know very little about this building. It has been suggested that it was demolished sometime in the 1960s. I have memories of this building and will try to find out but to do this I need help, so has anyone any ideas? The obvious question is who lived there and when did it become vacant. Perhaps we may find someone who worked at the house or was a gardener.

I have been reading an History of John Dickinson & Co, published in 1896, which was given to all members of the Company when they celebrated the Centenary of the Company in 1904. It is not possible to print it in full, so here are a few notes - 'Actual buildings of the Mill cover some 24.000sq yards,' - 'Power for driving the machinery is steam and the coal shed is capable of holding some 4000 tons.' - 'The entire Mill was surrounded by underground fire mains connected to a steam powered fire pump capable of throwing some two tons of water.'

Sorry this is a short note this time, but do remember to contact me on any question and I will do my best to help.

Norman Spring - Archivist, All Saints Church 0923 776933.

Norman talked of fire pumps and this brings back boyhood memories, when I watched with wonder as teams of firefighters, from the associated mills, battled it out in competition on the sports field off the Green. The running out of hoses, aiming the jets at targets and such other practice exercises fascinated one small boy and I am certain many others. Dickinsons was certainly the centre of the Village in those days.
- Editor.

GARDEN COMPETITION

Last Summer the Parish Council organised a Garden Competition which was most successful. Consequently, we have been asked to repeat it this year, and we agree. Details later but, if you missed it last year, start planning your *Blaze of Glory* now.

**Margaret Pomfret
Chairman CGPC E&A**

*Come and join us
you'll find a warm welcome at*

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*Sunday Worship
10.30am with creche/Sunday School
6.30pm Evening Service*

*Minister: Rev Conrad Hicks 0923 263248
Premises Bookings: Elsie Haines 0923 230088*

CROXLEY BOWLING CLUB

Introductions seem unnecessary with the publication of the Parish Map, which has put us firmly in our place. No! you were not seeing things, we do have a bowling green in Croxley Green, adjacent to the Green itself and our *green* is a lively place during the summer months.

We have mixed membership covering all ages from teens to three score years or more. Our fixtures range from friendly matches, league matches and serious competitions, all played in friendly rivalry and companionship. Once you have become a member, you are welcome to use our *green* as little or as much as you wish. Most days and evenings you will find someone around to give you a game. If you are wondering about taking the plunge - why not come and try before you buy!!! We have members keen to offer guidance and help towards your understanding and enjoyment of the game. Who knows, you could really get to enjoy this sport, make new friends too or even renew old acquaintances.

Next time you are out walking around Croxley Green, look in on the other *green* and spectate at your leisure. Further details from:

Marie Hill - 0923 232572

SPRING CLEAN WEEKEND

'Bother!' **'O Blow!'**
'Hang Spring Cleaning'

So said mole in 'Wind in the Willows' One of the reasons the Parish Council produced a Parish Map is that **we** care about the place we live.

Last year Three Rivers District Council decided to award a plaque to the Parish or group who made the most effort during the **Spring Clean** weekend, collecting the most rubbish and litter in their community. Croxley Green Parish Council were delighted to be the first recipient of the award.

From 15th to 24th April is **National Spring Clean** so throughout the weekend of 23rd & 24th April, volunteers are encouraged to meet at specified points where a skip will be placed together with a good supply of black plastic sacks. So - if you too care about the place in which you live and can spare an hour or so on either Saturday April 23rd or Sunday April 24th, skips and sacks will be available from 10.00am at **MILL LANE (Canal), HARVEY ROAD (IMC), ALL SAINTS LANE, THE GREEN (Stones Orchard Entrance), ROUSEBARN LANE (Lodge End) and BARTON WAY CAR PARK.** If you cannot be there at 10am, sacks will be available, from the skips, all day to take away and fill with litter.

Please - if you are a group leader, a school or an individual that **really** wants to keep Croxley Green, green and pleasant - join us! Certificates will be awarded to all those that participate. Ring the Parish Office (710250) or me on 720088 to register your interest for details **NOW.**

**Margaret Pomfret
Chairman Environment and Amenity
Committee of the Parish Council.**



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INTRODUCING OUR PARISH RANGER - JOHN GRIFFIN

I was delighted when the Editor of the **Resident** invited me to say a few words, by way of introducing myself, and the work which I undertake on behalf of the Parish Council.

I commenced my duties in May 1993 which coincided with the opening of the New Office. The intention, from the outset, has been to endeavour to improve the environment in which you, the Residents of Croxley Green, live. I am responsible directly to the Clerk to the Council and there has been careful planning and liaison, from day one, with Parish Councillors, the public and local organisations, to ensure that my time and effort is put to the best use. Tasks to date have been varied - with the main ones being rubbish and footpath clearance, including hedge trimming, strimming and tree lopping; plus installation of dog bins and **no rubbish** signs etc. I have a roving brief, throughout the Parish, to report items and matters needing attention - everything from clearing litter to faulty street lighting, pot holes in roads and much else. The Parish liaises closely with Three Rivers District Council, who have a vast area to cover. The intention is that my work should supplement that of the District Council, carrying out those tasks which are not the direct responsibility of Three Rivers. Care is taken to ensure no duplication of effort.

I am thoroughly enjoying my work. My previous employment involved me closely with the public and my present duties, similarly, bringing me into daily contact with local residents. Without exception, you have made me feel welcome and nearly all of you have expressed your agreement with, and support for, the work we are doing. Croxley Green is an area of much natural beauty and anything which the Parish Council can do, within the limited resources available, to preserve and improve such an environment, has to be worthwhile.

In so much as I am the only **outdoor boy** employed by the Parish, I would like to place on the record that I will do all that I can to maintain and improve standards. We are not complacent. There is a lot to do but we will get there! What the Parish Council need, (and I, personally, would much appreciate) is your help. If you identify anything which requires attention, from an overgrown hedge to an uneven roadside footpath, (especially if there is a potential danger to an elderly or poor sighted person) please let us know. Obviously we cannot always promise an immediate remedy but, if we cannot correct things

ourselves, we will liaise with Three Rivers or any other relevant Statutory Authority to obtain action to put things right.

The Parish Council Offices are in the public car park off Barton Way (telephone 710250) and are open each weekday from 10.00am to 2.00pm. Alternatively, speak to your local Councillor or to me, I am always around, just look for the white, sign-written van. I look forward to continuing the good work with your help.

John Griffin - Parish Ranger

RICKMANSWORTH HISTORIAN

Has anyone in the Parish, copies of the **Rickmansworth Historian** that they no longer require? If so I would be delighted to receive them. I would also like to make a plea for old photographs of Croxley Green, that I can copy and return. The greatest care would be given to any on loan. Please call at 42 Repton Way, telephone 720088 if you can help.

Margaret Pomfret

MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY VOICE

Since the last issue of the **Resident** much has happened with the **Community Voice** continuing to meet regularly at Mount Vernon Hospital. Discussions have been dominated by the news and progress of the proposed merger with Watford General Hospital. News of this has appeared in the local press and there has been publicity about the consultation period, due to end on February 14th., unfortunately prior to publication of this newsletter.

At the November meeting, members voiced the view that, as the Commissioning Agencies viz. the Health Authorities (the Purchasing Bodies) had already indicated that they supported the merger, and as the management of the two hospitals had similarly done so, we were faced with a 'fait accompli'. The Trust Application to the Department of Health expires on 31st March 1994 and, if the Secretary of State approves the merger, the new Trust will operate from 1st April 1994. The Chief Executive of Mount Vernon Hospital, Mr Stephen Ramsden, has already been appointed Project Manager. The emergence of the new Trust would be followed by a new management team, Chairman, five Executive Directors and five non-executive Directors carrying out an in-depth consultation with clinicians, GPs and staff on the optimum arrangements to provide public health care from the joint site. We would be kept aware of developments.

Later on the Commissioning Agencies will carry out a public consultation exercise on which 'specialities' should be based on each site. This second consultation will take place in the summer of 1994.

The new Hospital Trust will be of immense interest and concern to the people of Croxley Green, many of whom will already be expressing, among themselves, fears and reservations regarding its future. It is important that their ideas and feelings should be conveyed to the appropriate bodies - the Health Authority, the Community Health Council, Trust Committees etc. **The Community Voice** should still have a role to play. Its main aim, in the immediate future, would be to consider in depth the second consultative document on the nature and location of services to be provided and to put forward a more detailed document stating the needs of the community. Member groups, such as the **Croxley Green Residents' Association**, could put forward their particular group's wishes. Some ideas have already been received by **The Voice** on such subjects as care of the elderly, Accident & Emergency Departments (of great concern to all), convalescent wards, paediatrics and others. Obviously, the reasons for the merger are largely financial, but there are advantages and disadvantages. It should be in the interest of the Management team, to see that the new Hospital Trust also works in the interest of the patients (now an old-fashioned term) and that the advantages outweigh the disadvantages.

The Chairman of **The Voice** has discussed the situation, informally, with his Executive Committee colleagues. Their feeling is that:

1. There should be no diminution of services overall.
2. Mount Vernon should remain as a general hospital and not rely entirely on its regional specialities.
3. That there should be more attempts to develop more and better services at both Watford General and Mount Vernon.

It is hoped that, during the next consultation period, residents from Croxley Green will have attended meetings to express their views verbally or will do so in writing.

The executive committee has proposed that, at its next meeting, the **Voice** should agree to send to the NW Thames Regional Authority and the Secretary of State, a carefully reasoned paper recommending a deferment of the merger decision.

Barbara Lloyd
Delegate to The Voice

A.H. (ALGY) HEDGES 1903 - 1993

Algy who died on 11th September 1993 was one of the diminishing band of residents who had lived all their lives in Croxley Green. He has given good service to the village in many ways, particularly in membership of various committees. An affable friendly man, slow to anger.

I remember him well as the Vice-Chairman of Harvey Road School Governors. Our meetings were pleasant and rewarding and Algy never failed to attend all our School gatherings, and enjoyed them.

Before his last illness, he was a familiar figure riding his bicycle around the village at an even pace greeting his many friends. We shall miss him!

Well done Algy!

Kay Raggett

I am grateful to Kay for finding time, despite her recent poor health, to send this tribute to my father as it enables me without nepotism to add some words of my own.

Kay was a life-long friend of my father and whilst their politics were different they have both always put Croxley Green first.

Algy Hedges was born in August 1903 in what was little more than a hamlet and lived all his life, and worked either in the village or just over the border in Watford for all his life except for the war years, when service in munitions took him away on weekdays to Elstow in Bedfordshire.

He was always closely associated with events in Croxley Green, a matter instilled in him by his beloved schoolmaster, Neggy Wilson, who taught him at the Old Boy's School in Watford Road. How pleased he would be if we can reclaim this building for the people of Croxley Green, especially as the loss of Durrants School hurt his generation so much, this building being the successor to the Old Boy's School. The loss of Dickinson's Guildhouse left a hole in the village life which has never been filled and community use for a beloved old building would be doubly acceptable.

He was active in his youth with the Methodist Church, taking part in Concert Parties and later in the now defunct Choral Society. He was a keen gardener, maintaining an allotment until in his eighties, and loved the Green since his schooldays when with others he weeded and rolled the Cricket Pitch,

now the site of the *Revels*.

How appropriate, therefore, that his longest service was in organising the *Revels* as Chairman of Croxley Green Society. This annual event has met crises from time to time and he was instrumental in saving it in 1971 and continued to 1984, when his advancing age (80 years young) forced him, very reluctantly, to hand over the reins to a younger generation which found the task too demanding after only two years. He was, needless to say, delighted when Peter Foster and I stepped in with another rescue bid at this next crisis point.

He lived on his own for 20 years after my mother's early death but was rarely less than cheerful and always maintained his pleasant converse with all who crossed his path. We were fortunate to celebrate with him, his family and close friends, on his ninetieth birthday only weeks before he departed to his rest.

I know that a move is afoot to commemorate his life in a permanent manner and those who attend the *Revels* should discover how, very soon.

For a life dedicated to Croxley Green, we give thanks.

Editor

CROXLEY RAIL LINK DECIDED *Northern alignment chosen*

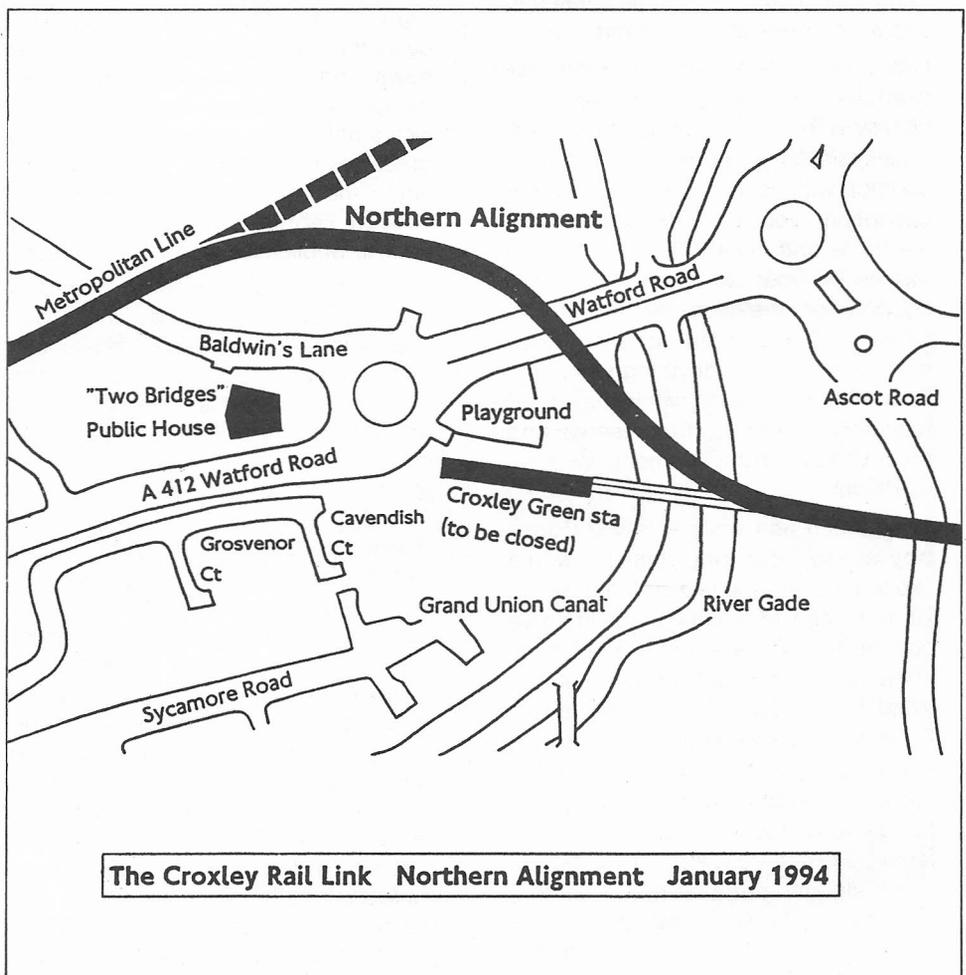
The route for the new railway bridge to join the Watford branch of the Metropolitan Line with British Rail's Croxley Green branch has been decided.

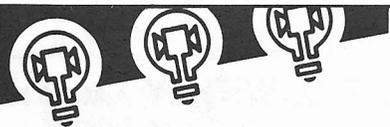
The proposed route will now cross the A412 dual carriageway, Watford Road, near to the Grand Union Canal. It will not now pass over the roundabout near the **Two Bridges** public house and the existing railway bridge will not now be used. Instead a new railway bridge will be built over the A412, Watford Road, to the east of the junction with Baldwin's Lane, Croxley Green.

This decision follows detailed analysis of the engineering, operational and environmental factors as well as the earlier consultations and discussions with local residents.

Anyone who wants to know more about the scheme, or discuss any individual concerns that they may have, should contact the Consultation Manager, The Croxley Rail Link, 2nd Floor, Abbey House, 4 Abbey Orchard Street, London SW1P 2JJ. Telephone: 071-976 0906.

Stephen Jolly
Consultation Manager for
London Underground's project





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LIBRARY QUESTIONNAIRE

I am using my Library column this time to ask for your suggestions about what you would like to see in the new library. Many of you have already attended public meetings and put forward your ideas for the design of the building, now here is your chance to comment on the stock and services you would like to see. We hope that the new building will be open in the late Summer. Please take a few minutes to fill in this questionnaire and help us to provide a service of which the community in Croxley Green can be proud. Please tick boxes where appropriate. Many thanks. Sue Durham.

1. Do you or your family use the Library? YES NO

If no, will you use the new library when it opens? YES NO

If yes, how often do you or your family use the library? Once or twice a year
 Every three/four weeks
 At least once a week

2. What would you like to use the library for? (tick all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Borrowing books (adult) | <input type="checkbox"/> Music (cd and tapes) | <input type="checkbox"/> Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Borrowing Books(children) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheet music | <input type="checkbox"/> Photocopying |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Magazines and papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Story/language tapes | <input type="checkbox"/> Fax |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Large print | <input type="checkbox"/> videos | <input type="checkbox"/> Homework |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Others please specify | | |

3. Do you read fiction? YES NO

If yes, what type

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Romance | <input type="checkbox"/> Modern classics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crime | <input type="checkbox"/> Thrillers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Science fiction | <input type="checkbox"/> Family sagas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horror | <input type="checkbox"/> Classics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Westerns | <input type="checkbox"/> Others please specify |

4. Do you read non-fiction? YES NO

If yes, what type

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biography | <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry/drama | <input type="checkbox"/> Health and beauty | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel guides |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Do-it-yourself | <input type="checkbox"/> Music/musicians | <input type="checkbox"/> Sport |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cookery | <input type="checkbox"/> Transport | <input type="checkbox"/> Parentcraft | <input type="checkbox"/> Petcare |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computers | <input type="checkbox"/> History | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion | <input type="checkbox"/> Crafts/hobbies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <input type="checkbox"/> Local history | <input type="checkbox"/> Consumer advice | <input type="checkbox"/> Natural history |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Others please specify | | | |

5. We plan to stock a broad range of magazines. Are there any particular subject areas that you think we should stock?

6. What compact discs/ cassettes would you like to borrow from the Library?

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Popular | <input type="checkbox"/> Classics | <input type="checkbox"/> Jazz/blues | <input type="checkbox"/> Easy listening |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Country and western | <input type="checkbox"/> Folk | <input type="checkbox"/> Others please specify | |

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