



The Croxley Green RESIDENT

Published by
CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS'
ASSOCIATION

Editor: John Hedges
Assisted by: Molly Hedges

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C.G.R.A. COMMITTEE

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16 Frankland Road

Kay Raggett (Vice-President)

John Larter (Chairman)
65 Sycamore Road

Ernest Burdis (Vice-Chairman)
17 New Road

Mark Saxon (Secretary)
92 Frankland Road 772581

Gwen Larter (Treasurer)
65 Sycamore Road

Polly Burdis (Subscriptions)
17 New Road

John Hedges (*Resident* Editor)
44 Ludlow Way

Rosemary Hanscomb (Advertising)
22 Dickinson Avenue

Marjorie Dennis
1 New Court, New Road

Jo Gardner
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Mike Humphreys
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Material published in this newsletter does not necessarily represent the views of the Association nor its committee.

EDITORIAL

Once again, I have found that this edition of *the Resident* has been oversubscribed. Not only do most correspondents supply copy without any chasing, well very little, but we seem to have no dearth of people wishing to advertise.

From the reaction I receive from many people that I meet in the street, it would appear that most of you find *the Resident* of some interest. Should you have any comments, I will be pleased to receive them and your letters are always welcome.

In his letter John, our Chairman, points to the difficulty of getting people to collect subscriptions and I find it difficult to find people to deliver *the Resident* when it is ready. I do not believe that this a matter of lack of goodwill but most people only respond to a direct approach and this becomes more and

more difficult. You have my telephone number, pick up the telephone now, *It's good to talk*, I'll be pleased to pass on your willingness to offer help to the right person.

This leads me to say a big *Thankyou* to all those who so willingly help us, in both ways, at the present time. Without their help it could be too expensive to continue and that would be unacceptable.

We have plans to continue our series of *Social Evenings* but this will depend on the response that we get to our appeal for Subscription collectors as, even though expenses are small, they still need to be covered. We have many ideas and we hope to publicise these by notices, in the Library and elsewhere.

There are many appeals for your time and this edition has some, as all do without fail. I feel guilty that I cannot respond to all, so you are not alone but, the television is not that important or interesting, and meeting people, face to face, can be so much more rewarding. Why not think about it and do something to rectify the situation.

CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

at the Methodist Church
Hall, New Road
at 8.00pm on
Tuesday 26th March

Come and air your views.

Katherine Howard LRPS
will present an illustrated talk
on a subject of local interest

You have enjoyed this type of
talk and slide show before.
Please come this time.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Are you a paid-up member of the Residents' Association?

At the end of 1995 we had just under 200 life memberships (application form on page 3, cost £5) and some 700 annual memberships (50p per household, 25p for senior citizens). Since there are some 4,500 households in Croxley Green this means that less than 20% of our readers are members of the Association.

Your Committee have recently been looking into this and other aspects of our finances because, in the last two years, we have had to cut back on our activities and our expenses in order to continue to be financially viable. We have very few sources of income and cash flow is becoming a major problem. There are several options open to us and these include increasing the subscription fees, reducing the quality of *The Resident* and trying to cut expenses still further. Unfortunately, there are some costs we cannot reduce such as statutory insurance cover. During the last two years your Committee have refused to accept any reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the Association such as postage, stationery etc. We believe that this valuable publication, already largely self-financing thanks to support from our advertisers, must continue as an interesting newsletter and its quality maintained.

Our options are therefore limited. The membership subscription fees have remained unchanged for 10 years, but we believe that as a voluntary body our first endeavour should be to mount a major effort to collect them from more households - if we can be successful in this then we can put off any increase for at least one more year.

And this is where we need your help.

Can you volunteer just 2 hours of your time in the period from April to September to help us to extend our collection of subscriptions? If you can, please contact any committee member listed on this page. Alternatively, why not become a life member **now**?

Please send advertisements to:
Rosemary Hanscomb
22 Dickinson Avenue 449945
and letters and contributions to:
John Hedges
44 Ludlow Way (01923) 222715
by September 1st if possible.

The Churches in Croxley Green warmly invite you to share in our Sunday Worship:

All Saints (C OF E), The Green.

08.00 am Holy Communion.
 09.40 am Junior Church.
 09.45 am Parish Eucharist.
 11.30 am Family Service (3rd Sun in month)
 06.00 pm Evensong.
 Revd Luke Lee - 772109.

The Baptist Church, Baldwins Lane.

09.15 am Morning Worship.
 11.00am Family Service.
 06.30 pm Evening Worship.
 Revd David Walker - 231403.

The Methodist Church, New Road.

10.30am Morning Worship
 with creche/Sunday School.
 06.30 pm. Evening Service.
 Revd Conrad Hicks - 263248.
 Bookings: Frank Haines - 230088.

St Bede's (R C), Baldwins Lane.

Saturday 06.00 pm Vigil Mass.
 Sunday 10.00 am Mass.
 06.00 pm Mass.
 Father Bert Haines - 231969.

St Oswald's (C of E), Malvern Way.

08.00 am Holy Communion.
 10.00 am Family Service (1st week). Family Eucharist (others).
 06.00 pm Choral Evensong (1st Sunday in month).
 Revd Anne Lovegrove - 232387.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

What are we?

What do we do?

Would you like to find out?

The Croxley Green Neighbourhood Watch are residents who work together, with the local Police force, to try and improve the security in our community. We have a local Neighbourhood Officer with whom we liaise on all aspects involving crime in connection with Croxley Green.

Many areas/roads belong to Neighbourhood Watch and have representatives who attend our meetings, about one every two months. They are called co-ordinators and act as a means of relaying urgent information to their own particular street/area, say for instance if bogus door-to-door salesmen are in the area. Our meetings are very informal but we try to be constructive about our aims.

In recent times we have had a representative to our meeting to show us various deterrents that can be incorporated into our home security. NO sales talk! Just advice that could help us to help ourselves. Sometimes the Crime Prevention Officers, from Watford Police Station, attends. On the last occasion a video was shown that highlighted how vulnerable our homes can be without adequate and basic security.

This year we are hoping to make a presence at the Revels, why not pop along to find out more?

Setting up a scheme in your street is not difficult and starting packs are available from the Crime Prevention Unit, Watford

Police Station, with help from us. If you think that you would like to become an interested Neighbourhood-watcher, join us at one of our next meetings or, even if you have a co-ordinator in your street, please come anyway to discuss and share your concerns about local issues that involve local crime prevention.

Each meeting usually lasts about an hour and a half and is very friendly. The next scheduled meetings, which are held at the Parish Office off Barton Way car park, all at 7pm (don't worry if you arrive late) are on:-
 Monday 29th April,
 Tuesday 18th June and
 Monday 8th September.

If you would like any further information, please contact:-

Derek Thompson - 01923 778979

CROXLEY GREEN NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICER

For those of you who missed the rather lengthy introduction of myself in the Watford Observer (I didn't recognise who it was at first), my name is Nigel Bunce. I have been in the Hertfordshire Constabulary for almost 22 years. I have had previous experience as a neighbourhood officer, almost 16 years, in Maple Cross and West Hyde, before moving to Watford. Now I have been given the position as Croxley Green Neighbourhood Officer.

I would like to say thanks to Steve Tinsley, from whom I am taking over. Unfortunately, his expertise is required in other fields, although we shall still see him around.

Just a few words regarding crime. To date we have had nine reported crimes within the Croxley Green area, The most significant of these crimes, both here and nationally, is theft of or from motor vehicles. So, remember to lock valuables away out of sight - if you have a crook lock, use it - don't leave keys in the ignition, it only takes a few seconds to drive the car away.

If you need to contact me, I can be reached by telephone on 01923 472108 or by calling at Rickmansworth Police Station.

PC Nigel Bunce - Neighbourhood Officer.

CROXLEY FAMILIES TOGETHER

..... is a small group of us who meet for coffee and a chat at someone's house. Sometimes we organise other activities, such as a Drugs Awareness Evening that we held in November 1995.

We're just like you - mostly parents, juggling with a hundred and one tasks every day - one of which is raising our children to be the next generation of responsible citizens. We need to guide and encourage them, keep the channels of communication open. Not always easy - especially during the adolescent years!

But, sometimes we need someone to guide and encourage us too. We can't put the worlds to rights, but one thing we have in common is our belief that although we belong to different churches, we are travelling on the *same*

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journey, towards the same God. We also know that following the guidelines, that Jesus set out for us, can make our life a lot less complicated. Easier said than done in this fast and furious world of ours!

We are all in this together. Why not come along to one of our meetings for some moral support - whatever your role in the family may be. You will be very welcome.

Ursula Durrant - St Bede's - 445163
Jane Bates - All Saints - 775563
Yvonne Lloyd - Baptist - 231297
Eleri Davies - Methodist - 236965 and
Lucy Hall - St Oswald's - 720470.

SURGERY SOAPBOX

"Just take a few deep breaths, you'll soon feel better..." But what if it's not as easy as that? The soapbox offering this edition is all about lungs, and in particular a common condition that affects about 1 in 20 people in the UK, and 1 in 10 children between the ages of seven and eleven. It makes you cough. It can make you wheezy and short of breath. And it's very treatable. You've probably guessed by now. We're talking about asthma. If you have asthma, or if someone in your family does, do read on...

People with asthma have lungs that are more sensitive than average. Their bronchi or breathing tubes are more easily irritated, and they react by becoming narrower and producing more mucus. This leads to any of the typical symptoms of coughing, wheezing and shortness of breath, and sometimes all three. Everybody with asthma is different. Many have only occasional, mild symptoms, others are bothered more often, but usually a pattern emerges.

Catching a cold will often trigger a bout of asthma, the virus particles directly irritating the bronchial linings. Influenza is even worse, so if you or your child have asthma, don't forget to book up your flu vaccination in October. Another common trigger factor is that unwelcome cohabitee of us all, the infamous house dust mite, which makes itself at home in bedding, carpets, furniture and soft toys. Steps to cut down on dust, especially in the bedroom, can help a lot.

Many people find that exercise will bring on their asthma, a reason for treating it, not abandoning the exercise! Pollen can be a trigger factor and many hay fever sufferers experience a degree of asthma when counts are high.

Some people are allergic to cat or dog fur, and may only notice symptoms when they visit a cat-owning friend's house. It can help to keep pets out of bedrooms and off the furniture, no doubt easier said than done. Certain drugs can bring on an asthma attack or make it much worse. The main culprits are the beta-blockers (often prescribed for high blood pressure or angina) and anti-inflammatory pain-killers such as aspirin and ibuprofen.

For others, their asthma seems to have a mind of its own and there may be no obvious triggers or pattern. Whatever type of asthma you have, cigarette smoke, whether your own or somebody else's, always makes it worse. Smoking in the same room as someone having an asthma attack is rather like tipping a few more buckets of water over someone who's drowning!

Well that's enough about what sets asthma off, but how do you get rid of it? Many children, especially boys, with mild asthma symptoms will grow out of it when they grow up. More importantly, there are excellent treatments available, and everyone is probably familiar with the inhaler devices that are widely used. These come in various types, but break down into *relievers* and *preventers*.

Contrary to popular belief, inhalers are not addictive, and when used properly they are remarkably free from unpleasant side effects. The most important thing is to *be sure you know how and when to use your inhaler*, and to check your technique with your doctor or practice nurse. Someone who only gets occasional asthma symptoms, for example each time they play football or swim, may just need a dose of a reliever inhaler when the symptoms occur, or perhaps before they start to exercise. Somebody who gets trouble from their asthma quite often, for example being woken up in the night by coughing or wheezing, several times a week, should find that a regular dose of a preventer inhaler much more helpful.

You can often tell if the treatment works simply by how you feel. But you can also

measure the improvement in the working of your lungs using your own peak flow meter (which is available on prescription) - just like the doctor or practice nurse does when you go for your regular check-ups. If on the other hand you *don't* go for any check-ups at all, it is quite possible you are using your treatment wrongly and wondering why it doesn't do you any good!

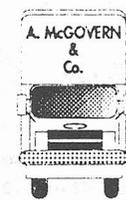
I sometimes see patients who, having been symptom-free for some time, stop using their regular preventive inhaler, only to be caught out later by a return of their asthma. It's certainly possible to stop your treatment, especially if your asthma varies with the season, but it is worth talking it over with your doctor first. Sometimes asthma can be serious and frightening. It is worth thinking about and taking seriously. A good guideline is that it's safer to over treat it rather than gamble on too little treatment. And if ever it gets bad enough to make breathing difficult or cause distress or exhaustion, immediate medical help is needed, either from your GP or in the hospital casualty. Again, a good principle is to *seek help early*, rather than wait until an asthma attack has got too bad.

With today's wide range of effective treatments, most people with asthma should be able to lead normal energetic lives and children reach their full sporting potential. Everyone's goal should be to be 100% symptom free. It's worth working together with your doctor or practice nurse to achieve that. What a shame to settle for anything less. If you need more information about asthma, useful leaflets are usually available from your surgery, or you can contact the National Asthma Campaign on 0171-226-2260.

Nigel Corp - General Practitioner

CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATION

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CLEAN UP WEEKEND

Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st April.

For many years now, the residents of Croxley Green have taken part in helping to clean up the *forgotten* or heavily littered areas of the Parish. During April the *Tidy Britain Group* also organise an event and this year it is from 12th - 21st April. TRDC has decided to focus their *Clean Up* weekend on the dates in our headline.

In recent years the Parish Council has been encouraging local groups and organisations to help with those areas in Croxley Green that receive less attention or become heavily littered.

Of course you don't have to restrict your participation to the weekend and if you would prefer to help during the previous week, this can be arranged and will be greatly appreciated. Skips will be placed around the Parish during the *weekend* but if you or your organisation/group wishes to join in, black plastic sacks will be available from the Parish Office FREE and the Ranger will fill all bags that have been filled during that week. Please contact the Parish Office on 710250 or call in to register your name and group, if you can spare the time.

During the weekend itself, sacks will be available from each of the skips, either to fill with litter from close by or to take away to clean up other areas.

Certificates will be available for those who wish to record their name or their group. Again, please contact the Parish Office to let us know that you have helped with this event.

Skips will be located near or close by to the following sites:-

Stones Orchard / The Green.

Rousebarn Lane / Lodge End.

Harvey Road IMC.

Mill Lane / Common Moor Lock.

Opp. All Saints Lane (Car Park bay).

Barton Way Car Park.

Cassiobridge Recreation Ground.

Margaret Pomfret - Chairman,

Environment Cttee - Parish Council.

MORE MEMORIES OF CONNIE WHEATLEY

Sorry if this is a little disjointed, but Connie used her notes as a reminder and, as I have gone through them you can imagine how many questions I would have like to have asked. She remembers the Guildhouse being used as a Convalescent Hospital. In all about 1000 patients many of them Australians. Some married local girls and took them home.

The Croxley Choral Society started in 1924, Connie and her father were founder members. It is recorded that the Society was of a high standard but

unhappily, because of a lack of members, it closed in 1959.

In the twenties, Croxley Green began to grow, the Metropolitan line station opened in 1926 and, with more houses being built, it was no longer a self contained village. There were few cars and most people still used bicycles.

1939 saw the start of the war. All railings were taken away for scrap. Evacuees arrived. The Blitz started and Croxley Green did not escape. Some bombs fell near the Met. station and at the top of Scots Hill, which caused much damage to the church and the nearby cottages. At this time, Connie was employed at the Sun Printers and said that they produced many maps for the services, leaflets and silver strips to combat Radar. When Peace was declared, an enormous bonfire was lit, somewhere near the Met. station.

Before the Welcome Club was started, people used the Rickmansworth Darby & Joan Club. Mr. Wilcox called at her home and, with the help of a Mr. Rayner, obtained the use of a room in the Guildhouse. A committee was formed and Mrs. Wilcox became President, assisted by a Mrs. Bass. Meetings were held on Saturday afternoons and tea was always served at 4.00pm. They worked very hard to raise money for a place of their own - date not mentioned. Mr. Wilcox laid the foundation stone for the building, under the auspices of the Red Cross who wanted to establish themselves in the area.

This was the end of her notes. Lots of questions are now in my mind so, if you remember those days, please let me know or go into the Library and tell them.

Norman Spring - 01923 776933

Archivist - All Saints' Church.

ATTORNEYS CAN BRING PEACE OF MIND

If you lose your mental capacity through illness, an accident or because of old age, who would be authorised to make decisions for you? No one, would be the answer unless you have appointed an *Enduring Power of Attorney*. These things can happen, at any time, and in the same way as you would not run the risk of not being insured against a fire damaging your home, it cannot make sense for you to risk losing your mental capacity without appointing an *Enduring Power of Attorney*. It is most important that the person appointed to be your attorney is someone you can trust absolutely. If that situation alters, the *Power of Attorney* can be revoked at any time, providing that it has not been registered. It only needs to be registered with the Public Trust Office once the Attorney believes that the person who has made the appointment has, or is about to, become mentally incapable. Once registered, however, it can only be revoked with the approval of the Public Trust Office.

It is an unfortunate fact that a person's mental state can deteriorate rapidly. By appointing an *Enduring Power of Attorney*, a person can save themselves considerable expense and delay in not having to apply to the Court of Protection for the appointment of a receiver. For a modest cost, appointing an *Enduring Power of Attorney* would appear to be a prudent step for anyone to consider and is not confined to those who are elderly.

If you would like any further information or have any questions regarding the procedure for making and registering an *Enduring Power of Attorney*, please contact your Solicitor.

David Wachtel and Michael Fox.

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UPDATE FROM THE RED CROSS CENTRE

1995 was a special year for British Red Cross as it celebrated its 125th birthday. The Croxley Green Centre chose to celebrate in a special way with an exhibition in the Library and a party for some 50 war veterans who celebrated the 50th anniversary of VE Day with a tea, dancing and much talk of times remembered.

The Flag Week in May was the last to be organised by Florence Samuels. She was given a great send-off by the people of the village who contributed over £2,400 - a 20% increase on last year. With 56 areas of conflict world wide, in which Red Cross is involved, it is easy to imagine how vital your contributions have been.

We were generously supported too, by Mr & Mrs McGregor, Dr & Mrs Drazin and Dr & Mrs Corp who opened their gardens to the public on a blazingly hot July Sunday. The crowds of visitors - it looked like the Revels car park on the Green - were impressed and we were able to send a cheque for £2,200 to the Hertfordshire Branch.

The Saturday Market group continues to hold its Market on every third Saturday with extra events, just to keep themselves busy! Their efforts have raised a staggering £5,000 over the year.

The Trained Group continue to meet ever increasing public demand for First Aid training. 59 people completed this term's course - and some of the successful candidates have chosen to join the Trained Group on a regular basis.

The Junior Red Cross group has a waiting list for new members. They are full of energy and recently completed a sponsored walk which raised enough money to buy a wheelchair.

The Youth Group meets regularly on Monday evening and there are vacancies here.

Our Medical Loan services were much in demand over the holiday period - our stock room has never been so bare. We are able to provide, on *short term loan*, wheelchairs, commodes and other items of equipment but *not* walking aids.

The Welcome Club is pleased to see new faces. The over-sixties can have lunch four times a week. There is social entertainment every Saturday afternoon, for which some transport is provided, and in January we held our annual lunch with 90 members and guests attending, a good time being had by all. On weekday afternoons, there are sessions of whist, dancing and bingo. No excuses for being bored, lonely or without companionship.

We think we have beaten the water problem; we found gravel deposits in the system which must have been a result of the disturbances caused by the re-building of the Library. The cracks in the floor have been made good. Best of all, thanks to a generous donation from Croxley Green Parish Council to mark the 125th anniversary, together with gifts from the Welcome Club, we have been able to install a modern PA system, with a hearing loop to help those with hearing aids. We are immensely grateful for these gifts.

Much if the Centre's activities over the last three years has depended on the devoted service of Dorothy and Andy Sims, who have looked after the building and supervised the meals service. We wish them a very happy retirement - but Dorothy is already busy with us as a volunteer helper.

From the 1st of January, I am pleased to say that we shall be looked after by Mrs Val Hunt as Meals Supervisor and Mr Brian Bull as Caretaker.

George Ward - Centre Organiser.

Are you taking part in the
LITTER WEEKEND?
If not, why not?

Remember the date
**Saturday 20th &
Sunday 21st April.**

LIBRARY COLUMN

As I write this column in mid winter I am looking ahead to my Summer holidays. We have got a good selection of travel guides and armchair travel books covering the British Isles and further afield. If you need help with brushing up your rusty language skills or you would like to learn a new language we stock language courses on cassette and video together with phrase books. If you start now you could be an expert by the summer.

If you can't find what you are looking for you can always request it from us.

While on the subject of requests, I thought you would be interested to know about the most requested books at Croxley Green Library during 1995 so I have compiled a top ten of fiction titles..

1. *Coming Home* by Rosamunde Pilcher.

Set amidst the gathering storm of war in sun-drenched Cornwall and the danger and deprivation of the 1940s, Rosamunde Pilcher's first novel for five years is a good read but doesn't match up to 'The Shell Seekers'.

2. *Enigma* by Robert Harris.

Robert Harris's first novel 'Fatherland' was an international best seller. His latest, a tale of past love and betrayal focuses on the world of code breakers during World War II.

3. *A Ruthless Need* by Catherine Cookson.

It is 1937. Soldier Geoff Fulton rescues 14 year old Lizzie from a fate worse than death and takes her to his home in County Durham to look after his disabled mother.

4. *Come to Grief* by Dick Francis.

Sid Halley, hero of 'Odds Against' and 'Whip Hand' returns to face new dilemmas and dangers.

5. *Casting Off* by Elizabeth Jane Howard.

The fourth and final volume of the Cazalet Chronicle begins on VE day in 1945 and brings it up to date. The three earlier volumes are also in stock for anyone who would like to follow the family's fortunes from the beginning.

6. *The Rainmaker* by John Grisham.

Another best selling US courtroom drama from the author of 'The Firm' and 'The Pelican Brief'.

7. *Dangerous to Know* by Barbara Taylor Bradford.

When Sebastian Locke is found dead in mysterious circumstances his ex-wife sets out to find the truth about his death.

8. *Obsession* by Catherine Cookson.

With her inheritance at stake Beatrice will sacrifice anyone and anything to ensure that she does not lose what is rightfully hers.

9. *From Potters Field* by Patricia Cornwell.

A woman's body is found in Central Park, New York and Dr. Kay Scarpetta recognises the hallmarks of the serial killer she so nearly caught before.

10. *The Best of Friends* by Joanna Trollope.

Upheavals in the lives of two families in a small English town.

Narrowly missing the top ten were Wilbur Smith's 'The Seventh Scroll'; 'The Dark Room' by Minette Walters and Ruth Rendell's 'Simisola'.

The most heavily requested non-fiction books of the year were Alan Bennett's 'Writing Home', a very entertaining selection of his letters, and Graham Hancock's 'Fingerprints of the Gods'.

Happy Reading!
Sue Durham, Community Librarian

REVELS - Saturday 22nd June.

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Sundays 9.45am - Communion
 11.30am - Sunday Way
 6.30pm - Good News Service

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Fri. 8.00pm - Boys Club

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I was very heartened after reading the articles in the *Parish Pump's* December issue with regard to local shops. Possibly this was prompted by the closure of Richard Cole's greengrocers shop in New Road.

It is often said that people don't know what they've got until they lose it! I think credit must be given to the people of Croxley Green who do support their local shops.

We all know how convenient it is to jump into the car, drive to the nearest superstore, fill the trolley, flash a credit card and drive home. We also know how convenient it is to be able to pop down to the local shop if, for instance, we forgot to pick up a lemon when we were in the Superstore. Just for a minute though, pare a thought for the small shopkeeper. He can't run his shop on the basis of people popping in for the odd item that they have forgotten. Also they CARE ABOUT US!!! Yes, they really do. Why? Because we're all they've got. How many of us have been in our local shop and when it came time to pay, have found that we are a bit short? We're often told; "Don't worry, bring it in next time you're passing!" It has happened to me many times. Could you see any of the *big boys* doing that? No chance, no matter how much a week you regularly spend.

In Croxley Green we have four good butchers, all struggling. Sadly, the only surviving greengrocers, both very good, are both in Baldwins Lane. Look and see, you'll find that they are cheaper than the Superstores. All these shops deserve your support, please give it to them before it is too late!!! The reality is that you could drive past a closed-down shop, *on your way to a Superstore*, look at it and say: "What a shame they had to close down, really nice people, I helped them on their way, you know!!!"

A Local Shopkeeper.

This is not a fun article, it is a cry for help. Most of our own family shopping is done locally and, taking travel costs into account, is not expensive. I rue the passing of the bakers in Baldwins Lane but am pleased that so many small businesses still exist. Editor.

PARISH FOOTPATHS CAN YOU HELP?

In the last *Parish Pump* (issued by the Parish Council) No 7 December 1995, a brief outline on the Parish Footpaths and the Parish Paths Partnership involving the Environment & Amenity Committee, recorded the work that the committee is endeavouring to complete.

This task is relatively simple, although time-consuming. However, what has emerged is that Croxley Green has many permissive footpaths as well as those that are definitive rights-of-way. Many footpaths become *lost* by not being walked, whilst others may be diverted through development. One such footpath has caused concern to some residents as it is blocked off by chain-link fencing.

The Footpath Location.

Prior to the Durrants School site redevelopment, access was available through the School grounds, via the wooded areas adjacent to Little Green School playground (amongst other open entrances) and would connect with a footpath that ran around the back of Grove Crescent (accessed from Lovatts/Baldwins Lane) and between Little Green Lane.

Recent research into old maps, in particular 1876/98 and estate maps, shows that this was in fact just part of a very old footpath that began close by The Grove (corner of Baldwins Lane/The Green/Little Green Lane) and then continued across fields, emerging to what is now the T-junction with Lincoln Drive and Little Green Lane (by Little Green School). This is shown on Map 1 (1913/21 OS map).

Ordnance Survey maps from early this century, show this footpath as still a public footpath when the Durrants site was purchased by Hertfordshire County Council for the erection of the senior school (see Map 2).

A map for 1966 showing Little Green School, with housing in the immediate area, shows the footpath has been diverted to Little Green Lane with its entrance/exit close by to Thick Spring. This footpath is numbered 13 (unlucky for some!) on the definitive Footpath Map (see Map 3).

From enquiries, through the Rights-of-Way Department at County Hall, it transpires that this footpath (the closed off section) was "extinguished" on 18th January 1952 and diverted, as previously stated, to Little Green Lane.

However, all may not be lost!

Information on claiming footpaths even though they have been extinguished could, with sufficient evidence, return them for public use and allow them to be re-registered. This does involve many procedures. Firstly, evidence is required that the now closed off section has been continuously walked uninterrupted since 18th January 1952 but, more importantly, for the last 20 years - say from 1975.

If you are a resident who was concerned when the Durrants Site was developed and the footpath closed off with chain-link fencing at the top of Manor Way,

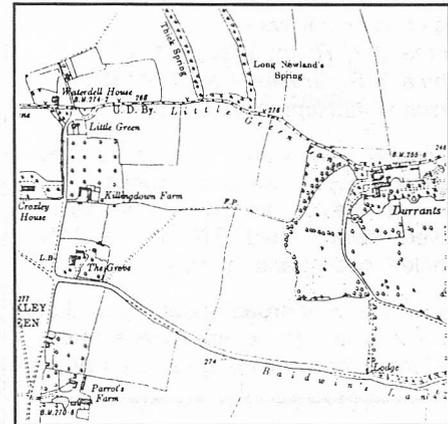
and are prepared to come forward to say that you -

1. have walked this footpath regularly,
2. would like to see this section open for public use,
3. know of anyone who may have some knowledge regarding this footpath before or after 1952

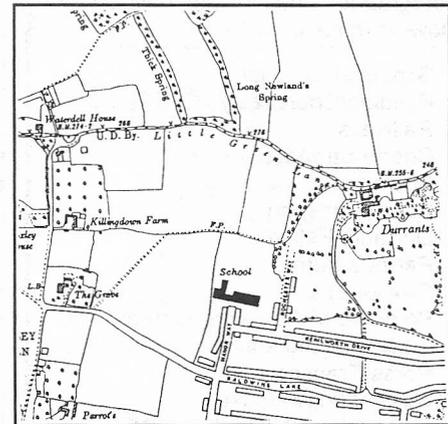
PLEASE CONTACT ME.

I have been advised that at least six persons would be necessary to support an application to County Hall BUT this does not mean that there would be guaranteed success.

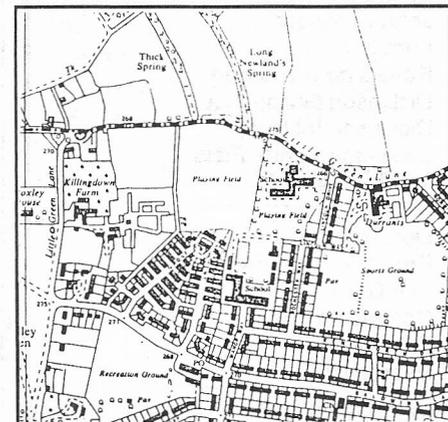
Margaret Pomfret - 01923 720088.



MAP 1 - OS 1913-21



MAP 2 - OS 1913-38



MAP 3 - OS 1966

MEMORIES OF CROXLEY GREEN

Photographs/material has been collected and copied by individuals who wish to collate them into a publication entitled "Memories of Croxley Green". Sufficient material has been collected to make a start in creating some sort of order.

A small group, including Norma Stubington (Librarian), John Kirkham (who has been involved with the Parish Map and drawings of local features) and myself, would now like to involve others who would be keen to see this happen. If you would like to help please contact one of us as follows:-

Norma at 20 Rugby Way, 721243,
John at 5 Sycamore Road, 224168 or
Myself at 42 Repton way, 720088.

Obviously, we would appreciate any material, especially photographs, that are still being discovered or being tucked away. They will be carefully handled, copied and returned.

Below is a very broad list of topics that we would like to cover. Please return the form to one of us or give us a call.

MEMORIES OF CROXLEY GREEN

I would be willing and able to loan photographs and/or material on the following (please tick):-

- Schools/Education.
- Religion/Churches.
- Railways.
- Cherry Sundays.
- Scots Hill.
- Road Transport.
- Durrants Estate.
- Parrotts Farm.
- Croxley House.
- Bombing of All Saints' Church/
surrounding areas.
- Horse Transport.
- Cassiobridge House.
- Croxley Hall Woods/
Tithe Barn/Farm.
- Libraries.
- The World Wars.
- Shops/Businesses
- John Dickinson.
- Farms.
- Revels on the Green.
- Dickinson Guildhouse.
- Dickinson Institute.
- Dickinson Sports Field.
- The Mummings.
- Public Houses.
- Doctors/Dentists.
- Prefabs/Grove Crescent.
- The Green.
- Common Moor.
- The Canal.
- Recreation.

Name:

Address:

.....

Telephone:

ROLL OVER, ROVER!

Is the close approach of a beloved pet less pleasant than it could be? Maybe more unfortunate in a lap dog or cat than in a sporting breed, bad breath can afflict all of our pets. This is caused by bacterial build-up and plaque around the base of the tooth, as in humans. The plaque will slowly mineralise and form a hard tartar on the tooth surface, which then has to be chipped off to reveal the enamel beneath. The rough surface of the tartar traps even more bacteria, preventing saliva from washing the tooth surface. Slowly this causes decay and gum recession, exposing the tooth root.

Thankfully, there is a course of action!

If tartar build-up has already occurred as a brown or yellow crust on the teeth, ultrasonic scalers are used to remove the tartar without scratching the tooth surface, followed by polishing. This procedure is routinely carried out by your vet and, in some cases, may need to be repeated after a few years. Immediately the difference is evident, as the clean tooth surface is revealed. How do we then preserve this improvement?

The most effective way is by regular brushing. Pet toothpastes and brushes have been designed to prevent tartar and cleanse away bacteria. As it is difficult to convince pet to rinse after brushing, pet toothpastes are designed to be harmless when swallowed and consist of enzymes, antiseptics and mild abrasives, all packaged into a meaty or fishy flavoured paste. The brushes are comfortable and easy to use. Research shows that frequent brushing sessions are the most beneficial. Early training of puppies and kittens to accept brushing is helpful.

For those pets of a more difficult disposition, a gel has recently been developed which sticks to the tooth surface and contains enzymes to discourage tartar build-up. This can be placed in food or on paws, and also has a flavour that pets find irresistible.

Chewing biscuits or larger bones will also help a little, as the chewing motion exercises the teeth and gums.

Herbivores, such as rabbits and guinea pigs, do not gather plaque in the same way that carnivores do but, can get dental problems - seek advice from your vet if their food consumption declines at all.

Thanks to newer dental techniques and products for dental care in pets, your pet can again be nice to be near!

April Rumsey - Veterinary Surgeon.

REMEMBER REVELS DAY

SATURDAY 22nd JUNE.

CHURCHES TOGETHER HISTORY OF ST. OSWALD'S

The history of the Parish Church of St. Oswald has recently been published and will be of interest to all who are concerned with the local history of our community.

It traces the development of the church from 1936, when land was purchased to found St. Oswald's as a daughter church of All Saints', the dedication of the dual purpose church and church hall took place the following year. During the war, as well as being the centre for many community activities, the church hall was used as a school by evacuees from All Souls', Langham Place. This school also served the local district until the new Malvern Way and Little Green primary schools were opened. During the 1950s, because of the rise in population since it had been founded, new boundaries were agreed with All Saints' and St. Oswald's became a parish church in its own right. A vicarage and separate church hall were added and Shaftesbury Court too was built on land leased from the church.

The book, written by a member of the congregation, charts the history both of the people of St. Oswald's and the of the buildings, right up to the time of the present vicar, Revd. Anne Lovegrove. It contains photographs and copies of original plans and documents.

Copies are available, at £3 each, and are on sale at the Library. Proceeds will go to charity, with the South West Herts Hospice benefiting from the first hundred copies sold.

Jane Brading - Churchwarden.

MUSIC LOVERS Watford Philharmonic Society

On Wednesday 27th March the Watford Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra will be presenting J S Bach's *Mass in B Minor*, one of Bach's most superb works, at the Watford Colosseum (ex Town Hall), which acoustically is one of the best halls in the country.

Selective soloists for this great work have been specially chosen and will be:-

Jean Rigby - Soprano,

Sarah Jane Haigh - Soprano,

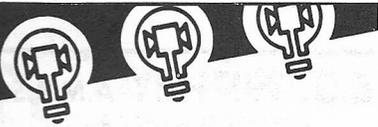
Philip Sheffield - Tenor, and

Geoffrey Dalton - Bass.

Conductor - James Kelleher.

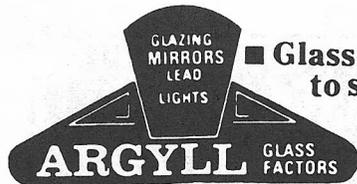
The concert starts at 7.45pm and tickets can be obtained, in advance, from the Colosseum Box Office - 01923 445000.

Molly Jackson - WPS Publicity Sec'y



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