

# The Croxley Green Resident

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS' AND RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

No. 79

Editor—Mrs. D. HORWOOD, 47 Owens Way.

No. 2—July 1963

# OPEN NIGHT 17th July 1963

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AN OPEN MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, 17th JULY 1963, at 8 p.m. in the SCIENCE ROOM at DICKINSON'S GUILDHOUSE, CROXLEY GREEN

The idea behind the Open Meeting is to encourage Members of the Association to meet the Residents, Councillors and the Committee of the Association. It is intended that the discussions shall be informal but Members intending to raise particular topics are asked to advise the Hon. Secretary beforehand so that the meeting can be arranged accordingly.

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## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

I would like to thank all those who voted for the Residents' Candidate in the recent Urban District Council Election; to all contributors to our Fighting Fund and those who helped as scribes, distributors or canvassers, I extend my appreciation of their efforts. Although the result was disappointing it was far from discouraging and on sober reflection it is heartening to realize how many supported our endeavour to secure another 'non party political' Councillor—particularly in view of the intensive printing and canvassing campaign waged by others.

It is not my intention to dwell on the past but to look ahead to the future—to May 1964 when there will again be one vacancy in the North Ward (the retiring member will be Councillor A. E. Gibbons) and one in the South Ward where our own Councillor Armson completes his term of office. Members will have to decide whether to contest either or both Wards: this decision, however, must be guided by the financial state of our Fighting Fund. I consider it would be advisable to take an early decision, thus enabling the Fighting Fund to be built up—if that should be the wish of the Members.

One fact revealed during our Election efforts was the surprisingly large number of new residents in Croxley Green and, on behalf of the Association, I would like to offer them a warm welcome to the district and an invitation to become members of this, their local Residents' Association. I would stress that we are NON SECTARIAN and NON PARTY POLITICAL. The subscription (still at pre-war rate) is 2/- per annum which covers membership of both husband and wife.

To those who may be interested in our Local Government Election activities I would like to give my assurance that all our Election expenses are covered by a separate Fund (Fighting Fund) which is raised by voluntary donations. Members will, I think, be pleased to learn that our numbers are steadily increasing and it can be revealed that over 400 new members have joined this year—several of whom have contributed to the

Fighting Fund which enables me to report that a start has already been made should the Association decide to contest the 1964 Election.

With the increase in membership, comes an added incentive to enlarge the existing Committee with new blood, if we are to extend our efforts in Local affairs, and the Secretary or myself would be pleased to meet and discuss details with members who feel they would like to join our Committee, but who, through lack of personal knowledge, have not been approached. I would welcome letters from anyone who is interested in taking a more active part in the Association.

I would draw your attention to the meeting of members to be held on Wednesday, 17th July. There you will have an opportunity to discuss these matters with any other local topic, and also to question the Association's two Councillors. This type of meeting is a regular feature of the Association in our effort to get Croxley Green Residents to take an active part in the affairs of Croxley Green.

Yours sincerely,

B. W. GARDNER.

8, Repton Way,  
Croxley Green.

### TRIBUTE

Fifteen years voluntary service to the people of an Urban District represents many hours of duty and much sacrifice of leisure time. Such is the achievement of County Councillor Reginald Payne who retired from the R.U.D.C. in May.

The Association wishes to say "Thank you Sir, for your services to the community—particularly for the interest shown and drive brought to the Play Leadership Scheme to ensure its success."

May Mr. and Mrs. Payne enjoy much happiness in their well deserved, albeit only partial, retirement from Public life

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## REFLECTIONS ON ELECTIONS

Now that the voters of Croxley Green have elected their Councillors for 1963-4, an analysis of the Election may prove of interest. The Rickmansworth Urban District Council now consists of 9 Conservative, 7 Liberal, 1 Labour and 2 Residents' Councillors and, should political divisions increase, it will be a trying year for all concerned — particularly Councillor Cyril Fenton, the new Chairman of the Council. I sincerely trust ALL COUNCILLORS will remember that many eyes from neighbouring areas will be watching how such a delicately balanced Council will carry out its allotted tasks.

The individual Ward results are interesting. At Mill End, where a Liberal followed by a Conservative with the smallest possible majority were elected, the total polling indicated that 1,539 voters wanted Conservatives: 1,496 desired a Labour success, whilst 1,474 felt the Liberals should be elected. The fact that a Liberal finished at the top and bottom of the poll in this Ward demonstrates that some voters still vote for person and not party!

In Croxley Green South Ward two Conservatives were returned with a combined vote of 1,478: the Liberals polled 1,096 and Labour collected 1,032 votes.

At Croxley Green North Ward, which was contested by the Association's Candidate Mr. B. W. Gardner, it is worthy of note that with four Candidates in the field the successful Conservative polled 194 votes more than Mr. Gardner. Of the 2,552 votes recorded 28% were for Conservatives, 27.3% for Liberal, 24.4% Labour and 20.3% for the Residents.

More votes were cast in the Urban District than usual and Croxley Green led the way. Fifty-five out of every 100 votes were recorded in the North Ward, closely followed by 54 per 100 in the South Ward. What a sad reflection that, after allowing for the few who were ill or away on the day, some 40 voters per 100 either could not be bothered to turn out or did not wish to vote for the Candidates seeking election.

In Croxley Green an unusual and regrettable incident, almost on the eve of the Election, was an affair concerning two of the Political parties who tried to interest the residents of Croxley Green with the affairs of a Local Authority some 30 miles away in Kent. Members will be pleased to learn that, following our avowed aim, the Association was in no way involved—but it does serve to underline how 'party politics' can and does enter into Local Elections if the 'politically minded' think they see any advantage to their party or possible damage to their opponents.

It is beyond my understanding why, in our small Urban District with so many problems on our door-step and our own rates inexorably rising, some applicants for our votes should waste money in printing and energy in distributing pamphlets about the affairs of a place 30 miles away in Kent. I suggest it would have been of far greater interest to the people of Croxley Green to learn when the making up of Winton Crescent and the remainder of Winton Drive will commence: what the

cost to the frontagers will be: when we can expect decent toilets at Yorke Road School: how long before a start is to be made on the Old Peoples Club and new Library at the corner of Barton Way and New Road — or even if the North Orbital Road is any nearer being constructed than it was 30 years ago! All of these are matters which Councillors should be concerned with and electors would, I think, feel better satisfied if items such as these were dealt with—the very purpose for which Councillors are elected.

Yours sincerely,

CHARLES E. ARMSON,  
(Councillor)

14 Watford Road,  
Croxley Green.

Your elected Councillors for Croxley Green area are as follows:

Mr. C. E. Armson, 14 Watford Road, Croxley Green;  
Mr. L. V. Reason, 40 Repton Way, Croxley Green  
Mr. A. W. Hauck, 313 New Road, Croxley Green  
Mr. N. C. Young, 2 Great Julians, Croxley Green  
Mr. A. E. Gibbons, 316 Baldwins Lane, Croxley Greer.  
Mr. W. H. Cox, Oakwood, Chorleywood Road, Rickmans-  
Mr. J. A. McGinn, 21 Girton Way, Croxley Green [worth

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## YORKE ROAD SCHOOL

The cries for indoor toilets to be provided at Yorke Road School, have not fallen on deaf ears. We have been informed by County Hall that "some internal lavatories will be built this year", and the School has been visited by County Architects who are drawing up plans for two blocks of indoor toilets, one on each side of the school.

We must keep a watchful eye open, to see that these promises are not postponed.

## STATE OF THE ROADS

We know only too well that the bad weather in the early part of the year played havoc with the surface of many roads in the District, but we are wondering how long must elapse before patching up operations are going to start in Croxley Green. Girton Way is in a deplorable state; Owens Way and Dulwich Way are covered with deep crevices, and the surface of the Zebra Crossings of Croxley need inspection.

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