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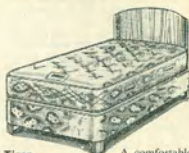
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SHEERWATER PYLON

Organ of the Sheerwater Community Association

No. 9

JUNE, 1953

Price 2d.

IN YOUR INTERESTS

The Coronation festivities are over—the Community Association carries on more strongly knit than ever before. For the interest especially of new residents, a report of some of the recent work done by the Officers and Council Members is given in this issue. If you would encourage them in their task and not just take it for granted, then make every effort to attend the Monthly General Meetings which forge the strongest link between members and Council.

We know all about the calls of the garden, the entertaining of visitors, the joy of long country walks on a summer's evening, the difficulties due to shift-work, and all the other reasons for not attending a meeting or writing a letter. But it's only one evening a month, and if most everything were to be left exclusively to the few, sooner or later would come the top-heavy organisation where a few personalities could either dominate or drift.

It is the members who sustain the community, and more of them should be taking a direct interest in what is done and to be done.

NEW SECRETARY

It was with the greatest regret that the Council had to accept the resignation of our Secretary, Mr. S. C. B. West, for reasons of health. He wishes to thank all those who have supported and helped him in the tasks we have faced, and wishes everyone all the very best for the future. All members would like to express their appreciation and thanks to Mr. West for all the good work he has done on our behalf, and hope that he will speedily recover his health.

Our new Secretary, Mr. J. Clark, was elected at the last General Meeting, and said: "I am proud to be elected Secretary of the Sheerwater Community Association, and will at all times do my best to further your interests."

A Greeting to Sheerwater Residents

You may be new to this district—if so we welcome you. We have been here since 1896. A little off the beaten track perhaps, but you will find that it is worth while seeking us out. We shall be keeping in touch with you through our own magazine, month by month.

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Page 2

ROUNDOABOUT

In the Hedgehog.

Next to the Sparrow our most common local bird is probably the Chaffinch and the majority of residents will be able to recognise it quite easily. For the few who may not know it, a description may not be out of place here. The male has a black forehead, bluish-grey crown and nape, chestnut brown back, yellowish-green rump, rich pinkish-brown underparts, black wings shaded with brown and having two conspicuous white bars, and a greyish-black tail, with white patches on two outside pairs of feathers. The female is much duller in appearance than the male, being mostly quiet brown and grey but having the two white wing bars as in the male.

The Chaffinch is the commonest of the finches, and is in fact one of the commonest of all British birds. It is generally distributed throughout the country. The sexes separate in the winter, the males and hens flocking separately in large groups. Like other finches it prefers orchards and gardens and its nest is a beautifully made rounded cup of felted moss, grass and other materials, lined with hair and feathers, and decorated on the outside with pieces of lichen. The eggs, which usually number four or five, have a pale greenish ground colour and are spotted and clouded with chocolate-brown.

Although a seed-eater, the Chaffinch takes a larger proportion of insect food than the other finches and, in spite of the damage it occasionally does to horticultural crops, there is little doubt that the bird is on the whole a beneficial one. Another local bird, although very rarely seen on the estate now, is the Green Woodpecker. Its call may be heard around the estate all day, but most clearly in the evening when peep reigneth for a while. It is the largest of the woodpecker family and is often known as the "Yaffle." It has the undulating flight common to woodpeckers and is about 12 in. long. The upper part of its plumage is olive green, shading to yellow on the rump. Its crown and nape are crimson, and its cheeks black. On the lower cheek there is a "moustache" stripe, which in the male is crimson, edged with black, and in the female, black only.

Here again we have a most beneficial bird, a large percentage of its food consists of injurious insects.

There are, of course, many other feathered friends locally, and maybe 1

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SHEERWATER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

Hon. Officers:

Mr. H. Moore, Chairman.
Mr. J. McDermott, Vice-Chairman.
Mr. J. Clark, Secretary.
Mr. J. Royal, Asst. Secretary.
Mr. J. Hawkins, Treasurer.
Mr. E. Murtough, Membership Organiser.
Mr. J. Martin, "Pylon" Editor.

Council Members:

✓ Mrs. Harris, 189, Devonshire Avenue.
✓ Mrs. Payne, 14, Bateson Way.
✓ Mrs. Colling, 25, Bunyard Drive.
✓ Mrs. Simmons, 15, Blackmore Cres.
✓ Mr. Dewdney, 17, Benthall Avenue.
✓ Mr. Jackson, 44, St. Michael's Road.
✓ Mr. Cole, 120, Blackmore Crescent.
✓ Mr. Lewis, 71, Lambourne Crescent.
✓ Mr. Dunne, 18, Henslow Way.
✓ Mr. Stokes, 70, Albert Drive. ✗
✓ Mr. Levi, 5, Devonshire Avenue.
✓ Mr. Kelly, 232, Albert Drive.
✓ Mr. Clavey, 252, Albert Drive. ✗
✓ Mr. Wells, 31, Albert Drive.
✓ Mr. O'Sullivan, 4, Wakehurst Path.
✓ Mr. Waterston, 31, Benthall Avenue.

Representatives:

Mr. Cooper, Gardening Association.
Mr. Thompson, Sheerwater Lab. Party.
Mr. Clark, Social Activity Organiser.

(Please keep this list for future reference.)

shall be able to write about these at some future date.

If, in the meantime, there are questions you would care to ask, or if you have any comments to pass on these articles, then please send them in.

WAYFARER

Page 3

A Message from Our Chairman

The Community Centre is now on the way to completion, and I cannot help but wonder how many people on this estate really appreciate what such an announcement means. It is a notable success. Had we not been "on the offensive" for some months we should not now be in this very happy position. It is my earnest hope that full and varied use will be made of the centre, for it will certainly be the aim of the Association to cater for everybody. This means, of course, that you must tell us what kind of activities you want—whether Music Appreciation or Socials; Debating Groups or Lectures on "How to Maintain"—anything you can think of!

The Community Centre will be run by a Management Committee, and it is up to you to see that you are satisfied.

As soon as possible, steps will be taken to set up a Youth Section of the Community Association, and it will probably take the form of a recognised type of Youth Club with two age groupings. The Working Service of Youth Committee have given us their assurance that they will do all they can to assist us in this project. Youth Clubs demand workers, and we would welcome anyone on this estate (or outside it) who has had any experience in these matters to come forward. May I add that inexperienced helpers will be just as welcome!

And finally, may I invite you to attend our Monthly Meetings. You, the members, are the backbone of the Association. Without your particular aid and support we, the officers, cannot serve you. The fourth Friday in the month is the day, eight o'clock the time, and St. Michael's Hall the place.

HUGH C. MOORE

JOIN THE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Annual Subscription of 2/- gives membership to everyone in YOUR family over the age of 18, and

A VOICE AND A VOTE IN SHEERWATER'S FUTURE

Page 4

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Wed. July 1 Bognor ... 7/6	Wed. July 22 Brighton ... 7/-	Sun. June 28 Bognor ... 7/6	Wed. July 26 Portsmouth ... 7/-
Wed. July 8 Brighton ... 7/6	Wed. July 29 Littlehampton ... 7/6	Sun. July 5 Worthing ... 7/-	Wed. July 29 Littlehampton ... 7/6
Wed. July 12 Littlehampton ... 7/6			

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WOMAN'S PAGE

In future editions, this feature will offer an opportunity for the women of Sheerwater to express their views, problems, anxieties and hopes. Two volunteer lady reporters are prepared to interview anyone who has something to say, and write it up into an article or news item. Those interested should contact Mrs. Harris, 187, Devonshire Avenue.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

"Ah-tish-oo," sneezed Tommy, for the third time, into daddy's big handkerchief. "Deary me, poor old you," sympathised mummy, as she entered into the bedroom with some hot sweet lemon juice. She did feel sorry for her small son's hard luck. "Here, drink this down, pet, while it's nice and hot and we'll soon cure that nasty old cold," and giving him an extra tuck round, she sat on the edge of the bed.

Tommy wriggled into sitting position and took a sip of the lemon drink. "You know, mum," he said while he obediently sipped, "I do feel cross, not being able to go to London with them all."

Another sneeze threatened, and mummy rescued the hot drink. "Never mind, Tommy, you've seen the changing of the Guard and Buckingham Palace sentry," said mummy, trying to console her disappointed son. "Yes, I know I have," Tommy added thoughtfully, "but I would love to have heard Uncle Robert's American drawl when he saw those gardeners."

"Here, come along," said mummy, sternly, "drink this, young fellow." Taking the glass again, Tommy added, "Gosh, I guess I'm kind of miserable."

Mummy got up, chuckling to herself over her small son's American expression. "I'm going to finish some thing, dear, before the family come home, so be a good quiet boy," and away she went, closing the door quietly behind her.

Alone, Tommy lay back on his pillows and dreamily went over the exciting month just gone. What a good chum Bobby junior was and what fascinating stories Uncle Robert told each evening round the fire. He never seemed to tire of painting Texas with words, thought Tommy—lured colours landscape that shook the imagination, the sky cobalt blue by day and ultramarine velvet by night, the atmosphere so crystal clear that the twinkling stars seem within your reach to pluck. Tommy pondered,

too, over the exciting stories about the coast to the delta of the Rio Grande, with its rich grape fruit, orange and lemon groves. Real Indian and cowboy country, with ranches stretching endlessly. Tommy sipped his drink and then into dreams again. Uncle Robert owned a sheep ranch, and he had promised to have the twins on a return visit as soon as daddy was ready. Tommy wasn't feeling half as depressed by now. He could imagine the cotton fields and the oil wells, great ports and, above all, the Indian dances. He realised, too, what an education it was having an uncle from that vast State of Texas.

Tommy took a last sip of his hot drink and was feeling very drowsy by now. "What was it the cowboys called looking after visitors?" he mumbled to himself. "I know," he muttered, half asleep. "Dude wrangling," and deep into dreamland he sailed.

Mummy crept upstairs and peeped at him looking so contented, then, hearing a car turning into the drive, she hurriedly raced downstairs to warn the family not to make too much noise, especially her excitable darling Tim.

A word about

JOHN PERRING

Founded in 1895 by the late Sir John Perring, the Furnishing House of John Perring continues to be a family business—family in the full sense of the word in that, directed by a family, it endeavours to serve the family man with his home.

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We are proud of the furniture we sell and the prices at which we are able to offer it. Our buyers are constantly visiting the factories of those who supply us, ensuring not only that we obtain the most up to date designs and quality of manufacture but also fostering the goodwill of our suppliers without which, no less than with our customers, no business can give of its best.

A satisfied customer, a query answered, a wrong righted, such was the foundation of our business, such the policy of the present and the future.

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**SHEERWATER
PYLON**
24, LOCKWOOD PATH
SHEERWATER

Editor: JOHN MARTIN

Letters and articles (preferably typed and written) submitted for publication in the JULY issue should reach the Editor by Friday, 19th June, 1953

MEMBERSHIP

While the membership of the Community Association has continued to grow—the 1,200 mark having been passed—we must, if we are to gain in strength, bring in as many as possible of recently arrived tenants who may not be aware of all that the Association has done to help establish and improve the amenities and services on the estate.

We should be dissatisfied with anything short of 90 per cent. of the total adult population, and existing members are asked to help by encouraging anyone who is not yet a member to join.

The membership fee is not heavy, 2s. per year, payable 6d. per quarter if preferred, plus an initial fee on joining of 1s. and, although households are canvassed from time to time, residents wishing to join will ease the already heavy burden on councillors if they contact their nearest councillor, whose name and address appear on another page. Those who feel they can do more for the Association are urged to contact the Membership Organiser at 16, Albert Drive.

E. L. M.

CORRESPONDENCE

SHEERWATER LADIES' CHOIR

Dear Sir,
May I take this opportunity of thanking all who helped to make our Concert a success. It was our first big venture, and all members worked hard, giving of their best in song.

Our thanks to the ladies from Woodham Community who joined us in singing and piano playing; also the friends who came with them; to the ladies in the kitchen, who in their thoughtful way added to the enjoyment of the evening by preparing tea for us all, even bringing their own tea service for the occasion. And lastly, may I thank all who so kindly encouraged me by their congratulations and good wishes to us all.

New members will be welcome; the fee is a very moderate one, a love of music being all that is really needed. Our practice evening will be on Mondays from 8 until 10 p.m. We are preparing a musical operetta for the autumn and look forward to many happy sessions.

Yours sincerely,
KATHLEEN DEWDNEY,
11, Bentham Avenue.

**WORKING AND DISTRICT
PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

Dear Sir,
Would you very kindly bring to the notice of members of the Sheerwater Community the existence of the above Society. There must be quite a number of stamp collectors in Sheerwater who might be glad to come along to our meetings, details of which may be had from me.

Yours truly,
W. ALLEN,
Hon. Sec.

"Kano,"
Ashwood Road, Woking.

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR LETTERS. DON'T JUST TALK ABOUT IT IN THE BUS QUEUE: SEND IT TO THE 'PYLON.' A PRIZE OF 5s. WILL BE GIVEN FOR THE BEST LETTER PRINTED EACH MONTH.

REPORT OF ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST DEALT WITH AT THE COUNCIL MEETING, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 20th, 1953

1. Reply received from L.C.C. stating that refrigerators were not available on hire through them, but only through normal trade channels.
2. Reply from Electricity Board stating that fencing of one of their sub-stations was being done as requested.
3. Letter sent to Surrey C.C. asking for further information regarding composition of school governing bodies.
4. Reply from Surrey C.C. on houses for Sheerwater school teachers. Further letter to be sent to the Chief Education Officer, with copies to the Minister of Education and M.P. for Woking, and another letter to the Parliamentary Education Committees, educational newspapers and journals, and to the Teachers' Associations, with a copy to the M.P.
5. Reply from the Railway Executive regarding boundary fencing referred the problem to the L.C.C. to whom a letter is being sent.
6. Reply from Woking U.D.C. and letter to the Divisional Road Engineer, Ministry of Transport, regarding the 30 m.p.h. road sign for Albert Drive. Further letter being sent to the National Federation of Community Associations and the Ministry of Transport.
7. Letter to the L.C.C. regarding Community Centre. Reply from them stating that the Centre would be started within two weeks.
8. Letter requesting details of the committee being formed to run the Old People's Clubroom being sent.
9. Petition for the Recreation Ground sent to Woking U.D.C. with covering letter, with a further letter to the Surrey Playing Fields Association. Youth Council's support to be enlisted.
10. Letter to Old Woking Community Association on Woking Federation of Community Associations a further letter to the National Federation.
11. Letter to L.C.C. regarding dangerous tree stumps.
12. Rumour put down that children were being left out of a party at Walton Road School, which was organised by the Chertsey Road Ward and had nothing to do with the Sheerwater arrangements.
13. Complaint to be made regarding rubbish dumps in St. Michael's Road and Lambourne Crescent.
14. Enquiries to be made regarding parking space being cleared in St. Michael's Road.
15. Letter being sent to Gas Board regarding inconveniently placed gas meters.
16. Shortage of clothes lines for the flats in Albert Drive to be pursued.
17. Reports from officers and sub-committees considered, as well as formal and other business.
18. The meeting closed at 10.35 p.m.

**Sheerwater
Community Association**

If you are unable to visit your nearest Councillor, please send your Annual Subscription of 2/-

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SPOTLIGHT

Our beloved Queen Elizabeth, having dedicated herself to the service of the Nation and the Commonwealth, has received the spontaneous expressions of devotion and loyalty from her millions of subjects. We, in our turn, have enjoyed our own celebrations, the parties and the fun and games of Sheerwater Night, and now turn towards the more mundane but no less exciting aspects of life.

Summer is with us, and we appreciate being able to spend each evening in the open air without having to travel to do so. Let us hope that the Clark of the Weather co-operates to make it a memorable one.

The longer evenings bring problems of their own, and one of the most important is that of children having to play along the roads because they have nowhere else to play. There have been at least three accidents recently, all involving little ones, but none with serious results, thank goodness. To try and ease the situation somewhat, the firms selling ice cream on the estate have been urged to park their vans away from Albert Drive, for it is so easy for a child to forget all it has been taught, and to rush across the road after buying its lollie.

The contractor's security officer on the Drive, reminds us danger still exists from adders on land within the estate boundary. Seemingly they have been driven from their former haunts by the march of construction, and are now thought to be concentrated on what he calls the

marshes, the territory lying this side of the canal beyond Dartmouth Avenue. I am told that they are most likely to be about on heavy, damp and sultry days, when it is not actually raining, but they do not attack humans unless aggravated. Please see that the ladies are warned.

He tells me, by the way, that the opening across Albert Drive, opposite Hanbury Path, used to lead to a level crossing called "Jordan's Crossing." This was removed some years ago when the West Byfleet golf course was built, so that the roadway now laid down to serve the allotments there perpetuates an old tradition.

I understand that the pieces of land at either end of the allotments may be designated as children's play spaces, in addition to the main recreation ground, but I trust that official approval will be withheld at least until the railway fencing has been strengthened, which the Association has strongly urged.

The provision of a stronger fence is not the end of the matter, however, as witness the vandalism that has been wrought on the chain mail fence which divides the canal from the estate. I understand that at least eight sizeable holes have been cut in various places, more. The cutting of holes in that fence undoubtedly takes some strength, so it seems that older children must be resolute. Surely something must be done soon about our recreation ground so that such strength can be employed in more peaceful pursuits.

J. McD.

**SHEERWATER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
NEXT MONTHLY GENERAL
MEETING**

FRIDAY, 26th JUNE at 8 p.m.

At ST. MICHAEL'S HALL

LET US ALL HEAR WHAT YOU SAY

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DYERS AND CLEANERS

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GOOD NEWS.
 The Field Commissioner for Surrey Scouts has now found a gentleman at Sheerwater who will be Group Scoutmaster, and a good lady known to our children who will be a Cub Mistress. A meeting will be held in July of all parents interested to be addressed by the Commissioner, and it is hoped to hold it in one of our schools. Watch the July issue of the "Pylon" for date and place. The Scout Group will be an open one and it is hoped to form a strong Group Committee to help it succeed.

SHEERWATER OLD PEOPLE'S CLUB.
 A raffle of a 2lb. box of chocolates was organised by Mrs. Nunn to raise funds for the Club, and £4 collected from Sheerwater residents will be handed over to the Management Committee when it has been officially formed. The ticket was picked by one of the old folk and the lucky winner was Mrs. Hannan, 165, Albert Drive.

EXCHANGE
 Would anyone care to exchange my 3 bed modern flat, fitted cupboards, frig., etc., 35s. rent, for a 3 bed. house on the Sheerwater estate?—Mrs. A. Taylor, 6, Bendish House, Hither Green Lane, Lewisham, S.E.13.

EXCHANGE
 Modern 3 bed s.c. flat, council; constant hot water, central heating, parquet flooring throughout; Chelsea; rent, 44/3 inclusive. Exchange for 3-4 bed. house (s.d.), with as large a garden as possible.—F. C. Swan, 121, Wiltshire Close, Chelsea, S.W.3.

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FOR YOUR DIARY
 June 16. St. John Ambulance Brigade.
 .. 19. Solo Whist Drive.
 .. 20. Social.
 .. 26. Monthly General Meeting.
 .. 30. St. John Ambulance Brigade.
 July 7. St. John Ambulance Brigade.
 All at St. Michael's Hall, 2 p.m.

EVENING CLASSES
 Amongst the large number of teenagers and adults on the estate there must be many who, in order to secure more profitable employment, wish to further their education. Those interested are requested to send in their names and addresses, together with the subject(s) they wish to study, so that an approach may be made to the education authorities persuading them of the need for evening classes.

PRIZEWINNERS IN THE SPRING GARDEN SHOW
 1st prize: Mr. Goodram, 59, Blackmore Crescent, 25s.
 2nd prize: Mr. Hall, 12, Albert Drive, 22s. 6d.
 3rd prize: Mr. Owlett, 82, Albert Drive, 20s.
 4th prize: Mr. Flood, 47, Blackmore Crescent, 17s. 6d.
 5th prize: Mr. Donaldson, 3, Bunyard Drive, 15s.

SHEERWATER LABOUR PARTY
 The monthly meeting of the Sheerwater Labour Party will be held at 39, Lambourne Crescent, Sheerwater, on June 24th, at 8 p.m.

Our speaker at this meeting will be Mrs. Queenie Turner, N.C.L.C. lecturer, who will speak on "Youth Employment."

Please note that the new secretary is Mr. Thompson, of 31, Blackmore Crescent. We still need more ACTIVE members. How about you? Contact either the secretary or the chairman of the Sheerwater Labour Party, Mr. J. Scriven, 34, Blackmore Crescent.

Women's Section.
 Chairman: Mrs. Moorcroft.
 Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Nunn, 57, Blackmore Crescent.

The following events have been arranged. Please come along and bring the kiddies, too; they are well looked after. Refreshments are available and prizes are given every week.

June 16. Business, Financial and Delegates' Reports, etc.
 .. 23. Knitting and sewing for Autumn Fair.
 .. 30. Bring and Buy Sale.
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GARDEN ASSOCIATION NOTES

The following plants are now available to all members at prices listed below. Orders may be placed at the Hut on Thursday evenings at 7.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m., and Sunday mornings from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Orders placed on Thursday will be collected from the hut on Sunday morning following; orders placed on Sunday will be collected the following Sunday. There will be a small quantity of plants on sale unorderd, but to ensure getting their requirements members are advised to place orders.

Spring Vegetable Plants.
 Cauliflowers 3/9 per 100; 1/- for 25.
 Primo Cabbage
 Brussels Sprouts 2/3, 100; 7d. for 25.
 Sprouting Broccoli 1/3 per dozen.
 Savoy Cabbage
 Tomatoes (boxed), 3/9 per dozen.
 Tomatoes (potted), 5/3 per dozen.
 Marrows, 4d. each.
 Cucumbers (ridge), 3d. each.
 Cucumbers (telegraph), 1/- each (for under glass).

Spring Bedding Plants.
 Salvias (boxed), 3/- per dozen.
 Salvias (potted), 4/6 per dozen.
 Dahlias (name varieties), 9/- per dozen.
 Geraniums, 1/- each.
 Tobacco (smoking), 2/- per dozen.
 Alyssum, Lobelia, Agapanum, French and African Marigolds, Antirrhinums (four colours), Stocks (ten weeks), Petunias (two colours), Asters, Zinnias, all at 5/- per box of 30 plants or 1/3 per dozen.

The following fertilisers are also obtainable at the hut:—
 Guano, 7lbs. for 2/3.
 Bonemeal, 6d. per lb.
 Potash, 5d. per lb.
 Superphos., 4d. per lb.
 Lawn fertiliser, 4d. per lb.
 Sulph. of Ammonia, 3d. per lb.
 Lime, 4/- per 84lb. bag.
 Packet seeds, flower and vegetable.
 Seed Potatoes, 7lb. for 2/3.

All members are cordially invited to bring their requirements, small or large, to the hut or to their area representative and every endeavour will be made by the Purchasing Committee to get the best price available for any particular item not listed above.

Any person wishing to join the Gardening Association can do so at the hut when it is open.

All members are requested to bring their cards or receipts with them when making their purchases as these facilities with their reduced prices are for the benefit of members only.

An appeal is made by the Committee to any member who is able to spare an hour or so to help to dig and tend the old folks gardens. Anyone able to do so can obtain particulars of which garden to dig from Mr. Sinclair, 41, Bunyard Drive.

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