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# SHEERWATER PYLON

Organ of the Sheerwater Community Association

Vol. 5 No. 1

OCTOBER, 1956

Price 3d.



FAXTON GARDENS

### BIRTHDAY REVIEW

#### EXCLUSIVE ADVENTURE STORY

IN THE GARDEN : BY RIVER EDGE  
CHURCH : COMMUNITY : COUNCIL

#### FEATURING OUR FACTORIES

SKETCH : LETTERS : HUMOUR  
EDITOR'S DESK : AT THE CENTRE

#### PYLON SPOTLIGHT

### AT THE CENTRE

(October—November.)

**Library**  
Tuesday, 2.30-4.30 p.m.  
Thursday, 6.30-7.45 p.m.

**Catholic Church**  
Mass, 9.30 a.m., Sunday School 3 p.m.  
Children's Social, October 22nd, 3.30.

**British Legion**  
Social Evening, every Monday at 8 p.m.  
Grand Dance, Saturday, Nov. 10th,  
8 p.m.

**Youth Club**  
Whist Drive every Wednesday, 8 p.m.

**Community Association**  
Whist Drive every Thursday, 8 p.m.  
Tuesday, Oct. 16th, 23rd, 30th, and  
Nov. 6th, 8 p.m.  
(Solo Drive, or as announced.)  
Saturday, Oct. 20th, and Nov. 3rd,  
8 p.m.  
(Social nights, as arranged.)

**School of Dancing**  
Every Wednesday, 4.30-6.30 p.m.

**Old Time Dancing Club**  
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# SHEERWATER PYLON

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### THE CHAIRMAN WRITES

WE have experienced a week which shows very clearly what can be achieved by united efforts. Is there something magic about the word "youth"? What else is there, if this is not so, that brings together men and women of varying ages and beliefs, working in very different fields of industry, with no real bond of fellowship, yet when it's for "youth" help is always forthcoming?

What about the other side of the picture. Does "youth" give generously of its time and energy to either its own cause or indeed any other? We see in organisations such as Boy Scouts, Boys' Brigade, Sea Scouts and all bodies where leadership and discipline are there, how well "youth" responds. The same child at home is often quite different. Can it be that at home this child does not get the friendly leadership and gentle discipline he finds in the organised bodies? Should more time and thought be given to the parents? Perhaps parents need to learn also to give of their time and

energy to their own children and to learn a little leadership and self-discipline in handling them.

There's an easy way out. Just say he is a "problem child." But almost all problems have a solution and that solution must be found by the parents.

### Appreciation

Dear Mr. Baulf,

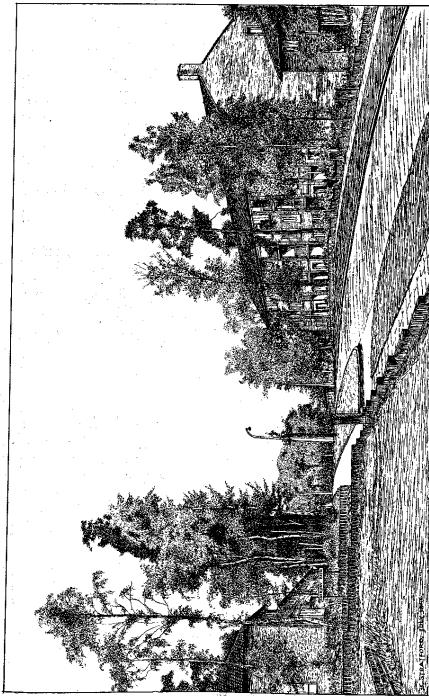
I would just like to say how I always read the "Pylon" with very great interest. To me the "Pylon" is a pattern which other Community Associations could very well follow, as I feel sure that its varied contents are greatly appreciated by all the residents on the Estate. Long may it continue to serve this very useful purpose.

Yours sincerely,

P. R. BESLEY.

National Federation of Community Associations in association with the National Council of Social Service, Bristol.

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[Line sketch by C. Stratford.]

VIEW OF ALBERT DRIVE FROM HANBURY PATH.

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## Church : Community : Council

### Introduction

This will be a regular "Pylon" feature, compiled from supplied information.

All churches, clubs, associations, etc., are asked to co-operate by sending news of their activities: council items will be those concerning this Estate, directly or indirectly, official from the L.C.C. or your elected representatives on the Surrey County Council and Woking District Council.

Remember—we can only publish what we do receive.

### L.C.C.

By request of many tenants, the Community Association have asked for information in connection with the interior decorating now taking place. The following reply has been received from the Housing Management Department, Morden:

"... As you are probably aware, books of wallpaper patterns giving a selection for choice by tenants have been circulated to all properties in a group where programme redecoration is taking place, and this book can be left overnight, if requested, though it is hoped this will be kept to a minimum otherwise it might lead to a hold-up in the progress of redecoration. With regard to distemper walls, there are six tints to choose from, and for painting internal woodwork the choice is from ten colours, one of which is white. I hope that this information will be sufficient for your purpose..."

G. H.

### St. Michael's and All Saints'

The Annual Christmas Fair in aid of Church funds will be held this year on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1st.

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Further details will be given next month. This preliminary notice is given to ask you to keep this date free, and for other organisations to avoid a clash of similar events.

A very good cause and dependent on your full support.

T. J. W.

### National Old People's Welfare Committee

How many have heard of the above, which has a very active branch in Woking? The branch committee meets every two months, with representatives of all the over 60 clubs in the district, under the chairmanship of Miss Russell.

Some of the work they do: Open new clubs for old people where required, if necessary with temporary financial aid; run a chiropody clinic; organise voluntary car services for taking out invalids; provide handicraft facilities and organise an exhibition; and make all arrangements for the holiday outings at Southsea twice a year.

Mrs. Garrett, until recently acting as Secretary, does a lot of good work for the old people, being mainly responsible for their holiday arrangements.

All the clubs, including our own on Sheerwater, are run by voluntary workers. Perhaps there are others who would like to give a hand in this labour of love?

The club in Bunyard Drive is open every day from 2.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. All over 60's on the Estate are warmly welcomed.

H. D.

### School of Dancing

As a result of their successful show at the Lion Works Social Club, the members of the Bobby Jenkins School of Dancing had a

## Happy Birthday To Us

ONE—two—three—four... and now to the fifth year of publication of your communal magazine. Let us pause awhile to reflect on the past, review the present, and possibly make a forecast as to the future.

The first heading in our first ever "Pylon"—"THIS IS YOURS." Is it not a real achievement that four years after we can say, "THIS IS STILL YOURS"? Despite its ups and downs, headaches and heartaches, no one can deny that to-day the "Pylon" is well established as the mouthpiece of this community. There have been many tributes paid during its years of service: lest it be forgotten, we pay tribute again to-day to each and every one of those valiant few without whom the many obstacles would never have been overcome.

Even to-day the storm is not yet past. In June of this year we reiterated our desire to give service to every resident on the Sheerwater Estate by reporting as widely as possible on the work and activities of all organisations formed for the promotion of welfare and communal interest. Reference to recent issues will confirm our endeavour.

There remains with us the problem which has always existed since our innovation—the drain on our financial resources. When we tell you that the cost of printing and distribution of the "Pylon" is approximately twice as much as you pay to read it, you will readily understand that unless we can sell sufficient advertising space to offset this we must always expect a heavy loss on each issue. In fairness to the present members of your "Py-

lon" Committee, it must also be stated that they were faced with an outstanding loss from the previous financial year. This very real problem IS being tackled, with some results already, and there is a distinct possibility of still further success.

The raising of money is never an easy task, especially in a voluntary organisation where both time and effort of the willing ones are limited. At this stage we will say no more, but we do ask you to please bear this in mind.

What now? With four alternatives—*increase, stay put, decrease, or pack up*—we think the first possible, the second likely, but the other two cannot be ignored. Naturally we would all like to see a bigger "Pylon" with a wider range of communal features, providing enjoyable, interesting reading at a nominal cost. It can be done, and I speak for everyone at present concerned with the publication of the "Pylon" when I say that you can be assured we will do everything within our limited power towards this objective.

Again, however, emphasis must be placed on the word *limited*, for much will depend on the degree of co-operation received, both from organisations within our community and those in other districts of Woking possessing a kindred desire for mutual benefit. To which must be added the goodwill of those who can assist by advertising and other financial support.

Finally, it will be the individual (meaning YOU yourself), whose reaction to our efforts will be the deciding factor of the future of this—our "Pylon"—YOUR "PYLON."

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most enjoyable outing to little-habitants.

The outing was free to all the youngsters, who were also given sweets, fruit and lemonade by their friend "The Penny Man." Their pianist, Ted Luddington, was able to borrow a piano-accordion for the day and entertained during the journey.

To conclude their day, with rain fortunately holding off until the return journey, they were each given a big bag of chips by the proprietor of "The Kiwi."

E. L.

### 1st Sheerwater Scout Group

It has been suggested that a branch of the B.P. Guild of Old Scouts be started on Sheerwater. This would be a great asset in fostering the brotherly spirit of the Groups now on the Estate.

There must be a number of Old Scouts among the residents here who feel sometimes that, in some small way, they would like to retain the connection they had with the Scout movement. Whether it was recently or many years ago, it doesn't matter—remember the motto of the Guild: "Once a Scout, always a Scout."

Your names and addresses to me at 104, Blackmore Crescent, in the first instance, please, then a meeting can be called in the very near future.

The Group extends its thanks to all those who in various ways helped in our Jumble Sale. A profit of £8 6s. 9½d. was realised. Where the ½d. came from we don't know, but thanks all the same—every little helps.

I. B. PUMFREY (G.S.M.)

### Elegant '80's

Many times lately I and others have heard remarks such as, "Real smashing time last night. Haven't enjoyed myself so much for ages,

and it only cost me 3d." The answer as to *sw and wh* is, of course the One Time Lancing at the Community Centre on Friday nights.

I didn't realise myself what fun it was and how fascinating, too, until I first tried it. Come along and see for yourselves; if you don't already dance, the more you are welcome. We have experts to teach you, not the hard way but the enjoyable one.

I do really think our dance night is one on which you can forget all your troubles and get together with your friends in a real community spirit. So come along next Friday, and let us convince you of our sincerity and happy dancing.

We have a very interesting programme planned this season, winding up with a visit to Earls Court for the dance of the year, with Sydney and Mary Thompson.

So, roll in, folk, and... "Take your partners!"

A. S. P.

St. John Ambulance Brigade  
The Woodham and Byfleet Division of the Brigade are starting a new section on the Sheerwater Estate.

Will anyone who is interested in First Aid or Nursing please contact Mr. Barlow, 71b, Dartmouth Avenue, or Mrs. Prince, Anchor off-licence?

### Sheerwater Catholics

For our recent visit to London Airport, we seemed unfortunately to have picked the wrong day. Rain started shortly after we arrived and the wet and cold weather did not make the day out as enjoyable as we expected.

Planes arriving and leaving were few and far between, owing to bad weather conditions, but we had most interesting tour of the airport, covering best part of eight miles,

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conducted by a guide and covering everything from close-up views of planes to the preparation of meals for passengers.

Every child in the party was provided with a nice bag of sweets by an anonymous donor and, despite the weather, it can still be said we had quite a good day. Let's hope next year the committee can pick a better and sunnier one.

E. L.

#### Woking Council News

The following matters have been raised in Council on your behalf:

- Provision of seats along Albert Drive.
- Consideration of new type of bus shelter (more weather protection).
- Inspection of paving stones and necessary replacements.
- Low flying of aircraft over Estate (this will now stop).
- Car parking facilities (with and without lights).
- Progress of the Recreation Ground (second stage).

With regard to the last, this is being urged as much as possible. Parents can assist by keeping their children off until they are told the ground is sufficiently developed.

E. J. S.

#### Autumn Sale and Fair

The Social Committee of the Woodham and Sheerwater Ward (Woking Labour Party) are pleased to report this was one of the biggest successes to date.

The float that toured the Estate, with Labo the Clown and the kiddies aboard, was a success from the time it left St. Michael's Road, where queues formed outside the Church Hall. When the doors were opened, the rush was greater than that of a sale at a West End store.

The function was opened by our three councillors and their wives, who were presented with bouquets by ladies of the Social Com-

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mittee. After this it was a free for all—toffee apples flew right and left, handicrafts, cakes, etc., went in record time, and before long the members of the committee were standing behind empty stalls, counting the "lolly."

The evening Social was the most successful held under the auspices of the present committee. The hall was packed to capacity, and two of the main attractions were:

**Painting Competition (4-7)**—won by Susan Gray (5), 2nd Terence Palmer (7), 3rd Joey Codling (7), 8-13—won by Brian May (8), 2nd Linda Scully (12), 3rd Peter Blomfield (10).

The standard of entries was very high, as in the Fancy Dress Competition. Judging the best was very difficult, but the audience finally awarded first prize in the 4-7 age group to Linda Peck (Peace) and in the 8-13 group to John Roberts (Teddy Girl). The committee congratulate the parents of the 40 children who entered for the wonderful and ingenious creations.

M.C. for the evening was Cdr. E. J. Smith, who was in great form, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people on the Estate who helped either by making articles for the fair or supporting us financially by purchasing the many wonderful things on sale. We hope that in the very near future we will be holding a similar function and will look once again for your support. Once again, "Thank you all."

A. ROBERTS,  
on behalf of the Social Committee.

The new Catholic Church, Madeira Road, West Byfleet, will be opened by Rt. Rev. C. Cowderoy (Bishop of Southwark) on Saturday, October 13th, at 11.30 a.m. All Sheerwater Catholics are invited to attend.



## CORRESPONDENCE



Dear Sir,

It gives me great pleasure as Chairman of the Youth Club Building Fund to thank all those who participated in the functions during Youth Week.

A really tremendous effort was made by the various organisations on the Estate. The Bobby Jenkins show was exceptionally good, with neither Mr. nor Mrs. Jenkins nor the dancers sparing themselves. Thank you, Bobby, very much.

The organisers of the Youth Week, together with participants and audiences, have given the Building Fund its great start.

Thank you all, and I am sure we can rely on your support in the forthcoming functions that we are arranging once a month.

Remember it is the children at present at school who will benefit from the new Youth Centre when built.

Yours sincerely,  
C. W. HOWARD,  
Paxton Gardens.

Dear Sir,

Through the courtesy of the columns of the "Pylon" I would like to congratulate Mr. A. Duplock and his committee on their wonderful efforts during "Youth Week" to raise funds for a Youth Centre.

I feel this is a project which should be supported by all the residents on Sheerwater and so ensure a full and happy life for the younger generation, now and in the future.

Yours sincerely,  
A. ROBERTS,  
8, Albert Drive.

#### WOKING CRUSADE'S NEW VENTURE

Dear Sir,

The Woking Crusade will be undertaking a new venture in October, when the full-length technical colour film, "Oil Town, U.S.A.," will be shown at Pyrford, Sheerwater, and Christ Church Hall.

In the past the Crusade meetings have been held in the centre of the town, but although "Oil Town" has been seen in Woking before, the committee feel there must be many people in the surrounding districts who have never had an opportunity to see it. The film stars lovely Colleen Townsend and singing cowboy Read Harper, who made a personal visit to Woking in 1954, complete with ten gallon hat and guitar. The American evangelist Billy Graham, who made such an impact in this country two years ago, appears with them.

Yours faithfully,  
R. EDMUNDS,  
Secretary, Woking Crusade.

(Editor's Note: See page 22 for details of Sheerwater showing.)

### A. B. MAY

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## "PYLON" SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH WEEK

THE first big effort of the Youth Centre Building Fund Committee to raise funds for their project has proved a great success: congratulations to the organisers for their work, the clubs and associations for their co-operation, and the public for their generous support.

Full figures of income and expenditure will be published next month, together with a complete list of donations, gifts, etc.

The open-air service, conducted by Rev. R. E. Falkner (priest-in-charge, All Saints' and St. Michael's, Sheerwater), was very well attended by the representatives of Church and other youth organisations with quite a fair proportion of parents, bearing in mind the time at which the service was held.

With three hymns, prayers, Bible reading by Mrs. M. Patey (Methodist speaker), "This is the Sabbath Day," sung by the choir of the Girls' Life Brigade, and a short address by Rev. R. E. Falkner, the service was both simple and impressive.

The band of the Salvation Army (Woking Corps) was in attendance; they came straight from their Harvest Festival Service in Woking, which was concluded only 15 minutes before the start of the Sheerwater service, and thanks are due to the volunteers who provided transport.

On the Monday night, the variety concert was attended by close on 200, and they enjoyed a first-class programme arranged by Tommy Talbot, of the Woking Service of Youth, compered by Gabriel Irwin, and including a number of artistes from Sheerwater.

To single out any one act or individual for an outstanding per-

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formance would be extremely difficult; they all rated very highly indeed, the whole of this three-hour show bearing favourable comparison with many presented by highly-paid professionals.

The great demand for advance booking was a good indication of what was expected of the Bobby Jenkins show, "Dancing on a Rainbow," presented on the following night. To say its success was greater than all expectations is no exaggeration. From the opening number to the grand finale, there wasn't a hitch, delay, or dull moment.

Compered by Bobby Jenkins, with Ted Luddington at the piano, the cast of over 50 children gave a really delightful performance, as witness the repeated demands for encores by the audience who packed the hall to capacity. With only limited space, we cannot publish a full list of those taking part—our press friends have done this for us—but to each and every one of them congratulations on a very good show.

Thursday night—a bumper Whist Drive, held in the Community Centre. With some 30 prizes, all donated by Sheerwater and Woking tradesmen and individual members of the Community Association who were responsible for this function, a further £10 was realised.

Mr. Sydney Clamp was the very able driver of the 17 tables in play, assisted by Mrs. Clamp and Messrs. Hill, Howard, Duplock, and McDermott. The refreshments were all donated, and Mrs. Hyde, responsible for the catering side for the whole week, looked after the serving of these.

Despite the extra time required in view of the very large number of

prizes, the drive actually finished only a little later than normal, which speaks very well for the organisation.

With so many winners, it is once again impossible to give a full list here. This has appeared elsewhere, and the names of the donors will be in next month's list.

A good night and an enjoyable one. (I even won a prize myself.) For the two dances, with which the week's entertainment was concluded, our sports and social reporter, "Mac," takes over to give you his impressions:

On Friday it was the turn of the Sheerwater and District Old Time Dancing Club to make their contribution towards the Youth Centre Building Fund.

Their dance was a wonderful success—and why not? With Mr. Ted Gallagher as M.C., and very ably supported by his one and only partner, Mrs. Gallagher, best part of a hundred people had a most enjoyable evening dancing to the music of the "Regency Players."

It was a really wonderful sight to watch them dancing in a gaily decorated hall, bringing scenes and memories of the early 1900's to our present day and age. Members of other Old Time clubs came along, and were warmly welcomed.

At the conclusion of the dancing a beautiful bouquet was presented to Mrs. Gallagher by Youth Leader Arthur Duplock, who expressed our appreciation of the fine work of Mr. and Mrs. Gallagher. In his reply, Mr. Gallagher said that on the previous night he was asked his age by the B.B.C., and in replying, "72," added that age does not count with Old Time dancing—he started in 1900 and was still going strong. This was warmly applauded by all present.

As a grand finale, the Sheerwater Branch of the British Legion held

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a carnival dance in aid of the Building Fund on the Saturday evening.

Over 120 had a really good night out, dancing to the music of "Curly" Whitcombe and his band, jointly M.C.'d by John Mason and "Curly." Of novelty and spot dances there were plenty, and the evening went with a real swing. Adding to the fun there was a good "Rock and Roll" and "Hokey Pokey" session.

This was a really good show, thanks to the Legion Committee, Messrs. Mason, Shepherd, Davis and Tyrrell, and their willing colleagues.

So Youth Week ended, and as I write these notes, the day after its conclusion, what are my thoughts? It's been a long week, it's been a tiring one for all concerned in its organisation and presentation, but its been well worth it.

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## Anglo-Australian Adventure

(A "PYLON" EXCLUSIVE)

IN August, 1952, the Wenmans came to Sheerwater: Fred Wenman, his wife, and their daughter Lynette. Fred is just an ordinary sort of chap, a small transport contractor by trade, never one to take the limelight, but possessing three outstanding qualities—a good, hard worker, a strong feeling of fellowship, and a keen spirit of adventure.

Of the first two we on this Estate have had ample proof; out first thing in the morning, back late at night, often seven days a week, with odd hours filled in on maintenance work, but never too busy to willingly give a hand when asked. Many organisations and individuals have approached Fred for the use of a lorry, with never a refusal if he were available, and the question of ample payment never considered.

This is the story of the third of Fred Wenman's outstanding qualities—the spirit of adventure.

Just a year ago, he saw an item in the personal column of an evening paper: "Two men wanted to make up a party of six for an overland trip to Australia. . . ." With relatives already in Brisbane and Sydney, a strong feeling that his was a trade for which there was good scope in this vast country, and—the adventure, Fred was very interested. How about the family? They talked it over, worked it out, and finally Mrs. Wenman agreed that Fred could write for more details.

The advertiser was an Australian who had decided on this method of returning home, with his wife and baby boy. Their transport was a large converted Commer lorry,

fitted with bunks, cooking and toilet facilities, etc. One of the vacancies was for a driver who could handle this type of vehicle. The total cost was to be shared—estimated at about £150 per head—and they reckoned to start in about six months.

Fred Wenman was not only in but, typical enough, he immediately took over the responsibility for the transport—affectionately christened CONNIE THE COMMER.

They started from Mitcham, Surrey, on Saturday, June 30th. First to Dover, ferry to Dunkirk through Belgium to Paris and on to Lucerne (Switzerland). This first part of the journey was comparatively easy, and from letters and postcards received by Mrs. Wenman at regular intervals it can be gathered they thoroughly enjoyed themselves; indeed, in Belgium a whole village turned out to greet them and feted them all night.

Then on to Venice (where they had a ride in a gondola by way of a change), on through Yugo-Slavia, Bulgaria, Turkey, arriving at Beyrouth in the Lebanon on July 30th, exactly one month after they had started this journey of adventure.

Despite the fact that not one of them could speak any foreign language, except a little French, they apparently had little difficulty in making themselves understood and explaining the object of their journey to the many officials who interviewed them at the frontiers, etc. Through the "curtain" countries there was always a feeling of a close watch being kept on their movements, but never was there any attempt at interference.

So to Damascus, where they encountered their first real trouble. The plan was to cross the desert to Iraq—not a pleasant prospect, but there was a route used by regular transport, following the old one of the caravans. The only trouble was that these vehicles are especially built for the job, also they normally travel at a speed of about 60 miles per hour. For poor old Connie the Commer a physical impossibility, and they were strongly advised not to attempt to cross on their own but they were certain to get lost.

Whilst they were resting and trying to figure a way out, the answer came in the shape of an old battered lorry driven by an old native. He was, apparently, a regular user of the route, with a lorry in lieu of a caravan. After much discussion and further advice, it was finally agreed that the Australian party could follow in his trail.

Fred says the going was very tough and a bit of a nightmare. He was at the wheel for nearly 24 hours, with a total stopping time of about four hours, and he was glad to see the Iraqi frontier post.

They pressed on, without delay, through Baghdad to Persia, where they had a brief stop. Here they were entertained by some American officers, who couldn't do enough for them; they were "tickled" at the whole idea of this trip.

Next to Pakistan, down through India, and finally arriving at Bombay, the port of embarkation for Australia, in time for their connection booked for September 15th.

So ends the overland journey of this tiny party of adventurers; a journey fortunately without mishap or any serious illness, excepting a little "tummy" trouble from which they all suffered—except the baby boy. Their finance planned out pretty well, and it was not until they

got to India that they had to fall back on their personal cash. Probably a lot of day-to-day incidents, not told of in correspondence, which must be a later story.

The party is now on its way to Brisbane, and its members will set foot on Australian soil on October 17th. From there they are going on to Sydney, where they will split up.

For Fred Wenman, however, that is not the end—he's taking over with one other, Maurice Paddington, and will later set off on a tour of Australia with the ultimate object of finding a good and suitable place to finally settle down, build up his transport business, and once more united with his family he will then say, "That's it."

To Fred Wenman, who will be receiving a copy of the "Pylon," I would like to add a personal message from myself and all his many friends on the Sheerwater Estate: "We wish every success and future happiness to you and your family; we are proud to have known you, and this is one time we are able to say 'Thank you' in a proper way without you dodging out. . . . Thanks, Fred."

### SHEERWATER PYLON

EDITORIAL OFFICES:  
108, ST. MICHAEL'S ROAD,  
SHEERWATER.

Editor: Mr. W. G. Baulf.  
Secretary: Mr. A. Alexander.

Latest date for copy for next issue:  
October 21st.

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## Sheerwater Gardening Association

DESPITE the appalling weather, both before and on Show Day, we were able to put on a brave show, and thanks are due to those staunch members who, by putting in a maximum number of exhibits, helped to make up for the less fortunate members whose exhibits had been spoiled by heavy rains.

We would like to have seen more entries, particularly in the ladies' and children's classes. The children who exhibited miniature gardens are to be congratulated on the high standard achieved.

The judges, Messrs. Doe and Carter, considered the general standard very good, and we are grateful to them for coming along and doing a most difficult job. Likewise thanks to Mrs. Anderson, who judged the handicraft and cookery classes.

Whilst on the subject of judging, some members will have had their cards marked "Not according to schedule," and the following hints may help next time:—

Antirrhinums, although generally treated as annuals, are classified as perennials.

The openings of vases and jars must not exceed the width stipulated in the schedule. Several were measured by the judges and were ruled out because they were well over the permitted width of 3in.

Where the schedule calls for three blooms, be sure and disbud beforehand. One or two exhibits had large buds which had begun to open at the time of judging.

Do not remove several skins from onions to make them look nice. You can't fool the judges.

Be sure that bottled fruit is properly sealed.

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Be sure and check that you have entered the exact number stipulated. Where, e.g., the schedule says six vegetables it doesn't mean five.

Congratulations to Mr. J. W. Holdstock on winning both the Banksian Medal and the Association's Silver Cup.

One of our regular exhibitors, Mr. Kimble, was unable to attend through illness, but we were pleased to see that he won several prizes, and are sure he would wish us to thank Mr. Barnard and Mr. Holdstock, who undertook the arranging of his exhibits. Thanks also to Mr. Barnard for placing his car at the disposal of the committee during the day.

Lastly, but certainly not least, a special vote of thanks to those members' wives who spent so much time serving refreshments during the afternoon and evening. What about a few more volunteers next time?

We were very pleased to have as guests Mr. and Mrs. Lenthall, who kindly officiated at both the prize-giving and the draw for the raffle (the result of which is shown at the end of these notes). Mr. Lenthall, in his capacity as L.C.C. Area Officer for Sheerwater, has been extremely helpful to the Association on many occasions, and we are most grateful to him.

The Show Dance was a great success, and this was largely due to the Mogadors Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Ron Gates. They were a first-class combination, whose playing and timing were excellent. This was their first appearance in Sheerwater, and we hope it will be followed by many more. If any other clubs are interested,

further details of the band can be had on application to the secretary.

**WILL THOSE MEMBERS WHO WERE AWARDED CERTIFICATES OF MERIT OR DIPLOMAS AND HAVE NOT RECEIVED THEM, PLEASE LEAVE DETAILS AT THE HUT.**

In the rush at closing time the cards were not collected by the Secretary, who apologises for the omission.

Now to end on a personal note. As Secretary it has been one of my jobs to write "Pylon" notes each month, and these are in effect my swan song, as, due to pressure of other commitments, I have found it necessary, with some regret, to resign from the committee. Our chairman, Mr. R. Gooch, of 125b, Dartmouth Avenue, has taken over the post of Secretary as from October 1st, and our vice-chairman, Mr. Barnes, of 34, Lambourne Crescent, has become chairman. May I, as a final word, appeal for volunteers to come forward and give the very depleted committee a hand in carrying on the good work.

**Special News Item.** The failure to date of members to respond to the many appeals to serve on the committee has resulted in the committee having to seriously consider what its future policy is to be, e.g., whether it can undertake the organisation of future flower shows, etc. A further announcement about this will be made later.

**Reminders.** Orders for seed potatoes should be placed at the Hut now, and certainly not later than the end of October. Cash with order, please.

At the time of writing there was a first-class section of bulbs on sale at well below shop prices. There may still be some left. Why not enquire at the Hut?

Have you bought your raffle tickets? There are some very useful prizes to be won.

**Result of Flower Show Draw.**  
1st G. Swain, 2793; 2nd, Mrs. McNair, 806; 3rd Mrs. Seaman, 2350; 4th, Mrs. Goolman, 3059; 5th Wood, 2034; 6th J. Lankston, 3522; 7th D. Morton, 1946; 8th Fagg, 2044.

**Consolations**—F. E. Webb, 2930; Mrs. Chipperfield, 2762; A. Sloat, 1724; J. Ronnaugh, 3194; W. Carter, 949; J. Byrne, 352; G. Watson, 2168; P. Pennell, 1788; Mrs. Tanner, 1637; G. Camp, 2296; G. W. Ward, 1339; Mrs. Humberstone, 332; E. Stamp, 2366; Mrs. Goulding, 1364; J. E. Stappard, 285; P. Fraser, 53; Burkett, 3537; E. Stanley, 25; M. Tremayne, 2056; Miss Ruttelwell, 114; N. E. Jeavons, 1341; Bob, 1057; Colton, 2112; J. W. Searle, 377; G. Camp, 2307.

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Further details: Mrs. Thomas, 221, Albert Drive, Sheerwater.

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# Wat-er Lark

By "NOMAD"

I NEVER DID LIKE THE STUFF!

Encouraged by fine weather and several successful fish-feeding expeditions, I am getting the balmy idea of a day ON the river . . . being a change from SIDE or IN. Received with much delight by Trouble, who never did like Side, and Litt'un, very much averse to In. I tempers by saying as this does NOT call for review of wardrobe, seeing as the days by Southend Pier, Pint, Plate of Cockles, and CHANGE from a dollar are but happy memories. So it is agreed.

There is a slight delay of start due to debate with Trouble as to choice of wear—well, I like me black and white check cap which matches well me flannels (though NOT originally). So I am paraded in a panama, which gets a laugh from the neighbours if nothing else.

Being last to board, we are finding the steamer well and truly packed. Seeing as aforesaid panama is just a LITTLE loose, I am saying "a seat or else," so Litt'un goes find. Past experience is telling of CERTAIN success, and follow-up finds her wedged firmly centre of a long seat way up front. In PERSUASIVE voice she is saying if the KIND people would move just a LITTLE there is room for Mummy. Kind people falling for same, and small boy on end falls off. This being excuse waited, boy wanders off—his dad is sent search: general post and we ALL get a seat.

By sheer will-power or possibly force of habit, the boat gets away. I am calculating the odds against it lasting the course and notes carefully the position of nearest life-belt. Relaxed, I now surveys the

passing scenery. First is Hampton Court, reminding me of something AMUSING, or is it AMAZING? Passing under Kingston Bridge I spots a bloke looking at us through a telescope so hastily hides me wallet and pushes down panama for fear of recognition. . . . I am taking no chances of a FURTHER increase in the County Rate. Next to Kew, where we are informed of hot-house plants hundreds of years old, but still retaining their beauty and appeal. Is it NATURAL I am looking at Trouble, with wicked thoughts? Chiswick and Hammer-smith, which has a Broadway same as in New York . . . well, certain parts, anyway. Little'un is next asking does she see a FOOTBALL ground? I am telling it is Fulham, at which she ponders then repeats question. There's a gag here . . . you lucky people.

We are nearing Westminster, and the boat is slowing, so we can show our happy, smiling faces to the Big Building near Big Ben, thus indicating we TOO can get pleasure from wasting OUR money. So to stop, and with spending ideas thus INSPIRED we goes first to find eats. Trouble is doubtful of finding a workmen's caf, seeing as it is knocking-off time in THE BIG HOUSE, but I am reassuring they uses their own canteen, being "on the cuff." We find a very nice joint where we can SEE what we're going to get, with a man in a white(?) jacket pushing the old "dogs" around. He opens the window to give us the aroma we opens the door and gets the words.

What'll we do next? I am suggesting maybe Trouble might like to look around the shops. She is

saying they are CLOSED . . . as if I didn't know. There is eventual agreement, and I am allowed EXACTLY HALF AN HOUR to attend to my NEEDS, and we will rejoin in Piccadilly Circus.

It is most unfortunate I am choosing a place of refreshment of which I once had a WORKING knowledge. Even more unfortunate I am still REMEMBERED. When I EVENTUALLY winds my way to the Circus, I have no idea of the time . . . or even care, come to that. I wanders twice around, but all I meets is three women enquiring as to my HEALTH and one policeman suspicious of my INTENTIONS. I am saved by the arrival of my dependants. Trouble sorry she went to the WRONG circus and Litt'un even sorer she missed the tail-end of my conversation with the policeman.

Hectic hour: meander down the Mall, peep at the Palace, amble round the Abbey, pause at the Parade. Trouble is not liking EITHER soldiers or horses . . . the one reminding her of my "freedom days" and the other of my "leisure hours." Litt'un is enquiring did I have a horse, to which I am replying no . . . only a pony, AFFECTIONATELY known as "Shanks."

We joins the queue for boat back, and I am that tired when we DO get aboard it is as well this time Litt'un is ANTICIPATED, and there is space reserve. After relax, I goes survey the engine-room, partly to reassure myself there really is an engine and partly to air my nautical knowledge which the bloke in charge is NOT appreciating, seeing as he is an ex-SAILOR.

Last part of return trip is giving Full Satisfaction, apart from a growing suspicion the last half mile is on the BED of the river and the

bit of BANK around the last bend is no longer.

So 'revoir to the river and bus back to base. Closing my gate, I opens my mouth to say how lucky we were we didn't have any rain. Trouble is saying it DID rain here . . . the path is wet. Opening the door, Litt'un is adding . . . so is the hall . . .

I LEFT THE TAP RUNNING!

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## Sheerwater Angling Club

### Hints and Haunts for Anglers

By "CASTER"

OCTOBER. And now for the chub. He is a handsome, brass-gleaming fellow, and unmistakable by his great blunt head, and this is why he is often referred to as "Old Loggerhead." Let us admit that the chub of summer is often a spiritless fish that gives way with scarcely a struggle. But how different it is as winter approaches. Then a chub of two pounds will give you all the fight you want. I have encountered many on the Thames and River Wey that, seemingly beaten, have suddenly twisted to freedom in the roots. He is often cursed by fishermen in pursuit of trout. Again and again the trout fisherman will cast his fly and it will be taken, not by a trout but by a great blunt-headed chub. But get on to a river where the chub is an honoured and respected resident, where many anglers seek him with all the cunning they can muster, for he is a shy fish, he will test the skill of the finest angler.

The chub is primarily a shoal fish. The smaller ones are not very difficult to catch, but those above two or three pounds are different. Most extreme caution of approach must be used. Fine line is necessary, but that is not so important as keeping out of sight. You must fish from far off, trotting your tackle to them with the stream. They will take a bait on comparatively coarse line that is long-trotted to them more readily than they will take it on fine line from close up.

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No other fish is so eager to consider anything in the way of bait. They can be taken on worms, gentles, grubs, cheese, paste, flies, breadcrust, minnows, gudgeon, elderberries, and even cubes of banana. Many a fisherman, quietly spinning for perch, has been surprised by the sudden snatch of a hungry chub.

A method that has accounted for many a good specimen is breadcrust of matchbox size, for big chub like a big moulted, lightly ledged downstream on a number 6 or 8 hook. It is always good policy to hold the rod butt in your hand, and the rod supported by a rod rest when using this method, as the bite of a chub is so sudden; then the angler is prepared for instantaneous action. The moment he is hooked, remember to keep him out of the weeds and roots, or you will lose him. Be once in the net, and the fight over, you will eye your catch with the greatest respect. For in winter the chub is a fighter all the way.

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YOUTH WEEK OPENS WITH SERVICE



Seen here after the service are (left to right), Mr. A. G. Forthelme (Chairman, Youth Council), and Mrs. Forthelme, Major M. Parker, Messrs. G. A. Kowarski and E. J. Smith, and Rev. R. E. Fulkner.

[Photo: A. G. Scott.]

Courtesy of "Working News and Mail."

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## Featuring our Factories

THIS month we introduce to you three of our Sheerwater factories which are already well established among the leaders in their particular spheres: Sorbo, Ltd., Electro-Chemical Engineering Co., Ltd., and the Wandsworth Electrical Manufacturing Co., Ltd. Supplemented by Creators, Ltd., and others in due course, the highlights of our Estate industry will be permanently presented for you to read and enjoy.

**SORBO, LIMITED**, which stands to-day as a social and industrial asset, sprang from a small nucleus of men imbued with the pioneering spirit who launched upon an adventure into the rubber world, finally introducing sponge rubber to this country.

Its life commenced in the North, it graduated to the South via London, and became established on its present site in 1920, where it is attractively set amidst the trees on the boundary of Sheerwater. A tour through the factory, tracing the manufacture from the raw material as it is imported from the East, right through to the numerous finished articles, is an education in itself.

There can be few people in these enlightened days who are not acquainted with the products of Sorbo, although many may not realise to what great extent Sorbo is being used. Not only is Sorbo a household word (for there are products for use in every room in the home), it is also an industrial one: automobile, railway, shipping, aircraft, electrical and electronic, radio and television, engineering and

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atomic—all industries in which Sorbo products play a leading part.

The importance of Sorbo can best be illustrated by enumerating the many types of products and how they are used in our everyday life, so the next series will tell something of these.

The social and human relations sides of this company have many important facets, to which due reference will be made, together with the various types of labour employed in its manufacturing departments, where there are frequent vacancies, due to the increasing application of Sorbo products in an ever-expanding field.

**THE ELECTRO-CHEMICAL ENGINEERING CO., LTD.**, was formed in 1939 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Electric Furnace Co., Ltd., now EFCO, Ltd., and has been previously situated at Weybridge. Increased activities and the expansion of the company's business during the last few years have now made it essential that all activities should be operated from one factory.

The new factory at Sheerwater makes provision for the carrying out under one roof of engineering work, chemical mixing and packaging, and the laboratory analysis of process solutions. It consists of six bays, of which three are in use for chemical products and three for engineering. A building connected to the main factory contains the demonstration plating shop, analytical and development laboratories, and offices for chemists. To the north is a separate office block with two floors, which is connected to the works by a covered way, and the

adjacent area is being laid out as a garden.

The buildings have been laid out in such a manner that they can be readily extended without interruption of the existing processes and, in fact, the present layout has been made in accordance with the ultimate requirements, when the factory will have been extended by at least 100 per cent. Provision has also been made for the extension of the office block by 70 per cent.

In industrial circles any discussion on electroplating equipment and processes will bring forth the names EFCO and UDYLYTE. These you will learn about in coming issues and then you will comprehend just how important they are, and why the sales turnover of this rapidly developing company has increased tenfold during the last ten years.

There is good opportunity here for permanent employment for fitter erectors and experienced machinists with knowledge of milling and turning.

The development of the industrial sector on the south side of Albert Drive began with the erection of the works of THE WANDSWORTH ELECTRICAL MANUFACTURING CO., LTD. This factory, designed by the company's architect, Mr. Clive Pascal, A.R.I.B.A., is a good example of classic line and proportions carried out in contemporary style.

The company, which has been established for over 50 years, enjoys a good reputation in its trade. It manufactures an extensive range of high quality switches and other accessories for electric light and power installations. These products usually find their way into office buildings, hotels, schools, hospitals, etc., where long and trouble-free

service is particularly important. They were installed throughout the new terminal buildings which were recently completed at London Airport.

As well as doing a country-wide home trade the company supplies the Admiralty, the Ministry of Works, and the Ministry of Supply. Considerable consignments are also shipped to many parts of the world.

The technical and production staff of the Wandsworth Electrical Manufacturing Co., Ltd., comprises designers and draughtsmen, toolmakers, male and female machine operators, female assemblers, male and female inspectors, female packers, and male storekeepers. The part played by each of these on the production lines will be traced from the drawing-board to despatch, which we think you will find extremely interesting. Working conditions and welfare facilities will also be outlined, and news of the newly-formed sports and social club (first dance, October 13th).

At the present time there are vacancies for women and girls in the machine shop and assembly department on a full-time basis, and as there is a tendency for the company's business to expand steadily there will no doubt be further vacancies in the near future.

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## EDITOR'S DESK

### The Pen and The Sword

CHANGE in editor frequently leads to change in policy; sometimes for the better—often the reverse. Dependent on the nature of the publication and the object of its distribution.

Let it be perfectly clear that my change—if any—will be a gradual one. I have always considered a communal magazine of extreme value, provided its purpose is adhered to without deviation by virtue of personal, political, or sectarian interest. That these will always be present is admitted; the freedoms enjoyed in a democracy are cherished principles. It is the extent which must be controlled—to this I endeavour.

### TRIBUTE

Working on the "Pylon" Committee with TREVOR CHILD has been a pleasure, and I cannot recall any justifiable reason for complaint of his editorship. Knowing only too well the extent to which activity can be curtailed through ill-health, it is much to his credit he

was reluctant to give in, certain proof of the heart being in the job when the decision has to be made for you.

Thanks, Trevor; it again remains to be seen if the hire is worthy of the labourer.

### DIMINISHING NUMBERS

You will now have heard of those in other spheres of communal activity who can no longer continue their voluntary efforts.

Before we hear the cry from those who like us not, let me say I have every confidence that those who continue to serve the community will find their efforts justified. We've had it before—we're still here.

### PLEASING PROSPECTS

One church has more publicity than others; "blue" politicians see "red." So do we stop publishing our regular contributions, or can we hope the "stirring" will bring results. Compliments or complaints—we listen to both, so tell US what you want in the "Pylon"; you'll get it—if it's reasonable.

Stop press: copy oversubscribed this month—keep it up.

### SUMMER SERENADE

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