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Organ of the Sheerwater Community Association

Vol. 2. No. 7

APRIL, 1954

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Page 2

*Report of Items of General Interest dealt with at  
the Council meeting held on Fri., March 12th, 1954*

- Letter from M.O.H. re Day Nursery.
- Letter from Anti-Natal Clinic re opening on the Estate.
- Letter from Food Office re the Selling of Orange Juice, etc.
- Letter from G.P.O. re Telephones.
- Letter from New Haw C.A. re Concert to be held on March 27th.
- Letter from P.D.S.A. re Clinic on Estate.
- Letter from British Legion re Nominations.
- Letter from G.P.O. re more Telephone Boxes on the Estate.
- Letter sent to Old People's Club re Collection held on the Estate.
- The Treasurer presented his Balance Sheet.
- The Youth Club. Mr. Irving resigned, Mr. Duplock and Mr. Dunne and Mrs. Duplock have taken it over. Apologies for the damage.
- Social Committee Report. Whist Drives and Dances are still a success.
- "Pylon" Report. More copy required.
- Sub-Committees and representatives were elected for Social, Management, General Purposes, Governing Body, Woking Service of Youth Council, and Old People's Club.

**COUNCIL OF THE ASSOCIATION**

Chairman: Mr. C. A. Cole, 120 Blackmore Crescent.  
Vice-Chairman: Mr. W. Lewis, 71 Lambourne Crescent.  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. J. A. T. McDermott, 14 Hanbury Path.  
Asst. Hon. Secretary: Mrs. J. Harris, 187 Devonshire Avenue.  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. W. Hendon, 95 St. Michael's Road.  
Membership Organiser: Mr. J. Dunne, 18 Henslow Way.  
Editor of the "Pylon": Mr. S. C. B. West, 73 Albert Drive.  
Centre Secretary: Mr. R. Weston, 145 Albert Drive.  
Press and Publicity Officer: Mr. W. G. Baulf, 108 St. Michael's Road.

**Councillors:**

Mr. G. Boddell, 65 Lambourne Crescent.	Mr. E. Murtough, 16 Albert Drive.
Mr. J. Clavey, 257 Albert Drive.	Mr. Pundrey, 104 Blackmore Crescent.
Mr. H. Dewdney, 11 Bentham Avenue.	Mr. Thomas, 221 Albert Drive.
Mr. A. T. Duplock, 66 Devonshire Av.	Mr. W. Watkins, 10 Hanbury Path.
Mrs. A. T. Duplock, 66 Devonshire Av.	Mr. Wigzell.
Mr. T. C. Evans, 36 Bentham Avenue.	Mr. Woodbridge, 230 Albert Drive.
Mr. W. Jones, 122 Albert Drive.	Mr. J. Rosani, 99 St. Michael's Road.
Mr. Morgan, 80 Lambourne Crescent.	

**Representatives:**

Gardening Association: Mr. R. Cooper, 112 St. Michael's Road.  
Labour Party: Mr. Knowler, 45 Bentham Avenue.  
Conservative Association: Mr. J. Royal, 14 Albert Drive.  
Dramatic Club: Mr. Summerson, 74 Albert Drive.  
Angling Club: Mr. Fixter, 4 Lambourne Crescent.  
Catholic Men's Guild: Mr. Gunn, 75 Albert Drive.

**Sheerwater Gardening  
Association**

Plants, etc.—Orders may still be placed for bedding plants, etc., at the Hut, or to any member of the Committee.

Fertilisers.—Bonemeal, Growmore, Superphosphate, Phosphate of Potash, Lime, etc., are available at the Hut.

Hut.—The New Hut on the allotment site in Albert Drive is well on its way

to being erected, and it is hoped that by the time this "Pylon" is published it will have been opened.

Summer Show.—The Show Committee is working out a schedule, and this will be published in the near future. This is to be your show, and plans are being made to include everyone. There will be sections for the ladies and children. It is hoped that we shall be able to publish more details in next month's "Pylon." Should you have any suggestions or can offer any assistance please contact the secretary.

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## COLLECTING—2

SINCE we began our talks on collecting we have covered quite a lot of subjects. We have discussed the early peoples of Bible times, we talked about the islands of the Aegean sea, and the birth of coins. Last month we were looking at the changes which took place in the coinage of the old world, and how our system of coinage grew up.

This month I want to talk about coins of the early Christian Anglo-Saxon series, and on up to present times. Coins had fantastic designs on them after the Roman occupation of Britain ceased, but with the Anglo-Saxons and the establishment of Christianity the designs became extremely simple. A single cross, probably copied from Byzantine coins, and the name of the Sovereign made their appearance.

About A.D. 670 to 867 a series of Northumbrian coins appeared. They are known as STYGAS. Two examples of these are those of Eadred (207-241 A.D.) and Etheled (241-249 A.D.).

The King Offa (remember the dyke) of Merca, produced a silver penny in 757 A.D., while in Kent, Egbert in 755 A.D. also decided to have silver pennies. Not only the Sovereigns produced coins, even the Church made their own money. The Archbishops of Canterbury issued silver pennies, and the Archbishops of York issued STYGAS. An example of the latter is VIGMUND (837-854 A.D.).

The change of rule and the invasions of Britain from the Continent brought about changes in the money and the next important coinage is known as the DAMONORSE SERIES.

The Danish coins, bearing the names of ST. EDMUND, PETER or MARTIN respectively, were struck in East Anglia, York and Lincoln between 900 and 942 A.D.

The WESSEX series of silver pennies began with that of Egbert, King of Wessex (802-839). The coins of Alfred the Great are very rare. The portraits are based on those of the Byzantine Emperors, but this series is important, as it really is ancestral to our present coinage. Hence the Wessex royal line became the Sovereigns of England, and there was only one current coinage in the realm from the time of Edgar the Peaceful (959). The name of the King and also the name of the

"Moneyer" are given on the coins, and also the name of the town where the coins were struck. A common example is the penny of Ethelred II. (the "unready").

The great Danish King CNVT (Canute)—do you remember the story of the tide?—maintained the same pattern of coin during his reign in England 1035 A.D. A few pieces were struck at Guildford, where the moneyer was named Blackmon. It is quite a point of interest to know that there are still families of Blackmans still living in the same neighbourhood.

Edward the Confessor pennies are fairly common and show various "portraits." They were struck at various places throughout the realm.

Post-Conquest coinage. William I. (Norman). Most people are familiar with at least one date in history—1066 and all that—and they know that vast changes were produced by the Conquest. Coins, however, did not change so noticeably. The silver penny series went on with very little difference. The portrait of William I. holding a sceptre appeared, but it is most interesting to notice the initial letter of the king's name kept the Anglo-Saxon form. Yes, the Anglo-Saxon had been conquered, but he also remained, and, in turn, impressed his influence upon the Norman kings.

The comparatively crude type of silver penny was used on through the XIII century. The coins of Henry II. were used throughout the reign of Richard I. and John (Magna Carta fame) and on far into the long reign of Henry III. The portrait on these coins were quite barbaric in appearance. In the reign of Henry III. a gold penny was made, having the same value as 20 silver pennies, but it proved to be very unpopular, and so was soon withdrawn. The silver penny became poorer, and the portraits seemed to reach the greatest crudity in the medieval series.

When Edward I. took over the throne there was an improvement in the coins. They were less rough, and showed a draped base. His name was shortened right down to EDW. R(EX) ANGLORUM. Edward II. coins are similar but slightly better, and his name was changed but Edward III. decided to undrape the bust, and to use his full name for the first time. He also introduced the gold coinage, and it soon became a permanent feature of English money.

There was little change in the coinage of Henry IV., V. and VI. The only distinguishing features are the incidental ornaments introduced into designs—annulets, rosettes, masles, pine cones, trefolis, and pellets. The "Calais Cross" of Henry VI. is a fairly well known example.

Great changes were taking place at this time, and so, when Henry VII. ascended the throne, and the Renaissance movement and thought began to make itself felt, it is quite natural to expect a change in the coinage. The portraits of the king are a definite departure from the medieval type of design which had persisted for so long. The full arrival of Renaissance activity in England was experienced at the time of Henry VIII. Henry VIII. did not believe in half measures, as we all know, and so the coinage must be put right. The portrait was finally freed from the old barbarism of design, and the remnants of debased Byzantine tradition. A shield bearing the arms of England and France, quarterly, now appeared with the usual cross on the reverse.

The coins of Edward VI. are among the most beautiful ever issued. The change of the portraits of this serious minded boy has hardly ever been surpassed.

Good Queen Bess, Elizabeth I., introduced a new feature to coins, her coins bore a date for the first time. They also show a fine portrait of the Queen. On the reverse the armorial and cross were also used, and became a standard feature of the design of English coins. James I. coins also have a good portrait, and the Renaissance period in coinage was reached with the fine portraits of Charles I.

The Commonwealth. No portrait appeared on the coins, but the obverse as well as the reverse bore a shield. The Commonwealth rule was much more respected in the coinage than was the Norman rule. The long line of portraits was now broken; a line which had been continuous from the days of Alfred the Great.

A great change came with the reign of Charles II. Up to this time the coins had been struck off thin metal plates, which were only approximately circular. These coins, of course, lent themselves to the fraudulent practice known as "clipping," in which pieces of silver were pared from the edges of coins. During Charles II's reign, however, a new process was introduced. The coins were no longer "struck" by hammering one

disc down on another with the silver die between them. Instead a screw press or "MILL" was used. The coins thus made were much thicker and their edges were slightly corrugated or "milled," so that clipping could be detected at once. The process is still in use, with more modern machinery.

The standard for the gold coins was fixed at 225/89 grains to the guinea, and that for silver coins at 92½ grains to the shilling. These standards were maintained down to the reign of King George V., though the "pound piece" superseded the guinea.

A copper coinage became the permanent feature of the issues from the reign of Charles II. It became bronze later on for the sake of durability.

Well, I think it is time I ended this brief, and perhaps disjointed, introduction to coin collecting. I can assure you though, there is a lot for the studious to discover. Such things as siege coins, bun pennies, token coins, Mandy money, and the number and types of mints would occupy many volumes. So go on collecting, and go on learning.

—CYMRO.

## ANGLING CLUB

THE Shearwater Angling Club were not disgraced in their last match of the season, against members of the South Lambeth Goods Depot. There was only a difference of 44 oz. between the catches of the teams. Fishing is not now permitted until the new season, which starts in June.

Now is the time to overhaul your tackle, and take stock of requirements. Several members of the Club can give valuable advice to newcomers, and the Tackle Club has also been formed primarily for their benefit.

Come along to the next meeting, which will be held in the Community Centre on Wednesday, April 14th, and talk it over. The meeting starts at 8 p.m.—there is a welcome for all.

## MUTUAL EXCHANGE

Two roomed FLAT on 3rd floor, comprising 2 bed, 1 liv., kitchenette with electric cooker, bathroom, electric water heater and w.c. 18s. per week, 1 min. from Lords Cricket Ground. For small flat or old people's house at Shearwater.

For further information please write to Mr. F. Harris, 337, Scott Ellis Gardens, Grove End Road, St. John's Wood, N.W.8, or contact Mr. H. Harris, 187, Devonshire Avenue.

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## WOKING!—2

### WOKING'S FIRST INHABITANTS

THE earliest people to occupy this part of the country were those of the Mesolithic Age, who, about 10,000 a.c. had their homes in Horsell, on a site near Parley Bridge, about 300 yards west of the Cricketers' ground. So many arrowheads, flaked implements, shoulder-points, etc., have been found there that it is every day's business for stating that the site must have been occupied for a very long period.

Several thousand years later Neolithic Man also roamed over Horsell Birch, for arrow-heads and scrapers have been found there, but not in such great quantities as on the former site.

Neolithic Man also had his dwellings where the new Maybury Estate has been developed, and about two years ago two Neolithic axe-heads were discovered there, the earlier one dating from about 3000 a.c., and the later one about 1500 a.c. They were found within about 50 yards of each other.

Further evidence of the presence of Neolithic Man in that area is found in the two small, round burial mounds, or "barrows," which may still be seen on each side of the road, a few hundred yards north of Maybury Arch. Unfortunately, they cannot be accurately dated, as they have been very carelessly opened, and all traces of their contents destroyed. It may be of interest to note that it was still contemplating these "barrows" that H. G. Wells, who then lived in one of the houses on Maybury Hill, conceived the plot of "The Message from Mars."

It is necessary to remind readers that for thousands of years during the Ice Age this country was joined to the Continent of Europe, either wholly or at times by land-bridges. Travelers in the North Sea still, on occasions, bring up remains of extinct animals, such as mammoth tusks, thus proving that the bed of that sea was once dry land, over which such animals roamed.

Primitive Man was able to adopt similar methods, and as he was of necessity a hunter without a settled home:

he followed the animals wherever they went, and has left traces of his passage in the gravel-beds of the country. There are no records of Paleolithic Man in or around Woking, but only a few miles westwards the gravel-beds of Farnham have been described as probably the richest site in Europe for the remains of prehistoric man. Woking was next visited by one of the many tribes generally called "Brythons," who settled near the river at Woking Village. They called it "Wye," which signifies water, and thus was described other streams in other parts of the country, accounting for the many rivers named "Wye" in England and Wales. The present spelling "Wey" was not confirmed until the 17th century, previous to which it alternated between "Wye" and "Wey." In very early times it was not necessary to name rivers; they were first referred to as "the water," and much later as "the stream," before the word "river" ever came into use.

The Roman Invasion did not affect Woking. A few Roman remains have been found on or near the Hooking Estate, but there was never any settlement here. Roman Legions may have marched across the heaths on their way to Staines, where they got on to the great military road from London, through Silchester to Winchester or Salisbury (Sarum). The land around Woking was much too sandy to produce heavy crops of grain, the greatest need of the Romans for feeding their armies in this country and on the Continent.

The Romans remained in England for 400 years, and during the whole of that time the few inhabitants in Woking would seem to have been un molested, but passed their tranquil lives cultivating the small plots of ground near the river, caring for their goats and swine, and living in mud huts a short distance away from the stream, which annually overflowed its banks, and would have demolished their rude dwellings had they been too close to the banks. Nearly 200 years were to pass before a new race came to settle in this district, and next month we will begin the story of the coming of the Saxons, and the beginning of the real Woking.

**SPECIAL NOTICE**  
If you require delivery of  
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Page 7

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## YOUTH CLUB

WE regret to say that Mr. L. Irving has had to resign as Club Leader, due to ill-health. An Acting Leader has been appointed, and the Club is being well attended.

We have been very fortunate in obtaining the use of the School Canteen on Monday evenings for the purpose of our Group activities for girls and the first Keep Fit Classes will start on Monday, April 25th, at 7.30 p.m.

A ramble has been arranged for Good Friday; also a week-end camping expedition is planned for the last week-end in May.

We are still short of funds and are unable to purchase the necessary equipment for making the Club a perfect success. Announcements will be made shortly regarding social functions to raise funds. It is sincerely hoped that everyone on the Estate will support our appeal.

### Monthly Report of the Sheerwater Labour Party

The next Ward meeting of the Sheerwater Labour Party will be held on Wednesday, April 28th, at 7.45 p.m., at 31, Blackmore Crescent. All members are invited to attend this very important meeting just prior to the election.

A very successful dance and social was held at St. Michael's Hall on Saturday, March 13th, this being one of the many events planned by the Social Committee.

We are pleased to report that our membership is increasing, and many of these have become active members. Bring your problems to us and we will do all in our power to assist you. For your information the following addresses will find:—

Hon. Secretary: R. W. Thompson, 31 Blackmore Crescent.  
Hon. Chairman: A. Roberts, 8 Albert Drive.

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## SCHOOLS

The following letter has been received from the Headmaster of the Sheerwater County Secondary School:

Mr. Batchelor, the headmaster, intends to hold an "open" evening as soon as the new Secondary School is open, and he will be prepared to answer questions on matters arising from the letter.

Special Educational Courses for Children of age 13-14 Years (Other than Grammar Courses)

The County Education Committee will be opening the new Secondary School on the Sheerwater Estate in the near future.

In this connection I have been asked to draw your attention to arrangements which will be made in the district for children who attain the age of 13 years in the year ending September 1st, 1954, to have an opportunity of obtaining a Special Course of education for which, by ability and aptitude, they appear to be suitable.

If your boy or girl is within the age limit mentioned above, you are strongly advised to communicate with the headmaster of the school your child is now attending with the least possible delay, asking that your child may be considered for selection for one of these courses. The selection of children for the various courses will be made by a member of the County Inspectorate, with the assistance of experienced head masters/mistresses. It will not primarily be by examination, but the child's attainment and school record will be an important factor in the decision of the Interviewing Committee.

### 1st Sheerwater Scout Group

Parents' Meetings are held every third Thursday in the month in the Devonshire Avenue School Canteen. All interested parents are welcome.

The Group Scoutmaster, Mr. E. R. Winn, of 85, Albert Drive, would be pleased to hear from any ex-Scouts who would be interested in forming an old Scout Group.

To help increase the funds it is hoped that it will be possible to hold a jumble sale in the near future. Your support would be welcome, and the actual date will be advertised.

E. R. W.

Should you desire your child to be considered, the headmaster of his/her school will make the necessary arrangements.

In order to derive full benefit from the course of education offered, it is important that the parents of successful candidates should undertake to keep the child at school for the whole duration of the course.

In each school there will be sound general courses of education for those not selected for the Special Courses.

The Courses to be provided as from September next are as follows:—

West Byfleet County Secondary School, 3 year Technical Engineering Course for boys.

2 year Homecraft Course for girls, Fullbrook County Secondary School, 3 year Commercial Course for boys and girls.

Sheerwater County Secondary School, 3 year Technical Course (to include building) for boys.

3 year Pre-Nursing Course for girls. The North-Western Divisional Executive have, as I am sure you will realize, taken an important step forward in providing for the needs of the children, and it is earnestly hoped that parents and pupils will co-operate to ensure that this scheme of specialised education is of the utmost value to the children concerned.

Should any difficulty arise, or should there be any problem concerning your child's education, the headmaster of the school of which your child is at present a pupil will be happy to see you and advise you.

F. ANDERSON,  
Divisional Education Officer.

### OLD PEOPLE'S CLUB

Mr. H. Wragg, of Woking Market, very kindly presented an excellent gift in the form of a clock to the Club recently. It has been decided that the clock will be raffled to raise funds for the Old People's Club.

J. H.

### Please Note

A few articles of clothing, mugs, cups, spoons, etc., were left behind after the children's Christmas party and remain unclaimed. If these articles are still unclaimed at the end of April they will be put into a jumble sale.

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## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### TOMMY AND TIMMY

IT was a great day when Mrs. Thompson, the policeman's wife, told the twins they could take home their puppy whenever they wished.

This was the news the twins had been anxiously waiting for, and they didn't hesitate to collect their fat, cuddlesome bundle of charm. The basket had been ready for weeks.

Sure enough, as soon as Mummy experienced a few cheery yaps and a couple of sibilant air snikes, to say nothing of the slipper destruction, she shook her head and lifted up the tiny black and white pup, and there and then christened it Puck, "because," she explained, "Puck was the darlings, naughtiest fairy ever written about."

This pleased the twins immensely. Now poor old Miss Tate seemed very perturbed over the arrival of Puck. "I do hope," she said in her usual sour tones, "that he won't bark at my Agatha. She simply can't stand dogs."

Tommy and Timmy were eyeing the fat ginger cat referred to by Miss Tate as "My Agatha."

"Our dog will only bark at nuisances," retorted Timmy, looking to Tommy for support.

"By golly, yes, Miss Tate," Tommy added, "We've got to train him properly—my Dad said."

"Hum," mumbled the old lady, screwing up her lips tightly and, looking really ruffled, she turned away and went indoors.

Tommy gave a deep sniff. "Can you smell anything burning?" he asked.

"Yes, I can. It smells like a chimney fire," added Tim.

At that moment Miss Tate appeared in her garden again in a dreadful flap. "O dearie, dearie me," she cried, "My chimney's on fire and everything is covered in soot. What can I do?"

The twins were half way to the phone box before Miss Tate had finished wailing.

"Dad!" yelled Tim, as Tommy lifted the receiver, and within a few seconds he was giving the particulars over to the fire station in a very manly manner.

This done, they both sped home, and almost as soon as they arrived, so did the big red fire engine, ringing its bell fiercely.

Of course, quite a stir of excitement went up in this quiet little street.

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Neighbours' heads were craning out of windows, and a few more gathered on the pavement near the fire engine.

The twins felt very important when they explained to the fire officer that it was they who had informed the brigade.

"That was very smart of you both," he said, pushing back his large black shiny helmet, which the twins were secretly longing to try on.

"I must say," he patted them on the shoulder, "Richard and Jennifer Robinson were looking on with envy as they watched the twins chatting to the fireman who had by now mastered the fire in Miss Tate's chimney."

The boys ventured into the cottage to see if the old lady was all right, and they overheard the officer warn Miss Tate to have her chimney swept more often.

"Oh! I will indeed," she almost sobbed. "I am so grateful to you for what you have done. You have been so careful with everything, too."

She was near to tears, and the officer told her it was their job, and it was worth doing well. "Now you just make yourself a nice cup of tea, madam," he said, kindly, "I must be off."

He turned to go, only to be impudently waylaid by the twins.

"Could we take one small peep inside your engine?" they pleaded.

The officer grinned. "Well, you two take the cake for cheek. But I like you for it somehow."

Grabbing both their hands, they strode out towards the engine, the boys taking their biggest ever steps to keep up with him.

They examined with deep interest the inside of the fire engine. They thought it looked like a conjurer's box of tricks. There was neatly rolled hose with gleaming brass nozzles and weird looking bags, which he explained enabled the firemen to enter smoky buildings. For they contained life-giving oxygen.

They were fascinated by the ladders with hooks on them, and these, they were told, were used to climb up the outside of buildings.

It looked as if the twins would never tire of exploring, and the obliging officer, glancing at his watch, said it was time to go.

"We have to be ready for any other calls we may get, my lads," he said. So, with a long yearned for ring on

the fire bell, the twins said cheerio to their newly found friend.

"Phew," said Tom, rubbing his ear. "That bell was loud, wasn't it?"

"Look, Miss Tate's calling us," Tim said, and the boys went over to her.

"Here," she said, as if making a peace offering, "A pint of milk for Puck. Thank you, boys, so much for everything."

Tommy and Timmy blushed and took the milk indoors.

Puck looked up sleepily, as if he had just finished a pint of the best cream.

"Gosh," said Tim, "Is that what they mean by puppy fat?"

"S'pose so," said Tom, looking proudly at Puck. "Can't he?"

"And he knows it," said Tim.

"He takes the cake for cheek, but I like him for it," Tom repeated, and drew himself up to the fire officer's height, or so he imagined.

E. W. E. H.

### THE RUNAWAY ROCKING HORSE

By P. B. Daniel

Once upon a time there lived a little boy called John. John lived with his mother and father in a house in the country. Now John had a beautiful rocking horse, and he loved it very much.

One night when all the house was silent, the rocking horse gave a little jerk, and jumped off his rockers. Then he bounded out of the window and on to the road. "I'm tired of being ridden up and down all the time," he said to himself, "I'm going to run away." So off he went, down the road.

As dawn broke he came to some stables. Inside were some nice horses. As soon as they saw him, they all began to laugh. "H, ha, ha," laughed one. "You're wooden. No adult could ride you. He off with you." So off he went sadly. Soon he came to a field in which some horses were grazing.

"Hallo," said the rocking horse, but the horses just turned away, as much as to say, "Heh, he's no good, he's made of wood." So off he went again. Just ahead of him the road turned in a sharp bend, and coming round the bend was a borry. When the driver saw a rocking horse trotting down the road his eyes nearly popped out of his head, and he vowed that he would not go to bed so late if that is what happened to his eyes.

Soon the rocking horse came to a meadow where an old horse was grazing. The rocking horse told of his plight, and the old horse wisely nodded and

said, "Why not go home and behave like a sensible horse?" So the rocking horse ran swiftly home and jumped in the window, and settled down. "I've learnt my lesson to-night, and I'll never complain again," he said, sleepily.

### POOR CHARLIE

By J. Startup

One day a little round glass marble was bought in a shop with nineteen other marbles; his name was Charlie.

The boy who bought him was named Barry. He took Charlie to his house and put him (and the other nineteen marbles) into a big bag which already had about a hundred in.

Next morning Barry took his bag of marbles to school, and at playtime he took a marble out and it happened to be Charlie. Barry put Charlie on the ground and all of a sudden another marble whizzed along and hit Charlie.

"Gosh," said Barry, "That's a 'ouch'!" shouted Charlie, "who did that?"

"Hal ha!" shouted the other marble, "I did it." "You wait," yelled Charlie, "I'll knock you down the drain."

"No you won't," said the other marble, but it was too late, he had been knocked right down the drain, never to be seen again. But what had happened to Charlie? He (unable to stop) had rolled down the drain, too.

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## LOCAL ELECTIONS, 1954

The Horsell North Ward covers the bulk of the Estate, and both the Conservative and Labour Parties are putting forward Sheerwater men as candidates. Mr. J. F. A. Royal represents the Conservatives and Mr. J. M. Hatfield represents the Labour Party.

Information regarding the two candidates is given below.

**MR. J. M. HATFIELD**  
Prospective Labour Party candidate for the Horsell North Ward in the May, 1954, Council elections, Mr. Hatfield, lives at 39, Lambourne Crescent, is 28 years of age, married, and has two children.

He has lived on Sheerwater since 1924, and since then has been a very ardent worker on behalf of the Labour Party, being one of the founder members of the Sheerwater Ward.

He is a native of Sunderland, Co. Durham, and moved to London in 1937. His early years were spent in an atmosphere of unemployment and poverty.

Mr. Hatfield is by trade an engineer. During the war he saw service in both the Royal Navy and the Royal Indian Navy.

His chief interests are education and the study of philosophy.

**MR. J. F. A. ROYAL**  
Prospective Conservative candidate for the Horsell North Ward in the May elections is 29 years-old. John Frederick Arthur Royal, all-round sportsman, former editor of "Sheerwater Pylon," and one of the founders of the Sheerwater Community Association.

Mr. Royal, who lives at 14, Albert Drive, is a keen rigger fan—he is trying to form a club locally—is captain of Merton Cricket Club's Sunday team, has run in half-mile events, and more recently tried to get a Sheerwater soccer team started.

He was born at Horden, where he went to school, and at the age of 15 started an apprenticeship with a large firm of retail chemists. In 1927, at the age of 17½, he joined the R.A.F. for aircrew duties, being trained at Cambridge and in Rhodesia. Later he was posted to the Far East.

On returning from Burma in 1947 he completed his apprenticeship and joined I.C.I. He is now a medical representative for one of our leading pharmaceutical companies. He and his family—wife, son, and daughter—have been resident at Sheerwater since 1951. With other residents he was quick to see the

need for a Community Association, and became actively interested to the extent of taking over the duties of Assistant Secretary and becoming the first editor of the "Pylon." Having previously been actively connected with the Balham and Tooting Conservative Association, he was one of the pioneers of the Sheerwater Conservative Association, and is now a member of the Executive Committee of the Woking Division Conservative Association. Recently he aided his branch in the organisation of a function for the blind.

His interest in obtaining a seat on Woking Council is based on a belief that the District Council could do more for the youth of the district, on his experience of getting housing accommodation, and on the contribution he feels that he, as a resident on an L.C.C. estate, can make to the problems of overspill populations.

He says that he feels Woking Council are doing quite well in their housing programme, but holds the opinion that there is great scope for future developments of the town, so long as the development is balanced.

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## SHEERWATER PYLON

SHEERWATER

EDITORIAL OFFICES

73, ALBERT DRIVE

Editor: Mr. S. C. B. WEST.

Please submit copy not later than April 30th for May issue.

## The Editor Writes

**Help Wanted.**  
In the past help has often been requested and willingly given by members of the Association. I now hear that there is some plastering to be done on some of the walls of the Centre. Any member willing to offer his services should contact the Centre Secretary.

**Other Help Required.**  
You will read elsewhere in the magazine that the Youth Club is anxious to raise funds to enable it to carry on. Duces and socials will be held as fund raisers, and I am sure that the call will not go unheeded on the Estate. It seems to me that if as much energy goes into the fund raising schemes for the Youth Club as went into the Building Fund for the Centre, we shall have a Youth Club which ought to be the show-piece of the district.

**Thanks for Help Given.**  
Quite often at meetings thanks are given to one member or another for their efforts towards the well being of the Community as a whole. There has been one individual member who is deserving of more mention than just a few words at the Monthly Meeting, and he is Mr. Wennan, of 5, Hanbury Path, who for some time now has given most willingly needed transport facilities and often at short notice. Thank you, Mr. Wennan. Thanks are also due to Mr. Sentinella, of 602, Albert Drive, for his offer to supply free the plate for Hugh Moore's painting.

**History in the Making.**  
On April 3rd history was made when Audrey Frances Hendon (born February 24th, 1954) was the first baby to be christened in the Community Centre. She is the daughter of Treasurer Bill Hendon and his wife, Brenda. Congratulations, Bill!

Old Woking C.A.  
I have been asked to let you know that on Saturday, June 5th, the Old

Woking C.A. are holding a Summer Fair in Woking Park.

**Police Charity Show.**  
Another worthy cause, the Surrey Constabulary Widows' and Orphans' Fund will be trying to raise funds when the Woking Division are putting on a variety concert for April 14th. The show will be held in Christ Church Hall, and I understand that among the guest artists will be Arthur English. Tickets, price 3s. 6d. reserved and 2s. 6d. unreserved, may be obtained from P.C. Massey, 215, Albert Drive.

**Our Aim—**  
To cover every type of activity on the Estate. It is to be hoped that every reader will find at least one article of interest, and we hope that most readers will find more than one. If we can maintain the interest shown in the "Pylon" there is no reason why we shouldn't be able to produce a 32-page magazine. Articles continue to come from all groups and all ages. The magazine carries over more stories by children, and in this issue we are able to produce an article written by a housewife on the Estate covering one of the instances that no doubt most of our wives have experienced since arrival at Sheerwater. There is a sequel to the story, by the way, but you will have to wait until next month for that.

## J. F. MINTY

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We thank you for past custom and hope to be able to serve our new customers. Why not REGISTER WITH US?

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## Experience of a Sheerwater Housewife

(With apologies to Al Read.)  
I wonder how many of you housewives get thoroughly fed up with answering the door to commercial salesmen and what have you of all kinds of trades. This experience of mine is based on an actual occurrence a few weeks ago.

It's Monday morning, time 9.30 a.m. it is freezing. I am busy washing, when (It was bound to happen.) A knock at the door and, when I answer it, it is HIM. Six feet tall, six feet broad, MR. KNOW-ALL. You know, you've met them. From then on the dialogue goes like this. It's always the same, except for a few minor variations.

ME: Yes?  
HIM: How do you do? Ah! Yes, I can see it written all over your face. You would love to own what I have to offer you.

ME: So what? And what have you to offer?  
HIM: That there on the step. (He points my attention to a huge contraption.)

ME: What is it?  
HIM: Ah, ah! You are interested. I'll show you and then you can have it. (Follows a short struggle with cardboard, screws, plugs, bolts, etc., a lot of unscrewing and screwing up, and behold! A beautiful vacuum cleaner.)

ME: Oh, yes! It's very nice, just what I could do with, but, er, I'm afraid I, er . . . and it's so cold here on the doorstep, I, er . . . (It's frozen, my hands are not properly dried and I can hear washing boiling over.)

HIM: Oh, yes! Thanks, I'll bring it into the hall for you. (So saying, he struggles with it into the hall, leaving me, snared, on the doorstep.)

ME: But, er, you can't, er . . .  
HIM: NO buts, madam, it's in your house, I'm giving it to you. Take it, and use it. All your worries of cleaning are over now.

ME: Giving it? But, er, what will my husband say? (Gits from strangers.) It's such an expensive thing. Who are you?  
HIM: Your husband will be pleased. You have it. It's only £30. I'm the agent of So-and-So Company. I'm giving it to you.

ME: But why, er? How, er? I don't know, er, I don't understand.  
HIM: It's easy, madam. Just give me

£3 and I will give you a pretty blue card. I will pay you a visit every week and you will give me 10s. each week. That's it, take it and give me £3.

ME (weakly): EH! I haven't got three bob. (I don't tell him I can barely wait until the family allowance is due to-morrow.)

HIM: Now, now, madam. Let us not waste any more time. What's a mere £3 for a beautiful thing like that there. Yes, a week isn't missed, I'm sure. You need it? You would like to have it?  
ME: Oh, YES! But I, er, cannot, er . . .

HIM: Well, take it then.  
ME: I can't afford it. I, er . . . You brought it in and my husband, er . . .  
HIM (angrily): What! YOU answered the door. YOU said it was cold. I was standing on the doorstep. YOU invited me in. You will be saying next that I forced my way in. You said your husband would be pleased. How can you stay there and tell such lies. What! I think you've got a cheek, wasting my time, making me undo the thing, and set it up. You want to make your mind up. First you want it, and now you don't.

ME: But, er . . . You said you were giving it, and I, er . . .  
HIM: What! You expected a £30 cleaner for a gift? Oh, yes, I can see it now. It's written all over your face how you can deceive me and lead me up the garden path. (While he is getting this off his chest, another struggle is going on with cardboard, screws, nuts, bolts, etc., a lot of unscrewing and screwing up again, but in reverse order this time. He picks up the contraption and walks down the garden path.) Wasting my time! You'll be sorry, I say, you'll be sorry . . .

(At this point he trips up by the front gate, over goes the cleaner, nuts, bolts, screws, etc., all over the place. Follows the struggle already described, but ME! By this time I'm behind the door, gently subsiding in a heap, fearful of the pain in my side through laughing so much.)

Right Monkey!  
Yes, you've guessed! Wash-day went a lot easier after that. I just can't wait for the next one to knock at my door.

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**MOST** of you have now either read or heard that the Social Committee of the Community Association proposes to considerably enlarge its field of activity, as and when circumstances permit. It is with this object in view that the members of this Committee have agreed to work in the main in two sections—Social Entertainment and Social Educational. There are obviously quite a number of social events which may be classified under either section or possibly both, and these will be a joint responsibility. Just a word as to the reason for this new set-up.

From time to time in the past, a handful of members have put in many hours of hard work to provide for the people of this Estate much-needed amenities: dances, whist drives, children's parties, outings, etc. Their success may be measured not only by the pleasure which they gave, but also by the valuable income which the Association has derived as the result of their efforts. How many have given even a thought as to the many handicaps which they had to overcome?

There is no need to name again these pioneers, they are known to you all. Sufficient to say they have well earned the thanks of the Community. For various reasons, the activities of some are

temporarily ceased, though there is no doubt they will again be well to the fore in time of need. Others are still continuing in the same spirit with which they have always been associated, and the benefit of their labour and experience will be supplemented by that of others who have like value to offer.

One of the major handicaps of the past was the lack of premises, which greatly limited the scope of activities which could be provided. We now have our Community Centre, agreed at the moment not quite as we would wish it, but the necessary additions and alterations will soon materialise. The Centre can and will be of valuable assistance, not only to the Community Association, but also to the other Associations, Clubs, etc., formed by the people of this Estate for mutual benefit.

It will therefore be readily understood that the rôle of the Social Committee will be a full one. Every member of the Committee is appreciative of this, and each is prepared to make his or her contribution a worthy one. They will endeavour as far as possible to arrange their programme in accordance with requirements, and are confident that with full co-operation and support from all members of the Association they will succeed in their object.

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## CHURCH NEWS

### CHURCH OF ENGLAND

#### "Who Moved the Stone?"

A few years ago, a lawyer set out to examine the New Testament and historical evidence for the Resurrection of Jesus, sure that by doing so in a fair and impartial manner, he would find another "natural" explanation, that the Body of Jesus had been removed and that there had been no Resurrection. Before he finished, he found to his surprise that he was convinced of the truth of the very explanation he sought to disprove. His name is Frank Morison, and he wrote a book, "Who Moved the Stone?" He was convinced, not just by documents and questions of historical fact, but by the greatest fact of all human experience, by finding the living Lord Jesus. Christianity is not just argument about dates and books and behaviour, it is finding the friendship of the Risen Lord—"Lo, I am with you always."

The joy of Easter cannot be separated from the sorrow of Good Friday; this Risen Glorious Lord is the same Jesus who lived a life empty of most of the things we count most precious—misunderstood, hated and envied, betrayed and abandoned by his friends, and finally, after a shameful, hurried and agonising death. Yet it is in and through these things that the power and love of God complete His amazing work, and on the third day burst out in glory—"Christ the Lord is risen again." We may be burdened with fears and anxieties, scurrying timidly about under the shadow of atomic catastrophe, but in and through these things, the sure hand of God upon His world and upon His children is not loosened, but works with patience to complete His loving purpose—and we are called to the knowledge and love of God, in Whom alone is our joy and peace of mind and our true fulfilment through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Most glorious Lord of Life that on this Day

Didst make Thy triumph over death and sin

SERVICES at St. Michael's for Good Friday and Easter.

Good Friday, 12-3 p.m. THE WATCH BY THE CROSS (Hymns, Meditations, Prayers)

Gospels and Trayers. Many people will come for a shorter time—a half-hour.

Easter Day, Holy Communion at 8 and 9.30 a.m.

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### Service for Easter morning at 11.30. Evensong and sermon at 6.30 p.m.

#### R. E. FALKNER.

### FOR SHEERWATER CATHOLICS

Mass: Every Sunday, 9 a.m., at the Community Centre.

Catechism: Every Sunday, 3 to 4.30 p.m., at the Community Centre.

It looks as though the 400 odd Catholics on the Estate have a permanent home at last—in print anyway! I am most grateful to the editor for his invitation to write a regular article in the "Pylon." It is a grand opportunity not only to contact our own Catholic people in the widest possible way, but also to share our hopes and our plans, our problems and progress with the whole Estate.

All the formalities for the purchase of our site on the tongue of land between Dartmouth Avenue and Albert Drive have now been completed, and we must wait patiently and pray hard for a Church to appear. As many of you know, the Bishop is now committed to a gigantic schools programme. We can have no notion of construction for all that is done in our State schools to give children a sound Christian training, yet, as Catholics, we know it is not enough. We have definite ideas as to what Christianity is all about, we are firmly convinced that there must be a Church to pass on the whole of His teaching, and that it is the task of His Church (not the State) to decide what sort of Christianity shall be taught. That is why we are as much (or more) concerned about our schools than about our churches. That is why the Bishop will have to find over a million pounds in the immediate future for school buildings alone. That is why we must continue to wait patiently and contribute generously.

Meanwhile, however rough and ready arrangements may now be, never forget how many good things have already been provided. You are much more fortunate than hundreds of Catholics scattered around New Haw, Old Byfleet and Pyrford. You have Sunday Mass (for many years) in your doorstep, and the Centre is not yet packed uncomfortably tight, as Byfleet's little church is. You have a full range of facilities, these councillors, and had many different interests to protect. It was far better to get the local authority to come to the Association, and, if possible, to have them sit on the Council. Her remarks were closed by recommending to delegates that centuries-old, Faith, Hope and Charity. Faith in oneself and one's community, hope that from one's efforts the community should benefit, and charity which should be the basic object of all community-minded people.

A lively discussion followed, in which the main emphasis was placed firstly on old people and then on youth. It was said that the care of the aged should be of equal importance. And yet it was thought by another speaker that the whole question was so vast that, as he saw it, the C.A. should promote the Welfare Committee, see it thoroughly on its way, and then let it become a separate body. This separate body should be affiliated, but he asked C.A.s to expect that some of their best workers would be lost to them by reason of their interest in such a committee. With regard to youth, discussion centred round the problem of keeping interested the male adolescent during and after his compulsory military service. Need existed for a strong group to cater for those between 20 and 30 years of age. This age range was a void as far as most communities were concerned. It seemed that not until 35 or so did folk begin to worry about themselves in relation to their neighbours and the community as a whole. When the Crawley delegate spoke, she told members of the new town's 222 affiliated groups cover-

the pioneers, the less the burden! Then there are the Catechism Classes on Sundays. I am delighted (and so are the Marxist sisters) with the vigorous start made, and I do hope to pray that all Catholic parents will see to it that nothing (not even the mobile ice-cream men!) will prevent their children from arriving at the Centre on time. I hope that they will do more—continue for a few minutes every day explaining the great truths we try to teach during that precious half-hour of the week. After Easter, I plan to hold a meeting for all parents (especially mothers) and invite an experienced infants school teacher to show us all how best to set about that vital business of laying in the home sound and sensible foundations of religious knowledge. Meanwhile, these are suitable books available for all those who wish to make a start at once.

G. T. BURKE.

### Short Notices.

Wednesday, April 14th. Community Centre, 8 p.m., "The Story of the Obsequious Passion Play." Illustrated with colour slides.

Good Friday. Stations of the Cross, 3-3.30 p.m. (Community Centre).

### METHODIST CHURCH

An Easter Message. George Bernard Shaw once remarked that "if the other planets are inhabited, Earth is the least habitable planet." When one remembers the reception given to our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded in the Gospels, and the treatment so often meted out to Him since, the words of G.B.S. do not appear so far from the mark.

Here is the most perfect representative of the human family brought to death in his thirties and crucified on a gibbet. Even his judge says "I find no fault in him," but, nevertheless, sacrifices him because of the political issues involved. If we had belonged to the band of his followers and had witnessed the Crucifixion and the subsequent triumph of wickedness, we might have despaired of the world with its blindness and intolerance.

However, Easter Day followed Good Friday. "He was crucified, dead and buried, and the third day rose again."

Peter, the apostle, in the depths of despair after the Crucifixion, was transformed into a courageous champion of "The New Way of Life," and all because he had, as he himself says, "been born again into a life full of hope, through Jesus Christ rising again from

the dead," and we can now hope for a perfect inheritance beyond the reach of change and decay.

Easter is an affirmation about God, who, despite the folly and sin of man, takes the Cross, the instrument of man's wickedness, and makes it the emblem of His redeeming grace. "God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself." He opened a new era in Christ, and that Friday night Caiaphas and Pilate, and even his terrified disciples, thought that the Cross had ended it, but it hadn't! Easter Day witnessed the victory of the All Conquering Lover of our Souls over death and sin. What Christ's courage meant to humanity is beyond estimation. He has made known to us the name and nature of God, to whom we are ultimately responsible, and by whom we are being ad shall be judged, and he has revealed Him as merciful and mighty, one who is full of compassion and concerned about our well being.

St. Paul says if God is for us, who can be against us? He did not hesitate to spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all—can we not trust such a God to give us, with Him, everything else that we can need? The word "Trust" is the operative word. It means committing ourselves to Him as His disciples did and do, and it opens the way to a Friendship that leads to enlargement of life and to the Father's House at the end.

The Free Church site in Devonshire Avenue is now being developed by the Methodist Church. Opening services are planned for July. Services are being held in the meantime in Dartmouth Avenue. Minister, Rev. Robert Clennison.

SUNDAY EVENING AT 6.30.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 3 p.m.

### EXCHANGE

Two s/c FLATS, S.E. London, each have two beds, 1 rec. room, Kitchenette, sep. bath/toilet, lifts, laundry, children's playground, rent 26s. ad. per week. Mrs. Oldham, 16, E. Elkins House, Old Kent Road, S.E.11.

### EXCHANGE

E. Pope, 35, Gilbert Sheldon House, Peckham, S.E.11, wishes to exchange recently completed MAISONNETTE (ground and first floors), with all amenities, rest subject to rebate scheme, 3 bedrooms, kitchenette, dining room, separate w.c., bathroom, 3 minutes from Marble Arch, for 3-bedroom house on Sheerwater Estate.

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## Report on the N.F.C.A. Area Conference held on 6th March, 1954

The half-yearly Area Conference of the National Federation of Community Associations was held at the Abbey Community Centre, Longmead, Salisbury, on Saturday, March 6th, 1954. It was attended on behalf of the Association by Messrs. Cooper, Duplock and Morrison. Mr. Cole was prevented from going at the last moment. The delegates found the proceedings very interesting and enjoyable from start to finish.

The attendance was a record one, 125 delegates representing 150 clubs and members coming from a wide area, ranging from Reading to Burnet on the north, and Portsmouth to Beshill on the south.

Proceedings were begun promptly at ten-thirty by the Chairman, a delegate from Richmond C.A., followed by a few words of welcome by Mr. Wizard, of the Abbey Community Centre. Then delegates were introduced to the meeting by Commander Besley, the N.F.C.A. Travelling Officer, whose memory for faces and places never fails to excite my amazement. Once this was over, the delegates present got down to the main business of the morning. A discussion on the subject "Are we helping the neighbourhood?" was opened by the principal speaker, Mrs. G. M. Burrell, Chairman of the Sussex County Federation and herself an Urban District Councillor. The theme of her remarks was the example set by the Association to the neighbourhood. Why was there ignorance of the Association and its Centre in any district? Perhaps insufficient attention was being paid to advertising and publicity—why, for instance, was the movement beaten up the post by the very good Civil Defence advertisement entitled "Who is the good neighbour?" Surely, he who worked voluntarily in any sphere for the community as a whole was the good neighbour. It was far easier to get the movement going in a new area, where people were usually inspired by the need to get things moving, than in an old area, where the existing clubs and institutions were normally so firmly entrenched. To combat such apathy, a sloganmaster was no use; the Association had to get out in the streets and lead by example. One field where a lot of scope was apparent was that of old age. Far too many old people were outside the State services, and these were sometimes lacking themselves, too. It

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was advisable to get a representative of the Old People's Club on the Council, and how helpful it would be to the community if such simple services as sitting-in and reading to them were instituted. She had seen how far ahead some Associations were compared with others, and suggested that a lot of good would be derived from the loan from one to another of experienced officers. With a joke at her own expense, she advised Associations not to browbeat the local authorities. They were only human beings, these councillors, and had many different interests to protect. It was far better to get the local authority to come to the Association, and, if possible, to have them sit on the Council. Her remarks were closed by recommending to delegates that centuries-old, Faith, Hope and Charity. Faith in oneself and one's community, hope that from one's efforts the community should benefit, and charity which should be the basic object of all community-minded people.

A lively discussion followed, in which the main emphasis was placed firstly on old people and then on youth. It was said that the care of the aged should be of equal importance. And yet it was thought by another speaker that the whole question was so vast that, as he saw it, the C.A. should promote the Welfare Committee, see it thoroughly on its way, and then let it become a separate body. This separate body should be affiliated, but he asked C.A.s to expect that some of their best workers would be lost to them by reason of their interest in such a committee. With regard to youth, discussion centred round the problem of keeping interested the male adolescent during and after his compulsory military service. Need existed for a strong group to cater for those between 20 and 30 years of age. This age range was a void as far as most communities were concerned. It seemed that not until 35 or so did folk begin to worry about themselves in relation to their neighbours and the community as a whole. When the Crawley delegate spoke, she told members of the new town's 222 affiliated groups cover-

ing almost every conceivable interest.

She said that the feeling of giving service was the most exciting experience she had ever had. The conference was intrigued by the suggestion of a delegate from Southwick near Brighton, that the test of the worth of any Association was to answer the question—what would be the effect if the C.A. vanished overnight, and with it everything they had done and brought about. (An interesting point, this, reader, think for a moment about ourselves at Sheerwater. We should pass this test with flying colours.) A further talking point made by this delegate was that an Association should insulate itself, but not isolate itself from its youth. By this, I think he meant that a youth section should have its own premises, but that it would have every support from the parent body.

Before the afternoon session, delegates were entertained with a right royal lunch provided at moderate cost by the voluntary workers of the Westminster Association. We Sheerwater folk were very envious of the amenities at this Centre. We shall not rest content until we get our permanent Centre, and this is not by way of being ungrateful for the building we have got.

The afternoon session was devoted to election of representatives to serve on the Council of the National Federation and a discussion on finances. Due to the cut made in Ministerial Aid to the parent body, the National Council of Social Service, the N.F.C.A. had a considerable deficit to meet, and asked member Associations to subscribe an additional two guineas in the current financial year. Some Associations had already done this, and speakers were unanimous in the need for supporting such a request. The Federation was doing a good job, quietly and efficiently, and must not wait for lack of funds. It was decided that the Autumn Area Conference should be held at the Richmond Community Centre, Surrey, on October 2nd, 1954.

My main impression from this Conference was that time spent in learning of others' experience can never be time wasted. I can say this, because we were from Sheerwater, feeling very much like new scholars, did not join in the discussion, despite prompting from the Secretary of the Conference, who said that he felt that there was a lot that we could teach others in "helping the neighbourhood." Thank you, Mr. Besley; next time we come along, perhaps we shall not be so modest.

I forgot to mention that in the interested audience were students from British Guiana, Jamaica, the Gold Coast, the Sudan and Burma. Could it be that an extension of the idea behind the movement is the antidote to the troubles in such places as Kenya, Malaya or (dare I say it?) even the West Indian territories?

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## Highlights from the March General Meeting

This meeting, the first in the third year of the Association, was less well attended than any for some time. It was 8.15 before a quorum was obtained, but luckily our friends on the Press table were themselves late, so perhaps it was just as well. The minutes of the February General Meeting were read by the Hon. Secretary, agreed and signed. In matters arising, it was stated that the opening of the secondary school on the estate had been postponed from after Easter until after Whitentide. It was believed that the second primary school would open on schedule.

The Secretary's report included the correspondence reported elsewhere, and the following items of interest. The Working Guild of Social Service had asked the Association to send a representative to their Executive Committee. The principle was adopted, and the Hon. Secretary was nominated to attend. The Secretary had first approached the Infant Welfare Voluntary Committee at St. Michael's Church before he answered the letter from the Ministry of Food. Their Committee was meeting shortly, whereupon a reply would be sent. The Old People's Club had expressed their appreciation for the had noted the views of the Association as to the organisation of the collection. An application for affiliation had been received from the Old People's Club, and an inquiry as to affiliation had been received from the Methodist Church Group. The Council had inquired from Customs and Excise whether a tobacco licence could be granted to a mobile tradesman. This was not possible, but the Association could have a licence for the Centre if it so wished. A letter had been sent to the writer of the recent letter in the Press, saying that as the Surrey County Council were unable to accept his offer of some technical books, the Association would gladly arrange a service of them to be made available to student residents if the offer could be extended to them. The name of a mobile tradesman willing to sell postage stamps had been forwarded to the Head Postmaster with a request that he be granted a licence. A further letter had been sent to the G.P.O. pressing for telephones at the Byfleet end of the estate for residents,

and for an extra booth. Members' attention was drawn to the competition open for children on the estate, through the courtesy of the Parkside Social Association, New Haw, to whose Easter Parade it was decided to send Messrs. Cole, Lewis and Beedell as judges. The Secretary asked for members to support the Summer Fete to be put on by the Old Woking and District Community Association in Woking Park on Saturday, June 5th.

The Hon. Treasurer gave an account of the past month's financial business, showing the healthy state of the Central Fund and the Building Fund, but he said that the "Pylon" was at the moment in the red, largely due to arrears on advertisers' payments. Some discussion followed on this point, in which it was stated that only the sum of £5 seemed to be a bad debt. One of the Hon. Auditors, Mr. Venn, said that they would criticise any item written off without there having been every effort to recover. Reminders by personal contact and by letter were being laid on.

The Centre Secretary, in delivering the Management Committee report, said that lettings were approximately £8 per week of the £9 required. It had been decided that present charges would continue for a further three months. A Form of application for hire, with conditions, of the Centre and items of equipment was now available, and would be distributed to hires. Equipping the Centre was going ahead with all speed, and notice boards, an amplifier, a sectional stage and siring boards to protect the walls had been arranged. A Purchasing Sub-Committee had been set up for this important job. Cover for fire, burglary, public liability, employers' liability and cash in safe or in transit, had been arranged. The question of structural alterations had had to be deferred owing to the inability of the County Surveyor to get to the March meeting, and the fact that the Governing Body had not yet been convened.

The question of damage to the Centre was discussed at some length. Mr. Evans, the Secretary of the Social Committee, reported that three sub-committees had been set up, one for the social side of their business and another for the educational side, together with a small section for organising the canteen,

etc. There would be two dances a month, old time dancing on the 2nd and modern dancing on the 4th Saturday in each month. Whist drives would continue on Thursdays. On July 3rd, there was being arranged a trip to see "Dancing Years" on ice at Wembley, and he advised members wanting to go to contact him as soon as possible. It was hoped that an outing for parents and children would be arranged for a date in July. More information later.

The Youth Club report was given by Mr. Daplock. He said that, owing to Mr. Irving's resignation, he had taken over as acting leader, and thought that the club was progressing. A recommendation had gone forward from the Working Service of Youth Committee for the club to be granted £50 and loaned another £50 by the Surrey County Council to improve the club facilities. The letting of Woodlands School on Mondays for girls' activities had been approved in principle, and arrangements were being made with the support of the Association for the car park adjoining the Centre to be made into a netball pitch. Week-end camps were being arranged for the youngsters at Wanborough, near Guildford. An appeal was made for cricket gear.

The Hon. Secretary gave the "Pylon" report in the absence, owing to sickness, of the Editor. The Committee were proud of the 22-page March issue, and it was hoped that the April issue would also be of this size. March distribution was 950, and he reported general approval of the new features. He entertained members with an account of the Area Conference of the N.C.F.A. reported elsewhere. Members said that they thought this Association compared well with others quoted. Perhaps our delegates would not be so modest at the next conference.

Members asked for further letters to be sent on the question of the recreation ground with special reference to the fact that by Whitsun there would be three schools with no playing fields, on the delay in provision of bus shelters, and on the unfit portion of Devonshire Avenue. Then somebody brought up the affair of the reported change in the function of the ground for the Centre Victoria Hospital. The discussion which followed revealed the intense interest of members in this problem, and that they were unanimous in saying that present hospital facilities were hopelessly inadequate. A resolution that the Association should express its views on the

hospital question as soon as the official report was made public, and that, if the report were made available before the next monthly meeting, the Council should be empowered to take the necessary action, was carried with a large majority. The L.C.C. were to be asked to meet the officers of the Association on the state of grass verges and the attendant problems.

### Sheerwater Community Association

If you are unable to visit your nearest Councillor, please send your Annual Subscription of 2/- To The Treasurer, Mr. A. W. Hendon, 95, St. Michael's Road. New Members should enclose another 1/- as initial payment

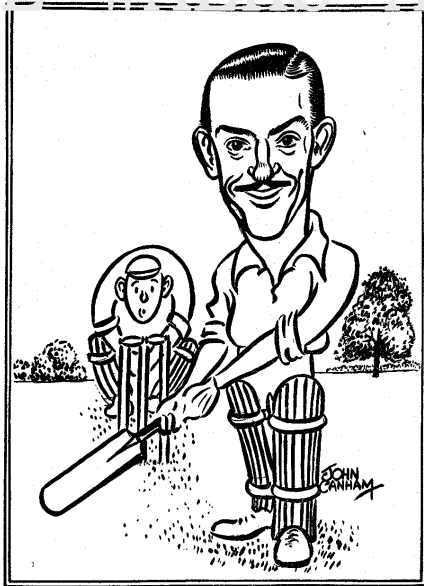
### Middlesex and Surrey League for the Hard of Hearing WORKING GROUP

April 15th. Lip Reading. "Memoirs," by selected speaker. Trinity Methodist Church Rooms, Commercial Road.  
May 6th. Lip Reading. Trinity Methodist Church Rooms, Commercial Road.  
May 20th. Lip Reading. Mrs. Doswell will speak on "Welfare Work." Trinity Methodist Church Rooms, Commercial Road.  
May 29th. Working Group 4th Annual Party. To be held at the Y.M.C.A. Hall, Bath Road, Woking, 6.30 to 9.30 p.m. Members are invited to bring a friend with them.  
Salvage. — Please continue to save clean newspapers.

**PLEASE NOTE**  
Football News is held over until next month owing to lack of space

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The Chairman of the Association, Cyril Cole, holder of the Vice-Chairmanship last year, is proving his worth; is fair in all his dealings—he can always see the other side's point of view with a clear mind, and is brief to the point. He holds a very exacting position as Chief Mechanical Inspector (Engineering), and cricket is the formal relaxation he loves best. He plays for Woking O.C.C., and as an opening bat he excels in a position he has played hard for years to attain, and can be useful as a change bowler. He is a family man with an understanding wife and two children, a girl and boy. During the War he did a grand job in the London Blitz when an Officer in the Red Cross Brigade.  
E. J. S.

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## FOR YOUR DIARY

April 14th: Community Centre, Sheerwater Angling Club, Monthly General Meeting, 8 p.m.  
April 14th: Christ Church Hall, Blue Toppers' Concert (guests include ARTHUR ENGLISH), 7.30 p.m.  
April 16th (Good Friday): Godalming/Guildford, First Ramble of the Sheerwater Youth Club, 9.30 a.m. (Woking Station).  
April 23rd: Community Centre, Sheerwater Gardening Association Monthly General Meeting, 8 p.m.  
April 24th: Community Centre, Popular Dance, Willis-Reed Band, Buffet, etc., with M.C.'s Gus Clark. All for 1s. 6d. 8 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.  
April 30th: Community Centre, Monthly General Meeting of the Community Association, 8 p.m.  
May 1st: Community Centre, First Old Time Dance with Orchestra, etc. Details to be announced, 8 p.m. Regency Players.  
May 3rd: Christ Church Hall Lecture Room, Annual General Meeting of Workers' Educational Association, 7.30 p.m.  
AND, OF COURSE, EVERY THURSDAY IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, POPULAR WHIST DRIVE, GOOD PRIZES, GOOD COMPANY. COMMENCE, 8 p.m.

## Forthcoming Attractions

"Dancing Years on Ice," Wembley, Saturday, July 3rd. Leave Sheerwater at 4 p.m. Only a few tickets left for this popular coach outing. Door to door. Travel in comfort. Inclusive of 8s. 6d. seat, 9s. 10d. only. Apply: W. LEWIS, 71, LAMBOURNE CRESCENT.  
A FAMILY COACH OUTING: How about a trip to LITTLE CALIFORNIA. Those who have already visited this popular resort know of the enjoyment which can be had by both young and old. Suggested date is end of JULY. Will all those interested please contact one of the following members of the Social Committee:—  
W. Lewis, 71, Lambourne Crescent. G. Beedell, 65 Lambourne Crescent.  
T. C. Evans, 30, Beetham Avenue. J. Dunne, 18 Henslow Way.

## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FORM

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I enclose the sum of 6d., 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s.\* for 3, 6, 9, 12\* monthly issues of the "Pylon," commencing May, 1954.

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