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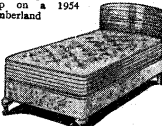


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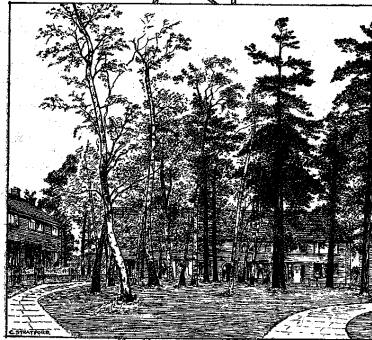
The Woodbridge Press, Ltd., 32, Chertsey Road, Woking. Tel. 60.

SHEERWATER PYLON

Organ of the Sheerwater Community Association

Vol. 2 No. 12

Price 2d.



SEPTEMBER, 1954

COUNCIL OF THE ASSOCIATION

Chairman: Mr. C. A. Cole, 125 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. Casey, 509 Devonshire Avenue.
Editor of the "Pylon": Mr. S. C. B. West, 73 Albert Drive.
Centre Secretary: Mr. R. Weston, 145 Albert Drive.
Membership Organiser: Mr. Sentinella, 202 Albert Drive.
Press and Publicity: Mr. E. Murtough, 16 Albert Drive.

COUNCILLORS:

Mrs. Andrews, 28 Devonshire Avenue. Mr. Morgan, 80 Lambourne Crescent.
Mr. Beddow, 21 Henslow Way. Mr. Furnley, 102 Blackmore Crescent.
Mr. G. Beedell, 65 Lambourne Crescent. Mrs. Thomas, 221 Albert Drive.
Mr. Casey, 509 Devonshire Avenue. Mr. W. Watkins, 10 Hanbury Path.
Mr. H. Dewdney, 11 Bentham Avenue. Mr. Wigzell, 6 Sheerwater Rise.
Mr. A. T. Duplock, 95 Devonshire Av. Mr. Woodbridge, 230 Albert Drive.
Mr. T. C. Evans, 36 Bentham Avenue.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Gardening Association: Mr. J. Hughes. Angling Club: Mr. Fister,
Labour Party: Mr. G. Knowler, Catholic Men's Guild: Mr. Gunn,
Conservative Association: Mr. J. F. A. Royal. Youth Club: Mr. E. Brooks,
Dramatic Club: Mr. Summerson. Old People's Club: Miss Russell,
Sheerwater Musical Society: Mrs. H. T. Dewdney.

REPORT—from page 18.
this section of the population was to encourage small groups run by an individual leader, rather than a complete club. Each group would specialise in a certain subject, such as stamp-collecting, hobbies, chess, photography, etc., interests which are not normally covered in a school curriculum. The obvious stumbling block to this is, of course, in finding leaders who had time to spare in the evenings. School teachers are the most likely candidates for the job. We know that if we could get the necessary help from the community, we could run a very successful series of interest-groups in our own Centre. With regard to the 15-20 age group, the Association should be represented on the Management Committee of any Club run within the Centre, but should not interfere with the actual running of the Club. Professor Kuensli's way of putting this was that the Youth Club should be insulated from, but not isolated from the Association. Whenever possible, and providing facilities are available, young adult clubs, separate from the main Association, should be encouraged for individual interests, such as cycling, soccer, cricket, home-making, etc. It

was strongly recommended that the youth should have their own elected representative on the Council, not a youth leader but one of the rank and file.

PART II OF THE REPORT FOLLOWS NEXT MONTH

SHEERWATER PYLON

EDITORIAL OFFICES
73, ALBERT DRIVE
SHEERWATER
Editor: Mr. S. C. B. WEST.
Please submit copy not later than
Oct. 3rd for October issue.

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SOCIAL COMMITTEE

On August 13th three coaches left the Centre for a day's Outing to Bognor. The weather was grand, and everyone enjoyed themselves. We would like to see quite a lot more go to these outings. Unfortunately there are not enough members on the Social Committee to go around to each house, so we have to depend on the "Pylon" and Whist Drives for letting the people know.

Our Whist Drives, which are held in the Centre every Thursday evening, are getting bigger and better, and we have people as far as Horsell and the Bleak coming to them, so come along and spend a happy evening. Perhaps you may be lucky and win a prize or, as they say, there is always the raffle.

On the third Saturday in October our Dancing School is putting on a Concert, starting about 7.30 p.m. As there will be a limited number of tickets, these will be on sale at the Dancing School to the parents, so don't forget to come along and see what your child can do. On no account will any tickets be sold at the door.

There will be a Dance on the first Saturday of every month, and a licensed bar will be applied for. Jimmy Cole and his band will supply the music. Make a note, the first Saturday in every month. Once a month we will be having a family night, when children will be admitted. There will be fun and games and dancing.

On Boxing Day we have reserved a block of seats for the Pantomime on Ice, "Cinderella," with Tommy Trinder. Coaches will leave here about 1 o'clock, and the cost of seat and coach is about 11s. or 12s. per person. Being a holiday, there is no reduction in the prices of seats. Any persons interested please get in touch with one of the committee. They can pay so much a week, but we must know as soon as possible as we have to pay for the seats and coaches and to know if we want any more seats.

Chairman: Mr. Beedel, 65 Lambourne Crescent.
Secretary: Mrs. Casey, 50b Devonshire Avenue.
Treasurer: Mr. Lewis, 71 Lambourne Crescent.
Canteen Secretary: Mr. Morgan, 80 Lambourne Crescent.

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Committee Members: Mr. Watkins, 10 Hanbury Path; Mrs. Hyde, 205 Albert Drive; Mrs. Andrews, Devonshire Avenue; Mr. Casey, 50b Devonshire Avenue.

The Social Committee wish to express their gratitude to Mr. Laing, of New Haw, for a gift of 8lb. of sweets for the benefit of the children of the Estate.

If you wish to know just what social activities are going on on the Estate, this month there are the usual Whist Drives and Tombolas-cum-Socials, and we are particularly interested in starting an Old Time Dancing Class under the tuition of Mr. Gallagher. Would anyone who is interested please inform either Mr. Lewis, of 71 Lambourne Crescent, or the undersigned at 50b Devonshire Avenue. B. CASEY.

SHEERWATER LABOUR PARTY

It is with great pleasure that the E.C. Sheerwater Labour Party, are able to announce that their recommendation to the Woking Local Labour Party, that Cdr. J. S. P. Davey be chosen to stand as one of the three Labour candidates for the Sheerwater Ward, has been accepted. As members of the above Party are already aware, Comdr. Davey is a very prominent member of the Labour Party, not only in local affairs but as the present Chairman of the Surrey Federation of Labour Parties, and also as the chosen Prospective Labour Candidate for the Farnham Division at the next Parliamentary election. Cdr. Davey will be ably supported by two very active members of the Sheerwater Labour Party, awaiting endorsement.

We are pleased to report that Cdr. Davey attends our ward meetings regularly, and at our next monthly meeting to be held on October 20th at 31 Blackmore Crescent, at 7.45 p.m. sharp, he will give a short talk on the Rent Bill Act, recently passed by the present Tory Government. We are pleased to report also that our membership is increasing every day, and we are becoming progressively active, both politically and socially. All members are cordially invited to attend our next meeting. Our membership secretary's address is: G. Knowler, 45 Bentham Avenue. New members are welcome, and should apply to the above address.

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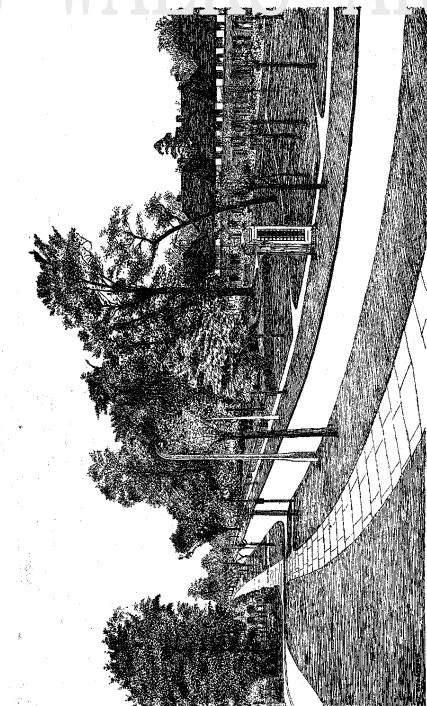
: Amateur Dramatic Club :

In the middle of December we will be presenting

"Lady—Be Careful!"

A Farcical Comedy in Three Acts by STAFFORD DICKENS

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From the Editor

CONGRATULATIONS

All congratulations are due to the Gardening Association for the wonderful show that they put on last month. The committee must be proud of their efforts, and all congratulations must go to them and to the exhibitors who produced so many wonderful exhibits. It was without doubt the best effort on the Estate so far, and all those who went to the show must have been amazed at the flowers and vegetables. Considering the weather, they were really first class. Congratulations to you again, and we all look forward to the next show.

THE YOUTH CLUB

Criticism of the Youth Club has been made from time to time by all manner of people. Some of the complaints may be real, others made up, but whatever happens or doesn't happen it must be said that the efforts of those involved are gaining ground and are providing a much-needed Club for our young people. Lack of adequate facilities may be hindering, and it is hoped that in November the move to the Schools will help considerably. I understand that the young people themselves will also be administering the Club more, and this will no doubt also help.

There is one thing, however, that I am convinced isn't helping the Club and that is that parents and others are not taking a sufficient interest in the Club. There are many ways in which this can be done. They need all the help that the adults on the Estate can give them. They deserve it, and it is up to us to see they get it.

LOST

The following has been received, and perhaps a small child can be joined again by his teddy bear. If you have found it, please return it either to the address shown or to me at 73 Albert Drive.

3b Dartmouth Avenue, Sheerwater,

August 26th, 1954.

Dear Sir,

I wonder if you would be good enough to include the enclosed notice in the next issue of "Pylon"?

My little boy is greatly upset at the loss of his teddy, and I am hoping that someone will return it after reading the notice.

Yours faithfully,

C. LEAHY.

LOST, Monday, August 23rd, on the Green between Wandsworth Electrical Co. and Dartmouth flats, a fawn furry

teddy bear. It is a special toy, which when wound up plays "Who's afraid of the big bad wolf?" It had on an elastic swimsuit, and belongs to a two-year-old boy, who was greatly attached to his teddy. Would finder please be kind enough to return it? A reward will be gladly paid.—Mrs. Leahy, 3b Dartmouth Avenue.

MONTH

Next month is the second anniversary of the "Pylon." We shall be publishing a special issue, which will contain, if possible, contributions from some of the pioneers as well as the younger members of the Association.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

We are commencing with this issue the first of a series of black and white drawings of parts of the Estate. They have been drawn for the "Pylon" by Mr. Stratford, one of our members. If any members of the Association wish to purchase such a drawing in full size (not as shown in the "Pylon") will they please address their application to Mr. Stratford, c/o The Editor. Christmas cards showing the drawings will, it is hoped, be on sale very shortly, and further details of the cost will be announced later. Orders should be forwarded to the Editor, marked "Christmas Cards."

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CORRESPONDENCE

VANDALISM
122 Albert Drive,
July 26th, 1954.

Dear Sir,
I am very pleased indeed to see that you have raised the question of wilful damage on the estate. In addition to that which you mention, I should also like to draw your attention to the damage to young trees in Albert Drive and to many of the greens.

It is not fair or proper that these amenities, which have been provided for all residents, should be destroyed or damaged by irresponsible youths or children. I think that these misguided lads are in the minority, but it is now up to us to set them a good example and to be on the alert to guard these amenities.

In conclusion I should like to emphasise that I am in no way objecting to children enjoying themselves in a proper manner; I am only objecting to irresponsible behaviour and bad manners.

Yours faithfully,
N. W. DAVIS.

MORE FROM MR. MOORE
45 Chicks Drive,
Durban North,
Natal, S.A.
July 2nd, 1954.

Dear Sir,
A further letter, which I trust will interest your readers. We have now been in South Africa almost three months, and we are now feeling a little more settled. We must admit that comparisons are difficult, and for that reason alone it is not possible to compare conditions here with those at home. We favour some aspects of life here, but then we do not agree with others.

July is the winter holiday for schools here, and so we have been free to see rather more of Durban in particular and of Natal generally. Durban comes to intrigue us; it is a delightful town and covers a very large area, 70 square miles, although the population is only 45,000, about the same as Croydon. Durban has a very large harbour, a constant source of interest, and being an all-the-year-around resort has many features peculiar to seaside towns.

There are some 150,000 Indians in Durban, and a visit to their part of Durban is well worth while. The Squatters' Markets are an experience in themselves; for a while it is possible to

imagine that you are in Bombay! It is possible to buy fruit, vegetables and other produce much more cheaply in these markets. The only drawback is that they are six miles from where we live! Yesterday a colleague of mine took us by car to the Nagle Dam and thence to Pietermaritzburg and back. The former, an imposing structure, lies in the Valley of a Thousand Hills and holds back the waters of the River Vingaai and so supplies Durban with its water. The dam is some 50 miles from here, is off the main road, and is reached only by travelling through really beautiful country.

For the first time we visited a native kraal, many of which are to be found in this region. The round thatched huts are a familiar sight in the hills, where natives maintain a very simple way of life. On returning to the main road we joined the new double highway which is being built between Durban and a point about 30 miles from that city. A fine road it is, too, complete with fly-overs—no cross-roads to be seen!

It was cold in Pietermaritzburg, some 4,000ft. above sea level, and we contented ourselves with a visit to some friends from Guildford whom we met on the boat coming out. And so "home" again.

It is rather chilly to-day, a strong wind blowing in from the sea. Still, it is winter, and snow has fallen in the Drakensburg Mountains! Could almost do with a fire.

Sincerely,
HUGH C. MOORE.

TABLE TENNIS
55, Michael's Road,
Sheerwater, Woking.

Dear Sir,
On Wednesday, August 4th, the Sheerwater Youth Club Table Tennis Team went along to St. Michael's Hall to play the Men's Club. I believe that this is the first inter-club match on the estate, and I am sorry to say that the Youth Club were beaten. Of 10 games, the Men's Club won ten and the Youth Club six. It was a very enjoyable evening, and I sincerely hope that it will be the beginning of many more such events.

TEAMS:
St. Michael's M.C.: Mr. Watts, Mr. Gaggione, Mr. Martin and Mr. Jackson. Sheerwater Y.C.: Mr. Smith, Mr. Williams, Mr. Jackson and Mr. R. Smith. Refreshments and a couple of games of doubles ended a very pleasant evening.

E. J. SMITH, Y.C.
P.S.—If any young people are interested in T.T., then I advise them to get in touch with the Youth Club leader, M. Daplock.

WOKING, SHEERWATER COUNTY SCHOOLS

Dear Sir,
Further to my letter of August 4th, I am to inform you that arrangements are being made for the repair of the school fences.

The Clerk of the Council has discussed with the Chief Constable the trouble that is being experienced on the Estate with regard to the damaging of the fences and has asked him to take any action which he considers may be necessary. In this connection it may be helpful if the Police could be supplied with the names and addresses of any persons found damaging the fences so that, if necessary, they can be prosecuted.

You will, I am sure, appreciate that the County Council are responsible only for the fencing forming the boundaries of the school sites and have no liability to fence the remainder of the boundary between the Estate and the Canal.

Yours faithfully,
F. ANDERSON,
Divisional Education Officer.

J. McDermott, Esq.,
11, Hanbury Path,
Sheerwater, Woking.

HOW TO AIR GRIEVANCES

Dear Sir,
During the past few months I have listened to a great deal of criticism of the Community Association by both members and non-members. Many of the critics are well meaning and obviously have the affairs of the Association at heart. Invariably I tell them to attend a general meeting and give their grievances or suggestions an airing. Alas, many of these grievances never get brought up at meetings. Perhaps the critic is shy or the agenda is filled with other items and he doesn't get an opportunity to say his piece, and so the faults of the Association continue to be discussed in the train and bus queue, etc., instead of the proper place—at meetings of the Association.

As an officer of the Association I feel that it isn't fulfilling its true purpose in many respects, but, though it is easy to criticise, it is often difficult to find the cure for the defects.

To help remedy this I would like to suggest that an "Open Forum" be held in the Centre under the title, "Where do we go from here?" Given sufficient publicity I feel that a meeting of this nature could be a great success. It might also help the Council to find out what Sheerwater expects from the Association.

In closing I would like to add that greater use could be made of the "Pylon" by members who have suggestions or criticism to offer but are unable to attend meetings.

R. WESTON,
Centre Secretary.
(Editor's footnote: With regard to the last paragraph, the "Pylon" is always ready to receive any such item.)

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CHURCH NEWS

FOR SHEERWATER CATHOLICS

Mass: Community Centre, 9 a.m.
Sunday School: Community Centre, 3 p.m.

Last month's "Pylon" carried a two-page programme of the New Haw and Addlestone Evening Institute, and all the interesting and useful subjects which can be studied there during the long winter evenings. Every bit of extra knowledge and the ability to use our time well (apart from TV and the Wireless) help to make life really worth living, and all this holds good for our religion too. If there is one fact which stands out a mile to any priest who tries to visit his people it is this—how much so many need to know clearly and to know more about the Faith they profess.

For very many Christians, whatever their convictions may be, any serious attempt to increase their knowledge of Christ and His teaching came to an end with their Sunday School days. I am well aware that knowledge is not everything; that it is vastly more important to pray and set the best example we can of true Christian living. Yet for all that, St. Peter tells us not

merely to "sanctify the Lord Christ in your hearts," but also to "be ready always to satisfy everyone that asketh you a reason of that hope which is in you." Many are never given a chance to develop a sensible grasp of their Faith after school days are over; many are just bone lazy—but the painful fact remains that the first "smart Alec" (with very little knowledge or appreciation of what Christianity is really all about) who comes along is so often and so easily able to leave us more than a little shaken. That is why I want to start evening classes too, and you won't have to go as far as New Haw or Addlestone, AND you won't have to pay! Now that our Methodist friends (a blessing on all their good works) have, lucky people, moved into their permanent quarters, we have been offered the use of the Canteen Hut on the corner of Dartmouth and Devonshire Avenues, and starting in a few weeks from now I plan to hold a series of weekly meetings in the evenings for all those who can come along to a short "Refreshers Course" on their Faith, followed by refreshments for the body and a social

evening. A projector will be used when possible.

I have in mind, too, those good folk I have met on my visits who, though not Catholics themselves, are interested in us, chiefly because they have married Catholics, and would like to find out more about us. There are, in fact, a great many people on the Estate (as in every parish, unfortunately) who stand almost entirely apart from the work and influence of any Church. It seems to me the first and obvious duty of every convinced Christian to offer others at all times every chance of knowing and sharing his own convictions. After all, the word "gospel" means "good news," the greatest good news the world will ever hear, news straight from God Himself; and who ever heard of anyone keeping any bit of good news entirely to himself? The trouble usually begins when we talk rather glibly about "converting" people, as if that was our job! However much we (and others) would "rather be left alone," every Christian should do his best, sensibly and cheerfully, to carry out Christ's command to "preach the gospel to every creature." But let's knock it into our heads once and for all that it is never our job to convert people. Conversion is God's work, the result of God's mysterious action; it is our job to prepare the ground by clearing away misunderstandings, by giving accurate information and by bringing our friends who may be interested to our own Refreshers Course. They will soon feel at home in a friendly atmosphere where they are free to come and go as they please.

Look out for details at the Community Centre, and if an invitation is dropped through your door, you will already have an idea what it's all about. Try and make the best use of it—must we wait for Billy Graham's return before we all wake up again?

G. T. BURKE,
Campbell Cottage,
Highfield Road,
West Byfleet.

UPPER MAISONETTE at Walthamstow, comprising 3 beds, 2 rec., kit., bath and garden (rent, 24s. 8d. per week, landlord's permission), for 3-bedroom HOUSE on Sheerwater Estate—Apply Shaw, 52 North Couesdon Road, Walthamstow, E.17.

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WOKING CIRCUIT

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Trinity
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at 7.30 p.m.

Speaker:

Rev.

A. William Hopkins
B.A.
Principal Chaplain Royal Air Force

Chairman:

R. V. WILSON, Esq.
Searler Circuit Steward

To be preceded by

THA at 5.30 p.m.

and **MUSICAL ITEMS 6.30 p.m.**
with an **ORGAN RECITAL** by
Mr. Gordon Stanley

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THE SECRETARY REPORTS

The existing sections of the fence dividing the Estate from the Canal have been repaired by the good offices of the London and Surrey County Councils. With regard to the part for which Surrey are responsible, parents are asked to note that the police have been asked to proceed against anyone found damaging the fence, adult or juvenile. Readers can co-operate here by working with the police to deter offenders who commit this malicious damage. No one wishes to see the tragedy of recent months repeated. The Urban District Council have assured the Association that the completion of the missing section of the fence will be undertaken simultaneously with the first stage of the recreation ground development, which will get under way just as soon as the red tape is unwound or, more preferably, cut. The assistance of the Association has been sought by, and gladly given to, the recently formed Farnhill and District C.A., Farnborough. We were able to find for them a speaker from the National Federation within a few days, and Cyril Cole and mine hope to be able to go along to their meeting in October. This sort of liaison is invaluable, as we have found in the past, and the Council of the Association is always willing to extend a helping hand.

The Mass Radiographic experiment scheduled for the end of this month has unavoidably had to be postponed because of some last-minute hitch at top level, but it is hoped that the three-week scheme will be launched some time in November.

Readers will see in another part of this issue that the Working Branch of the Workers' Educational Association are putting on a variety of courses of lectures shortly. From this winter, Sheerwater will be represented on this Branch Committee by Mr. S. C. B. West, to ensure complete co-operation. But side by side with this liaison efforts are still being made to provide this type of education here on the Estate, as it is felt that it is what most of our members prefer. With this in view, the Association have invited Miss Monkhouse, of the headquarters staff of the W.E.A., to come and talk to members at this month's Quarterly General Meeting, and to answer questions. Those of us who have met Miss Monkhouse know that we can expect an interesting talk, and it is hoped that readers interested

will turn out in full force on September 21st.

The Council welcome to their ranks Bert Sentinella, who has taken over the duties of Membership Organizer. Young and enthusiastic, Mr. Sentinella brings to this office a host of new ideas, and is aided in his task by Albert Burger, co-opted as his assistant. The Association are glad to record their thanks to both for their splendid work in connection with the recent canvass.

Readers will see on another page a form of questionnaire regarding information urgently wanted in connection with the extension of the present bus service over Byfleet way. Don't say later on, "I meant to have filled that in." Do it now, and hand it in at the Editor's address.

As this issue goes to press we learn that the London County Council have now agreed that the Urban District Council might take possession of the site of the Recreation Ground, so that now we are back to where we were just before the somewhat petty "leave it alone" or "give it up" of recent weeks. We are duly grateful that this particular business has been straightened out, no doubt, to the constant pressure which the Association tries to exert, but how ridiculous it seems when subjected to cold scrutiny. New arrangements have to be made with the contractor, who was so summarily ejected some weeks ago, and it is only to be hoped that he can resume work immediately to try and make up for lost time. It may still be possible for some part of the recreation ground to be ready by next spring.

Though subjected to the usual vagaries of this unusual summer, the services of the Methodist Memorial Hall was witnessed by between 200 and 300 residents of the Estate, and a vision of a surrounding parish. We would like to take this opportunity of congratulating the Free Churches on the completion of this, the first stage in their permanent building programme. The Memorial Hall, to be used as a Church until the remainder of the building is completed, is designed with a dignified simplicity and beautifully furnished, and the dedication service was conducted with the inspired all who were fortunate enough to be present. The Association were pleased

to be able to play host to the hundreds who took tea, provided by the ladies of the Free Churches, in the Community Centre after the ceremony. We regard this as a typical example of the way the Association can encourage the taking part of the community in the religious life of the Estate, and would welcome the extension of the part played by religion in the life of the Community Association.

Sheerwater Conservative Association

The holiday season is now behind us and the branch is once again starting its usual activities. At our last Committee meeting a programme was drawn up for the beginning of the winter, and dates already decided upon are as follows:—

Saturday, October 30th.
A Film Show, 8 p.m., Friday, December 3rd.

Our Christmas Party and Social, Friday, December 17th.

Any other events will be publicised in plenty of time, and two advance dates are Friday, February 18th, Industrial Advisory Committee Film Show, and Friday, March 18th, our Member of Parliament, Mr. Harold Watkinson's Public Meeting. Both these functions will commence at 8 p.m., and, in common with all the aforementioned events, will be held in the Community Centre, Devonshire Avenue.

Our last dance was a complete success and, no doubt, we shall be holding another before long.

The Women's Section continues to hold its meetings, usually two each month, with additional handicraft sessions in the afternoons. Many of the products for the Autumn Fair have origin here! This section has organised a Dinner and Theatre, the ladies being entitled to take their husbands if so desired! This will be taking place just before Christmas.

New members are warmly welcomed, and for the Women's Section may contact Mrs. E. J. Albert, 14 Albert Drive, and for Branch Membership applications please to the Secretary, 24 Baynard Drive.

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SHEERWATER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

First Annual Flower Show

THANKS

I need hardly say what a wonderful Show it turned out to be in spite of the worrying time we had waiting for your entries to come in. You will be able to hear how we made out if you come along to the Special General Meeting we are holding in the very near future to discuss the Show. So look out for further information at the lift.

There are, however, some very important points that must not be overlooked, and they are, of course, our very sincere thanks to all those who worked so very willingly on the day and the days and weeks before the Show.

First of all we should like to thank all the ladies who organised the catering, etc., during the afternoon and again in the evening at the Dance.

Next our thanks go to the Community Association who gave us the use of the Centre free of charge.

Then to the Editor of the "Pylon" for the way he gave us so much space and publicity, once again free of charge.

We now come to a person who is always ready to give us a hand, that is our friend Fred Wenham. We have only to mention to him that we are in need of some transport, and he is there with his lorry. Thanks a lot, Fred.

A big thank you to Mr. Venn for presenting us with the trowel and fork which were used as one of the prizes. I am sure it's being put to some very good use; perhaps the winner is potting up something very special for our next meeting.

To the local tradesmen and local businesses, who so very kindly gave us prizes, thanks again. Most of these were mentioned in the schedule. But the Penny man arrived on the Saturday morning with a huge iced cake, which we raffled at the Dance. The grocer, Mr. Adams, very kindly gave us the basket of fruit, which was also raffled at the Dance. All the proceeds went to the Show expenses.

Our thanks go to the "Woking Opinion" for the prizes they awarded in the Baby Show; to the doctor and the two nurses who came along to find the best babies; to a big thank you, yours was a very difficult task; to those mothers whose baby didn't win a prize don't be too disappointed. My mother

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always told me that there was only one best baby in the world, and every mother has one. Thanks also to Mrs. Brownless, the wife of the Editor of the "Woking Opinion," to her sister-in-law Janet for coming along to present the prizes.

My personal thanks go to the Committee for the terrific way they assisted me to organise the show. Thanks a lot, chaps; it was well worth it.

A final word of thanks goes to everyone who entered. We learnt a lot about shows, and I expect you did, too.

PLEASE NOTE. A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE EARLY PART OF OCTOBER. WATCH OUT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION. WE SHALL BE DISCUSSING THIS SHOW AND, WE HOPE, NEXT YEAR'S.

ROSES, FRUIT TREES AND BUSHES CAN NOW BE ORDERED AT THE HUT, WHERE A FULL LIST CAN BE SEEN.

ALSO HUBS WILL BE ON SALE EVERY SUNDAY MORNING.

WE ARE ALSO EXPECTING TO BE ABLE TO TAKE ORDERS FOR ALL GARDEN TOOLS, ETC., AND SHEDS, GREENHOUSES, GARDEN LIGHTS, TIMBER, ETC., BY THE TIME THIS "PYLON" IS ON SALE. ASK AT THE HUT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR DIRECT TO THE SECRETARY.

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CHILDREN'S CORNER

TOMMY AND TIMMY

The school summer holidays were nearing their close, and Tommy and Timmy's parents were not sorry at all. For the twins were really getting bored with everything.

They had tried to interest themselves with making a "soap-box car" much to the neighbours' dismay. Then Daddy produced some homework, which they set about very reluctantly.

Then one evening after tea, Mummy noticed that her sons' eyes were looking merrier than she had seen for a long time, and wasn't at all surprised when the following request was asked by Tim.

"Would you call us ever so early in the morning, Mum?" he begged sweetly.

"How early, pets?" asked Mummy, trying not to sound too inquisitive.

"Um—about sixish," butted in Tommy.

Mummy raised her eyebrows and gulped.

"Or better still," he said in a helpful sort of tone, "could we have the alarm clock, please?"

"Why, of course you may," smiled Mummy. "Am I to know what's up your sleeve?"

Tommy guiltily hid his freshly torn sleeve and began to explain how Fred Miller, the paper boy, had sprained his ankle and would be unable to do his round next morning. "So you see," added Tommy, "we thought we would like to help him."

Mummy had listened very intently, but before she consented she made quite sure that the route was a safe one.

The twins soon assured her that no busy roads had to be crossed.

She pondered a while, and then rather hesitatingly gave her consent.

Brrt—brrt—brrt rattled the persistent alarm the next morning, and Tommy opened one drowsy eye and nudged Timmy.

"Oh, dear me," yawned Timmy, "we've not been in bed long . . ."

As they crept downstairs they could hear cups tinkling and were surprised to find Mummy up already awaiting them with an appetising breakfast.

Then off they set for the newsgates to collect the papers for delivery. Things were going along smoothly for the twins, who were finding it very interesting so early in the morning.

It gave them a first claim on the day.

The milkman hailed them with a cheery "Good morning" as he jostled by with a familiar rut of bottles.

A baby was crying lustily from one house and a cockerel was crowing from a nearby garden.

The boys were well into the parcel of papers and were discussing a number when the sound of hurrying feet echoing down the path disturbed them.

"Must be nearly missing his train," said Timmy.

"I'd say if I wore a wide-brimmed hat like that," giggled Tom, and went about his business.

Suddenly a cry of alarm rent the air and, knowing it came from his brother, Tommy hastily joined him.

"I'll go and get that policeman we passed about ten minutes ago; I should catch him up," said Tim.

"And I'll wake up the occupiers," stammered Tim.

To his knocking, he heard a faint sound and heard faltering steps on the stairs. He discovered the house was occupied by an elderly lady.

She, of course, was greatly shocked to see what had happened, but soon Tommy arrived with a policeman, who soon put the poor old soul at ease and, taking particulars, asked the twins if they could describe their scurrying visitor.

"He wore a very peculiar wide-brimmed hat," they both announced together.

"And he wasn't very tall, either," added Tim.

"Splendid, my lads," said the policeman, putting away his little book. "Now you trot along home to your Mummy, and I'll get a neighbour to keep an eye on this dear lady."

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The twins delivered the few papers left and then made haste home to tell Mummy all about their adventure. "Goodness gracious, you seem to invite adventure," said Mummy aghast at what had just been related to her. "Daddy oggled and muttered 'G-gosh' in a very twin-like fashion. "But he very proudly read out loud a letter received from the police officer, commending the twins for good work. "You are a credit to the present-day youth," he read. "Well done, boys," he said proudly: "Mummy and I think so too." But the twins confessed only to each other that they were glad Fred Miller had only slightly ricked his ankle after all and would be back on his round tomorrow.

E. W. E. HAWKINS.

Sheerwater Youth Club

Meetings have recommenced after the summer recess at the Community Centre, Devonshire Avenue, on Monday and Tuesday evenings. The leader, Mr. Arthur Duplock, with his assistants are planning their winter programme and would welcome suggestions, help, offers of equipment, etc. These evenings promise an opportunity for the youth of the Estate to occupy themselves pleasantly and happily together under supervised conditions. It is rumoured also that they are to help with some painting within the Centre. From November onwards it is hoped that the club will open on more evenings when the school becomes available.

COMMENCING SOON!

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THANKS

Dear Sir,
On behalf of the Methodist Church in Sheerwater I would like to express our appreciation of the very generous service rendered to us on the occasion of our opening the new Church Hall. Not only was the Community Centre placed at our service for the opening tea, but members of your Council gave every assistance to make the occasion all that one could wish, while Mr. McDermott expressed the Centre's goodwill for the work we are seeking to do. We wish to return the compliment and hope that the cultural ends you seek to serve may find enthusiastic support in this growing community. Much of the work we seek to do will be complementary to your own, and one hopes we may be able to find occasions of mutual helpfulness. With every good wish for the prosperity of the Community Centre,
Yours sincerely,
R. CLEMINSON.

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Douglas Downes, of the Society of St. Francis. The collection from this service was given for the service of homeless people overseas, and realised quite a princely sum. Bro. Downes entertained the course for the rest of the morning session with a series of remarks on the place of the Church in the community. He thought that the Churches in general each had a part to play in the activities of any association working for the benefit of the community. Persons should be encouraged to use the Centre as much as possible for informal talks, and relationship of the Association with religion should be allowed full play. He gave some incidents from his own very full life in the service of mankind, within his brotherhood. He now runs a hostel for young wayfarers near Andover, and many are the rescues, in face of many disappointments, which he has performed from the uselessness of that other brotherhood, the brotherhood of "the Road." He would be glad to arrange for any interested visitors to the establishments run by the Society of St. Francis at Andover, Cerne Abbas, Beaminster and Cable Street in London. A wonderful personality, Bro. Douglas—he staggered the kitchen staff of the College by offering to help wash up!

Sunday afternoon's session was taken by the Secretary of the Old People's Welfare Committee of the County of Devon, who gave us plenty of ways in which a Community Association could help to improve the way of life of the old people in their area. Old people enjoy participation in choir, learning handicrafts, old-time dancing, dramatic classes, etc. In all these the Association or its affiliated groups can help by extending their invitations to take part to the old folk. The Association can arrange or help to arrange, in co-operation with any existing old people's club or welfare committee, services such as periodic outings, exchange visits between sections of the Association, cheap holidays, coal and leg clubs, home helps, meals on wheels, sitters-in or sitters-up, car rides, surveys for old people's needs, contacts with local industries for outwork, etc. Handicapped people should be provided for within this framework, classes can be laid on with the help of the local authority, and these persons can take part in sports such as netball, archery and darts. Get out and bring them into the community. Remember the special needs of the blind and the deaf, and the voluntary agencies that provide for

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them. The Association can perform a very useful liaison duty here. Mrs. White kept the interest of every student throughout the whole of her course, and gave everyone a thought to take away—a simple rhyme, but how true! "Age is a funny thing, it fishes out a tree, a cheese, in furniture and wine—and in almost anything, but me." Miss Nancy Eather, secretary of the National Association of Women's Clubs, in the next session explained the part that women could play in the life of a community centre. She asked students to remember that most of a woman's life is spent in a lonely way in the house, while a man during his working life usually worked in groups with plenty of contacts. It was up to associations to remedy the reluctance of women to play their own valuable, specialised part. Remember, too, that a woman's outlook is mainly governed by the fact that normally she spends her life moulding living creatures, her children, while the man would normally deal with material things. She spoke of the very valuable work in the country's service performed by the Women's Group on Public Welfare in their examination of current problems from the woman's standpoint. Such reports as "The Neglected Child and his Family" and "Child Emigration," published by this body, are never questioned when quoted in Parliament or elsewhere. They are taken as the standing authority on those problems. This idea of women taking an increasing part in public life must be extended into the life of a community centre, otherwise it must fail.

Sunday's periods were brought to a close by Professor P. H. K. Kuenster, M.A., Research Fellow in Youth Work at Bristol University, who talked on the place of Youth in the Community Centre. His main emphasis was not on youth in the accepted sense, i.e., 15-20-year-olds, although the Association should encourage this group to the utmost. It must be remembered that they are already well catered for by local youth councils. It was felt that a great deal more thought should be given to the 10-15 age group. By 1958-9 this group would have increased by 600,000. Although there are various specialised organisations, such as the Boy Scouts and Boys' Brigade catering for these boys and girls, statistics show that there has been a gradual falling off in their popularity. It was agreed that one of the best ways an Association can help

(Continued on page 3.)

SHEERWATER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

JOINT REPORT BY THE HON. SECRETARY AND THE HON. CENTRE SECRETARY ON THE COMMUNITY CENTRE'S COURSE AT THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, CIRENCESTER.

The Community Centre's Course, run by the South-West Regional Advisory Committee of the National Council of Social Service and sponsored by the Education Committee of the Wiltshire County Council, was attended on behalf of the Association from July 24th to 28th by Messrs. McDermott and Weston. The course was run in admirable surroundings in the well-appointed Royal Agricultural College, and was thoroughly enjoyable from start to finish. Although the weather was uncessantly damp throughout, it is probably to the credit of the organisers that the rain was not noticed. The course was attended by representatives of twenty or so Community Associations, together with observers from such widely separated places as Kenya and Thailand. The speakers were drawn from the top flight of their respective spheres, and all were prepared to answer the most detailed questions. Recreation was provided in the form of table tennis, darts and billiards and snooker, in all of which your representatives held their own, and proved that their youth must have been mispent. What comment can be offered, though, on the fact that the champion on the billiard table was the Further Education Officer of a South-Western County, which perhaps it is wiser not to identify. Accommodation was in single rooms, and was most satisfactory, while the meals, mainly consisting of produce from the farm attached to the Royal Agricultural College, was first-class.

The students assembled during the course of the afternoon of the first day, a Saturday, and after tea listened to the introductory talk, entitled, "Community Needs, Past, Present and Future," given by the Chairman of the N.F.C.A., Dr. Mabel Tylecote, Ph.D., B.Sc., who set a high standard both in method of her remarks and the nature of delivery, which other speakers had to strive to equal. She treated the trend of community life from the days of the old feudal village to the present day, wherein housing

tended to be mainly in class areas, and showed what the community association movement could do to make their district a better place to live in, and to tempt the individual to play his or her proper part. It was part of their duty to be able to bear the burden of those who could not pull their weight in any respect, and to provide for the weaker ones—the aged, the sick and, in some respects, the youth. This duty applied, as far as the movement is concerned, not only to the immediate area but also to the world around. She gave as an example a remark once made by Dr. Albert Schweitzer, surely one of the greatest living figures on this earth, that he did not consider himself philanthropic (a life devoted to the service of others), he was only attempting to repay some of the enormous debt due to the people he was serving in West Africa, for the enslaving of their ancestors by his ancestors. Dr. Tylecote, in thinking of the future of the movement on a world-wide level, gave as its objects: (1) Interdependence of people and people one on the other; (2) The development of individual personality; (3) The spreading of the spirit of Christ; (4) The use of a common language; and (5) The awakening in people of interests outside the community.

The first evening took the form of a get-together social, in which students had the great pleasure of the company of forty or so Yugoslavian students, who were in residence at the College as part of their year's stay in this country to learn British farming methods. Everyone entered into the spirit of the evening, and it was remarkable how quick to learn were our Yugoslavian friends, and can they sing! After one or two competitive attempts, we were glad to give them best. It is certain that the spirit engendered by this first evening remained with us for the remainder of our stay, and some of the friendships will remain in being to help further the cementing of friendly relations which exist between our two countries.

The first period on the Sunday was devoted to an impressively simple, interdenominational service, conducted in the magnificent chapel which forms part of the College buildings, by Bro.

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