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The Doctor, Broadcasting on the Home Service, 17th Oct., 1952

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SHEERWATER PYLON

Organ of the Sheerwater Community Association

No. 7

APRIL, 1953

Price 2d.

OPPORTUNITY

Here in your magazine are reports of the views and activities of some of your neighbours. If you feel that your view is not being expressed—submit it for publication. If you feel that some useful activity has been kept in the background—form a group of like-minded people to develop it with the assistance of the Community Association.

DIFFICULTY

The Community Association Council intend to help solve as soon as possible all outstanding problems on the Estate, such as schools, transport, recreation grounds; and they will need sympathetic consideration and active co-operation from all the authorities with whom they have to deal. They also need to know the FACTS of any particular problem as it affects the individual resident and therefore hope that, instead of mere rumour and gossip being bandied about, such facts will be written down and either handed to the nearest Council Member or sent to the Secretary for early discussion at the next Council meeting. This will supplement the facilities available to members at the monthly General Meetings.

COMMUNITY

The true feeling of community is not just the outcome of the activities and organisation attained so far, but rather the essential basis for their development, a basis which involves the knowledge that everyone is someone's neighbour and not simply 'the person next door'. This wonderful yet responsive sense of being good neighbours is now growing fast on Sheerwater. Let us all encourage its further expansion and ensure that it is not warped by those who, in trying to solve some official problem, would treat us as units to be put into place. They must surely understand that only by accepting all of us as personalities entitled to respect will the people of Sheerwater be able to carry out their full responsibilities as citizens.

The PYLON is not only a symbol of our upward search for the comforts of this world but the symbol of our growing strength of fellowship.

THE SWAN

THIS is a true story. The scene is the Canal Lock on the way to Fulbrook School. In one corner of the lock there lies the swan, very still with drooping head. On the bank at the side stand four small boys just—watching. A passer-by stops and surveys the scene. After a few minutes, during which neither boys nor swan move, she says "I hope you boys haven't been teasing that swan."

"No, lady," says one small boy. "We're seeing no one else does."
"We're on guard," says the second.
"It's awfully sick," pipes up the third.
"Can't we help it?" demands the fourth. They continue watching—four small boys and the passer-by. With what thoughts? In the mind of one there comes an idea. "Let's ring up the R.S.P.C.A." "Ain't got fruppence," says another. "Dial 999" is number three's suggestion. "Ask the lady," prompts number four.

She looks again, first at the swan and then at the four small boys, opens her handbag, and gives them 3d.
Helter skelter down the road go three small boys with three pennies. Behind there remains one small boy to guard—one swan.

Next morning

Same scene—same swan—same position—and the four small boys? I expect they were somewhere in the crowd of children of all ages and sizes, most of whom were donating the whole of their lunches to the cause. Big bags of sandwiches, little bags of cubes, even bars of chocolate (some mothers must have wondered at the appetites of their children that day). There were many discussions as to how to get the swan out of the lock, and many narrow escapes from a wetting by some of the more determined. Alas, they had to go to school. Work for the day would most definitely have suffered had not the Headmaster announced at Assembly that the R.S.P.C.A. were on the way to attend to what was now *their* swan.

The stampede after school can well be imagined, and what did they find? Swimming gleefully along, well clear of the lock were two swans. Sight of relief, and here and there a small cheer. A further announcement made in the school—their swan had been taken away for attention, and the latest report—*doing well and on the road to recovery.*

Why have I told this story? Well, you know, the "Kids" of Sheerwater haven't had many breaks. They've been described as — and —, but to you mothers I say this: "They've got something inside them—and it ain't 'Totty'." *Possun-ay.*

SHEERWATER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

COUNCIL

as elected at A.G.M. on 13th March, 1953.

Hon. Officers

Mr. Moore, Chairman.
Mr. McDermott, Vice-Chairman.
Mr. West, Secretary.
Mr. Royal, Asst. Secretary.
Mr. Hawkins, Treasurer.
Mr. Murrrough, Membership Organiser.
Mr. Martin, "Pylon" Editor.

Council Members

Mr. Dewdney, 17, Bentham Avenue.
Mr. Jackson, 44, St. Michael's Road.
Mr. Cole, 120, Blackmore Crescent.
Mr. Lewis, 71, Lambourne Crescent.
Mr. Dunne, 18, Henslow Way.
Mr. Stokes, 79, Albert Drive.
Mr. Harlow, 9, Wakehurst Path.
Mr. Levi, 5, Devonshire Avenue.
Mrs. Collins, 25, Bunyard Drive.
Mrs. Harris, 187, Devonshire Avenue.
Mrs. Minnett, 7, Blackmore Crescent.
Mr. Kelly, 232, Albert Drive.
Mr. Clavey, 252, Albert Drive.
Mrs. Payne, 14, Bateson Way.
Mr. Wells, 31, Albert Drive.
Mr. O'Sullivan, 4, Wakehurst Path.
Mr. Watterton, 31, Bentham Avenue.
Mr. Baulf (co-opted), 108, St. Michael's Rd.

Representatives

Mr. Cooper, Gardening Association.
Mr. Knowler, Sheerwater Labour Party.
Mr. Clarke, Social Activity Organisers.
Rev. Falkner, Sports Club.

COMMUNITY CENTRE FUND

TARGET

£175

In Fund at 28.3.1953

£145

This amount represents sums handed over by the Social Activity Organisers, and Donations

HOW ABOUT IT?

A general exchange scheme for outgrown children's clothing. An organised rota for volunteers for baby sitting.

Send in your suggestions and offers to help carry them out.

Page 3

WOMEN'S PAGE

OVER THE FENCE

RESTING on my laurels again? No. It's a shovell this time. I've been turning over some soil. What a back-breaking job gardening is, especially for amateurs like me. Does one good to stop for a short gossip sometimes. I am, like so many of you, looking forward to the time when the grass is growing strong and all previous hard labours are showing results. I shall then get out the old garden chair, find myself a favourite book and do justice to my first garden—most probably by falling asleep.

I was delighted to hear at the Community Association's meeting recently that Sheerwater is going to have its own public library on the estate. Not that we women have much time to spare for reading, but I do believe that if you really love a book you find time somehow to enjoy it.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Are the edges of your mats or carpets the worse for wear? If so, the big stores have a binding in stock which requires no sewing, etc., just a hot iron. This binding can be obtained in various colours.

As apples are now plentiful in the shops, perhaps you would like to try this simple little recipe.

APPLE OPEN TART

First of all line a deep pie plate with pastry. Stew some apples—preferably tart flavour—to a consistency of marmalade, with sugar to taste and two cloves. Spread this on pastry and over the top put a covering of orange marmalade and plain cake crumbs. Bake in a moderate oven.

INCIDENTALLY

Have you given a thought to having a "House-warming Party" this Coronation year. It could be extra fun, with an excuse for gay decorations. Even give the dishes served and the drinks delightful regal names.

SHELLFISH

One of the residents on the Estate has been enterprising enough to start a shellfish round which he operates on Sunday mornings. The fish is bought at Billingsgate Market early the same morning so as to be sold as fresh as possible to his customers, and he asks all those interested to patronise his round.

Page 4

CHILDREN'S CORNER

THE MONTHLY ADVENTURES OF TOM AND TIM

Part Two

TOM and Tim set for home very tired and very dirty. What would mummy say, with no dog for proof? On reaching home they both took off their muddy shoes and crept into the kitchen by the side door. Soon mummy came in; when she saw them she held up her hands in horror and without much ado bundled them upstairs and into the bath tub; then straight into bed without a story. "Coo!" muttered Tim. "She's angry all right."

"Yes," said Tom. "Goodbye to our party now." Soon they fell asleep. Sunday morning the great day had arrived. Mummy and daddy wished them a happy birthday very stily and gave them the cards that had arrived the day before. Daddy sternly told them that there would be no tea for them.

Mummy was busy preparing dinner and daddy was gardening when a loud knock came on the door. "Open the door, please, Tim or Tom," shouted mummy.

Together they managed to open it. "Hello there," said a familiar voice. Why, it was the gentleman they had met yesterday. Ruffling their hair, he inquired which one was Tim and which was Tom, and asked them to run along and tell daddy; but daddy was already coming.

"Ah! Blessed to meet you, Mr. Higgins," said the stranger. "I'm Mr. Higgins." He hastily explained what had happened the day before. "Do come in," Daddy was smiling and leading the way to the best room. Mr. Higgins followed. "I've come," he said, "to give your two gallant lads a small present," and he handed each twin a cheque for £5. The two boys gasped a "thank you" and daddy looked stunned. Mummy was bringing in a tray of tea and biscuits and laid it down gently to examine the wonderful presents. "That dog is very valuable," went on Mr. Higgins. "And my wife was heartbroken at his loss." He explained that through the boys' kind act all was happy at home again.

What a cracking party the twins had! They blew six candles out twice and ate cakes and ice-cream until they were really full up. Richard, Jennifer, Mary and John sat with eyes popping out when Tim and Tom proudly waved their presents and told their story. Mummy and daddy said they were silly kids not telling exactly what had happened in the first place; but Tommy and Timmy are very modest little boys and hate to boast. In bed that night they both whispered together: "Good-bye, Rex."

ROUNDOABOUT . . .

On the Water

THERE are few of us who do not consider ourselves rather a dab at handling some type of water craft (probably the fact that we are islanders has something to do with it), and hereabouts we have quite good facilities for boating.

Row-boats, canoes and punts are available at the bridge on the road between West Byfleet and Byfleet village, and also a short distance along the bank of the Wey at Send.

For the latter, buses leave from Woking, I believe that the 463 is one, and the alighting point is the New Inn, Send. It is a short trip only, and those of you who like a pleasant walk can leave the estate at the Woking end, turn left and climb the Maybury Hill. On arrival at the Maybury Arms—these inns are very convenient on hot summer days—turn right and continue along the Old Woking Road into Old Woking itself. A signpost will now present itself pointing the way to the left to Send, and a further half-mile along this lane will bring you to the river and the New Inn. Over the bridge of the river and before the pub—unless your thirst has by now returned—turn right along the tow-path, which when in a short distance, lead you to the boat house. These latter directions from the bridge apply also to our friends on the bus.

If there are those among you who would punt but have yet to attempt the art, then these two stretches of water are those upon which to learn. The canal at Byfleet is extremely convenient for punting, being shallow and having for the most part a gravel bed. The river is as shallow in places but it does tend to vary in depth. There is also a little mud at Send. It is very easy indeed to punt on these two waters and the complete novice can

cope from the start. Personally, I always take a paddle or two in addition to a pole—the boatman will always oblige—as it is sometimes a pleasant change to sit down and take things a little easier. Besides, many of you will know what it is to be up a creek without a paddle!

There is also good fishing to be found at both venues.

Now is the time to enjoy these river trips as the midge and mosquitos have not yet properly arrived. Covers the Summer and anti-midge preparations are a necessity on the waterways.

WAYFARE.

EXCHANGE

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Page 6

CORONATION CLIPPINGS

Put a ring around the date—Friday, June 5th.

"Sheerwater Night" on our Estate—Friday, June 5th.

Lots of pleasure, loads of fun—Friday, June 5th.

To suit the taste of everyone—Friday, June 5th.

Over 200 artists in one presentation. See for yourselves on Friday, June 5th, how Sheerwater does things in a BIG way. (Wot, no elephants? says Allie.)

There's going to be a "GOOD SHOW" by the British Legion on Saturday May 30th. Thank you for your invitation to all residents of Sheerwater, and we hope to see YOU on Friday, June 5th.

Will you keep an appointment with "The Voice of Sheerwater" at 9.30 p.m. on Friday, June 5th?

Want YOUR name on the "Coronation Cloth"? Will cost you a tanner, but you may win it. Mrs. Dewdney, of 11, Bentham Avenue, takes the money, Barney.

Roll Up—Roll Up—entries coming in fast for "THE QUEEN OF SHEERWATER". Is YOUR name in? More the merrier, and it's on the level.

Welcome to Woking friends and neighbours—meet the people of Sheerwater on their "doorstep" on Friday, June 5th. See what UNITY can achieve.

We take a "Good View" of all those who are going to give the old folk a "Good View" of the Coronation on T.V. Are there any more with a T.V. set who can squeeze in one or two? Offers to 108, St. Michael's Road, soon as possible, please, to "see" where we stand.

"Sheerwater Night" on June the Fifth
All others will enhance.

Polish your throats and polish your boots.
Come out to sing and dance.

In Passing: A columnist in New York gets twenty dollars. In London two guineas. In Sheerwater—well, anyone got a couple of aspirins? Be seeing you on Friday, June 5th.

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU

We invite you to work out for yourselves the NORMAL cost of such a colossal presentation as our "Sheerwater Night" show—before you catch your breath let us say how proud we are to announce already a CONSIDERABLE saving, thanks mainly to the many voluntary and "minimum fees" contributions by our entertainers.

There must be many others on this Estate who WANT to help but are not quite sure HOW. Every contribution, however small, will mean a still further saving on our expenditure, and we emphasise these can be made WITHOUT extensive cost or effort. Let us list some of our URGENT REQUIREMENTS, in goods and services.

1. Coloured or plain electric lights, fittings, etc. flags, bunting, or decorations of any description (any quantity—small or large—on loan if desired). Also needed—long, heavy curtains for stages.
2. Materials and oddments for the making of signs, name plates, banners, and other effects. Canvas, ply, wallboards, battens, paint, wire, etc.
3. The services of all men who are willing to spend a few hours in clearing, levelling, and laying out sites required for the open-air entertainment.
4. All skilled labour and craftsmen such as electricians, erectors, scaffolders, builders, signwriters, decorators, etc.
5. The very definite need for two or three cars (with drivers) for transport of entertainers, etc., to and from sites. No dirty work and no long distances.
6. Any other offers of goods, services, or useful ideas to build up the biggest and best show of this or any other district.

How about it? All offers, in the first instance, to the Organiser, 108, St. Michael's Road, or, if you prefer to make a cash contribution (coppers, silver, or notes) to the Treasurer, 56, St. Michael's Road.

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**SHERWATER
PYLON**
24, LOCKWOOD PATH
SHERWATER
Editor: JOHN MARTIN
Letters and articles (preferably typewritten) submitted for publication in the MAY issue should reach the Editor by Friday, 24th April, 1953.

Photographic processing undertaken by Mr. Levi, 5, Devonshire Avenue.

EXCHANGE

Newly Erected Three - Bedroom Centrally Heated Flat, first floor. Rent £2 10s. p.w. inclusive of heating, hot water and use of Bendix laundry on Estate. For Three- or Four-Bedroom House.—45, Marshall House, Cranston Estate, New North Road, London, N.1.

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May we thank, sincerely, all our customers for their kind custom and support during 1952, and assure them of our continued efforts to satisfy their requirements

New customers assured of our wholehearted attention

CORRESPONDENCE

11, BENTHAM AVENUE.
DEAR SIR,

I am writing on behalf of the Ladies' Choir.

We are preparing a musical evening, to be held in the Church Hall, about the middle of May; the programme will be informal and all friends will be welcome.

There will be no charge for admission, but a silver collection will be taken in aid of the Community Centre Hut.

We are inviting two friends from the Woodham Community Centre as our guest artists; we ourselves were very kindly received when we joined them in their musical evening.

You will be pleased to know our choice of songs and also our singing were greatly appreciated.

We hope to sing selections from Gilbert and Sullivan's Operas for May.

Yours very sincerely,

KATHLEEN DEWDNEY.

WORKING BRITISH LEGION CLUB.

DEAR SIR,

As you know our appeal is rather different to yours and I wondered if it was possible for us to help each other.

Our Committee meet every Monday at 8 p.m. We have a musical evening every Sunday night. You and your members are invited as guests.

I appear to be to make the 30th May next a big day. In so many ways you can help. I am very distressed at the loneliness of the aged. We have forgotten that our grandfathers were the veterans of 1914-18. And the march of time is taking heavy toll. Many have lost their sons and daughters in the late war, as well as their homes, and belong to the great unwanted.

That is why I want to make some lasting memorial to the future of Woking, as part of the Coronation Celebrations.

We are forming a Legionnaire Dance Band and Concert Party, so if we could form a "Help each other" Committee, I would be very pleased.

Yours sincerely,

J. B. NEWTON LEWIS,
Hon. Organiser.

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS

Gent's, Ladies' and Children's Clothing. All Household Linen. Materials made up. Shirt Collars a Speciality. New 3/6, Turned 2/-, Trousers 2/6—Mrs Hill, 16, Hanbury Park, Sheerwater.

31, LAMBOURNE CRESCENT.
DEAR SIR,

If there are any Speedway supporters or followers interested in travelling to 1st Division team matches (New Cross preferred) will they please get in touch with me with a view to getting a coach.

Thanking you for your interesting journal,

Yours truly, H. M. BONNER.

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CORONATION COMMITTEE

Names of wives are requested for nomination as Sheerwater's "Coronation Queen."

Her husband will act as Consort and a boy and girl of suitable age in her family will take part as Prince and Princess.

Nominations for Maids of Honour are also requested.

Our "Coronation Queen" will receive the "Freedom of Sheerwater" for one year.

INVITATION

Would you like to be presented to the "Queen of Sheerwater" at her "Court" on Friday, June 5th (10 p.m.)?

Representatives of the following are required:—Navy, Army, Air Force, Civil Defence, Red Cross, Ambulance, Police, Fire Service, Transport, Hospital Service, Postal Service, Youth Organisations, Sports Clubs, Commonwealth, and Allied Countries.

Men and women—in uniform or national costume, if possible.

Please send names and details to:—Mr. E. J. Smith, 56, St. Michael's Road.

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SUNDAYS 9.30 a.m. THE COMMUNION, followed by the Breakfast.
6.30 p.m. EVENING PRAYER.
SUNDAY SCHOOLS 11.15 a.m. 7 to 11 years.
3 p.m. 4 to 7 years.

Enquiries about Holy Baptism, etc., to the Rev. R. E. FALKNER, Church House, St. Michael's Road, Sheerwater.

"Just Human Nature"

A WISE man once taught his son a lesson with a bundle of sticks. First, he gave his son one stick and told him to break it. This was easily done. Then he gave him the whole bundle, but this time all his son's efforts could not break the sticks. How much stronger we are when we are united and bound together, and how terrible it is to be alone in the face of difficulties.

It is nothing new for people to want to bind themselves together in a community—for strength to achieve their common aims, because they feel as we all do that to be lonely is somehow wrong and unnatural, and because in this way we can each find a fuller, richer life through sharing in friendship. It is nothing new, but perhaps it is more obvious and urgent today in a new housing estate.

When men and women do bind themselves together like this, it is very sad that it very rarely works as well as they hope. Something or someone spoils it. However good and careful the organization, however much hard work is done, it is spoiled because at the bottom we join in with the secret idea—"What can I get out of it? What good will it do me?" We all think first of ourselves and what suits and pleases us, and only afterwards of our community. It is true and very sad, but what are we to do about it? Are we just to shrug our shoulders and say, "Well, it's a great pity but it's just human nature, and you can't do anything about that." It is very sad that this is the case, but it is even sadder that we should be ready to give up so lightly what we want so much.

If we are not going to be content with the second best and make do with what we have got, what can we do? We can say, "If we can't have the best, we must simply go away and have nothing to do with anyone else, and be perfectly miserable by ourselves," or we can say, "We know the best way to live together, and we'll make everyone join in and force them to enjoy it," but that doesn't sound much

fun for anyone, even if it did work (but it doesn't). The situation seems to be quite desperate.

But this is where the Christian has quite a different answer. He believes that it is perfectly possible to enjoy real community without force and without making do with the second best, because he doesn't believe that it is really human nature to behave as we do. He believes that we behave wrongly, that we are "sub-human". His belief is in that astonishing phrase in his Creed, "the communion of saints," which means "the fellowship of holy people sharing in holy things." The important word is "holy," and that doesn't mean "goody-goody" or "pious" or any other false and sickly notion we choose to think of because it gives us a good excuse for going on as we are. "Holy" means "put right," "good and true and perfect," and much more. We believe that this is perfectly possible. We can become "human" and enjoy real community—though not just by trying, it is far too big a job for that. We need help to recover our human nature . . . but after all, do we really want it?

R. E. FALKNER.

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GARDENING ASSOCIATION NOTES

Meetings
A meeting has been arranged at St. Michael's Hall on 8th May, 1953, with a lecture by Mr. Ralph on "How I would Plan a Small Garden."

Attendance at recent general meetings has shown that there is a much greater interest in the Association than ever before, which has also been reflected in a greatly improved attendance at committee meetings.

Membership
The membership now totals 517 to date, and is steadily increasing.

Subscriptions for 1953 are still very much behind but Area representatives are now calling on all householders for the purpose of collecting overdue subscriptions and enrolling new members.

Sales
Sales at the Hut in Albert Drive are increasing rapidly and on Sunday, 22nd March, a record turnover of £23 was reached.

A variety of supplies are now becoming available.
Lime, Bonemeal, Potash, Growmore, Seed Potatoes, Grass Seed, and a full range of vegetable and flower seeds are now in stock.

Arrangements have been made with a local nursery for the regular supply of bedding plants, etc., at a discount of 25 per cent. below listed prices. Details of all available plants will be on display at the hut.

Members may have noted that certain fruit trees were being offered for sale outside the hut on Sunday, March 22nd. The Association is not associated with any sales or orders taken outside the hut, and will accept no responsibility for any such transaction made after the publication of this issue.

Members are requested to produce their membership cards at all times when making purchases at the hut.

Errata

The author apologises for an error in the February issue, when the price of National Growmore was given as 2/- per 7lbs.; this should have read 2/3 per 7lbs.

Committee Resignation

The Committee are sorry to announce the resignation of the Treasurer, Mr. L. Irving, of 52, Albert Drive, and express their appreciation of the hard work he has put in on behalf of the Association.

The office of Treasurer has been filled by Mr. F. Draper, of 46, Lambourne Crescent.

Officers and Area Representatives

A detailed list of the names and addresses of all the Officers and Area Representatives is being prepared and will be in the possession of all members in due course.

Coronation

A site has been made available to the Association for a Coronation display. Any arrangements must be of a temporary nature, and any ideas on layout would be welcomed by the Committee; these should be handed to your Area representative or any officer of the Association.

Annual Dance and Social

The Association's first Annual Dance and Social was held at St. Michael's Hall on Saturday, April 18th.

This function celebrated the first birthday of the Association, and a very enjoyable evening it was.

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For EVERYTHING ELECTRICAL

SPOTLIGHT

This feature is designed to report the ordinary everyday happenings on this estate of ours, the pleasant experiences and the disappointments that we all meet with in a community such as this.

Spring has come as a very welcome relief from the long and arduous winter we have had. It was as if an unknown power had decided to test our endurance, by making the winter such a brute that it would produce a race of Sheerwater people fitted for anything the future could hold in store. It didn't let up right from the frosts of early November. The fogs were some of the worst ever known, and December brought the most magnificent hoar frost I can remember—what a sight that was! Rain fell in bucketfuls in January and then, to cap it all, February 20th started the longest spell of drought on record for the time of year. And now spring at last.

Already, hard work in the garden is showing results. Daffodils are raising their lovely golden heads and the stately tulip is waiting to come on stage to herald the other beauties of the flower garden. Yes, it's good to be living at Sheerwater.

Though a few may think that there are too many children about, they mostly are fine specimens of Britons to be. Whenever a doubt passes through my mind as to the wisdom of having moved here, I take one look at my kids, and that doubt is gone.

The social functions laid on by the Social Activity Organisers have met with gratifying success—they've done wonders in raising money for the Building Fund. More people would attend the Whist Drives if they knew how enjoyable they are. It's a case of "the more the merrier" and the prizes would be correspondingly better. I do wish, however, that a certain gentleman would allow someone else to win the raffle for a change!

Our socials do attempt to satisfy an urgent need in Sheerwater. Our worthy M.C., Mr. Clarke, has just the right touch to persuade folk to let their hair down and have fun.

Mr. Levi, our photographer, missed a scoop at the last Council meeting. Somehow or other the arrangements went astray and the meeting had to be held in the small room at St. Michael's Church Hall. Just how many people can you get into a room some twelve feet by six? Council members now know—23. You may care to try it some time—for three hours at a stretch.

Now that the dairies have urged their delivery men to remove all empty milk bottles as soon as possible, I wonder if parents can do anything to persuade their children to leave an odd ones they do find severely alone. It would help quite a bit to lessen the danger of broken glass.

I.M.C.D.

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SHEERWATER METHODIST CHURCH

FIRE is not perhaps an inappropriate metaphor to use in connection with the followers of John Wesley, and although it must be admitted that modern Methodism is not so full of "fire" as the Methodism of Wesley's day, yet it is the aim of the Sheerwater Methodist Church to warm the heart of the Estate with the fire of Evangelical Religion.

Even Methodists, however, can have too much fire, as was the case some time ago when the canteen hut in Dartmouth Avenue was partially burned out, leaving the few belongings of the local Methodists charred and scorched almost beyond recognition.

The largest item in the list of things destroyed is the piano, which having recently been repaired is indispensable for the work of the Church and Sunday School. An oak reading desk and Pulpit Fall presented in memory of Mr. E. Grahham of Byfleet also suffered, as did hymn books, Bibles and other Sunday School equipment.

While the loss in terms of cash is not very great, it is a serious matter for a Church just struggling to its feet. Moreover, the setback to the work due to the loss of accommodation and equipment has been no light matter. But in spite of everything the work goes on. Thanks to the good offices of the contractors, Sir Lindsay Parkinson & Co., the difficulty of accommodation is being surmounted, another part of the canteen having been made available for the services. By the kindness of Methodist friends in the Woking Circuit, the hymn books are being replaced, the reading desk repaired, the Pulpit Fall replaced, and so in good heart, knowing that their needs will be met, Sheerwater Methodists are carrying on. A good second-hand piano is urgently required, and the Minister, Rev. J. H. Doddrell, would be glad to hear from anyone who may be able to help in the matter.

Visitors will be welcome at the Canteen Hut, Dartmouth Avenue, on—
Sunday 11 a.m. Youth Service.
3 p.m. Sunday School.
6.30 p.m. Service of Worship.
Monday 5.30 p.m. Girls' Life Brigade.
Tuesday 7.30 p.m. Women's Guild.

FOR YOUR DIARY

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SPORTS CLUB

WHICH Sports Club? You may well ask. It should be the Sheerwater Sports Club, but it is, unfortunately, functioning but little due to lack of support and enthusiasm.

At present it is having difficulty in paying the Woking U.D.C. for football pitches allocated to us for the present season, but with a stronger following these problems would not arise. To date, several soccer matches have been played—not all of them were lost!—and we are now included in the Woking League for next season. The games played have shown that there is a fair amount of football talent here at Sheerwater and I, for one, see no reason why at least a couple of teams should not be successfully run in the near future.

Soccer has been mentioned because this has been the only sport so far supported. However, the original, and existing, idea was to include in the club all sports and games desired by the residents. It was hoped that interested parties in tennis, boxing, chess, etc., would come along with their ideas for the introduction of these and other activities on the estate.

It is not too late for a really active sports organisation to be established here, indeed it may well be that the time is even yet not ripe, but in any event it is intended to hold a meeting of all interested bodies on Wednesday, 22nd April, at 8 p.m., in the large canteen in Dartmouth Avenue.

If you have any ideas which may assist us in our aim, or if you are interested in any aspect whatsoever, then please come along.
J.F.A.R.

SHEERWATER CONSERVATIVE PARTY

We understand that a branch is now being formed and that full details will be available for the May issue.

SHEERWATER LABOUR PARTY

Our next meeting will be held at 45, Bentham Avenue on April 29th, at 8 p.m. sharp. Speaker: Councillor Davey, on Current Affairs.

All communications to the Hon. Sec., Mr. Knowler, 45, Bentham Avenue.

Women's Section

Chairman: Mrs. Moorcroft
Hon. Sec.: Mrs. D. NUNN

The following diary of events for April-May will take place at St. Paul's Church Hall, Walton Road, every Tuesday afternoon at 2.15 p.m.

All women members are invited to attend. Children can be brought along and are looked after.

Refreshments, served by the Committee, are available.

April 21—WHIST DRIVE, 3 prizes and Mystery. Admission 1/-.

28—JUMBLE SALE

May 5—Business, Financial Report, Delegates' Reports, followed by a discussion.

Will members who have any articles for the Jumble Sale please bring them along to the section, to Mrs. Nunn, 57, Blackmore Crescent or to Mrs. South, 1, Murrey Green. Thank you.

An outing to Littlehampton, July 26th, is being arranged. Anyone wishing to go should contact above address for further details.

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