

# THE COCKPIT

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHISLEHURST RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

*The Cockpit, on Chislehurst Common, has been the traditional meeting place for Chislehurst people on all great occasions from time immemorial.*

Chairman: T. A. Bushell, A.M.Inst.T.

Vice-Chairman: H. T. A. Sharpe, C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

Hon. Treasurer: R. W. Oblath

Hon. Secretary:—Mrs. M. S. Holt,

13 Oakleigh Park Avenue,  
Chislehurst, Kent.

No. 11

March, 1971

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Twenty-fifth Annual General Meeting of the Chislehurst Residents Association will be held at the Chislehurst Public Library, Red Hill, on Tuesday, 6th April, 1971, at 8.0 p.m.

## AGENDA

1. Minutes of the 24th Annual Meeting.
2. Committee's Report for the Year 1970.
3. Accounts for the Year 1970.
4. Election of Officers.
5. Election of Committee.
6. To consider and, if approved, adopt the following amendment of the Rules: Rule 4, delete the existing first sentence and substitute therefor the following "The annual subscription shall be 15 new pence (3/-) per member (with the exception of Old Age Pensioners, whose subscription shall be 5 new pence (1/-)) payable in advance on the 1st January in each year".
7. Any Other Business.

By Order of the Committee,  
MARY S. HOLT,  
Hon. Secretary.

8th March, 1971

## COMMITTEE'S REPORT

**Officers and Committee:** Regular meetings have been held throughout the year, with good attendances. We regret to report the passing of Mr. Alistair Gunn who was for so many years our Vice-Chairman, always contributing quiet and reasoned views in our deliberations. As was fitting, our Chairman and other members attended the funeral to which we sent a floral tribute on behalf of all the members. In Mr. Gunn's place, Mr. H. T. A. Sharpe, C.Eng., F.I.E.E., has been elected Vice-Chairman.

## Social Evening

GRAHAM CHIESMAN HOUSE

Wednesday, 21st April

7.45 for 8 p.m.

Tickets from any member of the Committee

**30p**

Mr. Alex. Drage, for thirteen years our Hon. Treasurer, and also our delegate to the Federation of Ravensbourne Residents Associations, moved to Sidmouth in August and on leaving Chislehurst was presented by the Committee with a copy of Webb, Miller & Beckwith's "History of Chislehurst", published in 1899, for which he expressed great appreciation. A small gift was also presented to Mrs. Drage. The Association was fortunate in securing the services of Mr. R. W. Oblath who immediately accepted election as Acting Hon. Treasurer.

Mr. F. Snocken resigned from the Committee in August and in his place Mr. H. T. Brown, of 30, Grove Vale, was co-opted. In November, Mr. A. T. C. Jones, of 10, Farmland Walk, was co-opted to fill the remaining vacancy.

The following committee members retire under Rule 6, namely, Mrs. Jarrett, Messrs. H. T. Brown, B. G. Coffin, C. Dunn, F. W. Grundy, A. T. C. Jones, N. T. D. Hocknell and E. Thompson, who, with the exception of the two last named, offer themselves for re-election. Both Messrs. Hocknell and Thompson have served faithfully for many years and the cordial thanks of the members are due to them. Nominations for the eight vacancies thus caused may be sent to the Hon. Secretary, or they may be made at the meeting.

**Social Evening:** There was a total attendance of 134 at the very successful evening at Graham Chiesman House on 16th April arranged by the Social Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. F. W. Grundy.

**May Queen Ceremonies:** Miss Belinda Kemp was crowned with due ceremony and in the presence of hundreds of people on 2nd May. With her retinue, she attended the "Merrie England" May Queen Festival on Hayes Common on 9th May. The Joint Committee's account is published in this issue.

**Affiliations:** In order to keep in touch with all matters affecting ratepayers in the borough, we have continued our affiliation to the following organisations, our representatives on which are as shown i.e. Federation of Ravensbourne Residents Associations (Mr. H. T. A. Sharpe); Bromley and District Consumers Group (Mr. S. W. Mack); Bromley Civic Planning Association (Mr. Mack). Our representative on the local Road Safety Panel is Mr. F. W. Grundy, and on the recently appointed Borough Consultative Conservation Committee, Mr. C. M. Dunn. We are most grateful to these members of the Executive Committee who give this extra time and labour on behalf of the Association.

We have also continued our affiliation to the Commons, Footpaths and Open Spaces Society which has been able to give us good advice in the past.

**Planning:** Mrs. T. Facer keeps a watchful eye on the published list of current planning applications thus enabling us to make representations in the appropriate quarter when necessary to protect the interests of our members.

Among the items dealt with were an objection to the proposed development at "Stowcroft", a request for the preservation of trees on the Liskeard Lodge site and an objection to any widening of the road access to Mill Place that would entail taking more common land. We sympathise with the local committee opposing the excessive use of Chislehurst goods yard as a stone and aggregate distribution centre and made a small donation to their campaign fund.

We were much concerned at the size of the proposed College of Art and Design at Walden Road. In this connection we were grateful to the Borough Education Department and the Architect's Office whose representatives attended our October meeting bringing plans, drawings and a large model of the proposed college. Whilst we still had reservations as to the adequacy of Walden Road as the principal means of access, we withdrew our objection to this project in view of the explanations given.

**Rates:** We considered the implications of a proposal under which the Borough could collect rates by "direct debiting" which is akin to a banker's order. We feel that there are several pitfalls in this for the ratepayer and we do not recommend our members to agree to this scheme should it come into operation.

**Imperial Centenary:** We sponsored the formation of an Imperial Centenary Committee to commemorate the coming to Chislehurst of the Imperial Family of France in 1870, an event that had a considerable impact upon our local history and road names. Our former Chairman, Lieut. General Sir Frederick Wrisberg and our present Chairman, Mr. T. A. Bushell, were Joint Chairmen of the Centenary Committee. The planned events were successfully carried out, and the distinguished visitors from France expressed great appreciation of the arrangements made for them at Chislehurst and at Woolwich. The Association was not called upon for any financial assistance.

**Water Tower Seat:** The balance in hand is £86.35 which falls far short of the lowest tender for the erection of the seat. In view of this the Committee is considering the adoption of a modified plan on which it is hoped to report at the annual meeting.

**St. Nicholas' Church:** By its rules, this Association may not involve itself in any matters of religious doctrine or practice. Nevertheless, your Committee has heard, with great alarm, of proposals under which St. Nicholas—the parish church of Chislehurst—will entirely lose its historical character by the dismemberment or removal of its ancient screens, monuments and fittings in order to meet "modern trends". We are committed to preserve the amenities of Chislehurst and we certainly think this old church to be one of them. We advise all our members who are concerned at this to attend such meetings as the church authorities may call, and to give expression to their views. We feel that this is a matter for all Chislehurst.

**Subscriptions:** These have remained unaltered since 1945 and, as will be seen from the Notice Convening the Annual Meeting, the Members are asked to agree to 15 new pence per annum, with a reduced figure of 5 new pence for O.A.Ps.

Due to the number of subscriptions unpaid, it is not possible to give an accurate assessment of the membership. It is in the region of 1,500. We appeal to members to pay their subscriptions either to Barclays Bank (Martins Branch), High Street, or to their nearest Committee Member or Road Steward.

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#### COMMITTEE

H. T. Brown, 30, Grove Vale; T. A. Bushell, A.M.Inst.T. (Chairman), 48 Green Way; B. G. Coffin, Rider's Way, Ashfield Lane; C. M. Dunn, Hoblands Cottage, Kemnal Road; J. H. Easden, 1, Paddock Way; Mrs. T. Facer, (Minutes Secretary) Uppinfield, St. Paul's Cray Road; F. W. Grundy, 27, Lubbock Road; Mrs. M. S. Holt, (Hon. Secretary), 13, Oakleigh Park Avenue; Mrs. O. Jarrett, 90, Chislehurst Road, Orpington; A. T. C. Jones, 10, Farmland Walk; S. W. Mack, M.Inst.T., Little Maxbys, Raggleswood; R. W. Oblath, (Hon. Treasurer), 36, Lower Camden; G. Rollason, (Membership Secretary), 46, Elmstead Avenue; H. T. A. Sharpe, C.Eng., F.I.E.E., (Vice-Chairman), 37, Westhurst Drive; D. Vivian, 30, Highfield Road.

**CHISLEHURST RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Income and Expenditure Account year ended 31st December 1970**

1969	EXPENDITURE	1970	1969	INCOME	1970
£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
14 7 10	To Postage ... ..	9 13 8	119 2 6	By Members' Subscriptions ... ..	114 17 0
77 14 11	Printing and Advertising ... ..	50 1 6	2 8 6	Donations ... ..	1 2 6
12 2 8	Stationery ... ..	8 3 4	15 10 9	Proceeds of Social ... ..	9 6 6
26 18 9	Hire of Halls ... ..	23 8 10	47 3 0	Proceeds of May Queen Celebrations ... ..	57 1 7
7 13 0	Affiliation Fees ... ..	6 18 0	6 0 3	Bank Interest on Deposit Account ... ..	6 2 3
57 14 0	May Queen Celebrations ... ..	51 1 9	—	Transfer from Water Tower Appeal Fund ... ..	18 1 6
1 2 9	Honorarium ... ..	3 1 6		Donation to be transferred to Water Tower Fund ... ..	—
25 0 0	Donations: Water Tower Seat Fund ... ..	9 6 6	5 0 0	Donation, Marlings Park Property Owners' Association ... ..	—
—	Goods Yard Fighting Fund ... ..	2 0 0		Excess of expenditure over Income ... ..	—
—	Wreath ... ..	4 4 0	30 10 4		
—	Expenses, Social ... ..	1 1 0			
18 9	Sundries ... ..	—	21 3 10		
5 0	Interest on overdraft ... ..	—			
23 1 6	Expenditure recoverable from Water Tower Seat Fund ... ..	—			
—	Excess of income over expenditure ... ..	37 11 3			
<u>£246 19 2</u>		<u>£206 11 4</u>	<u>£246 19 2</u>		<u>£206 11 4</u>

**Balance Sheet at at 31st December 1970**

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
135 7 5	Balance Brought Forward ... ..	114 3 7	109 9 7	{ Balance at Bank Deposit A/c.* ... ..
—	Add excess of income over expenditure... ..	37 11 3		{ Balance in current A/c. ... ..
21 3 10	Deduct excess of expenditure over income ... ..	—	1 6	Cash with Hon. Secretary ... ..
			4 12 6	Cash with Hon. Treasurer ... ..
<u>£114 3 7</u>		<u>£151 14 10</u>	<u>£114 3 7</u>	<u>£151 14 10</u>

\*Includes £21 13s. 6d. held for May Queen Joint Committee

R. W. OBLATH,  
*Honorary Treasurer.*

Audited and found correct  
 K. A. MESSETER,  
*Honorary Auditor, 17.1.71*

**CHISLEHURST RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

To..... (Member of the Committee)

OR  
 To the Manager, Barclays Bank Ltd., (Martins Branch), 63, High Street, Chislehurst.

Please receive ..... subscriptions to the above Association

Name..... If new member please tick:.....

Address.....

Subscriptions may also be sent direct to the Hon. Treasurer at 36, Lower Camden.

**CHISLEHURST MAY QUEEN JOINT COMMITTEE**

(Chislehurst Residents' Association and Chislehurst and Sidcup Branch Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men)

**Statement of Receipts and Payments 1970**

1969		PAYMENTS		1970		1969		RECEIPTS		1970			
£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
13	0	0	Hire of Halls ... ..	5	0	0	3	0	0	Donations ... ..	4	15	0
6	17	6	Prizes ... ..	7	17	9	14	19	0	Sale of Programmes ... ..	20	4	0
12	19	0	Postage and Printing ... ..	13	13	6	22	6	0	Collections ... ..	26	2	7
4	0	0	Advertisement ... ..	2	0	0	6	0	0	Refund—Hire deposit ... ..	6	0	0
5	0	0	Hire Sound Equipment ... ..	5	5	0	18	0		Refund from Hayes ... ..	—		
8	0	0	Hire Field Equipment ... ..	8	0	0	10	11	0	Deficit charged to General Account ... ..	—		
2	0	0	Insurance ... ..	2	10	0							
2	0	0	Transport ... ..	2	5	0							
1	0	0	Bouquet, May Queen ... ..	—									
10	6		Performing Rights ... ..	10	6								
2	7	0	Affiliation Hayes ... ..	2	0	0							
—			Donation Sidcup Girls Brigade ... ..	2	0	0							
—			Excess receipts over payment ... ..	5	19	10							
<hr/>				<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>			
£57	14	0		£57	1	7	£57	14	0		£57	1	7

**Balance at 31st December 1970**

£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		
—			Balance brought forward ... ..	15	13	8		Balance in hand General Account ... ..	21	13	6	
			Excess of receipts over payments ... ..	5	19	10						
				<hr/>								
				£21	13	6				£21	13	6

**CHISLEHURST WATER TOWER (COMMEMORATIVE SEAT APPEAL FUND) A/C.**

PAYMENTS		£ s. d.		RECEIPTS		£ s. d.				
Expenditure brought forward from 1969 ... ..	...	29	1	6	Receipts brought forward from 1969 ... ..	86	13	6		
Balance in hand 31st December, 1970 ... ..	...	86	7	0	Donations up to 31st December, 1970 ... ..	17	17	6		
					Proceeds of meeting 26th February, 1970 ... ..	1	11	0		
					Proceeds of Social evening... ..	9	6	6		
				<hr/>			<hr/>			
			£115	8	6			£115	8	6

R. W. OBLATH,  
Honorary Treasurer.

Audited and found correct  
K. A. MESSETER,  
Honorary Auditor, 17.1.71