

Number
TWENTY

Summer 1990

The Harborne Society

NEWS

THE HARBORNE CRICKET CLUB

By DEREK BENSON



Harborne Cricket Club - set in a conversation area

The Cricket Club was founded in 1868 by a number of young men from the youth clubs of the Baptist Church and St. Peter's, and played for six years in a field at Harrison's Farm (where the block of flats "High Point" now stands) in Richmond Hill Road. In 1874 the present ground in Old Church Avenue was leased, and cricket has been played there ever since, except for the War years.

In the early days, it seems, there was some friction between the Church of England and Free Church elements: indeed, one Charles Harlow (who subsequently became a life member) was advised, so he claimed, that if he wanted to get into the 1st XI he should chuck up St. Peter's Choir and join the Baptist Sunday School. Whether he did so is not recorded, but there is no doubt that it was a large Church of England element who left in 1888 to form Harborne Somerville Cricket Club, which played with considerable success on a ground in Queen's Park Road until 1938, when the ground was sold for housing.

In 1903 Harborne Hockey Club was formed and their junior sides use the

grounds in winter - the senior teams playing on artificial pitches. In the 1939-45 War a barrage balloon was sited on the ground, the crew living in the pavilion, and it was only by skilful prevarication that the then Secretary managed to prevent the ground being planted with potatoes.

Since then the Club has expanded; a brick-built pavilion supplemented the Edwardian wooden building in time for the Centenary in 1968, and the Club regularly fields four teams each Saturday and Sunday throughout the season. The Club is a member of the Debenham Tewson Cheshire League and of the Warwickshire Sunday League. There are also mid-week and evening games and a West Country tour in July. Young cricketers (from age 11 upwards) are welcome to practise, and matches are arranged for them.

The Club welcomes interest, either as casual spectators or as playing or non-playing members. The Secretary is Duncan Young, 23 Hartledon Road, B170AB, phone 427 3777. Contact him, or look in and make yourself known.

Chairman's Letter

Dear Harborne Resident,
Once again The Harborne Society presents a Newsletter intended to reach all residents. We hope there will be something to interest everyone.

Amenity Societies like ours aim to reflect local environmental and community interest. We have proved that we can be influential, but to be effective we need supporters; the more members there are, the more 'clout' the Society has. We need to be vigilant, patient and resolute, to be constructive watchdogs, not merely to confront and preserve but to negotiate and conserve.

This past year we have been actively concerned in planning matters and have produced two major responses, one to the Birmingham Unitary Plan and one to the Regional Hospital Board's proposals. Three areas have been cultivated under our 'Green-up' scheme and we have joined with the Library to form a Historical Society. We hold monthly meetings with an interesting speaker and an opportunity for you to keep up with community developments and add your views.

A good environment is a necessary background for life. Improving awareness of our surroundings is a fundamental role. Environmental quality and good development can go together. We aim to highlight what is good and what is bad, to motivate people and to inspire pride in the area.

This cannot be accomplished without you. We need volunteers. One person's help concerning a critical issue can be just as valid as a continuous commitment. Last year's newsletter increased our membership from 500 to 650 but it could be greater. It is your 'village' that we aim to represent. Only a continuous flow of members will help us to sustain our activities so please fill in your Application Form and become a member now!

Yours sincerely

Mary Abbott

Chairman

THE HARBORNE LOCAL BOARD

By Madeline Aston

The year 1890 began with the Board determined to ignore the suggestion that Harborne should be annexed by the City of Birmingham.

In March elections were held to replace three retiring members, and on 24 April the Board, consisting of Messrs. Bayliss, Egerton, Fellows, Green, Brame, Wright, Holland, Harding, Heaton, Smythe and Tilley (Chairman) met to appoint Highways, Sanitary and Finance Committees and to receive reports.

The Finance Committee was asked to negotiate a loan to cover the expected expenditure of the other Committees. This entailed gaining the approval of the government - sponsored Local Government Board, and in August an inspector, Col. John Ord-Hasted, came from London to assess the situation.

Harborne had grown. New roads of terraced housing covered the areas near High Street. Pockets of land were being sold as small farms began to decline. Harborne was never rich agricultural land. The population had trebled, and the schools, St. Peter's, St. John's, the Board School in York Street (opened in 1881) and a small R.C. School in High Street, were full. The Railway provided access to the industrial areas of Rotton Park, Ladywood and Soho and to the city itself. Harborne was becoming a dormitory area. But most of the roads were unpaved, street lighting was minimal, and there was little indoor sanitation. The Minutes mention the continuing cost of "night soil" collection, complaints about "stinking ditches" and the numbers of notifiable infectious diseases.

In October the Board received a letter of protest from the Ratepayers' Association about the loan, but with only one vote against (Mr. Smythe again) they went ahead and advertised for tenders for work which obviously would not meet the needs of the residents.

All this in spite of the fact that as early as 18 March the Chairman had received a letter from Mr. Smith, the Town Clerk of Birmingham, repeating the 1889 offer and adding "it was hoped that in order to avoid the attendant delay and cost of a Parliamentary opposition", the Board would send a deputation to discuss the matter further. The H.L.B. put off considering this matter until 13 May, when at a "Special Private Meeting" they finally voted to refuse. The voting this time was six for refusal of the invitation, and five against. Mr. Tilley, the Chairman, abstained. Much closer than in 1889. In

June a letter was received from the Chairman of the Aston Local Board convening a meeting of representatives of all the Local Boards affected, with a view to agreeing some joint action. This was held on 19 June, when they all agreed to refuse Birmingham's offers.

However, the Birmingham Council did not let the matter rest, and neither did the Ratepayers' Association. The School Board was also looking enviously at the money spent on the education of city children. On 2 December the Board discussed another letter from the Ratepayers' Association, objecting to the raising of a loan for work which by now was well beyond the powers of the Local Board to accomplish. This was voted upon, 8 for negotiating a loan and 3 against. Approaches were made to the Prudential Insurance Co. for a loan of £3,292. (There are many crossings out and alterations in the Minute Book at this time and the reader gets the impression that discussions were heated.)

Events, however, began to move quickly. At a special meeting on 9 December, the Board discussed three important letters, one from the School Board received on 4 December, one from the Local Government Board and one from the Lord Mayor of Birmingham received on 6 December, all advising the H.L.B. to accept Birmingham's offer. As a result, a public meeting was called for 18 December and copies of the correspondence were released to reporters. At the well-attended meeting, chaired by Mr. Tilley, it was resolved that:

"The Harborne Local Board is hereby directed by the ratepayers and property owners of Harborne in special meeting assembled to accept the proposals of the Boundaries Commission Sub-Committee of the City Council of Birmingham for the inclusion and absorption of the Local Board District of Harborne within the City upon the letters set forth in the letter received from the Town Clerk of Birmingham dated 18 March and further amplified in a letter dated 2 December 1890."

This resolution was carried by 798 votes to 174. Immediately Messrs. Brame, Hollick, Bayliss, Heaton, Green and Wright resigned in pique, suggesting that their places be taken by members of the Ratepayers' Association to continue the "arduous and thankless" task of serving the community. Mr. Heaton and Mr. Bayliss, however, subsequently withdrew their resignations.

The die was cast. On January 1891 a reconstituted Board, with Mr. Tilley in the Chair, faced 1891 and the task of winding up the affairs of the Harborne Local Board, which had been responsible for local government in Harborne since 1864.

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HARBORNE VILLAGE TRADESMEN OF THE TWENTIES

Part Two of Recollections by Harold Edwards



The old 'Green Man' at the City end of the High Street

Except for recent Supermarkets, Banks and Offices, much of the High Street remains basically the same. Shop fronts may have altered but above eye level little has altered. The old family businesses of course have gone - regrettably, I think.

At the Nursery Road/Metchley Lane crossing was, on the left, the old "Green Man", an austere white building which came right to the footpath. There was a beautiful red may tree which overhung the wall. Opposite were about three small cottages, a tiny sweetshop, then Vickers & Sons, bakers. The bakehouse was around the corner in Grays Road, and the carts and horses were stabled just opposite, behind "The Plough". On the corner was Adcock the barber, who seemed to find his way across to the Plough at fairly frequent intervals. Between Vickers's shop and Adcock's was the newsagent and tobacconist shop of Mr. Hyde, who was succeeded in later years by his son Gilbert and his wife.

Next, on the opposite corner, The Plough Inn. Then Tommy Bond, second-hand furniture. He looked a bit like W. C. Fields with his deep stiff collar and cravat. Next came the row of nailers' cottages, over which case the

Harborne Society, supported by Dame Jill Knight MP, took up the cudgels - and won! Lying back was a boot and shoe repairers (now a hairdresser's); Smith the butcher; a hardware shop; Mr. Davis, newsagent; Mrs. Shellis, cottons, buttons, etc. (how many times did I fetch a reel of Sylko for my mother?); Mrs. Haynes's sweetshop. On the corner of North Road was Chas. Scarf, family grocer, followed later by his son Donald. On the opposite corner was the house of Mr. Shaw, chemist. His shop adjoined it and was known as the "bottom shop" for he had another at the corner of Albany Road (still a chemist's until recently) - inevitably the "top shop". Nearer to St. John's Road was a row of houses with front gardens; one was the surgery of Mr. Phillips the dentist. On the opposite corner was the house of Mr. Teague, decorator. and next to that the rather fine house of Dr. Briggs. He was a striking looking man, always immaculate in his dress; he walked very erectly, slowly and quietly. He had a Napier touring car - brown with yellow wire wheels. The house was later occupied by Dr. Caddis, and latterly by Dr. McCook.

Opposite the Clock Tower (then the Girls' School) were the premises of Mr. Albrigt who I believe was of Austrian

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origin. He had two "charabancs" painted green with gold lettering. These vehicles were open to the weather although a canvas hood could be pulled over from back to front. The seats were leather - upholstered, of the bench type, seating 4 or 5 people side by side. There were doors to each seat on both sides of the coach, with brass handles. It seemed one of the functions of these "charabancs" was to run fishing trips. I recall seeing (since I lived nearby) patrons of the "Fish Tavern" in Grays Road loading cases of beer onto these vehicles, then off they would go, to the shouts of well-wishers who had turned up to witness their departure. I also saw their return - tired, sunburnt; no fish - but oh, so very happy!

Part of Albright's property later became the premises of Harborne Social Club, now resident at the old Harborne Picture House in Serpentine Road.

The Old Picture House is worth a mention. It was, I believe, originally owned by Jeffs Waller, a pioneer of the cinema in this country, who showed films in Curzon Hall, Suffolk Street; the site later became the West End Cinema, and Curzon Hall was a recruiting centre in the First World War. But to return to Harborne Cinema. My father would take me sometimes to see a serial with Warner Oland dropping bombs by hand out of the cockpit of his plane. Then there was Matheson Lang in "The Chinese Bungalow". He was a great favourite of my mother's. I remember Charlie Chaplin and Jackie Coogan in "The Kid". Tom Mix, William Hart, Buster Keaton, Harry Langdon, Mary Pickford, Pearl White, Douglas Fairbanks Snr., all graced the screen in turn. "All Quiet on the Western Front" was an epic. In addition to the old dear who played the piano throughout the performance a drummer was engaged to add reality to the barrage scenes!

During the interval the attendant would patrol the gangways with a container and a spray nozzle. He or she would spray the contents indiscriminately, whilst a slide appeared on the screen stating: "This cinema is disinfected throughout with Jeyes Fluid". If you were unlucky enough to be in the direct line of fire it was extremely doubtful whether you



*A. Booterstone's, Meat Purveyors, between Albany Road & Station Road
Acknowledgement to Harborne Public Library for photographs*

saw the rest of the programme, except through watering eyes!

Carrying on up the village was The Stores public house, next to which was Mr. Mason the butcher. Close by was Powell's the bakers (with bakehouse and stabling). There was a blacksmith nearby called, I believe, Mr. White. There was another blacksmith in Greenfield Road at one time and of course one at the Corporation yard in Rose Road.

Golby's furniture shop was roughly where Foster's now stands (Foster's were higher up on the other side). There was the "Bon Marché" (Keith Pilley); Kilby's, milliners; Mr. Ince, draper's (followed by his son). Satchwell's, men's outfitters; Baker's boots and shoes; Clark's fish and chip shop, forerunner to Jennings. There was also the popular Teddy Cook the greengrocer, a little Cockney with a big heart. He gave away rabbits at Christmas time to his more needy customers, and his wife would contribute a quarter of tea.

Higher up the village was, as now, Lloyd's Bank. Shaw's chemists' "top shop" now sells knitting wool, but the Library and houses were as they stand today. Where the All Electric Service station now stands was Griggs the butcher with quite an area of land around it. There was a fence and a hawthorn hedge and it was great fun to worm one's way between the two instead of using the footpath. This was later to become Booterstone's. It is interesting to note that slaughtering was done on the premises, and it was not unusual to see a small herd of

cattle or bunch of sheep being driven up the High Street. On the little island in front of "The Junction" public house was a horse trough, always with a supply of clean water, and a small trough lower down for the use of our doggie friends. In the area taken up by the All Electric Car Sales concern was Phipp's Timber - garden sheds, chicken houses, dog kennels etc., made on the premises.

On the corner of Serpentine Road was Murray's Fish and Chip Saloon. The heating of the fryers was by means of coal (slack). This business was carried on by Alex Murray until a few years ago, when he removed to more elaborate premises. Alex was a classmate of mine at Station Road, and a wizard at mental arithmetic! Almost opposite Murray's old shop was another fish and chip shop, kept by a character called Kelly, though I believe his true name was Whiteside. He wore a Union shirt (no collar) and, believe it or not, a pith helmet. He sported a large walrus moustache and was tall and angular. As a child, I always imagined him as being a South African War veteran.

In War Lane, behind the Baths, was the Power Station. The dustcarts, which were electric from the mid-twenties, were charged up here overnight. My Dad was a dustman, and I remember him crying when his horse "Tango" was taken from him.

After leaving Northfield Road it was virtually all countryside right the way to Clent, which like a reminder of the past can still be plainly seen from the bus stop at the top of the village.

SIR HENRY RUSHBURY, R.A.

By his daughter, Janet Sanso

Last summer, an exhibition was held in Birmingham Art Gallery to mark the centenary of the birth of Harborne-born artist Sir Henry Rushbury, R.A.

He was born at 22 Vivian Road (then called Lodge Road). His mother, from whom he inherited his great sense of humour, came from Northamptonshire; his father, whose family had lived in Birmingham for several generations, was interested in church architecture, and often took the young Henry with him on visits to churches and cathedrals. The boy's talent for architectural drawing soon became apparent.

He knew of David Cox's Harborne associations, and visited with his father the sites of some of Cox's landscapes. An elderly pupil of Cox's encouraged him to paint. But his free time was divided between drawing and his collection of guinea pigs, two of which he had to sell to pay for his tuition at the local art class, held after school. At 14 he gained a scholarship to Birmingham School of Art, then a vital centre under Robert Catterson Smith.

Henry first intended to become a goldsmith, then tried stained glass. He was apprenticed to Henry Payne, and spent four years collaborating with him on the decorations for the chapel at Madresfield Court.

In 1912, with fellow-student Gerald Brockhurst, Henry set out to make his fortune in London, taking shabby lodgings in Chelsea. He had no connections and little money, but he soon found the true direction of his talent in the architecture, atmosphere and Bohemian life of the city, though he often returned to Harborne to see his parents.

Recently married, he joined the Army in the First World War, and was later seconded as an official war artist. His painting "The Funeral of Nurse Cavell" is in the Imperial War Museum.



Sir Henry Rushbury R A as a young man

He first visited France in 1920, and produced a series of lyrical water-colours and etchings, culminating in his first one-man show at the Grosvenor Gallery and election to the Royal Society of Painter Etchers. Critics and connoisseurs recognised him as an important artist. He was, perhaps, a maverick of his generation. Not prepared to join the Avant Garde movements, he found inspiration in the rediscovery of the grandeur of 17th and 18th century France and Renaissance Italy. But he saw it all through modern eyes, recording the life of cities and towns with their crowds, cafes and market squares. His early works have a documentary quality, showing how European cities looked before the motor vehicle, and then the devastation of the Second World War, irrevocably changed city life. Bystanders and children liked to watch him paint, and a sailor once stood behind him for four hours, and sighed with relief when Rushbury finally drew in the missing part of a ship's rigging. In Rome he made an impressive etching from his hotel balcony of the arrival of Mussolini's Fascisti.

During the twenties Rushbury frequently travelled to France and Italy. It was an exhilarating time. Friendships were formed with leading political, musical and literary figures, as well as artists such as Augustus John. A brilliant raconteur, Rushbury was a genial figure. Some of his paintings went into major galleries worldwide. After election as a full member of the Royal Academy in 1936, he collaborated in a series of murals for Chelmsford Town Hall.

Appointed an official war artist again in the Second World War, he recorded shipbuilding on the Clyde and women munition workers. These paintings are in the Imperial War Museum.

He was appointed Keeper of the Royal Academy in 1949. Here his influence was enormous, and he enjoyed working with Presidents Sir Gerald Kelly and Sir Charles Wheeler. The great winter exhibitions of the 1950s and early 1960s were inspired by Rushbury. His reorganisation of the Academy Schools placed them at the forefront of post-graduate art education, and members and students remember him with gratitude and affection. He gave the students the encouragement they needed, imparted with an understanding in which his sense of fun and warm spirit shone through.

He received decorations and orders from England, France and Portugal. On his retirement as Keeper in 1964, he was knighted.

He continued to paint in his studio, despite increasing ill-health, for another four years. He died on 5 July 1968.

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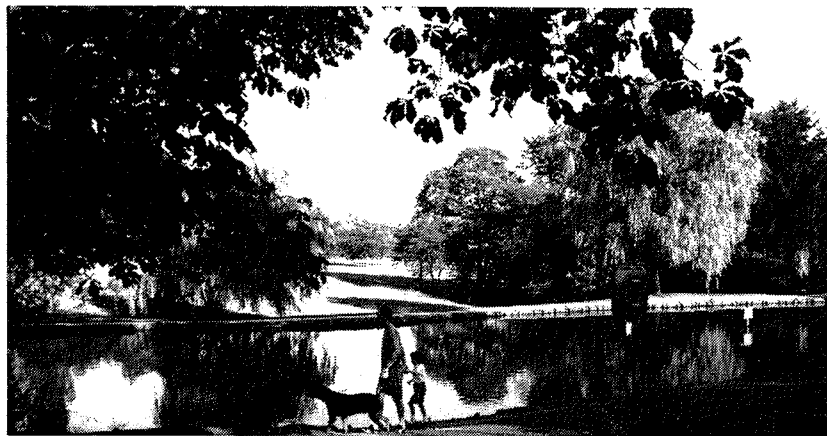
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GROVE PARK *By Ethel G. Ellis*



Grove Park - a view across the pool

Surely one of the loveliest and most peaceful areas in Harborne is Grove Park. It is certainly a joy to those who use it or just pass along its poplar-lined curve in Harborne Park Road, bright with masses of crocuses in spring and rhododendrons later. Originally it was a farm and the farmhouse, later transformed by a famous Birmingham architect into a gracious Victorian mansion, was the home of the the Right Honourable William Kenrick from 1879, then of his son, Alderman W. Byng Kenrick. Each in his turn was Lord Mayor of Birmingham and held many other important civic offices. Mr. Byng Kenrick died in 1962 and The Grove was given to the City - "to be preserved as an open space for all time". He was always anxious that the 26-acre estate should not be covered with buildings.

The house itself was demolished, as the City could not use it for civic purposes, but its most famous room, the boudoir, panelled in very artistic floral marquetry, was offered to the Victoria and Albert Museum, who sent craftsmen to remove it

to London. It may still be seen in the Victorian Gallery of the V & A, noted as "from The Grove, Harborne." Well worth a visit when you are in London!

The grounds became the responsibility of the Parks Department, and over the years they have planted more varieties of trees, azaleas, shrubs and heathers, and have sensitively edged the pool with logs. The huge cedar of Lebanon is over 250 years old and looks with dignity on the undulating parkland where parties of schoolchildren are taken on escorted walks. A tree trail is proposed, and the old coach house near the Grove Lane entrance is to be made into an Information Centre.

The Harborne Society has long felt that some acknowledgment of the Kenricks' beneficence should be in the park for all to see. We approached the Birmingham Civic Society, whose interest and concern in such matters is well known, and we are delighted to learn that they have arranged for a suitable plaque to be erected this year.

Douglas Hickman

The death occurred on 9 April 1990 of the distinguished Birmingham architect Mr. Douglas Hickman of St. Mary's Road, Harborne, at the age of 57. Mary and Eric Abbott, representing the Harborne Society, attended the Memorial Service on 10 May in St. Peter's Church, at which the Archdeacon of Birmingham, the Venerable John Duncan, paid a warm tribute to him as a man and as an architect. Douglas Hickman had supervised the restoration of the tower of this church some years ago.

He was a founder-member of the Birmingham group of the Victorian Society and had written a Guide to Warwickshire. He was responsible for the restoration of the Great Western Arcade, was a member

of the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches, and was the appointed architect of several churches. But he also designed modern buildings such as Neville House in Harborne Road (near Five Ways) and the Crown Courts at Coventry. We offer our sympathy to his widow and daughters.

Citizen Advocacy

Would you be interested in becoming a friend and advocate for someone with a mental handicap and a visual impairment? Ordinary members of the community who believe in the rights of people with disabilities are urgently needed. Interested? To find out more, ring Jerry Chance on 021-433 4295.

Technical Report - Harborne and the 'Unitary Plan' for Birmingham

By Michael Perraudin

In the early 1980s the City's Planning Department, with help from other Council departments, published its District Centre Plan, or "Local Plan", for Harborne. This was one of an intended series of such plans for all areas of Birmingham, required by then - current planning legislation. Its role was to provide a detailed policy statement and exact guidelines for how development of all types - house-building, shopping and other commercial activities, traffic and parking, landscape and recreational facilities, etc. - was to be allowed to proceed in coming years. The Harborne Society became heavily involved in the consultations for this Local Plan. There were many items in the first draft proposals which we supported, but others which seemed misguided, mainly because they gave too little of the environmental or social protections which we thought were needed. We produced a substantial counter-blast to the official proposals, with a report of our own entitled "Our Local Plan", designed to influence the proposals. The final version of the City's Local Plan, when it took effect in 1984, was not to our taste in all aspects, but was a distinct improvement on the first draft, and clearly showed the impact of our work. And it has shown its benefit since. Although not all its rules have been adhered to in planning decisions, it has

nonetheless often acted as a useful brake on uncontrolled development - discouraging over-tall new buildings, for example, or preventing intrusive new commercial uses in residential areas, and other things - which both the Planners and private citizens could invoke in response to unsuitable proposals. We felt our exhausting work on this had been worth while.

In the event, only a few such local plans have been produced in Birmingham, since the law they are based on has been superseded by new Whitehall planning legislation. This replaces the "Local Plan" policy with one for the creation of so-called "Unitary Development Plans" covering much larger areas - in our case, one large document covering all Birmingham. The Society's view is that this is a retrograde policy, calculated to water down severely the protections which the present detailed Plan provides. The Draft Proposals, published earlier this year, certainly seem to threaten that: though the whole document is 130 pages long, Harborne basically receives half a page, plus some small subsections of pages on general policy issues. This compares badly with the old Local Plan of 35 pages. The passages referring to Harborne were, moreover, bitty, inconsistent and not well

informed. Nevertheless, it was clearly necessary that the Society should try to influence and improve the document, even within its inadequate framework, and accordingly several members spent many hours this spring preparing the Considered Response the City had invited. What we produced on Harborne was actually markedly longer than the City's own efforts (as well as more intelligible). As before, we do not expect that all our counter-proposals will be accepted. But some certainly will, and the area will be relatively better safeguarded as a result.

Due to a legislative hiccup, ambiguously admitted in the City's Draft Proposals, the old Local Plans will not in fact immediately be replaced by the new Unitary Plan, but must be deemed to be part of it. Their superseding was supposed to be in the legislation, but someone incompetently forgot. So - we are glad to say - Harborne's Local Plan continues to provide its superior protection for the time being, and - perhaps more important - the City are under an obligation not to propose new principles that conflict with the old Plan, since then their Unitary Plan would be internally contradictory. This is a helpful detail.

But two facts remain: one, that a regrettable relaxation of desirable planning policy control is about to happen; and two, that societies like ours and their members must make the effort to get energetically involved in the consultations surrounding such policy developments, because, dry though they seem, they make a difference.

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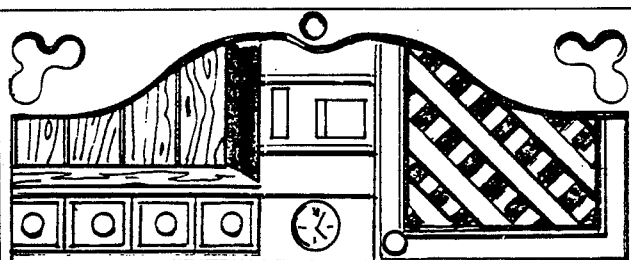
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The Annual General Meeting

The 30th Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday 16 May 1990 at 7.30 p.m. in St. Peter's Church Hall, Harborne.

The members present heard reports from Mrs. Mary Abbott, Chairman, Mr. Michael Perraudin, Technical Officer, and Mr. William Curr, Treasurer. Each report was clear and detailed and indicated just how much work had gone on "behind the scenes" during the whole year by all the Committee. There had been two resignations from Committee - Mr. Alastair

Flint and Mr. Martin Lycett - and two co-options during the year - Mrs. Myra Dean and Miss Margery Elliott. The latter two were duly elected with all the remaining members of the Committee as listed below.

The Secretary made announcements concerning dates for meetings for the coming year and various gardens open to the public for charity. She also gave details of the Harborne Historical Society and other local events.

After the interval there was a most interesting talk and slide show by Mr. and Mrs. Curr on their recent holiday in Australia.

Patron, President, Officers & Committee

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The Right Reverend The Lord Bishop of Birmingham

PRESIDENT

Miss Madeline Aston

CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Mary Abbott, Victoria Lodge,
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CHAIRMAN SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Jean Curr
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427 4084

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. E. Abbott, Mrs. N. Bark, Mrs. M. Dean,
Miss. M. Elliott, Miss E. Ellis, Mr. R. Miles,
Mr. J. Pratt.

PROGRAMME

We look forward to seeing members at our monthly meetings during the next session, and hope that the varied programme will interest you. Among the speakers we welcome the opportunity to hear two of our Society members: Professor Margaret Peil, who is Director of the Centre of West African Studies at Birmingham University,

on 4 December, and Councillor Peter Hollingworth, one of our local representatives on the City Council for many years, on 15 May. We also have a return visit by Mr. Bob Foster, who will be giving his talk on the Bayeux Tapestry on 6 March.

The meetings are the occasions on which members can be brought up to date with the issues in Harborne with which the committee is grappling - so come along.

MEETINGS 90 - 91

1990

Wednesday 12 September

Mrs. F. Broaderwick - Books I collect - St. Peter's

Tuesday 9 October

Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens - Onneley House

Wednesday 7 November

Mr. R. K. Bailes - The Green Man - St. Peter's

Tuesday 4 December

Professor M. Peil - A Visit to Lagos, Nigeria - Onneley House

1991

Tuesday 5 February

Mr. R. Jones and Mr. R. Pipe - Bellringing in Birmingham - Onneley House

Monday 18 February

Annual Dinner - College of Food

Wednesday 6 March

Mr. R. Foster - The Bayeux Tapestry - St. Peter's

Tuesday 9 April

Mr. P. G. Smith - How Green is the Black Country - Onneley House

Wednesday 15 May

A.G.M. and Cllr. P. Hollingworth - 31 Years a Councillor - St. Peter's

All meetings begin at 7.30 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. St. Peter's Church Hall is adjacent to the Church in Old Church Road; Onneley House is in Court Oak Road, on the corner of Wood Lane.

CREDITS

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (or RENEWAL 1 April 1990 to 31 March 1991)

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I/We wish to:

1. become member(s) of the Society
- or 2. renew my/our subscription

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