

THE HIGH WYCOMBE SOCIETY

newsletter

NUMBER 85

AUTUMN 1992

WELCOME TO THE WYCOMBE SWAN!

The Wycombe Swan, billed as Britain's newest theatre, is due to open on Saturday 7 November. The programme for the first couple of months has been published with items that should appeal to all tastes. The Box Office is open. All that is needed for people like us to buy tickets, sit back and enjoy our chosen show and hope that the project will be a huge success. We in the Society are fortunate in having a preview of what will be happening at the Swan. Philip Brewin, who is Managing Director of Hetherington Seelig, the company which is managing the Swan, has agreed to talk to us about the Swan complex at our October Quarterly Meeting. This will be at the Reggie Goves Centre at 8pm on Thursday 22 October. Do come along to hear about

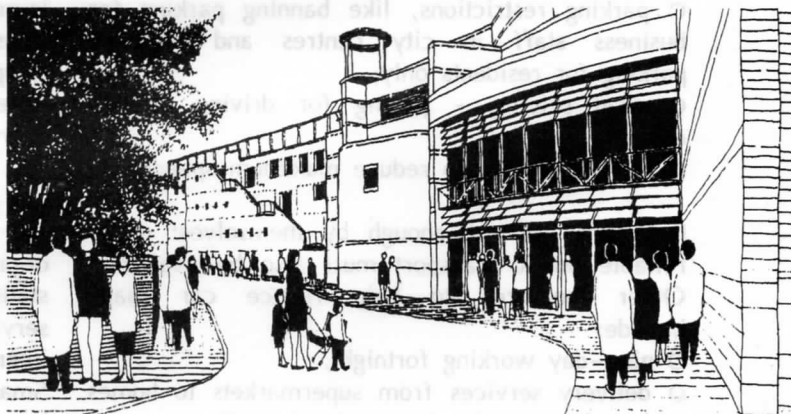
the project which has been talked about for so long and which the Society has supported for many years as an amenity Wycombe people ought to have available and which should bring much needed life to the town centre in the evenings.



Wycombe Swan logo

WYCOMBE SWAN BRITAIN'S NEWEST THEATRE

Talk by
Philip Brewin
Managing Director, Hetherington Seelig
at the Reggie Goves Centre, Pauls Row
on
Thursday 22 October 1992
at 8pm
All welcome!



Other pages: ☐ Wycombe Transportation Study P2;
☐ Pedestrianisation P3; ☐ Not Everyone's Cup of Tea P4;
☐ Meeting reports P5; ☐ Jack Scruton Exhibition and
Book PP6&7; ☐ Planning P8; ☐ Notices P9;
☐ Membership and Dates P10.



...caring about our town and heritage

Registered Charity No. 257897

Honorary Secretary, John Gore, 30 Wordsworth Road, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP11 2UR. Tel: (0494) 526671

WYCOMBE TRANSPORTATION STUDY 1992

The High Wycombe Society Transport Group has offered comments on Wycombe's transport problems to Halcrow Fox and Associates, who are carrying out the Wycombe Transportation Study for Buckinghamshire County Council and Wycombe District Council. A summary is given below. Study findings will be presented in early 1993

The group queries if the thinking behind the survey is really up to date. Should we still be assuming that increasing car usage is desirable when:

- (1) the OECD is saying that the damage caused by road transport makes it essential for society to restrain demand, and
- (2) as recently as June this year, the EC launched a campaign to rid cities of cars?

Restraining measures Governments are reluctant to introduce legislation to restrain car travel. It would be unpopular electorally and there are powerful lobbies linked to road building and the car. In spite of this, many countries across the world are introducing measures to reduce car usage as it becomes clear that building more roads just creates more traffic. Restraining measures include:

- park-and-ride serving town centres, sports stadia etc,
- high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes reserved for cars with three or more
- priority for public transport, like bus lanes, and priority for buses and trams at road junctions,
- parking restrictions, like banning parking for business staff in city centres and allowing parking for residents only,
- road pricing - paying for driving in city centres, and
- traffic calming to reduce maximum speeds.

Restraints are not enough by themselves: cheap reliable public transport must also be available. Other measures to help reduce car usage include:

- nine-day working fortnight,
- delivery services from supermarkets to homes with orders sent by fax, as in Hong Kong,
- telecommuting - working at home using a computer and fax to keep in touch with head office,
- banning any further out-of-town shopping centres.

Los Angeles experience A lesson from Los Angeles is that the longer a 'roads and carparks' policy is pursued, the greater the irreversible environmental damage and the more costly and painful it becomes when the time inevitably arrives for the switch to a system of good public transport. The

great transport dilemma originates in the comfort and convenience of owning a car - so very appealing that everyone wants to enjoy it. The LA experience tells us that increasing car ownership eventually diminishes individual convenience and creates congestion, pollution and huge environmental damage, so that not even the enormous resources of Californian land, money and motivation can overcome these problems by building more roads and parking lots.

Public transport People are not going to give up their cars very readily, but many would be prepared to leave their cars at home for some of their journeys, but only so long as the public transport to work, station, school, shops etc is frequent, reliable and financially attractive. Once a car has been bought, taxed and insured, the cost of using it for one journey seems to be a lot less than the bus fare. The real cost is far more, and motorists ought to pay realistic prices for actually using space on roads and carparks, and for pollution caused. The revenue should be used to subsidise public transport.

Good public transport must also match the journeys that people want. Regular updating of transport needs is essential. A labour-intensive sampling survey of one day's journeys is of very little help in this. A simple ongoing computer operation to register journeys, using postcodes, say, would be much more useful for working out the best routes for buses and delivery vehicles. We think a system like this could be used to organise efficient minibus services from railway stations, in conjunction, say, with a light rail service from West Wycombe to Loudwater with intermediate stops.

Smart card technology is advancing rapidly: High Wycombe could lead the world by introducing a combination smart card for use on buses and local trains, for parking, for park-and-ride and even for admission tickets to Adams Park!

Conclusion We believe the Transportation Study should investigate and develop innovations for the future, rather than just documenting the present. There is no justification for thinking that Wycombe could, in some curious way, be the only place to solve the problems caused by increasing car usage by building more roads and carparks.

TRANSPORT

TOWN-CENTRE PEDESTRIANISATION EXPERIMENT

After many months of discussion involving the County and District Councils and the many organisations with an interest in the town centre, including the Town Centre Forum with our Heritage Group representative, Pauline Cauvain, and our Transport Group, led by Elsa Woodward, a decision has been taken to hold two four-month town-centre pedestrianisation experiments. Starting on Saturday 9 January 1993, traffic will be banned from the High Street (west of Corporation Street), Pauls Row, Church Street and Queens Square from 9am to 4pm every Saturday. For four months buses only will continue to use the High Street, and for four more months they will be diverted to see if any problems arise.

The Society welcomes these experiments and hopes they will prove so successful that permanent

pedestrianisation will become possible as in so many other towns at home and abroad. Imagine the benefits of a fume and traffic-free High Street! We have advocated such a course for many years, and our first proposals date from the early 1970s. Hitherto, the County Council has maintained that pedestrianisation would fail unless a new road was driven from Temple End to the Law Courts via Priory Avenue, and we have disputed this. We trust that this experiment will show once and for all that such a destructive new 'relief' road is not necessary for pedestrianisation to work, as long as any problems are handled with determination. We had hoped that it might also have been possible for Frogmoor and Oxford Street to be included in the scheme now that the Frogmoor diversion is operating. But no, perhaps later.

TRANSPORT JOTTINGS

A change in Government policy on motorway service area spacing and ownership could lead to renewed pressure for a MSA in Wycombe District. The minimum distance has now been reduced from 30 to 15 miles, which increases the possibility of an oil company, say, attempting to seek permission for one nearby. We need to be on our guard to

defend the Green Belt and Chilterns AONB against such a development.

Good news for residents along the route of the M40 on the London side of Handy Cross: porous asphalt, which produces lower vehicle noise levels than that used hitherto, is likely to be applied when the motorway is widened. Hopefully, this will eventually be extended.

VOLUNTEERS

Why doesn't the Society oppose this development? organise that campaign? do this? do that? The Society has done and is doing a lot towards working for a better local environment. All that has been done has been achieved by volunteers, ordinary people who believe in the Society's aims and objectives. But obviously much more could be done if only more people would volunteer.

How can you get involved? No one will force you to do what you don't want to do, or expect you to spend excessive amounts of time on Society work, but there are plenty of things for both novices and experts to have a go at.

Vetting of planning applications is fundamental to the Society's purpose in life, and more help is needed here. You won't be expected to 'jump in at the deep

end'; someone will be at hand to help you to 'learn the ropes'. If you are able to visit the Planning Office during the working day to look at planning applications (in your own area at least to start with) please get in touch with the Chairman, Roger Lawson, on HW528047 or the Hon Sec, John Gore, on HW526671.

Another field of activity where more effort is needed is on publications. This is an important job – publications can help to get our message across as well as raise essential funds. It is also an interesting job – there is much scope for expanding our range of items for sale. Speak to Annie Woodward HW527978 if you are interested. You can be assured your contribution will be appreciated.

John Gore

NOT EVERYONE'S CUP OF TEA!

by Peter Hazzard

An invitation to a buffet lunch and an opening ceremony by Ray Whitney MP must surely be irresistible, but the committee fell silent! Finally, however, I volunteered, and on 16 June I found myself, with support from Reg Williams, representing the Society at an important event.

Chairman of the Wycombe District Council, Cllr Peter Cartwright, and his fellow councillors rubbed shoulders with representatives from local environment groups in the reception room. Then we had to earn our lunch by taking part in a works visit.

It began in a holiday atmosphere with the sight of lifebelts and showers dotted about, trout swimming in clear water, succulent vegetation, the sun shining. Then it all changed, like opening an exam paper and finding you have swotted up the wrong things!

"This is the inflow to the sewage treatment process" declared the guide. We were in Thames Water's Sewage Treatment Works, Abbey Barn Road at the official opening of the new final process which ensures that only high-quality effluent flows into the River Wye.

I was happy to take this 'inflow' on trust, surprised at the close attention some visitors gave it. Adjacent were several dirty-looking empty tanks the shape of swimming baths which I thought should be got rid of. "Oh no, they're essential overflow tanks which fill up when there's a rainstorm" I was told. What I had not realised was that much rainwater from some roads, house roofs and gardens enters the sewers; and then I thought too of bath water. I felt more composed.

We were given the full works, with detailed descriptions of the processes. A mini-version might read: screens remove large objects like pieces of wood, then grit and sand (detritus) is allowed to sink to the bottom, sludge is then removed, leaving liquid (called primary effluent) which is treated in aeration tanks with special microbes to convert it into minerals, gases and water.

The significance of lifebelts and showers became obvious as we 'walked the plank' – with hand rails – over aeration tanks of dirty water!

The *pièce de résistance*, the real object of the visit, was the new final process. The effluent entering this process used to pass straight into the River Wye. It now goes through 700mm of sand. That's a lot of sand, I thought. Then remembering that there are 10mm in one centimeter and about

two and a half centimeters per inch, I worked out that the sand was about 28 inches deep – less than I had originally thought.

As I watched this clear water continuously being pumped into the Wye, increasing its flow dramatically. I realised how lucky the town was to have this treatment works here. If it had been located at Marlow, an alternative choice at the time, water pumped up and used in High Wycombe would have gone straight into the Thames and lost to the Wye.

The area served by the extended works includes places well beyond the town such as Lane End, Stokenchurch, Bledlow Ridge, Walters Ash, Speen and Gt Kingshill, with a population of 85,700, which is expected to rise to 106,000 by the year 2001.

Everyone should be thankful that at a time of stringent spending, a £3.8 million investment in new technology has been made by Thames Water to transform the old, overburdened works into a high-tech centre that is performing securely and efficiently.

As everyone expected, Ray Whitney could not resist a reference to pulling the chain when he pulled the curtain cord to reveal the commemoration plaque!

This was a most interesting visit that reassured us that at least the water environment was becoming cleaner, and certainly there were no noxious smells. The buffet lunch, which included wine (we weren't offered water!) was well appreciated. Not everyone's cup of tea, though!

**You turn on a tap and
fresh, clean water runs
out. You wash up, use the
toilet, take a bath – the
used and soiled water runs
away. But have you ever
thought where that used
water goes and what
happens to it?**

For further information and leaflets on water
and sewage treatment contact:

Customer Services (West)

Thames Water Utilities Ltd

Nugent House, Vastern Road, Reading

Berks RG1 8DB

JULY QUARTERLY MEETING

NATIONAL RIVERS AUTHORITY



The logo of the National Rivers Authority (NRA) – a salmon leaping over a symbolic wave – attempts to sum up the Authority's role as guardian of our water environment, from source to sea. Bob Jeffrey, a pollution prevention officer with NRA, gave us an insight into their fascinating and vital work at the July quarterly meeting. NRA Thames Region covers the whole of the Thames watershed, including tributaries, streams, lakes and underground water supplies, stretching from beyond Swindon in the west, Banbury and Luton in the north, Guildford and Alton in the south, and, of course, London and the Thames estuary in the east. Their responsibilities include the recreational use of water, navigation (locks, weirs etc), flood defence, fisheries and conservation of a healthy river system, water resources and water quality, including pollution prevention and control.

NRA set water quality standards based on national and EC standards for each stretch of river, and only give permission for discharge of waste water into a water course if quality limits permit. Staff regularly monitor major water courses, and advise on waste disposal methods to try to prevent pollution of ground water. In pollution as in other fields prevention is better than cure.

Should a pollution incident be reported, NRA's aim is to clear it as quickly as possible and minimise its impact. Booms may be used to trap

Our lives depend upon a healthy water system.

It is in all our interests to ensure that river pollution does not happen.

pollutants such as oil. The polluter must either clear up the pollution himself or pay the NRA to do it: the polluter pays principle.

Abstraction of water also requires a NRA licence. NRA are concerned about low flow in a number of rivers and action is being taken to restore levels in some of them. Questioners made sure that our speaker knew about the current state of the River Wye (low flow) and the Hughenden Stream (dry). The wide range of questions from the audience showed how important we consider our rivers and water supplies to be.

If you suspect pollution is present in a river or stream, or if you see what could potentially cause pollution, for example, a badly leaking silage store on a farm, contact the nearest pollution control office: during office hours Amersham (0494) 722361; Oxford (0865) 749400; or Reading (0734) 311422; or outside office hours 0800 252768.

COFFEE AND CAKES

What better way of spending a morning in July (Saturday 18 July) than a get-together for coffee and cakes in the Museum gardens?

Shortly before 10.30 all was ready. A table set out with a delectable selection of cakes, the urn on the boil and Ron Sims, in his natty shorts, waiting to take the entrance money as members began to arrive.

The Bring-and-Buy did a roaring trade as customers picked up bargains galore. Close by, a steady stream of people made their way to the back of the museum, where some of Jack's exhibition screens were arranged for viewing and Derek Woods showed his magnificent archives. During the morning a delightful ceremony took place when local artist, Peter Hale, presented Olive Scruton with a picture of Pann Mill, one he had painted specially for Jack's Exhibiton.

It was a most enjoyable morning, and a big 'thank you' to Philip Crouch for allowing us to hold the Coffee Morning in such pleasant surroundings. Thanks, too, to his staff and all those members who so kindly gave cakes and items for the Bring-and-Buy; also to the many others who helped in any way. As a result £144=56 was raised for the Society's funds.

Elsie Fowler

A limited quantity of reproductions of Peter Hale's painting of the old Pann Mill in the 1960s before its demolition are available at a cost of £5 each at Society events.

THOUGHTS ON THE JACK SCRUTON EXHIBITION

by Louise Andrews

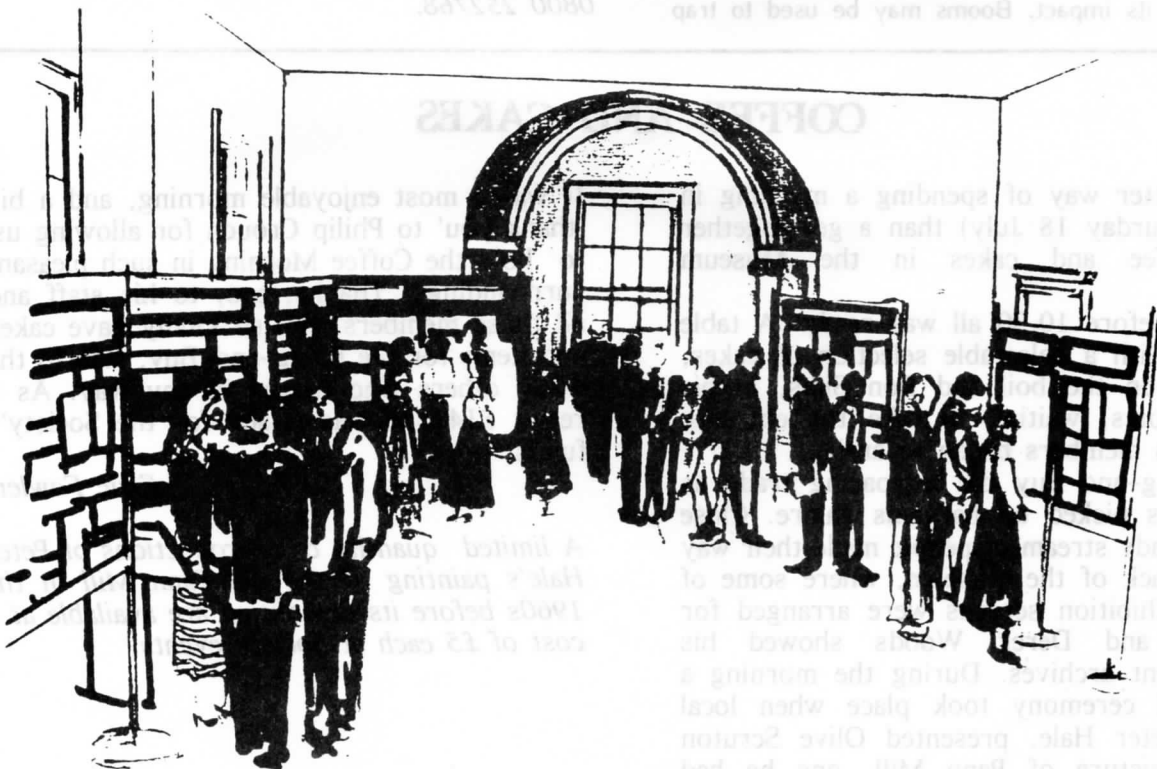
Good exhibitions look deceptively simple. Photographs, captions, sketches and plans arranged in an orderly and logical sequence have been the hallmark of the High Wycombe Society's exhibitions for a number of years. But they're not simple, of course. There are the hours deciding on a theme, the content and layout, gathering the material, sorting it, mounting, labelling, thinking up captions and headings, typing, arranging the display boards, putting it all up taking it all down. It is a daunting task and one only to be pursued by the dedicated enthusiast. Jack Scruton was just such an enthusiast, but fortunately we have many similarly gifted members of the Society, who with typical generosity dedicated their time, energy and talents to providing us with the most appropriate celebration of Jack's life - a superb exhibition.

It paid fulsome tribute to the public face, to Jack Scruton "A Pioneer in Conservation", but it also gave us a glimpse of the private man within, covering Jack's childhood, family life, the RAF and his teaching career. For those new to the Society's work, it gave an informative introduction to the history of the Society and its achievements. For others, this exhibition gave us the opportunity to reflect, to move from collective memory to personal, to indulge in reminiscences of happy times.

I confess that my claim to a share in these rests on the most minimal of contributions. I have always taken far more from the Society than ever I have given. I have enjoyed the talks from eminent speakers, the town trails, the meetings, the barge trips, the Newsletters (especially since moving from my home county to Lewes, four years ago), the exhibitions and most of all the warmth and enthusiasm of those who make up the Society, who share a love of High Wycombe and its surrounding countryside.

The exhibition clearly highlighted Jack's attachment not just to fine buildings and the urban landscape, but to the rivers, fields and woods that contribute to the town's setting, and the groups set up to protect these interests are testimony to that shared concern. I was reminded of Sunday walks with Jack which took rather longer than usual, embellished as they were with his learning. They were further enhanced if we ended up at 17 London Road devouring one of his creative casseroles, which he insisted were merely 'thrown together'.

Jack encouraged me to join the Society after I visited my first exhibition in 1974. A year later, Jane Macneill (née Wardop) and I found we had to leave the house we had been sharing opposite the Chair Museum, and had the good fortune to



Impression of the Exhibition in the Guildhall: Drawing by Elizabeth Beard

be offered the top of Jack's house. That year we were roped into the Historic Buildings' Group, examining planning applications, attending meetings, and then come the Spring, sorting, sticking, writing, answering the 'phone and generally getting a very clear idea of what it meant to be fully involved in running a society. Everyone knows how hard it was to refuse – Jack did not make that an option! But it was a privilege, we loved him, so we did it. And when we moved to our cottage in West Wycombe, Jack remained a very important part of our lives.

Olive's presence at the exhibition and her obvious pride and delight in the love and support she has received from Society members reminded me of the first time Jane and I saw Jack and Olive together. It was on one of those memorable Kennet and Avon Canal horse-drawn barge trips on a hot, still day in May with the leaves just out. We remember seeing this couple entranced with each other's company. In a fleeting moment we caught the look which passed between them. It was enchanting. That radiance remained with Jack and Olive and, I believe, in spite of her loss, Olive still carries something of that magic with her. I suspect, also, that she has inherited something of Jack's mantle. She telephoned to ask me to "write something about the exhibition". I found I could not say "No"!

[As the article discloses, Louise Andrews (née Scull) formerly of High Wycombe, now lives in Lewes, E Sussex.]

BOOK REVIEW

JACK SCRUTON 1915-1991 A PIONEER IN CONSERVATION

Have you obtained your copy of the book yet? If you haven't, you really ought to! And once you start reading you will find it difficult to put it down before finishing it. It is a magnificent tribute to Jack Scruton. You cannot fail to feel the sincerity put into the words so carefully chosen by over fifty contributors in their praise of and recollections of a man who was such an inspiration to so many and who achieved so much against the 'conventional wisdom' of the time.

The book is in six sections:

- O tributes paid to Jack at his funeral ceremony;
- O the Rye campaign;
- O Jack as a teacher;
- O Jack and the High Wycombe Society;
- O tributes from other societies and the Press; and finally,
- O speeches made at the posthumous presentation of Jack's MBE.

MORE ABOUT THE JACK SCRUTON EXHIBITION

The exhibition *Jack Scruton MBE and the High Wycombe Society* ran from Saturday 30 May until Saturday 6 June in the Guildhall. The official opening took place on the evening of Friday 29 May, and among the guests were the Chairman of Wycombe District Council, Cllr Peter Cartwright, and the Mayor of High Wycombe, Cllr Ted Collins. Patrick Reyntiens OBE, stained-glass artist of international repute and President of the Society from 1972 to 1976 had travelled up specially from his home in Somerset to perform the opening ceremony. In his speech, he traced the changes in the philosophy underlying the planning process from its authoritarian period immediately after the Second World War to the more cooperative attitudes of today, and referred to Jack Scruton's success in dealing with the planning authorities, attributing this to his courteous, non-confrontational approach. *(A summary of Patrick Reyntiens' speech is available from the Honorary Secretary on receipt of a request and a SAE.)* During the two weeks of the exhibition, our stewards counted in almost 600 visitors, and 406 people signed the visitor's book. Most gave local addresses, but several came from as far away as Australia and the USA.

In each section, it is clear that Jack inspired respect and affection, and instilled the will to achieve in people of all ages and from all walks of life. After reading this book, anyone who had not met Jack would immediately realise that here was an exceptional man.

The book is copiously illustrated with black-and-white drawings by local artists mostly of well-loved Wycombe vistas, and the type is set in a variety of appropriate fonts.

We are grateful to Olive Scruton for sponsoring the publication, and we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Frances Alexander who designed the book and typeset each page, working unstintingly to meet the deadline of publication by the time the Jack Scruton exhibition opened.

Jack Scruton 1915-1991 A Pioneer in Conservation (64pp A4) costs £3.50, and is available at the local Tourist Information Office and at Society meetings.

John Gore

PLANNING

HIGH HEAVENS WOOD WASTE COMPLEX

No sooner was the good news out that Amersham International were not going to dump their very low level radioactive waste at High Heavens Wood, Booker, (although HM Inspectorate of Pollution had no objection) than we heard that Bucks County Council and Grundon Waste Ltd had applied to extend the area of the present tip by about 30 acres and also to raise its level.

The tip opened about 40 years ago and it was expected to close when it had reached its full capacity in about 1994. The proposed extension brings the tip close to the busy Clay Lane and within 100 metres of housing at Claymoor, where the dust, smell and noise would be likely to be intolerable. Furthermore, High Heavens Wood is

in the Green Belt and Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Its beauty is unlikely to be enhanced by extended waste disposal. In fact, the whole Booker area does seem to have had more than its fair share of development pressures, from Adams Park in the north, via possible motorway service areas and Wycombe Air Park in the centre to High Heavens Wood in the south. However, Booker has a worthy champion in its Booker Common and Woods Protection Society, and we have joined them in objecting to the tip extension and in asking the Department of the Environment to call in the application for a public inquiry.

HIGH WYCOMBE TOWN CENTRE ACTION AREA PROPOSALS

Earlier this year, Wycombe District Council invited public comment on a set of three options for developing the 'Action Area'. This is the important area, 22 acres in all, bounded by Abbey Way, Oxford Road, Brook Street, Westbourne Street, Desborough Road and Lily's Walk, and encompassing the bus station, Newlands and Oxford Road car parks and the old Stewart and Arnold site. This is the area which Jack Scruton christened 'The Western Desert'.

Briefly, all options were to include a new bus passenger interchange, deculverting of the River Wye, the possibility of a new public library and no reduction in car parking. Of the three options: option 1 was to focus on business development with some retail and leisure components; option 2 was to include some housing as well as business, retail and leisure components; whilst option 3 relied almost exclusively on market conditions to determine the proportions of business, housing and leisure.

The Society, in its comments, favoured option 2 because of the inclusion of housing. We have long advocated the repopulation of the town centre to keep it alive after business hours. We also welcomed the proposals to deculvert the river and to separate bus servicing from the passenger interchange area of any new bus station. We also submitted an appendix on transport, which called for forward looking transport policies including a 'superb' bus passenger interchange in the anticipation of a vastly improved bus service with priority over private cars.

We are pleased to note that the District Council after debating the plan in July decided on a variant of option 2 in that some affordable housing will be incorporated. The next step is for the proposals to be included in the draft Wycombe District Local Plan, which is expected to be the subject of a Public Inquiry next year, when further comments can be made.

OTHER PLANNING POINTS

In recent months we have asked the Secretary of State for the Environment to call in the Bucks County Council's application to redevelop the old Lady Verney School site in Benjamin Road for a public inquiry, on the grounds that the proposed housing is too dense and out of character, and also that many mature trees would be lost.

We have also objected to an intensive housing development proposal on land off Pheasants Drive, Downley, and to a proposal to convert residential property for industrial use in Pinions.

HOW TO REDUCE LANDFILL TIPPING

One answer is to increase recycling. At present only about 20% of Britain's waste is recycled: the rest is left in tips which use up valuable land and where rotting down produces pollutants and 'greenhouse effect' gases. We should do all we can to encourage recycling by:

- using bottle, can and paper banks,
- composting vegetable waste which is good for the garden, and
- choosing products with less packaging.

WYCOMBE SINFONIA

Wycombe Sinfonia, a local orchestra which is affiliated to the High Wycombe Society, would like to advise our members of two forthcoming concerts. The first, on Saturday 7 November at 7.30pm in the Parish Church, is a piano recital by the well-known pianist, Iris Loveridge, who is also President of the Sinfonia. This concert (see programme on this page) is to raise funds for the orchestra. The second, on Sunday 6 December at 3.30pm at John Hampden Grammar School, is to be another of the Sinfonia's Family Christmas Matinées. The theme this year is to be 'Animals in Music', and will include the first concerto of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* with its imitation of birdsong, the *Wasps Overture* by Vaughan Williams, and the main item a narrated performance of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* (narrator: Ken Matthews). Tickets for this concert will be available at Percy Prior's Music Shop and the Tourist Information Office, price £4=00 (concessions £2=50). Mince pies will be served during the interval. Please try to support our local orchestras.

Our House

2000 years of Housing History in the Wycombe District

There is still time to visit this exhibition now open in the Guildhall, presented by Wycombe Local History and Chair Museum. It closes on 30 October. As the title implies, displays range from one about the Roman villa on the Rye through to post-war slum clearance. See how your grandparents lived in their childhood days!



ben

RIVER WYE STUDY

Peter Hazzard writes: The Summer Newsletter article on The River Wye Survey should have read *Study* not *Survey*. The Study may be seen in the Reference Library, Queen Victoria Road. It is hoped that all those with an interest in the river will read it and pass any considered views direct to WDC or through the Society.

WYCOMBE SINFONIA

Conductor - John Dunnett

invite you to a
PIANO RECITAL

by

IRIS LOVERIDGE

(President: Wycombe Sinfonia)

at 7.30pm

on Saturday 7 November 1992

at High Wycombe Parish Church

=====

PROGRAMME

Sonata in C major

Sonata in B minor

Sonata in D minor (The Tempest)

Theme and Variations in F sharp minor

Prelude, Sarabande, Toccata

Ballade in G minor

Berceuse

Scherzo in B flat minor

Scarlatti

Scarlatti

Beethoven

Glazounov

Debussy

Chopin

Chopin

Chopin

Tickets £5 (concessions £2=50) available
from Percy Prior's Music Shop and
the Tourist Information Office

SPRING GARDENS

Arts Centre

The Spring Gardens Arts Centre programme up to Christmas is well worth looking at. It offers a wide range of activities for people of all ages plus a series of musical concerts. Get a programme from the Library or by phoning 0494 464800.

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome the affiliation of the following organisation:

School Close Road Association

and a special welcome to our first school affiliation:

The Lady Verney High School

We also warmly welcome the following new individual and family members:

Mr P J Crouch, Oakridge Road
 Mr & Mrs R Gooding, Fernside, Gt Kingshill
 Mrs I Hands, Brands Hill Avenue
 Mrs E M Harris, Newmer Road
 Mr R J Hildesley, Trees Road, Hughenden Valley
 Mr & Mrs I S Horwood, Mill Road, Stokenchurch
 Mrs V Instone, Priory Road
 Mr G F Keens, Warren Wood Drive
 Mrs P McShee, Main Road, Naphill
 Mrs G W M Pearson, Lucas Road
 Mr & Mrs E J Robins, Coombe Lane, Hughenden Valley
 Mr & Mrs M A Russell, Fremantle Road
 Mr & Mrs I R Shadbolt, Combe Rise
 Mrs E Thoday, Newmer Road

We look forward to meeting our new members, and hope as many as possible will be able to come to our next Quarterly Meeting. Please introduce yourself!

OBITUARY

We very much regret to record the deaths of the following members, and we extend our sympathy to their families and friends.

Miss F M Aiton, Rosemary Court, West Wycome Road
 Mrs A Burrans (née Downs) of Nuneaton
 Mr P Tully, Cock Lane
 Mr A Conner Wilson, of Marlow - a much respected former President of the Society

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDERS

Have you renewed your subscription yet, the one that runs from March 1992 until the end of February 1993? If not, it would be of great help to the Society if you would pay as soon as possible, please. Please send any outstanding subscriptions to our Membership Secretary, Mrs Annie Woodward, 20 Coningsby Road, High Wycombe HP13 6UR. The current rates are: Individual £4=50; Family £6=50; Retirement Pensioner £2=00; Affiliated Societies £5 for first 50 members or part thereof, £2 for each subsequent 50 members up to a maximum of £15=00. If you are not sure if you are up to date, Annie would be pleased to let you know; her number is HW527978. Also, would you kindly let her know if you change your address.

Just one more point: if you have joined the Society since August 1991, you are not due to pay a subscription until March 1993.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 22 September 1992
 7.45pm Sands First School
 (by the mini-roundabout)

Saturday 26 September 1992
 8am - midday Lt Market House

Thursday 22 October 1992 8pm
 Reggie Goves Centre, Pauls Row

Thursday 26 November -
 Sunday 6 December 1992

Wednesday 20 January 1993 8pm
 Reggie Goves Centre, Pauls Row

Local History of High Wycombe 1930s - 1950s
 Ian Horwood (Heritage Group Meeting)

Charity Market Stall - please bring cakes, bric-a-brac etc to the stall on the day

Wycombe Swan - Britain's Newest Theatre
 Philip Brewin, Managing Director of Hetherington Seelig, the Swan management company

National Tree Week

Mr Panton of the Woodland Trust will speak about the work of the Trust