

High Wycombe Society

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NEWSLETTER No. 24. SPRING 1975

HOUSING IN HIGH WYCOMBE AND DISTRICT

Recently Councillor Goulborn, Chairman of the Housing Services Committee of the District Council, met the Society's Executive Committee to talk about local housing- and to give factual information about the present position. The meeting was very pleasant and informal, and certainly brought us up to date with regard to local problems.

Councillor Goulborn stated that the current waiting list is about 2,500 and to meet the need the District Council hope to start 600 houses each year for several years. It should be stressed that this waiting list is not confined to High Wycombe, but covers the whole of the District Council area, and that 50% of those on the list are there as a matter of insurance and may well find some other way of obtaining suitable accommodation.



MORE HEADWORK NEEDED

The 50% hard core are those in real need, and it is these people who are the real concern of the District Council Committee. We feel there has been a tendency for the waiting list to be used as a political football, with the assumption that all those on the list are desperate and that the need is confined to High Wycombe. To help those in real need is of the utmost importance, but do not let us be stampeded into making hasty decisions which could be harmful to the town.

Councillor Goulborn emphasised that one of the great problems was the shortage of land. The pressures on "white" land and land in the Green Belt are always there, and if the countryside around the town is to be kept - and we think this is a vital necessity-we hope that these pressures will be resisted. It is a good sign that the old Borough Council, and now the District Council, have recently carried out housing projects or are seeking contracts within the confines of the town, in places such as Slater Street, Duke Street and Totteridge Road. In the "Western Desert", houses are under construction in Green Street and Baker Street and these should be completed by September, and some housing is

contemplated in Oakridge Road and Desborough Street.

We hope that this policy will be pursued vigorously, as it is one which will be of great benefit to the town and to the people concerned. It will bring- added life to the town centre and will enable people to live in places near to all the necessary amenities. There are many more places where this kind of housing- could be undertaken. The open car parks in the Western Desert are not .only terrible eyesores, but are also extremely wasteful in view of the current housing shortage. Then there are places such as Railway Place and Saffron Road, which are mini-deserts crying out for housing development.

In addition to the provision of housing within the town centre, there are other possibilities, such as

- (a) Purchase of houses from private builders where these are proving difficult to sell. The District Council has bought some and could perhaps buy more. The current cost of a Council house is about £1.4,000 and this seems to be more than the cost of a similar private house.
- (b) An end to demolition under Clearance Orders and the rehabilitation of low standard housing to provide short term accommodation at least, in accordance with recent Government advice.
- (c) Rehousing- in smaller units of people who no longer need the normal Council house, which could then be let to those with growing families. This is not always easy to arrange but it has distinct possibilities.
- (d3 Refusal to grant changes of use so that housing is retained for domestic use and not given up for office or other commercial use.

It was clear from our discussion with Councillor Goulborn that the District Council is well aware of these possibilities and that it is prepared to explore every opportunity to provide housing for those in need. In addition to the housing mentioned, 380 houses are under construction at Cressex, 250 at Marlow, 105 at Flackwell Heath and 58 at Loudwater. Between 1st April 1974 and the end of this year there wi ll have been 868 starts.

We congratulate the old Borough Council and the District Council on the careful thought and effort which has been given in connection with the provision of homes for old people. The standard of accommodation and welfare considerations are first class and a good example for other authorities to follow.

Since our last Newsletter we are pleased to report that the District Council have put aside the possibility of building houses in the Gomm Valley. The proposal was considered to be premature and should wait for the publication of Structure and local plans. We hope that the valley will remain open as an essential lung for the town, and as a barrier preventing the unreasonable growth of the town. We are also pleased to record the withdrawal of Bovis Homes from the Public Inquiry which was to have been held on 1st April. The threat to develop 221 acres of Green Belt land to provide housing and a golf course has now been removed. The Residents of Naphill and Hughenden are very relieved and hope, as we do, that this precious land will not be threatened again.

Land south of Hughenden Avenue, Bellfield

The District Council has received authority from the Department of the Environment for the compulsory purchase of land sloping south of Bellfield Estate, down to the railway line, and parallel with the West Wycombe Road.

This is a very prominent site and one of the few remaining open areas on that side of the town. The local residents, while not opposing Municipal housing on this site, are naturally concerned about cthe way the housing development will take place. They feel it is important that existing footpaths should be retained and that

additional access should be provided for use by construction vehicles before the housing- development is begun. They have also made other road proposals, as they fear additional traffic might use the Bellfield Estate and cause severe problems for the local inhabitants.

The site can be seen from many parts of the town and it is obvious that it demands the most imaginative use of landscaping, fitting in the houses unobtrusively on the steep slopes, and avoiding some of the previous mistakes which have occurred when hill slopes around the town have been developed.

The Bellfield Residents' Association has made detailed representations to the District Council and this Society will give support to their very sensible proposals.

Planning Inquiry - Deangarden Rise

The Society was represented at the Public Inquiry held on 21st January. We supported the District Council and the Deangarden Residents in opposing the plan by Ideal Homes to build on the very prominent and attractive site fronting Deangarden Wood. We await the Inspector's Report and Minister's decision. This Inquiry was a good example of the value of a Residents' Association. Local knowledge and feeling was well expressed by Tom Small, and local residents attended in force to speak in support. They deserve to succeed.

Hugh Osborn.

Land at Cressex - H.2.

Clifford Farrant, writing in the Cressex Residents' Newsletter this month, says of the H.2. Campaign:

"It was a long drawn-out battle, won in two stages. First, in place of that most vaguely worded first application (which if approved could have given the landowner virtually a free hand to do whatever he pleased with the 100 acres), came a report by the Planning Officer apparently more or less meeting our principal objection to the original application on grounds of lack of information - though in fact giving us no legal protection whatsoever against the worst happening on H.2.

Then, after more months of negotiation involving District and County Councils, as well as the Department of the Environment, approval was given by the Council on 19th February to a revised application containing no less than nine conditions - including what the Wycombe Observer reported under the headline QUIET VICTORY FOR CRESSEX, the express undertaking that :

1. traffic pressure on Cressex Road would be relieved by a road built across H.2. from Handy Cross to Coronation Road, to be completed before any houses on H.2. were in use, and
2. the road would be extended to the Turnpike before more than 150 houses (out of the declared total of approx 600) were occupied.

It was not a perfect outcome of course. We would have preferred to see much greater distances between the Centres for the Handicapped and the new road system and, more important, to see New Road and Chapel Lane by-passed entirely by a purpose- built ring road for through traffic, joining the A40/A4010 at the Pedestal - a matter which we have pursued hard and often since 1971. It seems unlikely to come to pass, however, though we shall continue to press on behalf of our neighbours in Sands

for traffic management measures to divert heavy through traffic to and from the M40 at Handy Cross to use the dual carriageway of Marlow Hill rather than the highly residential New Road/Chapel Lane route'."

Rosemary Close, West Wycombe Road

During the last two years the residents of Rosemary Close have been very troubled by the attempts which have been made to develop for housing the land which lies between them and West Wycombe. Recently a fresh application to erect 57 flats and garages has been turned down by the District Council. The applicants have appealed and a local Inquiry will be held on 1st July. We share the concern of the Residents¹ Association. To develop the land would create problems with regard to traffic, would swallow a piece of attractive land, and line the edge of High Wycombe with the village of West Wycombe. We feel this gap is important and ought to be kept. We shall certainly support the District Council and the Rosemary Close Residents .

HISTORIC BUILDINGS GROUP ^

Rosemary Shooter

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The Old Chequers

Recently Tisa Property Company served a Purchase Notice on the District Council, but this has been rejected by the Council on the grounds that the building could be restored and would be of beneficial use. As our members will have read, Doug Hodson is able and willing to restore the building if a suitable tenant can be found at a fair rent. We are making enquiries on these lines. If our efforts are unsuccessful then we may have to arrange a deputation to the Minister of the Environment , in partnership with the Chiltern Society and other amenity Societies .

Walter Kraft.

Town Trail

The Town Trail produced by the Society for European Architectural Heritage Year has proved to be very popular. It cost £169 to print and Jim Cottrell tells us that including the sale of two of the original drawings he did for the trail, a few donations and innumerable sales at 5p a copy, he has now received £180 - a profit of £11, which he has placed to the Chequers Appeal Fund, of which he is also Treasurer. Future sales of the pamphlet will also be placed to this fund, for the Old Chequers is part of our heritage.

Historic Buildings Group Meeting's

Since our last Newsletter two further meetings have taken place. On 7th February Derek Woods showed his fascinating slides of old Wycombe and brought along old documents as well. It was difficult to drag members away from them in order to continue the meeting.

On 7th March Mr. Godwin Arnold, the architect responsible for the restoration of our Guildhall, spoke about this, using slides and some very fine photographs and plans. These were used later in our EAHY Exhibition.

In view of the interest shown in these meetings we hope to continue them, using the Friends¹ meeting House as the venue.

Jack Scruton.

COLTMAN'S OLD PREMISES

Visitors to the E.A.H.Y. Exhibition in the Guildhall will have seen a sketch kindly supplied by the Woolwich Building Society showing- how their conversation of No.29 High Street is expected to look on completion. This is a modified design in which our objections to the original proposals have been fully met.

The oil jars about which Clifford Farrant wrote in our last Newsletter are, thankfully, to remain. The 18th century upper storey is not to be altered except to remove the wooden parapet board above the eaves which at present overshadows the attractive modillioned cornice. This will also reveal more of the roof. The good features of the Victorian shop window on the left will be retained. The far less pleasing plain window on the right will be replaced by a nicely-proportioned sash window with glazing bars, in keeping with the Georgian windows above.

We are told that the alterations will be carried out towards the end of this year. Until July, the Cancer Research Campaign organisation will be occupying the shop - a worthy temporary use of the vacant premises.

WOOLWORTH'S OLD BUILDING - 17/18 CHURCH ST & 1/6 QUEEN SQ.

We are grateful to the Charter Building Design Group for providing a drawing of the proposed elevation of this development, which is such an important one for the central Conservation Area. The sketch was also featured in the EAHY Exhibition.

Nos. 3/4 Queen Square form the listed building which is at present used by the Gas Board. The development allows for the retention of the fascia of this building except for the modern shop front. Though as a rule we are opposed to the mere retention of fascias, in this particular case the old interior has been much altered over the years.

The rest of the proposed frontage respects the scale and character of the listed building. There are to be pitched tiled roofs designed to be in keeping with the roofscape of the area.

The upper floors are to be supported on columns to provide arcading at street level, which will in effect widen the pavement at this congested corner to allow improved pedestrian circulation. Anyone who has tried to fight his way through prams and shopping baskets on a busy Saturday afternoon will appreciate this feature.

The plans provide for six shop units with office space above, giving a commendable reduction of density of the site by about 14%. There is to be access for trade vehicles to a service yard at the rear.

THE TOLL HOUSE

The High Wycombe Sports (Cricket) Club has now applied to the Wycombe District Council for listed building consent to demolish the Toll House. The proposal is described in the application as "the completion of demolition of derelict building and reinstatement of fence line."

We have lost no time in lodging our formal opposition to the application. In our letter we argue that the Toll House is both restorable and worthy of restoration: that three-quarters of the structure remains: and that rebuilding of the damaged front using as much original material as possible together with the rehabilitation of the remainder would not significantly detract from the authenticity of the whole and would in no way be tantamount to the building of a replica. We point out too that the Sports Club has not answered our enquiry as to the insurance compensation position for the impact damage nor responded to our suggestion of a discussion. We go on to say that the fact that this Society has tried so hard to understand the Sports Club's difficulties and to help with their problem does not of course derogate from the

Sports Club's responsibilities as owners of a listed building which substantially exists.

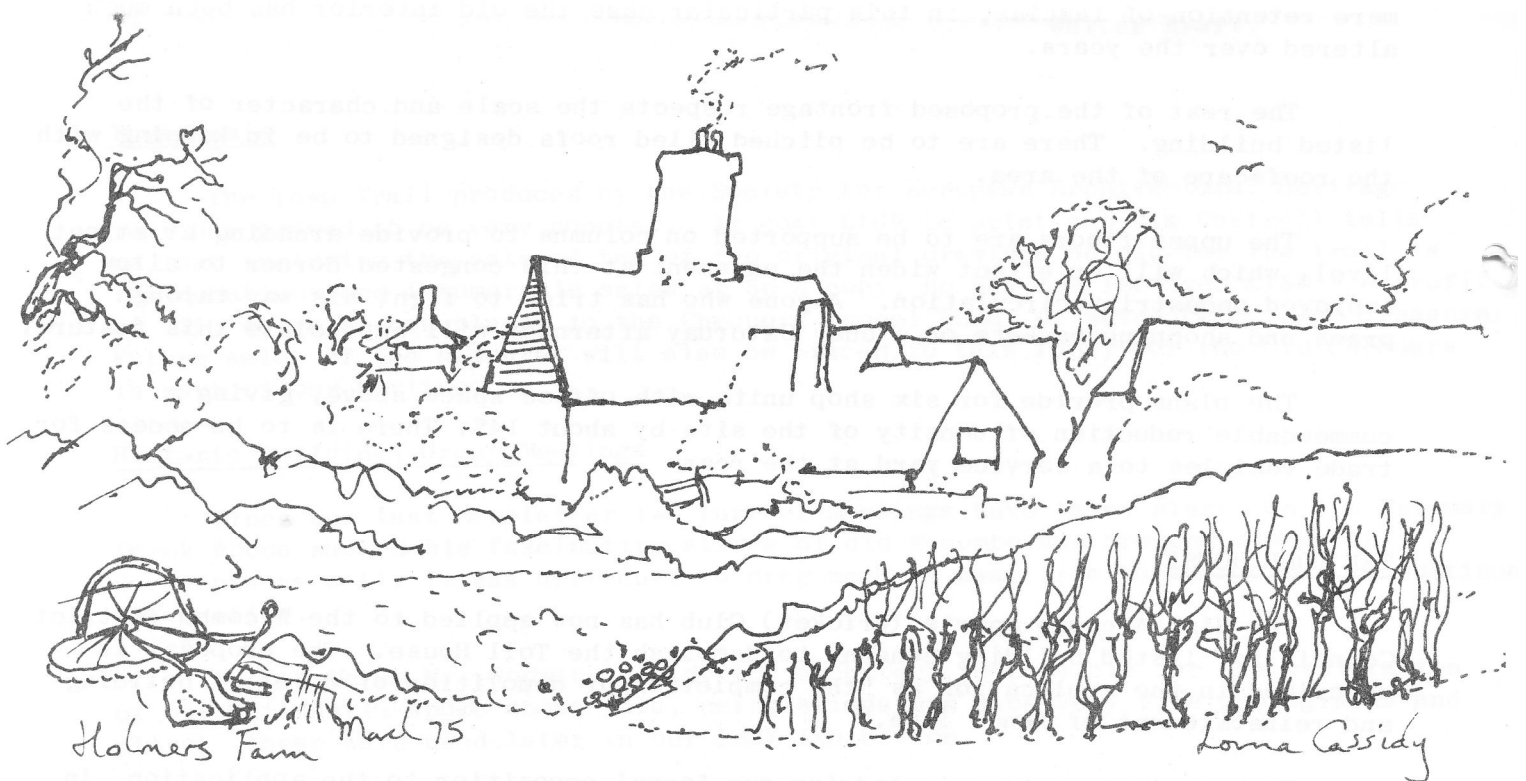
Our stand is supported by the Georgian Group and by the Chiltern Society, On 27th February last an architect member of the Georgian Group, Mr. Phillip Jebb, inspected the Toll House. It was obvious from his comments that he regarded the building as very important and we have subsequently learnt that his society has written to the District Council's Planning Officer unreservedly opposing the application to demolish. The Chiltern Society has also written strongly supporting our objections.

It would be particularly ironic if a decision to consent to the demolition of the Toll House - an irrevocable step - were to be taken during European Architectural Heritage Year.

Walter Davies.

Farmhouses around the Town

There are a number of empty and semi-derelict farmhouses and farm buildings around High Wycombe; buildings which are picturesque but seem to serve little useful purpose at present. This neglect has been brought about by a variety of reasons - housing development, new farming methods, and so on. Many of these buildings are listed buildings of architectural and/or historical merit and an essential part of our heritage. Some examples of these are Widmer Farm at Widmer End, Grange Farm at Hazlemere, Flint Hall Farm at West Wycombe, and Coombe Farm at Hughenden which is completely derelict, but has barns which should be restored. There are also the barns at Green Farm at the foot of Green Hill, which have been badly neglected. We appreciate the difficulties of this problem, but we feel that swift action is now essential to ensure that they are kept in a reasonable state of repair and every effort made to find some good use for them.



Holmer's Farm, Cressex

Although this farm is still lived in, its future is uncertain because of the development of the H.2 Area. Holmer Lane, which leads to the farm, has suffered a great deal recently with the destruction of trees and hedgerows. We hope that similar treatment will not be meted out to the farm buildings. These form an interesting group and are worthy of preservation. They add character to the area which is about to be engulfed

by large scale housing developments. It is important that they are retained in an appropriate setting and a new use found for them of benefit to the people in the vicinity.

The sketch opposite shows faxffi buildings as seen from the field beside Cressex Secondary School Footings from Holmer's Farm Estate and other builder's rubbish is being dumped here.

Lorna Cassidy

Trees Group

National Tree Week was celebrated by the Society by the planting of a white seedless Chestnut, donated by the Trees Group, on the Rye on Saturday March 15th. This was also to commemorate the late Mr. Ewart Steevens as reported in our last Newsletter already. We particularly appreciated having Patrick Reyntiens to plant the tree and pay a moving tribute to Mr. Steevens on behalf of us all. It was also very pleasing to be part of a joint celebration with the District Council and the Young Foresters. Paul Ensor planted a Lime for the Council and the young Foresters planted an Oak, both trees to commemorate National Tree Week.



"George, George, where are you? This settee is heavier than I thought."

A clearance of Deangarden Wood was undertaken on Sunday, February 23rd. I feel sure more volunteers would have taken part had the weather been less cold and foggy, and had they anticipated the superb refreshments generously provided afterwards by Naomi and Chris Cooper. Another clearance will have to be organised here in the Autumn.

Don Gresswell, organiser of the Chiltern Litter Group, gave us a detailed talk on his work at our last Meeting, as a result of which the Trees Group has undertaken to locate dumping sites in and around Wycombe (the old Borough area). It would be appreciated if knowledge of any dumps could be forwarded to me (Tel : H.W. 26616).

Together with WAC, we are endeavouring to progress with the Desborough Road Children's playground. Unfortunately this work has been beset by many discouraging obstacles. However, since WAGC have entered it for a Heritage Year award, for which completion date is September 30th, as many volunteers as possible are needed for Sunday 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.. Please contact me.

The following outings and woodland walks have been arranged:

Sunday, May 18th. Saville Gardens. Meet at Turnpike, Cressex Road, at 10 a.m. Take a picnic lunch.

Sunday, June 15th. Walk - Booker, Wheeler End, Frieth, Booker. Approx. 12 miles. Meet 2.30 p.m. at Booker Common Village Hall. Take a picnic tea.

Saturday July 19th. Walk - Coombe Hill, Wendover Woods and re turn. Meet Coombe Hill Monument at 2.30 p.m. Take a picnic tea..

Barbara Rippington.

Chiltern Society's Litter Group

A re-organisation of this Group's activities has recently taken place, following the resignations of both the chairman and the secretary during 1974. Finding last October a group of volunteers without officers, Don Gresswell - who had previously led the Rights of Way Group for seven years, offered to take on the Litter Group leadership for a period, having in the course of clearing footpaths, always cleared litter too, be it tin cans or old motor cars.

At the same time, he has set up the Chiltern Conservation Volunteers' Bureau to co-ordinate the frequent offers that the Society receives from outside organisations for footpath work on to other conservation work, be it litter clearing, pond or scrub clearing etc. With little publicity, this has been an instant success and in five months, no less than fifty-five organisations have become involved and most have carried out a project or had one allocated. The offers of help range from the Army, many schools, scouts, village or residents' associations, rambling clubs, the Probation Service, and so on.

On the litter front, discussions have taken place with the refuse collection officers of the District Councils : Wycombe, Chiltern, Beaconsfield and South Oxfordshire, and complete co-operation is given with the prompt collection of dumps cleared and bagged by the volunteers. Also preventive measures are suggested to block off those sites which make a "dumper's paradise" in country lane lay-byes, polluted beyond use by any respectable picnicker.

Conservation projects have been arranged after discussions with land-owning organisations such as the National Trust, Forestry Commission, Countryside Commission, Bucks County Land Agent, Berks, Bucks and Oxon Naturalists Trust, Country Land Owners' Association, etc, to offer help where public access facilities are available. This work is being greatly appreciated particularly at a time when costs are high and budgets are low. Volunteers too appreciate being able to improve the environment by

their own hands instead of talking and complaining- about it. Children also, from the cubs ages 9 - 11 , to primary, middle and secondary schools are learning that the countryside is not a place to take rubbish from towns.

The Chiltern Society's Litter Group has carried out rubbish clearances in all the parishes surrounding High Wycombe, in West Wycombe, Hughenden, Penn, Chopping Wycombe, Little and Great Marlow, Hambleden, Fingest and lane End, Stokenchurch and Radnage. Now discussions are taking place with the H.W.S. Trees Group who, under Barbara Rippington have organised clearances in many of the previous Borough's woodlands, a favourite resort for the Town's junk dumpers.

It is expected that a co-ordinated plan will be worked out for the cjoaring and prevention of dumping in the town's rural fringe. The Bureau will channel offers of help to 'adopt' woodlands, commons, parks, footpaths and so on to keep them littar-free. Already the 18th High Wycombe (Wesley) cub pack have taken on Bowerdean Recreation Ground and Lucas Wood; Tinker's Wood School (Downley) are looking after the National Trust Woodland of that name; West Wycombe Primary have looked after their hill for several years; Wellesbourne School have offered to clean up the River Wye this summer; Cressex School may adopt Booker Common; the Royal Graronier School fourth years boys have been scrub clearing at Micklefield Bank and are moving into King's Wood.

There are dozens more schools, scouting organisations, residents' associations and so on who will gladly help to improve their environment if they know that 'the other guy* is doing his bit too.

Offers of further help will be welcomed by Mrs. Barbara Rippington, Secretary to H.W.S. Trees Group, 52A Booker Lane, H.W. (Tel 26616) o>r to C.S. Conservation Volunteers' Bureau: Don Gresswell, Baker's Barn, Cadmore End, H.W. (Tel 881420)

Don Gresswell

European Architectural Heritage Year

This Joint Committee continues to meet monthly and has made some progress towards the improvement of the Conservation Area. Contact has been made with owners and tenants of properties in the High Street and Easton Street, and there are hopeful signs that the majority will be willing to co-operate in improving their own properties .

Joint Exhibition

As part of the EAHY campaign a Joint Exhibition was held in the Guildhall from 17th to 29th March, as part of the Wycombe Arts Festival. The theme was "A Walk in Wycombe" and was an elaboration of Jim Cottrell 's Town Trail which has proved so popular.

The Exhibition consisted of posters, maps, photographs both old and new, drawings and sketches, and plans, and included a section dealing with children's work with Town Trails.

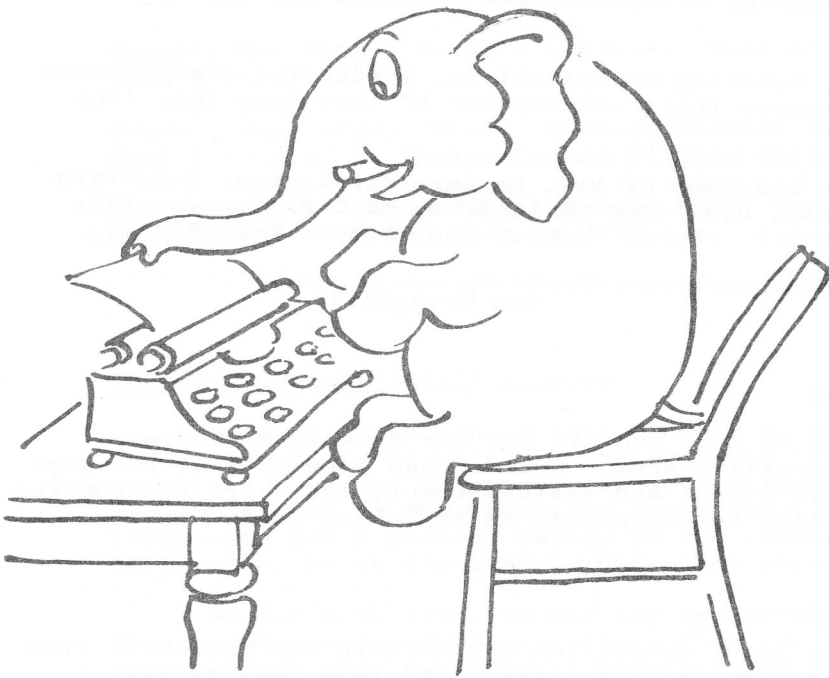
The Exhibition was opened by Lady Hall and it was most encouraging to see such a large and representative gathering. During the following fortnight large numbers of adults and children of all ages visited the Exhibition and showed a very keen interest in the material. A large number of written comments were handed in and these are being studied with great interest. From a preliminary survey, two things stand out:

- (i) There is a widespread demand from all ages for a traffic-free High Street;

- (ii) There is wholehearted approval for the need to improve the High Wycombe Conservation Area, and for continual vigilance to protect our heritage.

The great success was due to a large number of people. The Joint Exhibition Group demonstrated that members of a local authority and an amenity Society can work in complete harmony and with enthusiasm. Of course much depended on the willingness of others to help. The Exhibition Group is most grateful to Man Hutchinson for producing such excellent photographs under great pressure, and to Ronald Goodearl, Ronald Fordham, Edward Sweetland, Gordon Arnold, Ivan Sparkes, Leslie Watson, the

Bucks County Council and the Civic Trust for their very special photographs. One of the crucial problems was the preparation of posters and captions, and we are indebted to Krystina Barrow for her superb lettering, and to Lesley Edwards and Margaret Duff for preparing - captions on a Jumbo Typewriter.



To man the Exhibition was vital and we give full marks to nil those High Wycombe Society members who looked after the Exhibition so well during the fortnight. The Society is fortunate in having such a loyal and interested membership.

Jack Scruton

Some extracts from comments made at the exhibition:

Mr. F. from East Barnett. (Over 35).

"As a visitor to this town it is very obvious to me that the first priority must be the removal of all traffic from the High Street area, thus giving back the town to people".

Mr. S. from Sheffield. (18 to 35).

"Traffic-free precincts are to be encouraged. The system used in Sheffield works very well and brings back trade to the city centre".

Mrs. A. from Bourne End. (Over 35).

"I like the suggestion of making the High Street into a traffic free area. As it is at present it is impossible to enjoy the street due to overcrowding on the pavements and continual traffic on the street".

Miss S. from High Wycombe (Under 18).

"I think that the best improvement that could be made would be to have the whole of High Wycombe centre closed to traffic and become a pedestrian area. This would make the public feel a lot less crowded together and of course safer for children".

Miss O.L from Prestwood (Under 18)

"I feel that Wycombe would benefit from a traffic free High Street" .

Master M. from High Wycombe (12)

"I would like to see the centre of Wycombe free from traffic and the gaps filled in with buildings in the old style".

Mrs. J. from Lancaster. (18-35)

"I much appreciated the efforts towards conserving past beauty and style. The idea of a traffic-free High Street sounds possible and desirable; in Lancaster the same type of project has been carried through with much success - not affecting the business of the town and much enhancing pedestrian safety".

Mr. G. from Milton Keynes. (Over 35)

"I suggest you visit the city of Milton Keynes, including Bletchley, to see what not to do".

Master G. from High Wycombe (Aged 5)

"I like the Jesus picture. I liked the map with the red on it. I liked the cows and the Red Lion".

Mr. J. from High Wycombe (Over 35)

"I preferred it all as it was 30 years ago".

Mr. S. from Penn. (18 - 35)

"A great pity to have the "Gents" beneath the Guildhall - hardly the right place aesthetically - nor from the health (and smell !) point of view"

Mr. K, from Holmer Green« (18 to 35)

"I like the idea of involving children in the history of High Wycombe, or in any other town or village, as this gives them something to base their lives and future on. They are the ones who in later years will retain, improve, or destroy their surroundings".

Mrs. S. from Saffron Walden - a former resident of High Wycombe (Over 35)

"Once an intensely individual and attractive town, High Wycombe seems poised on the brink of the worst fate that can overtake such a town, a descent into faceless concrete mediocrity. Only the intensely dedicated can prevent it"»

Miss P. from Marlow. (Under 18)

"The Exhibition seems very valuable as it highlights many of the old buildings of architectural merit which inhabitants of Wycombe tend to take for granted, but I ^ feel that great care must be taken in the modernisation of properties, particularly in shop fronts, to ensure that Wycombe does not entirely lose its character",

Quarterly Meeting

The last Quarterly Meeting was held in the Guildhall on 24th January, when, a large audience listened to Hugh Bridgman (Naphill Residents), Mrs. Jean Buchanan (B.B.O.N.T.), and Hugh Osborn and John Willson of this Society speaking against proposed housing developments in the Gomm Valley and at Coombe Farm, Hughenden. They received almost 100% support after a very lively debate. We tried a much more informal seating arrangement, as suggested by one of our members. This proved very-successful, enabling everyone to hear and take part.'

News from Affiliated Societies

We welcome the affiliation of the Widmer End Residents' Association. Widmer End is certainly vulnerable and needs the protection of a local Association,

Hon. Secretary : M.C. Bailey, Esq.,
4, Lavender Way,
Widmer End.

Telephone : Holmer Green 3 970

We also welcome the affiliation of the Cygnets Women* s Club, a very lively group with an obvious interest in the town:

Chairman : Mrs. Joyce Kirk, 9 Kingsley Crescent, High Wycombe.
Telephone: High Wycombe 25819,

Musical Evening

On Saturday evening, 25th January, a very enjoyable Musical evening was held at Bassetsbury Manor, when more than eighty members and friends listened to music provided by Ian Farquhar and the Grove Players, and songs and madrigals sung by the Geoffrey Heath Singers. This was a delightful evening, with delicious food provided by Christine Clowes and her team of ladies. Our grateful thanks to all the musicians, singers and helpers. Nearly £40 profit was the encouraging result. We have shared this equally between musicians and singers (to help buy music) and our own Chequers Fund which is still in debt.

Stained Glass Master Course - June 1975

Our President, Patrick Reyntiens, has sent us the following notice as he believes it may be of interest to many of our members :

"We at Burleighfield have the great privilege of being host for the whole of the month of June to Ludwig Schaffrath, the eminent stained glass artist (in fact the greatest in the world), and one of the events we are arranging in the month's programme is a lecture to be given here by him on Monday, 16th June, at 4.30 p.m.

This is such a unique occasion that I would like the Wycombe Society to know about it and as many people as possible to join us. They would be made most welcome. Unfortunately, we will have to make a charge of 50p for the lecture".

We hope that many of our members will be able to attend at Burleighfield House, Loudwater.

HELP NEEDED

The Society needs help in order to become more effective and to lighten the burdens carried by a relatively small group of members. A number of interesting jobs need members to fill them.. They are not too difficult, nor time consuming, and provide scope for personal initiative. The Hon. Secretary would be very pleased if volunteers would come forward to carry out the following

- Secretary, Historic Buildings Group.
- Watchdog, Historic Buildings Group.
- Programme Secretary, Historic Buildings Group.
- Society Programme Secretary.
- Secretary, Exhibitions Group.
- Editor of the Society's Newsletter.

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