



**Berkhamsted
Citizens
Association**

NEWSLETTER

January 1989

A very Happy New Year to all Members!

1989 Annual Membership or Five-Year Membership Subscriptions

Do start the year well, Please complete the enclosed renewal form and return it to the Membership Secretary, Margaret Phillips, 133 Cross Oak Road, Berkhamsted, Herts. HP4 3JB, or to your Newsletter Deliver.

We hope you will renew your subscription and introduce new members as well. We know that last year many of you did, because we had an increase of 83 new households.

The total 1988 membership consisted of 513 households, 159 of which took out 5-year subscriptions.

New Year's Day Ramble

40 walkers (plus dogs) celebrated the New Year by walking to Aldbury, and enjoyed well-earned refreshments at the Valiant Trooper!

Make a note in your diary for the Easter Monday Ramble, 27th March, when we shall be walking the other side of the valley to explore new ground.

1989 sees the start of the Berkhamsted Sports Centre

At the November meeting of the Association, Mrs. Mary Pedlow, Director of Leisure Services for Dacorum, gave a public talk in the Sessions Hall by invitation of the BCA about the proposed Lagley Meadow Sports Centre. Work is planned to start on site in April this year and the Centre should be open in the Autumn of 1990.

Mrs. Pedlow described the Centre's projected facilities in detail and showed layout plans. She outlined the various activities to be catered for, for all age groups, including a crèche.

Mrs. Pedlow took note of the many questions and suggestions for consideration in the final planning of the facilities. Some of these suggestions have been outlined in a letter to the Town Mayor, including the request that the open air swimming pool should be retained for the next two summers, i.e. until the new Sports Centre with its all year round indoor pool is completed.

The Post Office

You may be interested in the reply from the Post Office to our enquiries about changes to Berkhamsted Post Office. The letter comes from Mr. T. Cramphorn, Personnel & Services Manager:

"Firstly, may I make it quite clear that we have no intention of closing Berkhamsted Post Office. What is proposed is that the office will be controlled by an agent rather than a Branch Manager. However, it will provide all services currently available and quite possibly some additional ones. The appointment of the new agent, who may already

be a Post Office employee, will be subject to a contract committing him or her to strict standards of service, which will be continually monitored.

No final decision has been made on relocation and it may be necessary for the office to remain exactly where it is now. If it is moved, you may be sure that it will be to a location that better suits our customers.

Unfortunately, the press frequently fastens onto the most sensational element of any event and plays on peoples fears. In this instance I am sure that your members have no cause for concern and will suffer no reduction in service whatsoever.

I do understand the apprehension which our customers feel about the proposals but I hope that I have demonstrated to you that their fears are misplaced."

Dacorum Borough Council Works Department

In keeping with our policy of liaison and co-operation with Dacorum Borough Council (as well as general awareness) we invited Mr. Dennis Martin, the Borough Council's Works Manager, to attend our December Town Amenities Committee meeting.

He kindly accepted and talked to us about his responsibilities. In a very short period of time we learned a great deal about matters ranging from road maintenance to scaffold licences and refuse collection. On the last item, you might be interested to know that in the borough 40,000 tonnes of refuse are collected annually, weekly collections are made from 50,000 properties and that we generate, on average 0.44 tonnes of refuse per person per annum. The cost per collection is 22p per household and depositing the refuse at Garston is carried out at a cost of £17.42 per tonne which ranks as one of the most economic rates in the whole county.

As a result of the meeting, we intend taking action on two matters:

- (a) to make representations to the County Council requesting that our street lights are kept on all night (instead of until midnight as at present) as there is considerable security benefit at little or no extra running cost;
- (b) to publicise the fact that the Works Department is happy to visit schools with specialised vehicular equipment to demonstrate and talk about their activities on refuse, litter and similar subjects. Phone Hemel Hempstead 42831 and ask for the D.B.C. Works Manager, Dennis Martin.

Environment Award

Nominations are now in for the last year, and shortlisting and final assessment will take place during the next six to eight weeks. There are a good number of entries, and whilst there is a predominance of residential buildings, there are also one or two unusual entries. Look out for the full list which will be printed in the next Newsletter. The results will be given at the AGM in March.

A Committee Member has written a book!

If you are a budding publisher, then you will want a copy of "Inside Book Publishing : a career builders guide" by Giles M. Clark. It is published: by Blueprint Publishing at £6.95. The Bookstack has copies - but only a few, so hurry!

List of Councillors

We last sent you a list of Councillors in May 1987, so it's high time for an update. Has anyone contacted their Councillor in the last year? If you do as a result of receiving this list, please let us know.

Dates for your Diary

MEET YOUR MP

The speaker at our next meeting will be Richard Page MP. He will speak about life as a Member of Parliament and how an MP can help his constituents. This should be a very interesting evening.

Friday 17th February. 8.00 p.m. Sunnyside Church Hall.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING including the Environment Award

Wednesday 22nd March. 8.00 p.m. Sessions Hall.

EASTER RAMBLE

Monday 27th March. 10.30 a.m. Berkhamsted Station.

Citizens' Comments – the spot for your opinions, ideas and grumbles

Thanks to Mrs. M. Hornes who says:

"I recently wrote to Dacorum Council suggesting that when demolishing the swimming pool they turn it into a roller-skating rink for the youngsters which has met with a lot of approval from the various children I have spoken to in this area."

She also asks: "Do you ever have dinner/dances at all?"

We don't, but is anyone else interested?

Send your comments for the March Newsletter to:

Citizens' Comments,
11 Berkley Court,
Berkhamsted

or phone Berkhamsted 865592.

BERKHAMSTED COUNCILLORS

MEMBERS OF BERKHAMSTED TOWN COUNCIL

WARD	COUNCILLOR	
Sunnyside	BENNETT, T W	- Longhays, Garden Field Lane, Berkhamsted, HP4 2NN
Castle	BUPLES, Mrs G J	Windy Ridge, 6 Finch Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 3LH
Castle	* COLEMAN, K J	Kenslea House, Frithsden Copse, Potten End, HP4 2AG
Sunnyside	COOK, J H G	21 Castle Street, Berkhamsted, HP4 3DW
Castle	COX, Mrs D N J	4 Nightingale Lodge, Cowper Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 3ED
Shrublands	CRAWLEY, Mrs J V	1 Whitewood Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 3LJ
Sunnyside	* GINGER, P J	2 School Gardens, Water End Road, Potten End, HP4 2RJ
Castle	OKONSKI, P J"	18 Seymour Road, Northchurch, HP4 3RQ
Shrublands	PALMER, J	Handsworth, Cross Oak Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 3JB
Shrublands	R1X, Mrs Y O	44 St Marys Avenue, Northchurch, HP4 3RW
Shrublands	# ROST, Mrs H	Norcott Court, Dudswell, Northchurch, HP4 1LA
Sunnyside	SHERRATT, D	317A High Street, Berkhamsted, HP4 1AL
Sunnyside	TUCKER, Mrs F E	Swing Gate House, Swing Gate Lane, Berkhamsted, HP4 2RP
	* Also serves on DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL, together with:	
	CARTER, J	1 Chalet Close, Berkhamsted, HP4 3NR
	DUNBAVAND, Mrs J A	Little Oaks, Darrs Lane, Northchurch, HP4 3TT
	HARNAN, F D	24 Cross Oak Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 3EH
	LEES, Mrs W E	13 Hall Park Hill, Berkhamsted, HP4 2NH
	PEAKE, R W	Lismere House, Bank Mill Lane, Berkhamsted HP4 2NS
	# Also serves on HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.	

JANUARY 1989