A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

Graham Jenkins

We live I am told in a world of change. Old dogs have to try to learn new tricks and those who are inflexible in their outlook go to the wall. Your Association endeavours to maintain a reasoned balance between traditional wholesome values and the new approaches which are necessary to achieve our objectives in these modern times.

One of the sad facets of this air of change is the extensive re-shaping of our executive committee. A number of the members felt unable to offer themselves for re-election at the AGM and I would like to mention a few of these especially. Our former membership secretary, Reg Cambridge, whose sterling work over many years has provided the Association with its life blood will be sorely missed. Marie Davies, our treasurer has sadly, also left the ranks and we thank these Association stalwarts for all their hard work on our behalf.

Our saddest loss however is our former chairman Mrs Diane Kirk. Diane had been a member of the committee for many years and had been particularly concerned with road safety in Bromley. For the past three years she has occupied the "hot seat". Recently however she has been beset by domestic problems and commitments which have regretfully led her to the decision to curtail her activities. The Association is deeply indebted to Mrs Kirk for the onerous duties she has carried out over many years and we sincerely hope that her domestic problems will resolve themselves satisfactorily.

One of the more disastrous consequences of this loss is that the Association now has a new (and rather dog-eared) chairman. I shall do my best to keep from you my worst deficiencies.

And now to the future. We have a wealth of expertise and enthusiasm on the committee. I would like to mention Mrs Catherine Goldberg particularly. She has taken on the demanding job of membership secretary and, together with her section leaders and road representatives, faces the daunting prospect of getting you to part with your money. She deserves your support and co-operation.
While it would be unduly optimistic to describe the future of the Association as rosy, the new, younger blood coupled with the experienced old hands augurs well for the future. You will be well served by them. But in any objective analysis the strength of the Association must lie in the strength of its membership. Your support, complaints and perhaps encouragement — are its raison d'être.

TRAFFIC TRIBULATION

ROAD BLOCKS THREATENED, shouted the headline in the Eltham Times, 'Residents' fury at car parking'. It seemed only one more step to 'UDI for Nottingham'.

That particular flare-up over parking of cars in Devonshire Road in the village. Another protest which hit the headlines was over the volume of traffic using West Park as a main road to and from the A20 Sidcup Road. These were just the more vocal expressions of a concern about traffic and parking in ‘Nottingham’ which has increasingly been occupying the attention of the Residents' Association.

Many people in Nottingham are very concerned about the large volume of fast and heavy traffic that now flows through the area every day and at the problems arising from parking of cars around the village. Individual matters have been raised with the Bromley and Greenwich councils in the past, but with little effect partly because Nottingham is on the edge of both boroughs and so tends to be ignored by both of them and partly because the problems in individual roads were just part of a bigger problem for the whole area. It could happen that an easing of the traffic problem in one area could intensify it elsewhere.

So the Residents' Association decided this summer to hold a special meeting to look at the problems of traffic and parking for the whole area. The meeting was held on August 16 and was attended by a good number of local residents Councillor Alistair Macdonald and representatives from Scotts (Nottingham) and Downtime — companies with premises in Dorset Road.

It was decided at the meeting that both boroughs should be approached and asked to consider the points raised on traffic and parking in Nottingham at a joint meeting of the two Borough Engineers.
The main flow of traffic through the village area is in Nottingham Road, Court Road, Grove Park Road, Nottingham Lane and West Park, and the strongest complaints over traffic have come from residents of Nottingham Lane and West Park. There is also concern over safety at the War Memorial roundabout and at the bends of Grove Park Road approaching the War Memorial.

Nottingham Lane has long been a cause of representations to Bromley council and it was decided to ask once again that width restrictions should be placed in the road to keep out heavy traffic.

West Park residents have made separate representations to Greenwich council with the aim of closing the end of the road at the Sidcup Road. No West Park residents were present at the August 16 meeting but it was felt that to close the end of West Park completely would simply divert the traffic along West Hallowes and Luxfield Road, which are much narrower.

An alternative recommendation was therefore made that no right turn should be allowed out of West Park or Luxfield Road into Sidcup Road. The effect could be to increase the rush-hour traffic jam in Court Road but it might also persuade some drivers to find routes avoiding Nottingham village altogether.

A third point which it was agreed should be pressed with the borough councils was that the configuration of the War Memorial roundabout should be altered to ensure that traffic moving from Grove Park Road into West Park had to reduce its speed drastically. At present traffic from Grove Park often considers that it has right of way and is already travelling at speed when it enters the roundabout and on into West Park. A replanned roundabout would be safer and would reduce the speed of traffic in West Park.

Finally because of the danger between traffic and dense parking at the Sidcup Road end of Leydoun Road it was recommended that no right turn should be allowed out of Sidcup Road into Leydoun Road.

Parking in Nottingham was the other main concern of the meeting. The areas most affected here are Devonshire Road and Dorset Road, Devonshire Road as a cul-de-sac in the middle of the village is a favourite parking place. It also houses the premises of Goldsmiths Motors and the stores used by the Nottingham Horticultural Society. In Dorset Road the parking
problem is aggravated by the movement of through traffic and
the presence of Scott's garage, Bowtime and a school.

Difficulties are also created at times by parking on the
pavement on Nottingham Road itself, and it is quite clear that
parking facilities in the area are quite inadequate.

Four proposals were agreed at the meeting for sending to
the two councils. Two were concerned with on-street parking which
could make a small contribution. There is space for a lay-by
for on-street parking on the north-east side of Nottingham
Road between Nos 47 and 59. There is also space for a
lay-by for parking on the south-east side of Court Road
between Nos 275 and 281.

Two sites were suggested for off-street parking - one in
each borough. On the Bromley side there is an overgrown site
in Court Farm Road which is earmarked for a future replacement
for Dorset Road School, but at present it is used intermittently
by the Borough Engineer.

It was proposed that this should be converted into a
public car park, on the understanding that it should revert to
its originally intended purpose when the replacement of Dorset
Road School becomes possible.

A tentative offer was made at the meeting by Mr. Crampton,
a director of Scott's, that his company might be prepared to
lease the site and convert it to use as a public car park
provided that some space were made available to his firm.

While this was seen as a suitable site, some doubt was
expressed at the meeting that even if it were suitably
signposted many motorists would consider it to be too far from
the centre of the village.

The only off-street site that could be created in the
village centre would be behind the shops in Nottingham Road
and in the area behind that currently used as a nursery, and
it was agreed that the boroughs should be asked to look at this
possibility.

The present situation is that a meeting between the Borough
Engineers of Bromley and Greenwich is planned, and Councillor
Alistair MacDonald has emphasised to Bromley that it should be
held at an early date.
ARE YOU BEING SERVED?

That makes a good community - a place where people enjoy living - is not good shops and local services easy transport, attractive roads, trees, nicely cared-for houses and gardens; though all these things help. A community is people, and a good community is one where people are friendly, considerate, willing to help each other when needed.

Lots of help of this sort is going on all the time in Nottingham - that's why many people say it's a friendly place. But there are still many people here who are not getting all the help they need - people who are elderly and can't manage those jobs around the house and garden like they used to; families where a member is handicapped in some way; families where one parent is struggling to bring up a family single-handed; people who are housebound and would appreciate having somebody just to come and talk to them.

At the same time there must be people who have the time and would be willing to give a hand in cases of need; perhaps people who themselves have known what it is to be lonely or unable to cope with all the work to be done.

It is to bring together the people who need help and those who are able to help that a Good Neighbour Scheme is being launched by the Nottingham Community Services Project at a meeting - get out your diary - on Monday November 6 at 3 pm at the Nottingham Community Centre in Kimmeridge Road.

The programme is being supported by the Bromley Council for Voluntary Service and the Bromley Borough Social Service Department, as well as local Nottingham organisations, and we are appealing for helpers of all ages from teens upwards from people who can give only a little time to those who can give a lot of time for all kinds of help from digging the garden to driving somebody to hospital.

At the meeting on November 6 we want to do three things: - find takers for some vacant jobs - start a pilot survey of part of the area to discover what needs are still not being met and to find more volunteers - launch a 'lifebelt scheme' allowing housebound people to call for help in emergency.

The Nottingham Community Services Project began work two years ago on the Bromley side of Nottingham but it is hoped
that we shall be able to expand into the Greenwich side.

In its first two years the Project has been run entirely by young people and has been aimed at helping the elderly with gardening and similar jobs, and through this work to build better understanding and friendships across the generations.

We intend to continue and build up this part of the work because it has proved very successful, but at the same time we believe there is a wider range of needs that can be satisfied by bringing all age groups into the project.

**MOTTINGHAM WEEK AGAIN**

Planning has started for Mottingham Week 1979 and the committees are looking for new ideas for the programme.

Councillor Alistair Macdonald was elected chairman of the steering committee at an open planning meeting which was held on October 13 when it was decided to go ahead with the fourth of Mottingham's biennial festivals. Because there is a lot of secretarial work in planning the week a secretariat of three was elected: Valerie Bartlett, Joan Huxley and Audrey King.

One important difference next year will be that a theme is to be chosen for the week as a whole, and the aim will be to make a profit for some worthwhile local charity. But there is no intention that the financial objective will override the main purpose of Mottingham Week which is to let people enjoy themselves get to know each other better and develop the identity of Mottingham as a community.

Apart from this change programme ideas appeared to be developing along similar lines to last year's successful Jubilee Mottingham Week.

Besides the main steering committee which will represent all areas of Mottingham four special committees have been set up and a co-ordinator appointed for each. They are:

- Pete committee: Rose Kennedy 30 Model Farm Close, 857 6256
- Sports committee: Brian Mills 30a Green Lane, 851 0423
- Arts and Crafts Committee: Ron Julian 9 West Park, 957 4329
- Publicity Committee: Jack Hollingham 33 Devonshire Road, 857 5956

Secretariat for the steering committee are: Valerie Bartlett 13 Court Farm Road, 857 7999; Joan Huxley 71 Court Farm Road 857 6099; and Audrey King 3a Lavidge Road 857 2333.
IN BRIEF

Albert Road: Councillor Macdonald reports on progress. Two families are still to be rehoused from the terrace houses on the south side before they can be demolished. Following collapse of negotiations with the Prince of Wales for exchange of some land, the Borough Architect is examining the possibility of building old people's dwellings on the site of Nos 1-11. The corner site long used unauthorisedly as a lorry park, has been bought and will be fenced. The purchaser wants to build two houses there.

Old people's club: The club in Wellington Close on the Geffry Homes Estate is to open very soon. A committee has been formed and Councillor Ron Hazard is a co-opted member. Bromley Social Services are being asked to provide a luncheon club.

Book your rates rebate: Winifred Parkinson, Nottingham Librarian, has been looking through the interesting new books recently added to stock and adding up their prices. Non-fiction: she calculates averages about £6 a book, fiction £5. 'For only 10p', she says, 'you can reserve a book and perhaps be the first to handle a new book and experience the joy of its glossy new cover and clean pages as well as your favourite reading. Over 1,000 new books were added last year and we can also borrow from the stocks of all the libraries in London and the South East.

'Why not retrieve part of your rate demand in this attractive form of rebate?' says Miss Parkinson. 'That an enjoyable way of getting back at the borough treasurer.'

No doctors: With the closing of Dr North's practice in Court Road there are now no doctors practising in Nottingham and his 330 patients are being referred as far afield as New Eltham. But even these patients are being turned away by doctors who cannot accept any more. Residents' Association secretary Margaret Gardner has written to the Bromley and Greenwich Family Practitioners' Committee and a representative from Bromley is coming to see her shortly. A spokesman for Greenwich said that they could not force doctors to come into the area and that a doctor needed about 2,000 patients to make a practice viable.

Rats: Number 21 West Park has been empty for several years and neighbours say the house is infected with rats. All that MPA secretary Margaret Gardner can get from Greenwich Borough is that they cannot trace the owner and that they cannot
make a compulsory purchase order without notifying the owner. She is now doing some detective work of her own to find out whose house it is. If you have any clues please pass them to her.

Calling lone parents: Mrs Hendy wants to start a club for them. If you are interested ring her on 357 2951.

OUR SCHOOLS

by Councillor Ron Huzzard

Primary schools
Nottingham parents reacted strongly to Bromley's plan for closing both Castlecombe Primary and Dorset Road Infants' Schools. Determined action groups were formed by parents at both schools.

Bromley's new Education Committee chairman Councillor Mrs J. Bryant had to meet both groups. The Chief Education Officer and Mrs Bryant heard the school managers plead for the retention of both schools at a special meeting held on September 7.

Bromley's plan assumed falling rolls at all Nottingham's schools. In fact the numbers at Dorset Road are up to 70. At Castlecombe the roll has reached 200 compared with 173 a year ago. Nottingham's councillors predicted rising numbers, bearing in mind council housing development in the area.

Early closure of either school seems a long way off. We now want the words 'to close' deleted from Bromley's plan. Both schools are popular and parents do not want to see a single large school on the Ravensworth site as the only choice left.

Nottingham Girls' School
Education minister Mrs Shirley Williams has told Bromley to adhere to its secondary education plan and re-organise all its schools on comprehensive lines by September 1979.

Under the plan passed by Bromley Council a year ago, Nottingham Girls' School - currently a secondary modern school with 360 girls on its roll - is planned to close in September 1980. The girls are to be transferred to Beaverwood (Chislehurst) and Bickers Wood (Bickley) - both girls' grammar schools and scheduled to go comprehensive in September 1979. Extensions are planned at both these schools.

Whether or not Bromley implements this plan time alone will tell. It should be remembered that Nottingham Girls' School
The school has had this threat hanging over it for too long. While the schools offered to Nottingham boys and girls in the future are all excellent, Nottingham as a local community will have no secondary school less than two miles away. The nearest will be Cooper's co-educational school in Chislehurst.

**MEET NEW MRS CHIEF ROAD REP**

One of the most important jobs in our Residents' Association is that of the co-ordinator of the membership sub-committee, because it is this person who is especially responsible for maintaining the links between the executive committee and the entire membership.

Until this year the task has been handled very ably by Reg Cambridge who has been a greatly liked and hardworking member of the executive. For the past year or two Reg has been trying to find a successor to take over the work, and at this year's annual general meeting we found a volunteer - Mrs. Catherine Goldberg.

Cath Goldberg lives in Beaconsfield Road with husband Dennis and their two children Ross, aged seven and four-year-old Danielle. In the four years they have lived here they have come to like Nottingham very much... 'We find it a friendly place', says Cath.

In the task of collecting subscriptions and distributing the newsletters Cath is helped by a team of road representatives headed by four section leaders. Then she took over there were quite a number of gaps to be filled where people had been unable to continue as representatives or as section leaders so from the outset she was faced with a recruiting task.

She now has all but one of her section leaders and a loyal band of road representatives and is very appreciative of their help but there is still a need for more road representatives and if you feel you can help in distributing these magazines twice a year and collecting subscriptions once each year - not an onerous task - Cath would welcome a phone call or a letter from you. She is at 13 Beaconsfield Road, SE9 and the number is 351 3955.
The list of road representatives and their roads is now as follows. The gaps to be filled are also shown.

**Section leader: Catherine Goldberg**

- **Albert Road**
  - Mr Ferguson
- **Avondale Road**
  - Mrs Herbert
- **Beaconsfield Road**
  - Mrs Goldberg
- **Court Farm Road**
  - Mr Jenkins
- **Crossway**
  - Miss Rendell
- **Dorset Road**
  - Mrs Redgrove
- **Elmhurst Road**
  - Miss Parker
- **Model Farm Road**
  - Mrs Rogers
- **Nottingham Road 100/151**
  - Mrs Ferguson
- **Nottingham Road 127/203**
  - Mr Bannister
- **Porcupine Close**
  - Mr Bannister
- **Portland Crescent**
  - Mrs Redgrove
- **Portland Road**
  - Mrs Redgrove
- **Bourdillon Court**
- **Evans Court**
- **Everest Court**
- **Hillary Court**
- **John Hunt Court**
- **Tensing Court**

**Section leader: Dennis Goldberg**

- **Court Road E & W**
  - Mr Goldberg
- **Evelyn Court**
  - Mrs Currie
- **Highcombe Close**
  - 
- **Birketts Road**
  - Mr Papp
  - Miss Boteux
- **Boumead**
  - Mr Papp
- **Bromhedge**
  - Mr Papp
- **Chapel Farm Road East**
  - Mr Papp
- **Chapel Farm Road West**
  - Miss Hyde
- **Crossmead**
  - Miss Boteux
- **Downleys Close**
  - Mr Wood
- **Leysham Road (odd)**
  - Mr Wood
- **Leysham Road (even)**
  - Mrs Roberts
- **Lavidge Road**
  - Miss Boteux
- **Royal Court**
  - Mr Horsman
- **Sidcup Road N & SE**
  - Mr Horsman
- **13 Birketts Road**
- **13 Birketts Road**
- **9 Lavidge Road**
- **9 Lavidge Road**
- **9 Crossmead**
- **59 Crossmead**
- **4 Highcombe Close**
- **4 Highcombe Close**
- **4 Highcombe Close**
- **Nottingham Road**
- **59 Crossmead**
- **9 Grove Park Road**
- **29 Albert Road**
- **14 Chapel Farm Road**
- **13 Beaconsfield Road**
- **61 Court Farm Road**
- **3 Crossway**
- **6 Dorset Road**
- **70 Beaconsfield Road**
- **15 Beaconsfield Road**
- **29 Albert Road**
- **67 Leysham Road**
- **68 Leysham Road**
- **10 Dorset Road**
- **16 Dorset Road**
Luxfield Road
Nottingham Court
Nottingham Road 1/93A
Nottingham Road 2/56
Pickwick Court
Priory Leas
Sidcup Road NW
Sidcup Road SW
West Hallows
West Park
Woodside

Section leader: Bob Realpe 23 Cedar Mount Nottingham Lane
Cedar Mount
Colview Court
Clarence Road
Devonshire Road
Grove Park Road (odd)
Grove Park Road (even)
Hall View
Lulworth Road
Nottingham Gardens
Nottingham Lane
College View

Section leader: Brian Barker 178 Grove Park Road
Ashdale Road
Carters Hill Close
Jevington Way (odd)
Jevington Way (even)
Senlac Road
Westdean Avenue
Hinn Road

WHO'S WHO

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1973-9

(Presidents except where indicated)

PRESIDENT Rev. C.M. Byers 233 Court Road 857 1691
VICE-PRESIDENT Mr H. Lynn 21 Ashdale Rd SM12
CHAIRMAN Mr G. W. Jenkins 51 Court Farm Rd 857 8705
VICE-CHAIRMAN Mr L. Bannister 63 Leysdown Rd 857 2977
HON. SECRETARY Mrs M. V. Gardner 35 Leysdown Rd 857 665
HON. TREASURER Mr S. E. Smethurst 32 Leysdown Rd 857 0990
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. B.J. Barker 79 Grove Park Rd. 851 9209
Lt. Cdr. C.J. Bond 32 West Park 857 3306
Mrs. C.E. Goldberg 43 Beaconsfield Rd. 851 3955
Mr. D. Goldberg 43 Beaconsfield Rd. 851 3955
Mr. T. Goldsmith 153 Pinks Hill Swanley Kent Swanley 68130
Mrs. S. Grove 31 Cedar Mount Mottingham Lane 857 2791
Mr. J. Hollingum 33 Devonshire Rd. 857 5856
Mrs. J. Huxley 71 Court Farm Rd. 857 6099
Mrs. G. Laurence 3 Belvoir Close 857 2203
Mr. W.A. Lingham 12 Cedar Mount Mottingham Lane 857 4786
Mr. C.R. Pryke 76 West Hallowes 857 3005
Mr. R. Roalfe 28 Cedar Mount Mottingham Lane 851 3695
Mr. P. Winpenny 12 Grove Park Rd. 857 1117

SUB-COMMITTEES ETC.

NEW ROADS: Mr. L. Batham
BROMLEY RESIDENTS' FEDERATION: Cllr. D. Richards
ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Bromley: Cllr. D. Richards
Greenvich: Mr. C.R. Pryke

MEMBERSHIP: Mrs. C.E. Goldberg and Section Leaders

TOWN PLANNING: Bromley: Mr. G. J. Jenkins
Greenvich: Mr. R. Roalfe

PUBLICITY: Chairman and Editor Mr. J. Hollingum. Messrs. Pryke
Winpenny Meadham Huxley Goldberg with Mr. Jenkins and
Mrs. Gardner ex officio.

GREENVICH B.C. Committees (Planning Environmental and Tree
Group) Mr. P. Winpenny

ELTHAM SOCIAL SERVICES (AREA 5) GROUP: Mr. Lingham Rev. C. Byers

ELTHAM ASSOCIATIONS COMMITTEE: Mr. Lingham Mr. P. Winpenny

MOTTINGHAM WEEK: Mrs. M. V. Gardner

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

A. J. Macdonald 79 Oakdene Avenue Chislehurst 857 8219
R. H. Hazzard 37 Hollingsworth Road, Petts Wood 857 5367
R. L. Martin 11 Crouch End 857 3840
D. Richards 10 West Hallowes 857 5849
Mrs. Wendy Mitchell (Advisory) 30 Glenhouse Road 857 5397