

MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER No. 9

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1975

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

As in every other sphere of activity, we have the good news and the bad. The bad news is that this country (and others) is in a bad way and this is going to last, seemingly, for some time. The good news is that we have a new Chairman, Mrs. Diane Kirk. This is very good news and I am sure that you will all join with me in wishing her a very happy and interesting term. I would wish it to be a long one!

Other good and not so good news follows. I hope it is of interest to you all. As the Chairman writes: in these difficult financial times we must watch our principles and the balance of cuts made in their priorities. My colleagues will do this, but we need your help. For example, the journalists amongst you might be interested in editing this Newsletter - we want young people to come forward, too, with their suggestions and, in fact, their active support. This Association is concerned with the community, and it is the community side of our work that is important.

Congratulations Diane Kirk! (Get well soon, Douglas!)

D. LYNTON PORTER,
President.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN:Mottingham - What is it?

A village split by two borough boundaries, Greenwich and Bromley, with one neighbour often saying: "that's no concern of mine, you live in the other borough", and vice versa. This is the wrong attitude. Mottingham should mean the environment in which we live, striving to be a happy community united as one.

The Committee elected by Mottingham Residents are always watching for ways to improve the community; putting forward

on your behalf views and when we do not agree with various council decisions, trying at all times to get the best for Mottingham that we possibly can. We know we cannot please everyone but decisions are made and taken for the benefit of the majority. If you do not like things as they are, write or telephone one of the committee with your suggestion or complaint. That is after all what we are there for.

Bromley Council has decided as one of its economies to cut street lighting in residential roads except bus routes, junctions and other road hazards. If a member is concerned over particular lights or streets, again let us know. Greenwich area is at present unaffected in this respect.

Your Library is now closed two days a week, but Bromley at the same time as they economise install in the Library a photo-copying machine which straight away can be used only four days a week! How does our Librarian feel? Is she happy with her work schedule or could not library hours be changed to fit more with a pattern of to-day's life - say, a late night opening?

Councillors Macdonald and Huzzard from Bromley give Mottingham a considerable amount of time and keep us fully informed on anything which might or does affect Mottingham as well as stressing vigorously any points at Council meetings we wish raised. The Committee would like to say "thank you" to both these gentlemen for their diligence on our behalf.

We welcome Councillor Mrs. Wendy Mitchell as our new Greenwich representative.

As cuts in Councils expenditure are necessary to keep within the guide lines laid down by government, very material cut-backs will have to be achieved in the present budget. necessitating a reduced level of council service. Our priorities for Mottingham are a must, so again may we please hear from you with your views.

As many members who attended the A.G.M. already know, Mr. Douglas Cater-Smith resigned as Chairman and from the Committee. It is very difficult to express adequately how much he will be missed. Mr. Cater-Smith has been Chairman for a great number of years from the time the Association was 300 strong we are now over 1550. The increase is greatly due to Mr. Cater-Smith's efforts along with Mr. Cambridge's agility in canvassing Road Representatives; and where there were no Road Representatives, collecting in

the roads themselves. We have learned with regret that Mr. Cater-Smith has recently undergone a serious operation in hospital, but that he is now convalescing at home. We wish our ex-Chairman a speedy recovery, on behalf of all our members and committee. Knowing Mr. Cater-Smith hates being idle, I will have to warn the Secretary to take on extra help to deal with the mail bags that are sure to arrive for her, full of ideas from Mr. Cater-Smith.

My thanks go to all the Committee and Road Representatives for the enthusiasm they show for doing what is best for Nottingham; particularly to Mrs. Gardner, our hard-working Secretary, who always finds time for the extra letter or phone call.

DIANE KIRK,
Chairman.

OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 1975/76

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|---|
| PRESIDENT: | Mr. D.L. Porter: | 23, Grove Park Road, S.E.9 857 4424 |
| VICE-PRESIDENT: | Mr. H. Lynn: | 24, Ashdale Road, S.E. 12. |
| CHAIRMAN: | Mrs. T.G. Kirk: | 10, Scotsdale Close, Orpington, Kent. 66 34834 |
| VICE-CHAIRMAN: | Mr. G. Jenkins: | 61, Court Farm Road, S.E. 9. 857 8705 |
| HON. SECRETARY: | Mrs. M.V. Gardner: | 55, Leysdown Road, S.E. 9. 857 6654 |
| HON. TREASURER: | Mrs. M.E. Davies: | 1, Cedar Mount, Nottingham Lane, S.E. 9. 857 7855 |

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Mr. L. Bannister: | 68, Leysdown Road, S.E. 9. | 857 2497 |
| Mrs. M.A. Browning: | 28, Leysdown Road, S.E. 9. | 857 8138 |
| Mr. R.C. Cambridge: | 7, Lavidge Road, S.E. 9. | 857 1291 |
| Mr. C.A. Durell: | 54, Jevington Way, S.E. 12. | 857 6302 |
| Mrs. V.L. Gillibrand: | 30, West Park, S.E. 9. | 857 4343 |
| Mrs. D. Hollingum: | 33, Devonshire Road, S.E. 9. | 857 5856 |
| Mr. J. Jeffery: | 25, Westdean Avenue, S.E. 12. | |

Continued

Mr. W.A. Lingham: 12, Cedar Mount, Mottingham Lane, S.E. 9. 857 2466
 Mr. W.J. McCall: 171, Mottingham Road, S.E. 9. 857 2054
 Mrs. N.I. Moncur: 234, Court Road, S.E. 9. 857 1964
 Mr. C.R. Pryke: 76, West Hallows, S.E. 9. 857 3005
 Mr. H.F. South: Littleholme, Mottingham Lane, S.E. 9. 857 0836
 Mr. D. Watson: 31, Highcombe Close, S.E. 9.
 Mr. R.P. Wood: 44, Highcombe Close, S.E. 9. 857 1251
 Mr. F. Winpenny: 12, Grove Park Road, S.E. 9. 857 1417

NEW ROADS SUB-COMMITTEE: Chairman: Mrs. M.A. Browning,
 with Mr. Bannister and Mr. Durell.

BROMLEY RESIDENTS' FEDERATION: Delegates: Mr. C. Durell
 and Mrs. M.A. Browning.

ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Bromley: Mrs. T.G. Kirk.
 * Greenwich: Mrs. N.I. Moncur.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY/COMMITTEE: Mr. R.C. Cambridge with Mr.
 H.F. South and Mrs. Gillibrand.

TOWN PLANNING: Mr. G. Jenkins.

PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE: Chairman: Mr. D.L. Porter
 with Mesdames Gardner and
 Hollingum, Messrs. Pryke
 and Winpenny.

GREENWICH B.C. COMMITTEES: * Planning & Environmental, and
Liaison Groups: Mr. Winpenny.
Social Services: Mrs. Moncur.

* Deputy: Mr. C.R. Pryke

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS:

Bromley: Cllr. A.H. Macdonald: 79, Oakdene Avenue,
 Chislehurst. 857 8219
 Cllr. R.W. Huzzard: 37, Hollingworth Road,
 Petts Wood. 467 5367
Greenwich: Cllr. Mrs. W. Mitchell: 2, Glenhouse Road,
 S.E. 9. 850 3591
 Cllr. R.L. Martin: 11, Crouchcroft, S.E. 9.

ROAD STEWARDS 1975/76

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Albert Road | Mrs. Ferguson | 29 Albert Road |
| Ashdale Road | Mr. Lynn | 24 Ashdale Road |
| Avondale Road | Mr. Jones | 25 Elmhurst Road |
| Beaconsfield Road | Mrs. Brown | 82 Beaconsfield Road |
| Beaconsfield Road (Council) | | |
| Birbetts Road | Mr. Pass | 13, Birbetts Road |
| Bourdillon Court | | |
| Bowmead Road | Mr. Pass | 13 Birbetts Road |
| Bromhedge | Mr. Farrer | 9 Lavidge Road |
|) Carters Hill Close | Mr. Semrock | 14 Carters Hill Close |
| Cedar Mount | Mrs. Winterbourne | 26 Cedar Mount |
| Chapel Farm Road East | Mr. Farrer | 9 Lavidge Road |
| Chapel Farm Road | Miss Hyde | 49 Crossmead |
| Clarence Road | Mrs. Hollingum | 33 Devonshire Road |
| College View | Mrs. Davies | 1 Cedar Mount |
| Colview Court | Mr. South | "Littleholme", Mottingham Lane |
| Court Road (West Side) | Mr. Moncur | } 234 Court Road |
| Court Road (East Side) | Mrs. Moncur | |
| Court Farm Road | Mr. McCall | 171 Mottingham Road |
| Crossmead | Miss Boiteux | 59 Crossmead |
| Crossway | Miss Rendell | 3 Crossway |
| Devonshire Road | Mrs. Hollingum | 33 Devonshire Road |
| Dorset Road | Mr. Hollingum | 33 Devonshire Road |
| Downleys Close | Mrs. Redgrove | 48 Dorset Road |
| Elmhurst Road | Miss Barker | 80 Beaconsfield Road |
| Evans Court | | |
| Evelyn Court | Mrs. Jenkins | 16 Evelyn Court |
|) Everest Court | | |
| Grove Park Road (Odd N) | Mr. Willis | 56 Grove Park Road |
| Grove Park Road (Even S) | Mr. Winpenny | 12 Grove Park Road |
| Hall View | | |
| Hartsmead Road | Mrs. Roberts | 1 Mottingham Road |
| Highcombe Close | Mr. Watson | 31 Highcombe Close |
| Hilary Court | | |
| Jevington Way (Odd) | Mr. Rogers | 11 Devonshire Road |
| Jevington Way (Even) | Mr. Durell | 54 Jevington Way |
| John Hunt Court | | |
| Lavidge Road | Mr. Fitzgerald | 60 Leysdown Road |

ROAD STEWARDS 1975/76 (Contd.)

| | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Leysdown Road (Odd) | Mr. Wood | 44 Highcombe Close |
| Leysdown Road (Even) | Mrs. Redgrove | 48 Dorset Road |
| Lulworth Road | Mr. Hollingdum | 33 Devonshire Road |
| Luxfield Road | Mrs. Forrester | 41 West Hallows |
| Model Farm Close | Mrs. Morgan | 41 Beaconsfield Rd |
| Mottingham Court | Mr. Smith | 22 West Hallows |
| Mottingham Gardens | Mrs. Davies | 1 Cedar Mount |
| Mottingham Lane | Mr. South | "Littleholme", Mott- ingham Lane |
| Mottingham Road | Mrs. Ferguson | 29 Albert Road |
| Mottingham Road | Mr. Bannister | 68 Leysdown Road |
| Mottingham Road (102/120) | Mrs. Ferguson | 29 Albert Road |
| Pickwick Court | Mr. Skarratt | 6 Pickwick Court |
| Porcupine Close | Mr. Bannister | 68 Leysdown Road |
| Portland Crescent | Mr. Watson | 31 Highcombe Close |
| Portland Road | Mr. Watson | 31 Highcombe Close |
| Priory Leas | Miss Cater-Smith | 2 West Park |
| Royal Court | | |
| Senlac Road | Mr. Lynn | 24 Ashdale Road |
| Sidcup Road North (W. of Court Road) | Mr. Smith | 22 West Hallows |
| Sidcup Road South (W. of Court Road) | Mr. Pryke | 76 West Hallows |
| Sidcup Road North (E. of Court Road) | Mr. Ravetta | 559 Sidcup Road |
| Sidcup Road South (E. of Court Road) | Mr. Ravetta | 559 Sidcup Road |
| Tensing Court | | |
| Westdean Avenue | Mr. Jeffery | 24 Westdean Ave. |
| West Hallows | Mr. Pryke | 76 West Hallows |
| West Park | Mrs. Gillibrand | 30 West Park |
| Winn Road | Mr. Lynn | 24 Ashdale Road |
| Woodmere | | |

(Editor's Note: If any pensioner has a few hours to spare and would like to help as a Road Representative, please get in touch with any of the following:-

Mr. Reg Cambridge: 7, Lavidge Road 857 1291
 Mrs. V.L. Gillibrand: 30, West Park 857 4343
 Mr. H.F. South: "Littleholme", Mott. Lane 857 0836)

ROAD SAFETYBROMLEYMottingham School for Girls:

A request for a pedestrian crossing outside this school has been refused. The Road Safety Officer reported that a traffic check showed insufficient pedestrian usage to warrant a crossing.

Better Driving Courses:

These courses start in September under Adult Education at Raglans School and Charterhouse School. They are held in the evenings, followed by an observed drive with report. Crofton School has a course in the afternoons, but an observed drive is not included.

At Norman Park, Bromley:

Manoeuvrability courses are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. These have been found to be very useful in aiding parking in meter bays (and small places).

Cycle Training:

This is progressing very well, and it is hoped that this education will prepare the children for cycling and for motoring later on.

(Editor: You wouldn't have thought so from the number of "Large" cycles now riding on Mottingham pavements. Will parents please train their children in how to cycle safely, that roads are not playgrounds, and that footpaths are for feet).

Further details of the above courses may be obtained from 464 3333.

ELTHAM

The Police do not favour a special restriction of parking in Leysdown Road. They consider any restriction here would be difficult to administer, and it would make considerable demands when man-power is in short supply. Nevertheless the Greenwich Council and the Police will watch this problem closely.

(Editor: This is good news as excessive double parking in residential roads is unattractive, often very selfish and certainly dangerous).

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The Association and others have been interested in the possibility of obtaining a ban on the traffic trying to turn right from West Park into Sidcup Road. This is being studied, but we are told that it hasn't a high priority at present.

(Editor: The Road Safety Officer has recently had an increase of two on his staff. We hope that this is "good news" and will repay in saved lives the obvious cost in cash).

ROAD SAFETY NOTE:

Please use crossings when they are safe and traffic has stopped for you. Cars cannot stop if they are right on the crossing and you walk out. Please don't run across a road especially between or near parked vehicles.

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MOTTINGHAM LIBRARY

Education and reading, its necessary adjunct, are in decline, and the further reduction of library hours in Mottingham is very serious.

Against a background of pop-culture, children and students are particularly vulnerable. In closing the library for more hours a week their opportunities of availing themselves of reference books, skilled advice and the benefits of a quiet, safe place are reduced still more.

Having initiated school visits and other contacts with teachers in the hope of developing in these children the desire to visit the library independently, they are now confronted with shut doors.

Declining issue figures may be quoted in justification of this action. More to the point would be a proper investigation into the suitability of the hours open to the public. Patterns of life are changing and late-night shopping, women out at work, lack of parking facilities, roads dangerous to children, lack of signposting and a negative approach to the development of a newly built library, would probably be found to have had a powerful influence.

Socially, our Library fills a place in the community whereby the lonely and the old find something else besides books. Easy chairs and papers were provided in support of this idea. Locking it all up for two days a week seems to be a waste of the resources already provided, and hardship for the older in the village.

Unlike other libraries, we share the heating facilities provided for eight flats above. These will still have to have hot water and heat. Therefore, the boiler will still have to run and consume oil

Locked away for two days a week is the telephone and photocopier. Surely it is more economical to use the resources already available to the full, rather than adopt a negative policy.

Our own Library which was built in about two years, cost around £40,000 (including the flats), and was open and working within the week, is surely repaying in terms of service the initial modest outlay. This fact should convince the policy makers that small units are worth encouraging, not crippling.

They should consider the elderly and sick and children who cannot so easily go to alternative libraries when ours is closed. For them, the local library is a cultural and social amenity which cannot be proved good or bad by issue figures.

Mottingham Week 1975 reveals the community as being made up of vigorous, enterprising people trying voluntarily to raise the cultural level of their area. It is sad that the Library has been unable to further the good start it made in Mottingham Week 1973 and extend its influence more by reaching out to its commitments beyond the village.

The financial limits imposed will lead to the Library playing an increasingly passive role, and the ground gained since its inception will represent so much wasted effort - and money, - since this seems to be the operative word by which the Town Hall measures everything.

(Editor: Of course, Greenwich and Bromley residents use this Library).

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MOTTINGHAM WEEK 1975

The festival mood of Mottingham was extended throughout the whole of the area when thousands thronged to the Fete on the first Saturday. The children will remember the huge procession through the streets which was led by Max Wall who judged the best fancy dress and the best-dressed and decorated bicycle. 72 stalls raised £1,500 for their organisations and charities.

Highlights of the week included Ian Murdoch's lecture and slides on "Grandfather's Mottingham"; an Any Questions Forum on local affairs; and the winners of the best front garden competition were presented with their prizes at the Flower Show which was packed to capacity. Twenty-three shopkeepers decorated their shops in gala mood, and many donated raffle prizes for the forty-four events that were organised for the week. Mottingham's new Hall, the Chris Mumbray Hall, was opened on the second Saturday - a Youth hall dedicated to a Mottingham boy who fell to his death on an Outward Bound expedition in Devon four years ago.

At the meeting winding-up the Week, Mrs. Belle Breen announced that the main purpose of the Week was to promote a spirit of community, of friendship and unity. Councillor Alistair Macdonald, the Treasurer, announced that a surplus of £500 had been achieved, which was a pleasant surprise. It had been agreed that the Bromley Holiday Play Group; the Coldharbour Task Force; the Chris Mumbray Youth Hall; the St. Vincent de Paul Society; the Mottingham Community Centre Blind Club; and the St. Christopher Hospice should be the beneficiaries. The balance of £100 would be set aside to help finance Mottingham Week 1977, a Committee for which had already been formed. The Chairman whole-heartedly thanks all those who worked so hard and helped to make the Week so successful.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 8th, 1975:

A United Service of Remembrance will be held on the forecourt of The Porcupine PH, Mottingham Village, at 10.50 a.m. All are warmly invited to attend.

THE COMMUNITY LAND BILL

Your Officers are concerned with watching the progress of the Community Land Bill which, in brief, "will enable the community to control the development of land in accordance with the community needs and priorities and restore to the community the increase in value of land arising from its efforts".

The London Borough of Bromley Residents' Federation have written to the Town Clerk, and the Clerk to the G.L.C., enquiring exactly how this law will be applied locally if the Bill is passed, and what its effect will be on the rates.

(Ed. - Question: Who decides what the community needs and what the priorities are? Answer: All of us ... or do we?)

Mr. Dobry, Q.C., for the Department of the Environment, sees no reason why making land available for development and preventing excessive profit cannot be achieved under the present plans and systems of taxation.

MOTORWAYS

In the present financial climate it would appear that the further development of massive motorway and ringway schemes will not occur. The Inner London Ringway Plan has been axed already. However, your Committee will watch the situation regarding all roadways, big or small.

HEALTH EDUCATION FOR THE WINTER

Most of us (if not all) have had an incredible summer as far as sunshine has been concerned, and it is difficult to think about the days ahead of mist, rain, cold and ice; but they will surely come. With them will come the hazards for us all, but especially for those who are old, the very young and those perhaps on very limited incomes.

Advice seems so obvious, yet many still ignore the simple precautions we can take for ourselves or for others. If the weather is bad, keep out the mist and cold: freezing bedrooms are not healthy. If fuel is short (and it is going

to be very expensive this winter), try to keep one room warm and live in that. This is so important for those older ones; five or six woollies don't keep you warm, it is the overall temperature of the room that does it. If you have the old, infirm or more helpless near you, please check the gas cooker, electric leads, and above all, any oil stoves that may be used. Leaflets are available from Town Halls or the Area Health Authority on all these matters. And if you ache, sneeze and have a temperature, don't spread it around, please - go to bed and take care of yourself and others. Call your doc only when you really need him.

THE LONELINESS OF THE LONG DISTANCE RUNNER

Did you know that on Wednesday, the 30th July, 1975, Mottingham staged its very first "Old Crocks" race? As a result of a discussion on who was the most (or least) fit, two members of our Association decided to wager a pound on running around the block bounded by West Park, Mottingham Road, Court Road and Sidcup Road. The competitors were our immediate past Chairman, Doug Cater-Smith, and our Membership Secretary, Reg Cambridge.

Both had thought long and hard about the strategy they would employ on this gruelling contest. Doug had a notion that he could leave Reg on the uphill climb of Court Road and, once out of sight, could thumb a lift from a passing cyclist. Reg, on the other hand, decided to secrete about his person his Senior Citizen's Bus Pass and, after letting Doug get a little ahead, "hop on a bus" to save himself the final sprint.

The fateful time arrived and at 7 p.m. a large crowd (three to be precise) of officials and spectators assembled at No. 2 West Park to see this race of the century. The official starter and timekeeper was Jim Fuller, while Graham Jenkins, camera at the ready, recorded the event for posterity.

As it was a very hot evening, Doug took off not only his coat but also discarded his tie. Reg went further and even removed his shirt. The race started at 7.03 p.m.

and the contestants set off at a brisk pace. On turning the corner into Court Road, Doug set up a truly blistering pace and, according to plan, opened up a lead. Alas, due to the vagaries of London Transport, no bus was in sight, and Reg had therefore slowly to haul himself up the hill. Doug was equally unlucky: there were no passing cyclists.

The result was a win for Doug Cater-Smith in the startling time of $8\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. Reg Cambridge came second and can take pride in the fact that he took a very good place in a highly competitive field. For the statistically minded, the time was a course record.

Honour was satisfied, and the winner sportingly put his pound note on the bar of the local hostelry to buy the assembled admirers a drink. The nearest thing to speed which was seen that evening was the way the contestants downed their first pints!

LOCAL CHURCHES WORK TOGETHER

Next month thirty-five Mottingham People from all walks of life will be going away for the weekend to a quiet corner of Surrey, where they will be talking about how they can best serve Mottingham during the last quarter of the 20th century.

What brings them together is what once divided them - they are all members of local churches. They will be talking about ministry, which is not particularly to do with governments or even with parsons. Ministry is about the way people help each other as Christians in their families, their neighbourhood, their work, and so on; and also about the particular jobs of the professional ministry.

October's Conference is the latest venture sponsored by the Association of Mottingham Churches, which was founded only a year ago "to co-operate in bringing the churches of Mottingham to do everything possible together in the name of Jesus Christ". As yet our membership does not include all the churches of Mottingham, but the three Anglican churches and the Roman Catholic and Methodist churches are deeply involved.

Continued

The Association is one sign of Mottingham's strong sense of being a community in its own right, despite coming under different London boroughs. There is a thriving Eltham Council of Churches, to which our local congregations still belong as a group; but it is felt it can work more closely together in the local neighbourhood.

There is much to be done, but we feel we have made quite a good beginning. A street warden scheme has been started, with representatives who welcome newcomers to Mottingham, and where necessary put people in touch with local sources of help.

There have been united services at Easter and during Mottingham Week; and house meetings were held in many homes during Lent, culminating in a united act of celebration in the Maryfield Hall.

One of the latest proposals has been for a community newspaper, sponsored by the churches but dealing with all aspects of Mottingham life. This we regretfully postponed because of rapidly rising costs; but in the meantime we are looking at the possibility of a smaller-scale newsletter.

THE FUTURE OF ELTHAM TOWN CENTRE

Does Eltham have a future, and if so, what is it?

This is the basic question to be considered by local people when reading the Greenwich Council publication: "A Future for Eltham Town Centre". The trend, as far as shopping is concerned, seems to be towards the larger centres. Bromley and Lewisham are already formidable rivals and major developments are planned for Bexleyheath. This is all very well for the consumer, but where does it leave Eltham? True enough, Marks & Spencer are extending their High Street store, new shop units have been built and existing ones occupied where they were empty only a few months ago.

However, several factors restrict Eltham's growth as a major shopping and commercial centre. The High Street is surrounded by good, solid houses which have many more

years of life in them. Therefore any large scale expansion is cramped for space - it is also cramped for money. The halcyon days of grandiose schemes financed either by private enterprise or the public purse, are over and many of you will think that this is long overdue.

Transport is another problem. Local bus services are poor and seem to be getting worse. Commuter services are being cut as fares rise and the extension of the Underground to these parts is as far away as ever - some would say almost as far away as the completion of the Dover Radial route.

Therefore, Eltham depends as a shopping centre on the motor car and car parking which, as you know, can be difficult on Fridays and Saturdays, and is a bone of contention for residents. Greenwich Council is introducing a Parking Zone in the Town Centre involving meters, wardens and a reduction in the parking spaces available. Although the proposals did not find much favour with ourselves or with many local residents, we can only await the results, and we would be happy to receive your views once the zone is in operation.

The last factor is the most important, and that is, what do local people want? Many have told us that they want it to stay basically "as it is", a residential area but with improved shopping facilities and civic and recreational amenities; others suggest increased office and commercial opportunities. Many of you may shop or work in or just pass through Eltham; but if you are interested in its future, we would be pleased to have your views.

Tony Rooth and Wendy Mitchell,
(Councillors - Eltham Ward)
2, Glenhouse Road, S.E. 9.

Note from Editor: Residents in the Greenwich area of Mottingham will already have received a copy of Greenwich Council's publication: "A Future for Eltham Town Centre". The views of residents should be made known to Councillors Tony Rooth and Mrs. Wendy Mitchell as soon as possible at the above address. Alternatively, The Eltham Society is preparing a reply to the publication and would also welcome your views. Please contact the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Sally Simmons, at 29, Red Lion Lane, Shooters Hill, S.E. 18.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Friends of Task Force: Arrangements are being made for a fund-raising Cheese and Wine Party to be held in the Committee Room Suite at the Town Hall, Woolwich, on Friday, 10th October, 1975, at 8.00 p.m. During the evening, entertainment will be provided by The Pendulum Folk Trio. Tickets @ £1.00 inclusive of refreshments are available from R.L. Doble, Hon. Sec., Old Town Hall, Polytechnic Street, Woolwich, S.E. 18.

Mottingham Horticultural Society: At the Trading Store, 22, Devonshire Road, an extensive range of horticultural sundries are stocked, together with tools and various fertilisers. The following are also on sale in their respective seasons: Peas, Beans, Onion Sets and Shallots, Seed Potatoes (to orders only), Begonias, Daffodils and Hyacinths. Orders are accepted for Suttons Seeds and catalogues are available during January at the Store. Times of trading are those published on the reverse of the membership card which must be produced at the time of making purchases at the store.

Floral Arrangement Society: Members meet on the THIRD WEDNESDAY of each month from 8 p.m. - 10 p.m. at St. Andrew's Church Hall, Court Road, for lectures and demonstrations by qualified demonstrators. Further information available from the Secretary: Mrs. J. Chadwick, 11 Court Farm Road, S.E. 9.

Mottingham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild: New members are welcome to attend their meetings held on the FIRST WEDNESDAY of each month at St. Andrew's Church Hall, Court Road. Further particulars available from the Secretary: Mrs. A. Reeves, 10 Hever Croft, S.E. 9.

Mottingham Residents: If you have any problems which you feel our Residents' Association can help you to deal with, please contact your nearest Committee member or road steward as listed on pages 3 - 6; or contact the Hon. Secretary: Mrs. M.V. Gardner,

55, Leysdown Road,
S.E.9 3ND. Tel. 857 6654