

LOCAL SERVICES

Building Services	Mr J Hewitt	E.3116
Carpenter	A Lloyd	E.3169
Electrical Contractor	Tony Pearce	E.2117
Plumbing and Heating	Mr A Warr	E.2603
Roofing Service, UPVC Fascias & Soffits	Mr J Stubbs	E.2158
Solicitor	G M Fairfax	E.2688

(If you would like your name included in this list, please contact Stan Proudfoot on E.2907.)

ORGANISATIONS IN CHESWICK GREEN

Allotment Association	Terry Light	E.2109
Ballet Classes	Joanne Upton	0564 824587
	Simone Wallis	021 430 8919
Boys Brigade	Dianne Roberts	E.2926
Brownies	Val Sperry	E.3268
CGRA Chairman	John Wood	E.2085
CGRA Tote Organiser	Linda Shergold	E.3554
C/Green Toddlers	Ruth Hubble	E.2910
Childminders co-ordinator	Helen Gardner	E.3791
Cubs	Sue Watts	E.2918
Family Church	Beverley Prater	E.2030
	Rev Geoff Dunbar	E.3267
Girl Guides	Val Sperry	E.3268
Karate Club	Clifton Elcock	0860 558160
	Sue Battle	E.2388
National Women's Register	Ursula Ison	E.2787
Playgroup	Sue Lockett	E.3133
Rainbows	Val Sperry	E.3268
Save The Children	Jenny Cockcroft	E.3091
St Johns Amb Cadets	Div Supt Cleveley	021 708 0514
School Association	Kevin Reynolds	E.3790
Saxon over 35's FC	John Stubbs	E.2158
Scouts, Salter Street	Roger Smith	021 745 1135
Thursday Club	Gwen Fincham	E.2127
Vicar, St Patricks	Rev Chris Race	E.2579
Village Hall Booking Clerk	Christine Humphries	E.2971
Wine Club	Chris Kenyon	E.3138
Womens Institute	Cath Harris	021 744 1336

Please inform us of any organisations not included or of changes or mistakes in this list.
Telephone Ruth Stanton on E.3293 or Stan Proudfoot on E.2907.

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Cheia,wick Green News

Magazine of Cheswick Green Residents Association

April 1993

THE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the
Cheswick Green Residents Association
will be held at
8pm on Wednesday 5 May 1993
in the Village Hall.

The agenda will include the election of
Committee Members, and Officers; and a talk by
Valerie Tonks on the history of our village.

All residents are warmly invited.

Membership of The Association is open to all residents of the electoral
area covered by the polling station at Cheswick Green who are aged 18
and over.

A list of the Committee Members who have served throughout 1992/3
is given on Page 2. Nominations for positions on the Committee for
1993/4 are now invited, but these must be given to The Secretary before
the commencement of the AGM. A tear-off form is provided overleaf.

Our village threatened - See page 3

(As:

CHESWICK GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
ELECTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS (1992/3)

*John Wood (Chairman)	7 Willow Drive	E.2085
*Terry Faure (Vice-Chairman)	6 The Orchards	E.3131
*Ruth Stanton (Secretary)	66 Saxonwood Road	E.3293
*Denise Swain (Treasurer)	3 Longleat Drive	E.2500
Mary Best	2 Waterdale	E.3295
*Hilda Burnett	7 Spinney Drive	E.3397
*Mike Burnett	7 Spinney Drive	E.3397
*Roger Codd	76 Saxonwood Road	E.3021
Len Cresswell	11 Foxland Close	E.3244
*Godfrey Nail	3 Briar Coppice	E.3543
*Chris Noble	16 Willow Drive	E.2075
Stan Proudfoot	61 Willow Drive	E.2907
Linda Shergold	15 Foxland Close	E.3554
Vacancies (two)		

* retiring member - can be re-elected

CHESWICK GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
Nomination for Elected Committee Member/Officer

Name and signature of Nominee.....

Address of Nominee.....

Position (Committee Member or specified office)

Name and signature of Proposer.....

Address of Proposer.....

Name and signature of Seconder

Address of Seconder.....

V)ur Village Threatened

Solihull Council is now finalising a development plan which contains proposals that will have a significant impact on Cheswick Green and, indeed, to the whole of Hockley Heath Parish. In an open letter, circulated to every household at the end of March, Chris Noble (Chairman, Hockley Heath Parish Council) reported the current situation and asked that "as many of you as possible express your views in writing." This request is fully endorsed by Cheswick Green Residents Association and the appropriate names and addresses of the people to whom you may wish to write are given later.

There are three separate, but inter-related areas of planning activity.

The first of these, and probably the most significant - although the least immediate in terms of implementation - is the continuing work on the Unitary Development Plan, the UDP. This plan specifically covers the period 1987-2001, but Solihull has been criticised by the Inspector for not identifying possible sites for housing development for the ten years thereafter - that is, 2001-2011. It is the correction of this omission which is currently being deliberated.

The subject was introduced and debated at a Parish open meeting which was held in Cheswick Green School on 9 March. Concern was expressed both from the chair and from the floor at the potential impact on the local environment and way of life from what is being considered.

At the time of writing, Solihull Council have 22 sites under consideration for housing development. Nine of these are **Xi?** Hockley Heath

Parish: two of them being in Cheswick Green. One of those in Cheswick Green, identified in the working document as Site 7, is 31 acres of green fields which border Coppice Walk and stretch behind the lower parts of Willow Drive and Saxonwood Road. The decision has already been taken by Solihull Council to use this site for long-term housing development and this comes as no surprise.

However, the other site (identified as Site 8 in the working document) is the cause of considerable concern to both Cheswick Green Residents Association and to Hockley Heath Parish Council. This site, which consists of just over 27 acres, comprises the triangle of land bounded by Watery Lane, Tanworth Lane and Vicarage Lane. It includes farm-houses, St Patrick's Vicarage and the cricket field which is used by Earlswood Cricket Club. The arguments against the use of this site for additional housing include the loss of green-belt land, the loss of amenity, and the extension of the development of the village beyond

the natural boundary of the River Blythe and Watery Lane.

If these two developments, and those other much larger developments being considered at Dickens Heath and Tidbury Green, (as part of the same planning exercise and denoted in Chris Noble's letter) are all approved, then this part of Solihull will lose much of its open space and will be tending towards one single mass of housing - and could eventually become another Monkspath!

The second area of planning activity which must be noted is the proposed football stadium to be constructed on a site off Tanworth Lane near to the Pickwick Public House. Solihull Council recently gave approval for this project but, as reported in the local press, this gave rise to much discontent. This Association, Hockley Heath Parish Council, and a number of residents local to the site are opposed to the plan for various reasons which include the unnecessary use of green-belt land for this purpose, the adverse impact on already unsatisfactory traffic flows in the area (which are likely to be exacerbated by housing developments at Dickens Heath), and the potential nuisance to neighbouring properties. Nearly 200 signatures have been obtained locally from people objecting to the project.

The third planning activity concerns the Blythe Valley Business Park. It is several years since it was first proposed to develop up to 190 acres of

farmland at the M('A34 junction into a "high-tech" business park. The land in question is situated on the Cheswick Green side of both the M42 and the A34 (Stratford Road) and, it had been hoped that the delay in the decision was indicative of a loss of interest in the scheme. Consequently, Hockley Heath Parish Council suggested to Solihull Council that this area should be used for housing, thus reducing the pressure on the Council to use other green-field sites elsewhere in the Parish. However, it was announced on 19 March that the Secretary of State for the Environment "is inclined to grant planning permission for the Blythe Valley Business Park."

There is, therefore, much going on which could ultimately result in the destruction of Cheswick Green as an independent "village" community. These plans, if approved, could be just the beginning. It is late, but not yet too late. Solihull Council Planning Committee meet to discuss further the UDP proposals on 26 April.

John Wood, Chairman of the Residents Association says:

"Cheswick Green is very vulnerable to change. Solihull has run out of white land, so the Council has had to develop a plan to build on more green field sites - much to the annoyance of some of the local people.

My fear is, with more and more building, Cheswick Green will change. People choose to live in the village because it has a village atmosphere. They don't want to live in suburbia. If

the flood gates were opened to Solihull's plan for 7500 new houses, then there would be very little green belt left in this area.

Solihull Council may be out of touch with reality - the pace of development has slowed down tremendously. People still cannot sell properties or vacant sites on Cranmore Industrial Park.

We are now to have a business park right on our doorstep. The sweetener is the proposed leisure park, but this may bring in people from outside areas - we already witness this when youths from other areas congregate near the village shops."

If you are concerned about the substantial loss of local open space, in particular the proposals for long term housing development, do express your feelings in writing. If your concern is the use of green-belt land for housing address your views to:

Iain Mills, MP, c/o 631 Warwick Road, Solihull, B91 1 AR
and: **The Secretary of State, Department of the Environment, West Midlands Regional Office, Five Ways Tower, Frederick Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 1SJ**

Comments about the proposed sites should be sent to:

**The Director of Technical Services,
PO Box 19, Council House,
Solihull, B91 3QT**

It is also helpful if copies of letters are sent to Ward Councillors:

**Cllr Ken Meeson, 9 Glendon Way,
Dorridge, SRA'sull, B93 8SY**

**Cllr Judy Morris,
43 Balsall Street East,
Balsall Common, Solihull, CV7 7FQ**
**Cllr Peter Llewellyn,
25 Widney Road, Solihull, B93 9DX**
and to the Clerk to the Parish Council:
**Mrs D M Weir, 1 Hereford House, Old
Warwick Road, Lapworth, Solihull
B94 6LX**

THE CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

The work associated with the establishment of the children's play area is proceeding and it is still hoped that the equipment will be installed during May.

We have received some donations towards the project recently, notably £55 from John Stubbs, £100 from Cheswick Green School PTA, and bark chippings to the value of £75 from the Cheswick Green Toddlers., The Toddlers have also pledged the profits from a raffle which is to be held at Easter. We are very grateful, thank you all.

But, to repeat what was said in the last issue of the magazine, more help is required. There is still a need to increase funds if the play area is to be provided with all of the equipment which is envisaged. Also, there is still the need for a team to prepare the site, and assemble and erect the equipment. Without this help, there will be less money available for swings, etc., so, if you can provide some muscle, please ring Stan Proudfoot on E.2907.

WASTE RECYCLING IN SOLIHULL!

by Councillor Judy Morris

A total of 84,000 tonnes of waste is generated each year within the borough of Solihull from household/commercial and civic amenity sources. At present, 64% finds its way to Packington as landfill, with 33% being incinerated. Disposal of domestic waste to landfill sites produces environmental problems through leachate (a toxic liquid formed as rainwater passes through rubbish), and gas production. Recent successful negotiations mean that in future 44,000 tonnes will go to the Coventry Incinerator which will provide heat energy to local industry, as well as generating electricity. Only just over 2% of all waste is recycled in Solihull but Government recycling targets are 25 % by the year 2000.

The simple segregation of recyclable waste at home and at work can save energy, resources and disposal costs. At the moment there are a number of facilities which offer recycling provision throughout the Borough. There are some 20 "Bring Systems", including the one at Cheswick Green, which are provided primarily for glass (colour separated) and aluminium cans. Some recycling centres have facilities for paper and textiles with the public waste disposal facilities providing segregation for ferrous metal, oil and scrap batteries.

The provision of recycling centres and waste disposal facilities saves money because separation locally means that waste is taken from the main stream which is an expensive process. Also, money is raised from the sale of the waste products. Prices vary, but the following prices apply at the moment:

up to £100 per tonne for top quality paper

approx. £24 per tonne for aluminium cans

£40 per tonne for textiles

!Op per gallon for oil
£10-15 per tonne for ferrous metals
£50 per tonne for batteries

Money raised from these sources goes towards recycling ventures such as the trial kerbside schemes now taking place in parts of Shirley and Castle Bromwich. This involves the collection of one type of waste per week (eg paper in week one, glass and plastic bottles in week two, etc).

Our schools are benefitting from recycling projects as many have "mini-can banks" which raise money for the school's environmental projects: green cones which digest organic waste, and a wormery with special compost tiger worms.

So please remember when next you throw out your rubbish or old clothes, some of it could go to the recycling centres. As Friends of the Earth say, "Recycling should be looked upon as a moral obligation if we are to save our planet."

VILLAG1 JETE

This year's fete, which will have a medieval theme, will take place on Saturday 18 September.

A car-boot sale is to be held at 10.30am on Saturday 12 June, on the field near to the Village Hall, in order to raise funds for the fete. Refreshments will be available.

TO ALL DOG OWNERS

I was walking my dog one Sunday in the fields at the rear of the maisonettes on Boscobel Road when I was approached by the farmer. He was extremely reasonable in asking that I keep my dog on the lead when in the field containing sheep. He knows my dog would not attack any of his animals but if I don't use a lead then other dog owners may do the same, and their dogs may behave differently and possibly attack animals.

The farmer stressed the point that he likes dogs and appreciates the fact that there are public footpaths around the fields, but he is perfectly within his rights to enforce this rule regarding dogs on leads. He lost two sheep recently when they were chased by dogs into the pond and drowned. So it can happen.

The adjacent empty fields are OK for letting your dog off the lead to

exercise freely but please be aware of the country code, which states the above rule, and let us all set an example to others. If you see someone walking a dog, off the lead, in a field of sheep please remind them of the above practice and let us all help the farmer by sticking to the rules.

NICK BROTHERTON,
BOSCOBEL ROAD

and there's more.....

Recently I was walking in Cheswick Green with my 4 year old daughter and, as we walked along the path between Cheswick Way and Badger Close, she asked if she could pick the daisies growing on the verge. As I bent down to help her I was absolutely disgusted to see several dogs' faeces in a few square feet of verge. I immediately forbade my daughter from touching the daisies - or anything else!

What a pity that a few thoughtless, even anti-social, dog-owners can spoil simple pleasures of others, and can allow the environment to be marred for everyone. I am continually dismayed to have always to keep an eye open for excrement on the pavements. So, please, if you cannot prevent your dog from defecating in public places, clean up after it, and let a walk through Cheswick Green be a pleasant experience.

RUTH STANTON

CHESWICK GREEN DOCTORS' PRACTICE

update by Dr Janet Leese

We are pleased to have been asked once again to contribute to the "Cheswick Green News" with an update on our services. We have been most gratified by the response the practice has received since our re-inauguration in Cheswick and look forward to being an even better service to the community in the future.

Although nothing has yet been finalised, discussions are in progress well towards the purchase of a plot of land within the confines of the village which will enable us to build the purpose-built premises which we are assured are eagerly awaited. We are very grateful that the Village Hall Committee have been able to accommodate us for longer than was originally anticipated but realise it is important to develop more appropriate accommodation for our patients and staff as soon as possible.

We are sure you will be interested to know about two important developments within the practice both taking effect from April 1st.

Firstly, we have felt dissatisfied with an element of discontinuity in clinical care (and have received comments from patients about this) by all our doctors working in Cheswick on different days of the week. We have therefore arranged that only one doctor, Janet Leese, will provide the core services from now on. However, we remain a group practice and patients who may wish to consult an alternative GP will still be able to do so at our main premises in Stratford

Road, Shirley. This change is enabling us to provide consultation hours which we are sure will be more convenient (especially earlier morning appointments) and provide the continuity which is currently lacking. Certain services, such as minor operations, will continue to be provided at the main surgery until more appropriate facilities are available.

Secondly, from 1st April, the practice is becoming "fund holding". Many of you will be aware of this from press reports as "Doctors holding their own budgets". We hope that by directly controlling the way in which our allocation of NHS resources is spent, we can further improve services to you and specifically direct money towards the areas of greatest need. We would stress that this does not mean individual patients are "cash-limited" or "too expensive" for the practice to afford to help. However, neither is it an open cheque for all luxuries! We will endeavour to keep you informed of important developments as they occur.

Several other events are also worthy of mention:

The Cheswick practice now has a new midwife allocated to us, Mrs Helen Jenner, and she is going to be holding clinics for our mothers-to-be from now on. We already have the services of a physiotherapist, Mrs Chris Jones, twice a week, and our health visitor is Mrs Beverley Anderson.

Another important feature is the computerisation of Cheswick linked in to the main surgery computer planned for 15th April. This should streamline our administration considerably and enable a more efficient service for repeat prescriptions to be instituted. We would ask your indulgence if there are temporary "teething troubles" while the machine is settling in!

RAINBOWS

Following the success of the 1st Earlswood Rainbow Unit, which meets at St Patrick's School on Wednesday evenings from 6-7pm, a new Rainbow Unit opened at Cheswick Green School on 3 March. This Unit meets every Wednesday from 5-6pm.

Rainbows are aged 5-7 years and the new Unit is full with 10 girls and there are several names on the waiting list.

Anyone who is interested in helping each week should please contact Mary Best (Guider in Charge) on E.3295, or Val Sperry (District Commissioner) on E.3268

CHESWICK GREEN SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The school year is now six months old and our fund raising and social events have proved very popular. The monies raised at these events have provided the school with much needed equipment for the new Nursery extension, £200 for a video recorder, £200 for benches and planters in the playground and £550 towards sundry items. However, there is still scope to provide OUR children with more equipment and facilities.

The Committee are working hard to arrange further events as follows:

15 May - Race Night

25 May - Clothes Show

19 June - Old Tyme Summer Fayre

Another Saturday morning show is being planned and, probably, a Friday early evening disco for the older children at the school. If you have any good ideas please let any Committee Member know.

The School Association has decided to support the Residents Association in their appeal for funds towards the village play-area and, in view of this, the profits from the clothes show will be donated to the appeal.

So, don't forget to put the above dates in your diaries and there will always be a warm welcome at our social events - see you there!

K G REYNOLDS, CHAIRMAN

CASCADE

by Councillor Peter Llewellyn

When I first offered to pen a few words for your magazine I thought I would draw the attention of residents to the wholly distressing business which is currently harming many of our young people - that of drug and solvent abuse.

Most medicines are drugs but all drugs are not medicines so perhaps we should be clear about the types of drugs we are discussing.

ALCOHOL
CANNABIS
ECSTASY
LIGHTER FUEL
LSD
MAGIC MUSHROOMS
SOLVENTS
TOBACCO

Some of the notes that I had made earlier have to some extent been circumvented by the recent visit of Her Royal Highness Princess Anne to Keepers Lodge Community Centre at Chelmsley Wood. This timely visit was to launch the new "CASCADES" initiatives by the Crime Reduction Team for Solihull. For those who may have missed the media report, CASCADE is about providing up to date and reliable information, to give a response to the concerns of the young people in Solihull, and also for training young people to help other young people. As Princess Anne said, "Young people are part of the solution rather than the problem."

It was whilst listening to those

youngsters, and others who are passionately involved with the project, that my precious little understanding of the seriousness of the problem we face was to grow. We have all read about drugs and the harm that they cause to our youngsters, but do we tend to think that as far as we are concerned it is all at arms length? Do we just note what we have read and then push the subject to the back of our mind? How sure can we be that the problem is not yet one for ourselves?

CASCADE conducted a survey of youngsters of between 11 and 17 years old to find out more of the thinking about drugs and to obtain some more detail of drug uses. The results of that survey may cause parents a little concern: for example who do you think the youngsters would turn to for help and advice in the matter of drugs? Well it certainly didn't turn out to be their teachers, it certainly wasn't their doctors, and least of all was it their parents. The majority of youngsters turn to other youngsters for more information. A lot of youngsters said, "We trust our friends and listen to them." Others also said they had friends who they knew were harming themselves but had no idea to whom they could tur^ for sound advice

without the risk of tting their friends into trouble.

If our children won't discuss it with us, how are we to know if our youngsters are harming themselves and are in need of protection?

- 4 In August 1992 the Department of Health issued a booklet entitled "DRUGS - A PARENTS GUIDE". This booklet tells parents what to look out for - such things as increased aggression in the children or uncharacteristic drowsiness, loss of appetite and so on. It also points out that it is no good looking around the house for little piles of white powder - it isn't like that: rather you should look for small pieces of scorched foil, attempts to make a home made smoking pipe and for dilated pupils in the eyes.

What then can be done if you suspect that someone needs help? Firstly show much compassion, love and understanding. This is the first step on the road back. Then seek proper advice. There are many agencies willing to help. Most doctors' surgeries have the necessary information and so too does the Public iLibrary.

If you feel that you want to know more about "CASCADE", write to them at: CASCADE, Solihull Peer Education Project, Keepers Lodge, Chelmsley Road, Chelmsley Wood, Solihull B37 7UA - or ring 021 788 3436. You will find a dedicated team of people

anxious to help.

Alternatively, if for some reason you cannot contact CASCADE, write to me at the Council House and I will get you whatever information you feel you need.

PLAYING GOLF ON THE GREEN

A resident of Spinney Drive has asked that we request people not to play "golf" on the Green. Apart from the inconvenience caused by damage to property, there must also be a risk to the safety of passers-by.

COPY DATE

"Cheswick Green News" is published by the Residents Association, normally four times each year, so that the local community can be kept informed about what is happening in this area. If the objective is to be achieved, the editor must himself be aware of what is going on. So, if you have any news, comment, advice, or indeed any item which you think might be suitable for publication, please offer it for inclusion.

It is expected that the next issue will be published in mid-July so please let Stan Proudfoot have any items by Friday 18 June.