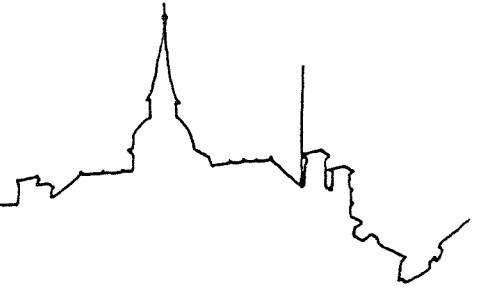


Towcester Town Crier



No.17 December 1986 Town Hall, Towcester.

TOWCESTER PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FROM TOM MINNS: At this month's Parish Council meeting, 10th November, Item 8 on the agenda was a discussion on Town Status. After a short debate, a vote of all twelve councillors present resolved that the Parish of Towcester will have the status of a Town. With immediate effect the Parish Council becomes the Town Council, the Chairman and Vice Chairman become the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor, the Parish Meeting becomes the Town Meeting and the Clerk to the Parish becomes the Town Clerk.

Our reason for the change now is the increase in size of the Town due to the expansion over the last few years. Towcester is the oldest and second largest town in the South Northamptonshire district. We have a Town Hall, a Town Football Club and other organisations incorporating the word Town in their titles. Towcester is a Town and deserves to be recognised as such.

We shall not be changing our Chain of Office which dates back to 1946 and of which we are justly proud.

Truly an historic day for Towcester.

Tom Minns, Town Mayor.

ANN STEPS DOWN as one of the Crier's editors. Many thanks, Ann. Your work, especially in organising the Advert section, is much appreciated. Ann's place on the team is taken by Alec Taylor.

FAMILY BASED RELIEF CARE SCHEME: The family based relief care scheme for handicapped children and their parents is now two years old. This is a scheme whereby the parents of handicapped children in South Northants and Daventry are linked with a "Host Family" who will look after their handicapped child for up to six weeks a year. All children with a significant handicap whether mental or physical are eligible to use this service.

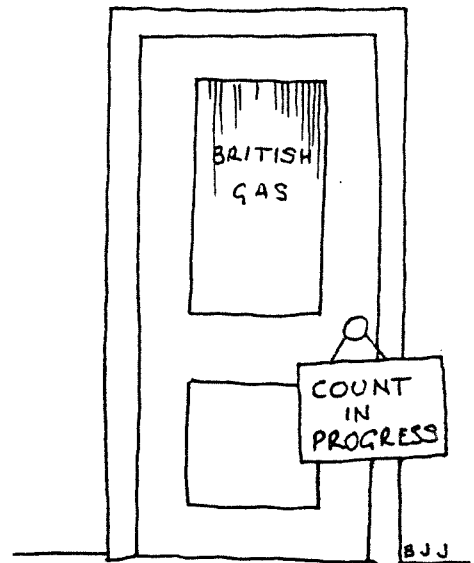
The purpose of this scheme is to offer flexibility so that if a parent is ill, needs a break, etc., the host family can be contacted directly - thus the relief care can come whenever the parents need it. Host families are those who are recruited, trained (where necessary) and approved by the Social Services Department, and our hope is that parents will feel more relaxed about allowing their children to stay with families like themselves rather than apply for hostel placements or hospital placements in order to give them or their other children a rest.

It costs the parents nothing to use the scheme, though the host families are paid by the Social Services Department. We always need more host families and so if you would like to help us with this scheme - or indeed would like to use the scheme yourself - then please do not hesitate to contact the Community Mental Handicap Team (Linda Buck or Ann Jenkins) on Towcester 52561 or 51822.

TOWCESTER AND DISTRICT VOLUNTEER CAR

SCHEME: This car scheme has been operating in the area for the past 8 years and was set up by the Council for Voluntary Service in Northampton to provide a service for people who had no transport of their own and could not use the local bus service. Transport for these people in need, is provided for mainly medically related appointments to Towcester Health Centre, and the hospitals in Northampton, Milton Keynes and Daventry. Trips are occasionally organised further afield to hospitals in Oxford or London.

The area covered by the scheme is the large rural area around Towcester from Litchborough to the north, Roade and Blisworth to the east, Paulerspury to the south and Moreton Pinkney to the west of Towcester.



... and 73 451 application forms from someone called Sid.

The car scheme relies upon volunteer drivers who are willing to take passengers to and from appointments and are paid at the rate of 20p per mile, to cover the cost of petrol. These volunteer drivers are free to drive as much or as little as they like, from one or two trips a week, to one a month, or even a couple of trips a year! Every offer of help is greatly appreciated to help cope with the increasing demand for transport.

During the past year, requests for transport have more than doubled due to the cutbacks in the ambulance service and the local bus service, with the result that many more drivers are needed to cope with the demand. If anyone could help with the driving, however little, it would be very much appreciated.

Please contact Kate Saul - Towcester 51716 for more information.

TOWCESTRIANS TENNIS CLUB: Since the previous article, the AGM has been held and a full committee elected which will hopefully see the year through, as for various reasons last year four members found it difficult to participate.

The winter league teams have played a few games with not very inspiring results:

Northampton League

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Mens A	1	-	-	1	1	7
Ladies A	1	1	-	-	7	0
Ladies B	2	-	-	2	6	10

Milton Keynes

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Mixed A	2	1	-	1	8	8
Mixed B	2	-	-	2	0	16
Juniors	0	-	-	-	-	-

A very successful and enjoyable club dinner with presentations was held in the clubhouse and to a full house of 81 members the

club chairman Colin Ulahelm presented the trophies. An additional trophy for the most improved player went to Michael Rayce of Towcester.

Trevor and Judy Cook of Paulerspury have been stalwarts of the club for almost 13 years but will be leaving the area for business reasons. They have both served in many positions on the committee during that time including the Secretary's and Fixtures Secretary's positions and have also won the club mixed doubles KO cup more than any other pair. We shall miss them and wish them well in their new venture.

Again we invite new members to join now and practice throughout the winter (it improves movement about the court). A full subscription now gives membership throughout this winter and also the 1987/88 season - fee £20. Phone P Stewart, Paulerspury 676 or Anna Benham, Towcester 51948.

The Towcestrians were well represented at the very first Northampton Lawn Tennis Association dinner and presentation evening, which incidentally was organised by ex-Towcestrian Roger Aran. Some 20 members attended and the Ladies B team received a cup for winning Division III.

Finally we would thank Blakesley Tennis Club for the use of one of their courts for those matches requiring 3 courts. Which leads us to the excellent news that work has started on the third hardcourt and floodlights will be installed at the same time they are completed around April next year. Peter Stewart.

FRENCH EXCHANGE: Is there a family in Towcester or district with a teenage daughter (approximately 12 years of age) who would like to correspond and exchange visits with a French girl of similar age. Jeanne-Claire Marchand lives near Nantes and paid a brief visit to Towcester during the summer. She would like to hear from any girl who would be interested in forming such a friendship. Jeanne-Claire has studied English in her French school for the past two years. For full address and further details, please contact Peter or Janet Allen, Towcester 51477.

HISTORY SOCIETY YEAR PLANNERS: These year planners, with beautiful line drawings by local artist Robert Sunderland, are available for a very reasonable £1 each. They are in fact suitable for use any year, so don't worry if you have missed them for Christmas. They are available for sale from members of the History Society, or from the Parish Office in the Chantry House (mornings only). History Society.

PARISH CHURCH NEWS: Details of Christmas services will be coming to you on the annual Christmas card which this year has been designed by two members of St Lawrence Junior School.

You may like to note that the Carol Service will be on Sunday 21 December at 6 pm. The Christingle service will be held on Sunday 7 January at 9.30 am and all are welcome to come and enjoy this last opportunity to sing carols and celebrate the Epiphany.

PIANO TEACHER required to teach 8 year old beginner. Phone Towcester 50985.

TOWCESTER BRANCH OF THE GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND ASSOCIATION: We are a group of voluntary supporters who give our services free of charge in order to raise funds, and so far this year the total raised is over £12 000.

The ways of raising funds have included jumble sales, coffee evenings and a sponsored walk around the Racecourse which earlier this year raised over £1000.

If you can help in any way or would like to know more, please ring Mrs Brenda Cook on Towcester 51904.

DON'T JUST MOAN ABOUT YOUR TOWN - DO SOMETHING: Thanks are due to Owen Procter, who has now resigned from the Town Council. If you consider that you can make a positive contribution to the council and would like to be considered for this casual vacancy, please contact the Town Clerk before 5th January.

TOWCESTER BRIDGE CLUB meets fortnightly on Wednesdays. The next meetings are on 3 December, 17 December and 14 January. It meets at the Conservative Club Room, Watling Street, Towcester commencing at 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm.

YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS ARE:

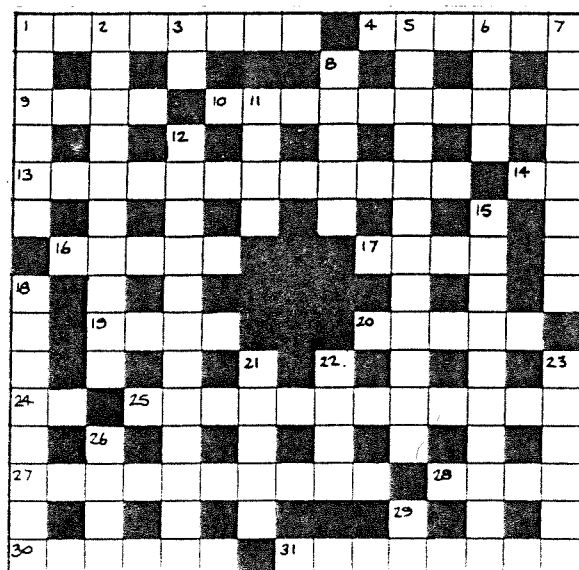
Tom Minns, Town mayor Towcester 50861
Jacqueline Hart, Deputy mayor Towcester 51082

Peter Allen	Towcester 51477	Brian Jolly	Towcester 51661
Frank Borrell	Towcester 50320	Yvonne Orchard	Pattishall 830528
Richard Cook	Towcester 50208	Alec Taylor	Towcester 50510
Mick Dunkley	Towcester 50593	Carol Taylor	Towcester 52812
Joyce Herbert	Towcester 51315	Stan Watson	Towcester 52040
Ann Hill	Towcester 51010	David Wesley	Towcester 51101

Town Clerk: Dianne Isaacs, Town Hall, Towcester 50995.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 First mayor of Towcester (3,5)
 - 4 Fear a currency assistance (6)
 - 9 Sacred image (4)
 - 10 They once owned Towcester's employment office (10)
 - 13 Way passed the foundry (8,4)
 - 14 Sovereign (1,1)
 - 16 Odontological items (5)
 - 17 Bloody, Tudor, William and, quite contrary (4)
 - 19 A backward water grass (4)
 - 20 About a submarine (5)
 - 24 Has broken in a song (1,1)
 - 25 Gateway to the library (8,4)
 - 27 Long distance pathway (7,3)
 - 28 Greek priestess takes male lead (4)
 - 30 Frozen plain five hundred painters after tardy nut (6)
 - 31 South-west of us (8)
- DOWN**
- 1 Pieces of silver (6)
 - 2 Brookside almshouses (10)
 - 3 Information technology (1,1)
 - 5 In Fawley Towers' bridal suite? (4,4,4)
 - 6 Tiniest piece (4)
 - 7 Between town and county (8)
 - 9 All lit up (5)
 - 11 What a guy wants (4)
 - 12 The one who got kissed instead (6,6)
 - 15 Type of acer, nearly (8,2)
 - 18 Gastronome's gastropod (8)
 - 21 Thin song without measure (5)
 - 22 When in Rome, you see (4)



- 23 Craziness (6)
- 26 Fratricide swap in California (4)
- 29 Vacillates at the touch of a switch (1,1)

FOR YOUR DIARY: The next Towcester Town Council meetings will be held on 8th December and 12th January. Public question time will be from 7.30 to 7.45 pm.

The final date for contributions to the February issue will be 24th January. Will contributors and advertisers please note that, because of difficulties with distribution during the summer and Christmas holidays, the 1987 issues will appear at the beginning of February, April, June, September and November.

The Editorial committee for the Crier welcome any contributions and/or comments. The members are:

Mr Peter Allen, tel: 51477

Mr Brian Jolly, tel: 51661

Mrs Yvonne Orchard, tel: Pattishall 830528

Mr Alec Taylor, tel: 50510

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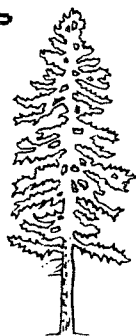
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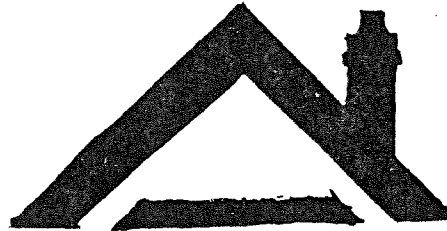
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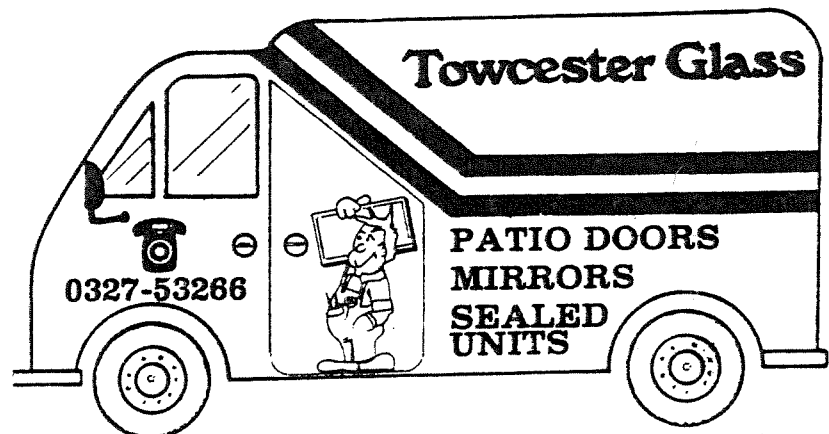
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