

Towcester Town Crier



No.13 January 1986 Town Hall, Towcester.

TOWN HALL CHRISTMAS TREE: The Parish Council thank everyone involved for the splendid Christmas tree which took pride of place above the Town Hall entrance - in particular, Lord Hesketh for providing it, the Towcester Fire Brigade for erecting it and Mr Gilbert for illuminating it.

WHAT GOES ON IN TOWCESTER: Come and take part in an Open Day/Exhibition organised to launch a new DIRECTORY OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND SOCIETIES for Towcester at Towcester Town Hall on Saturday 12th April from 10-30 am. For information, please contact Mrs S Welsh, Council for Voluntary Service, 13 Hazelwood Road, Northampton, or telephone Northampton 740202.

TOWCESTER'S CHANTRY HOUSE has recently had a new injection of youth. Young people, aged 14 - 23 years, have been invited to come along to find out more about the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. Opportunities to learn new skills, activities, have adventures and find a new challenge are waiting on your doorstep so come along on 2nd March or any 1st Sunday of the month, 3-00 to 5-00 pm. You don't need to belong to any organisation, just come along and find a welcome, advice and help with the scheme.

FROM JIM LYNCH, CHAIRMAN OF TOWCESTER AND DISTRICT RECREATION AND LEISURE ASSOCIATION, CONTINUING HIS DECEMBER LETTER: No one can deny that the area governed by South Northants District Council is badly provided with leisure and recreational facilities. So what can be done to improve matters? One idea is that each individual community should provide its immediate residents with an indoor leisure facility commensurate with the population. Such a building might, for a typical South Northants village, have a main hall which would be big enough to support a single badminton court. Facilities such as this already exist in a few villages and do serve a need. However, they are far too small to accommodate activities such as basketball. In fact over half the activities offered by Daventry District Council's new Leisure Centre, which I mentioned in my December letter, cannot take place without a large main hall and ancillary rooms.

We feel that Towcester and the surrounding district not only needs but can support a Leisure Complex like the one sponsored by Daventry District Council. To put such a scheme on a more concrete basis we have produced a 90 page Presentation Document justifying the requirement. The following questions are answered:

1 Who Would Use The Leisure Complex?

We sent out a detailed questionnaire to the vast majority of households in Towcester and the surrounding district, an area with a radius of about 4 miles around Towcester encompassing 26 parishes and 20 000 people. Based purely on the returned questionnaire, Towcester and this surrounding district has requirements that would keep a Leisure Centre, such as that provided by Daventry District Council, fully

occupied.

2 How Much Would It Cost And Who Would Pay?

As a result of the survey, we were able to assess what leisure activities are required and, accordingly, the size and make-up of the Leisure Complex. We have produced a customised site plan and layout together with a detailed costing. At July 1984 the cost was put at £500 000 for a unit catering for the type of activities offered by Lings, Stantonbury or Daventry.

If we look for support from the District, the County and the Sports Councils, then something like one quarter of the cost would need to be raised by the efforts of the Sponsor (Towcester and District). This quarter would include grants and bequests from both local and national organisations. On the other hand, it is worth considering, once again, that excellent facility at Daventry. In this case, the Sponsor was the District Council, not the public, and so public fund-raising was not required!

3 Who Would Run The Leisure Complex And How Much Would It Cost?

The Leisure Centre at Daventry is staffed by employees of Daventry District Council and, although no figures are available, a representative of the Council felt that the running costs of the main hall, conditioning suite, bar and social and reception area would be approximately covered by the letting income.

Our own Presentation Document has made a detailed investigation of the profit and loss situation, leaning heavily on documented data from Stantonbury Leisure Centre and from our own computer analysis of the questionnaire results. If we use the Stantonbury figures for membership and letting charges, the excess of expenditure (£123 836) over income (£117 693), calculated for 1984, was £6000. This figure, which seems to us quite modest for a facility which would do so much to increase the quality of life for so many people, can, of course, be turned into a profit if necessary. We have done a spreadsheet analysis of income/expenditure and, for example, by raising the letting charges by only 10% compared with Stantonbury's, a break-even situation could be achieved.

4 Where Do We Go From Here?

We feel our Presentation Document has proved conclusively that Towcester and District needs a Leisure Complex and that its running costs will not be a millstone around the necks of the ratepayers.

As may be guessed from some of the figures we have quoted, the first draft of our Presentation Document was sent to representatives of South Northants District Council, the County Council and the Sports Council a year and a half ago in 1984. In less times than that Daventry District Council has turned an idea into reality.

We know we have the support of the people in Towcester and District - the answers to our questionnaire prove it conclusively! What we need now is the support of our Councils.

Jim Lynch.



Daventry Leisure Centre.

The Centre includes a 25 m deck-level indoor pool, a large sports hall with provision for badminton, indoor tennis, netball, cricket practice, etc., a suite of community rooms with fully equipped fitness room, bar, social and reception areas and two all-weather floodlit sports courts for hockey, netball, five-a-side football and tennis.

WHY NOT JOIN THE ROTARACT CLUB OF TOWCESTER? Rotaract is a non-political, non-denominational, service club sponsored by Rotary for persons of both sexes between the ages of 18 and 28 who live, work or attend college within the area of the particular club. It is an international movement and it is established in many of the 150 countries in which there are Rotary Clubs.

Rotaractors are involved in a great number of activities, with each club carrying out a wide range of community service, fund raising and social projects. In the past few years projects have included: camping rallies, sponsored walks, gardening, visits to clubs overseas, decorating, dances, pony trekking, producing pantomimes and shows, discos, football matches, teaching the handicapped to swim, organising fetes, tennis matches, hedge cutting, garden parties, raising money for hospitals and other charities, riverboat dances and many many more.

What do members get out of it? Fellowship, satisfaction and a real sense of purpose, plus a lot of fun to go with it.

We hope you and your friends will attend one of our meetings when the general idea will be presented, your questions answered and you will be able to meet some Rotaractors from other clubs. Date: alternate Wednesdays - Time: 8-00 pm - Place: The Bull Inn, Brackley Road, Towcester.

If you wish to know more about Rotaract or would like invitations sent to any of your friends, please contact either Fiona Matheson (home: Towcester 53315) or Alan Berry (home: Towcester 52692).

GARDEN EQUIPMENT

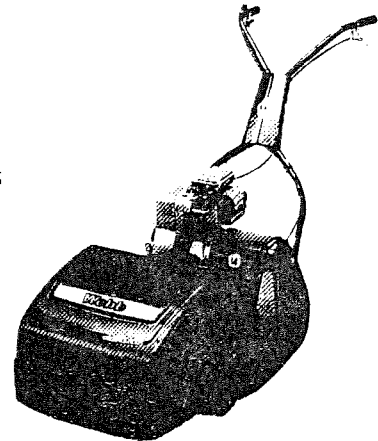
FREE COLLECTION & DELIVERY SERVICE

SALES, SPARES, REPAIRS

NEW & USED GARDEN EQUIPMENT

PROFESSIONAL ADVICE AND TOP QUALITY BACK-UP SERVICE

C W WINNETT & SONS, MOAT LANE, TOWCESTER



T.G. SERVICES

1st Floor, 58 Watling Street, Towcester

CORGI Registered - Local Authority approved

* HEATING *

Central heating	Boiler exchanges	Additional radiators
Gas fires	Wall heaters	Servicing

gas + solid fuel + calor gas + oil

* PLUMBING *

Guttering	Soils	Wastes
Bathrooms	Showers	Water heaters
Hot water cylinders	Water softeners	
Washing machines, dishwashers plumbed in		

maintenance + installation + free estimates

* PAINTING DECORATING & BUILDING MAINTENANCE *

TEL: TOWCESTER(0327)52103

P J WILLOUGHBY

Painter & Decorator

Interior and
Exterior

Estimates free

Tel: Towcester 50885

GARBO

Ladies & Gentlemens
Hair Stylists

109 Watling Street, Towcester
Tel: Towcester 51335

R G Powell

TAXI - Private Hire

24 Hour Service

Tel: Towcester 50024

20 Willow Close,
Towcester

CARPETS AND CUSHION FLOOR

If you are thinking of buying the above I can guarantee to offer them well below shop prices.

All are fitted free of charge.

Estimates are also free and without obligation.

"I will bring a store to your door at a time to suit you".

Phone me on Towcester 830251 anytime.

GRAHAM FAULKNER CARPETS

(I can also offer a fitting service on your own new or old carpet. Estimates are gladly given.)



EVENING MENU

Cream of home made celery soup with walnuts - Avocado terrine with a fresh tomato coulis - Stilton choux pastries with a chive hollandaise.

Roast wild duck served with Grand Marnier and exotic fruits - A fillet of pork in a chestnut and ginger sauce - Fresh poached skate with tarragon and prawns - Vine House sirloin steak (£1-50 supplement).

Steamed home made coffee sponge - A fresh fruit meringue - Chocolate and brandy mousse - All our puddings are served with home made vanilla custard or cream - English farmhouse cheeses served with tasty biscuits and crunchy celery - Fresh coffee and home made chocolates.

£13-50 for four courses inclusive of VAT. No service included.
Telephone: Paulerspury (STD 032733) 267

C H Attenborough & Son

Accident Repairers
to Leading Insurance
Companies

Welding for MOT

Telephone:
Pattishall 830283
Evenings & weekends:
Towcester 50047

Advertising rates:

full page £30.00
3/4 page £24.00
1/2 page £17.50
1/4 strip £10.00
double £7.00
single £3.50

STURGESS FLOORING

CARPETS - TILES

- VINYL

Towcester 50093

8 Greenview Drive
Towcester

DOUGLAS J. HULM

Quality Decorator

**A COMPLETE DECORATING
SERVICE**

INCLUDING...

**PAINING * DECORATING * ARTEXING
PLASTA COVING * CERAMIC TILING * ETC ETC
* PROFESSIONAL WORK AT SENSIBLE PRICES ***

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

Free advice and estimates gladly given —
References supplied with pleasure.

TOWCESTER (0327) 52065



**BYRON
DRIVING TUITION**

Highest Standards - Competitive Rates
Door to Door Service - Dual Controls
Full 60 Minutes

DOT ADI RTITB DIA

TOWCESTER (0327) 52701

Catering for all
occasions

BUFFETS BARBEQUES

WEDDINGS PARTIES

Paul Dunkley

Tel: 50593

Published by Towcester Parish Council, Town Hall, Towcester. Printed by S T R, Stony Stratford.