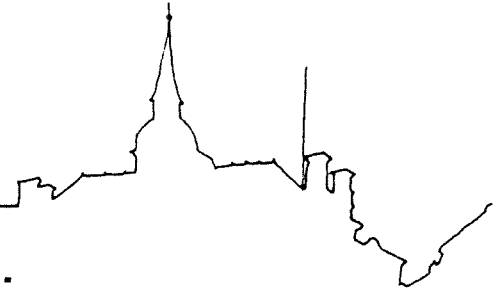


Towcester Town Crier



No.12 December 1985 Town Hall, Towcester.

FROM JIM LYNCH, CHAIRMAN OF TOWCESTER AND DISTRICT RECREATION AND LEISURE ASSOCIATION: We read Andrew Pizzoni's letter in last month's Town Crier with a deal of sympathy. Andrew complained about the lack of facilities for the young in Towcester and asked that something be done to keep youngsters off the streets and out of the pubs. Our Association was formed 2 years ago to look at ways of improving facilities in Towcester and the surrounding district. One of our main aims is to obtain a Leisure Centre which will be suitable for Towcester and the surrounding area. We feel that something approaching the size and complexity of Lings is needed and would be viable whereas a construction specially for Towcester would be of 'village hall' design and would not address the needs of either Towcester or the surrounding district.

We have produced what we feel is an excellent case for a District facility and are still hopeful of open support from South Northants District Council. This is in stark contrast to the happy situation which we saw at Daventry last week where, within almost a year of its conception, the Grange School Sports Hall has been extended to provide a Leisure Centre serving Daventry and District. This was opened last month by England's cricket captain, David Gower.

The scheme, as the Opening Ceremony Programme states, "could not have been achieved without the unreserved commitment of both Members and Officers of the District and County Councils together with the generous support of the District Recreation and Amenities Committee, the County Education Leisure and Libraries Committees, the East Midland Region of the Sports Council and a local charitable trust". Financial responsibility for the running of the Daventry Leisure Centre is borne by the District with support from the County and all staff at the Centre are employees of the District.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could have something like this within the Towcester region! In Daventry's main hall alone there are facilities for:

- Badminton (4 courts)
- 5-a-side football
- Tennis
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Short tennis
- Indoor cricket
- Table tennis
- Hockey
- Trampoline
- Gymnastics
- Keep fit
- The martial arts
- Indoor bowls (the 'Short Mat' game)

as well as social events, concerts, exhibitions, etc.. Then there is the Conditioning Suite with weight training and fitness machines, bar, social and reception areas.

A Centre like this would do so much to improve the quality of life for the people of Towcester and district and, if the results at Daventry are anything to go by, could be provided and run very easily with the help of our local authorities. We shall continue to press for such facilities and look forward to the continued support of the public.

Next month we will give a summary of our presentation document to show how we justify the requirement and how it could be run without proving a burden to the ratepayers.

NOTICE: I feel I must bring to the notice of the people of Towcester that, in fact, District Councillor G Smith has been very helpful to the aims of the Towcester and District Recreation and Leisure Association and has always been supportive of my proposals. It has been agreed between us, at some meetings, that I should do the proposing and he would second my propositions. I have been most grateful for his assistance especially in taking the matters forward to Committees I am not on. Joyce Herbert.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: In your last issue you published a letter from a young man complaining of boredom and lack of facilities for youth in Towcester.

This, I am afraid, is the attitude of so many of the younger generation. Brought up in the shadow of the Welfare State their cry is 'What is going to be done for us?' not 'What can we do for ourselves and our surroundings?'

There are many organisations in the Town catering for youth - Scouts, Guides, A5 Rangers, Studio Band, Youth Club - just to name a few. I notice in the last issue of the Town Crier that the Fire Brigade is asking for volunteers: the committee raising funds for the new Leisure Centre would doubtless welcome help in their money raising efforts. What about the excellent evening classes at Sponne School?

There is plenty to occupy youth in Towcester if they care to look for it and don't expect it to be brought to them.

My brother and I never had a dull moment here, neither did my son.

Jason Roberson

SECOND LETTER TO THE EDITOR: In the spring of this year, on the four major roads leading into Towcester we had a lovely display of daffodils and tulips. They were planted I suppose to brighten the roadside verge. But what about the 'lovely' display of weeds and rubbish we see on the paths and verges leading into Towcester?

Has anyone tried walking along the Watling Street footpath towards the main race course entrance?

The grass verge between the footpath and road had a display of nettles at least four feet tall, broken bottles, empty cans and

newspapers. The racecourse wall also had a good show of dandelions, thistles and grass spreading across the footpath. The footpath, not to be outdone had a liberal covering of horse manure and dog 'droppings'.

When will the County Council realise that people do enjoy walking out with their families and some of us have to use the footpaths daily to get into Towcester, and I can assure them it is no joke trying to complete this assault course, watching the ground every step of the way 'just in case'.

Next spring, when the tulips and daffodils spring into life, so will the weeds, etc. Please next year lets keep them to a minimum so we can walk in safety.

Mrs P M Blackbourn.

"WE SERVE." Towcester and District Lions Club was founded in 1974 as a branch of Lions Club International, which is the World's largest community service organisation with 1.3 million members in 29 000 clubs throughout the World.

The aim of a Lions Club is to provide a voluntary service to others less fortunate than themselves. Members of the Towcester Club are very proud of their past achievements which have included assisting local families in distress, providing holidays for both senior citizens and the young, and collecting cash and clothing for National and International charities.

Providing a local community service costs money, and through their fund raising efforts the Lions have been able to buy essential equipment for Northampton General Hospital and the St Crispin's Hospital Rehabilitation Unit, as well as providing portable equipment for local Health Service GPs. All monies raised from the local community are fully utilized for local charitable purposes.

Towcester Lions are particularly pleased with their efforts to foster local voluntary clubs which have gone on to be self supporting. These now provide assistance to the physically and mentally handicapped, and the aged, and the Lions were instrumental in introducing to South Northants the talking newspaper for the Blind. It was mainly through the physical efforts of Towcester Lions Club members that Anchor House in Moat Lane became a reality.

The Lions subscribe to their own Club accounts and every member is fully committed and participates in all projects. This commitment is frequently extended to include wives, girlfriends and children of members, and without such help many of the tasks undertaken by the Lions would often not be possible.

New members are still required and any suitable male over the age of 21 who might be interested in joining Lions International is invited to contact the President, Jeff Edwards on either Towcester 51814 or 52172.

Footnote: The house-to-house collection undertaken by Towcester and District Lions Club on 22 November in Towcester, Pattishall and Potterspury realised £608 for the BBC Children in Need Appeal.

CAROL SINGING: The Friends of Towcester Infants School have arranged for some of the children to sing carols inside the Town Hall on Friday 13th December. We start at 10.00 am and the Junior School children will be taking over at 10.30 am. We hope to bring some extra Christmas cheer to those visiting the Market so please come and listen and join in too!

"SEASONAL CONCERT" Towcester Choral Society invites you to join them on Friday 13 December. A "Lucky Dip" of old favourites and new carols, to hear and to sing, at Towcester Town Hall, 7.30 pm. Admission is by programme £1.25, senior citizens and students 75p, to include mince pies and coffee. Programmes are obtainable at the door, from members, or Towcester 52393.

WERE YOU BORN IN BRITAIN? If English is not your first language and you would like to improve your written or spoken English, you are invited to join our new weekly class at Sponne School, Towcester, ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL). For further information please phone Sue Sanders, Towcester 50120 or call in to see Bill Nicholson at The Adult Education office (Towcester 51777) in Sponne School.

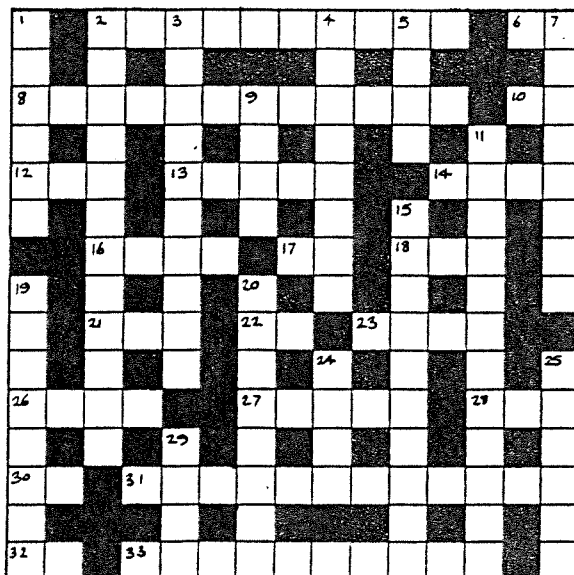
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 2 Towcester's parish church (2,8)
- 6 Alright? (1,1)
- 8 She dances a rapid start for another 12 across (8,4)
- 10 It ends with Malachi (1,1)
- 12 There used to be one called the Talbot (3)
- 13 Address stern smell (5)
- 14 Pull hard a thief's bag (4)
- 16 Gooseberry this is nobody's prudent person (4)
- 17 Territorial army (1,1)
- 18 Falla's had three corners (3)
- 21 European currency unit (1,1,1)
- 22 And a lovable foreigner (1,1)
- 23 Where persian carpets come from now (4)
- 26 Time and this don't wait (4)
- 27 Bird seen off in church (5)
- 28 Telepathy? (1,1,1)
- 30 Alternating current (1,1)
- 31 Where nearby to find a lordly raptor's roost (6,6)
- 32 The queen (1,1)
- 33 Close by York (10)

DOWN

- 1 She has her own lane (6)
- 2 Leads to our new bridge (12)
- 3 Between Bannaventa and Magiovinium (10)
- 4 Heavenly solvent with stirred beer (8)
- 5 Company at cover (4)
- 7 Familiar with the SNDC chairman? (8)



- 20 They met at the 12 across (8)
- 24 Heavy church service (4)
- 25 The archdeacon (6)
- 29 In accordance with reality (4)

HELP: Shortly after the last issue of the 'Crier' came out, a member of the editorial team was contacted by a reader (recently moved to Southgate Drive?) seeking information on Bridge Clubs/Groups in the Towcester area. Unfortunately before we were able to help with this query we had managed to mislay the reader's telephone number so were unable to call back as promised. Our apologies for this rather delayed response and if you haven't managed without us by now we will try to do better if you would care to call us again.

Coincidentally we are hoping to include in a forthcoming issue a

revised list of clubs, organizations and activities in Towcester as originally published in Town Crier No 4, dated July 1984. To help us with this we would be pleased to receive details from secretaries or organizers giving organization name/activity, venue, time and frequency of meetings. We would particularly like to hear from any clubs, organizations or groups who were not included in the last list or have started up since then so we can ensure that they are included next time.

FOR YOUR DIARY: The next Towcester Parish Council meetings will be held on 9th December and 13th January. Public question time is from 7.30 to 7.45 pm.

Events open to the public at the Town Hall:

- 7 December Opportunity Playgroup Jumble Sale - 9.00 to 2.00
- 13 December Carol singing in the main hall - 10.00 to 12.00
Towcester Choral Society "Seasonal Concert" - from 7.30 pm
- 14 December Shoe sale - Mrs York - 10.00 to 5.00
- 20 December Disco - Peacock Inn Football - 8.00 to 1.00

The final date for contributions to the next issue of the Town Crier is 30th January.

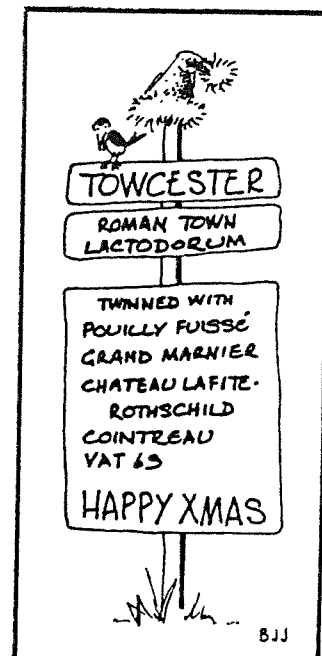
The Editorial committee for the Crier welcome any contributions and/or comments. The members are:

Mr Peter Allen, 76 Watling Street, tel: 51477

Mrs Ann Hill, 18 Willow Close, tel: 51010

Mr Brian Jolly, 31 Brackley Road, tel: 51661

Mrs Yvonne Orchard, Brambles, School Road, Astcote, Towcester, tel: Pattishall 830528



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Antipasto or Melone con uva

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Saltimbocco - Fillet of veal with ham and fresh sage

Triglie al cartuccino - Red mullet cooked in parchment paper

Abbacchio brodetto - Loin of lamb with an egg and lemon sauce

Main courses served with peperonata - sweet peppers with onions and tomatoes; sformato di spinaci - a spinach mousse; zucchini - courgettes; patatine nuove - new potatoes

Pere ripiene al cioccolato - poached pears stuffed with cream and chocolate or Torta al cioccolato alla Genovese con zabaione "cotto" - a Genoese chocolate cake with a cooked zabaione sauce

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