



INDEPENDENCE

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AUTUMN 2017



S Stock unit heading south out of Rickmansworth Station. The new S stock have now replaced all the A, C and D stock on the Metropolitan, Circle, Hammersmith & City and District lines thus all the sub-surface lines are now equipped with 7 or 8 car trains made up of these new units.



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IMPORTANT NOTICE – PLEASE READ !!!!

As you may know from past copies of **Independence** we are trying to transfer to e-mail for the distribution of the magazine.

We have since decided that one copy, the Spring Edition, will be available both in paper format and on line but we still want to issue the Autumn edition from next year by e-mail and perhaps increase the number of issues to three or even four a year.

IN ORDER TO DO THIS WE NEED YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS

Please could you go on to the Associations web site <http://www.rickmansworthresidents.org/home> and “join” the Association using this system

FROM THE TILLER



The Association's attempts to collect e-mail addresses is having some success but we are nowhere near getting the percentage of our membership that we need to send out the Autumn 2018 edition of

Independence using the internet. We now have just under 40% although some of these “bounce back” so it is clear that either we have recorded these incorrectly where provided to us in a handwritten format or, perhaps, the e-mail address has changed. So far this year we have sent out three e-mails to our members so if you have not received one from us then please go on to the RDRA web site and fill in the very simple form. Half of our e-mail addresses come this way and the rest

from our hard working road reps – a thank you to them for this.

Road Reps

On the subject of road reps, we suffer from resignations all the time with members moving out of the area or other reasons and if you live in a road without a rep, please could you consider helping the Association with this vital work.

Committee

On the Committee as well we are short of members. We need a Secretary and an Advertising Manager and next year we will need a Membership Secretary as Leslie is taking over the role of Treasurer as Richard is retiring from the position.

These seem to be constant pleas but, with members moving out of the area or resigning for other reasons, such as ill health, we have a constant turnover and for the Association to continue its activities on your behalf, we need new recruits all the time.

Can you help? A Road Rep spends a few evenings collecting subs in the Spring and, at present, one evening delivering **Independence** in the Autumn. A Committee member attends up to ten meetings a year most of which are held on the third Monday of the month in the committee room of the Royal British Legion in Ebury Road from 8 to 10 pm.

Batchworth Community Council

The new Parish or Community Council is now operating and we have high hopes of Rickmansworth benefiting from the work it performs. I expect it will take some time for the real effects to come into play but we will work with them for the good of the area.

The first Parish Council in the area was formed in 1874 but four years later it became an Urban Council then a part of a District Council. Now Rickmansworth Town, Batchworth, Moor Park and Eastbury once again have a local Parish or Community Council to look after the interests of the residents. Mill End also voted to join the new Council but the District Council decided that the majority in favour was so small that the Ward would not be included – interesting concept!

Chairman's Notes

One of our members has written to me to ask if there is a need for the RDRA now that we have a dedicated Community or Parish Council for the area.

I responded pointing out that the area covered by the Batchworth Community Council and the area covered by RDRA overlap but only in Batchworth and Rickmansworth Town and we cover parts of the locality not covered by the BCC. At the same time both Eastbury and Moor Park have their own Residents' Associations.

The RVS Hall

The vexed subject of the future of the RVS hall in the Bury continues. The RDRA is NOT against housing for the homeless of the District being located in Rickmansworth – just not on this site. There are many other locations where such a hostel could be sited and whilst there are questions one must ask about the layout of the proposed units (some of which have now been addressed by the District Council) the main issue is the loss of a valuable civic amenity in the grounds of the Bury which has, over the last 18 months, been run down by the District Council. At the time of going to press there is no definite news on this subject.

The County Councillors, the District Councillors (all of whom were kept in the dark about the proposals), the Parish Council, the RDRA and many local groups and residents are ALL against the scheme. Why then are the District Council ignoring the total opposition to the scheme and ploughing on with the idea? It now seems that a judicial review will be needed to solve the problem.

RDRA Activity

The Committee continue to monitor and discuss a wide ranging number of issues and Peter Crispin, one of our Vice Presidents, and I have just attended a Federation of Metropolitan Line User Group meeting with London Underground at Baker Street – see report. Work on the new Reach Free School is going ahead and we are supposed to be getting a review of on street parking in Rickmansworth. There is a constant supply of planning matters and other items which are discussed on a monthly basis.

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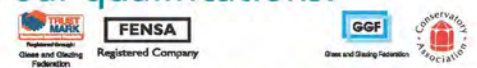
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Are you prepared to to be a road rep for one of these roads which involves delivering **Independence** and collecting subscriptions in the Spring of each year?

We desperately need to have someone to service these roads which contain between 6 and 24 members.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Ashleigh Court | Long Lane |
| Bury Lane | Maxwell Close |
| Bury Meadows | Middleton Road |
| Chiltern Drive | Moor Lane (Part) |
| Church Street | Norfolk Road |
| Clarkfield | The Queen's Drive |
| Church Lane | Skidmore Way |
| Colne Avenue | Springwell Avenue |
| Eastwick Crescent | Stockers Farm Road |
| Goral Mead | St Peter's Close |
| Harriet Walker Way | Talbot Road |
| Heron Close | Thompson Way |
| Jordans Road | Trellusson Way |
| Juniper Close | Uxbridge Road |
| Juniper Gate | Vine Tree Court |
| London Road (Batchworth Hill) Part | The Willows |
| | Williamson Way |



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Autumn seems to have set in quickly this year and it is raining steadily outside as I write this. Social media groups are frequently full of complaints that there is no reason to enter Rickmansworth as there are so few shops, so I will make this article a short tour of Rickmansworth.

The first business at 205 High Street is Druids. This pub is a very good venue for sports fans as major televised sporting events such as football, rugby and cricket test matches are broadcast here for patrons to enjoy over a pint, or even a cup of tea and a bacon sandwich when broadcasts of these events begin early in the day. After Druids comes the Marks & Spencer Food Hall, purveyors of many delectable and staple foodstuffs and beverages and handy for fruit and veg since the greengrocer closed.

Cross over the entrance to the Council car park and the Fox & Hounds pub is to be found. I believe Thai food is available there-I will have to sample this as I have read some good reports regarding it. (Food critic in the next edition of **Independence?**). There are two other Thai restaurants in Rickmansworth, Tamarind in Station Rd and Lemongrass in Church Street. In the interests of brevity I will skip over the numerous charity shops which do a good job of recycling and fund-raising on the High Street, although we are about to lose Oxfam this September. Rickmansworth is also fortunate having several banks-NatWest, Santander, Lloyds and Barclays banks as well as Nationwide have branches in the town. There is a small boutique, Muse and a take out eaterie before the Rasal Brasserie, which always looks elegant with its clean tablecloths and well set tables. Should one like a change there is another long established Indian restaurant across the road.

Looking ahead along the length of the High Street, our little town looks very drab. In my mind's eye I picture Rickmansworth in sunlight, with baskets of flowers hanging from the lampposts. Is this false memory or did we once have a pretty, joyful little town centre? What happened to the baskets of flowers which brightened the scene? The Feathers pub along Church

Street is a joy to behold at the moment with the beautiful, colourful baskets hanging from the pretty façade.

On the opposite corner of the High Street with Station Road is the kitchen design shop, preceded by the bathroom design, Brown Sugar delicatessen and a long-established newsagent. This latter is a favourite with the grandchildren for the excellent choice of pocket money sweets and the smiling service once the choice is made.

Further along past an estate agents, a bank and charity shop, is a Costa coffee shop, then a large ice-cream parlour. The latter is another delight of visiting grandchildren! Halfords has a display of bicycles, scooters and an amazing child size Mercedes car currently in the window to offer ideas for Christmas. The pretty jeweller's shop is a long-established family business where the staff are always helpful. A disabled friend asked me to purchase her a new watch and I was allowed to take three away for her to choose one. Can one imagine such trust and service in a larger centre? There is a picture and framing business, a local Optometrist, next is a Kodak shop where it is possible to have that beautiful snap of the children or local or holiday view turned into a lovely picture to hang on the wall. Here one can have passport photos taken. Friends of ours planned a month touring Europe in their motorhome, only to find at the Channel tunnel that his passport had expired! Don't let this be your fate.

Riverside Pharmacy has a good stock of perfumes in addition to the large pharmacy counter. The delightful smell may be from the small bakery opposite the pharmacy, which also offers home cooked dishes to take home - what a wonderful service to those who live busy lives or live alone but enjoy a home made cottage pie or lasagne.

Rickmansworth is fortunate to have a choice of bakeries with Wenzels bakery almost opposite this and Cinnamon Square in Church Street. Cinnamon Square have won national awards for the quality of their bread and cakes and I can vouch for their delicious waffles. The greengrocer

is sorely missed but the shop is now a phone shop and watching young passers-by engrossed on their mobiles (sometimes to the exclusion of everything else) it will be very useful. There is another mobile phone shop on the other side of the High Street as well.

Living here we have no excuse for not seeing well as there is now a SpecSaver Optometrists shop in the High Street - usually busy when I look in. There is a Barratt's Health food shop, adding to the health food retailer opposite lower down the road near the junction with Station Road. There is also a good stationery supply shop (Tame's-an old Rickmansworth name) on that side along with a hairdresser and M&Co which keeps us well dressed. Caffe Nero looks to be a popular coffee shop and meeting place for groups of young mothers and their offspring. Near the intersection with Church Street there is still a butcher's shop with an excellent range of fresh meat available.

In addition to all these businesses there is an excellent dry cleaner, Rocha who also offers a reasonable and professional alteration service, a Boots Pharmacy plus a Boots Optician, WH Smith newsagents, a second hairdresser to complement the other two, a post office and general store, Iceland supermarket, Clark's shoe shop and of course the library. Opposite the Library there is a long-established family-run wine merchant, FL Dickens, where one can purchase local honey, Chiltern rape seed oil and locally made gin as well as a large range of wine and spirits.

As well as the menu available at The Pennsylvanian pub, there is a branch of Prezzo Italian restaurant in the High Street and two Italian restaurants in Church Street. It is simple to avoid cooking at home occasionally.

I apologise to those businesses I have not mentioned in this quick tour but I hope it makes the reader realise how much there is to see and purchase in Rickmansworth and how much our local High Street will benefit from our support.

Dianne Passmore

PETER'S PADDOCK



Peter reviews a contentious planning application, propounds the point of a residents' association and of course, there is the statutory mention of "those lights again".....!

Ann Shaw

St Mary's was unsurprisingly packed out for Ann's memorial service on the 2nd June, which will surely be noticed elsewhere in these pages as in the local press and other publications. Nobody could dispute that, regardless of her party politics, her achievements on behalf of our community were many, tireless and second to none. Ann, then living in The Byeway off Batchworth Hill, was a member of the Residents' Association committee from 1976 to 1980, when she stood down as our political independence dictates on being elected to the Three Rivers District Council. Those grateful to her for her help and work over the years are beyond count.

Ruth Lake

I was also one of a fairly large congregation at Ruth's funeral service at St Mary's on the 21st June. Her interests in the community were wide and of long standing, as attested by the representatives of those organizations concerned, particularly the Girl Guides, one of whose deputy district commissioners read the lesson, as well as the local U3A and Youth Council. I attended primarily as the President of the Residents' Association, for Ruth was a member of its committee from 1987 to 2009 and had been a road representative of Bury Meadows (where she lived) since 1981. Her contributions on committee were normally brief and to the point, and her commitment to the cause was never in doubt. At the time of writing (mid-July) there had not been an obituary in the local press, which occasioned some surprise, but her work in the community will be long remembered.

What a Carry-On

The decision of the TRDC Planning Committee on the 22nd June to pass the application to demolish the RVS hall off Bury Lane and provide in its stead "units of temporary residential accommodation" has already attracted much unfavourable comment and will continue to do so. Members of the committee favouring the proposal (the

Lib Dems) declared their first concern to be the plight of those to be housed, while those opposing it (the Tories), while naturally declaring the same sympathy, stressed that in their eyes the proposal was primarily intended to relieve the Council's budget rather than anything else and that if normal planning standards were lowered, well, just too bad. There were several accusations against the latter speakers of terminological inexactitude in their description of the temporary accommodation.

The outcome was sadly predictable.

How dispiriting it is to find on so many occasions, here as elsewhere, that planning applications are decided along party political lines rather than on their merits. Not all members of the committee voted: the solitary Labour member and one of the Lib Dems abstained. What is the point of sitting on such a committee if you will not (or are afraid to) record an opinion when it matters, especially on such a contentious application?

Much the same farce was re-enacted at the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee on the 17th July. As at the first meeting, the Penn Chamber was packed with local residents, whose presence was intended to convey mute disapproval of the proposal. Unfortunately, while most harmlessly applauded comments by opposing speakers, a few once again repeatedly interrupted and heckled with hostile and often uncomplimentary interjections. It should be remembered, like it or not, that the Council is not legally bound to allow members of the public to speak at, let alone disrupt, what the Chairman reminded us are not public but committee meetings. It is all very well saying that the Council and its officers are our servants, but such behaviour is an abuse of those privileges TRDC currently allows in this context and merely threatens their withdrawal. No matter how emotive the topic, these meetings have to be conducted with some order and not

adjourned (which benefits nobody, and was warned would happen by the chairman more than once on the 17th July) to save a collapse in disorder. Mob rule must never take over.

Back in the '60s

In July 1962 the editorial of no. 31 of **Independence** was stated to be "a recruitment issue ... while we were telling other people all about ourselves, it might be a good idea if we had a good look at ourselves to and give ourselves a 'State of the Union' sort of message". Some of the comments still hold good (allow for the passage of time in the occasional references), such as these:

"Residents At War?" There are those who think that a Residents' Association like ours ought to be at war continually with the Council, like a sort of militant Trades Union, and there have been cases when the ratepayers have gone on strike and refused to pay their rates.

This is not our method – for one thing it never seems to work and some unfeeling beak gives you the choice of paying your rates or going for a stretch. Nor does it seem quite logical to think that ordinary human beings immediately become avaricious criminals the moment they get a seat on the Council. But though we do not go to war with the Council, we keep a watchful eye on them, and when they do something that we think is a bit odd, we tell them so.

Do We Always Win? You might ask whether we always succeed in persuading them that we are right and they are wrong. The honest answer of course would be no, not always. In fact our records are strewn with the accounts of our failures. But there are successes too. One of the problems is that what seems right to some of our members is rank injustice to others. If you have chosen a nice lonely piece of ground on which to build your house, with its long open vistas of rolling countryside surrounded by trees just where you want them, miles away from tiresome neighbours, you are naturally

narked when some oaf builds another house just in front of you. Naturally you appeal to the Residents' Association to help you. After all, for what else do you pay your half-crown [the then subscription]? And so the long-suffering Secretary writes yet another letter to the Clerk of the Council protesting against this new act of vandalism on the part of his employers in permitting this diminution of your amenities. Secretaries' memories are notoriously short, and he will of course have forgotten by now the letters he wrote on behalf of all the other members when you built your house 'in the middle of one of our most treasured beauty spots'. We have to try and take a balanced view and hope that our members will do the same. Fortunately they usually do so.

What Then Is The Point Of A Residents' Association? It seems to us that there are many reasons for having one. There are for instance a number of corporate bodies in any community, all having some sort of common purpose and interests. There is usually for instance a Chamber of Commerce, there are the local manifestations of the political parties who between them put up most of the Councillors and who may be expected to have some sort of party line. There are any number of societies each fostering some interest or other which, however keenly felt by themselves, may only be a minority view. It seems to us therefore that the rest of us ordinary people should have some outlet by which we can express ourselves. The Residents' Association does just that.

Furthermore an Association such as ours can and does give a feeling of

community, and feeling of belonging.

Councils are not infallible, they are composed of ordinary people who are elected to get on with the business of running a district as best they can. They have professional advice and this acts something like the Civil Service in miniature, and they usually do their best, but they are subject to pressures both from outside and from the frailties that attend being human. It is just as well to remind them from time to time that they are not just governing in a vacuum."

More in our next issue.

Those Lights (on Batchworth Heath Hill)

Of course, still burning uselessly. Clearly nobody cares.....

Peter Waters

Federation Of Metropolitan Line User Committees (FOMLUC)

Peter Crispin, one of our Vice Presidents, and I went to Baker Street on the afternoon of the 14th September. The meeting started with a visit to the line control room which showed the whole of the Met line and Circle Line.

Following the visit to the line control room we went to a meeting with Met Line management.

The future of the extension of the Met line to Watford Junction along the track bed of the old Croxley Branch (MLX) is still not resolved. There is still a vast funding shortfall which needs to be resolved by the end of the year.

A number of options were discussed which included selling the land of the old Croxley Station at the end of the branch, which would no longer be required, for building and a similar idea for some of the land at Watford Met which, again, would no longer be needed for operational use. Both of

these were not viable.

Had the original timescale been met the connection would have resolved the problems created by the closure of Euston for the construction of HS2 but this could not now happen as, even if funding was obtained and work started straight away, the line could not be brought into use in time.

The major problem is the construction of the viaduct at Two Bridges to connect the two lines. Otherwise the track is already in place and whilst power rails and signalling systems would need to be installed, the track bed is already laid.

The additional funding needs to be found by the end of the year or the project will have to be cancelled. Other news includes the management rearrangements which saw the new line manager and customer relations manager being introduced.

Proposals for step free access are well advanced for Harrow and proposals for Amersham are being worked on. Harrow should be complete by 2020 with new lift shafts being provided by TfL to all three platforms.

Once the new signalling system is up and running the number of trains from Baker Street should be able to be increased from 22 to 28 per hour and trains will be able to run to a faster timetable. We now have to wait until 2022 for this and this date may well slip again.

Michael Stimpson

ARTICLES

Are you able to write an article for the next Independence? It can be on any subject of local interest either current or historical.

If so, please e-mail it to me at StimpsonM@aol.com by the end of March 2018

EVENT REVIEW

RICKMANSWORTH FOLK FESTIVAL

Last July saw the fourth annual Folk Festival in Rickmansworth run by the Rickmansworth Town Team and organised by Phoenix Morris and Ricky Folk.

The day had problems caused by constant rain but started well with the Chairman of the District Council, Diana Barber, welcoming the Morris Sides to Rickmansworth and the dancing started but the rain came down and a plan to dance at locations along the High Street and then dance in the garden of the Fox and Hounds had to be called off as was the folk singing at the latter.

Happily the Vicar made the church available to the folk singers and the Morris Sides danced outside the Conservative club until the rain started



The Pals singing at the Feathers.

performing at the lock but here the rain put a stop to the dancing at the lock and the Morris Sides ended up at St

Whilst those taking part in the day had an enjoyable, if damp, time the rain put off the hoped-for audience and this is something we need to take into account for next year.

The evening concert in St Mary's Church went better and the Polly Morris Band and Julie Felix entertained an almost full church for over three hours with many queuing for tickets outside the Church despite the threat of yet more rain.

Julie Felix, a local resident, has sung at each of the folk festivals organised over the last four years.

Despite the rain the event only made a small loss and the thanks of the team go to our two County Councillors for supporting the event from their Locality Budgets.

Michael Stimpson

Photographs courtesy of Mike Pugsley



Phoenix Morris, our local Morris Side, dancing in the rain.

again at which point dancing carried on inside.

The Feathers had an area for both singers and dancers which was under cover so this location was not affected as with the Polly Morris Band,

Mary's hall where the dancing ended the day before tea and cakes.

The lunch provided by the staff at The Feathers was excellent and provided a welcome warm break for all the performers.

MORE FROM THE FOLK FESTIVAL GALLERY



Polly Morris and Julie Felix in St Mary's Church



Julie Felix



The Morris Sides outside Watersmeet with Diana Barber before the rain started.

Merrydowners from North Harrow dancing outside the Conservative Club



The Mills of Rickmansworth

Local History



Batchworth Mill

Recently a friend lent me a book on the mills of Hertfordshire which provided information, of course, on those in Rickmansworth.

This article is based on the information in this book and one from my own library on the Industrial Archeology of Hertfordshire together with some information found on the web site of the Rickmansworth History Society and other locations.

From the 1500s to the 1800s, mills had developed, mostly it seems for the grinding of corn. These were built along the three rivers, but especially the Gade, but the 1800s many mills were converted to papermaking which, arguably, had become the county's most important industry due to the water supply which was used both in the process of paper production and also the provision of power using water wheels.

The second factor was the closeness to the main market for the finished goods which was London..

The building of the Grand

Junction Canal to Rickmansworth in 1796 also provided much-needed transport bringing in rags, cotton waste and esparto grass for the papermaking process and the final product could also be transported to a canal wharf in Paddington for onward distribution to the City.

Later steam power was used to drive the machinery and narrow boats would be used to deliver coal to the mills to fuel the machines. Later, some mills were converted to turbines and water power was used to operate them.

There were about eight mills in and around Rickmansworth and I have been unable from the various sources I have consulted to find out much about them but I list them below in alphabetical order with what information I do have.

Batchworth Mill.

The earliest mention of a mill in Rickmansworth was in 1544. It is not clear where this was located but could have been Batchworth Mill. The indications are that it was used in the spice trade.

Batchworth Mill is on the south side of the (now) Grand Union Canal.

Opinions seem to differ on the dates of change of use, one saying it was used as a silk mill from 1759 to 1818, one saying it converted to paper in 1775 another from 1757 (which would have been before it was converted, presumably from a corn mill, to a silk mill!).

It seems it was purchased by the Grand Junction Canal Company in 1809 and then sold to John Dickinson in either 1818 or 1820. It seems it ceased producing paper in 1887 when it was closed.

It is now part of the Waterworks complex.

To be honest my guess is that it was used as a silk mill until 1818 and then Dickinson used it as part of his paper-making empire until 1887 when it may have been taken over by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company.

Croxley Mill.

This mill was built by John Dickinson on land owned by Lord Ebury in 1830 as a water mill. This

changed to steam in 1881. It was extended in 1886.

Built specifically for the production of paper, it seems it was producing over 100 tons a day by 1947.

It initially used the canal for transport but waterways connected to the rail network with extensive sidings off the Watford to Rickmansworth railway.

It seems that it started to produce photographic paper in 1927.

It was closed in 1980 and demolished in 1982 being replaced by a housing estate and a business park.

Hamper Mill

I could find out nothing about this mill except that it was converted to paper production in 1757.



Inside Scotsbridge Mill

Loudwater Mill.

This was built as a corn mill but purchased by Herbert Ingram in 1748 and converted to papermaking which it started in 1758 providing paper for the Illustrated News.

It closed down in 1885 following

action taken against it for polluting the river Chess.

Mill End Mill

It makes sense that there was a mill at Mill End!

I could find no information about when it was built but it seems it was being used as a paper mill until 1888 when it closed due to bankruptcy. It then reopened in 1890 as a blotting paper mill by the Mill End Paper Company but closed again in 1905 and it was demolished in 1912.

Rickmansworth Mill

OK – this is a poser. There are references to Rickmansworth Mill in both 1544 and 1563, Rickmansworth Manor Mill (1576) and Rickmansworth Silk Mill (closed 1880). Were they all the same? They cannot be Batchworth Mill as that is still there but it could have been a reference to Batchworth converting from silk to paper making rather than closing.

There is also a reference to a steam driven silk mill at 171 High Street which opened in 1806 and closed in 1898 and was taken over by Franklins in 1900 who ran it as a soft drinks plant until 1991 when the site was sold to M&S and used as a supermarket.

If we take Rickmansworth Silk Mill closing in 1888 to in fact be 1898 then this could indicate the two sites are in fact the same but as 1563 is a bit early to build a steam powered mill and as Rickmansworth High Street is not close enough to a water course to provide a power supply the matter is still a bit of a mystery.

Scotsbridge Mill

Again, no information about when or why it was built but perhaps the most informative building of its type in Rickmansworth today as it still retains its water wheel.

It seems it was converted to paper production between 1757 and 1881. There is then no information I could find although I remember it being used as a storage and repair facility for reel-to-reel film by MGM. It is now



Scotsbridge Mill

in use as a restaurant and the wheel was a feature but now only has the bed with water rushing through it the wheel having been removed.

To be honest I expected to find more information about this site.

Solesbridge Mill.

There is little information about this mill apart from the fact that it was used for paper making from 1746 to 1888 when it went bankrupt. As this was the same date as Mill End mill, it seems likely that they were both owned by the same firm and were perhaps still using hand methods to produce paper which, of course, could not compete with the modern mass production methods of the Industrial Revolution.

It has to be stressed that the sources used in the brief research into this subject differ in their findings and thus care should be taken in accepting the information.

Michael Stimpson

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www.rickmansworthtown.co.uk**

Want to help with events in Rickmansworth?

We are looking for people who want to help organise and fund raise for events

in Rickmansworth – if you are interested please contact us at

info@rickmansworthtown.co.uk

Dates for Your Diary

October

Sun 1st 8 & 10 am

Harvest Festival Service at St Mary's

Tue 10th 8.15 p.m.

Ricky Folk in the back bar of the Conservative Club, Bury Lane

Sat 14th 10-1pm

Rickmansworth Society Market, Watersmeet.

Thu 19th 2 & 7.45

Film – Their Finest. Friends of Watersmeet Film Society.

Fri 20th 8pm

TRDC Quiz Night, Penn Chambers

Fri 27th 2-4 pm

Three Rivers welcoming residents to the Pensioners' Forumn the Penn Chamber at Three Rivers House in Rickmansworth. The agenda includes: Chorleywood Bookshop, Three Rivers Museum and a talk from the Chairman of the Council, Diana Barber.

November

Sat 11th 10.45

Armistice Day Tribute at the War Memorial

Sun 12th 2.00

Rickmansworth Remembrance Day Parade followed by service at St Mary's

Tue 14th 8.15

Ricky Folk in the back bar of the Conservative Club, Bury Lane

Thu 16th 2 & 7.45

Film – Rules Don't Apply. Friends of Watersmeet Film Society.

Fri 17th 10.30-12

Friends of Watersmeet Coffee morning – all welcome. Watersmeet

Community/Diary Dates

November (continued)

Watersmeet

Sat 18th 7.30

Rickmansworth Society Quiz Supper, St Mary's Church Hall.

Thu 23rd 7.30

Local Area Forum, Penn Chamber

Fri 24th 5-9pm

Rickmansworth Town Team Winter Fair, High Street.

December

Thu 7th 7.30 Until Sun 31s

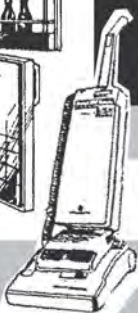
Pantomime "Beauty and the Beast" Watersmeet

Fri 15th 10.30 - 12

Friends of Watersmeet Coffee morning – all welcome. Our Lady's Church, Park Rd.



Autumn Market



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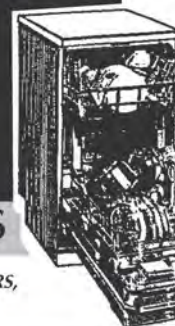
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Information

Protect your Pensions

Our pensions are usually one of our most valuable assets, offering financial security throughout our later lives. However, pensions can become the target for illegal activities, scams or inappropriate, high-risk investments. Police data shows that pension and investment scam victims often experience the largest financial losses.

The Pensions Advisory Service (TPAS) (www.thepensionsadvisoryservice.org.uk) provides independent, impartial information and guidance about pensions, free of charge, to members of the public. Helping with all pension matters covering workplace, personal and stakeholder schemes, TPAS can answer general questions, help with specific queries and offer guidance for people with complaints about their private pension scheme.

If you are contacted out of the blue with offers of free pension reviews, 'government initiatives', mentions of 'guaranteed rates of return', 'couriers' who will help you complete forms, 'access to cash before age 55' then please beware, as these are common signs of a scam.

If you transfer your pension into a scam you run the real risk of losing much, if not all, of your pension savings. If you access and transfer your pension before age 55 (only allowed in certain circumstances e.g. ill health), this can also result in significant tax penalties of up to 55% of the value of your pension.

Once you've transferred your pension into a scam, it's often too late.

To find out more about how to protect your pension, visit The Pension's Regulator's website, which

contains links to a video, a list of top tips and a downloadable booklet.

<http://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/individuals/dangers-of-pension-scams.aspx>

If you'd like to talk to TPAS about an offer you have received or think you may already be being scammed please call 0300 1231047. Remember, TPAS is there to help with any pension related query you may have.

If you need to reply regarding this message, click on this email address: philip.waine@herts.pnn.police.uk

Philip Waine
Watch Liaison Officer, Neighbourhood Watch

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Neighbourhood Watch does not mean acting as vigilantes or taking direct action against would be criminals or risking personal injury.

It is rather a matter of awareness in the community and reporting suspicious activity to the Police as a matter of urgency.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1984

Under the above Act we are required to inform our members that their name, address and road representative will be kept on a computer record. This information will be used solely for the benefit of the Association and will not be disclosed to a third party. Any members who object to their details being recorded in this way should contact the Secretary.

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Advice column from your local CAB



Q) I've just been hired by a café as a temp covering the busy months before Christmas. My boss says that because I'm a temp, I'm not allowed to take any holiday. Is this right?

A) Your boss is wrong - as an employee, you're entitled to take paid holiday regardless of the contract you're on.

While they can refuse to give you leave at specific times, they can't refuse you holiday pay altogether. If you can't take time off during your contract you should receive your holiday pay in a lump sum at the end.

How much holiday you're allowed depends on the length of your contract, and how many hours you work.

First, check how many hours you're entitled to by using gov.uk's calculator. Save a copy of the calculation to refer to.

Then speak with your boss and explain that you are entitled to either annual leave or pay in lieu of your holiday - you can refer to your employment rights on the Citizens Advice website. Give them a copy of your holiday calculation too.

If your boss refuses to give you time off or holiday pay, put your complaint in writing to them.

Should your boss still not give way get in touch with ACAS, the free dispute resolution service that specialises in employment.

For help understanding your rights, approaching the discussion with your boss or taking things further, contact your nearest Citizens Advice.

Rickmansworth CAB,
Northway House (behind the library),
High Street, Rickmansworth, WD3 1EH.
New Telephone number -
0344 245 1296

Monday	
Tuesday	} 10.00am - 3.30pm
Thursday	

Wednesday	10.00am - 12.30pm
Friday	10.00am - 12.30pm

Rickmansworth CAB is recruiting for volunteer advisers - full training given, free refreshments and lovely company! To find out more, either drop in during operating hours or email training@castr.cabnet.org.uk.

The Citizens Advice Service in Three Rivers receives funding support from Three Rivers District Council



87th Annual General Meeting June 2017

Minutes of the 87th Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 6th June in St Augustine's Hall, Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, Rickmansworth.

In the Chair: Peter Waters, President of the Association. The meeting opened with a minute's silence in honour of Ann Shaw, former member of this Committee and a long-serving District Councillor.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Peter Crispin, Ginny Crispin, Janet Lee, Bill Sylvester, Chris Patient, Mike Ede, Ruth Ede.
2. **Minutes** of the 86th Annual General Meeting, held on 21st June 2016. These were approved as a true record.
3. **Honorary Treasurer's Statement of Accounts:** These were presented by Richard Mitchell, Honorary Treasurer: He offered a sincere thank you to all the Road Reps who are the cornerstone of the Association's subscription collection and thus operating income. Without their efforts the Association could not function as it does. Thank you also to Steven Roberts for examining the accounts this year.

- It's been a full year for the Association in the financial arena with a new Treasurer taking post. The constant effort by the Committee to keep up the number of Road Reps, and the unfortunate impending closure of HSBC in Rickmansworth (this week). Because of the HSBC branch closure the Association has moved its account to the Rickmansworth Branch of Barclays. Copies of the Financial Statement were available around the room for those attending to review.
- Last Financial year saw fewer active Road Reps than the previous year and a number road rep retirements and no replacements.
- Receipts were down by £763. This is substantially because of a reduction in subscriptions collection by some £348, reduced Independence Advertising revenue of £190 and reduced donations by some £225 (from the Waitrose green chip scheme). Correspondingly, Association outgoings were up by £347. The Association made a £250 donation towards the purchase of Remembrance flags to the Town Team, £50 for the RVS site consultation campaign, and some £50 of smaller differences occurred against last year payments (chiefly RBL room hire, IT expenses etc)

In sum, the Association spent £154 more than the income received. This compares with last year's growth of some £956.

However, the end of year accumulated funds stand at a sound £5,660 with no known liabilities. So, to the forthcoming financial year.

The only increase in outgoings is incurred by the printing of Independence in colour at an additional cost of £295 per issue.

Income from advertising in the Independence magazine is expected to be much the same as last year, at about £1,100.

It is reasonable to anticipate that receipts should increase following the rise of the annual subscription to £3, the first for very many years, which, assuming unchanged membership collection on last year, should provide an additional income of about £1,300 this year giving a total annual income in the order of £5,000.

The Committee needs some £4,300 at the end of the financial year (31st March), so there is a reasonable financial margin and the Treasurer has no difficulty settling the bills, and there is sufficient capital to fund the **Independence** magazine without waiting for the spring subscriptions to arrive.

- The Treasurer recommended the appointment of David Rees as the Reporting Accountant.

We have yet to establish the actual effect of the subscription increase on membership and this will only become clear as the subs are collected. That said, the Association remains a going concern with a viable and sustainable future. .

4. **Chairman's Annual Report:** Michael Stimpson thanked all the Committee for the year's hard work, and thanked the road representatives for their contribution twice a year. RDRA could not exist without their help twice a year. Mike also thanked Steven Roberts for his work as the Association's Examiner over the past few years.

The Association has a new logo designed by Ruth Elrington-Browne and Mike hoped everyone likes it as much as the Committee does. He also hoped that the new colour magazine was enjoyed by all. There has been a better deal negotiated for the magazine print run, but the RDRA will run out of cash within 4 years without the recent increase in annual subscription to £3.00. Advertising rates have not risen in order not to scare off advertisers.

The past year has been taken up with the fight to defend the RVS hall and the Bury conservation area. The RDRA has registered the hall as an asset of community value.

The Metropolitan line extension looks threatened at present as it is running out of money. Michael Stimpson, Peter Crispin or Bob Templeman attend regular meetings with th Met Line Users group FOMLUC.

The Rickmansworth Waterways Trust, an offshoot of the RDRA, goes from strength to strength. The annual canal festival was a great success and the Waterways Trust has just won the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. It has also just

Continued overleaf

received planning approval to build its education centre at the lock.

RDRA works with other groups such as the Rickmansworth Society and the Town Team to better use volunteers. We need publicity to recruit more volunteers.

Mike and Ruth Ede are retiring from the committee as they are moving to Lincolnshire, so there is a vacancy for a new advertising manager. Dianne Passmore has agreed to stay on as Secretary for this year or until a replacement can be found, if sooner.

The intention is to switch to one hard copy of "Independence" per year, which will be delivered by the road reps and subscriptions collected and all other communications delivered digitally.

Peter Waters thanked Michael Stimpson for his hard work. The report was proposed by Tony Berry and seconded by Shirley Jacobs.

Steven Roberts thanked everyone for their kind words of thanks and pointed out that he had not charged for his services as Examiner.

5. **Election of President:** Peter Waters was proposed by Michael Stimpson, seconded by Dianne Passmore
6. **Election of Vice-Presidents** Tony Berry and Peter Crispin were proposed by Peter Waters and seconded by Shirley Jacobs.
7. **Election of Officers:** Dianne Passmore was elected as Secretary, proposed by Roger Bangs, seconded by Tony Berry. Richard Mitchell was elected as Treasurer, proposed by Dianne Passmore and seconded by Tony Berry.
8. **Election of the Association Committee:** The current Committee has agreed to serve for the coming year. There are still vacancies on the Committee. They were proposed by M. Woods, seconded by R. Bangs.
9. A short talk was given by Cllr Dudley Edmunds from Croxley Green Parish Council, outlining briefly the different functions of Herts County Council (HCC), Three Rivers District Council (TRDC) and a parish council. Parish Councils (or Community Councils) are becoming more and more important as the voice of the people. HCC devolves as much as possible down the chain to TRDC and the Croxley Parish Council. The parish council is the first line for locals to approach with local issues.

After a short break for coffee/tea and biscuits, there was an update on the newly elected Batchworth Parish Council. The name is now confirmed as the Batchworth Community Council with an elected Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

RICKMANSWORTH & DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

rickmansworthresidents.org

COMMITTEE

President	Peter Waters	
Vice-Presidents	Tony Berry and Peter Crispin	
Chairman	Michael Stimpson	
Secretary	Dianne Passmore	
Treasurer	Richard Mitchell	
Membership Secretary	Leslie Chrol-Frolowicz	
Planning Officer	Bob Templeman	
Advertisement Manager	Position Vacant	
	Carolyn Venn	Laurie Irvine
		Nina Hosking



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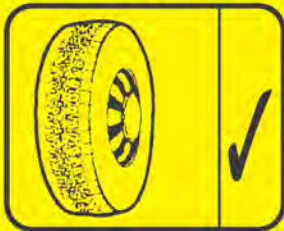
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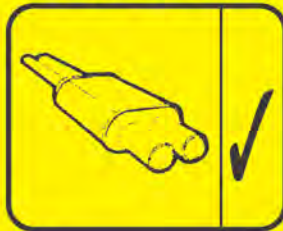
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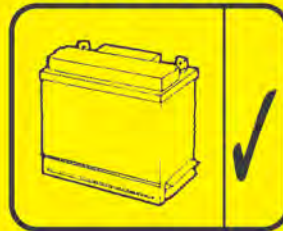
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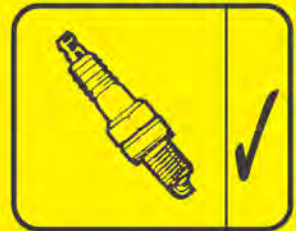
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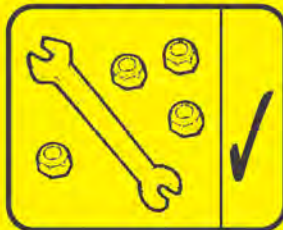
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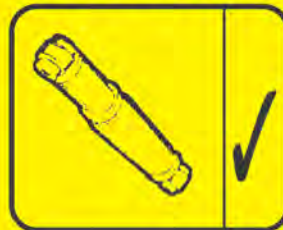
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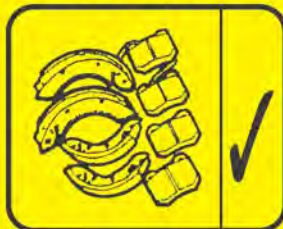
ALLOYS



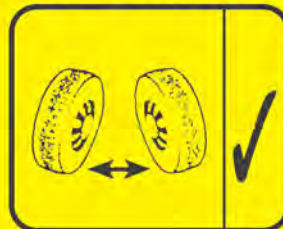
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