

BROWNHILLS GAZETTE

ISSUE NO 52
JANUARY 1994
25p WHEN SOLD

DISTRIBUTED TO OVER
6,000 HOUSEHOLDS AND
BUSINESSES MONTHLY



The disused Railway Track that attracts vandalism

Local Farmer takes action

Nature walkers and rambles were stopped in their tracks recently on the outskirts of Clayhanger when they came face to face with a PRIVATE ROAD sign, at the access to a disused railway track that had been used as a short cut to a wildlife reserve known locally as the SWAG.

Walkers who had always believed the track to be railway property, were surprised to see that the sign had been erected by local Butcher and Farmer Mr. Edmund Howdle.

We were unable to make contact with Mr. Howdle, but speak-

ing on his behalf Mrs. W. Howdle told the Gazette "The land does belong to Edmund and he felt that he had to put the sign up in an attempt to keep people off the property. We've had a load of trouble up there over the last few months, with fences knocked down, rubbish being dumped everywhere, and it was the last straw when one of our goats was mutilated. Edmund didn't take the decision lightly as he, being born and bred in the village, knows the popularity of the Swag, but his action is really inevitable after recent events".

Are we being pushed out again?

Does anyone care a damn about Brownhills?

Following quickly on the decision to close Brownhills sorting office, comes the news that the Police are proposing to implement some reorganisation, and guess what, yes, Brownhills is to be affected.

The Sub Divisional Operational Report states that Superintendent K Evans and Superintendent J Peake reported verbally on future plans, and the proposals relating to the 'H' division which suggest there would be a reduction from 3 to 2 sub-divisions on the basis of Brownhills / Bloxwich / Willenhall / Darlaston and Aldridge / Walsall.

Why, we ask, should Brownhills suddenly be separated from Aldridge, and how will the policing of Brownhills be affected, what will the response time to calls be, in comparison to now, what benefits will be gained from such moves? These are questions that require answers urgently, and before the final decision is taken.

If this plan is implemented what would come next, the closure of Brownhills police station? We have been told that

the Chief Constable has stated that no police stations will be closed, and Chief Inspector Badham at Aldridge Police station assures us this is the case; but we are far more cynical, although we believe that what is being said at the moment is what everyone believes will happen. What will be the situation once they have built the new police station to replace the one at Willenhall?

Surely the first step will be to move the traffic division from Brownhills, and then yes you have it, it will suddenly be decided that there is no further use for Brownhills police station, and of course our friends the accountants will prove how much will be saved by its closing.

We endeavoured to find an answer, to why everyone treats Brownhills with contempt, and the only reason surely is that us the residents of our town do not give a damn. Councillors and those in authority know they can do what they like without a whimper from us all, well you have been warned, let us start shouting now before Brownhills goes into oblivion.

BEDS • PINE FURNITURE • OCCASIONAL CHAIRS • PICTURES • ORNAMENTS • WALL UNITS • REPRODUCTION

CLARKES CRAZY DEALS

OFF STOCK BEDS & FURNITURE
1ST FANTASTIC YEAR OF TRADING



We hate counting stock, so we are prepared to offer crazy deals
off all stock up until 29th of January - New stock arriving 1st February



FINANCE AVAILABLE
WRITTEN DETAILS
ON REQUEST

CLARKES 93-95 HIGH ST., BROWNHILLS
TEL: BROWNHILLS 0543 373442



MATTRESSES • BEDS • PINE

FURNITURE • MATTRESSES • BEDS

FUR • REPRODUCTION • WALL UNITS • OCCASIONAL CHAIRS • PICTURES • ORNAMENTS • PINE FURNITURE • BEDS

**BROWNHILLS
GAZETTE**

EDITORIAL

Articles and photographs to be considered for publication should be sent to The Editor, Brownhills Gazette, c/o Baker Bond, 183 High Street, Brownhills WS8 6HW

Advertising
0543 452840/1 or
021 789 6768

Group Editor
Rosalie Bott
021 789 6855

Gazette Series
Sheldon/South Yardley,
Hodge Hill,
Castle Bromwich,
Chelmsley Wood,
Coleshill/Water Orton,
Brownhills, Harborne
and Pelsall
Monthly Gazette Series
Circulation 72,000

Publishers
Baker Bond
(Printing & Publishing) Ltd
P.O. Box 1
183 High Street,
Brownhills, Walsall,
West Midlands WS8 6HW

DEADLINE

COPY DATE
14TH FEBRUARY
PUBLICATION DATE
24TH FEBRUARY

Illegal Traders

Have we got them on the run?

Violent and organised criminals who are posing as legitimate traders on Brownhills market may be on the run after a concerned W.M.B.C. took action.

Trouble has been brewing over the last 12 months as illegal traders have been foisting counterfeit goods on to an unsuspecting public.

Over £10,000 worth of goods have been seized over that period including videos, fake designer clothes and fake expensive brand named perfumes.

Lookouts with mobile phones have been tipping accomplices off and ugly scenes have been commonplace, such as:

Hot coffee thrown

One trader swinging a 12ft plank at a Trading Standards Officer.

Another throwing hot coffee at an officer.

A gang of youths snatching back seized goods from two female officers.

Police too, come under attack when they had seized goods snatched back from their police car, the gang getting away on foot.

The Director of Environmental Health and Consumer Services Mr. Jeff Kirkham says he believes some of the ringleaders who are very bold and aggressive have criminal records.

On approaching Spook Erection Ltd who run the market their first reaction was that it was the responsibility of the Council but after taking legal advice it now seems they will be taking steps to get their house in order.

Clr Ted Moorman told the Gazette "The Policies and Recourses Finance Sub Committee met on January 11th and will issue a statement to Spook Erection Ltd to attend a meeting in about 4 weeks time when they will be allowed to put their case and advise us of the



actions that they intend to take. We view this matter very seriously and cannot allow it to continue."

Failure to comply could mean a refusal of their license to operate.

Here to protect public

Mr. Kirkham however visited the market on 11th of January and was pleased to see that the known offenders were conspicuous by their absence.

"People wonder why we bother with things like fake tapes" said Mr. Kirkham "they seem to think that it only stops royalties to stars like Madonna, but there's more to it than that. For a start off, how can legal traders compete and where is the protection for the customer who goes home and finds a blank tape?"

Odds are that when they take it back the rogue has gone or left somebody else in charge who swears blind he knows nothing about it. We hope that Spook do keep these people away, because we are here to protect the public, but its easier if they don't get a foothold in the first place."

**Gazette
Comment**

On behalf of the Brownhills public and all legal traders, we can only echo those words and thank all concerned for tackling this problem. If ignored it could fester into a huge crime ring that could lead to protection rackets, stolen goods and all the relevant traumas that go with it.

Brownhills Market has run for years now on its present site and built up a reputation for good quality goods, at fair prices, and has attracted people from all over the Midlands. So much so that in official Guide books, Brownhills once described as a mining town, is now called a Market Town.

Let's rid ourselves of these hooligans and keep them out, because if we lose our market what have we left?

If you suspect or indeed purchase goods that you find are fake and don't get satisfaction let your trading standards know or drop the Gazette a line and we'll look into the matter for you.

**TOTAL SUPPORT
FOR YOUR
COMMERCIAL
VEHICLES**

Whether you operate one vehicle or one hundred, time is money, and when you have a vehicle off the road you want it back in service as quickly as possible.

For the Private Motorist we offer:
Full Service and Repair Facilities
Auto Electric problems dealt with
24 Hour Recovery Service



We understand your needs, that's why we operate a Fast and Efficient Service and Repair Centre to keep your vehicles on the road

- 24 Hour Recovery
- Auto Electrical Problems Solved
- Hella Batteries Supplied
- Steam Cleaning Available

FREEPHONE NOW - 0800 282973

BURNTWOOD CAR COMMERCIAL SERVICES

UNIT 1, GATEHOUSE TRADING ESTATE, LICHFIELD ROAD, BROWNHILLS.
PHONE: 0543 374449 (Day) 0543 270750 (Night) 0860 747056 (Mobile)

NEW OPENING TIMES
Mon-Thur 8 a.m.-10.00 p.m.
Friday-8.00-6.30
Sat-8.00-6.00-Sun-9.30-12.30





Clayhanger past present and future

Clayhanger Community Association are appealing for old photographs newspaper clippings and any memorable stories, that will be useful for their project called Clayhanger Past Present and Future.

At a recent exhibition held in the Community room in Church Street a good turn out was recorded to view the progress made so far. One feature that aroused a lot of interest was a book containing memories

views and opinions from residents past and present.

For the association Mrs. Brenda McHale said "We would like to add a lot more to the book and welcome contributions from all ages. We are quite prepared to come to your home to record your memories for you, or take photographs from your originals to be included in our book. If you need to make contact with us contact Heather Leonard or Georgina Fereday on 0543 374642".

Life's a whirl

JUST reading through the list of action-packed activities WPC Paula Hollyman has planned for 1994 would make most people sit back onto the couch.

Motorcycling, sky-diving, flying..life's a whirl for the police cadet-turned Central Traffic officer (left) with 13 years in the job.

Traffic duty runs in the family; hubby of 10 years is Brownhills traffic PC Steven Hollyman.

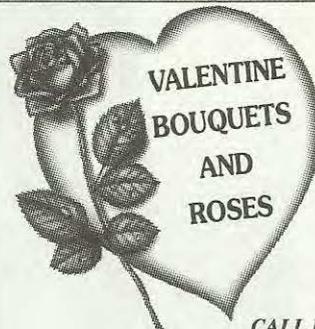
Paula say: "The course has been great, although I could have done with a smaller bike! My aims for 1994 are to survive another motorcycle course and to put in for a driving instructor's course."

Plans for her leisure time are anything but leisurely. "This year I'm going to start flying again for my pilot's licence. I also want to go sky-diving just once, just to say I've done it."

FRUIT, VEG & FLOWERS

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES DAILY

DRIED FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS



10% OFF
ALL ORDERS OVER £3.00 WITH RECEIPT OF THIS ADVERT UNTIL END OF FEBRUARY '94

CALL IN & BROWSE

KINGS FRUIT & VEG

23 HIGH STREET, BROWNHILLS. TEL: 0543 453675

IF IT'S GLASS WE DO IT!

TRADE AND RETAIL SUPPLIED
Decorative Glass, Mirrors, Sealed Units, Safety Glass, Bevelling, Sandblasting.

WHATEVER YOUR NEED
IF IT'S GLASS CALL US:

KINGDOM GLASS PROCESSING LTD

UNIT 2, CHASE ROAD, BROWNHILLS.
PHONE: 0543 452619 & 370193 - FAX: 0543 373555



SILVER COURT OPTICIANS

Look for the Special Offers in our SALE

Frames by JEFF BANKS, CHRISTIAN DIOR, JAEGER, JULIAN BEAUMONT, ROMEO & JULIET CHILDRENS FRAMES BY DISNEY

- BUDGET FRAMES ● LARGE SELECTION OF FASHION FRAMES
- SAFETY SPECTACLES ● CONTACT LENSES ● HEARING AID SERVICE
- HEARING AID BATTERIES

For all your eye care requirements call:

BRYAN W. SEAMAN (F.F.D.O.)

17 SILVER COURT, HIGH STREET, BROWNHILLS.
TEL. 0543 372504

Brownhills Archives

I said in our last edition that given time the lads that I was trying to trace from the Central class of 52 would probably get in touch and I'm glad to say that they haven't let me down.

Apart from the promised letter from John Lees that you'll find in the Archives Letters section, all the other lads mentioned have been tracked down. First to ring in was Maurice Bacon who left the area years ago and is now living in Rugeley and it was he who informed me that he works in a Bridgetown factory, which is also the workplace of Ronnie Tongue who was on the photo. My next call was from Peter Edwards now living in Aldridge, who informed me that he had joined the police force after leaving school and now works for the Health Authority, and while we were talking the name of the other "missing person" Norman Locke came up. These two were great mates at school and Peter asked me to put him in touch with Norman if ever he got in touch. It took till the last day of the year but eventually he made it. Norman's daughter in law, who lives in Hednesford had got hold of a Gazette and sent it to him at his home in South Wales, from where he immediately got on the phone. We spent a pleasant 15 mins chatting, during which time I found out that he has a son living in Clayhanger. As promised I passed his Number on to Peter and hopefully they will soon be reunited.

I've spoken to a lot of my old classmates since the photo appeared, Brian Ashford, Brian Whordley and Arthur Wright in particular and a few things have been dug up that I'd forgotten all about, but one thing came over quite clearly looking back on all the conversations, and that was the fact that although we have been spread far and wide, and some accents have changed, and despite the opening few words sizing each other up, once we started loosening up about the old school, few of us have really changed that much. Comments were also made about the Headmaster "Gaffer" Wright, who was very strict on discipline, some would say to the point of ruling by fear, but on reflection we realised what a brilliant scholar he was and how lucky we were to have a man of his calibre. Indeed as one ex pupil recalled, some of the maths books that we were taught from were in fact written by him.

This month we feature a photo sent in by Mr. Reg Hollick of Pelsall with the accompanying letter.



Dear Sir,

I enclose a photograph of friends and myself painting Brownhills Youth Club which used to stand at the side of the Memorial Hall in Lichfield Rd.

The leaders in those days were Jack and Marjorie Greenhough and Frank and Iris Poxon about

1948-1950.

Pictured from the left are Charles Brookes, Graham Finn, ? Cawley, Peter Green, Myself, Jack Plum & John Hart, while standing at the back was Harry Probert.

I wonder what happened to them. I know Mr. Cawley became a Councillor.

If the photo is suitable to print it would be nice to see it in the Gazette.

Yours faithfully
Reg Hollick

For any Archives comments ring Brownhills 372491.

Archives Letters

Brownhills Boys School - forty three years ago

Dear Brian,

I enjoyed our brief discussion on the telephone last evening regarding the school photograph which was taken around November 1950 - 43 years ago! My word what a lot has happened since those days and what dramatic technological changes there have been.

I rarely have the time to reflect but our conversation has since caused me to do so, on many things, including:

a) trying to recall the names of the teachers at the school: I can remember the following names, Messrs: Wright, Hazzard, Marklew, Stockley, Seedhouse,

Morris, Ellis, and Glen, I cannot remember the woodwork teacher's name!

b) the "Torture" Tree in the corner of the playground the use of which died about two years after I was hammered on it! I haven't thought about that tree for years: it was the stuff nightmares were made of for junior school kids who knew they were going to "Central"!

c) reading "Travels With The Donkey" by R.L.S. I have read it several times since and I have always been grateful for being introduced to it.

d) the cross country runs which I always enjoyed

e) our special group in the final year when for a project we "adopted" a farm. Do you remember that? I can remember that we analysed the acidity of the farm's soil and presented our results to the farmer in the hope that it would assist him in his crop planning etc. I think the farmer's

name was Johnson! That idea of students adopting businesses was in fact a very advanced educational idea at the time.

f) the tremendously high standard of mathematics which we reached with Mr. (Gaffer) Wright. I believe that without that superb "grounding" in mathematics I would not have been able to have successfully completed my later mechanical and electrical engineering studies.

I think that's enough of reminiscing because that's the pre-occupation of the old!

When I'm next in the Midlands I will telephone you and if its convenient we can meet for a drink or lunch together. With kindest regards and best wishes.

Yours sincerely

John

CONTINUED OPPOSITE

Archives Letters

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

October 1956 remembered

Dear Sir,

I have memories of the 9th of October of that year as I was a young miner working at the Charles Coal. I was a conveyor belt driver and I remember Mr. Walker very well. My friend Bill and I were at work that day. We went on at 2 p.m. and stayed on until 3 a.m. the following Wednesday helping the rescuers.

We were a happy bunch of workers and often shared a laugh and a joke together. I was shocked when I saw the extent of the fall and I didn't think anyone had survived, Mr. Walker proved me wrong and I was happy to see him again. I was very sad about losing so many good friends. I was only 17 at the time and it made a big impression on me.

I have seen Bill since then and we often talk about that day but I have not seen Mr. Walker and would like to get in touch.

F.P. Cresswell,
Brownhills.

On His Majesties Service ?

Dear Sir,

I was delighted to receive a copy of the Gazette which featured in "Brownhills Archives" a photo of Ogley Hay Senior Girls Musical Society. It was such a happy photo and I remember all the girls well (I am standing in the front row on the extreme left)

I wonder if anyone remembers the button badge that we proudly wore with the letters O.H.M.S. painted on it (Ogley Hay Musical Society). I went into one local shop and was questioned by the shopkeeper. He wanted to know what right I had to a On His Majesties Service badge, when I explained we had a chuckle!

My family and I moved to Glastonbury over 25 years ago and ran a business until we retired recently. Many thanks to you and Mary Taylor for a trip down memory lane.

Marjorie Hackwood
(nee Slatcher)

Memorial Service will not be revived

Following on from our Nov issue's story of the trapped Walsall Wood miner we found out that the annual Memorial service for the men killed had long since been discarded by St John's Church in Walsall Wood.

The Rev M. Rhodes told the Gazette that the service went on for twenty years, when the miner's lamp was carried to the altar by an ex miner, but for the last three years a miner's wife had to perform the duty.

"At that time the ceremony had been going for twenty years, and we thought that it would be the right time to finish it," he stated.

The plaque that is on show in the Church along with the lamp bears the inscription - Walsall Wood Colliery 1873 - 1964, Out of darkness comes light glowing internally in memory of those who perished in the mine at Walsall Wood and are now at rest in their Lord.

The Rev Rhodes also told us that the church is visited at least once a month by people who want to read the inscription and pay their respects, and sometimes to see the accompanying plate with the inscription of the names of ex miners who have

deceased. This plate is continually being added to, and anyone who would like a name included should contact the church.

I asked if there was any possibility of the ceremony being reopened if any of the ex miners came forward and offered their services, but was assured that the chances were very slim.

I was told "It went on for twenty years and really I think that it would not be in anyone's best interests to restart it".

This response angered several of the miners, on whose behalf I made the inquiries, with one retorting "According to that then we might as well forget about poppy day and Guy Fawkes night. Is this man of the church trying to put a time limit on history?. I find this attitude very disappointing."

The sole survivor of the accident Mr Walker is also bitter "That service was in memory of the mates who perished that day, and as long as any of their wives and children are alive the event should be recorded. As a survivor I was never asked if I would do the job, but would have complied willingly."

QUALITY FITTED KITCHENS SALE NOW ON

BEDROOMS

KITCHENS

BATHROOMS

CROWN have now introduced a low priced range of flat-pack units to their range of Quality Kitchens.



Also available a wide range of Self Fit Units and Replacement Doors - most available from stock within 24 hours.

CROWN INTERIORS

For a no obligation, free design and quote or brochure

Ring 0543 453511

Direct from the factory, the right kitchen to suit your BUDGET

Low Cost Finance Available
- Tenants welcome. Written details on request

Monday to Friday

9.00 - 5.30

Saturday

9.00 - 5.00

59 HIGH STREET, BROWNHILLS

DEATHS

BICKLEY (FLOSS) - Fondly remembered by all friends and neighbours at St James Walk.

BICKLEY (FLORENCE) - Passed away peacefully, 23rd December 1993 aged 84. Reunited with Dad. Remembered by all the family.

HILL (LILLIAN MAY) - Our farewells were left unspoken, you were gone before we knew, but we'll treasure forever the love we have for you. Love daughter Audrey, Son-in-law John, Grandchildren Tracey, Craig, James.

HILL (LIL) - Sister and Aunt - Simple words but very true we will always love and remember you. Love Brother Ern, Sister Ciss and families.

IN MEMORY

DALTON (TOM) - January 8th 1988 - Loving memories silently kept of someone special. We will never forget. Loving wife Iris and family.

TODDINGTON (RON) - January 23rd - One sad and lonely year without you, I was so proud to be your wife, now I've only memories of the man I loved so much. God Bless you wife Beaty.

TODDINGTON (DAD) - Never more than a thought away. Loved and remembered every day. Son Malcolm Sue.

TODDINGTON (GRANDAD) - Gentle Jesus up above give our Grandad all our love. Joanne, Jason.

ETHEL WATSON - 2 YEARS FEBRUARY 27TH - Sweet is the word remembrance, loved is the one who has gone, in our hearts you will live forever, as long as our lives go on. God bless you mom. - From Son John, Daughter-in-law Ann, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.

BROWNHILLS REMEMBERED

Mr. R. Fullelove has sent us a copy of a share certificate purchased by his father in 1957. He thinks that they were issued to help develop the Top Club that he now believes to be the Sportsman at the top of Lichfield Road. He recalls that the club had a grand bowling green to the rear and was fenced off with corrugated sheets.

Lichfield Road on Sundays

He goes on to say that he remembers as a young boy that there was a special ritual for those who enjoyed a pint of beer. They would start at the Top Club then move on to Sankeys, then to Breezes and, if pocket money allowed, finish up at Ogleby. This was repeated lunch times and evenings, you could set the clock by them. All the men would wear smart suits and polished shoes and hair would be gleaming with Brylcream. The ladies who sometimes accompanied them would all wear posh coats and hats. It was a happy and friendly affair, a way of life that was full of fellowship.

SWIMMING FUN

Young people are invited to take part in swimming sessions organised by Walsall Youth Service. The Central Swimming Team have organised fun events that provide an introduction to the pleasures of swimming. The next session will take place on the 6th of April from 8 p.m. until 9.45 p.m. at the Gala Baths, Walsall and the organisers say that all standards of swimmers are welcome to come along to enjoy the fun.

Anyone wanting more information should contact Mary Kendall on Walsall 26349 or 652334

No. 3 £ 1

Brownhills Working Men's Club
REGISTERED UNDER THE FRIENDLY SOCIETIES ACTS, 1896 to 1908
REGISTER No. 2662 STAFFS. W.

It is to Certify that the BROWNHILLS WORKING MEN'S CLUB is indebted to Daniel Fullelove of 11a Lichfield Rd. Brownhills, Walsall in the principal sum of One Pound, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, advanced as a Loan to the said Club, upon the condition that Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum is paid to the order of the above-mentioned Lender half-yearly on 1st January and 1st July and upon the conditions endorsed on this Certificate.

Signed for and on behalf of the said Club the Twenty Second day of July 1957.

Registered Office:
3, LICHFIELD ROAD,
BROWNHILLS,
WALSALL, STAFFS.

C.D. Harrison Members of
S.B. Pratt Committee.

M. Boulton Secretary

This certificate must be stamped with an impressed stamp within 30 days of its date. The stamp duty payable where the loan does not exceed £10 is 6d.; over £10 up to £25, 1/4; over £25 up to £50, 2/6; over £50 up to £100, 5/. Certificates may be lodged at the local Post Office for stamping.

Sight First

Lions Club's Sight First Campaign

Aldridge and District Lions Club which covers the area of Aldridge, Brownhills, Pheasey and Streetly held a tinshake during December in Tesco's (Brownhills), which raised £260, this is allocated to the Lions Worldwide Campaign Sight First, the biggest project ever undertaken by any service organisation, which aims to raise over £100 million worldwide by June 1994. This money is to be used to help rid the world of reversible and preventable blindness including cataracts, glaucoma and river blindness. Reversible blindness, such as cataracts, can be cured by a simple operation and many other causes can be prevented by simple hygiene or health measures.

Some of the money raised has already been used in this country to reduce the NHS waiting list for cataract operations through an organisation called "Impact" which organ-

ises special cataract operations at weekends.

In addition to the donations we were very pleased with the interest shown by our contributors which included walking off still reading our leaflet whilst pushing a trolley full of groceries - a hazardous operation!

Thank you to Tesco for allowing us the use of an area within the store and to all those who so generously donated.

Finally, a small plug, our next social event, to which all are welcome is a Beer and Skittles night including a chicken and chip supper at the BRD Club, Aldridge on Friday 4th February. Tickets £5 are available from Chris Barker 0922 56558 or John Howland 0543 372308. Either will be pleased to answer any questions you may like to ask relating to Sight First or Lionism in general.

STATION TRAVEL

12 and 16 Seater Mini Buses

AIRPORTS • BLACKPOOL LIGHTS
DAY OUT • NIGHT CLUBS
SHORT AND LONG DISTANCES AT AFFORDABLE PRICES

WHY DELAY PHONE TODAY

ON 0543 372191

MOBILE 0831 535775

OR CALL AT:

209 WATLING STREET, BROWNHILLS, WALSALL.
WEST MIDLANDS WS8 7JU

PERSONAL SERVICE GUARANTEED

J*A*N*U*A*R*Y
MARK DOWNS

WE CAN NOW OFFER
0% FINANCE

FLOTEX £9.99 PER LIN. FOOT

(High Quality, Plain and Cut and Loop)
* FREE ESTIMATES AND FITTING *
WHERE QUALITY COSTS LESS

ASCOTT CARPETS
10 CROFT PARADE, ALDRIDGE.
TEL: (0922) 58799

WHERE SERVICE COMES FIRST

CHINESE RUGS CHEAPEST IN AREA
£27.99 4'x2'

—FIVE GENERATIONS—



Proud Ada Till is pictured with her daughter Dorothy, granddaughter Kate, great granddaughter Amy. Ninety two year old Ada originally came from Walsall but has lived in Brownhills for many years. Seated in the centre is Ada and from right to left are Dorothy, Kate, Jenine and baby Amy.

What the workers think

Walsall Council employees say that more training and better communications would help them improve the services they give to Walsall residents and businesses.

The Council's first ever Employee Survey formed part of its new strategy to involve its 10,654 staff and manual employees (excluding teachers) in making changes to improve the delivery of services and give value for money to cus-

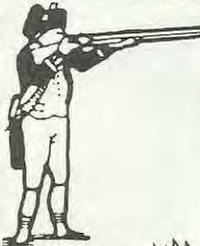
tomers.

The aim of the survey, as outlined in the Corporate Business Plan, was to support the policies of continuous service improvement and encourage greater employee involvement, participation, job satisfaction and pride in working for Walsall Council.

A wide ranging questionnaire was sent to nearly one fifth of Council employees in all departments. Direct

Service and Direct Labour Organisations throughout the borough, and the 44.26% response rate was higher than normal for such surveys.

The results, revealed that employees felt they were providing a good service but recognised that customers wanted better quality services. They felt that services were accessible but more attention could be given to publicity and providing services more quickly.



NEW RESTAURANT NOW OPEN

ANY FUNCTION CATERED FOR

FUNCTION ROOM AVAILABLE FOR YOUR ENGAGEMENT, WEDDING, BIRTHDAYS, CHRISTENING, ANNIVERSARIES
FULL A-LA-CARTE MENU - SILVER SERVICE

The Trooper

Watling Street, A5, Wall, Nr. Lichfield.
Listed in CAMRA Good Beer Guide Tel: 0543 480413

PLEASE BOOK TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

BOOK NOW
FOR
VALENTINE & MOTHERS DAY

**EXCITING
NEW
MENUS**

Post delivered 9 months late

Last March we at Baker Bond posted a number of items that failed to reach their destination. We informed Customer Care Services at Wolverhampton of our problem but alas they could not trace any problem at the post office, that would explain the disappearance of our mail.

Incidentally this was the second occasion our post had gone astray, and we were becoming concerned that something un-

ward was occurring, obviously the same concern was not being shown by Customer Care at Wolverhampton.

Time they say is a great healer, and sure enough we had forgotten about this problem, when suddenly on January 10 1994 we had a number of calls telling us that the mail posted last March had just been delivered.

We again rang Customer

Care Services at Wolverhampton informing them some of the items posted last March had now turned up and would the envelopes help in their enquiries. Unfortunately once again we were informed they could not trace any problem and they could not give an explanation for the non-delivery.

Now onto the scene comes Mr. G. J. Taylor District

Customer Care Services Manager, and for the first time we feel someone is interested in the situation. We are returning the envelopes to him and he is going to investigate, in fact he told the Gazette that anyone having problems with their post should contact him and he would endeavour to put things right, their aim was to give everyone a first class service. Over to you Mr. Taylor.

BROWNHILLS CENTRAL TOWNSWOMENS GUILD

At the December Meeting, Members were pleased to welcome Mr. Voden who gave a very interesting talk on the History of Lichfield Cathedral.

The Cathedral has a long and fascinating history. St Chad was appointed by the Pope as the first Bishop of Lichfield during Saxon times and a church has stood on the Cathedral site ever since. During those early times the church would have been a simple wooden structure. The Cathedral as we know it today was built during the twelfth

century. It is constructed of local sandstone in the early English style of architecture and is romantically known as The Lady of the Vale. It is the only medieval cathedral in England to have three spires. Although Truro Cathedral also has three spires it was not built until the late 1800's.

Lichfield Cathedral houses many fine sculptures, including the Two Sleeping Children and a statue of Lichfield's most famous son, Dr. Samuel Johnson. The building was quite severely damaged during the

Civil War when it was bombarded by Cromwell's canon. Nowadays pollution takes its toll and the cost of renovation runs into hundreds of thousands of pounds.

Mr. Voden regretted that the Cathedral does not on the whole receive the acclaim it so richly deserves. It is an architectural gem but, unfortunately, it is not on the 'Tourist Trail' as are the cathedrals of Winchester, Gloucester, Wells and Chester.

Iris Poxon gave the vote of thanks.

Several Members of Brownhills T G joined with the South Staffs Federation of Townswomen's Guilds Choir for a Carol Service at St. Matthews, (Walsall Parish Church) last month. Secretary Julia Willett was responsible for organising this event. Julia is now serving on the Federation Committee and arranging the Carol Service was her first assignment. Congratulations to Julia on her appointment to the Federation Committee and also for the success of the Carol Service on the day.

Members of the Brownhills T G Music and Drama Group are working hard rehearsing for a Concert to be held at The Memo in March. Once again Julia has turned her organising skills to producing the Show which features songs from the 40's, 50's

and 60's. Watch this space for further details of this outstanding event. The snow will feature old favourites such as that dynamic duo Floss Dickinson and Muriel Read, Vi Cliff who specialises in humorous sketches and monologues, talented soprano Barbara Plumb and many, many more, including a surprise guest appearance by someone even I do not know about. The cast will as always include a bevy of beauties drawn from the ranks of Brownhills T G. Any of you ladies out there wishing to join in our dance routines and try out a few high kicks in the chorus line is most welcome to join us.

Our next meeting will be on February 10th at The Lichfield Suite, Memorial Hall, Lichfield Road, Brownhills, at 7.30 pm. when President Vi Cliff will be giving a talk on the History of Brownhills Schools. Members are advised to be there early as latecomers will probably get a black mark.

New Members are especially welcome and we look forward to seeing some new faces in the coming year.

Best wishes to all Brownhills Gazette readers for a happy and prosperous 1994.

Stella Hodgkiss
Press Officer.

End of an era for Police

OVER three generations and 80 years police service will end with the retirement of a civilian stalwart from Walsall.

Clerical officer John Lycett has followed in the footsteps of his father and grandfather by devoting his life to criminal justice in the Midlands.

After a brief stint with the Law Society and the local council, John's police career started in 1966 at Aldridge, then in the Staffordshire force. He was a clerk in the court office helping to lay 'informations' before the magistrates.

Since then 65-year-old John a married man with one grown-up daughter, has been charged with the task of fixing court dates for officers and witnesses to attend trials.

On the advent of court computerisation in the late 70's, John moved into the Prosecutions Department (now the Administration Support Unit) at Walsall police station where he has continued his administration work on cases going before the magistrates.

His retirement at the end of December will see John continuing as Chairman of Bloxwich Combination Football League, providing week-ends of soccer for local children and adults.

JENNY'S PICTURE FRAMING & GREETING CARDS

33 High Street, Walsall Wood, Walsall WS9 9LR.



DON'T FORGET
VALENTINE

PICTURE FRAMING
WITH A CHOICE OF FRAMES
GREETINGS CARDS AND
GIFT WRAPPINGS

GIFT BOWS AND DECORATIONS
AND MANY UNUSUAL GIFTS INCLUDING:
ORNAMENTAL CLOWNS AND PICTURES

WIDE SELECTION OF EXCLUSIVE WOODEN TOYS

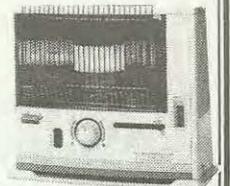
10% OFF ALL PICTURES
UP TO END OF FEBRUARY 1994
WITH RECEIPT OF THIS ADVERT

HEATING PROBLEMS? CHECK OUT ZIBRO KAMIN

**YOU COULD BUY A CHEAPER
PORTABLE HEATER**

(BUT IT WILL COST YOU DEAR!)

A ZIBRO KAMIN WORKS OUT UP TO 50% LESS EXPENSIVE TO RUN THAN ELECTRIC OR BUTANE POWERED PORTABLE HEATERS. A 2kw MODEL COULD SAVE YOU 5p AN HOUR, WHICH OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS CAN AMOUNT TO 100s OF POUNDS. COMPARED TO BOTTLED GAS HEATERS YOU WILL ALSO FIND ZIBRO KAMIN HEAT MORE PLEASANT AND COMFORTABLE. OUR UNIQUE SYSTEM MEANS LESS FUMES AND LESS VAPOUR. ADD THIS TO NO FUSS REFUELING, EASY IGNITION AND CONTROLLABILITY. YOU WILL SOON WARM TO THE IDEA OF ZIBRO ZAMIN.



Lindon Handyman's Supplies Ltd
118 Lindon Road, Brownhills
0543 375481

Clayhanger Methodist Church News

Clayhanger Methodist Church Council and church members can look back over the past twelve months with great satisfaction at all they have achieved, all the efforts they have enjoyed and the greatest thing of all, the money raised has covered expenses and the financial statement presented at the A.G.M. by our Treasurer, Mrs. Dorothy Bagley is proof of all the work we have done raising funds.

We ended 1993 with a lovely Carol Service led by the Captain and Band of Hednesford Salvation Army, it was well supported and after the service, tea and mince pies were served by the ladies in the hut, which enabled all present to meet and chat in Christian fellowship.

Our Ladies Good Companions and church members ended 1993 with a coach trip to Scarletts Restaurant, Lichfield for a Xmas meal, it was a happy and friendly occasion and plans and discussions for the future programme of our church were the main topic of conversation.

Good Companions is closed until March 7, it is too dangerous for women to walk down that lonely lane in the dark and be together in that isolated hut. We have a very good speaker for our Opening Night, she has lived and worked in Nepal in the Himalayas. We are making it an Open Night so that friends and people living in the area can join us on this special night.

Our project for 1984 is to have the old wooden army hut dismantled and replaced by a brick built hall, many of us will be sad in a way to see the old wooden hut go, for it holds many happy memories of times spent together and all we did and shared together in the war.

This means working hard rais-

ing funds and we hope we shall have the usual support of old friends and people, who want to see the one hundred and six year old chapel continue to serve in God's name.

Gwen H James

THANKS

The members and church council, wish to express their thanks to everyone who helped with their Christmas fayre in November, to all those who provided for the stalls, those who made cakes and Christmas cakes, those who organised raffles, special thanks to Yvonne, Hairdressers Walsall Wood, and Sylvia and all at Aldridge and Walsall Post office (yes Sylvia the roof will now last another year) and thanks to everyone who turned out on a very cold foggy night to support us.

It is hoped our final figure raised will be around £700.

pp Members of the Church
Dorothy Bagley

PUBLIC INQUIRY

A public inquiry is to be held to consider an application for planning permission to repair, store valet and hire vehicles at 21 Pelsall Road, Brownhills. An enforcement notice was placed by the Council to prevent this work being carried out at the premises but an appeal to the Department of the Environment has been lodged against it by the owners. The Inquiry will take place at the Council House in Walsall on Thursday the 3rd of March at 10.00 a.m.

MIDLAND STAR VALET & MECHANICAL SERVICES

SPECIALISTS IN MOTOR
VEHICLE VALETING
AND REPAIRS
Private and Trade

21 Pelsall Road, Brownhills, Walsall.
Tel: (0543) 452993

SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE

NEW YEAR SALE

3mm WORKTOPS FROM £24.95

1000 x 600 BASE FROM £24.95

OVEN HOB & EXTRACTOR PACKS FROM £299.95

INSET COLOURED SINK FROM £59.95

PLUS SAVINGS ON OTHER RANGES UP TO 33% ON DAVINCI BEDROOMS

CLARE & MIRABELLE

AT LEAST 15% OFF KITCHEN

AT LEAST 20% OFF

ST JAMES
One of our finest kitchens - the solid oak doors have a rich antique chestnut coloured finish.

SALE SALE SALE SALE

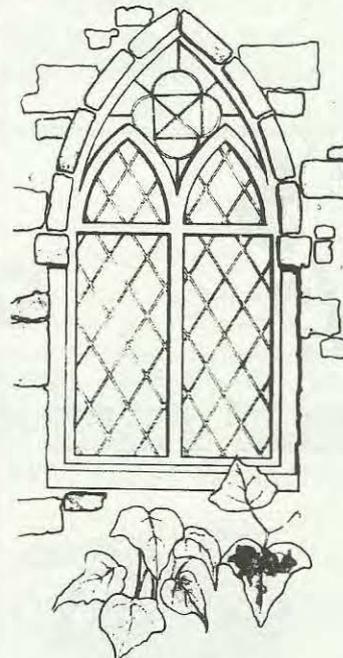
R.B. TONKS
164 LICHFIELD ROAD
BROWNHILLS 374121

Access
VISA

League of Professional Craftsmen

GENUINE SAVINGS NO INFLATED PRICES TO OFFER HUGE DISCOUNTS

WEST MIDLANDS CO-OPERATIVE Funeral Services



A 24 hour personal service for the arrangement of funerals (in the privacy of your own home if required).

9 High Street,
Brownhills
Tel:
0543 452896

ALSO AT:

26 Tamworth Street, Lichfield Tel: 0543 416660
Hatherton Street, Walsall Tel: 0922 21808
49 Park Road, Cannock Tel: 0543 572644

WEST MIDLANDS
CO OP

People who care

SCHOOL NEWS SCHOOL NEWS ... SCHOOL NEWS**OGLEY HAY INFANT SCHOOL
AND BROWNHILLS
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
WORK TOGETHER****Science and
Technology
Focus Week:**

Staff from the Technology Department of Brownhills Community School and Ogle Hay Infant School are working together over the next 2 weeks. Ogle School are running Science and Technology projects to enable their staff to delivery the National Curriculum requirements in Science and Technology.

The project runs from 3rd January - 14th January.

The Ogle staff principally involved are:

Debbie Broom -
Science and Technology
Co-ordinator.

Linda Whitehouse -
Wheeled Vehicle Project.

Linda Birch -
Swing/Packaging Project.

The project has been initiated to help cover ATs in Science and to ensure pupils are gaining practical experiences in design and make.

Technology staff from Brownhills involvement is to support the work being done in the classroom. They will be working with small groups of around 10-12

pupils to demonstrate and provide hands on activities.

Roger Twist, Head of Technology at Brownhills, will be helping with the evaluation of the products provided by Lew-Ways, Watling Street, Brownhills.

Michelle Cullen of Brownhills is in charge of Graphics and will be working with Linda Birch providing support for the packaging of model swings constructed by the pupils.

Dave Risbridger of Brownhills School will be resistant materials teacher, and will be helping Linda Whitehouse with the wheeled vehicle project using Lego Technic kit and possibly computer control.

Timetable:

Initial Discussion Meeting-

Tues, 4th January

Presentation - R Twist

-Thurs, 6th January

Lego Work -

PM only -Tues and Wed, 11th and

12th January

Packaging -

PM only -Wed and Thurs, 12th and

13th January

**THEMES FOR PROJECT
WORK ARE TOYS AND SWINGS.**

**BROWNHILLS
COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION:**

Forthcoming events at Brownhills Community School, Deakin Avenue, are as follows:

Tuesday - Saturday,
15th - 19th February 1994:
"HMS Pinafore" -

Walsall Gilbert & Sullivan Society -
School theatre
7.30 pm start.

Tickets available from
Fran Trawford - Tel (0543) 372967

Tue & Wed : £4 adults, £3.50 stu-
dents/OAPs

Thurs : All tickets £4

Fri & Sat : All tickets £4.50

**BROWNHILLS
SCHOOL'S
PUPILS HAVE
DESIGNS ON
TRIP TO
FLORIDA!!**

Marc Chambers (13) of Warren Place, Brownhills and Nichola Murcott (15) of Chase Road Brownhills, have completed the first stage of a national competition to win a minibus for their school, Brownhills Community School, Deakin Avenue, Brownhills, as well as one for the National Deaf Children's Society Charity. They also have a chance

of winning a family holiday in Orlando, Florida. The competition is sponsored by Midland Bank, in association with the Royal Academy of Arts.

As pupils of Brownhills Community School which is participating in the Midland Charity Art challenge, they were asked to interpret the idea "Britain at its best" as a design for the livery of the minibuses.

Chosen from 53 entries at the school their designs have gone forward to represent Brownhills Community School in the regional final in January. If shortlisted as one of the ten finalists for the Midlands region, they will be invited to a ceremony at the Royal Academy in London in February where the regional winner will be announced by leading sporting personalities.

For winning this stage of the competition Marc and Nichola have won £25 in a Livecash account at their local Midland Bank and a competition T-shirt.

For further information:

Hazel Belcher
Branch Manager
Brownhills
0543 375501

**BROWNHILLS STAFF
PANTOMIME:
OFFWHITE AND
THE SEVERE
DWARVES**

In January 1994 Brownhills School's staff are once again putting on a Pantomime. Following in the steps of our previous successes, "Cinderella" and "Robby Nudd", that both got rave reviews, eg "Wasn't bad" - Ogle Observer. "Some of it was good" - Brownhills Herald. This year the staff present "Offwhite and the Severe Dwarves". A tale set in troubled times of industrial strife and jealousy. Queen Vinyl fights for overwhelming power over her stunted workforce, aided by her mirror and a unisex hairdresser. Offwhite unknowingly stands in her way and the story covers this battle for power between good and evil - that sounds good I'll leave that in.

Even though the staff are not all wearing tights this year it should be just as funny. Performances are on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings, 27th, 28th and 29th January 1994. Tickets will be on sale next term from early January, price £3.00 adults, £2.00 children/OAPs.

**WHAT'S
NEW?****INTEREST FREE CREDIT**

SUBJECT TO STATUS - DETAILS ON REQUEST

**MANY LINES
DRASTICALLY REDUCED**

E.g. 3' beds to £84
46" beds to £139

BATHROOM CARPET
to £4.75 sq. yd. (To take away)

**CARPETS NOW FROM
£3.99 sq. yd.**

**LOOK FOR THE ORANGE STARS
THROUGHOUT THE STORE**

**BROWSE IN PEACE WHILE THE
CHILDREN PLAY WITH OUR TOYS**



**CONSISTENTLY LOW
PRICES ON OUR
HUGE SELECTION
OF CHINESE RUGS**

E.g. 2' x 4' £25

**EVEN MORE CHOICE
OF REMNANTS
AT INCREDIBLY
LOW PRICES**

FREE estimates and samples to your own home. **FREE** fitting. **FREE** delivery and disposal of your old bed.

60 HIGH STREET, BROWNHILLS. TEL: 0543 371405

SCHOOL NEWS SCHOOL NEWS SCHOOL NEWS**ELVIS IS ALIVE AND IN BROWNHILLS !!**

There was a surprise visit by the "Big Star" at the annual review performed by the Brownhills school staff for the youngsters at the end of term.

Steve Barnett - (Head of Drama) gave a first class impression of Elvis to roars of approval from the audience.

OPENING OF "NEW" COMMUNITY LOUNGE

On Monday, 31st January 1994 the official unveiling of the newly refurbished Community Lounge at Brownhills Community School, Deaken Avenue will take place.

The first phase was completed over the summer months with a new ceiling with new lighting sys-

tem. The other phase began in November and has now seen new furniture, new carpet, new curtains and a complete redecoration.

There are several new features, with a tiled dance area, a permanent stage and part-mirrored walls, whilst still retaining a viewing capacity to both Sports Hall and Squash courts.

Not only will it be an extremely attractive bar lounge for users during the week, but it is hoped it will become an even more desirable and adaptable room for weekend social functions.

100% EXAM SUCCESS AT BROWNHILLS SCHOOL**FOR ADULT EDUCATION WORD PROCESSING STUDENTS:**

28 adult education students have just gained success in an examination for Pitmans Practical Word Processing which they took at Brownhills Community School in December.

The Adult Education students are members of Word Processing Classes run by the Community Association and they have been studying word processing for only 10 weeks!

Well done to all. Watch this space for more successes later in the year for these enterprising ladies and gentlemen.

Monday 14th Feb 94 -
Friday 18th Feb 94
Half-Term

Wednesday 23rd Feb 94
Prospective Year 12 Parents'
Evening Shire Oak

Thursday 24th Feb 94
Prospective Year 12 Parents'
Evening Brownhills

Tuesday 1st Mar 94
Year 9 Options Information
evening

SPECIAL NEEDS CATERING DEPARTMENT" -**BROWNHILLS SCHOOL**

A group of Year 11 boys working in conjunction with Special Needs and Food Technology excelled themselves in producing 22 Christmas Cakes in response to orders from staff.

Proceeds are going towards this year's Canal Adventure to London in July.

CALENDAR - BROWNHILLS COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Thursday 20th Jan 94
Year 12/13 Parents' Evening at
Shire Oak

Thursday 27th Jan 94
Staff Pantomime "Offwhite and
the Severe Dwarves"

Friday 28th Jan 94
Staff Pantomime "Offwhite and
the Severe Dwarves"

Saturday 29th Jan 94
Staff Pantomime "Offwhite and
the Severe Dwarves"

Wednesday 2nd Feb 94
Year 11 Parents' Evening

A SHIRE OAK FIRST

Thirteen six form students at Shire Oak School have passed their "First Aid at Work" course with flying colours. This part-time course lasted for 12 weeks covering all aspects of safety and emergency procedures and they were extensively tested during the final stages by a team of three experts. This is the first time that this course has been entered by students at any school in the country and, with a 100% pass rate, it is an outstanding achievement.

**THE SIGN OF GOOD FOOD!**

Alma's Pantry for the best in home Cooking

One of Ansell's top quality pub/restaurants.

Wine and dine in warm, friendly surroundings.

FUNCTION ROOM AVAILABLE

ENGAGEMENTS, WEDDINGS, BIRTHDAYS, CHRISTENINGS, ANNIVERSARIES.

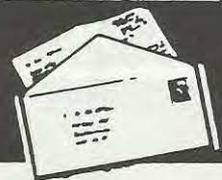
FULL A-LA-CARTE MENU - SILVER SERVICE

Royal Oak Pub and Restaurant

YORK BRIDGE, PELSALL. TEL: 0922 691811

**DON'T FORGET!
VALENTINES DAY
& MOTHERS DAY
BOOK NOW**

GAZETTE POSTBAG



Market Reprieved

Dear Sir,

I am writing to say that after a heated discussion in Walsall Town Hall on the 10th of January at a meeting of the Finance Policy and Resources Sub-Committee it was agreed to delay closure of Brownhills market for one month. After that time the market owners must present themselves before the committee to decide a further course of action.

It is a fact that there had been some problems with a small number of stalls but Spook Erection managers had taken action to put the situation

right. The recommendation to close the market put forward by the Environmental Committee, and pressed forcibly by Councillor Rothery, does seem rather harsh because of problems caused by a very small number of people. Brownhills market has served the public for 22 years and has provided a tremendous boost to the town. Many stallholders travel many miles to provide this service. I am glad that commonsense prevailed and with this stay of execution Spook Erection can make sure that the problems do not occur again. Lets hope that the people of Brownhills can look forward to another 22 years of service.

Glyn Holloway

What Relief?

Dear Sir,

I am writing about the Birmingham Northern Relief Road. We are often reminded of the advantages of the new road, its help to transport and relief to the M6 problems but there is never any mention of its disadvantages. The perpetual noise and deadly fumes 24 hours a day, the loss of open countryside etc. What relief will it give anyway? It simply takes the traffic off the M6 and replaces it 27 miles (or 30 minutes) later, into what will probably be a worse situation. All the B.N.N.R. will bring is noise, fumes and misery to everyone living alongside its route.

A separate point, I understand that Ravenscroft toilets are to be reopened soon, although no date has been given yet. I look forward to them being returned to full use as soon as possible. Many thanks to all concerned.

Sidney Whittaker,
Brownhills West.

Can you help?

Dear Sir,

I wonder if any of your readers can help us to trace anyone who knew Miss Nancy Rebecca Jones who lived in Aldridge before she married Mr. Joseph Thacker of Coppice Road, Walsall Wood. She was living at 22 Green Lane, Walsall Wood with her three daughters, Doreen Margaret, Eileen Nancy and my wife Dorothy May. Her husband Joseph had died in August 1935 of T.B. and never saw his third daughter. Sometime between February 1936 and October 1937 the family moved to 162 High Street, Brownhills.

On Saturday afternoon the 10th of October, 24 year old Nancy Rebecca along with her daughters were in the small living room of the house. She started to change the silk dress that she had been wearing that day when the hem caught in the bars of the fire. Within seconds she was ablaze. She ran out of the house to save her three little daughters getting burnt and went to the home of a neighbour, Mr. James Roberts, a miner. He tried to put out the flames with his hands and ended up wrapping her in a rug. She

was taken to Walsall General Hospital, unfortunately she died in the early hours of the following morning. Her daughters were put into an orphanage. After my wife and I got married in 1959 we started to trace her family. After being parted from her sisters they were re-united 25 years later.

We would like to contact Nancy Rebecca's school friends, neighbours and work mates (we know she worked in a factory in Birmingham to support her family) any little bit of information would be of great help.

Mr. Alec Bailey,
Pelsall.

The Chemical

Dear Sir,

I am trying to trace details, memories, etc, about the old works in Brownhills, was it called "The Chemical", which dismantled aircraft to reclaim the metals.

I particularly want to know what types of aircraft were these, where did they come from, and what was the reclaimed metals used for.

As an aircraft historian, I am keen to find out as much as possible.

Please contact me at the address below:

Mr. Peter Wheeler,
35 Park Road, Burntwood,
telephone 0543 671313.

(many thanks). All materials, photos etc., carefully copied and returned.

Thanks

Dear Sir,

I am writing to thank the people of Brownhills who supported the coffee morning to raise funds for Alzheimer's Disease Research at Silves Street Church. Everyone donated generously to this deserving cause and we raised the magnificent sum of £115.

I wish to express particular gratitude to Mr & Mrs Ron Benton, Mr & Mrs Ernie Benton, Mr & Mrs Ernie Allport and Mrs May Platt who helped me, and my very dear friend Mrs Ruth Snape without whose support none of this would have been possible.

Mrs. M. Allen,
Brownhills

Poet's Corner

WAS YER FATHER A MINER

Was yer father a miner like mine,
And worked in the muck and the grime,
Went to work on a bike, used a bow saw and pike,
To dig out black diamonds that shine.

Was yer father a wrecked body like mine,
Through working in dust, no sunshine,
His shuky was his light, damaging Gods given sight,
Deep in the bowel face of the mine.

Did he take a piece of best Sunday cake,
Ter give pit pony, whose poor little limbs ached,
As he dragged a pit tub through rubbish - sludge,
So mine owners their profit could make,

Did he bath by the fire in the tub,
Un yer mother his marked back did scrub,
Scratch caused by low roof, scars plain making proof,
Of the days of pit props and horse hoof,

Did he often sit and tell the old tale,
Of disaster and pain that prevailed,
When the roof tumbled in - rock ripped at the skin,
And sight of windows - children their face pale,

But if you asked this old father of mine,
Ter tell yer about it, his old eyes would shine,
No sad tale to tell, of the muck - the hell,
But would proudly boast ar them days of hard work were mine.

AER. REG. (BEM)

Keeping Walsall's heart beating

Attracting more people to Walsall town centre is the main aim of the newly formed Town Centre Forum.

A package of major image-building schemes including raising funds for the appointment of a town centre manager, closed-circuit TV, a new bus station, and improved signs and information boards, will be discussed by the Forum which consists of representatives of key public, private, community and voluntary organisations regularly using the town centre.

The groups are committed to build on Walsall town centre's strengths and make it one of the most popular and vibrant in the

region. They share a common vision that attracting more residents, employees, shoppers, property owners, developers, visitors and tourists to the town centre is the key ingredient for prosperity.

A new bus station and extensive improvements to Walsall Rail Station already form part of Walsall City Challenge plans for the centre, and a new and exciting focal point will be the showpiece Town Wharf development - a City Challenge flagship project - which will include a large retail store, other shops, entertainment and leisure facilities, and, if funds can be found, a new gallery for the world famous Garman Ryan Art Collection.

The Town Centre Forum, would like the town centre to be an enjoyable experience, and include a variety of activities for visitors.

Issues to be considered over the next few months include better lighting, colourful shop-fronts and market stalls, small cafes in side streets, small diverse retail outlets, and more people living above shops.

Neighbourhood Watch

Residents living in the South of Brownhills i.e. Shire Oak area, who are interested in forming a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme should contact Anne Dickenson who will only be too pleased to help in setting one up.

MP. raises objections to open cast site

Aldridge and Brownhills MP. Richard Shepherd has made known his objections to Parkhill Reclamation's application for open cast mining. In a letter to Walsall's Director of Engineering and Town Planning he points out that work on the site will almost certainly cause some inconvenience to the residents of Clayhanger and Brownhills. He quotes a number of reports from other areas that say that dust is a problem and that in extreme cases families have not been able to hang washing out or open windows. He points out that the prevailing winds could carry dust from the site. He asks what reassurances have the Council had from Parkhill that dust will not be a problem for local residents.

Never on a Sunday ?

He goes on to point out that they have said that there will be no work carried out on Sundays or public holidays and between 7 at night and 7 in the morning except for essential maintenance. He asks what constitutes essential maintenance and would this permit vehicle servicing to be carried out on site? This could cause a great deal of noise. Another source of annoyance to residents is the sound of reversing alarms on vehicles, how many excavators and dump trucks will there be?

Traffic congestion

Access to the site will be via Hall Lane onto the A 461 and it has been said that the present junction is adequate. Mr Shepherd says that Parkhill have done an assessment based on the average number of vehicles using the A 461 between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. he would like to know what the average number is during peak hours, this could give a completely different picture.

NOW'S THE TIME TO GET YOUR CAR IN SHAPE FOR WINTER

Our Comprehensive Servicing Facilities include:

Engine Tuning - Mechanical Repairs - Welding - Brakes - Clutches etc. Full Hydrolastic Service.

LOCAL VEHICLE COLLECTION AND DELIVERY SERVICE WHEN YOU HAVE YOUR CAR SERVICED.

MOT - CURRENT PRICE only £20.00
Inc. FREE Re-Test

WE ALSO DO MOT ON DIESEL VEHICLES

You could be breaking the new MOT law

EXHAUST EMISSION TESTING NOW AVAILABLE

Petrol forecourt is attended service

OPEN

8.00 a.m. - 8 p.m.
weekdays

8.00 a.m. - 8 p.m.
weekends



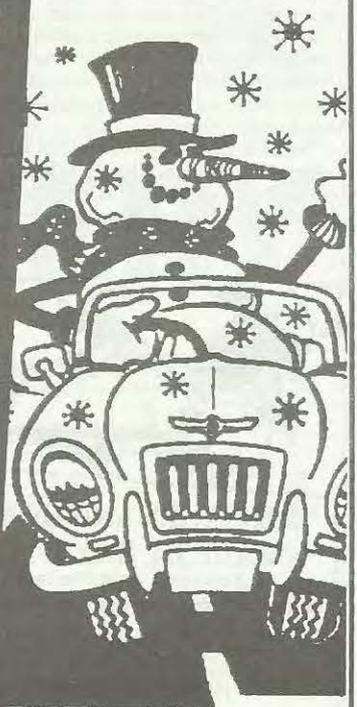
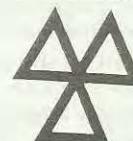
Anchor Garage Ltd

42 LINDON ROAD, BROWNHILLS.

Phone (0543) 373154

WINTER CAR CARE
TOP QUALITY
ANTI-FREEZE

Don't you get caught out this Winter.
SEE US NOW FOR YOUR WINTER SERVICE.
Batteries available.
Exchange Starter Motors and Alternators.



GAZETTE MOTORING

Renault UK achieved a spectacular 26.6% growth in its new car registrations in the first eleven months of the year compared to the same period in 1992.

With 89,484 units registered against last year's 70,663 - an increase of 18,821 cars - Renault has further seen its market share rise from 4.67% to 5.25%.

To maintain this momentum into the busy Winter/Spring period and to further extend the Renault policy of offering maximum value for minimum outlay, a series of enhanced-value special editions based on the Clio, 19 and Espace will be introduced.

CLIO LIBERTE

Aimed at young families seeking a splash of style in their everyday motoring, but at an ultra-competitive price, the second phase of the five-door Clio Liberte that proved so popular in the Summer is again available with a choice of power units: a 1.2-litre petrol engine or a 1.9-litre diesel.

Both are based on already generous RN trim levels, which include a tilt-and-slide manual glass sunroof, a four-speaker Pioneer stereo radio/cassette player, a 60/40 split rear seat and tinted glass as standard equipment.

Additional fixtures and fittings for the Clio Liberte include RAPS - the Renault Anti-theft Protection System immobiliser - along with Clio Liberte decals and interior carpet mats, front fog lamps, body coloured bumpers and upgraded seat and wheel trims.

The diesel-engined Clio Liberte also enjoys power-assisted steering as standard, which is newly available as an option on the 1.2-litre car, while options on both cars also include metallic paint and electric front windows/central locking.

The Clio Liberte is available in a choice of five colours: Glacier White, Electric Blue, Tungsten, Etruscan Red and Iceberg Silver, with production

Enhanced-value special editions for Clio, 19 and Espace maintaining Renault UK Sales momentum

limited to just 1500 examples of the £8195 petrol-engined derivative, and a further 1500 of the £8695 diesels.

These prices, together with the high level of standard equipment, represent outstanding value and represent customer savings of up to £1000 compared with the equivalent Clio RN models.

19 BIARRITZ

Similarly good value, but based this time on the Renault 19 RN five-door (in 1.4-litre petrol, 1.9-litre diesel and 1.9-litre turbo-diesel guise), is the second phase Renault 19 Biarritz.

Priced keenly from £9525 to £10,675, the Biarritz offers customers - likely to be mature (45+) males with a family - an advantage of between £700 and £900, again despite higher equipment levels.

In addition to the power-assisted steering, remote control central locking, tinted glass, Renault Anti-theft Protection System immobiliser and 60/40 split rear seat of the 19 RN, the Biarritz gains special seat trim and

wheel stylers, metallic paint (in Stratos Blue, Tungsten, Persian Red, Iceberg Silver and Brooklands Green), front fog lamps and unique Biarritz badging.

19 CABRIOLET AZUR

The Renault 19 Cabriolet Azur replaces the standard 1.8-litre Cabriolet with immediate effect. The objective of the special edition Azur is to attack the entry-level drophead market with a well specified open car combining style with value. Accordingly, the new model is expected to take up to 55% of 19 Cabriolet sales.

Available either with manual (at £13,850) or an automatic gearbox (at £14,560), the 19 Cabriolet Azur features alloy wheels and metallic paint as standard - offering buyers a high £600 price advantage over the outgoing car.

The choice of colours for the Azur is limited to just three: namely Twilight Blue, Persian Red or Brooklands Green, with the further available option of a driver's side (Eurosize) airbag at £450.

ESPACE HELIOS

With the Espace continuing to dominate the Multi-Purpose Vehicle (MPV) sector - outselling its nearest rival by a ratio that comfortably

exceeds two-to-one - the enhanced specification Helios will broaden this "people carrier's" already wide appeal to encompass younger families seeking style and image on a budget, and comes suitably equipped to impress.

Based on the 2-litre, petrol-engined Espace RN or its 2.1-litre turbo-diesel equivalent, the special edition Helios adds twin glass tilting sunroofs and two additional rear seats (bringing the total to seven) to an extensive list of standard equipment that already includes power steering, electric front windows, remote-control central locking, a stereo radio/cassette player with fingertip remote control and tinted glass.

The Espace Helios will be limited to 850 examples, a substantial proportion of which are expected to attract conquest sales from traditional estate car owners. Three standard colours are available; White, Apache Red and Amazon Green, with Mandarin Blue and Amethyst available as two further options.

List prices of the Espace Helios have been set at £16,055 (petrol) and £16,905 (turbo-diesel) and provide the customer with a product/price advantage of around £1000.

ESPACE ALIZE

Based on the mid-range Espace RT, the new Espace Alize differs from the Helios not only in its base model but also in its target customer. The Alize is aimed at couples aged 35-44 years with 3 or 4 children and offers a high specification derivative to drivers currently running executive estate cars.

Added to the RT levels of trim for Alize are air conditioning, integral paint and a baggage cover, with options restricted to a choice of three colours (China Blue, Ruby or Ottoman Green) and two power units (2-litre petrol at £17,865 or 2.1-litre turbo diesel at £18,795).

This pricing structure is again extremely competitive, with the Espace Alize - as with Helios - offering the customer a near £1000 price advantage over the equivalent standard model. Alize production will be limited to just 650 units.



Who's would you serve?

PREMIUM SAUSAGES AND HOME COOKED MEATS - MADE BY RAY WILLIAMS OF COURSE!

You can't beat the taste of traditional sausages.

Ours are made on the premises using only the finest ingredients.

Whole Barbecue Chickens cooked on the premises
Only £3.50 - 1/2 Chickens - £1.75

HOME MADE SCOTCH EGGS - 42p each
Now available to order

Gluten Free Sausages and Beefburgers

FOR PRIME MEAT AND FRIENDLY SERVICE COME AND SEE

Ray Williams
YOUR FAMILY BUTCHER
28 SILVER COURT, BROWNHILLS
TEL: BROWNHILLS 360910




Renault Clio Liberte

Business Park proposals at Shire Oak

Walsall Council has received a planning application (Ref No. BC40508P), submitted on behalf of St. Modwen Developments Ltd., to develop land at Home Farm, Lichfield Road, Sandhills for high quality Light Industrial, Research and Office uses, together with ancillary development and high-way and drainage infrastructure.

The application is in outline and seeks approval for the scheme in principle only, no other details are provided. The site of the application relates to 69 hectares of land and as can be seen from the plan its boundaries are formed by the Wyrley and Essington canal, properties on Chester Road and Lichfield Road, and the Council's boundary with Lichfield District Council.

The Council believes that in the case of such a major application the applicant should provide additional information such as details of traffic impact, drainage, the position of buildings and what is meant by 'ancillary' development. The Council has also asked the applicant to provide a full Environmental Assessment.

The Council has previously

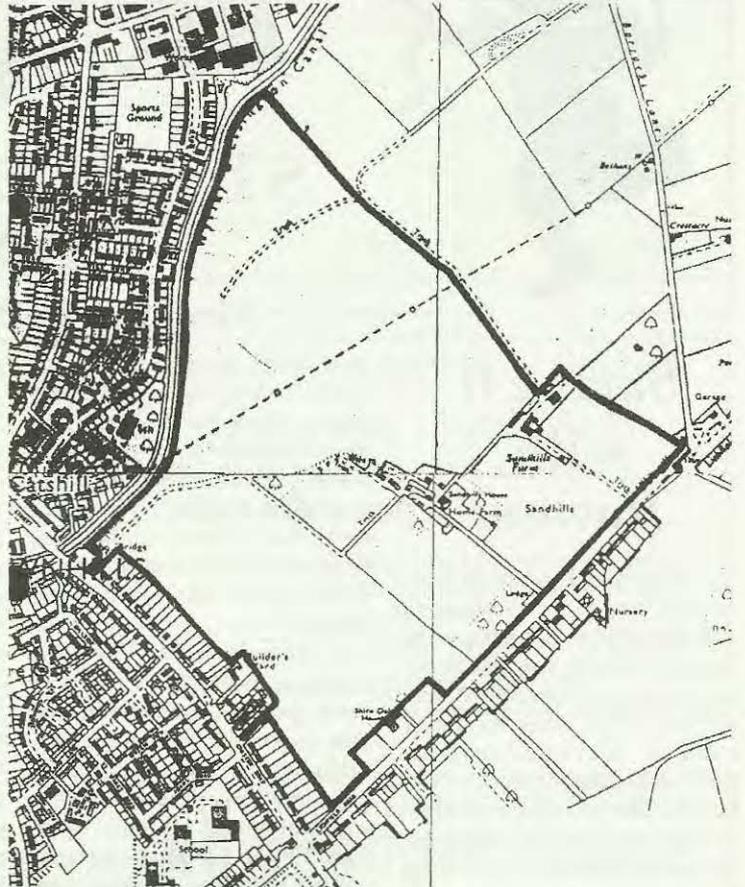
considered the use of this land for such development as part of its Unitary Development Plan but decided to retain the site within the Green Belt.

During the next few weeks the Council will be inviting comments from the local community and other interested parties before coming to a decision on the application. Anyone who wishes to make written comments or requires more information should refer to the Department of Engineering and Town Planning at the Civic Centre, Tel: 652489.

Clive Smith of Paterson Place, Shire Oak, Brownhills has arranged a public meeting to be held at the Royal Oak, Chester Road on February 20th at 8 p.m., so plans can be drawn up to fight the proposals.

He also urges people to contact local councillors with their views on the plans.

The Gazette awaits viewing the full proposals before comment. We cannot on the one hand criticise the lack of developments in Brownhills, and on the other fight against it, we will judge when we have the full facts.



BLOXWICH HARDWARE & DIY

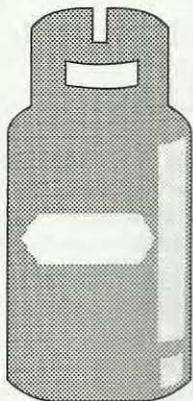


190 High Street Bloxwich WS3 3LA
Tel: 0922 494686 Fax: 0922 494686 Mobile: 0374 273558

FREE DELIVERY

ON ALL GAS

ALL SIZES OF GAS IN STOCK



BUTANE

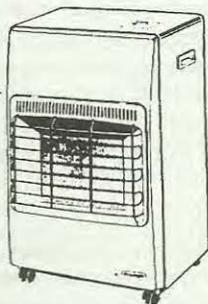
15Kg.....	£10.00
13Kg.....	£9.00
7Kg.....	£6.50

PROPANE

47Kg.....	£22.00
19Kg.....	£12.50
11Kg.....	£8.50
6Kg.....	£6.50

PARAFFIN
£1.60
GALLON

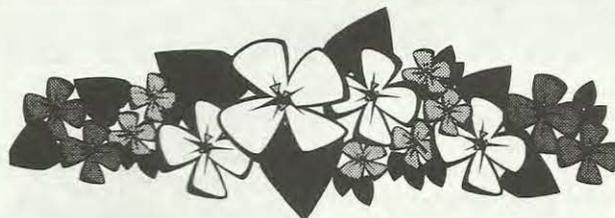
NEW
GAS HEATERS
IN STOCK



FROM
£49.95

OPEN UNTIL
6pm 6 days
and
10-1pm SUN

190 High Street, Bloxwich WS3 3LA Tel: 0922 494686 - Fax: 0922 494686



ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

Monday 14th. February

Saying it with flowers

The greatest percentage of women love to receive flowers and today there is such a wide choice available, not just in the way they can be presented, traditional cellophane wrapped bouquet, hand-tied, basket, card arrangement and so on, but also in the number of varieties of species available, thanks to hot-house growing techniques and the ever decreasing size of the world, the speed of travel and transport allowing the import of perfect exotic blooms.

Presented with such a beautiful expression of someone's admiration, it is a pity that you know in an all too short space of time, they will wither and die.

There is an option, be brave, remove a few of the flowers, while still at their peak of condition, and press them. This age old process will allow you to make for yourself a lifetime keep-sake. Once dried you can use the petals and leaves to make a design to be framed and hung on the wall, sealed on a card to be kept with your 'treasures', or a bookmark to give you a regular reminder of your St Valentine's gift. Even fresh flowers can say it forever, with a little time and ingenuity.

If you have never pressed flowers before there really is no need to rush out and spend an enormous amount of money on equipment. For the actual pressing process you need some absorbent paper (an old telephone directory is ideal),

and heavy weights (a pile of books, so long as the first in the pile is the same size as your absorbent paper), tweezers and a sharp blade. Some flowers and leaves respond to pressing better than others and the finer the flower, the more easily it will press. Many flowers change colour, or lose colour, thicker flowers bruise. Delicate open-faced flowers can be pressed 'whole'. Others you may wish to remove the calyx and press separately. Tubular flowers rarely press well, but don't be put off. Split them before pressing and you will get a 'full-faced' effect. As far as leaves are concerned, again the finer ones will 'press' more successfully.

Having selected your flowers and foliage, making sure like is with like, so that overall thickness is the same, place your specimens carefully on the absorbent paper (if using a directory start towards the back leaving a cushion of paper of about 1" depth), make sure nothing overlaps. If using loose sheets of absorbent paper, place another sheet on top and apply weight, then repeat the procedure. If using an old directory, move through the book (working from the back) allowing a 1/2" cushion of pages between each layer. Once all your specimens are in place, pile on the weights and store in a cool, dry place for three months.

Once pressed, you will need some stiff card cut to whatever size you require, tweezers, an orange stick and copydex or similar. Lift your flowers gently and place into a pattern or build up a picture on a separate piece of paper, when you are happy with your arrangement, apply a minimal amount

of glue and transfer to your card. In addition to pictures to hang on the wall, which can be simply and cheaply placed into a ready-made frame, and bookmarks which are a little more difficult, using transparent plastic film, which has to be stretched and applied without creasing. Why not take a photograph of the original arrangement, or the sender, or both, set that in the centre of the card and create a border with the pressed flowers. Very simple for the beginner and a very special memento to keep and pass down the generations, especially if you make a few notes on the back of the card before framing.

'Oh sweet valentine will you be mine'

Oh sweet valentine will you be mine, the traditional approach to be found proclaiming undying loyalty and love on cards to be bought by the true romantic. However, these days, alongside the 'hearts and flowers' displayed in Greetings Card Shops, messages from the tongue in cheek to the downright cheeky, and the sarcastic to the downright nasty can be found. Love, it would seem has been packaged and marketed, commercialised, homogenised and vandalised!

Fortunately, to many St Valentine's day is still seen as an opportunity to tell someone very special just how much they are loved, and also a light

hearted way to bring a smile into someone's life. One suspects, not least the manufacturers of 'cuddly toys'. Was it 'Bruce's Generation Game' conveyor belt that alerted them to the 'ahh' factor these 'cuties' large and small bring to the lips of adults, certainly the sales of these problem free pets has soared over the past few years, and they are very popular as Valentine's gifts to both male and female. They are not fattening and can be kept forever - if you have enough cupboard space!

Whatever choice you make for a Valentine's day greeting and gift you are sure to make someone happy - on the 15 February you will certainly hear the sound of shareholders laughing all the way to the bank.

Saint? Valentine's Day

According to tradition Valentine was a Bishop of Terni martyred at Rome, now omitted from the calendar of saints days as there are doubts about his existence. February 14 was his 'saints day'. However, the sending of Valentines on that day, by secret admirers to one they desire, seems to have more to do with the coinciding Roman Festival of Lupercalia celebrated in mid-February. A fertility festival, apparently priests ran around wielding goatskin thongs, a blow from which was thought to cure infertility in women! Not exactly romantic (more a Roman Antic!).

BROWNHILLS SCHOOLS TO HOLD A SECOND REUNION

Last October a re-union brought together lots of former pupils of Ogle Hay Junior and Brownhills Senior schools. The event was such a success that the organisers have had dozens of requests for another. Peggy Cole, one of the organising team, told us that some people didn't come because they thought it was a class re-union and that they were very dis-

appointed when they discovered that it was much more. The event is being organised for all those pupils who were at the schools between 1957 and 1967.

Anyone wanting further details should ring Peggy Cole (nee Breed) after 8.30p.m. on 377270 or write to Raymond Kingston 53 Deakin Avenue, Watling Street, Brownhills, Walsall WS8 7PZ.

Lend-a-hand

Walsall Community Services' Countryside Team are setting up pilot projects to encourage locals to get involved with their local countryside sites.

Countryside Services are starting up three "Friends of..." groups for Rough Wood (Willenhall), Clayhanger Common (Brownhills) and Shire Oak Park (Walsall Wood).

The Friends will get the chance to do some practical countryside management work like repairing paths, erecting fences and planting trees as well as helping with some popular and fun events on the sites.

Potential "friends" are all invited to come along to a meeting to find out more about what is involved. Free refreshments will be available.

The meetings are as follows:

Rough Wood:

Wednesday 26th January 1994
7.30 pm

Furzebank Community
Association
Willenhall Comprehensive
Furzebank Way, Willenhall

Clayhanger Common:

Sunday 23rd January 2pm
Rangers Cabin, Bridge St
Clayhanger

Shire Oak Park:

Monday 31st January 8.00pm
Walsall Wood JMI School
Brownhills Rd
Walsall Wood

For more information about the "friends of..." groups please contact the Head Ranger on 021 360 9464.

H.M.S. PINAFORE SAILS IN BROWNHILLS

The Walsall Gilbert and Sullivan Society are hard at work rehearsing their next production. They will be performing H.M.S. Pinafore from Monday the 14th to Saturday the 19th of February at Brownhills Community School theatre. There will be 50 members of the cast on stage and there will be a full orchestra. With colourful costumes and scenery it promises to be a

good production. Proceeds from the opening night are being given to the Church of England Children's Society.

Tickets can be obtained by contacting Fran Trawford, 43 Commonsides, Brownhills. Tel. 372967 and for further information you can ring Aldridge 52970 or write to David Jones at 2 Woodfold Croft, Aldridge.

TALK ON CANNOCK CHASE

"Brownhills & Walsall Wood Historical Society" - Alan Beatlestone talk on Cannock Chase, Millfield School, Brownhills, Tuesday February 15th 1994, 7.30 p.m. start admission 50p.

Glyn Holloway

Accounts Services

C. J. PETTY

Chartered Accountant
175 HIGH STREET, BROWNHILLS.
Tel: Brownhills 377686

Auditing, Accountancy, preparation of accounts, book-keeping, personal and corporate taxation, management consultancy, general financial advice. The fee basis will be discussed before an assignment is accepted.

Residential and
non-residential
2,5,7 and 10 Day
Intensive,
semi intensive
and refresher courses
Competitive Rates
Dual Controls
Door-to-Door
Male and Female
Instructors

RICHARD T. SCHOOL OF MOTORING

34 Camden Street
Walsall Wood
Walsall

Members of
DTP.-A.D.I. M.S.A. D.I.A. M.I.A.M.
Phone: Brownhills 376301

Problems in your Garden? - Contact

D. Mosedale Specialist in
Tree Felling, Lopping, and Landscaping
Gardens Cleared & Rotavated

Hedges and Lawns Cut: All Types of Fences Erected
Tarmac, Slabs, Concrete, Paths and Drives Layed
Fire Logs Supplied

FOR FREE ESTIMATES AND PROMPT SERVICE

Telephone: Pelsall 691563

QUALITY ITEMS BOUGHT & SOLD at THE TRADING PLACE

26-27 SILVER COURT, BROWNHILLS.

Tel: (0543) 453008 - Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30

FURNITURE	TOOLS	VIDEO TAPES
COOKERS	SPORTS GEAR	AMPS
FREEZERS	FRIDGES	MOTORCYCLE GEAR
RECORDS	WASHERS	BRIC-A-BRAC
CD'S	TUMBLE DRYERS	GUITARS

COMPLETE HOUSE CLEARANCES ALMOST ANY QUALITY ITEM
BOUGHT FOR CASH!

6 FIRST FLOOR OFFICES TO LET

LEASE OR RENT
NEGOTIABLE

TELEPHONE:

0 5 4 3
3 7 6 6 4 1



Jolly Collier Re-Union

This was the Jolly Collier football team of 1966, who came runners up in Div 6 of the Bloxwich Comb, went on to win the 4th without losing a game and then reached Div 2 before moving from the Collier to Clayhanger W.M.C. in 1970, where they reached several finals.

Former team members Cush Johnson and Dick Hopley are organising a Re-union at Pelsall Cricket and Sports on Friday 11th March with a Disco and buffet, and will be pleased to hear from any former members (players or supporters) who may be interested. Dick can be contacted on

Pelsall 685680 and Cush on Pelsall 691696, tickets are £3.

Players pictured are T. Kilbride, D. Robbins, T. Barber, C. Johnson, B. Yates, P. Harpin, C. Pickin, B. Toddington, A. Howdle, W. Harpin.

Front: B. Robbins, G. Dunn, T. Smith, C. Hopley and A. Toddington.

Out of the Wood

The resignation of John Sylvester as Chairman, and the problems with their floodlights have tended to dominate the news from Walsall Wood F.C. over the holiday period, and the weather disrupting most of the fixtures has allowed off the pitch events to grab all the headlines.

Vice Chairman John Seedhouse has thanked Mr Sylvester for his hard work for Walsall Wood and continues "John and his wife Val who was Treasurer, have left the club on good terms and have promised to help and

support us in any way they can, without the commitment that the Chairman's job demands. Running his own business puts a terrific strain on any free time he gets and I can understand his reasons for quitting." In the meantime we are carrying on without a man at the helm, and are setting about strengthening the present Committee. To this end we are delighted to welcome back John Roussel as Secretary, after a short break and also welcome the news that Acting Sec. Cliff Mycock will turn his attention to the DAILY

DIP DRAW.

Jeff Powell, Richard Powell, Maureen and Gareth Seedhouse and Andy Roper are also staying on with Steve Cross, Mickey Speake and Chris Pritchard being elected. Several other people have come forward to pledge support in other ways while Brian Stringer will take the post of Press Officer.

"John resigning has shaken a few people out of their complacency and I'm sure we can turn things round".

One area that the new body will give priority to is the floodlights that need overhauling should they get promotion at the end of the season. Steps have already been taken to call in experts to go through the programme required and get estimates.

On the pitch, Wood have at last strung a run of useful wins together which has placed them back into the leading group. A fine 2-1 win over Tipton saw them jump over quite a few close rivals but they could have done without the 0-0 home draw against a resolute Manders.

"They have also reached the semi-final of the League Cup."

The latest bit of news just in is the sealing of the sponsorship for the reserve side. Park Hill Estates have agreed to be shirt sponsors for this season and Mrs M Seedhouse who has been negotiating the deal would like to thank director, Terry Butler and John Thompson.

"It's a much needed boost for the reserves, and comes at a convenient time with the signing of new manager Steve Cross". she said "I hope this could mean a change of fortune for the reserves who have been having a torrid time of late".

Disastrous month for Brownhills Town F.C.

Brownhills Town, sponsored by D.G. Read Wholesale & Distribution, finished 1993 on the crest of a slump after a disastrous final month. Following the dreadful showing at leaders Beechdale, Town were hoping to bounce back at home to mid-table Rugeley Athletic. After a bright start Brownhills faded rapidly, and were trailing 1-0 when the referee abandoned the game just before half-time. Only inspired goalkeeping from Gary Vardy and a solid defensive display by Lee Phipps kept the scoreline

respectable. Town's last game of the year was a home tie against Tipton Town Reserves in the South Staffs Premier Trophy. Darren Whitley made his debut in goal replacing Gary Vardy who was unavailable, and despite a fine performance finished on the losing side. Brownhills enjoyed plenty of possession but were repeatedly caught on the break by Tipton's lively strikers, going down 2-3. Things went from bad to worse the following day after Gary Vardy sustained a serious knee injury while playing in the Lichfield Sunday League, which will probably keep him out for the rest of the season. Stand-in keeper Darren Whitley has a fine track record and was a member of the Tamworth squad that won the F.A. Vase a few seasons ago. Unfortunately Whitley is not available on a regular basis, so finding a new keeper has become a number one priority for Brownhills. One piece of good news on the injury front is the imminent return of speed-merchant Neil Ashford who has been out of action since the end of October. Ashford and recently returned winger Brian Hendron should give the attack some extra pace as Town try to stay in contention for the South Staffs Premier Title. At the start of 1994 Brownhills are lying third in the table, three points off the top with a game in hand. Finally, Town reluctantly parted company with assistant manager Paul Gibson, who resigned for personal reasons. His replacement is Stuart Meeson, formerly with Chasetown, who takes over as Tim Wall's right-hand man.

OSTEOPATH

JOHN WESTON D.O. (Hons.) M.B.E.O.A.

at 1 Old Town Lane

Pelsall

Tel: PELSALL 685278



Osteopathy can help:-

Back pain, lumbago, sciatica, trapped nerves, neck pain, frozen shoulder, tennis elbow, arm pain, knee problems, arthritis and most musculo - skeletal problems.

Clinic hours:- 10.00 a.m. until 8.00 p.m. and Saturday mornings.

Registered with the British and European Osteopathic Association and the Guild of Osteopaths.

A FAMILY RUN PRACTICE SINCE 1980

FOR SALE

BOYS EMMELLE MOUNTAIN BIKE, suit 7 to 10 year old, still boxed, 20" wheels, 13" frame, complete with safety helmet, £100. Telephone Clayhanger 0543 376483 A.S.A.P.

TEAK DINING SUITE MACINTOSH table, 6 chairs and sideboard, £150 ono. Tel: 0922 682429.

SPARKYS PIANOS

PIANOS BOUGHT, SOLD, EXCHANGED.

- MINI-PIANOS • KEYBOARDS
- ACCORDIONS • PIANOLAS
- VIOLINS • ANTIQUES
- PICTURES AND OLD FURNITURE PURCHASED

SPARKYS PIANO SHOWROOM
HIGH STREET, DIGBETH
TEL: 643 8025/427 2213

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE Door and window security fittings. Porches made to size including brickwork or stonework. Local tradesman. Tel: 0922 25869.

HOLIDAY COTTAGE

Mousehole, Penzance
CORNWALL

50 yards from the picturesque harbour and famous 'Lobster Pot Inn', sleeps 2/4, being well equipped. Open all year.

£85 - £135
Depending on dates

Tel: Lynne Winston
021-749 1892

J. D. ALARMS

All types of Burglar Alarms and Security Lighting fitted to B.S. 4737

EXAMPLE:-

- 5 Circuit Digital Control panel
- 3 Passive Infra Red Detectors
- 1 Personal Attack Button
- 1 Dummy Box
- 1 Live Bell Box with sounder and flashing strobe light
- 1 Internal Sounder
- Smoke Detector wired into Alarm System

Security Floodlight with Infra Red Sensor
All types of Alarm Repaired or Maintained

A SECURE NEW YEAR FOR ONLY £295

14 BRADEWELL ROAD, CASTLE BROMWICH
021-748 7966 or 0850 666965

DAVE MURCOTT

GENERAL PROPERTY REPAIRS
FREE ESTIMATES

Ferndale, 8 Deakin Avenue, Brownhills,
West Midlands WS8 7QA

Telephone: Brownhills (0543) 361224

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

All advertisements are accepted subject to approval of copy. The publishers reserve the right to cancel or refuse to accept any order without giving an explanation.

Whilst every care will be taken during compilation and printing, the publishers shall not be held liable for any loss occasioned by failure of an advertisement to appear or any damage or inconvenience caused by errors, omissions and misprints.

No guarantee can be given that an advertisement will appear on a specified date or in any particular position, although every effort will be made to meet the advertisers requirements.

Cancellations for display advertisements must be received by the publishers in writing and not less than 7 days prior to copy date, and in the case of classified advertisements 2 days prior to copy date. Cancellation by telephone will not be accepted.

Credits will only be issued for that part of the advertisement which is incorrect and a full credit will not be issued unless the publisher accepts that the error was such that all response to the advertisement would be affected.

Box numbers are available for the receipt of bona fide replies only and must not be used for trade canvassing matter. Liability is not accepted for loss or inconvenience due to delay on forwarding replies.

Terms of payment Nett: 30 Days.



MOWER - WINTER SERVICING 10% OFF

HIRE - SALES SPARES - REPAIRS

Heavy Duty Cultivators, Mowers, Wallpaper Strippers, Cement Mixers, Angle Grinders, Chain Saws, Engine Cranes etc.

BROWNHILLS MOWERS

181 HIGH STREET
Tel. Brownhills 377719

In the Garden around the Home

GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS

FREE UNDER £50

All Private 'For Sale' Advertisements for Articles costing £50 or less will be inserted FREE OF CHARGE.

Trade Advertisements

All Trade Advertisements and Private Advertisements for Articles over £50 will be charged as scale below.

40p					
80p					
£1.20					
£1.60					
£2.00					
£2.40					
£2.80					

PLEASE USE ONE BOX PER WORD

BROWNHILLS

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

.....

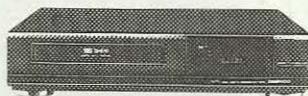
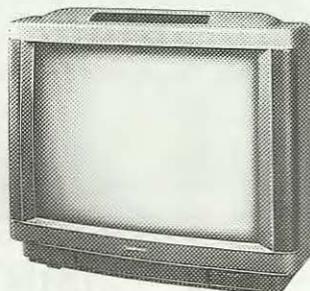
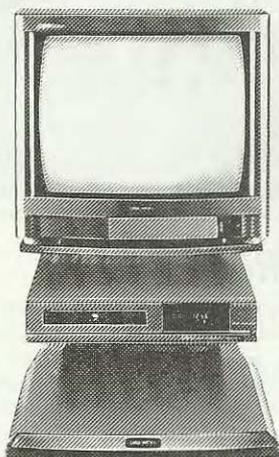
TEL:

Please insert the above advertisement in the next issue

Enclosed £ to cover cost of insertion.

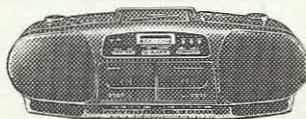
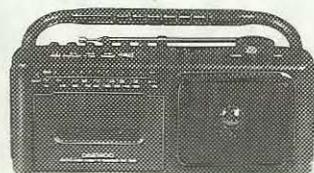
All advertisements are accepted subject to approval of copy. Send to: Baker Bond, P.O. Box 1, 183 High Street, Brownhills, Walsall, West Midlands WS8 6HW

CLARIDGES



FROM DAEWOO
FEBRUARY ONLY

**DON'T FORGET - CLARIDGES NOW DO A RENTAL PACKAGE
- COLOUR TV AND VIDEO FOR JUST £6.99 EACH PER MONTH
TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OFFER RING US - NOW!**



WHO CAN GIVE YOU REAL VALUE FOR MONEY? DAEWOO *THAT'S WHO*

**43 HIGH STREET, WALSALL WOOD. - TEL 0543 373207
88 HIGH STREET, BROWNHILLS. - TEL: 0543 373023**