

A Community Newsletter for:

**KINNERSLEY-SARNESFIELD-LETTON- NORTON CANON
BROBURY-MONNINGTON-STAUNTON**

Police Warnings on Burglaries

Herefordshire police have launched an extensive publicity campaign aimed at apprehending the housebreaking gang who have raided over fifty homes in the county during recent weeks, netting up to £50,000.

They are putting up warning posters in rural Herefordshire advising how householders can help the police by helping themselves. Householders are advised to:

- look out for strange people and cars
- take the numbers and note the colour and make of vehicles
- fit door and window locks so as to make houses more difficult to raid
- tell the police if they suspect anything.

The police consider the present spate of burglaries to be the greatest in Herefordshire in living memory. Detectives working on the numerous cases think that the gang responsible may come from outside the county because their underworld contacts have failed to pick up any clues locally.

The thieves' haul includes 36 televisions, six video recorders, seven music centres, six cassette players and various kitchen items, as well as large amounts of cash and jewellery.

Three houses in Fembrige were burgled on the same night and other houses in the area have also suffered.

Sergeant John Young, Herefordshire's Crime Prevention Officer, stresses that people should be more aware of the problem. 'They should be good neighbours and keep an eye on adjacent properties when the occupants are out,' he says. 'Property should be marked and people should fit door and window locks. You can't guarantee any form of security against a determined attack, but with locks fitted you are less likely to be attacked.'

Norton Canon School Fete

The Annual Fete of the 'Friends' was held on Saturday, 17th September. Patches of blue sky showing through the scudding clouds ensured good conditions for the highlight of the Fete to follow later in the afternoon.

Dr. Brian Beach accompanied by his wife and children kindly opened the proceedings and judged the Childrens Fancy Dress Competition. Joint first prize went to Craig and Matthew Lane, second to Julian Lane and joint third to Duncan Hardman and Lindsay Evans.

The various stalls and sideshows did brisk business for the next hour and a half, then as expected, the unmistakable sound of a helicopter in flight was heard in the distance. With ears cocked for the commentary by ground-crew Pam and necks craned, all eyes watched the 'chopper' wind its way up to seven thousand feet. Suddenly four black dots appeared in a blue patch of sky, briefly linked hands, split apart and became suspended under multi-coloured winged parachutes. Guided by a smoke flare on the ground the sky-divers steered their way to near perfect landings, amidst applause from the watching crowds.

The children enjoyed a close inspection of the now landed 'chopper,' whilst tea was served.

The winners of the various competitions were as follows: Treasure Hunt - Matthew Lane; Cake Raffle - Mrs. Dorothy Hardman; Guess the Weight of the Cake - Mr. J. Yarwood; Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar - Terena Evans; The Dolls Birthday - Hannah Gittins; Spaghetti Jar Raffle - Mrs. D. Hardman and the Bottle Raffle winners were Mrs. V. Smith, Mrs. V. Cole, Mrs. Wood and Mrs. S. Williams.

The money raised by the event amounted to £149.69, which will be used to add to the childrens educational interest by the purchase of teaching aids and assistance towards coach trips organised by the school.

The Committee offer their thanks to all who contributed either by organising stalls and sideshows or purchasing the goods.

CLIVE LANE A TRIBUTE

It is with sadness that I sit here and write this little paragraph.

Everyone, I am sure, will have heard of Clive's untimely and sad death, due to an accident on his motorcycle on Tuesday, 13th September whilst returning from work. He was 42 years old, and had lived, for most of his life, in Norton Canon, having enjoyed many childhood years living at 'Pennyplock' next door to the railway line at Norton's Wood. How lovingly he often talked of those hard, but happy days.

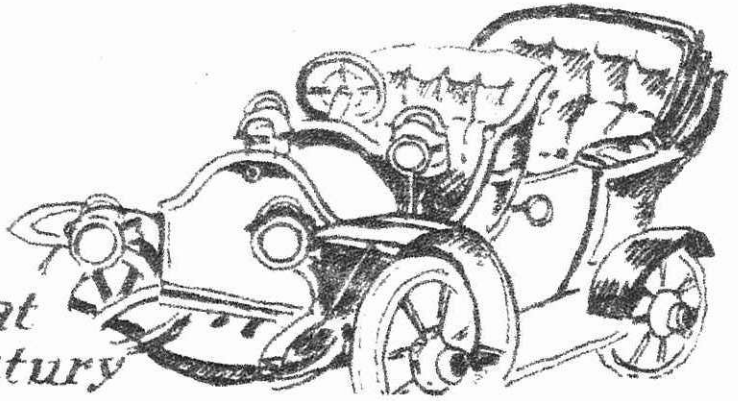
He was nicknamed 'Bulmer' as he had worked diligently at H.F. Bulmers for 20 years or more. He was a kind, unassuming, gentle man, who loved children, and he will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Our sympathies go out to Mr. and Mrs. Lane and all his family.

Linda Goodwin

'Here-We-Ford' -

More glimpses of Herefordshire life at the turn of the century



The Wye is renowned for its salmon, but fishing can become an expensive hobby. One stretch of water at Hampton Bishop (called the Carrots Water) was sold in the beginning of the century for a mere £230. Wonder what it would fetch today? During World War I the river was netted to provide extra food and one could buy a fish of about 20 lbs. for £1. Poaching was, of course, rife.

The motorcar made its appearance in the beginning of the century and up came the clouds of dust from the untarmacked roads. They were open cars then with huge brass lamps and a brass coated tube running up to the horn, with the lady sitting by the driver with her hat tied on with a scarf. The people would say 'getting more like London every day' whenever they saw one. There were no road codes or driving tests and if one saw a friend coming with a horse and cart one just stopped in the middle of the road and had a chat. Later came the Ford T model costing £100 but which was quite a sum in those days.

If you were lucky you could possess a bicycle, with solid tyres, which gave you a really rough ride - 'bone shakers' they were called.

The roads were very rough. A heap of large stones would be put by the roadside at intervals, and a roadman in goggles would come along and with a huge hammer break them up into pieces in order to fill in the worst holes. A Traction engine would then roll the stones in with a layer of coarse grit.

Many a poor man who found life too hard committed suicide. He was not granted the usual Burial Rites, but had to be borne to his grave at dusk by his friends with a parson in attendance. No prayers would be said because he was thought to have committed an unforgiveable sin. When a parishioner passed away the church bell would be tolled - so many tolls for a man and less for a woman. Then the person's age would be rung out after the Burial Service. A funeral then would cost about 50/-. There was an undertaker in Hereford who had a yard off Widemarsh Street with a sign over the door which read 'Why live and be miserable, when you can be buried for 7/6d!' Cremation was hardly known in those days.

to be continued....

APHORISMS

It is better to keep your mouth shut and be thought a fool than to open it and remove all doubt.

It is a sin to think evil of others but rarely a mistake.

There is great happiness to be found in the countryside but it requires a visit to London every year to reassure yourself of this truth.

Sydney Smith

SCRUMPI

Now that cider is growing fashionable as a drink it is as well to know that there is cider and cider. The latter needs a word of warning. Although bottled cider is innocuous enough, the rough cider called 'scrumpi' is definitely not. It sometimes appears to be so, and can vary in strength, but my two experiences with farm cider might serve as a warning to the innocent.

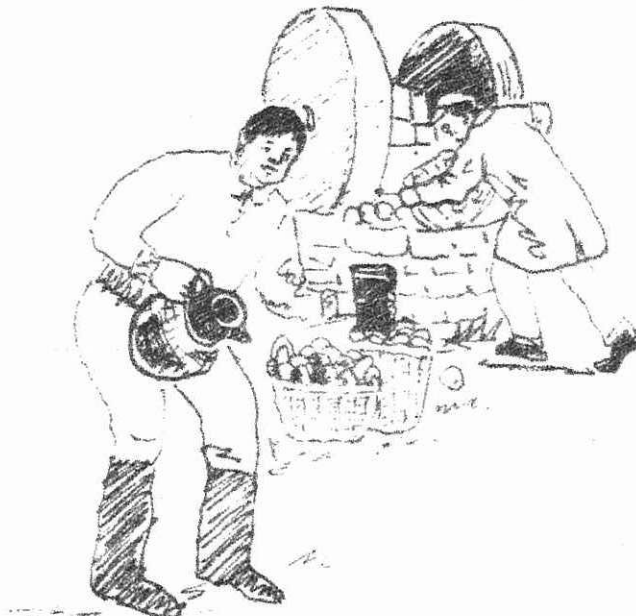
For myself, I've always been suspicious of the stuff. Helping other farmers with the Haysel (something we did in the West Country during the fifties) meant refreshment from time to time with rough cider. I found this drink gave me a headache, but sometimes it cannot for politeness sake be refused, and one accepts one's fate. This first happened to me while looking for a farm just after the last war.

It was a fiendishly hot day and the farmer suggested that before viewing the farm we should adjourn to the cool cellar, where he had some casks of fine cider. Farm cider being something his family had always prided themselves on. I was with my brother and my wife. We followed the farmer into the wonderfully cool cellar and each of us was presented with a large tin mug.

The farmer tapped each cask we came to, and we were invited to try a sample. Thirsty, we found the cider welcome and its texture seemed less heavy than usual. Time passed and more casks were sampled. My brother suggested we picniced in the car and viewed the farm afterwards and the farmer was agreeable, but when the hot air outside smote us, we all made for the shade of a large oak.

When I woke the sun was already setting and I guessed that we had all slept for some six hours or more. I roused the others and we tumbled into the car and drove off - without looking over the farm.

The second experience was when I was moving into a new farm and when I arrived I found the farmer had moved all but the casks of home-brewed



cider in the tallet. He was trying to find room for the last odd cask, but the trailer was loaded to the brim and at last he said I could have this cask as a present. I should have learnt my lesson for this cider also seemed innocuous, but it sparkled like champagne. Rather surprisingly we enjoyed it and when friends came to visit us we regaled them with this refreshment - even our erstwhile neighbours the Gents and 'Uncle.' (He is an ex-Etonian who, sick of town life, took to higgling eggs. Unfortunately his van turned over down the Gents' precipitous drive and deposited him, yellow from top to toe, outside the Gents back door. After cleaning Uncle up they adopted him, a firm 'teetotaller'.) We invited them to partake of our refreshing drink. 'Just like lemonade!' I told them. Gingerly they sipped at, but agreed that it seemed harmless enough and the 'fizz' was nice.

When we saw them off - Uncle at the wheel - their Mini zig-zagged down the lane, narrowly missing the viaduct; all waving excited goodbyes as they went. We were sorry when that cask was finished and I tipped it up to get the last dregs, removed the bung and saw inside the heads, skins and tails of two enormous rats.

John Close

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

SIGNPOSTING, WAYMARKING AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Under the Countryside Act 1961, County Councils have a duty to erect a signpost, if necessary, at every point where a footpath or bridleway leaves a metalled road. This is usually done at the request of parish councils but in most of Herefordshire only limited progress has been made and, with 20,000 signs being needed at an estimated cost of £75 each for a standard metal sign, it will be realised that the outlay would be enormous. They are now producing a cheaper wooden sign and hopefully encouraging parish councils and volunteers to erect them and also to undertake to waymark and generally maintain p.r.o.w. (all, of course, with the consent of landowner, parish and county councils.) This is very much in line with the suggestions made by Mr. Lovelace in his letter last October.

All parish councils have copies of the appropriate Definitive Maps for their parishes and, of course, any further information on the subject can be obtained from the County Council.

D.T.B.

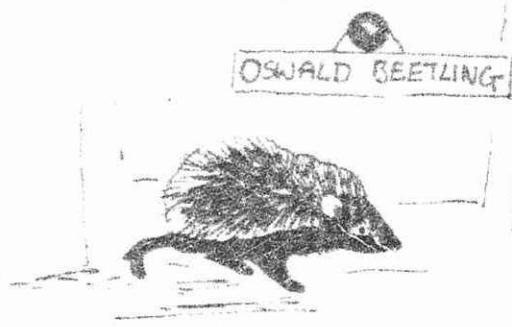
Seeds Swap

A Seed Bank at 44 Albion Road, Sutton, Surrey have redundant strains of plants and vegetables seeds for sale or exchange. Send two second class stamps for their list.

Christmas orders for Geese and Duck
Please 'phone Coles at Neobley 260
the end of November.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE - 1938 VINTAGE

by
A. Aldhous



(Continued from October issue)

World War II had broken out before the end of my first year and life changed drastically. Off duty we had to sleep in bunk rooms down in the cellars amongst antiquated hot water pipes which seemed to encourage beetles. Every so often the Housekeeping Sister would put up a notice 'Please keep all doors closed. Oswald beetling.' Oswald was a hedgehog. The nurses' home was bombed but as no one was in it that was a blessing. Indeed we were very lucky altogether the only casualty amongst the staff being a junior who forgot that she was sleeping on top of a three tier bunk and leapt out to turn off her alarm.

On the wards everything was geared to coping with casualties and getting the operation waiting down. All chronic sick were sent into the country and one of the wards that was emptied by this move was given over to service personnel only. We had anti-aircraft guns stationed on the common opposite and a bomb disposal unit nearby. There was no lack of candidates for these beds but if there was, the Polish Officers who had taken over a large hotel nearby were glad to use them.

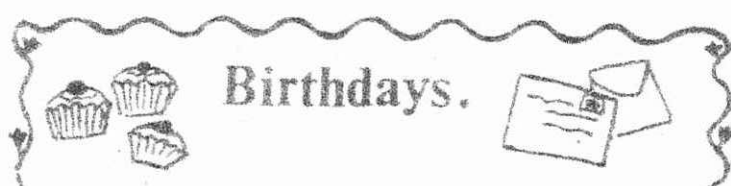
We doubled the number of operating lists each week and sent patients down to base hospitals after five or six days. It was the job of the night staff to take the convoy down when they went off duty. However, after a twelve hour stint on a heavily blacked-out ward a ride on the ambulance into Kent or Surrey was literally 'a breath of fresh air.'

The only air raid that I remember clearly was the night that the remains of The Crystal Palace came down. It had been damaged by fire some years earlier and only two towers were left. However the government decided that these were too good a landmark for enemy aircraft so they were demolished at noon one day.

That evening German planes showed us that they did not need our landmarks and the raids started early. I was working in theatre and by the time the night staff came on duty we were in full swing. We were still clearing up at tea-time the following day.

(To be concluded)

Weobley Group of Parishes



Birthdays.

Church Services for November

Sarnesfield

13th 10 a.m. Holy Communion
27th 10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Norton Canon

6th 9 a.m. Holy Communion
13th 9 a.m. Morning Prayer
20th 9 a.m. Holy Communion
27th 9 a.m. Family Service

Staunton-on-Wye

6th 11 a.m. Holy Communion
13th 10.45 Remembrance Day Service
20th 11 a.m. Holy Communion

Monnington-on-Wye

13th Join with Staunton-on-Wye at 10.45 a.m.

Letton

27th 11 a.m. Morning Prayer.

On Tuesday, 1st November (All Saints Day) there will be a United Service of Holy Communion for Kington and Weobley Deanery at Titley at 7.30 p.m. Preacher will be the Rev'd. Colin Sneyd, Vicar of Weobley.

On Tuesday, 8th November there will be a meeting at the home of Maurice Collingwood, Trisana, Staunton at 7.30 p.m. to discuss further some of the points raised by the Archdeacon at the meeting in October. All welcome.

On Remembrance Sunday evening (13th November) Wyese Opera are putting on a special concert in Weobley Church. Programmes from The Crafts Shop or The Vicarage, Weobley.

Kinnersley Church

6th 10 a.m. Holy Communion
13th 10 a.m. Mattins (Remembrance Sunday)
20th 10 a.m. Holy Communion
27th 10 a.m. Family Service.

Kinnersley

Bridget Higginson 11th Nov.
Stuart Probert 11th "

Norton Canon

Matthew Lane 2nd Nov.
Andrew Austin 22nd "

Letton

William Lynch 8th Nov.
Anja Gardner 29th "

Sarnesfield

Graham Evans 18th Nov.

Moorhampton

Sharon Evals 16th Nov.
(Upperton)

Monnington-on-Wye

Jessica Courtney 11th Nov.

Social Evening at Almeley

Mr and Mrs Vincent Skyrme of Hurstley Court, Kinnersley have arranged a social evening to be held in Almeley Village Hall on Thursday, the 24th November in aid of the Spencer Bourn Foundation for Herefordshire Leukaemia Research. To commence at 7.30 p.m. Admission: Adults £2.50, Children £1.00

There will be Country and Western music with Maralene Powell singing; there will be a Bring and Buy stall and a Buffet Supper and Coffee. A Grand Draw has also been arranged and the tickets are in circulation; the prizes will be drawn during the evening.

It is hoped everybody will rally round and make this event a big success.

A BAR LICENCE FOR YOUR VILLAGE HALL

Many village hall functions benefit from having a licenced bar. Perhaps not the Brownies or Chapel jumble sale but social events, dances and the like tend to attract more customers and go with an extra swing if a bar is provided.

The Licensing (Occasional Permissions) Act 1983 which came into force this August in England and Wales allows any voluntary organisation not carried on for private gain to make an application to sell alcohol at a specific function.

The Act requires a representative of the organisation to make a written application to the Local Licensing Justices and for them to be responsible for keeping an 'orderly house' during the function.

A leaflet entitled Alcohol in the Village Hall is available from The National Council for Voluntary Organisations, 26 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3HV price 75p plus postage and Hereford Community Council at 25 Castle Street, Hereford can give you more information but a few points to bear in mind are:

- * no more than four occasional permissions, per hall, may be given in any 12 month period;
- * applications must be made one month before the function and, since the Clerk to the licensing Justices requires a further 16 days notice and the Justices meet less than once a month the organisation needs to think well ahead;
- * each licence costs £4.

IN THE KNOW - OCTOBER 1983.

ARROWVALE WINE SOCIETY

THE CALLOW CUP TROPHY 1983

Although in past years we have done well in this competition this time we had to give best to Hereford with the Marches Club in third position. We didn't let our disappointment get us down and we were only too pleased to act as hosts on such a cheerful and mellow occasion. All our congratulations, therefore, to Hereford but, like the America's Cup in Australia, we advise them not to batten it down too hard. We intend to get it back to its rightful place next year.

Anyone interested in wine making and monthly social 'get togethers.'? We meet on the first Thursday of each month in the Village Hall, Norton Canon and are always on the look out for new members. If you are interested please ring Kenneth Anderson, Webley 388 or Gareth Evans, Webley 505. We promise you will not be disappointed.

STAUNTON-ON-WYE

Staunton-on-Wye Group Parish Council

A new Clerk to the Staunton-on-Wye Group Parish Council has been appointed. The Clerk is now - Mrs. Thomas, Court Farm, Brobury.

Staunton-on-Wye Playing Field

Re-development work on the playing field is still in progress. The field will be rotavated and seeded in the very near future.

The next Group Parish Council Meeting will take place on 12th December, 1983 at 8 o'clock at Staunton Village Hall.

Staunton-on-Wye Ladies Club

The next meeting will be held on 2nd November at 8 p.m. at Staunton-on-Wye Village Hall. Mr. Hudd of Pleasant and Harper will talk about Diamonds.

Mothers & Toddlers Club

Have you any unwanted toys? Staunton-on-Wye Mothers & Toddlers Club are desperately in need of toys for children aged under 2 years. If you can help, please ring Barbara Arthur, Moccas 567.

Is anyone interested in the formation of a pottery evening class in Staunton-on-Wye? Please contact June Howard, Moccas 547

OBITUARY

We extend our sincere condolences to Mrs. Jean Goodwin of Yew Tree Cottage, Staunton-on-Wye in her recent bereavement.

MOORHAMPTON

Welcome to Brian and Navis Stevenson who have taken over Moorhampton Stores from Michael and Jan Roberts who have left to live in Hereford.

CHEESE AND WINE PARTY

in aid of

LEXTON CHURCH APPEAL

at

WINFORTON HOUSE

(by kind permission of Mr & Mrs R. Davies)

on

FRIDAY, 18th NOVEMBER AT 8 p.m.

TICKETS £1.50.

KINNERSLEY HARVEST SERVICE

At the Harvest Festival Service held at Kinnersley Church, the preacher was Frebendary G.A.H. Rainbow of Hereford and the lessons were read by the Wardens Mr. J.F. Davies and Mr. Ray Phillips. Mrs. Lorna Hughes of Kington sang two solos and the organist was Miss A. Brown.

After the service about 70 people gathered in the Church Hall to enjoy a Harvest Supper prepared, to their usual high standard, by the ladies of the Church.



TO BRING A SMILE

The Jim-dog found he has a voice -
All day he's never quiet.
Dad reckons as a pup he had
Transistors in his diet.

The Jim-dog went a-missing once -
A female was the cause.
He came back collarless, but wore
A smile around his jaws.

To help in conservation
Men sometimes tag a Whale.
To help in conversation
The Jim-dog wags a tail.

Dad dug up Jim-dog's juicy bone
And left a lump of lead.
That night, when Dad said 'Slippers, Jim!'
Jim brought him skates instead.

The lady did not close the gate -
Forgot the Walkers' Code.
Our Billy-goat forgot himself
And chased her down the road.

Aunt's running from the bath-room with
A piercing yell was drastic.
She should have known the water Snake
Would not be real but plastic.

Domestic Cats, our close companions
Since old Noah and the Ark -
Oh, we may think we understand them -
Our cat's tail's a question-mark.

We love our animals so much
That when we say goodbye
An accidental bit of grit
Gets always in my eye

H.C. Aldhous

INDISPENSABILITY

Someday when you are feeling important,
Someday when your ego's in bloom,
Someday when you take it for granted
You're the best qualified in the room,

Someday when you feel that your going
Would leave an unfillable hole,
Just follow this simple instruction
And see how it humbles your soul.

Take a bucket and fill it with water,
Plunge your hand in it over the wrist,
Pull it out and the hole that's remaining
Is the measure of how you'll be missed.

Now the moral of this quaint example
Is do just the best that you can.
Be proud of yourself but remember
You are no indispensable man.

~~~~~

In moments of high crisis  
My judgement's very fine.  
I always see two points of view  
The one that's wrong and mine.

~~~~~

A Committee is:

1. made up of the unfit selected by
the unwilling to do the unnecessary.
2. a place where the loneliness of
thought is replaced by the
togetherness of nothingness.

CANCER RESEARCH

Many thanks to all in Norton Canon who contributed so generously to the Cancer Research Campaign when I collected round the village in September. The W.I. has had an official letter of thanks showing that the sum of £23.72 was donated by people living here. We didn't quite reach our target of £25, probably because I was without a car and did the collection on foot. But I'm sure we'll make it in September, 1984.

A Sherry Morning and Bring and Buy Sale at the Three Horse Shoes on Saturday, 15th October raised £51.00 for the Cancer Research Campaign. A marvellous effort by Linda and Frank who organised it.

Sheila Evans

Silver Jubilee Children's Painting Competition

This competition was organised to commemorate the Silver Jubilee but more particularly to act as an annual reminder of that very special occasion.

1983 is the seventh year of the competition and R.P. Bulmer Holdings PLC, the sponsors, have invited the winners and their parents to visit the Pullman train for the presentation of the cups. The presentation will take place at 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 14th December, 1983.

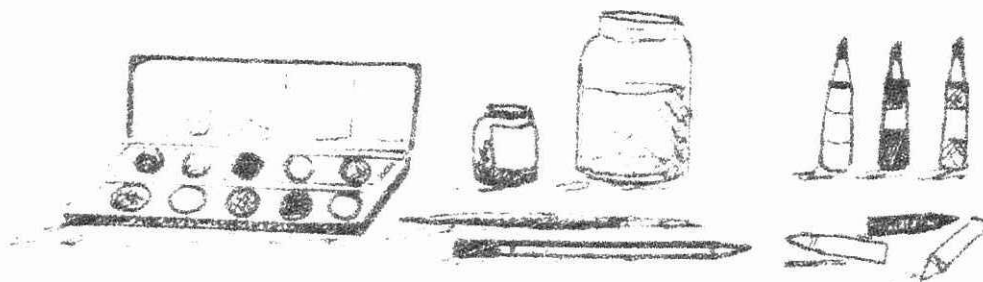
For this year, the subject of the paintings is:

BUILDINGS

CLASS 'A' 12 - 17 yrs	CLASS 'B' 8 - 11 yrs	CLASS 'C' UP TO 7 yrs
1st R.P. BULMER LTD SILVER CUP + £2	1st THE WHITCOMB SILVER CUP + £2	1st THE JENKINS SILVER CUP + £2
2nd £1	2nd £1	2nd £1
3rd 50p	3rd 50p	3rd 50p

RULES

1. This year the competition is open to all children attending Staunton-on-Wye and Norton Canon School, and to all children and young persons resident in Minnersley, Sarnesfield, Letton, Norton Canon, Brobury, Monnington-on-Wye and Staunton-on-Wye.
2. Paints, crayons, or felt pens may be used for colouring.
3. Paintings will be judged by Miss A. Sandford, B.A., A.M.A., Curator of 'Hereford City Museum and Art Gallery.'
4. Paintings should be approximately 12" x 10" with the artists age on the front and name and address on the back.
5. Closing date for entries is 20th November, 1983.
6. Entries may be left at Staunton-on-Wye School, Norton Canon School, 1, Louvain, Staunton-on-Wye (Moccas 437) or with Mrs. D. Hardman, Owls End, Norton Canon.



Letters

Dear Ed.

Thanks to DTB
for telling about
the Artist Mrs
Children She is Tops.

I have stopped
using Signal in my
busted window people
stop to read it and I
am shy not wif
Will there be a
Bumper Xmas number?

bet!!

Yours truly
J. Sker Ery

Mr. Bert Lewis of Pool Cottage, Brobury,
writes:

I would like to thank all those who sent
me cards and letters and made telephone
enquiries, also those who have helped
Blodwin in my recent incapacity. I hope
to be with you all again in the near
future.

Mr. Lewis was recently in Portsmouth
Hospital but has now arrived in Hereford
to continue his treatment and rest. We
extend our best wishes for his speedy
recovery.

School Report

"In spite of inherent levity this boy still
manages to sink to the bottom."

POETS' CORNER

Our Dad brought home a tame white Rat.
He said its name was Paul.
Our Mummy packed a weekend case -
We don't see her at all.

Our Goat chewed Dad's best Sunday shirt
Until it looked like mince.
A man saw Dad in Timbuctoo -
He hasn't been seen since.

I found a lovely three-foot Snake,
A friend of Hissing Sid.
He would not bite dear Grandmama
And do as he was bid.

In future, our Aunt Bessie says,
I must play in the shed.
It seems she is not dead keen on
Young Hedgehogs in her bed.

Dad blacked an eye and spoiled his nose
He fell on Baby's play-pen.
What made things worse, our Budgie said
'And who's a pretty boy, then?'

Our Marmoset got old and cross.
We gave him to the Zoo.
Dad told the man who brought the van
He could take Grandma too.

We go to church on Sunday and
The Jim-dog walks to heel,
Lies straight and neat down by our feet -
Crusader's dog made real.
(You've seen the dog there, carved in stone?
He's strangely like the Jim we own.)

You must agree that Ducks are daft.
They leave their comfy beds,
Walk straight into our muddy pond
And stand upon their heads.

We did not push Aunt in the pond,
We did not spoil her suit.
She over-balanced, pulled in by
An extra-powerful Newt.

Two tramps came in our yard one day,
Said they were water dowers.
Our Jim-dog took one look at them -
Cost Dad two pairs of trousers.

H.C. Aldhous