



A Community Newsletter for:

KINNERSLEY-SARNESFIELD-LEITON-NORTON CANON - BROBURY  
STAUNTON-ON-WYE-MONNINGTON-ON-WYE-MOORHAMPTON

## Editorial

Doug Berry (our treasurer) and Rosalind his wife of Greenfields have been involved in a nasty car accident. Although Doug's injuries to arm and hand have, thankfully, not proved as serious as first feared they were both badly shaken up. We wish them both a speedy recovery -- as, I am sure, will all our creditors!

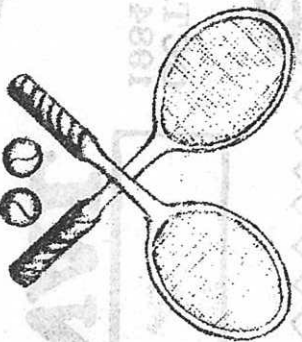
News of Doug and Rosalind's accident was coupled with that of Lynne Stokes, our printer, having suddenly to go to hospital. We all hope she'll quickly be her old self again.

From both these misfortunes you will appreciate that it required no small effort to get the September issue out on time. For this achievement we have to thank Suzanne Penny of the Leominster Marches Project who stepped so nobly into the breach -- and at such short notice. Thank you Suzanne.

We are also sorry to learn that Mairion Jones of Norton Canon has had a short sojourn in hospital. We hear that the hospital extended her stay because her humour so cheered up the other patients! Welcome back M.

We wish our splendid graphic artist and illustrator Sandra Children and her husband George every happiness when they move to their new abode in Ledgemoor. Happiness indeed for them but concern for ourselves because we must look out for Sandra's replacement. Would any of you offer to step into this breach? You would be received with open arms and, if you have this kind or talent, please ring Maurice Collingwood on 9927-517.

PLEASE NOTE THAT COPY FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE OF 'SIGNAL' SHOULD ARRIVE AT OWLS LEYS, NORTON CANON, NOT LATELY LITERATURE THURSDAY, THE 11th OCTOBER, 1984.



# Norton Canon Tennis Club

Memories of an Octogenarian

IT is about 50 years ago now since Frances Williams - who lived at Upper Norton, as her brother and family still do today - and myself first thought of starting a tennis club in Norton Canon, although we didn't quite know the best way to get about it.

However, at that time, a Rev. Mr. Wall and his wife and two daughters were living at Norton Canon rectory. I was occasionally asked to tea there and we played tennis on the rectory tennis court. When the Walls left the district, they let us have their tennis posts, net and line marker in case we ever decided to form a club. Although some of us were keen to do so we had neither the necessary funds nor suitable site.

In those days, there was in the rectory garden a hut belonging to Mrs. Scott who was then living in the rectory and this was used by the village for W.I. meetings, and we decided to run a series of dancing classes in this hut with a view to raising funds towards the foundation of a tennis club.

None of us were in the Astaire class and in those days you had to learn the steps before you could dance - unlike today when there is quite a distance between partners! We taught waltz, foxtrot, one-step and other dances popular at the time, with Mrs. Davies of Moorhampton at the piano. From these weekly dances we managed to raise a little cash but we still had no suitable ground. And then Mr. Evans, who ran the garage, let us have the use of a piece of his land which was situated at the end of Canon Drive.

This enabled us to get the club going and it soon became a flourishing concern. We organised home and away tournaments every Saturday during the summer, playing Hay, Madley, Kenchester and other nearby clubs.

It was usual for local tennis clubs to hold a dance during the winter. There was no room of suitable size for us to follow suit, but once again Mr. and Mrs. Evans came to our rescue by letting us use one of the rectory rooms. We called them subscription dances in those days, which meant that we had to issue printed invitations for the pleasure of your company, with the price of the ticket printed beneath.

CLUB