

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Since our annual meeting in April the Committee of the Society has met regularly to further the aims of the Society which are defined in the Constitution as "to exert a strong local influence to safeguard the amenities of Harpenden and its environs". Through the Plans sub-committee, working in close co-operation with the Urban Design Group, we have made known to the Council our views on the current developments in Harpenden. Sometimes when major planning proposals are submitted, the Council arranges to have them available to the people of Harpenden so that they may comment. Unfortunately this means that they are only available during normal working hours at the Council offices and we think it most desirable that wider publicity should be arranged; perhaps by exhibition at the Public Library.

The Urban Design Group, with representatives of the Society, is studying the problem of parking on the Common and intends to produce a report for submission to the Council suggesting ways and means to control indiscriminate parking. The Group is also drafting a report on the town centre. It has started by preparing a photographic model of the centre area. It will suggest the building groups worth conserving and hopes to project the future shopping pattern change and growth and relate this to the conservation analysis. An essential part of this study is the traffic and parking problems of Harpenden and it is hoped the results of the recent traffic count by the County Authority can be obtained so that both long and short term proposals for alleviating the present confusion can be drafted into the report.

The Summer Outing this year was a most successful visit to Ascott near Leighton Buzzard to view the House and its treasures of Oriental porcelain and pictures.

May I draw your attention to the meeting to be held in the Small Public Hall on December 3rd when the Chairmen of the various Committees of the Council will answer questions on the work of their Committees. Full details are being advertised in the local Press.

Finally - if you have not yet paid your subscription please do so at the Meeting.

27th October, 1969.

D.L. Booth,
Chairman.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

3, Oakhurst Avenue,
Harpenden,
Herts.

A U T U M N M E E T I N G

The Autumn Meeting will be on Thursday, November 13th,
1969, in the Small Public Hall.

Recently there has been an increasing amount of comment and discussion on the pollution of our environment and some remedial action. As this is a matter which closely affects us all we have decided to consider one aspect of this problem at our Autumn Meeting.

We meet between 8 o'clock and 8.30 over a cup of coffee which gives us an opportunity to greet each other and then Dr. Owens of the Water Pollution Research Laboratory at Stevenage will give an illustrated address on "A Biologist looks at Water Pollution". This will be followed by questions and discussion.

Dr. Owens graduated at University College, Swansea and joined the Water Pollution Research Laboratory in the Autumn of 1956. After working on the ecological aspects of radioactive pollution he joined a new team set up to look at the role that plants and animals play in the oxygen economy of rivers. Four years ago he became the Head of the Biology of Rivers Section and his interests now include organic and inorganic enrichment of surface waters.

The Meeting is open to anybody interested so please make it known as widely as possible.

25th October 1969.

G.W. Bowran
Hon. Secretary.