

Speeches (Charlie)

WHSMITH

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This is an occasion when a Mayor is justified in being particularly proud of his community. Without waiting for a lead from any outside body, the people of Lewes and the surrounding districts have found the organizing ability from among their own number and they have used this ability, plus a collective will, to carry through this project to a successful conclusion.

I am, also, glad that I was Mayor at the relevant time: because this enabled me to conduct the meeting when things were started: and those good people came forward and offered their services. I know, indeed we all know, the struggles they had: the hopes and the frustrations they went through and we thank them for bringing to the fore their latent tenacity which kept up the impetus that was necessary before

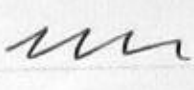
this project was made into something real. So, this afternoon we show them our gratitude.

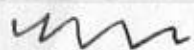
Next, I thank those people who organized the collections in their respective ~~various~~ districts and those who went round actually collecting the subscription. These were, in the main, busy housewives, and, sometimes, in addition, what used to be called "gainfully employed": yet they gave generously of their limited time and so share in the success of this venture and, on behalf of the town, I thank them also. Having helped in all these sections which have brought about this happy result, I know the difficulties that have had to be overcome: but like them, I do not regret one minute of the time spent.

So, ladies and gentlemen, on

behalf of the town, I say to the Chairman Mr. Hillman, the joint secretaries, Mr. & Mrs. Jebbie, and the Treasurer, Mr. Brown and the committee and the collectors, thank you all for your work on behalf of the Hospital. You have shown how to set about a job, dealing with all manner of obstacles by removing them. And so, because of your endeavours, the Hospital is equipped with a modern operating theatre. The earning of this theatre as well as the actual theatre make us all feel very satisfied and happy. So thank you all very much.



On quite a number of occasions I have   
On quite a number of occasions



On quite a number of occasions I have read the story of men and women who are sufferers from one of the many different forms of Arthritis. In all cases these people show great fortitude in dealing with the handicaps, not to mention the pain, of their complaints. In some cases they deal with their work, adjusting their muscles because of the deformations that arise from their illness, so that they can deal with their work. I wonder how many have given consideration to getting the best out of their impaired bodies apart from, though in addition to, their work, and so making life ever so much more enjoyable and, incidentally, more fitted for work.

I am a member of A.R.C. and I am keen on research into the causes of Arthritis. This research, however, is the work of scientists and necessarily takes time: and, although I am quite certain that success is going to crown ~~these~~ <sup>this</sup> work, to the poor wight who is already a cripple through, say, Osteo-Arthritis it is a foregone conclusion that success in cause-finding won't be of much use to him, enthusiastic as he may be about the disease being eventually conquered. This paper of mine is, therefore, an effort to help sufferers from Spondylitis Deformans (my own complaint) to ~~to~~ live more fully and comfortably: not solely to work, but to the glory of themselves both mentally and physically. It is an idea I gained as long ago as January 1936, from a Dr Hendy of the Devonshire Hospital at Buxton, whither I had been sent from St Mary's Paddington. There a Mr. Hunt worked hard finding the cause of my complaint but, unfortunately my spine was already rigid from Axis to Coccyx before I went to him for treatment. No doubt I must



bear a part of the blame for letting things get so far but certainly not all of it. If the National Health side of the medical profession in those days had not advanced very far in particular diseases nobody was to blame.

Dr Hendy, then, met me at the Devonshire Hospital, told me that nothing could be done in the nature of a cure but hastened to assure me that was not the end of what he had to say. I was to forget, as far as possible, my impaired spine and think of my chest and indeed the whole front of me which was gradually collapsing forward under the pressure of the forward curving spine. And so I stayed there for three weeks, learning a fresh table of breathing exercises. I expect most people know of these exercises because I find they are pretty generally advised now in all hospitals and for most complaints. I made immense progress and in that three weeks had begun to make the chest expand: begun to take long walks at Buxton and to feel a good deal better. I arrived home by the end of January and resolved to fight by way of exercising this complaint. In addition to the breathing exercises I began to work on my chest generally, pectorals etc, in the meantime attending St Mary's, Paddington as an outpatient and the physio-therapy staff were most encouraging and helpful. Carrying on in this fashion I gradually improved, my arms and legs became free again and I persisted.



my family moved to Lower in 1908 when I was nine years of age and we lived in Talbot Terrace which crosses <sup>at the</sup> bottom of this hill. At the eastern end of Talbot Terrace is the Bell, which in those days was a part of a well attended pleasure ground, the other two parts being the swimming baths and the recreation ground. A man who lived in a cottage by the swimming baths looked after the Bell, the baths and the recreation ground. This recreation ground had some swings and a see-saw in one corner. A gravel covered the ground in that corner but the rest of the recreation ground was a very well attended little park. The swings were shut on Sundays and each swing was locked up against its post! It was the ~~idea~~ custom in those days to believe that you should not play on Sundays. That of course is changed as ideas do change and so bring about changes in things; so the swings are replaced by the log fort and other more modern equipment for playgrounds and the place is open on Sundays giving great pleasure to many children.

Here are some old picture post cards of the Bell. If you look carefully you will be able to see the little rustic fence which went along the Belham Terrace pavement.

There were two swimming pools in those days and one was free and the other, called the Private baths you had to pay 3<sup>0</sup> for admission. None of the boys (or men for that matter) had any coppers for such a luxury and so our free baths were a very great treasure if you bear in mind there ~~or~~ wasn't much opportunity to go away for holidays. The free baths were given to the community in 1860 by some ~~very~~ benefactors and bless their memory; they gave enormous pleasure to the boys of my time. Bathing was never mixed. In either private or free baths boys and girls had separate days or times. In the free baths ~~we~~ <sup>we</sup> ~~were~~ always completely naked and used our mothers' coarse aprons for towels at least most of us did and those who couldn't get anything dried in the sun



To the Editor: With regard to the billeting, in Levens, of the men of Kitchener's Army in 1914. I wonder if any of ~~the~~ readers who have answered your invitation to send their memories of this really terrific occasion have given their recollections of the "times" underlying this really great exercise in Local Government?

I was fifteen years old at that time and lived with my parents at 10, New Road. There were ten in our family at home. In many parts of the town there were smaller houses with families just as numerous; and suddenly the townsfolk were informed that troops would be billeted on them and every house would have to take some. Officials came round to see how many each house could have squeezed into it; and each house had a figure chalked on it. Our house had 2 chalked on the wall and shortly afterwards two more officials came round to every numbered house and gave £1. for each man's keep in the various houses. It is worth the student of Social History taking note of the fact, that the working people of the early years of this century, citizens of Britain and of the greatest Empire ever, only lived from hand to mouth and only earned from 18/- to 30/- per week, so even the provision of one good meal for two extra mouths in the houses was beyond reach. That this was known is indicated by the billeting money being issued so quickly.

In a short ~~time~~ time the men came. Among other regiments were the Lancashire Fusiliers, (we had two of them) some of a Welsh regiment, and some others I can't remember; but to get a picture it must be remembered these men were not in uniform, just the flat-capped, heavily shod and soberly clothed men of those days: in the main just one lot of clothes for all purposes as we mostly were all over the country. Most of the Lancashire Fusiliers were boys



and so there was even more of a clatter of men walking about the streets than was usual in those days of heavy, nailed shoes and no noise <sup>even</sup> from traffic. It must also be borne in mind that the population was doubled in a day or so! (and the implication of this)

There was not much room in their billets as can be imagined and so, wherever one looked there could be seen rows of men sitting on kerbs or steps or squatting on their heels, for there were a great number of miners among them. Straw was placed in part of the Town Hall and many, for whom there was no house room, slept there.

Swift steps were taken to provide entertainment during the long evenings. There were not many rooms in the nature of a hall which did not have a smoking concert each evening and at those held at the Phoenix Ironworks Institute I spent many a happy evening and listened to many strange old songs in equally strange dialects interspersed with songs by local singers who sang mostly patriotic songs as was the fashion during the early days of the war (~~and~~ anger and ridicule came later)

I remember a football match was arranged between the Welsh and the Lancashire men, at the Dripping pan. I thoroughly enjoyed watching this match; the Welshmen were much more of a team and won 8-0. The two Lancashire men billeted with our family told me the Welsh had nearly all the Cardiff team playing for them! I mention this match because more than fifty years later ~~it~~ was at the Lewis Club headquarters (as Mayor) and I mentioned this match and then asked the late well-known Lewis sportsman, Harry Catterell if he remembered it. "Oh yes" replied he, "I should remember it, I was referee!"



These first troops left us before long (they still had no soldiers' clothes) and they were succeeded by a Territorial Cyclist Battalion and then by the Royal Field Artillery and <sup>it was</sup> these R.F.A. men who made a mark in Limer. They also were still in "civilian" clothes; there were very many of them; and they stayed until the summer of 1915, by which time they were in uniform and equipped with guns. They had no horses at first and had to make do with tall South American mules and wooden guns, to learn to manœuvre. They also had to learn equitation with these animals. In consequence the streets seemed on occasion to be full of mules being led or ridden or throwing blocks about. They had to be stabled wherever there was a suitable shed; and, in consequence, the streets were especially full of mules when the troops fell in for various parades. If one pictures the long sheds at the Phoenix Iron works full of rows of mules; and every other shed in the town where half-a-dozen mules could be squeezed in being in use as stables, then one has a picture of what the town was like during the winter and spring of 1914-1915. Since, in those days almost every <sup>man</sup> had an allotment our "Dungy earth" was soon helping to provide food.



The billeting of the first men of Kitchener's Army  
in Leves in the autumn of 1914

Lest we forget - Lest we forget.  
Lord God of Hosts be with us yet.

Mr. Humphrey Curran Green  
I am purveyor to the Queen

"Ever Brighteyes" by Rider Haggard

To fight inflation Let us see or rather, be seen

at m m

at m m



In 1934 and 1935 there was an attempt to revive the Lower Labour Party, which, ~~had~~ like other parties, had received a terrible trouncing in 1931. Frank Hancock was still the candidate. The active work of the constituency (the Drive) came from Newhaven with two men, ~~the~~ I remember working hard at it. One was a customs official named Tanner and the other <sup>Perry Wood</sup> was employed in some form by the Railway company. In Lewis two new people appeared. Jessie Stephens, who had recently fought a bye-election at Portsmouth, being defeated by Admiral Keeser and the other was Maud Stevenson. A journalistic type named Stoke-Perrott took on the secretariatship. Dorothy and Frank Reed. Ethel and Tom Gearing (Ethel has died recently) Dorothy and Blanche Barber (but we soon had to drop out when my spine ~~was~~ ~~became~~ went wrong). Frank Reed was a civil servant and I was an insurance agent, having lost my job as an iron moulder because of the "slump". Tom Gearing was an iron moulder employed as I was previously, at the Phoenix Iron Works. I can't give much more information about this time and I finally finished up in November 1935 at St Mary's Hospital Paddington. Dorothy had two young children to look after so we had to drop out of active work for the L.P. nevertheless we did a bit in some things ~~which~~ ~~undertaken~~ by the L.P. One of these was the League of Nations ~~Union~~ "Peace Ballot" many organizations besides the L.P. played a part in this.

In the 1934-5 revival there were quite a number of "workingmen" your father Frank Mayhew, employed at the Lewis press, another printer employed at Baxters named Jeffrey who died a few years ago. A man named Lowden took over the secretariatship when Stoke-Perrott (see above) became an ordinary member. Another good piece of work that I remember observing the L.P. doing a few years later was the organizing of milk for Spanish children and ~~lots~~ quite a number of things to help during the civil war. Mrs Dorothy Reed worked hard at this.

To return to 1934 and '35; The result of the "Peace Ballot" mentioned above caused Baldwin, then P.M. to go to the



country and the G. C. took place in November 1935 just after I went to Hospital. The work carried out by the L.L.P. and the other few small parties which formed the constituency party had done some good as shown by the Labour Vote.

In 1931 5,000 votes

In 1935 10,000 votes

afterthoughts: During 1935 and prior to the "Peace Ballot" there was a good deal of "pacifist" feeling in the Party as could be expected with Frank Hancock, who had suffered imprisonment during the first war for being a "war-resister", and his Society of Friends members being in the party. I remember a debate ~~to be~~ held in the Corn Exchange, between the late Rev. Rawlings (of St Michael's Church and Little Theatre fame) seconded by the above mentioned Jessie Stephens versus Viscount (now Lord) Gage seconded by somebody (I forget who). This debate was organised by the League of Nations Union and we of the L.L.P., in the days preceding the debate, stealthily joined the Union by the payment of one shilling. On show of hands therefore Rawlings and Stephens won by a huge majority. Afterwards the Secretary Mr Hardy Smith protested about the unfairness of our tactics in becoming members! Hardy joined the L.L.P. some time afterwards and did quite useful work and was a council candidate on several occasions.

Further afterthoughts. I had a talk with Lord Gage quite recently and he well remembers the debate. He ~~said~~ said he didn't mind the defeat and had forgotten the legalised gate crashing; but that woman who seconded Father Rawlings he didn't think much of. As a pacifist she ~~was~~ would ~~be~~ be more likely to use the last ~~than~~ than the first syllable to obtain her ends.



known some  
Julian Bell: first made his presence among Labour people  
~~known~~ in the 1931 election. At that time a Parliamentary  
candidate had at length been found in the person  
of Frank ~~Hancock~~ Hancock a Quaker, of independent  
means, who travelled about the countries he visited using  
as his transport two caravans (beautiful solid wood horse-  
drawn affairs) one as a study etc, and the other as 'living  
accommodation'. Frank and his wife Ada lived simply, extending  
"quiet" help as they moved about. They had recently left ~~the~~  
a town (It may have been Salisbury but I can't remember)  
where they had arrived when a bye-election was pending,  
and Frank had fought this hopelessly fight giving the  
Labour people there a chance to show their metal. Frank  
L.P. welcomed him with open arms and ~~soon~~<sup>so</sup> in the dreadful  
1931 debacle we at least put up a fight here. Many good  
people I remember in that election, came forward to help and  
John Brewer, one of the Society of Friends chaired the public  
meetings. There were other Quakers helping, and Walter Salter (brought  
to their Leves meeting) brought Julian Bell to me. Julian was  
helping in a different part of the Constituency and was  
looking for extra speakers. I should say here that he came at our  
Eve of Fall meeting in the Lecture room, underneath the Tories were  
holding their E. of P. in the Town Hall!! Some of them came  
up to our meeting to ask questions and generally try to  
upset our candidate and the meeting carried on over the  
scheduled time, so I don't know if Julian Bell got his speaker  
for Peacehaven meeting or not.

Julian Bell attended the W.E.A. study groups which were  
held in our house and he was a tremendous help. Related  
to the Woolfs at Rodmell he lived at Charlton, Dorset  
and so was generally able to attend during a course  
which included readings from "Major Barbara" ( Shaw ) and  
"The Silver Tassie" ( Shaw ) ( Sean O'Casey ) After this ~~and~~ I  
only saw him very infrequently. He was killed while  
driving an ambulance during the Spanish Civil War.



We are very pleased to welcome you to Lewis Taux Hall and to see so many of our friends have managed to attend this reunion meeting of the Co-operative Party.

This annual re-union party has grown in popularity, and so, in importance and this helps the growing comradeship between members who live in different Districts. Since the Co-op party was started, about fifty years ago, it has achieved a good deal. Its formation added a new element to the British working class politics of that time and through this many more people have ~~been~~<sup>were</sup> able to add their strength in the struggle for economic and Social Justice.

I know from experience that the Co-op party has done a great job in the education, of very many people, for all kinds of voluntary public work. Many people have learnt the principles of the Public work they now carry out from at the Co-op Schools.

Quite obviously then, a great deal of work goes into the running of the Co-op Party: and I am giving voice to ~~the~~<sup>my</sup> appreciation of that work. We can all do this tonight by showing our appreciation of the help we have received by giving a round of applause to Don Ranger and his staff and the people who serve on the C.C.



A ~~body~~ group, of people banded into a corporate body  
because they have very heavy responsibilities and the  
carrying of these responsibilities is done for more  
ably by a collector.



The idea of the "House of Friendship" was conceived some years ago, and since then, a great deal of work has been done towards making this idea into something real: something that would be a new service of voluntary help for the town.

a very long time before I came on the scene, many of you people had, quite rightly, come to the conclusion that the problem of lonely, elderly people could best be tackled by the provision of the "House of Friendship", where any one who was in need of a warm and friendly atmosphere could come.

a special fund was created, and, after a long time, and many disappointments over sites, this house, 208 High Street, was purchased and

eventually a start was made on the interior changes and adaptations: and the beautifying of the exterior: and so, tonight we are here ready to take a look at your idea, now that it ~~it is~~ <sup>transformed</sup> ~~clothed~~ <sup>into</sup> as it were, ~~with~~ something real.

I would like to make an observation or two now that the House of Friendship is here.

1. It was never intended that this house should take the place of the other old ~~people's~~ people's clubs in the town. This house is something extra: a place where the elderly can come on any day. Will you please all make this known as widely as possible?

2. It follows then, that this house will be open to all residents of retiring age in



I am very happy to be in the position of again proposing a toast to the Leues Bowling Club. This is the third occasion I have been so honoured, so I am glad that my knowledge of the members of the club tells me that they are all kindly, tolerant people and I know they will forgive any of my slips into repeating things I have said on a previous occasion.

Dorothy and I found, at the very beginning of our term of office, that the bowling fraternity of Leues was made up of people who, besides playing a nifty game of bowls, maintained a first rate club, and greeted us with a friendliness and a gallantry which it would be worth going miles to find. The Mayoress and I were, and still are, deeply appreciative of these qualities

in a group of people like the members of this bowling club: for the welcome and help always given us is something we shall remember ~~when~~ our present hectic days are past.

I am glad you have completed another successful season, and I compliment the club itself, and the individual members, whose skill at the game of bowls, and whose neighbourliness and "Esprit de Corps" make the club the good organization it is.

I also wish to congratulate the club (which has carried out its programme) the Secretary and the other officers (who do all the work of the programme) and the ladies who, it seems to me, are always ready to do the work which is necessitated by ~~extending~~ hospitality.



was formerly a male occupation  
and is now being done with just  
as much zeal by women.

I would like to make mention of  
the work of your officers and the  
committee members and all of you  
who give your time to running the  
club, arranging the fixtures and  
providing hospitality to visitors.  
You are all doing a good job  
for the community and I thank  
you for it.

Then, of course, the successful  
bowlers whose names I observe  
on page 4 of my menu card, call for  
my congratulations.

I would also like to thank the  
club for giving the Mayors team  
a game, (and a losing) soon after  
I became mayor on this term.

The only bright spot in the  
mayors team that day was  
the remarkable play of a  
club member who was playing  
for my team. Leslie Davey sent  
up some wonderful woads



I am becoming either a star turn or a bad habit to the bowling fraternity of Lewes. The only difference I can discern between this evening's toast and that of two weeks ago is that then I was speaking to the Bowling Club and tonight I am speaking to the Ladies Bowling Club.

I am glad, however, that this is the toast to the Ladies Bowling Club. Lewes now have two Clubs, Bowls and Cricket. That means not only that women play these games that were formerly exclusive to men, but they run their own clubs. I think this is a good thing. Why should women only have clubs that are non-playing, as it were? To me, that is purely an academic point, or something to discuss. As far as I am concerned because of the Mayors

teams, it seems to me we have to bite the dust, as it were, whether we are playing the men's club or the Ladies club. I don't suppose this could be held as sufficient evidence for us to ~~conclude~~ come to the conclusion that the Ladies are well on the way to attaining equality of status as regards bowling in Lewes, but it should provide food for thought in Lewes Bowling affairs circles.

Anyway I am very pleased to be with you all again; and the Mayors and I always enjoy your company and your hospitality: and so we are grateful to you for your invitation to be present at this annual Dinner of the Lewes Ladies Bowling Club.

This club has made ~~steps~~ since it was formed and something

else has been achieved besides the playing of the game. It is an efficiently managed club and its members, as I have mentioned before do plenty of work in making it go.

To come to what the Club is really for, the playing of the game of bowls. I see you have had a successful season. On the few occasions I was present the weather was cold. I noticed this did not appear to be observed by you players, or, if it was observed, the physical fitness Bowls has helped you to attain has made you impervious to the cold winds.

I am glad you have completed six Competitions and I congratulate the winners ~~into~~ of the trophies whose names appear on page 4 of the menu card. This is another sphere "Pot Hunting" that



I am pleased that I have this opportunity of opening this exhibition, the exhibition is serving two purposes. One it marks the commencement of Leves Library Week: and, two, it draws attention to the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of the "Age of Reason" by Thomas Paine. I am glad to be here on both these scores. First, Leves is my home town and books <sup>one</sup> of my chief pleasures. Secondly, Tom Paine is one of the men for whose work I have a great admiration.

Many people have admiration for particular aspects of Paine's views and work, and many people have admiration for particular parts of his work without having any for his views. I like both his views and his writing, and, as I close, I would like to

I would like to quote from Prof. Robertson, since I agree with the sentiments expressed by the Professor. I will do this at the end.)

It was while Paine lived in Leves that he wrote his first piece of argumentative writing. It was a carefully phrased appeal to the reason and humanity of the members of Parliament, and it was a treatise which agitated for higher salaries for the excise men. Evidently the authorities recognised the power of this man's pen because he was sacked <sup>and sacked him</sup>.

However, Benjamin Franklin who was in England as the deputy for what was then the American Colonies, had his attention drawn to the <sup>Paine's</sup> powerful arguments from the writing

this man, and persuaded him to emigrate to America, and I have no need to stress the results of this: but it can be truly said that Paine's served his apprenticeship to discussion and the written word ~~was served~~ in Leves: and, today, we in Leves salute him and acknowledge that his work is still with us, although it is approaching two years since works like "Common Sense" and "The Rights of Man" were first published. We salute him as one of the first advocates of Women's Rights and old age pensioners as well as for his writing of the "Age of Reason" which proves him a deist, a believer in the one God, although this work earned



him an unpopularity which is  
only just beginning to die out.

Therefore, I thank the Tom  
Paine Society for their work  
and their presence here today,  
which has enabled us to show  
pride in Paine's connection with  
Leaves. To close then, may I  
quote from Professor Robertson.

~~into~~ who expresses so

perfectly what I feel about  
Thomas Paine.

"To read him (Tom Paine) is to breathe  
the very breath of intellectual rectitude"  
and again

"Paine's name will have its due place, not  
only in our political but in our literary  
history, as that of a man of native  
genius whose prose bears being read  
beside that of Burke on a common  
theme, and who found in sincerity the  
secret of a nobler eloquence than his  
antagonists could draw from their  
stores of literature or the fountains of  
their ill will."

Thank you for resolving to make me a Freeman of the Borough of Lewes. This is particularly pleasing: Lewes has been the home of my wife and myself for over 60 years, and, during all our adult life, we have taken a keen interest in the work and the life of this community, and, through the various organizations which make up the community, we have done our best to serve. In this respect I am in good company this afternoon: for, whenever I am present where people are gathered together in the cause of service to the town, I find one, or two, or all three of my Freeman colleagues are in attendance.

Here are three main reasons why I am proud to be a Lewesian.

Because of its association with men of the calibre of de Montfort and Tom Paine, Lewes is a town with a history which makes it a place to be mentioned whenever the principles, or the essence, of government is being taught. and one can be proud to be one of its townsfolk for that reason. But this is not the only reason. Lewes is set in beautiful surroundings and contains, within its boundaries ~~to~~ many beautiful houses but there is more to a town than a fine geographical position and good looking roof lines. What really makes a town is the quality of its community, and this <sup>quality</sup> is maintained by the leaven of good people who work for it. When I became Mayor I was able to look more closely, and to have a greater understanding, of the work that is done by ~~so~~ so many good

People, many of them <sup>I feel</sup> are worthy and worthy of mention; and so I receive this honour with a feeling of pride which is tempered with humility at being chosen ~~among~~ from among so many worthy folk.

There are the ~~three~~ four reasons why I, who love Lewes



I am very pleased that, once again, I have the opportunity to welcome the Brighton District of the British Federation of Master Printers to Lewes. Being Mayor of Lewes means a good deal of hard work: and the setting aside of personal preferences as to where your time should be spent; but there are many compensations, and of these compensations, I consider being here to welcome you to Lewes is quite a big item on the credit side.

The printing <sup>world</sup> industry is, in my opinion, still the most powerful means of communication yet devised by man. I know there are all kinds of methods nowadays of reaching the body of mankind. Films, radio, television: but, although you can obtain certain items of learning through these

new media, there is no way of checking on this learning except by reading and discussion: and, after all, you have to be fairly well read to know what most speakers are talking about. Moreover, I find that when I have to break off from listening to the radio, or looking at the television, there is not the same reluctance as there is when I am interrupted in reading a good book. So for the acquiring of knowledge and wisdom, or for entertainment give me the printed word.

As I believe you are aware, I served 21 years in your industry: but, as I was a machine ruler I do not know much about the technique of printing. I know it was a job which tried men's patience and drove them into taking Wilson's snuff for Printer,

but I also know that the happiest years of my working life were those I spent in the industry; and that

this was so was, in a large measure, due to the kindness and consideration I received from your member Mr Reynolds and his staff so that I never regretted changing my occupation at the age of 44 and going into the printing world.

Apart from my acquaintance with Mr. Reynolds, my knowledge of the B. F. M. P. is limited to my knowing it as a corporate body <sup>which</sup> ~~was~~ was, as it were, "on the other side" of industry to myself as Father of Chapel and so on. However, from my reading I had learnt the necessities of compromise, so that the best parts of differing points of view can be used to form a synthesis by which real progress can be made. I also learnt that good, well-meaning people remain good, well-meaning people even when their opinions differ from mine.



I am here to let you know what we lack, money.

You want to see a democratic people choosing its representatives when the General Election comes. A good collection will help you to see this. Most of you would have spent <sup>at least</sup> a couple of bob tonight on entertainment. Those of you who are Labour supporters give as generously as you can. Some of you here are neutral and want to be fair. Put that two shillings in. Those of you who do not want Labour to win, well, you have had your entertainment. Put that 2/- in for the devil of it and enjoy yourselves further.

Leaves and District as individual members, and so Leaves, under your efforts has at length been enabled to create a Day Centre as many towns have already done.

Thanks are due to many people who, through the years, have not spared themselves in the work of bringing this about. A word ~~reminder~~ is also needed to us all to remind us that this is now the beginning. The "getting" of the House of Friendship has been "a successful effort: now ~~we~~ we have to make a success of it as a ~~viable~~ ~~success~~ project, bearing in mind that although seemingly insuperable obstacles get in the way, these obstacles will not

be in the way long if we make big enough efforts to remove them, as, in the past you have dealt with previous obstacles.

I would hand over to Mr Sadler as chairman of the Management committee



First I want to welcome you all to this Council Chamber; and may I also compliment the Pells School on taking this opportunity for you to learn something of how a town is governed. That means how the things that are necessary for the well being of all the people in the town are looked after. Who sees to it that there is a good water supply? Who sees to it that the food we eat is stored, handled and sold under good conditions? Who looks after drainage ~~and~~ and the disposal of sewage ~~and~~ and so makes sure that the plagues and other outbreaks that used to ravage the country ~~don't~~ do not happen nowadays? All these things and

many more that are beneficial, could not be achieved without a good deal of work being done; and this work is carried out by people who work for the town.

Now the chief of those people who do the work of looking after the affairs of a town is the Town Clerk, Mr Morris. He is unable to be with us today: ~~but as I said~~ because he has urgent work of the town to do this morning but he is the head of a team of people who make sure of the smooth running of the town and all its many services. This is made possible by the loyal work of the



employees of the town, and the public spirit of people who are elected as councillors and who, in this room and in the seats where you are now sitting, have to decide on the policy, or Plan of ~~what~~ the various jobs should be carried out. In all this carrying out of plans the councillors are advised by the Town Clerk, the Boro' Treasurer and the Boro' Surveyor, or engineer.

Now the Town, or Borough of Lewes is divided into 3 Wards, and the <sup>People</sup> of each of these wards elect two councillors each year. and the councillors remain on for three years so we always have 18 Councillors and six aldermen and there

aldermen are elected ~~from~~ by the Councillors for 6 years. The whole Council elect the Mayor who is in charge of the meetings and is the leading citizen for one year: and he has many <sup>other</sup> jobs to do in the town as the chief citizen.

### Rates

All the householders in the town have to pay for all these benefits and

---

Rodney, on Houses for rent.  
+ Planning & Recreation Grds.



I am pleased that I have this opportunity to open this exhibition which is serving two purposes: it marks the commencement of the Leves Library week; and it marks the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of "The Age of Reason" by Thomas Paine. I am glad to be here on both scores. Leves is my town and ~~my~~<sup>each</sup> are one of my chief pleasures; and Tom Paine is one of the men for whose work I have a great admiration.

Many people have admiration for particular aspects of Paine's views and work, and many people have admiration for particular parts of his work without having any for his views. I like both and I would like to quote from professor Robertson since I agree with the sentiments expressed by the professor.

It was while Paine lived in Leves that he wrote his first piece of argumentative writing. It was a carefully phrased appeal to the

reason and humanity of the members of Parliament, and it was a treatise agitating for higher salaries for excisemen. The authorities evidently saw the power of his pen because he was fired.

However, Benjamin Franklin ~~was~~<sup>not</sup> who was present in England as ~~the~~ a deputy for the North American Colonies had his attention drawn to the power of Paine's writing and persuaded him to emigrate to America. Truly it can be said that Paine's apprenticeship to debate and the written word was served in Leves, and today we of Leves salute him, and ~~the~~ acknowledge that his work is still with us although it is approaching 200 years since the works like "Common Sense" and the "Rights of Man" were published.

We salute him as the advocate of women's rights, and old age pension as well as for his writing of "The Age of Reason" which proved him a deist a believer in the <sup>one God</sup> ~~creator~~ although this work earned him an unpopularity which is only just beginning to die out.

Therefore I thank the Tom Paine Society for their work and their presence here today which has enabled us to show our pride in Paine's connection with our town. To close then, I would like to make 'the' quotation ~~of~~ I have mentioned



From the beginning of soldiering, when there were a relatively few troops, till the end of the two world wars, when there were millions of troops; it has always been necessary to have groups of old comrades, banded together into associations to enable them to talk over old times and to see how their erstwhile comrades in arms are progressing. To talk over the times they knew.

Today, in common with other professions and trades, it seems to us that unbelievable changes are taking place at extraordinary speed, in soldiering, and I salute the ~~young~~ younger men, represented here by Brigadier Loder and his men, who have to deal with the situations

created by these<sup>3</sup> changes: and I am confident that the situations will be very ably dealt with.

But these changes make it all the more desirable that the Old Comrades Assn. should keep in being, and so we show our appreciation of those who work to keep it going when we drink this toast. Those I know locally, Major Pochitt Dick Whittington and Bernard Philcox and at County level Colonel Hollist and all those whose names I don't know but who I know are dotted about the country and who have the Assn. at heart.

Finally, Mr President, and on behalf of your guests, I would

like to say thank you to the association for the hospitality we have received and I am sure all the guests are with me when I say "Long life to the Old Comrades association. And so I give you all the toast"

The Royal Sussex Regiment  
Old Comrades Association




Mr. President: Gentlemen.

I am pleased to have the privilege of being here this evening. The Royal Sussex Regiment were made Freemen of the Borough of Lewes in 1953, and you are the Old Comrades Arm of the County Regiment. We, the people of the County Town, then, are glad you have chosen our Town Hall at which to hold your annual Dinner.

I feel I am qualified to propose this toast by my age: and, indeed it has occurred to me that ~~all~~ most men of my age and over are so qualified because, I believe for the first time in history, we were nearly all made into Soldiers.



It gives me pleasure to be here this evening.  
The job I have to do does not require the  
<sup>same</sup> "erudition as does that, so ably done, of  
your three speakers. I am pleased to  
be here and to be of use. Pleased  
because, having cast my first  
General election vote at the age of 19,  
in 1918, I have had a good view,  
through the years, of the work towards  
social justice and economic justice  
carried out by the Labour Party; and  
I have, in some small measure, been of  
assistance to the Labour party during the  
years it has made its reforms a part of  
the British way of life





Well now, in true electioneering style  
I have had a word to say ~~for~~ in  
praise of my party: and I have  
had a dig at ~~my~~ <sup>the</sup> opposing party  
that necessary introduction being  
done, it is time for me to tell  
you why I am here: that is quite  
easy. You will have deduced from  
the work carried through by the  
Labour Government that it is  
composed of able people who are  
unafraid, when called upon, to  
bring in measures, however unpopular,  
when such measures are in the interests  
of the whole country. You will  
have learned, from this platform, the  
calibre of the Labour Party member.  
from prospective candidate to  
Home Secretary, and you will see  
it is a good team, strong fore & aft

There is something else I have  
observed during that time. I  
have watched the Conservative Party,  
whether in or out of office, change.  
Its leading lights now find it  
necessary to claim to be the friends  
of the workers instead of being (as  
the liberals in their heyday used to  
taunt them with being) the friends  
of the upper classes. Since Rab  
Butler taught them they must  
either cease to exist as a party,  
or go some way with us they  
have ~~done~~ done that and I consider  
this is a victory for Labour Party  
Policies

happiness of those who live  
within its boundaries. Local  
Gov is the concern of every one.  
I have not much room or I  
could write a good deal more.  
~~Thomas~~ on local government in-  
cludes and this links us up  
with wider concepts of government.  
Let us remember that at times  
de Montfort used his army to  
fight for the rights of parliaments.  
In times Thomas Paine used  
his pen to fight for the  
rights of man. As mayor I  
met ~~a~~ a man from the developing  
newly-independent countries. He  
had been sent to England to  
study government and to times  
because of Paine's connection.  
Truly a town where as man can  
say I am proud to have lived  
here, and I am glad to have



This is one of a number of similar ceremonies taking place all over the country: and, as Mayor of this town, I am launching the first of Britain's "10%" census in this ~~country~~ area. Besides being the first 10% census, it is the first mid-decade census to be held.

This census is vital to all the communities which, collectively, hold us together as a nation. Living, as we do, in a period of transition, we cannot provide for ourselves, or understand ourselves, by sheer guess work. The census is to aid us in understanding this transition. We shall benefit from the information we shall gather. We shall be helped to forecast our needs.

Such information as we shall gather is of ~~great~~ importance if mutual trust is to be established between local councils and the people they represent. The more detailed knowledge the councils have about their communities the better services they can provide.

Usually a census takes place every ten years, but there is an urgency about this 1966 census. We cannot afford to wait until 1971. Only one in every ten households has been chosen to take part, that is 1½ millions out of more than 14 million. This will involve about 5 million people but the results will affect us all. The addresses were chosen at random by computer: and a similar, random list was drawn up from ~~new~~ buildings that are new since the last census.

This weekend enumerators commenced delivering letters from the Registrar General to all the "10%" families in this area: the letter tells them they have been chosen for this important work. Thirty-two thousand enumerators are now at work.

Now the facts that these ten per centers write on the census forms are confidential, all census officers, enumerators and all other persons at work in taking the census have had to sign documents declaring that the facts gathered are confidential and there are heavy legal penalties for any unlawful disclosure of any information gathered during the census.

Information is not available to any other bodies, Local Councils or Government departments etc. They will only learn, in the form of statistics, later.

I will now call on Mr. ? , the census officer, to address the meeting.

I then receive personal letter from the Registrar General.

I then receive the four Area Enumerators and present each with his appointment card; I having received these from the census officer.



I am glad to have this opportunity to welcome you teachers from Germany. One of the nicest things about being Mayor is that one has the pleasure of greeting visitors who come to our town from abroad.

These visits are very good. They tend to foster a spirit of friendliness between us and our guests as individuals, and this is an important step towards a greater friendship between our countries.

I hope you will enjoy your visit to Lewes and that you will consider the time you spend in the district time well spent.

I want also to thank the Rotary Club for their help in arranging the visit.

Monsieur le Maire Ladies and Gentlemen: I am deeply  
honoured to be the head of the Civic delegation  
from Leves in this year of 1966, which  
marks the 20<sup>th</sup> exchange of our school children.

I know I speak for my delegation and  
indeed, for the whole population of Leves,  
when I express my thanks and gratitude  
to your Maire and your officers, to our  
hosts, and the whole population of Blois,  
for the wonderful way in which we have  
been received. We are all enjoying the  
visit immensely.

It appears that our children are  
right in showing us how goodwill can  
be promoted between nations, for it is  
our children, ably led by their Teachers,



that we have to thank for commencing these exchange visits in 1947. They have continued and, I hope, been encouraged by the various official exchanges which led to the execution in 1963 of the deed of Jubilé.

On behalf of Leves I would like to thank you, Mr Mair, for the invitation by which my delegation is here today and so giving us the opportunity to demonstrate the wish to continue to support and improve relations between our two towns.

<sup>This</sup> ~~visit~~ <sup>visit</sup> in turn, I am sure, will do much to assist towards better understanding between nations.

I sincerely hope that during our stay arrangements can be made for you sir and a Delegation from Blois to

I am very glad to be here again with all you people. I notice you have come from many parts of the district, and, on behalf of the people of Lewes, I welcome you ~~all~~ to our Town Hall. This is one of the occasions when I feel very appreciative of the work of those men, who, seventy years ago, were farsighted enough to realise that a good big hall, such as this, was necessary in a County Town. I feel grateful to them, for, through their work, I have the honour of being able to meet so many of you ~~all~~ in one hall. I am very glad you have been able to come here.

I would like to express our thanks to <sup>the members</sup> ~~of~~ the East Sussex Assn. for their work and care of blind people during the year and I would like ~~to show~~ <sup>to</sup> Mr. Perrett <sup>is chairman</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> Chairman <sup>of</sup> that we appreciate the work of his committee during the ~~year~~ <sup>first</sup> year of his office.

I would also like to say thank you to the teachers and the visitors and also to Mrs. Blaker for her efforts in the sale of work by the blind. There is also another lady I would like to mention. The Matron of the Mabel Lister Home. I think ~~the~~ <sup>her</sup> ~~work~~ <sup>work</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> of her and her helpers is deserving of praise.

Particularly we must remember all those helpers, guides and other workers, who have given their time and their considerable skill and energy to arranging this Christmas Party and making sure that every body has safely arrived. We are all deeply grateful.



The Mayoress and I are very glad to be here this evening and to enjoy the hospitality your branch has extended to us; and I am sure I am able to say the same for the rest of your guests.

This is the first occasion on which I have been the guest of any naval Assn, although, when I was a boy my one ambition, like every other lad's ambition at that period, was to go to sea; and steps were already being taken, when I was fifteen or so, to fulfill that ambition, when an accident to my eyes made this impossible and I finally became a squaddy at the time of the first world war. Consequently I don't know much of the navy and it naturally follows that I don't know much of the things said and done by Naval old comrades. All hundred functions I have attended have had to do with Army Old Comrades Assn. <sup>But I do know several of your Lewis members</sup>

I am in consequence, very delighted to be here this evening among friends whose experiences are of the Senior Service. Your other guests are ~~off for~~ delegates from Brighton, Eastbourne, Haslemere and Worthing branches so I am very happy to meet them and respond to Mr Taylor's <sup>dear</sup> toast on their behalf. The kind things Mr Taylor has said about us and our work in this town make ~~us~~ <sup>me</sup> feel proud, but Paradoxically humble and it is well that this is so.

Well Mr Chairman, Your guests all join with me in saying

Thankyou for your hospitality and for the toast. We wish the Lewis Branch every success and a long life, and to each individual member may I give the compliments of the Secrecy and wish them every happiness from their membership of the Royal Naval Assn, Lewis Branch.





in 1963 of the Deed of Amalgamation.

~~I would like to say~~  
On behalf of these I would like to thank you  
Mr Mayor for the invitation by which the my delegation  
is here today and to give our opportunities to  
demonstrate the wish to continue to support and improve  
the relations between our 2 towns and which  
in turn <sup>we</sup> ~~will~~ <sup>are</sup> ~~do~~ much to ~~improve~~ <sup>assist</sup> in  
in ~~the~~ better understanding between nations.

As I sincerely hope that ~~during the visit~~  
~~even~~ during our stay arrangements can be made  
for your & delegation from Leeds to visit Leves during  
the occasion of your school childrens visit  
in July. As a permanent record of ~~such~~  
~~and~~ <sup>wonderful achievement</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>anniversary</sup> of such. I do hope that on your  
visit you will do us the <sup>great</sup> honour of executing a <sup>suitable</sup>  
deed of acknowledgment  
~~of visit.~~

It is a great pleasure for the Mayoress and me once again to be the guests of the Borough Bonfire Society at this annual dinner.

This is the second occasion on which we have had the honour of being your guests; and we are glad the year that has passed, since the first occasion, has been a successful one for the Borough Bonfire Society.

In company with guests, who were visitors to the town, we watched this year's activities from the window of the Council Chamber: and I can assure you all, these visitors were full of praise for the way in which this celebration was carried through by all those whose job it is to make sure that the programme of processions was a success.

With the increasing density of traffic comes increasing difficulty in making the processions a good spectacle; and the praise accorded these guests accorded to the Borough is well earned, for it gives proof that the celebrations were up to the usual high standard.

Now, from the windows of the Town Hall can be seen what a torchlight procession should really look like when the traffic is not running, and one can imagine how much will be gained if Laves has a by-pass road. With a by-pass, and alternative routes for traffic, which many of us try to bring about, some scheme could be worked out with the aid of the police. But that is in the future; at present I think we owe thanks to the police for their work on each Bonfire night, which enables us to see some fine sights and helps us to keep a tradition going.

To keep a tradition going needs a very great deal of organizing and other hard work, especially during the weeks that precede the fifth of November.



Nero B.B. Jan 64

and those who carry out this work are deserving of our praise and thanks.

So I am going to thank all who work to keep the Borough Bonfire Society going. Those who do the tableau and fire works. Those who organize the processions, and, very important indeed, your officers and executive committee who keep the Society going during the rest of the year and so make for continuity and have to do with raising of funds for the Society and for charity. I do ask all you who work in any capacity to accept our thanks for your endeavours and our thanks for your hospitality this evening



When I had finished being Mayor of Leves I did not think I should be so lucky as to have the opportunity to again propose the toast of the Leves Ladies Bowling Club. "I am glad to give this toast and I sympathise with the Mayor for missing this occasion and I hope he will soon be well again."

I am very glad you have completed another successful season and I congratulate the club, (as a corporate body) and each of the members as individuals in successfully carrying out the competitions especially <sup>the</sup> winners of the events that I observe on the back of my programme.

It is a very good thing for the ladies to run their own club. That you run it successfully I

have proof because, on two occasions during the time I was Mayor, my team were the guests of your club and I accordingly, respect the efficient management of the club and the good play and teamwork of your members at the game itself.

Then, again, during our term of office, both my wife and I were made to appreciate the good fellowship and the jolly welcome extended to ~~you~~ on all the occasions we were your guests. This evening you have again extended to us your hospitality and for this I am glad to have this opportunity to say thank you

on behalf of Dorothy and myself.

I am then, madame chairman, pleased, and proud, to be proposing this toast and I have very great pleasure in ~~being~~ all to drink with me to the Leves Ladies Bowling club.



*Bon Square Dec 1965*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Last year I had the honour of proposing a toast, "The Commercial Square Bonfire Society". A year has gone by and you have all met here again as another Bonfire Season draws to a close. The Mayoress and I are very happy to be here and enjoy your hospitality, and, being old Lewesians, enjoy the company of the "Bonfire Boys" and the "Bonfire Girls" of the Commercial Square Society. We are full of praise for the way the celebrations were carried out this year. As one grows older it is to be expected that a more critical view is taken of any event, and generally compares the event unfavourably with what has happened in the past. I can say quite truthfully that this was not the attitude I had towards this year's Bonfire Celebrations.

With the visitors to the town, the Mayoress and I watched much of the celebrations from the Council Chamber, and, although there was no big united procession, there was much less time lost waiting for something to happen. Each of the Societies <sup>seemed</sup> ~~needed~~ to have made sure that something was always taking place in the High Street. So what was possibly lost in the way of a big, spectacular procession, I think ~~it~~ was more than made up by the variety and the number of processions

(1) /by each

by each individual Society.

We sympathise with you on the death of your late Secretary, who besides being an efficient Secretary, was a courteous and kindly man.

I have heard good reports of the construction and lighting of the tableau, and congratulate those responsible. With such competent Bonfire Boys, there is no doubt that the Society will carry on with younger members being instructed in how an effigy or a tableau should be built.

I must congratulate those responsible for the arrangement of the processions. This applies to all societies because each have to ~~extend~~ with an ever increasing density of traffic. Organising torch-light processions will not get any easier until we have a by-pass road, and, until this happens, I wish your Society every success in keeping up the tradition of the Bonfire in Lewes.

I hope I have included everybody because I know all must do a great deal. I would like to compliment the people who do what might be called the administration part and keep the Society going for the rest of the year. It is on you that the continuity of the Bonfire depends.

(2)

/So Mr. Chairman

So Mr. Chairman, remembering those in charge of the tableau, those in charge of the processions and those in charge of the continuity of the Bonfire movement, I have great pleasure in proposing this toast. "The Commercial Square Bonfire Society"

*Bowling Club Dinner Dec 1 1965*

I am very pleased to be here this evening and to be asked again to propose this toast. When one has this job for the second time there is a danger of repeating, not only oneself, but what others have said. I therefore crave the indulgence of those present if what I have to say sounds hackneyed. However my knowledge of the members of this Club bears out what one of Shakespeare's characters has to say to the effect of "a good bowler being a marvellous good neighbour", and I am therefore, quite happy.

I find the members of the Club are deserving of praise on the two scores, then, which embrace the two qualities mentioned by Shakespeare's character. One, they are good bowlers and have maintained a Club that is a credit to the town; and two, they have good comradeship and show a great friendliness and jollity to newcomers. The Mayoress and I are deeply appreciative of this latter quality and the neighbourly, welcoming spirit with which we have been greeted by the members, on all occasions, is something that will be remembered by both of us.

I would like to thank those members who I have called upon to strengthen the Mayor's team against the Brighton

Council team. For two successful years they have been of great assistance in the Lewes Mayor's team, winning and holding the Empire trophy. I am quite sure we could not have managed this without their help. The Mayor's team v. the Lewes Ladies Bowling Club is also a yearly event; and for this being so, I am grateful to the Ladies Club. In short, a very important contribution towards our settling down in the Office of Mayor and Mayoress, was made by the friendliness and encouragement of the Lewes Bowling fraternity. We thank each of you for your part in this. With members who are so able, not only at the game, but of maintaining this welcoming spirit that exists in the Club, there is no question that all obstacles to keeping the Club among the leaders will be smilingly removed, and the Lewes Club will proceed on its way, to quote *Old Comenius* "a company of reasonable and amicable fellows who could settle their differences themselves", playing the game that has occupied a prominent place among English sports for centuries, and enjoying the engaging social life which they maintain. *with their active life of playing bowls*



*opening Bore B.S. Fair Sat Sep 19 1964*

I am pleased to be here and to have the honour of opening this fair. The Mayoress and I are old Lewesians; and we, like all of us here, set great store by all the events that are traditional in Lewes.

We have seen the Borough Bonfire Society carry out its functions during the best part of sixty years and these functions have survived many crises during times past. But always the Borough has, in the event, turned out with a good display and has always managed to find fresh people from among the younger ones to carry on as the old members dropped out.

The changing traffic conditions have created difficulties which the Borough Bonfire Society, by reason of its position in the town centre, has to cope with continually but we are still here and so Lewes is still National news on Bonfire Night.

These efforts, however, need a very great deal of preliminary work and those who carry out this work are deserving of thanks and praise. This reward they have earned can best be shown by the financial results from money raising efforts like to-day's fair. I do, therefore,

appeal to all here to patronise the various stalls and shows so that those who have given generously of their time will know, at the end of the day, that their efforts have been worthwhile.

*So finally*

*Secondly*

We can all help to keep a Lewes tradition going and, at the same time, let the helpers feel rewarded, by making sure this fair is a financial success. *and thirdly* A good result here will also enable the proceeds of the collecting boxes on the 5th November to go to help the Chailey Heritage. *There are 3 reasons for us.* It is up to us here and, with this appeal, I declare the fair open.



Cliffe B Soc 1965

The trouble with taking on the office of Mayor for the second year is that you may have toasts to propose for the second time; and, if you are Mayor of Lewes, the home of the Bonfire, you may find yourself running short of powder in the second year when proposing a toast to the Bonfire Societies. There are three Bonfire Societies in Lewes, so the risk of repeating what was said last year is trebled. I am saying all this to get started Mr. Chairman, but, nevertheless, I do ask the Company's indulgence if what I am going to say seems rather hackneyed.

First then, the 5th of November. I watched the proceedings from the Council Chamber in company with newcomers and visitors to the town. They were full of praise for the demonstration given by the Cliffe Bonfire Society, and it was praise that was justified. In full view at the memorial was the set piece "Poppies" and then just outside our window was the set piece "Lest we Forget". I was very pleased that such a show was given at that time and in that position. The visitors were also pleased, as I was, with the processions.

(1)

/For

For all these efforts to reach a successful conclusion, a very great deal of preliminary work must have been carried out very faithfully; and the Society which can count, among its members such able people as those who worked and organised these celebrations, is a good Society. I don't know how the work is apportioned Mr. Chairman, but it is quite obvious, from the way it is carried to a successful conclusion, that those who do the work enjoy doing it successfully; and, in doing it, they bring enjoyment to a great many people, and put Lewes on the map for a day or two.

The work of arranging the processions is getting increasingly difficult as the traffic becomes <sup>increasingly</sup> more dense. I have the greatest admiration for the way in which you members of the Cliffe do cope with this arranging of processions each year. That you do cope successfully each year is proved by the fact of the processions taking place, and Lewes being National news on that day. No doubt one day Lewes will have a by-pass road and then a lot of traffic will be out of the way on the 5th of November. Until that happy time, I wish your Society continued success in your wonderful efforts, which

(2)

/carry

carry out the programme under great traffic difficulties. I also thank the Society for providing a good show on 5th November. Ever since I can remember people have said "The Bonfire isn't what it was, its dying out". As far as I can see, the Cliffe is no corpse, it is getting stronger. So the toast, Ladies and Gentlemen can be to-night, that lively body, the "Cliffe Bonfire Society".

*On Square B S Annual Dinner Sat Dec 5 1964*

I am pleased to be here and to have the honour of proposing this toast. The Mayoress and I are old Lewesians and, like all of you here, we set great store by the events which are traditional to Lewes.

We have watched the Commercial Square Bonfire Society carry out its functions during the best part of 60 years, and those functions have themselves survived many crises during times past. But always the Society has, in the event, turned out with a good display and has always, somehow, managed to find fresh people from among the younger members to carry on the good work, as the older members have dropped out.

One of the chief of these crises is caused by the changing traffic conditions and, as the processions are a very vital part of the celebrations, these must be carried on if the celebrations are going to survive.

Watching the United Procession from the window of the Council Chamber, I had a really first class view of what a procession could be like when not impeded by traffic and parked cars. That was the spectacle that one had in any street in the old days. Perhaps, in the future, with

- 1 -

alternative routes for traffic, some scheme could be worked out with the aid of the police and traffic engineers.

But that is in the future. At present, I think we owe thanks to the police for their work on each Bonfire Night which enables us to see some really fine sights and helps us to keep a tradition going.

To keep the Bonfire tradition going needs a very great deal of organising and other hard work, especially during the weeks preceding the 5th of November, and those who carry out this work are deserving of our thanks and praise.

It is true that, to old ones like me, the paraffin on the torches does not smell as strong as it used to smell and the rockets (perhaps happily), do not seem to have so much gunpowder in them.

Nevertheless, the organising doesn't get any more easy and the arranging of processions is harder because of the traffic. The organisers of the Society's celebrations have to cope with all the difficulties that arise as customs change and the measure of their success can be gauged by the fact that we are still here and Lewes is still National News each Bonfire Night. So let us make sure we think of the workers of

- 2 -

the Commercial Square Bonfire Society, when we drink this toast.



Coop party reunion. Saturday October 16 1965.

<sup>115</sup> We are very pleased to be here tonight and to see so many of our friends have managed to attend this reunion party. This annual event has grown in importance and shows the growing comradeship between the members <sup>of</sup> ~~of~~ different towns. Since the Coop Party first started 40 years or so ago it has done a lot of good.

~~Some may think the Coop Party~~ | first |

I think the formation of the Coop Party added a new element to working class politics and "in all of the Labour Governments to date, Coop members of parliament have had a part to take as Ministers

~~Secondly~~

First the ~~Coop~~ formation of the Coop Party added a new element ~~to~~ working class politics

Secondly: This new element ~~relaxed~~ gave the opportunity for people to learn about things and throw their weight into the struggle

Thirdly In all of the Labour Govts to date, Coop MPs have had positions as Ministers

Fourthly: The Coop Party, in my opinion has done a wonderful job in the field of education for <sup>all</sup> ~~various~~ kinds of public voluntary work



## Phoenix Institute Thursday

Ladies & Gentlemen: Thankyou very much for inviting me to be present ~~here~~ this evening and to distribute their trophy. When I say Thankyou this is no meaningless form of words, because this phoenix institute is something I can remember from when I came to work at the inn works as a boy of 14 many years ago. In those days (93) we had no money and were without a great many forms of entertainment we ~~had~~ have now, and I can remember its many winter evenings I spent in this room, reading Strand Magazines and 19th century bound copies of the Illustrated London News and kindred journals. Bad times, but, ~~looking~~ in retrospect, quite nostalgic. I was here until 1932 when I left and curiously enough, that is the year when the Phoenix lost won the cup.

However, we must not conclude, from this coincidence, that when I left the cup was lost that the cup was lost because I left. I must confess I cannot play crib. Both my father and my father-in-law made great efforts to teach me but it was to no purpose. It was beyond me and, consequently I have great admiration for the people who can play. I admire their patience but, above all I admire them for their quick power of observation and they are what I call "Lightning Calculators". They are players of a good quiet card game that requires considerable concentration. I am very glad then, to present the trophy to the phoenix team and to tell them I am glad to see they have won it after a lapse of so many years. I would also like to congratulate the runners up on reaching this stage, and on the basis that there can be no tournament without entries, to pay my compliments

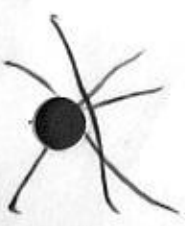


to all those people whose teams did not quite reach this stage. I ~~must~~ must also thank the ~~organy~~ organizers of the tournament. You ~~have~~ are doing a job that, through the medium of the game of crib, reminds me there is still a good deal of sanity and quietness to be found in the country. So thank you all very much.

*Thomas Paine Society Saturday 14 November 1964*

I am delighted that the Tom Paine Society should choose Lewes as the place to hold its first Annual General Meeting; and it is as an admirer of Tom Paine, as well as Mayor of Lewes, that I welcome you all to this town.

I consider this choice of venue very appropriate because I think of Lewes as the town where Tom Paine served his political apprenticeship. I do not know of his doing any political work before he joined the club at the White Hart in our High Street - the club that is usually known as the "Headstrong Club" of Lewes. We are pleased that the man of whom J. M. Connell wrote, "Few political writers have done more to earn the gratitude of mankind than Thomas Paine" should have commenced that career in Lewes.



So here we have a town that was his home for six years; next door is the house where he followed his calling. Across the road is St. Michael's Church where, according to Conway, he was married and, as I have already said, a short distance down the road is where the Headstrong Club held its meetings; and this is the town which he left to take his protests to the government of those days.



Your tour of the town will, of necessity, be brief but I hope you will find time to visit the Mayor's Parlour and leave some signatures in our Visitors' Book to mark this important occasion when this Society, The Tom Paine Society, held its first Annual General Meeting in Lewes; the town where was started the career of the man of whom it has been written, "He was one of the chief pioneers and founders of democracy as we understand it."

## 11 on Cycles

Ladies and Gentlemen: I welcome you all to this Council Chamber; and may I say I am glad the occasion on which I welcome you is so appropriate. This Chamber is the Headquarters, as it were, of the community of Leves; and the event for which we are gathered here is one which reflects credit on the community. Here we have the results of the work of some very able and public spirited townsfolk who have given generously of their time. We have the help and cooperation of the police, and we have the good will of many more people who have road-safety at heart. So I do thank the organizers for the work they must have put in to make the trials a success: the police for their very real help; and the other people for the interest and the good-will they have shown.

Now, before I present the awards, I would like to say a few words to all the children who have taken part in the trials. I am glad you have taken part for ~~these~~ reasons. ~~First~~ Because these road trials are arranged for your benefit. That is to say, from all angles you have ~~benefited~~ gained something. It is good to have a bike ride. It is good to put your knowledge of the rules and road sense to the test. It is good to be doing something <sup>in company</sup> with other children, and it is good for your parents to know you have proved yourselves capable bike riders by completing the tests: and I mean all of you who entered, because the first reason for this event is to ensure that as many young people as possible are made aware of the need for road safety.

I would like to thank then, all concerned with the carrying out of these road-safety tests, all who



who have contributed to the events that have led  
up to this morning's meeting, the helpers, the  
prize givers and all the young entrants are  
entitled to the thanks of this community and so,  
on behalf of the town I say thank you

Mr Watts

My or Hapten

Mr Bishop

" Pevely

{ " Miss Lilk }

" Mr. Sprinkles }



Mr. Mayor, Mr High Sheriff, My Lord, Your worships Ladies and Gentlemen

This is the second occasion on which I have been privileged to attend a Mayor's reception at Bexhill, and as my second year of being Mayor of Lewes draws to a close, I am very pleased to have this opportunity to say a few words of appreciation and thanks on behalf of your guests. Now, in the main, the guests here, like me, are members of the "chain gang" and may I say how proud I am to have been a member of this fraternity for two years.

<sup>Now</sup> Many people will say that being a Mayor means a great deal of hard voluntary work and they will be right. But there are compensations, and not the least of these compensations is that one is able to be here as the guests of yourself Mr Mayor and of your Mayoress. One is given the opportunity of meeting such charming people as the High Sheriff and Mrs Hardy-Roberts

- Chairman of the County Council and Mrs Shelford
- Mayor and Mayoresses of Brighton
- Mayor of Eastbourne
- Mayor & Mayoresses of Hove
- The Mayor of Worthing and Mr. Perey
- The Mayor and Mayoresses of Tunbridge Wells

then there are the Chairman of Battle R.D.C. ~~Commander~~ & Mrs Ross  
Lord and Lady Buckhurst

and Mr Godman Irvine M P and Mrs Irvine.

But on behalf of all your guests, Mr Mayor I would like to thank you and your Mayoresses for giving us the opportunity of meeting each other, the opportunity of enjoying your hospitality and of being present at your charity ball. We all wish this ball to be a great success, so that the charities may benefit to the fullest extent ~~for~~



I am pleased to be with you again and to take the chair while your President is elected. It is pleasant to be here at your annual General meeting, for this is a gathering of the representatives of the tradesmen and the business life of our town. Being Mayor of Remes has meant much hard work but it does enable one to come to AGMs such as this and to observe the organizations that make up our community and from these observations to ~~gauge~~ try and gauge the feelings of the various bodies that make up the life of our town. All this is useful because it is an aid to reaching as ~~fast~~ <sup>balanced</sup> decision as possible when various matters are discussed ~~at~~ at Council meetings. Now that I have this opportunity to speak to all of you, may I use it to express the thanks of the Mayors and myself for the invitation to the party this evening. We appreciate your hospitality



Now that my term of office has drawn to a close, I am glad to have these few moments to tell you members of the Council of my gratitude for the confidence you have placed in me by making me Mayor of Leves during the past two years.

The encouragement I have received from the members of the Council; the help I have received from ~~the~~ Mr. Morris, the Town Clerk, Mr. Murphy the Borough Engineer Mr. Brown, the Borough Treasurer and all their staffs and the loyalty shown to me by them all is something that has to be experienced before it can be properly appreciated and I thank you all for the part each one of you has played in making my term such a memorable experience for me and I must make special reference to the assistance I have received from the Mayor's Secretary, Mrs. Bourne

On a more individual level, I want, once again, to give the thanks that are due to my wife for the backing she has given me and the splendid way she has carried out her part of our duties

And now, speaking for both of us. From what has seemed to us, every member of the community, my wife and I have received such kindness that we have been moved to realise that we were the recipients of such goodwill; and we are proud to have been the medium through which that goodwill has expressed itself. So to the people of Leves. Thank you all

It is very nice for me to be here tonight because this is an exceptional occasion.

Here we have Mr Tucker, who has reached the age of eighty years and has used the Leuner Arms for forty-five of them; and we have his friends and acquaintances of those years who are anxious to make him a present to show their appreciation of the time they have spent with him.

I feel honoured that I have been asked to make this presentation because I think it is nice of his friends to make it a civic event, and also because Mr Tucker must have been here when I came regularly back in the twenties and that dates us both as old Leunerians along with the men who used this bar in those days.

I gather that Mr Tucker is still working and enjoying it. We all wish him (very sincerely) many happy returns of the day and we hope that he will continue to be blessed with the good health that enables him to enjoy his work now.



your guests,  
The Mayor and I are delighted to be  
here this evening and to enjoy the hospitality  
your branch has extended to us ~~this~~  
~~evening~~. When I was a boy my one ambition  
like every other lad's was to become a sailor  
and steps had already been taken when I  
was fifteen or so to ~~make~~ ~~for~~ fulfill this  
ambition when an accident to my eyes made  
this impossible and I finally ~~went on to~~ <sup>became</sup>  
~~the~~ a squaddy in the first war. Consequently  
I don't know much of the navy and it  
naturally follows that I don't know  
much of naval Old Comrades arin. All the  
funerals ~~of~~ I have attended have had to  
do with Army old Comrades arin. I  
am consequently very delighted to be  
here this evening among friends whose  
experiences are of the Senior Service

<sup>Besides</sup>  
~~However~~, this is not so difficult a task  
because I do know several of the  
members of the Senior Branch of the  
Naval arin.  
• you have as your guests here, besides the  
Mayor and myself, representatives of the  
branches from the nearby towns



<sup>Boys Club Jan 66</sup>  
The Mayoress and I are pleased to be  
here tonight and to present the  
trophies <sup>for which</sup> ~~that~~ you members have  
competed. Since we did this a year  
ago I can see the Leves Boys Club  
has thrived and ~~has~~ become a  
part of the community. During  
this year <sup>that has passed</sup> ~~that has passed~~ ~~and~~  
~~we presented the prizes~~ we  
have looked in at this club  
and we have seen the members  
at their activities and we have  
enjoyed watching you play a  
robust, four-a-side, game of  
football in particular. To have  
a place where such games can  
be played, whatever the weather,

is really something of which you,  
and indeed the town, can be  
proud and we can all feel  
grateful to the farsighted people  
who made this possible in the  
beginning.

But, <sup>when</sup> ~~besides the~~ the building  
is obtained, & there is something  
else that is necessary to make a  
good club. I am thinking of the  
work and the time put in by  
Mr. Collinson. No doubt, like all of  
us he would sometimes like a  
quiet time when he must come  
down here and carry on with  
this good public work. You  
members of the club, and the



people of Leves whom I represent here this evening are grateful to him and I do thank him with you, for his work; and I also thank those other people who give generously of their time to make possible this useful service.

I would like to remind you of what I said last year about these tournaments. Without those who <sup>play and</sup> lose, as well as those who play and win, there could be no games, and therefore no fun in watching. Every one who plays, then, is entitled to our respect for their efforts. That is a simple thing but it is worth remembering. There is also

another thing worth remembering. With such a club in such a building a wonderful opportunity is offered all of you, whether you are athletic or not, to cultivate the mind as well as the body. This club gives you the chance to show an interest, or even to help, in its administration. It gives you the chance to learn, through talks etc, about life, to <sup>learn to</sup> debate and discuss ~~things~~ subjects in a logical way. So that as you ~~develop~~ <sup>grow</sup> into manhood your mind is developed as well as your body and ~~life is~~ <sup>much more</sup> you will live a fuller life.

Now I want to thank you for having the Mayones and me here this evening and giving us your hospitality and for listening so patiently. I am sure this club is going to continue its successful way and we wish each of you, as individual members, the maximum of happiness from your membership of the Leves Berg's Club.



As mayor of this town I have many pleasurable duties to carry out. Some of them are purely social, but mostly they are to do with the work of local voluntary bodies, whose concern is helping the weak and those in distress, and I give such organisations pride of place. I have, therefore one of my most pleasant duties to carry out today in ~~proposing this vote of thanks to~~ thanking the East Sax Assn for the disabled. One has only to look at the Annual Report to appreciate the amount of time given, and willing work carried out by volunteers and on behalf of the Town I thank them.

It is also a pleasant duty to thank the officers of the Assn. <sup>to the</sup> Mr Raymond Warren for so ably presiding at this meeting. To thank the members of the Lewes district for the splendid catering arrangements and to thank all those who have made this meeting a success.



ITEM 2.

I have pleasure in conveying to you the message of greetings and goodwill which I was asked to convey to Lewes during the visit of the Corporation's delegation to Blois, which returned yesterday.

Both the Mayor and the town of Blois are very keen to continue and improve the link between our respective towns and indeed, at a ceremony on Saturday, a further Deed was sealed to confirm the Deed of Friendship which was sealed by the Borough Council in 1963.

In an endeavour to promote a more active local interest, I am shortly proposing to invite interested associations and societies to send representatives to a meeting, with a view to the formation of a twinning committee. Any member of the public who would like to take an active part will be invited to attend the meeting and perhaps, if members are aware of any persons who have such an interest, they could let me know.

Finally, I must say that the hospitality and reception given to all members of the delegation was quite overwhelming and I am pleased to say that the Council's invitation for a return visit at the beginning of July has been accepted. The dates are to be arranged very shortly.

# LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF LEWES VICTORIA HOSPITAL

## LEWES • SUSSEX

*President:*

THE RT. HON. THE VISCOUNT HAMPDEN

*Chairman:*

M. J. HILLMAN  
LITTLE ACRE  
SWANBOROUGH  
LEWES BN7 3PE  
TEL. 4714

*Hon. Treasurer:*

J. ROSSITER  
12 RUFUS CLOSE  
LEWES BN7 1BG  
TEL. 2652

*Hon. Secretaries:*

C. J. GEBBIE  
N. M. GEBBIE  
TREGAIRE  
HOUNDEAN RISE  
LEWES BN7 1EG  
TEL. 4193

27 April 1982.

Dear Mr. Barber

It was reported at the last Committee Meeting that having regard to your health you did not feel that you should continue to remain on the Committee.

Having been Mayor at the time of the League's inception & largely responsible for saving the hospital, the Committee unanimously made you an Honorary Member of the Committee for life.

I was personally like to thank you for all your support throughout the 15 years during which there have been difficulties.

Yours sincerely  
Michael Stenn  
Chairman



Thank you for the invitation to my wife and to me to be present at this Annual Dinner of the Lewes & District Teachers' Association. I consider it a great honour to be invited to propose this toast.

This is a new departure for me. This Association, as I see it, is composed of men and women, banded together into a corporate body because they have great responsibilities which go in two directions. The Craft and the Industrial Unions, with which I have had most to do over a considerable period of time, have a duty to perform which is chiefly to do with the welfare of their members. You people of this Association have a job to do which has two main objectives, and these two objectives have to be of equal concern to the people whom you elect to your various executive committees: your duty to your members and your concern for your charges: children, who, during the four or five hours or so of the day when their minds are most alert, and their bodies are most active, are in your charge for instruction, not only in the three R's, but for their first guidance towards what I call the operative ideals, without which people would find it impossible to live in a community.

*hard to fit into*

Children like security, or what I have heard described as "the support of a firm framework of laws and rules of polite conduct" though, within this firmly applied framework, there needs to be plenty of room for training in independence.

*We all know*

~~I can see~~ that it is vital that a correct balance between too much freedom and too much restriction be found. Any adult person has to learn to conduct his life within this balanced limit and communities have to be formed which allow the greatest amount of individual freedom commensurate with maintaining the cohesion of the society. Without this cohesion a society would not last, whether it is a nation, a community, a class or an organisation such as this Association. This toast then is, to me, an appreciation of the value of your work to the community and to society as a whole.

You will have gathered by now that I am approaching what I have called my new departure of toasting the National Union of Teachers, not with the awe that is popularly supposed to be the attitude of one who was an Edwardian schoolboy towards teachers, but with plenty of healthy respect for their work and for the part played by them by instructing in the right



balance within society. I think a man or woman who can make a child's life happy by giving him security, which brings tranquility and respect for others, and freedom, which fosters initiative and respect for himself, is performing a great service to humanity, quite apart from the service he or she renders by teaching the curriculum.

So much then, for what might be called my subjective view of your Association. When I had thought this out I decided to try to see the National Union of Teachers as it really is and, to me, your constitution seems suited for the carrying out of the tasks required. It is the largest body of the "Joint Four" but, as far as I, an outsider, can see, its decisions are, generally speaking, in the interests of professional unity. It has a large National Executive Committee which should make for cohesion; while at the same time, the autonomy of local associations such as this one, gives some measure of local independence.

Now local independence is very nice but it means work, and the shouldering of responsibility, plus the ability to make decisions. I, therefore, wish to include in my toast my regards to your local President and the members of your

Committee who, on occasions, are called on to make these decisions. There are other duties too, that your local executives have to carry out. You can think which they are much more quickly than I can.

My toast is then - "The National Union of Teachers 1  
and the ~~Lower~~ and District Teachers' Association". 2

1 Coupled with the name of Mr. Britton, the  
secretary elect of the N.U.T.

2 Coupled with the chairman and officers of



I have a double pleasure in giving you a welcome to this Council Chamber. Firstly, I am always glad to welcome the organisations that make up our community and to know they are safely launched on their year of activity. This, I consider, is one of the chief duties of a Mayor and I am pleased to carry it out.

Secondly, the Workers' Educational Association is my own particular favourite among organisations, and, on occasions such as this, my mind goes back to when I started the Lewes Branch in 1931. Those were tough times for the Mayoress and me, and tough times for the Branch, because we two were the only members during the first year. But, although the going was tough, those days are worth remembering because this was when we caught a glimpse of what could be a much fuller life, and we realised that the W.E.A. could be the door that gave us entrance to that life, and not only us but our children.

This Branch<sup>has</sup>/survived some ups and downs during the past 34 years and has grown into quite a good branch. This is a good thing, because as well as giving people the opportunity of a richer cultural life, I consider it is essential, now more than ever, that this country should have a good leavening

of people who are willing to spend some time in study and be able to view events while having an initial understanding of the social relevance of those events. Accordingly I hope that as many students as possible will ~~and~~ take advantage of our Tuesday evening classes when Dr. Collins will be the tutor, and the Thursday afternoon class.

It is generally the aim of the Branch to start off the session with a meeting like this with a speaker to send us on our way. This evening we are fortunate to have Mr. MacLennan, the Chief Education Officer for East-Surrey needs no introduction from me.



When, late last evening, Mr. Watkins asked me to say a few words at this dinner, besides the feeling of panic that I generally have when asked to do this sort of thing, I felt, and still feel, the sensation that I am an interloper. The truth is that I do not possess a television set and, at the present time, my ~~time for~~ viewing is severely limited for obvious reasons. My knowledge is limited to football matches, sports meetings, plays, etc., and to the programmes ~~such as~~ I have seen produced on these two past evenings.

Without a doubt I am at a considerable disadvantage this evening.

I was very impressed by the equipment, both in quantity and quality, that was used for these programmes which were televised in Lewes. I was also struck by the marvellous timing and the wonderful teamwork that made these programmes possible. Regarding what I might term the more manual staff, I saw them start work in the Town Hall on Sunday and I was very surprised to find that, by nine o'clock this morning, their vehicles and equipment were gone. This points to more teamwork.

I was pleased to note the care taken in the production of programmes. Television is a very powerful medium of communication and the Southern I.T.V. quite clearly is fully aware of <sup>its</sup> ~~their~~ responsibilities.

This is a town of great historic tradition. The names of such makers of history as de Montfort and Tom Pain are connected with Lewes, the latter with this hotel itself. This hotel, however, can keep pace with the times, as evidenced by this splendid meal and the arrangements made for to-night's function.

The town, tho' old, can provide a hall where, as we have seen on the last two nights, equipment and a large audience can be gathered together. Lewes is set in beautiful surroundings, bounded on three sides by the Downs and with the marshland to the south. Its very position tends to foster a feeling ~~to~~ of togetherness. If the Southern I.T.V. pay us a return visit, we should appreciate it if more local characters were called upon to help.

On behalf of all the guests here this evening, I would like to thank the Southern I.T.V. for their hospitality, and Mr. Wilson for coming to our town and giving such an excellent speech.



*Sat June 6 1904 St. Mary's Social Centre  
responding to their toast to the corp.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for your toast and the good wishes it extends to the Council. Such good wishes are welcome at any time to any organisation, but they are doubly welcome when proferred to a Local Council, because at times it does appear that a good many people, when they think about it at all, view local government as a contest, <sup>a match,</sup> the Council versus The Rest.

### The work

Local Government is the concern of everyone. Every soul in the country is affected by the work of the Local Councils. There may be exceptions, but I think it is safe to say that all the basic things that make for civilisation, Hygiene, Clean Food, Drainage, Education and Libraries <sup>+ Playing fields</sup> are the work of Local Councils: and, although the public may appear completely indifferent, this fact remains. The degree of efficiency with which a Council works has a tremendous effect on the life and welfare of all within its boundaries. Whether it is, say, byelaws to safeguard the public in large buildings, or preserving visual amenities in a town, the Local Council's work affects the happiness of everyone.

### The voters

Yet it sometimes seems as though Local Government was the concern of no one, if we judge by the low percentage of people

voting in some towns. I exempt Lewes from all criticism on this score of voting for, just as Lewes has a percentage of registered readers at the Library that is double the national average, and <sup>and other</sup> cultural societies that, I am assured, compare very favourably with other towns, so Lewes, when it comes to voting, has a higher percentage than many other towns. Why is our town so high in the league when it comes to voting? There are a number of reasons but a very important one is the number of cultural organisations there are in the town. Your own <sup>Parent Body etc.</sup> Social Centre, which embraces so many activities, is a good example of what I mean. A good community, in my opinion, should have, within its orbit, a number of autonomous societies. So the members work and the young members are trained to take on jobs, learn to work in committees, and generally develop into people who can take charge of their town.

### The Councillors

The Councilors of the Borough work very hard and when, on occasions, there are some of the more disagreeable jobs to do, it is encouraging to notice how they buckle to. There are, sometimes, decisions to be made which cause some anguish, particularly on housing and health committees, when really distressing cases often have to be considered, and then the Councillor must do his best to make sound judgments; and do this without ignoring the emotional pressure.



The officers

Then there are the officers. Goodmen whom I admire - who, it always seems to me, show the utmost patience when, from their professional know-how, they are called upon to guide us in particular matters.

Triple pillars

So there, Mr. Chairman, you have the voters, the Councillors and the officers, the "triple pillars" on which good local government depends. We must keep them strong by way of the voters having a strong sense of Civic duty.

And so on behalf of my Council I thank you of the Social Centre <sup>Football Club</sup> for your work in this part of the town. I thank you for the Toast and the good wishes, which show that your members understand some of the obstacles that make the Council appear long-winded. Again on behalf of the Council I wish your Social Centre every success, and personally may each of you, as individuals, receive the maximum pleasure from your work <sup>and play as a</sup> ~~for St.~~

*Part of St.* Mary's Social Centre.

*St Marys F.C. Annual Dinner Response to Toast  
Sat April 1 1965*

It is very pleasant to be here with you members and friends of St. Mary's Social Centre. <sup>F.C.</sup> It is even more pleasant to hear one of the chief of the voluntary and autonomous clubs in Lewes offer a toast to the town of which I have the honour to be the Mayor, because Lewes is a fine old town.

It had the reputation of being a place of sound radical leanings, as witnessed by Lewes being the <sup>town</sup> ~~place~~ where Tom Paine served his apprenticeship of political reforming. This shows that Lewes, even in those days, possessed clubs and associations which were made up of good ~~independent~~ men who were quite capable of running their own affairs: and your St. Mary's Social Centre carries on this tradition by creating, and keeping <sup>in being</sup> ~~going~~, this fine centre of community interests, St. Mary's Social Centre.

But your impeccable management of your own affairs does not stop you from giving the salute, implicit in this toast, to your town and its Corporation and, on behalf of the town, & Corporations I thank you for it. I value it very highly for these reasons, some of which I know you have heard me say before, but it is worth repeating them.



It is not the Council against the rest of the town, but the Council for everyone. Local Government is the concern of everyone because every soul in the country is affected by the work of the Local Councils. The Councillors you elect and the officers of the Council, <sup>S.C.C.s in charge of</sup> are ~~responsible~~ for the health, mentally and physically, of all within the boundaries, from drainage, clean food, etc., to the education of most of its children and young people.

We are all apt to take so many things to do with our well-being for granted, that we are inclined to appear indifferent, but the degree of efficiency with which your Local Council carries out this work has a tremendous effect on the well being of us all. Local Government is the concern of everyone.

& Com  
Now the town of Lewes has a reputation for having a keen civic sense ~~and of showing this at the time of the local elections each year.~~ I put this down to the number of independent clubs and societies there are in the town and one of the leading examples in this respect is your parent body, St. Mary's Social Centre, with its many

(1)      *Dunhouse*      *G. V. Vant*

*section*  
sections, each ~~one~~ running its own affairs. Each member having the opportunity to take part in the management. Each younger member having the opportunity to be trained to take on responsibility, taught to serve on committees and helped eventually to develop into a person capable of taking charge of the affairs of his *club* ~~town~~. It is from the training ground that St. Mary's and similar organisations provide, that the future Councillors and Mayors can be chosen, and what better apprenticeship can be asked for.

And so, on behalf of my Council, I thank you of the Social Centre Football Club for your work in this part of the town. I thank you for the Toast and the good wishes, which show that your members understand some of the obstacles that make the Council appear long-winded. Again, on behalf of the Council, I wish your Social Centre every success, and personally may each of you, as individuals, receive the maximum pleasure from your work and play as a part of St. Mary's Social Centre.



St. Mary's F.C. Annual Dinner April 1 1965

It is very pleasant to be here with you members and friends of St. Mary's Social Centre. It is <sup>F.C.</sup> ~~even more~~ <sup>equally</sup> pleasant to hear one of the chief of the voluntary and autonomous clubs in Lewes offer a toast to the town of which I have the honour to be the Mayor, because Lewes is a fine old town.

It had the reputation of being a place of sound radical leanings, as witnessed by Lewes being the <sup>town</sup> ~~place~~ where Tom Paine served his apprenticeship of political reforming.

This shows that Lewes, even in those days, possessed clubs and associations which were made up of good ~~independent~~ men who were quite capable of running their own affairs: and your St. Mary's Social Centre carries on this tradition by creating, and keeping <sup>in being</sup> ~~going~~, this fine centre of community interests, St. Mary's Social Centre.

But your impeccable management of your own affairs does not stop you from giving the salute, implicit in this toast, to your town and its Corporation and, on behalf of the town, I thank you for it. I value it very highly for these reasons, some of which I know you have heard me say before, but it is worth repeating them.

~~St. Mary's Social Centre~~  
and Corporation

It is not the Council against the rest of the town, but the Council for everyone. Local Government is the concern of everyone because every soul in the country is affected by the work of the Local Councils. The Councillors you elect and the officers of the Council, <sup>the C.C. in charge of</sup> ~~are responsible for~~ the health, mentally and physically, of all within the boundaries, from drainage, clean food, etc., to the education of most of its children and young people.

We are all apt to take so many things to do with our well-being for granted, that we are inclined to appear indifferent, but the degree of efficiency with which your Local Council carries out this work has a tremendous effect on the well being of us all. Local Government is the concern of everyone.

Now the town of Lewes has a reputation for having a keen civic sense ~~and of showing this at the time of the local elections each year.~~ I put this down to the number of independent clubs and societies there are in the town and one of the leading examples in this respect is your parent body, St. Mary's Social Centre, with its many



J  
Madam Chairman  
Mr. Brunel

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for the toast. Of course, one is always glad to hear praise and goodwill extended to his home town, but Lewes is a grand place. It is set in beautiful surroundings and contains, within its boundaries, many beautiful *fine* buildings.

But, besides its geographical position and its interesting old houses, it has a wonderful community. A community that is conscious of the unique characteristics of its town <sup>& its history</sup> and a community that is made up of many voluntary and autonomous associations and clubs. I consider it to be that best type of community, a pluralist community.

There were a number of voluntary associations and clubs in Lewes two hundred or so years ago when Tom Pain lived in this building - and a few hundred yards down the road is the "White Hart Hotel" where the "Headstrong Club" used to meet at that time. Lewes was, in fact, a town where many things were discussed by enquiring minds and, <sup>so</sup> I always maintain it was the place where Tom Pain served his political apprenticeship and, certainly, I don't know of any record of his writing before he came to Lewes. Also Lewes is the only town we know

of where he served on the body which was the equivalent of our Town Council of to-day.

I, therefore, am glad to respond to your toast to our town and thank you for it and for your hospitality. I think I can judge that Lewes has many things to interest the members of the Secularist Society.

(A combination of the five-day week and the popularity of the motor-car makes it impossible <sup>for a small town</sup> to keep all places open.)

~~But~~ So, in spite of some places not being open to-day, I hope that what you see of Lewes you will find interesting. In Mr. Williams (<sup>who is a member of</sup> ~~who shows visitors round for~~ the Friends of Lewes Society) and in Mr. Hoile, you have good guides, so I will not take up any more of your time. You came to see the town, not <sup>hear</sup> the Mayor.

I hope that you spend a happy time here. <sup>I hope</sup> your Society has a long life and that you, as individuals spend a happy time



7  
Secularist Soc July 25 1965 in Response to their toast  
Lewes.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

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I hope that you spend a happy time here.



*opening Soroptimists Garden Party Saturday July 31 1965*

When I was invited to open this Garden Party, although I viewed the idea with some trepidation, I knew I should soon be at ease doing the job, because the object of this garden party, among other things, is to raise funds to help deprived children. Deprived children have a universal appeal and it had the effect of making me feel at home immediately. There is no other place I would rather be than here, throwing my weight, however light, into making this afternoon a success.

There is another reason why I am glad to be here. The Lewes Soroptimists Club is a new one, and I want to see it develop and so add one more association to the community of Lewes. I would like the Haywards Heath Club to know of our appreciation - that they are the "Mother" of our Lewes Club. As I considered this I reflected that, to start a club by invitation, limits your chance of recruiting, and only one person from each profession narrows that limit. But there is no doubt that it does enable you to enrol the most able people to carry out the Soroptimist work they may be called upon to do in company with their colleagues in the movement. And the work the movement has set itself to do is important, ranging from local charities and municipal matters to National and International affairs.

To aid such a movement is a duty. To make sure the Charity Fund has a good send off is an immediate duty. If we make this afternoon a success, the people who have worked so hard organising it will go home happy.

So, to help deprived children through the Charity Fund,  
To help to put the Lewes Club on the map,

To make the helpers glad their work has not been in vain,  
I ask you to make sure this afternoon is a success and I declare the Garden Party open.



*A G M Savings Movement Wed October 28 1964*

To the Members of the Lewes and Chailey Local Savings Committee.

I give you all a welcome to this Annual General Meeting.

I am very glad to be here because this is quite an old branch. It has been going since 1939 and it made great strides during and after the war.

This afternoon I was looking back on the times when my attention was first drawn to the savings movement and I was reminded of 1946 when I had to attend a similar meeting to this in the Town Hall. It <sup>has</sup> occurred to me that Mrs. Colwell was secretary then and is still secretary. That is an example of devoted service to the Savings Movement. There is Mr. Mellors too. Such working members as this are worth their weight in gold to any movement and this is a movement well worth serving.

Quite apart from all other consideration, the Savings Movement is part of any Government's defence against inflation. It allows for any extra cash to be saved and invested to produce real wealth by sound capital investment and <sup>this</sup> ~~it~~ is a surety that inflation will be kept at bay and the country's currency will not depreciate, if we can persuade enough people to save. That is the work of the Savings Movement. *To make good Savers who are good citizens*

to the Members of the Lewes and Chailey Local Savings Committee.

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I have been asked, as Mayor of this town, to be present to-night and to open this Civil Defence Training Room in our Market Tower. This room has been adapted for the training of the Civil Defence sections other than those of the Headquarters, Signals, Scientific and Reconnaissance Sections, whose training quarters are in the Town Hall. I hope that, with the added facilities for training provided by this room, you will all be more comfortable and that more recruits will be attracted, because I note you are well below the estimated strength.

However, you have the organisers and the buildings, so I have no doubt that, by the end of the recruiting campaign, improvement will be shown in the strength of the Wardens.

I find from the notes given me that you have two items of training for which this room can soon be used. The film shown on "A Warden's Responsibilities" which you are just going to see and the course on First Aid. This is a type of course that is extremely useful in all walks of life, and I hope it will be well attended. So I will declare the room to be opened and then I have one pleasant job to do, a presentation. Before I have to hurry away.

*French S.L. Navy*

As Mayor of this town of Lewes, I have some very pleasant duties to carry out: but among them all I cannot think of one that is more pleasant than this: when I extend a very hearty welcome to you ~~French~~ boys from *W. France*.

I am very glad so many of you have been able to come and see our town and our civic buildings, of which we are very proud. I hope you will enjoy the tour of the

and your stay here. I also hope very much that you will find acquaintances here who will become your permanent friends because, as far as I can see, one of the most important aspects of these visits is that Personal friendships, and Community friendships will develop into what is always desirable - National friendships.

I think this visit is a very important event and, for that reason I would like, in my welcome, to give thanks to those responsible for its organisation. It is work that is well done and is well worth doing and we thank them very much.

Mr. Chairman: Ladies and Gentlemen,

I welcome you all to this Council Chamber. This is an occasion after my own heart. Here we have the results of some very good work, carried out by public spirited volunteers, with the co-operation of those whose job it is to protect all users of the roads, plus the assistance and good will of many more people who have road safety at heart.

We have also the efforts of all the young persons who took part in these trials. They have realised that nowadays, to earn that feeling of exhilaration (only to be found by cycling) one has to shoulder responsibilities to other road-users and learn to ride properly.

There is something else that all the children have achieved. Only we parents know of the worry and nervous tension that we feel when children first become old enough to cycle and take their place in the traffic. Of course they must not be stopped but it is a strain on parents, and the children who have carried out these trials will be pleased to know that by completing the trials they have done something to lighten the load of their parents' worry.



In fact, all who have contributed to the events that have led up to this evening - the organisers, the helpers and prize-givers and the young entrants - are entitled to the thanks of this community and I do thank you all on behalf of the town.

I am very pleased to have the privilege of being here to-night. The Royal Sussex Regiment were made freemen of this Borough in 1953 and you, <sup>and</sup> ~~as~~ the Old Comrades of the Regiment, <sup>use of the County Town then</sup> ~~will~~ feel ~~equally~~ pleased that the venue for your Annual Dinner is our grand Town Hall.

My pleasure is tinged with a slight nervousness because, although I served in the Army in the first world war, the only connection I had with the county forces was with the Sussex Yeomanry and the Surrey Yeomanry, both of whom had their horses taken away, were put on bikes and were amalgamated into the 8th Yeomanry Cyclists. Hence the parody "Bring back my Gee-Gee to me".

I spent the last two years of my soldiering in the 60th Rifles. This hybrid soldiering explains my nervousness when I speak in the company of you Old Comrades who are all of one particular Regiment, and one that is famous from Quebec to the Somme and Alamein.



After the first war, I did note at the time the service of the Royal Sussex Regiment in Ireland, West Indies, Greece, Singapore and, in 1927, China. No doubt some of you Old Comrades were in the Regiment in those days. You will see, then, that I have an interest in the doings of the Royal Sussex and I have noticed that to-day, the Regiment goes wherever a "bush fire" is threatened.

I see from the news reports that the Regiment has a new Commanding Officer - Lt.-Colonel David Russell. I understand he is no stranger to this Town Hall. I congratulate him and the Regiment on his appointment and wish him and the Regiment best wishes when they take up their new duties in Aden. I have not seen Aden since 1921, but I understand the climate is still not of the best, and there is an atmosphere of a different kind now. A year ago last Christmas my son-in-law was stoned there whilst on a fact-finding mission. I hope the present terrorist activities will soon cease and the Royal Sussex Regiment will be able to return home and march through Lewes, exercising their rights as

Fresmen of the Borough.

Your guests and I thank you for giving us the privilege of being with you this evening and for your generous hospitality. We are pleased you are here as Old Comrades of the County Regiment and the town is honoured by your presence.



W E A Sep 1965

I have a double pleasure in giving you a welcome to this Council Chamber. Firstly, I am always glad to welcome the organisations that make up our community and to know they are safely launched on their year of activity. This, I consider, is one of the chief duties of a Mayor and I am pleased to carry it out.

Secondly, the Workers' Educational Association is my own particular favourite among organisations, and, on occasions such as this, my mind goes back to when I started the Lewes Branch in 1931. Those were tough times for the Mayoress and me, and tough times for the Branch, because we two were the only members during the first year. But, although the going was tough, those days are worth remembering because this was when we caught a glimpse of what could be a much fuller life, and we realised that the W.E.A. could be the door that gave us entrance to that life, and not only us but our children.

<sup>has</sup>  
This Branch/survived some ups and downs during the past 34 years and has grown into quite a good branch. This is a good thing because, as well as giving people the opportunity of a richer cultural life, I consider it is essential, now more than ever, that this country should have a good leavening

of people who are willing to spend some time in study and  
be able to view events while having an initial understanding  
of the social relevance of those events.



First of all I extend a hearty welcome to all of you who have come to the Grange this afternoon to visit this fete. The fete has been arranged by the Church of St. Pancras in aid of various charities, and it has a universal appeal anyway, by reason of the inclusion of the "Freedom from Hunger Campaign", which is surely the concern of everyone.

I also want to draw attention to the fete as a project that needed a very great deal of organising and other work to make it possible at all. I am sure the helpers must have been very busy indeed and have been most generous in giving their spare time during the weeks that preceded this event.

In these circumstances I do ask you all to patronise the stalls and sideshows. Good results from the stalls at the end of the day will make the helpers glad that their labours have not been in vain. But, as they would be the first to agree, that is quite a secondary aim. Good financial results will mean that many more hungry people will be helped and many more will receive comfort and help from the other charities which are included in this project because you, as patrons, have been so generous.

*So I won't take up any more time that could be*

better used by all of you here in visiting  
the Halls

I now take pleasure in declaring this fete open  
and please - spend as much money as you can won't you!



*opening of R.C. fete at Grange Sat July 4 1964*

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I now take pleasure in declaring this fete open  
and please - spend as much money as you can, won't you!



# Cancelled

First, I would like to welcome you all to this jumble sale which has been arranged by the Rotary Club of Lewes. This jumble sale is part of a long-term effort by the members to raise something really substantial for our local charities. We are all concerned with local charities, ~~so~~ and I am very pleased to be here and do my bit towards helping to make this sale a success.

I am glad to have the honour of opening this sale for another reason. The Lewes Rotary Club is a very big asset to our town. A feature of it is that the set-up does mean that able men can get together to carry through various projects. It might be rendering help when people are in distress. It might be raising money for charities. It might be welcoming foreign visitors to the town. All these jobs have to be done by a community and, accordingly, a community can be grateful when there is a good Rotary Club in the town.

Speaking of this sale in particular, it is quite obvious that a great deal of work has gone into the

arranging of it. Quite a number of people have given most generously of their time and labour. We can show our appreciation of this by spending as much as we can.

So then, to help the Rotary Club do something substantial for local charities;

to show our appreciation of the services rendered to our community by the Rotarians and

to let those who have arranged this special sale go home happy because their labour has not been in vain -

I ask you to patronise the stalls, spend all the money you can and, to enable you to do so, I declare the sale open.



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R.T. Area Dinner Oct 1965

I am pleased to see so many members of the Round Tables of Sussex, gathered here this evening in the Town Hall of our County Town. I think this is very fitting for, as far back as the eighteenth century, Lewes had the reputation of being a place where young men of enquiring minds, met and discussed things.

Some of the improvements that have taken place in the country's social arrangements since that period, were advocated by Thomas Paine who, one might say, served his apprenticeship in such matters in Lewes and, later on, there is evidence of the part Lewes played in the movement for parliamentary reform, which ended with the Act of 1832. Ever since those days there have been bodies of young men, anxious to render service to their community. This public spirited attitude served as a counter to the Laissez<sup>R</sup>~~Faire~~ philosophy of the nineteenth century, which otherwise could have slipped into an attitude of the Devil take the Hindmost.

Of recent years we have<sup>had</sup>/the Round Tablers of Lewes. Being Mayor, I try to keep in touch with all organisations in

the town and so I know, from contact with the Round Table, that the members not only render service when called upon so to do, but look around to see what services they can offer. The Lewes Round Table have impressed me most favourably and, therefore, it naturally follows that I am very pleased to meet the delegates of other Round Tables within the County.

Lewes then, is a place with a very pronounced spirit of community. Surrounded on three sides by the Downs, and with marshland to the south, it is in beautiful surroundings and its position helps to foster this spirit of togetherness. Within the boundaries are quite a number of interesting houses where one can see the gradual development from the Tudor to the Regency periods.

It is true at this time there is the question of traffic. (Which town hasn't this problem?) But we are working towards a solution, and as Lewes is scheduled by the Ministry as a town of great historic interest, I have no doubt that the feeling of Lewes will be taken into consideration when a decision is finally made about a by-pass.



If we leave out these traffic problems, Lewes is very well worth a visit. It is a town which is steeped in history and the names of such men as Simon De Montfort, who fought with the sword for the first Parliament, and Thomas Paine, who fought with the pen for the rights of man, are known throughout the world as being connected with Lewes.

If any of you care to pay Lewes another visit, I am sure you will find a great deal to interest you and that you will feel that the visit was worthwhile.

I am very pleased to have the privilege of welcoming you members of the Round Table to Lewes. The town is honoured by your presence.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen;

The Mayoress and I are very pleased to be here this evening with you older members of the National Union of Railwaymen. I assure you it would have taken a good deal to stop us from accepting your kind invitation to be present. You, like ourselves, are of the age that can look back to the times we all remember so well: and, because this is such a gathering, Mr. Chairman, I make no apology for speaking of those times. If we old ones don't, who will?

It was a time in the "twenties" of one long struggle by the Trade Unions, not to increase wages, but to try and maintain the low wages that were being paid at that time; and, if you will remember, in districts such as this, the only effectively organised Unions were the Railway Unions, you will understand why we are proud to be in the company of you people this evening.

At that time, forty-years ago, there was drawing to a close a struggle, that had lasted for more than a century, between what was still called the Landlords and the Industrialists. These two factions were divided on a good many issues, but, whatever may have been their differences of opinion on most things, on one issue they were united. The new men who were coming along and

telling them they were both wrong, and that the ordinary people were now requesting a fair share of economic and social justice, must be stopped at all cost. So on occasion, Tweedledum and Tweedledee would join forces to try and stop these political newcomers.

In the event however, it was the Industrialists pet party that disappeared. The Landlord Party took over the industrial principles of its defunct rivals, and the party whose parents were the Trade Unions became the other big party, and the principles for which you struggled in those days are now accepted by all. You must forgive me for giving you this rather sketchy piece of social history. I did it to draw your attention to the work in which the N.U.R. took a great part, work that was carried out so well that the justice of those claims are now accepted by all, even by the people who were the most bitter opponents of those claims.

We then, are glad to be here with you in times that have changed. I think that one thing alone, the acceptance by everybody of the principle of full employment, is an enormous step forward: and, in those early days you played your part in making such advances a reality. It is then, nice for us to see you here: and for making this gathering possible, I

/ thank



thank your Branch Committee of the N.U.R. for their work in organising this Annual Dinner. Those responsible have done a good job, and I am sure, when they look round and see all your faces, they will feel amply rewarded.

So Mr. Chairman, the Mayoress and I thank your committee, and the ladies for your efforts in bringing this about: and for your hospitality to us this evening

# Round Table Area Dinner Oct 1965

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I am very pleased to have the privilege of welcoming you members of the Round Table to Lewes. The town is honoured by your presence.



# Road Safety 1965

Mr. Chairman: Ladies and Gentlemen,

I welcome you all to this Council Chamber. This is an occasion after my own heart. Here we have the results of some very good work, carried out by public spirited volunteers, with the co-operation of those whose job it is to protect all users of the roads, plus the assistance and good will of many more people who have road safety at heart.

We have also the efforts of all the young persons who took part in these trials. They have realised that nowadays, to earn that feeling of exhilaration (only to be found by cycling) one has to shoulder responsibilities to other road-users and learn to ride properly.

There is something else that all the children have achieved. Only we parents know of the worry and nervous tension that we feel when children first become old enough to cycle and take their place in the traffic. Of course they must not be stopped but it is a strain on parents, and the children who have carried out these trials will be pleased to know that by completing the trials they have done something to lighten the load of their parents' worry.

In fact, all who have contributed to the events that have led up to this ~~evening~~ <sup>morning</sup> - the organisers, the helpers and prize-givers and the young entrants - are entitled to the thanks of this community and I do thank you all on behalf of the town.

Paul

For the second year I have the honour of proposing this toast to the East Sussex Fire Brigade. The trouble with taking on a second year of office as Mayor is that you have toasts to propose for the second time and, if you have resolved to do your utmost the first year, there is a feeling on the second occasion of being slightly expended of ammunition. One thing is clear - I am here to praise the committee, officers and *fire*-men of the East Sussex Fire Brigade - and that I am very pleased to do.

First then, efficiency. This means keeping up-to-date both as regards machinery for fire-fighting and the manning of these machines. I understand that the Brigade has two new appliances, so they obviously keep up-to-date. No serious fires suggests to me that the sections are at the scene of a fire within a very few minutes. This, in turn, suggests that the individual firemen and the corporate body of the brigade are kept in good trim and so the East Sussex Fire Brigade is able to give the public very high ranking service.



Secondly, there were less fires for the brigade to attend. This no doubt points to the fact that a very important part of the work is receiving the attention of both the brigade and the public. I mean the work of fire prevention. Most people are not aware of the work that goes into making fire prevention a successful operation. Not only are hints given to the public, but inspections are made of buildings, advice given during the construction and alteration of buildings, and continual inspections made of those buildings where people gather. All this points to first class organizing and carrying out of work. The reduction in the number of chimney fires, although partly accounted for by the more modern fuels that are used, is also partly due to the greater care taken by the public and this, I think, stems from good instruction from the fire prevention service.

Last year I mentioned the services which I called the humanitarian services and which I believe you professionals call the "extra services". I notice you have had these to attend to in the way of clearing up after road accidents and, in addition, seven cases of rendering assistance when people were in difficulty through flooding. In all these extra

services the brigade has shown its worth to the people, and those members of the public who are directly concerned are, of course, deeply grateful for the work the brigade has carried out. Altogether I think that this brigade, which is, as its name implies, to do with the prevention of fires and the efficient fighting of fires when preventive measures have failed, is worthy of the appreciation shown it by the public, both for its main job and for its extra services; and I hope that the public will be even more appreciative when they come to realise the full extent of the valuable service that is given them.

As Mayor of the County Town, and on behalf of the community, I do thank the brigade for their services and I have very great pleasure in proposing this toast to The East Sussex Fire Brigade.



For the second year I have the honour of proposing this toast to the East Sussex Fire Brigade. The trouble with taking on a second year of office as Mayor is that you have toasts to propose for the second time and, if you have resolved to do your utmost the first year, there is a feeling on the second occasion of being slightly expended of ammunition. One thing is clear - I am here to praise the committee, officers and *fire*-men of the East Sussex Fire Brigade - and that I am very pleased to do.

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TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS TO LEWES  
FIRE STATION, 1-1-68 TILL 3-11-68.

130 CALLS. THESE WERE MADE UP  
AS FOLLOWS.

FALSE ALARMS. 30.

SPECIAL SERVICES. 21.

CHIMNEY FIRES. 34.

FIRE CALLS. 45.

OF THE FALSE ALARM CALLS 23 WERE  
WITH GOOD INTENT. 4 WERE MALICIOUS.  
AND 3 WERE MECHANICAL FAULTS.

8 CALLS WERE TO THE NEW COUNTY HALL  
& 4 WERE TO THE OLD COUNTY HALL.

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MR. A.A. WINNINGS JOINED E.S.F.B

ON 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 1968 AT THE RETIREMENT OF

MR. W. HOLLAND AS CHIEF OFFICER OF

EAST SUSSEX - THIS OF COURSE BEING

MR. WINNINGS'S FIRST DINNER WITH LEWES

FIRE SERVICE SOCIAL CLUB.

THIS IS THE 20<sup>TH</sup> DINNER OF

THIS CLUB.

from Sec:

Mr. Whittington

at fire station until Friday

A FEW CALLS OF INTEREST.

16<sup>th</sup> MARCH. A COW FELL OVER CHALK PIT  
AT OFFHAM.

24<sup>th</sup> MARCH. GROUND FLOOR OF A HOUSE,  
2 HOSE REELS & 2 B.A. SETS IN USE.

24<sup>th</sup> APRIL. TRAIN ON WHICH MRS BARBARA  
CASTLE WAS TRAVELLING CAUGHT FIRE AT  
GLYNDE.

20<sup>th</sup> MAY. 4 PEOPLE WERE RELEASED FROM  
LIFT AT NEW COUNTY HALL.

31<sup>st</sup> MAY. TWO PROPANE BOTTLES EXPLODED  
IN A GARAGE AT RINGMER.

9<sup>th</sup> JULY. A BARN FIRE AT OLSWICK,  
NEWHALEN ROAD.

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FIGHTING APPLIANCES, CALLED AT 1924 ON 9.8.68  
LAST APPLIANCE RETURNED TO STATION AT 1604 ON 10.8.68.

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9<sup>th</sup> AUGUST. A FIRE AT LEWES PRISON.

I have

3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER. BARN FIRE AT CYNEDOURNE FARM.

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4<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER. A SMALL FIRE AT PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPT. LEWES VICTORIA HOSPITAL.

all years,

3<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER. A BARN FIRE AT CHAPEL FARM. EAST CHILTINGTON.

Fire Brigade

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SUNDAY AFTERNOON UNTIL MONDAY TEA TIME.

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*This is the 20 Annual Dinner*  
9th Nov 1968

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I am very pleased that, once again, I have the honour of proposing this toast. I am fortunate, since I have proposed this toast on two previous occasions. One might ask if I shall be stumped for words, since I have done this twice before: and, in these circumstances there is a danger of repeating myself: but I am not ~~hear~~ to worry about dangers, I am here to praise the firemen and, of all years, this is a year when firemen can be praised.

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Many things have happened since I left the Fire Brigade Committee. A new Chief Fire Officer, Mr. Winning is with us and I wish him every success. He has started in a year of important happenings. *This is 1st dinner with Leaver*

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On a previous occasion I was able to comment that "no serious fires" in a report, meant that the sections were at the fire within a few minutes of being called, and this, in turn, suggests that the individual firemen, and the corporate body of the Brigade are kept in very good trim and so the East Sussex Fire Brigade can give the public first class service. This still obtains this year, as does the other work of the Brigade, that of fire prevention.



This very important part of a fireman's job is receiving the attention of the Brigade and of the public and we want the public to pay attention to fire prevention.

Now, this year we have had a very serious fire within the Borough: one that is so important that it received nation-wide attention. This fire was fought under very adverse conditions because of the nature of the conflagration and the place where it occurred. I refer to the burning of the plastic material at the Prison. I was a spectator from the road, and could imagine from the dense black smoke, what a terrific job the Brigade had to carry out. I gather the Secretary of this Brigade Social Club was a casualty for a while and I would like to make mention of the work of the men who were in attendance. It is very probable that, from this fire, will come a fresh conception about workshops in relation to inhabited quarters in prisons.

You will gather, from what I have said, that I have the usual "member of the public's" great regard for the Fire Brigade. My regard, however, is not just a romantic one: I have seen some of the reality of a fireman's work at our previous big fire, when I worked at Baxter's.

Moreover, by reason of my work on the Town Council, I know a good deal of the work put into fire prevention by examining and passing plans for new buildings, <sup>and</sup> by inspection of buildings where people gather. All these things are carried out quietly by the Brigade besides the clearing up of road crashes. The fireman serves the public in many ways. *See*

*Sheet* Were I a better speaker I could really give the Brigade its due. However, as I am not sufficiently articulate to do this, I must rely on your believing in my sincerity when I ask you to rise and drink this toast; "The East Sussex Fire Brigade".



As an old Lewesian who has been Mayor of the Borough I am glad of an opportunity to thank the producers of the "Link" for the excellent little paper provided. One feels rather sad that the new L.G. set-up has stopped the publication and that opportunities for the town to have its own forum ~~the~~ are coming to an end.

On three occasions I have been Mayor and had reasons to delve ~~thoroughly~~ into ~~the~~ ~~community~~ <sup>(apart from)</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> always lived here reason) that one ~~loves~~ loves this town. Lewes is set in beautiful surroundings and contains within its boundaries many fine houses. But let us not forget that there is much more to the place than a good geographical position and some good looking

roof lines. There is a community which is Lewes. It has always been here and has shown its awareness of the unique characteristics of the town and its ability to defend the town against those who would mutilate it. It is a community that contains a surprising number of voluntary <sup>autonomous</sup> organisations and this "plurality" is its strength.

The present time marks the end of Lewes as an independent authority. At this time let us think of the work of the ~~present~~ Council. ~~In Lewes the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ Local Government is for the people not against them and the degree of efficiency with which a Council carries out its duties has an enormous bearing on the health and

Thank you for the invitation to my wife and to me to be present at this Annual Dinner of the Lewes & District Teachers' Association. I consider it a great honour to be invited to propose this toast.

This is a new departure for me. This Association, as I see it, is composed of men and women, banded together into a corporate body because they have great responsibilities which go in two directions. The Craft and the Industrial Unions, with which I have had most to do over a considerable period of time, have a duty to perform which is chiefly to do with the welfare of their members. You people of this Association have a job to do which has two main objectives, and these two objectives have to be of equal concern to the people whom you elect to your various executive committees: your duty to your members and your concern for your charges: children, who, during the four or five hours or so of the day when their minds are most alert, and their bodies are most active, are in your charge for instruction, not only in the three R's, but for their first guidance towards what I call the operative ideals, without which people would find it impossible to live in a community.

*hard to fit into*



Children like security, or what I have heard described as "the support of a firm framework of laws and rules of polite conduct" though, within this firmly applied framework, there needs to be plenty of room for training in independence. *we all know*  
~~I can see~~ that it is vital that a correct balance between too much freedom and too much restriction be found. Any adult person has to learn to conduct his life within this balanced limit and communities have to be formed which allow the greatest amount of individual freedom commensurate with maintaining the cohesion of the society. Without this cohesion a society would not last, whether it is a nation, a community, a class or an organisation such as this Association. This toast then is, to me, an appreciation of the value of your work to *our child,* the community and to society as a whole.

You will have gathered by now that I am approaching what I have called my new departure of toasting the National Union of Teachers, not with the awe that is popularly supposed to be the attitude of one who was an Edwardian schoolboy towards teachers, but with plenty of healthy respect for their work and for the part played by them by instructing in the right

balance within society. I think a man or woman who can make a child's life happy by giving him security, which brings tranquility and respect for others, and freedom, which fosters initiative and respect for himself, is performing a great service to humanity, quite apart from the service he or she renders by teaching the curriculum.

*Mr Britton* So much then, for what might be called my subjective view of your Association. When I had thought this out I decided to try to see the National Union of Teachers as it really is and, to me, your constitution seems suited for the carrying out of the tasks required. It is the largest body of the "Joint Four" but, as far as I, an outsider, can see, its decisions are, generally speaking, in the interests of professional unity. It has a large National Executive Committee which should make for cohesion; while at the same time, the autonomy of local associations such as this one, gives some measure of local independence.

Now local independence is very nice but it means work, and the shouldering of responsibility, plus the ability to make decisions. I, therefore, wish to include in my toast my regards to your local President and the members of your



Committee who, on occasions, are called on to make these decisions. There are other duties too, that your local executives have to carry out. You can think which they are much more quickly than I can.

My toast is then - "The National Union of Teachers and the Lewes and District Teachers' Association".

*I am glad to meet Mr. Britton, the secretary elect of the National Union of Teachers*

*Toast N.U.T. & Mr. Britton  
Lewes & Dist Teachers assoc and the officers*

Local independence is very nice:  
it looks very nice on paper: and  
it sounds very nice when demanded  
by some good orator. When you  
have it, however, with the decision  
making, the carrying of heavy  
responsibility and the administrative  
work that goes with it: well,  
then ~~it does~~ however it looks  
and sounds, it doesn't feel  
so nice to the members who  
have to carry it out.

I do want to include in this  
toast, then, your officers of  
this association ~~who~~ and those  
others who carry the responsibilities  
make the decisions and guide  
the Assn along

Mr. High Sheriff, My Lord, Your Worships, Ladies and Gentlemen,

THE COMMUNITY

Thank you for the toast. One is always glad to hear praise and goodwill extended to the home town; and Lewes is a grand place, set in beautiful surroundings and having, within its boundaries, many beautiful <sup>houses</sup> buildings. There is more to this town, however, than its geographical position and its good-looking <sup>houses</sup> ~~road~~ lines, and you <sup>Madam</sup> ~~Sir~~ have, quite rightly, drawn our attention to the community that is also Lewes. A community that is conscious of the unique characteristics of its town and has shown, during recent years, its ability to defend the town against those who would mutilate it. It is a community that contains a surprising number of voluntary organisations, ranging from the cultural right through to social and sports clubs, and it is a community which has ~~now~~ <sup>formerly</sup> been much enriched by the members of the University who now live near or in the town.

THE WORK

One is also glad to hear a toast extended to the Corporation. Too many people, when they think of it at all, seem to take the view that Local Government is a sort of contest, with the Council versus the Rest. Really, of course, it is the Council for the rest, and Local Government is the concern of everybody because every soul in the country is affected by the work of Local Councils. There may be some exceptions, but I think it is safe to say that all the basic things that make civilization as we know it possible - from drainage, hygiene and through to most of the education - is the work of Local Government and, although the public may appear to be completely indifferent, this fact remains; the degree of efficiency with which the Local Council carries out this work has a tremendous bearing on the well-being, and the very lives, of all within its boundaries. Whether <sup>say</sup>, byelaws to safeguard the public in large buildings or preserving and he must on him.



visual amenities in a town, the work of the Local Council is the concern of everyone.

#### VOTERS

Yet it sometimes seems as though Local Government is the concern of no one if we judge by the reports of the low percentage of people who record their votes each May in some towns. But I exempt Lewes from criticism on this score, for just as Lewes has a percentage of registered readers at the public library that is double the national average, and the cultural and other organisations I have mentioned which, I am assured, compare very favourably with other towns, so Lewes, when it comes to the Municipal Elections, has a higher percentage of people who record their votes than many towns. There are, no doubt, many reasons for this, but I think a very important one is the number of organisations there are in the town. In my opinion, a community should contain within itself a plurality of autonomous societies. So their members work, and the younger members are trained to take up responsibilities, taught to work on committees and helped to develop into people capable of taking charge of their town's affairs. From this set-up comes the effective voter.

#### COUNCILLORS

Voters - which naturally brings me to the members of the Council. Being a Councillor myself, it would be unseemly of me to dwell too much on the members. I have, however, worked on all the committees during the last ten years and I have watched the members at work. I have observed them when, on occasion, there have been some of the more disagreeable jobs to be done and it is encouraging to notice how they buckle to. Sometimes decisions have to be made with real anguish, particularly on housing and health committees, when really distressing cases have to be considered. Then the member of the Council has to do his best to make sound judgments and he must do this, without ignoring the emotional pressures that bear on him.

Then there are the Officers. Once again I must be brief because I am conscious of the officers' presence and I don't want to appear too fulsome. But I hope they will realise how much their work and loyalty is appreciated by the members of the Council. I particularly admire the patience they show when, from their professional know how, they are called upon to guide us in particular matters. I should also make mention here of the inside and outside staffs in the charge of the officers.

And so Ladies and Gentlemen, in responding to this toast I have spoken of the community and the work to be carried out. Work, which I have suggested is of the utmost importance to our civilization and which is carried out by Local Government. I have also spoken of the Voters, the members of the Council and the Officers, which three bodies of people I think of as the triple pillars that uphold Local Government. Whatever changes take place in the structure of Local Government, it is to be hoped that these pillars remain strong.

And so Sir, in responding to this toast I think I have included all the inhabitants of the town and, on their behalf, I do thank you for the eloquent way in which you have commended our town.

In conclusion, I should like to thank you for the very kind remarks you have made about myself and my Mayoress. However unworthy I may feel of such high praise, I whole-heartedly endorse your words about the Mayoress. Without her support, being Mayor of Lewes would be a much more difficult task.



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Mayoress. Without her support, being Mayor of Lewes would be a much  
more difficult task.

I am very pleased indeed to be present at this Annual Dinner of the Borough Bonfire Society: and I am very honoured to have the privilege of responding to the toast of the Vice-presidents. Also, responding to this toast gives me the opportunity to add my praise to that which previous speakers have given to the Society. As has already been said, this year, instead of looking at all the Societies, my attention was fixed on the Borough because we had a job to do. Consequently I was enabled to observe, in more detail, why your Society continues to go from success to success.

It is the work that is put in by your committee whose members give continuity to your efforts by making sure your Society is on the map as it were, during the rest of the year.

It is the amount of preliminary work as Nov 5 draws nigh which is put in by all your working members, those who make the Tableaux, the torches etc. and

It is the work put in on the great day by all of you in a united effort and here I must make mention of the refreshments in the evening. I am grateful to those ladies and those who thought of ~~the~~ <sup>our</sup> idea.

On behalf of the vice-presidents, thank you for the toast. Personally, when I consider the work you do as I have just sketched out, I am filled with admiration. Dr Nicholls is unable to be present this evening but I did notice all the family enjoying themselves in the procession and I am sure he and the other vice-presidents will be with me when I say on their behalf. "Thankyou for the toast. Thankyou for ensuring the continuity of the Society through the years and thankyou for the work all of you do to keep Lewes on the map; and finally, thankyou for your hospitality this evening."

This is a very important occasion for Dorothy and me. For two years we have had the honour of representing the people of Lewes as their leading citizens; and, for the first time there was, in this position, representatives of the ordinary people of Lewes. In these circumstances you will realise how much importance had to be attached to the carrying out of these duties. Your Councillors here tonight were kind enough to give my wife and me the job of breaking through a certain amount of doubt that existed, in some quarters, as to whether a working man and his partner could carry this through: and we are both very grateful to you for giving us the opportunity of showing that to be the culture of a town <sup>is made up of</sup> ~~means~~ the activities of all its inhabitants. It is indeed very nice for us to know that, in a very short space of time, any doubts that existed in some people's minds were dispersed and the people of Lewes made us feel we had been taken to their hearts. From each end, or wing, of the life of this community we received commendation of our work during our term of office; and these commendations were sent to us when we had finished.

We can feel proud then, that the people consider our work to have been well done and have let us know what they think. Nothing can make us more proud though, than your appreciation and this address tonight and I thank you very much for this and your splendid hospitality. Your confidence enabled us to really have a go at doing the job as we considered it should be done. Any praise that the community has given us we consider is shared by the Labour Group.



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We can then feel proud that people consider the job to have been well done and let us know what they think. Nothing can make us more proud though, than your presenting us with your appreciation and this address tonight and I do thank you all very much for the kind thought.

*Mayor Making 1<sup>st</sup> year*

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council.

Thank you for resolving to make me Mayor of the Borough of Lewes for the coming year. This is pleasing, for Lewes has been the home of my wife and myself for sixty or so years and, during all our adult life, we have taken a keen interest in the activities of this community. If you think of those years, and that interest, in terms of getting to know the people, getting to know the institutions, and learning to love the town of Lewes, then you will appreciate with what very great pleasure I accept this post of honour.

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That there is this unspoken understanding between the voter and his candidate, in elections for communities such as ours, is a proposition which I <sup>have</sup> accepted as true. This has coloured my approach to public life and by recounting it here, I hope I have defined my attitude towards positions of responsibility. The Mayoress and I will do our utmost to carry out our part of the contract. *much*

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and I face this coming year with confidence, for behind me I have the good examples of past Mayors, and I must make particular reference here to my immediate predecessor, Miss Dumbrell. Beside me are the members of the Council, the officers with their inside and outside staffs, my wife and family and a whole host of friends and well wishers, many of whom are in this chamber to-day as representatives of other organisations which go to make up the cultural life of a town, together with representatives of industries, which bring work to the town whereby wages are spent in the shops of the town.

In front of me then is this mayoral year which I face with confidence, knowing that all in this chamber will be reminded by this meeting that they, and the organisations they represent are what makes the community of Lewes.

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*transfer to last paragraph*



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*Panor*  
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What I have said so far, Mr. Chairman could, perhaps flatteringly, be called idealistic. There is nothing wrong with that. To me it means that we work together to create the conditions whereby each single member of the community may enjoy the fullest life possible. But you and I are Councillors and we have to keep our feet on solid ground and concern ourselves with the running of the town. So we must be content to advance gradually, not necessarily slowly, but step by step, towards our ideal town. ~~There~~ Here are some steps we hope to make during the coming year.

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5. The Old People's House of Friendship.

6. The housing situation. *Two new features. The two projects St. Pancras & Landport. Here we are architects for the first time. Warden scheme for Old People would count.*

These are some of the steps. Meanwhile ordinary work goes on.

*for the*  
Descaling of sewers also first time, is now finishing, and other work *for* *Leath*  
*I will bring this to a close Mr. Chairman before I get too wrapped up in the work of the town*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Lewes Football Club, I give you all a warm welcome to the Dripping Pan.

Although, at one period, this town had a Carnival, with a procession, on Whitsun Monday, this very fine <sup>activity</sup> ~~event~~ was discontinued for various reasons. Consequently, it is very pleasing to me that the Football Club have decided to hold this event to-day.

Our Club has had a successful season with regard to the playing of a great and skilful game; and it has provided entertainment of a traditional and high class nature on Saturdays during the past season and, by earning promotion, <sup>it has</sup> ~~they have~~ thereby given us people of Lewes the opportunity to watch an even higher standard of association football. We, the spectators, have also been promoted.

Now this is very nice for all of us, but it means an even greater effort by the Club and by the players in particular. We must not forget, however, that it means a greater effort on behalf of all of us who very much enjoy our Saturday afternoons in the Dripping Pan; for there is one thing we must bear in mind. Like all good things, this up-grading of our Club means also the up-grading of us spectators and it is going to cost the Football Club more money and, when we realise what this added expense will mean to the Club, I am sure we are glad to be able to help in a positive way by patronising this Carnival and being as generous as is possible this afternoon. At this time of the year our enthusiasm for soccer may not be so intense as it was during last season, so I suggest that as we go round the stalls, we imagine this is just towards the end of one of those splendid games when the players are showing their superb physical condition and teamwork and we feel we would gladly help their efforts.

I would like to give credit to Mr. Hillman and the Club members directly responsible for this afternoon's event. This is the sort of occasion when I think of the amount of work put in by those who do the organising. They have the months of work and worry about the chances of success of an event such as this. Let us do our best to send them home to-night, happy in the knowledge that their work has proved financially successful.



I can Mrs Byrne  
my wife and I were very much  
when we heard from the police  
that you had found my pen  
and had taken the trouble  
of giving it to the  
we both thank you very  
much that this part  
of my preservation writing  
set has been returned to us

Yours very truly

A. B. Arber

So, to show the players our appreciation of their efforts of playing  
the game of soccer -  
To show the Club Committee members our appreciation of their enterprise  
in the guidance of the Club -  
To let the organisers know that their work has not been in vain, please  
spend generously and, with this request, I declare the Carnival open.







First. I must give you all a welcome to this meeting. When I was asked if I would open the meeting I was rather surprised, not so much at being asked, but because, in these times when the principle of family planning seems to be so universally accepted, there was no branch of the Family Planning Association in Leves.

Tonight's meeting is I understand, an effort to start such a branch, and I hope, at the end of this evening, that the effort will have proved successful.

Although, as I have said, the principle of family planning is accepted on almost a world-wide basis, it does appear that many people are in need of advice at various times: and the words "Family Planning" is a very wide term. Within its ~~scope~~ <sup>with</sup> scope there is room for many people's <sup>with</sup> many different problems, who will be glad of the advice they will receive from a branch of the F.P.A.

Family planning is one of the subjects that, as a rule, raise discussion. Whatever ones views may be it is certain that very many lives have been made much happier by ~~the advice~~ family planning or the advice to be obtained from the F.P.A.

I am then very glad to open this meeting and I congratulate the ladies who have organized it. I think they are doing a good job.



This meeting is convened by the 'Pilot' club in an effort to start a branch in Lewes. If, as a result of this meeting, a branch is formed here, I should like to see it develop and so add one more to the Association to the Community of Lewes. I read the folder which gives the aims and high ideals of the 'Pilot' with interest, and then, as I was reflecting on this, it occurred to me that to start a club by invitation does rather limit your field of recruitment, but I learn you allow more than one from each culling; and there can be no doubt that this selective method of recruiting does enable you to enroll the most able people to carry out the work you wish to do, which I see ranges from Community to International service.

~~Nat~~ Naturally it is the service to my community with which I am first interested and I gather that the 'Pilot' is well known for its service to the older people and to the disabled. Accordingly I welcome your efforts to form the club; I hope the friendship you make and the social life you ~~can~~ <sup>will enjoy</sup> by this service compensates for your efforts, and I wish you success in starting the club and good fortune in

doing so. I am very pleased to be invited to attend this show which has been organized by the Horticultural Society; and I am very pleased that I have been asked to present the awards. I have had a look at the exhibits and I am very impressed with the display. Altho' I don't know much about gardening I do know something of the work that is ~~put~~ <sup>done</sup> in getting the exhibits ready. My father-in-law was a great allotment man and he showed in company with the show giants of the 1920s, and since I was anxious to please, I used to help him get ready. Hard work, but the shows were worth it because they demonstrated the satisfying of the need most men have to create or produce, to show results from work that is freely done.

So to <sup>all</sup> the Exhibitors, Thank you for your work. Whether you have won an award or whether you haven't, the show could not be held without your work.

To the Committee, Officer and Committee members and the people who keep the Horticultural Society going and those who organize this show thank-you. Your work is something that results in the Town keeping its traditions.

I hope you will continue to hold these shows for many years to come and so help to keep Lewes Lewes



I must congratulate the conveners of this meeting and it is good to see so many have turned up for it shows they are interested in Lawes.

When the relief road was debated in the Council meeting, the local press unfortunately gave a good many of their readers the impression that the councillors who voted against this road did so in a purely negative way. This was not the case. There were alternatives put forward which I hope my colleagues will talk about tonight.

Through the general direction of the road is now known, still the public are not fully cognisant of consequences, and in <sup>the</sup> circumstances. I am going to sketch the plan and its consequences.

Give Road Plan as at Council

Now there will be some consequences of the road long before it reaches a stage where it will relieve the traffic problem. Besides the three buildings I have mentioned, it means the demolition of 130 homes. It will mean families being spread over the country side in a kind of Subtopia. Instead of the streets that make up a town and a community we shall have a motor road. We shall be in the position of being conquered by traffic.

Of course houses wear out - in time, but when they do wear out in my opinion, the streets should be made up with better houses. You still have the streets, better ones. And only thus does a community live on

Now for the alternative to this road mine is the S. By-pass. While this is being built there are various measures which can be taken. There will cost varying sums of course but the quietest one that can be tried will cost nothing but cooperation of the parties affected. My colleagues will speak of these

The results of the S. By Pass will be that the heavy traffic will not come through the town at all.

No homes will be broken up. No more will there be eight wheelers toiling through our hills with the nerves of their drivers worn to shreds and long streams of faster traffic toiling behind them. All the heaviest lorries and people in a hurry will gladly choose the level and wide By Pass leaving Lewis to go about its business with the dignity that should be part of a County town

file



## THE COMMUNITY

Thank you for the toast. One is always glad to hear praise and goodwill extended to the home town; and Lewes is a grand place, set in beautiful surroundings and having, within its boundaries, many beautiful houses. There is more to this town, however, than its geographical position and its good-looking houses, and you Madam have quite rightly drawn our attention to the community that is also Lewes. A community that is conscious of the unique characteristics of its town and has shown, during recent years, its ability to defend the town against those who would spoil it. It is a community that contains a surprising number of voluntary organisations, ranging from the cultural, right through to social and sports clubs, and it is a community which will, I am sure, be strengthened and enriched by the addition of the Soroptimists' Club.

## THE WORK

One is also glad to hear a toast extended to the Corporation. Too many people, when they think of it at all, seem to take the view that Local Government is a sort of contest, with the Council versus the Rest, but Local Government is the concern of everybody because every soul in the country is affected by the work of Local Councils. There may be some exceptions, but I think it is safe to say that all the basic things that make civilisation as we know it possible - from drainage, hygiene and through to most of the education - is the work of Local Government and, although the public may appear to be completely indifferent, this fact remains; the degree of efficiency with which the Local Council carries out this work has a tremendous bearing on the well-being, and the very lives, of all within its boundaries. Whether it is, say, byelaws to safeguard the public in large buildings or preserving visual amenities in a town, the work of the Local Council is the concern of everyone.

## VOTERS

Yet it sometimes seems as though Local Government is the concern of no one if we judge by the reports of the low percentage of people who record their votes each May in some towns. I exempt Lewes from criticism on this score, for just as Lewes has a percentage of registered readers at the public library that is double the national average, and the cultural and other organisations I have mentioned which, I am assured, compare very favourably with other towns, so Lewes, when it comes to the Municipal Elections, has a higher percentage of people who record their votes than many towns. There are, no doubt, many reasons for this, but I think a very important one is the number of organisations there are in the town. In my opinion, a community should contain within itself a plurality of autonomous societies. So their members work, and the younger members are trained to take up responsibilities, taught to work on committees and helped to develop into people capable of taking charge of their town's affairs. From this set-up comes the effective voter.

## COUNCILLORS

Voters - which naturally brings me to the members of the Council. Being a Councillor myself, I can't dwell too much on the members. I have, however, worked on all the committees during the last ten years and I have watched the members at work. I have observed them when, on occasion, there have been some of the more disagreeable jobs to be done and it is encouraging to notice how they buckle to. Sometimes decisions have to be made with real anguish, particularly on housing and health committees, when really distressing cases have to be considered. Then the member of the Council has to do his best to make sound judgments and he must do this, without ignoring the emotional pressures that bear on him.



Then there are the Officers. I don't want to appear too fulsome. But I hope it is realised what their work and loyalty means to a town. I particularly admire the patience they show when, from their professional know how, they are called upon to guide us in particular matters. I am sure this virtue of patience is worthy of mention.

And so Ladies and Gentlemen, in responding to this toast I have spoken of the community and the work to be carried out. Work, which I have suggested is of the utmost importance to our civilization and which is carried out by Local Government. I have also spoken of the Voters, the members of the Council and the Officers, which three bodies of people I think of as the triple pillars that uphold Local Government. Whatever changes take place in the structure of Local Government, it is to be hoped that these pillars remain strong.

And so Madam, in responding to this toast I think I have included all the inhabitants of the town and, on their behalf, I do thank you for the eloquent way in which you have commended our town.

In conclusion, I should like to thank you for the very kind remarks you have made about myself and my Mayoress. However unworthy I may feel of such high praise, I whole-heartedly endorse your words about the Mayoress. Without her support, being Mayor of Lewes would be a much more difficult task.

L.S.W

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council.

Thank you for resolving to make me Mayor of the Borough of Lewes for the coming year. This is pleasing, for Lewes has been the home of my wife and myself for sixty or so years and, during all our adult life, we have taken a keen interest in the activities of this community. If you think of those years, and that interest, in terms of getting to know the people, getting to know the institutions, and learning to love the town of Lewes, then you will appreciate with what very great pleasure I accept this post of honour.

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That there is this unspoken understanding between the voter and his candidate in elections for communities such as ours, is a proposition which <sup>have</sup> I accepted as true. This has coloured my approach to public life and by recounting it here, I hope I have defined my attitude towards positions of responsibility. The Mayoress, and I will do our utmost to carry out our part of the contract.

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good examples of past Mayors, and I must make particular reference here to my immediate predecessor, Miss Dumbrell. Beside me are the members of the Council, the officers with their inside and outside staffs, my wife and family and a whole host of friends and well wishers, many of whom are in this chamber to-day as representatives of other organisations which go to make up the cultural life of a town, together with representatives of industries, which bring work to the town whereby wages are spent in the shops of the town.

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transfer  
end  
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These are some of the steps. Meanwhile ordinary work goes on.

*for that* ~~Desecrating of sewers also first time.~~ *I could go on* <sup>continues</sup> dealing with the work that continually goes on but I have gone over my time. I invite all in this room when this meeting is over etc

May 65 Sunday June 7 S. John Sub-Castro



Thank you for resolving to make me Mayor of the Borough of Lewes again. When I was made Mayor-Elect, it was pleasing to me that the decision was unanimous; and it is pleasing to me, and to my wife, to learn, from the warmth of the greetings we receive as we go about the streets of the town, that the decision was welcomed. So my thanks, also, to the townspeople for their goodwill.

This is a position of responsibility. On a previous occasion I tried to define my attitude towards the taking up of any position of responsibility by an elected member of the Council. Briefly, as applied to me it is this. When I offer myself as a candidate at the local elections (and this has been on eight occasions), I understand the voter to know, as I know, that (apart from any particular issue we may be discussing at the moment,) I am offering, if elected to attend the meetings and to shoulder any responsibility that may come my way during my stay on the Council. When elected, I consider a contract to that effect to have been made, and I do my utmost to carry out my part of it.

This is a position that requires confidence. Leaving out my previous term of office for the moment, I gain confidence from the work done by past Mayors. Here I would like to make reference to the late Alderman Baker. We are grateful for the work he carried out on behalf of the town and we are sorry that, since he died in harness, he was unable to enjoy the easier time he had earned, and would have received, a few months later. I must pay tribute to my immediate predecessor, Councillor Day. Being called into consultation by him on several occasions, I know that he did a good job under trying conditions.

I gain confidence from the encouragement given me by the members of the Council. From the help always given me by the officers and their staffs. From the presence this evening of my family. Always a tower of strength, my wife as Mayoress, and the family always ready to rally to my assistance, for I frequently need their help. Then, again, into this Council Chamber I have tried hard to crowd representatives from as many organisations as possible, my aim as before being to make this a town meeting. This evening then, this community shows its cohesion by the presence of representatives from its industries, both management and labour; its professional, business



and commercial life. Its churches, its educational and other associations and clubs, and so right through to some individual people I have invited for special reasons. From all of you, then, the members of the Council, the officers and the representatives of the community here this evening, I gather the confidence I require to carry out the work of Mayor as I understand it, and I am grateful to you all for being present to support me this evening.

When I was made Mayor four years ago, the Council were about to start four capital projects. The main road lighting, the Willey Bridge, the Industrial Estate and the Weald Court flats. We can be pleased that in this short space of time these projects have come into being and into use. In addition, other housing projects and road reconstruction projects have been completed. We can be proud of the progress made during this period, and we can be generous enough to acknowledge the part played by the four men who have left us as a result of the election. I know that this Council, as a corporate body, will continue with its day-to-day work for the community and that it will carry out further capital development as the opportunity arises. I hope, however, that it will continue to give its blessing to those organisations whose aim it is to create opportunities and provide facilities for the cultivation of the mind and the body. I hope it will continue to keep a watch on our fine old houses and our historic landmarks. These are part of our heritage, as is the connection between Lewes and world wide historic thought, both through that thirteenth century thinker and soldier, Simon de Montfort, who fought, with his Army, for the right of the first Parliament: and with that eighteenth century member of this town's governing body, Thomas Paine, who fought, with his pen, for the rights of man. I think we can all agree that Lewes is a town of which we can be proud; we are the representatives, and I do invite all of you, in this Chamber, to make your way to the Assembly Room when this meeting is over and there we will drink a toast to the future of the town of Lewes and its townspeople.



On occasions such as this prize-giving, it is customary to enlist the aid of a person of considerable mental stature to make a speech after the distribution of the awards. All of us in the hall can then sit back and enjoy listening to a treat of elocution, or of wit or of logic. Generally it is all three of these that we enjoy. To-night you are not going to be so fortunate. All you have, now that the presentation has taken place, is the Mayor, to whom has been given the great honour of addressing you. ~~When~~ this great privilege was offered me, I reflected that I can make no claim to mental stature, or to the gift of elocution or of wit, or of logic. All I have is a long experience of what used to be called ~~nature~~ <sup>active</sup> working - class life. However, part of that experience has been that I have known many splendid men and women and they gave me their teaching and advice on living, generally speaking, a full life. If, during my short speech this evening, any particle of the wisdom I have received from them, and from the books I have read, ~~is~~ <sup>goes out to</sup> ~~passed through myself~~ to any one of you young people, I shall feel satisfied that this effort has been worth while.

I am rather inexperienced regarding the modern set-up in industry, having been retired for five years and things change so quickly in production. And, although my last two apprentices were fortunate enough to attend the London School of Printing on day-release, to study machine ruling, the main part of my life was of the period when the care, the encouragement and the general education now offered to apprentices and other young people was almost non-existent. I say almost because I want to acknowledge the work in this field of education which was carried out by groups of progressive employers, who shouldered ~~the~~ <sup>their</sup> responsibility in the past. Now we have places, like the Lewes Technical College, in many parts of the country, offering many opportunities for those who will take them. All kinds of trades and skills are taught to reinforce the learning of the practical work which the apprentice acquires during the course of his every-day employment.

From the name of this college, one might receive the impression that what is taught here is all "technical" in the sense that it is to do with workshop practice. But, besides learning "work" theories at this college (and then going back to his workshop to try and make these theories fit into the hard facts of his equipment there), this college gives the students, of

/whatever



whatever group of studies, an opportunity of learning theories applicable to our type of civilization. At this college he is received into a community of young people like himself, eager to learn about their work and to learn about life; and it is at this point that his life can really begin.

*we then*  
Having been equipped with the tools and the technical knowledge appropriate to his trade, he is being prepared to take his place in the national economy (and, <sup>x</sup> geographically situated as this country is, it is vital that all workers be able, because of their training, to use their full potential.)

Having taken the opportunity, while here, to learn something of the theories that have to do with the guiding of the civilization in which he lives, he is better able to distinguish and appreciate what is going on in the life around him and in the larger world.

Having the company of other young people with whom he can discuss these things, he learns to be articulate; to put forward a point of view, and, very important, to listen to another person's point of view, because, quite often, progress towards the solving of a problem is made by way of a synthesis of parts of differing opinions. Therefore, he will learn the necessities of compromise when negotiating <sup>when and</sup> what to drop as inessential in order to preserve an essential. This will be of immense value to him in life, especially if he has a bent towards Trade Union work at any level. <sup>x</sup>

<sup>x</sup> *never leave*  
So, when our ideal apprentice reaches the time when he takes on the responsibilities of a citizen, he will be better equipped to carry <sup>these responsibilities</sup> ~~them~~ than he would have been had no Technical Colleges been available to him (and, in a democratic country, unless there is a sufficient number of people so equipped, to form a leaven, as it were, democracy will fail). He will remember that, just as he had to make the work theories of his Technical College fit into the facts of his workshop, so it is necessary to adjust the theories about life to fit the facts of a situation. Facts can't be stretched to fit our theories; but if he has learnt to be a citizen as he has learnt to be a tradesman, our apprentice will know how to gradually adjust things to meet requirements. <sup>For instance</sup> The men of the past who conceived the idea of Technical Colleges, run by local authorities, had a theory that the adoption of this type of adult education would be beneficial to the country, to the communities served by the colleges, and very much to the benefit of the individual men and women who used the facilities provided. In fact there were no colleges

at that time; and the good that would come of providing them had yet to be proved. So there was a good deal of persuading to do before enough other people shared the view that it was a sound thing to build the colleges.

Let me stress what I have just said. "Enough other people shared the view". That is why the colleges are here. It means that enough other people were persuaded, not antagonized. There is a lesson for us here. When you wish to collectively advocate reforms, do not let your collective enthusiasm jeopardise the chances of achieving what is possible by antagonising the people you should be trying to persuade to join you. Our pioneers, then, adjusted the situation to fit their theories by changing, by persuasion, the climate of opinion so that the means enabling this type of education to proceed were made available; and they have proved their theory correct by the thousands of people whose lives have thereby been enriched by the number of dedicated principals who carry on the work; and by the way you young men and women respond to the efforts made on your behalf by the principal, Mr. Hughes, and his staff. Those men who first worked towards making their idea of this type of educational reform a fact, have showed us an example, or a lesson that is very appropriate at this present time. It is that the obstacles which block the way to reform are not eternal, or even very long lasting, providing we set about moving them by a tidy, sensible and civilized method.



My Regency By Arthur Mearns

5 he look out. By another C.  
Last

Last came and last did  
the Pilot of the Galilee go.

Two massy rays. the bone of matter was

Дмитрий

Mr. President. Gentlemen

It was very kind and thoughtful of you to invite me to this meeting and to this dinner. Kind because those who extend hospitality should be described as kind: and <sup>it was with him</sup> thoughtful because the invitation was extended to me very early in my term of office when one is glad to know he is welcomed by one of the leading organizations in the town and so he gains courage and is further resolved to do his best.

I have spoken to the Lewis Round Tables on past occasions and <sup>so now</sup> it is difficult to know what to say that doesn't smack of tautology on an occasion such as this: but I should like you all to know that I do appreciate the value of the different Round Tables about the country. It is important that there should be groups of young men of enquiring minds and mature understanding who can act as a leaven in a democratic society.

The more there are of groups and organizations the more a <sup>united</sup> ~~country~~ society has <sup>of</sup> ~~of~~ remaining a pluralist society. This is, <sup>one of</sup> the chief defenses





Mayor's Parlour  
Town Hall  
Lewes  
Sussex

TELEPHONE: LEWES 4085

COUNCILLOR A. C. BARBER, J.P.  
Mayor

against ~~the~~ totalitarianism.

Quite apart from these reasons, though, it is good for men to gather together and to work collectively and voluntarily to help their communities. I have had experience of the Lewes Round Table at work and, ~~I have~~ <sup>but</sup> having been Mayor on three occasions, I have had ample time to assess the degree of appreciation there is of the work of the Round Table in this town, so I do wish you <sup>further</sup> success as a corporate body and wish ~~you~~ you all ~~the~~ good fortune individually.

I am glad to have this opportunity, once again, of proposing the toast of this Association of Old Comrades, even though there is a danger of my repeating some of the things I said four years ago: because "D" Company 5th Sussex is one of my boyhood recollections and, in those days, we children had acquired a rather 19th century and romantic idea of soldiering. I used to take a great delight in watching them marching behind the band, with Hefty Ernie Funnell beating the big drum. Later on, soon after the war started in 1914, I was an outpatient at Guy's Hospital and this gave me the opportunity to wander round to the Tower of London where I would often see men I knew of the 5th on guard there. I can still recall some of the names of those who went to the Front early in 1915 and took part in the attacks during the spring of that year, attacks that were desperate attempts to loosen up the front into open warfare again.

I am not ashamed then, to repeat some of my words of four years ago, and to stress the shock we at home received as we looked into the windows of the newspaper office and realised, from the photos displayed there, what those Aubers Ridge casualties meant to Lewes as a community. I learned some details because Bill Reynolds returned wounded and, while we walked, he would describe his observations and impressions of that May 9th.

Now, these happenings took place at a time when I was at my most impressionable age. That is why I remember them. It was the time when you members of this Association were young and I was a few years younger, but old enough to serve during the last two years of that war.

The events of which I have been speaking this evening are what I might call "up to the Aubers Ridge" period and they were events of which I was aware at the time they happened. The further service you carried out with



the Pioneer Battalion of the 48th Division: the splendid work of the 5th during the third battle of Ypres: the move to Italy and your work there, are what I had to gather news of afterwards. I would like you to understand, however, that I have not forgotten to include them in my wishes for the continued existence of this Old Comrades' Association.

You will understand then, that it is a very great honour to me that I am invited to propose a toast to this Association of Old Comrades. The Association which you formed soon after the first war and, to your lasting credit, have kept going ever since. In respect of this, I would like to pay tribute to the work of

They are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts in keeping this organisation going and so providing you with an opportunity to talk together again.

So, Mr. President and Members, I am very glad to propose this toast -

**THE CINQUE PORTS**

~~"D" Company, 5th Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment,~~ Old Comrades

Association.

I am glad the agenda of this meeting gives me, as retiring Mayor, an opportunity to say a few words to show my appreciation of the confidence placed in me, and the encouragement given to me, by the members of the Council during my year of office. It also gives me the chance to name some particular people to whom I am particularly grateful. To all members of the Council then - thank you.

I would show my appreciation of the guidance and help I have received from Mr. Morris, the Town Clerk, and his staff; Mr. Culmer, the Borough Treasurer, and his staff, and from Mr. Murphy, our late Borough Surveyor and Engineer, whose death was a shock to us all. I, therefore, wish to give my thanks to his staff through Mr. Devlin, the Deputy Borough Surveyor.

During this year of office, Mrs. Bourne, the Mayor's Secretary, has been of great help at all times. As I have said before, on an occasion similar to this one, she has steered me through what has sometimes seemed a sea of etiquette so successfully, that I believe any solecisms I have committed have been minimal. My wife and I are grateful to Mrs. Bourne.



Mention of my wife, brings me to the mention of her as my partner in this year's work. When one considers the organising and extra speaking engagements she has carried out because of my illness, it can be seen what an able Mayoress I have had.

Mention of my illness brings me to my Deputy Mayor and the Deputy Mayoress, Alderman and Mrs. Crees. They had a time that was far more busy than could have been anticipated and, right royally, they coped with whatever situation arose through my indisposition. <sup>especially the Ball</sup> I also thank them, for taking on the job and for the help given during the year.

To me it has been a time of being more busy than during previous terms, but a time of making friends of individuals and their organisations, a time of feeling one was serving the town, which is rewarding in itself: a time of being in close touch with such organisations as the Rotary and the Round Table and I thank them and the police for their assistance. At the end of this term we can say. "This has been a <sup>happy</sup> time." and, Mr. Mayor I do wish you and your Mayoress the same experiences

Grateful to Mrs. Bourne.

First, I want to welcome you all to this Council Chamber, and may I also compliment the ~~school~~ school on taking this opportunity for you to learn something of how a town is governed. That means how the things that are necessary for the well-being of all the people in the town are looked after. Who sees to it that there is a good water supply? Who sees to it that the food we eat is stored, handled and sold under hygienic conditions? Who looks after drainage and the disposal of sewage and so makes sure that the plagues that used to ravage the country do not happen nowadays? These things and many more could not be achieved without a good deal of work being done, and this work is carried out by people who work for the town.

Now the chief of those men who look after the affairs of a town is the Town Clerk, and you are all very lucky because today Mr. Morris, who is the Town Clerk of Lewes, is going to speak to you on these matters. Knowing Mr. Morris as I do, I am certain that not only will you learn a lot about how a town is governed, but you will also gain a knowledge of the amount of work done by people whose job it is to advise, plan and carry through the things that enable us all to have the fullest life possible.



Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to this meeting in the County Town this afternoon. I was very pleased indeed when the Brighton Philharmonic Society asked me to extend an invitation to all local authorities in the County to attend this meeting, with a view to considering developing the Society's activities.

The Society was founded in 1925 by Madam Kate Menges and Herbert Menges, the Musical Director, who is with us to-day, was appointed in 1925.

When the suggestion of this meeting was first made, I felt somewhat embarrassed as my knowledge and appreciation of good music is rather limited but, nevertheless, I do consider that music plays a very important part in our lives and I hope that, in the future, this part will increase.

I do not propose to delay the meeting, as I am sure you will all wish to hear of the proposals which are to be put forward this afternoon. We have with us, Mr. Nigel Abercrombie, Secretary-General to the Arts Council and the Arts Council's Assistant Music Director, Mr. Eric Thompson. Also present is Mr. Kenneth Matchett, General Manager of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and, representing the Brighton Philharmonic Society, Mr. C. D. Pilcher, their Chairman; Mr. Kenneth Bredon, Chairman of Committee; Mr. Herbert Menges, O.B.E., Musical Director, and Mr. R. C. Mansell Woodhouse, Hon. Treasurer, and their Secretary, Miss Cherry Stack.

At the conclusion of the meeting, I hope that you will join me in the Lecture Room of the Town Hall for tea.

Without more ado I would like to introduce Mr. Nigel Abercrombie, who has kindly consented to take the chair at this meeting.

Situation

Taylor Seaford  
New Hall (400)  
too small?

✓ Mr Abernethy

✓ Mr. Matchett

✓ Eric Thompson's Consent

Ex. Assn. (negotiation)

Am. Direct from L.H.

Questions or Problems.



This is an occasion after my own heart: here we have the results of some good work carried out by public spirited volunteers, with the co-operation of those whose job it is to protect users of the roads, plus the good will of many more people who have road safety at heart.

We have also the efforts of all the young people who have taken part in these trials. They have realized that nowadays, in order to earn that feeling of exhilaration which is only to be found by pedal cycling, one has to shoulder responsibility to other road users; and good cycling means something more than just riding; it means good road sense.

There is something else that all of you have achieved, whether you have won an award or not. We parents all know of the worry and nervous tension that we feel when children first become old enough to cycle and take their place in traffic. Of course they must not be stopped: but it is a strain on parents: and you who have entered for these trials this afternoon will be pleased to know you have done something to lighten the load of ~~the~~ <sup>your</sup> parents worry by proving yourselves efficient.

So all who have contributed to the events that has led to this prize giving, the helpers, the prize givers, and the young entrants, are entitled to our thanks and, on behalf of this community, I do warmly congratulate and thank them.

I am glad so many people have been able to attend the opening of this fair. This fair has become a successful annual event and it is greatly to the credit of the ~~Committee of the~~ Old Peoples Welfare Committee, and their many helpers who arrange stalls and do other work that this is so.

Each year this fair gives a fillip to the funds of the Welfare Committee and, in particular, to the Building fund for the House of Friendship. It naturally follows then that we are grateful to the organizers and the firms who present prizes, and we are not forgetting all the other organizations who have worked and contributed to making this fair a success.

There is an added attraction today. Mr Probyn, the Art Director of the Education Committee has kindly consented to leave some of the children's exhibits and the <sup>o.p.c.</sup> Committee are very grateful. We hope you will find time ~~to~~ to appreciate the children's work.

Now the chief concern of the O Peoples Welfare Committee is to make sure this event serves its purpose, that of aiding the work of the care of older people. We are <sup>all of us here</sup> very keen to have that House of Friendship. We are very keen that the welfare visitors work shall go on. We are very keen that the other services such as chiropody shall continue. There is a very good way of ensuring

that these things will continue and it is before us in this hall. ~~We can~~ <sup>Let us</sup> show our determination to overcome any obstacles in the way of achieving the House of Friendship, to show that we wish the Welfare work to continue. So let the organizers and the people of this fair go home ~~and~~ happy knowing that their work has not been in vain please spend generously. The work has been done, all that



is needed now is for every body to set about  
emptying the stalls by purchasing the goods. It  
is up to you and, with these words I declare  
the Fair open.

It is very pleasant for the Mayoress and me to be your  
guests for the second year in succession. Many  
people will say that being Mayor means a great  
deal of hard work and they would be right. But  
it has its compensations and not the least of these  
compensations is that I am enabled to be your  
guests at functions such as this and we are  
grateful for a ~~very pleasant evening~~ <sup>the pleasure it gives us</sup>.

Besides congratulating the winners I would like to  
put in a word or two for all those others who  
have made this evening possible. The competitors  
who didn't reach the final stages. The secretaries  
of the clubs who have sent entries. and, most  
important the representatives of the "Sussex Express"  
who have ~~organised~~ organized this event so  
well until it has become an important annual  
event.

To all of you then. The winners and finalists and  
all other competitors and to the Sussex Express;  
thank you for making the event a success and  
thank you for the donation which I understand  
will be sent to the newly formed "Friends of"  
the Lower Victoria Hospital.

I will now distribute the prizes.



Davies retirement Friday June 11 1965

Mr. Davies has worked very ably for our Borough for many years - since 1931 in fact. During the years of his service we have seen our parks, playing fields and gardens develop into the finest pleasure grounds and gardens that can be seen about here.

A very great deal of pleasure has been given to people - townsfolk and visitors alike - by his work and Mr. Davies is deserving of a good deal of thanks for <sup>that</sup> ~~his~~ work over those years of the development of our grounds.

Now he has reached the customary age of retirement, I am very glad that it is I, who have known him all the time, who will have the pleasure of presenting him with this watch, as a token of the esteem we have for him and his work and the thanks we owe him for his services.

*Out Lx am for Disabled AGM July 14 1965*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Mayoress and I are very happy to be with you members of the East Sussex Association for the Disabled this afternoon, and my happiness is greater for having the pleasure of proposing this vote of thanks to your President, Mrs. Raymond Warren, for so ably presiding at this meeting. I also wish to include in this proposition, thanks to those members of the Lewes District Committee for their hospitality, which is shown by the excellent tea, and thanks to all those who have made arrangements and worked so that this meeting should be a success.

One of the benefits of being a Mayor is that he gets the opportunity of meeting members of Associations such as this, whose aim is to make life happier for those who are physically handicapped. I would like then, to take this opportunity to thank this Association for its work for the disabled in this area.

I am very happy, then, to propose this vote of thanks to the President, the Lewes District Committee and all those who have helped to make to-day a success.



~~Scotomised garden Party & Ball 31 July 1965~~

Elphick Show  
7 Aug. 1965

## happenings

There are some ~~functions~~ that happen in Lewes that are rather nostalgic to me, although the times of which they remind me are the bad old times. This is because, when I think back on those times, I can always find some patches of brightness. These patches of brightness were caused by yearly events, and some of those were to do with the allotment gardening that took place in those days, and ~~one particular~~ <sup>some of these</sup> rays of brightness <sup>were shown such</sup> ~~as~~ Elphick's Show.

I was not, and still am not, a gardener in the sense that I ever showed my products but, as most people who are acquainted with me know, I like efforts by various bodies within a community. These shows bring out the "free" industriousness" of some ordinary ~~make~~ <sup>people</sup> and so I like them and their organisers. The time when I was very conscious of ~~Elphick's~~ <sup>these</sup> Show, was the time of allotment giants like Reuben Moore and Bill Richardson. I don't know if anybody remembers them now, but the latter was my father-in-law and I could claim in those days that I did my share of show work; for to help him to prepare exhibits was about a two days job, besides pushing them to the Hall on Coppard & Likeman's barrow. (That was where he worked.)

What Elphicks have done, which I think is very good, is twofold. They have endeavoured to maintain an interest in allotments, and they have done a lot to help the new type of gardening within the curtilage of houses. Also, by running these shows, they have let the little backyard gardener have proof that really good produce can be obtained if one really sets about the job.

I am not skilled enough at gardening to give my opinion as to whether this show is better or worse than of old, but of one thing I am sure. Lewes would be worse off if Elphicks didn't hold their show. This firm is part of Lewes and has been for many years.

On behalf of the town I wish them success and I hope that the shows will continue each year.



It was very kind of you to invite me to be here this evening and present these trophies for the Cribbage Tournament. I think it is a very creditable thing that the Cliffe British Legion has organised this tournament and that it is so popular and has attracted all these entries.

I have never played crib although both my father and my father-in-law made vain attempts to teach me. Don't think, however, that because I was incapable of learning a game which requires so great a skill at mental arithmetic, I am a philistine. I have a great respect for the game, as well as admiration for those lightning calculators who play it well enough to enter this tournament.

I also have a great regard for the organisers and those who have worked in their spare time to bring it to this successful conclusion, the evidence of which we see here to-night. Those responsible have done a good job within the community and, as Mayor, I congratulate them as I shall congratulate the winners and all those who, by entering, have made it possible for the tournament to be held.

First I must welcome you all to this Council Chamber, and I am very happy that it is on the occasion of a story competition that I welcome you. In my opinion there is no better way for a boy or a girl to spend some time than to use their imagination and put the results into the written word.

We are all very grateful to our Librarian, Miss Clarke, for arranging this competition; and she must be pleased there ~~are~~ so many entries. This is the sixth year we have held things of this nature and this year there are 232 entries, which is 50 more than last year. I think it is wonderful that some many boys and girls have ~~found it~~ made the attempt.

We are very grateful to the judges. With so many entries they must have had a busy time. Also we must thank some kind people who have added to our money for

prizes. This has enabled us to show some recognition to all the six year olds who have made the attempt. ~~For~~ in addition to the prize winners.

With these words then, we will distribute the prizes



# Congregationalists

I was very pleased to be invited here this afternoon, so that I could be present at the induction of Mr. Goldsmith as your new Minister. I am very glad, as Mayor of this town, to welcome him and Mrs. Goldsmith into the community of Lewes. They will find this is a busy little community, made up of many organisations, so there is always something going on; and it is a town that is getting increasingly popular.

I can assure him, from my experience as Mayor, that I have found it necessary on more than one occasion, to call on all the various bodies and associations that make up our community, to render assistance in various ways.

But, quite apart from this, as a student of Social History, I have a soft spot for the Congregationalists and I am sure that, as leader of that autonomous body which is the congregation of this Church, Mr. Goldsmith will be a success.

I, therefore, extend a hearty welcome from the town of Lewes, to Mr. and Mrs. Goldsmith. I hope they will, through their office, be members of our community for a long time.

When, late last evening, Mr. Watkins asked me to say a few words at this dinner, besides the feeling of panic that I generally have when asked to do this sort of thing, I felt, and still feel, the sensation that I am an interloper. The truth is that I do not possess a television set and, at the present time, my ~~time for~~ viewing is severely limited for obvious reasons. My knowledge is limited to football matches, sports meetings, plays, etc., and to the programmes ~~such as~~ I have seen produced on these two past evenings.

Without a doubt I am at a considerable disadvantage this evening.

I was very impressed by the equipment, both in quantity and quality, that was used for these programmes which were televised in Lewes. I was also struck by the marvellous timing and the wonderful teamwork that made these programmes possible. Regarding what I might term the more manual staff, I saw them start work in the Town Hall on Sunday and I was very surprised to find that, by nine o'clock this morning, their vehicles and equipment were gone. This points to more teamwork.



I was pleased to note the care taken in the production of programmes. Television is a very powerful medium of communication and the Southern I.T.V. quite clearly is fully aware of <sup>its</sup> ~~their~~ responsibilities.

This is a town of great historic tradition. The names of such makers of history as de Montfort and Tom Pain are connected with Lewes, the latter with this hotel itself. This hotel, however, <sup>it</sup> can keep pace with the times, as evidenced by this splendid meal and the arrangements made for to-night's function.

The town, tho' old, can provide a hall where, as we have seen on the last two nights, equipment and a large audience can be gathered together. Lewes is set in beautiful surroundings, bounded on three sides by the Downs and with the marshland to the south. Its very position tends to foster a feeling ~~to~~ <sup>of</sup> togetherness. If the Southern I.T.V. pay us a return visit, we should appreciate it if more local characters were called upon to help.

On behalf of all the guests here this evening, I would like to thank the Southern I.T.V. for their hospitality, and Mr. Wilson for coming to our town and giving such an excellent speech.

*opening of Willey's Bridge Saturday Oct 20 1965*

With this Bridge we hope to satisfy some wants.

It is desirable that we have some method of bringing our town into shape, as it were, so that pedestrians don't have to travel in a kind of big letter U to get to the town or to Malling.

It is desirable that the young can reach the Baths or the Pells without the risky journey along Malling Street and Cliffe High Street.

It is also very necessary that the older people can make the journey to, or from, Church Lane Estate by a more congenial and quiet route. Indeed, this will make a delightful walk for all of us and, in addition, those who wish to visit the churches close to either side of the river will be able to do so. For all purposes this bridge is useful and, from whatever angle we view it, this bridge is very good looking and graceful. Our congratulations are due to the designers and the builders for completing a job that is an asset to the town, both from a utilitarian and an aesthetic point of view.



When I was young, this immediate vicinity was called Curry's and, when considering what name to give the bridge, it did seem at first to be appropriate to call it Curry's Bridge. However, we have had a pretty fair struggle to obtain the bridge and the Councillor who did much to get it is Councillor Willey. We have resolved, accordingly, to call it Willey's Bridge.

*ES Am Blind Christmas Party Lewes Dec 8 1964*

I am pleased to be here and to meet all of you at this Christmas Party, which is one of the main events in the Association's programme. I understand that you come from various parts of the district - from Lewes, Seaford, Newhaven, Peacehaven, Polegate, Willingdon, Hailsham, Uckfield, Crowborough and East Grinstead - and I am quite sure you are all going to have a happy time. I am pleased to welcome you all to our Town Hall and Lewes is honoured by your presence.

The work of the members of the East Sussex Association for the Blind is one of the factors that always has to be taken into consideration on the credit side when we assess the work of various aspects of the welfare services, and the Association earns the thanks of us all for making one of these services run so smoothly and for adding the extra touches of comfort and comradeship.

This Christmas Party is but one illustration and I think that the organising of such an event is wonderfully well done. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking, not only the organisers, but the coach escorts, the Red Cross, the Women's Voluntary Service, and all of those who have helped to make this event possible, and to tell them how very much their



co-operation and hard work is appreciated.

As a token of our appreciation, perhaps you would all like to join with me in giving a round of applause, after which we will proceed with the raffle.

*Bochenek meeting Arthritis Monday Nov 2 1964*

On being made Mayor of this town and using the Parlour for the first time, my attention was drawn to a booklet on the desk about the Horder Centre for Arthritics. There were other booklets about other good works, but this one took my attention because I have arthritis in the spine ~~although I have made improvements.~~

I noticed that the Horder Centre was an effort to help sufferers from the pain of this chronic complaint, to achieve some measure of comfort by being as independent as possible. There was also <sup>outlined</sup> ~~mentioned~~ a scheme for building up an organisation which would arrange for people to visit sufferers from arthritis who were confined to their own room at home.

I went to Crowborough and was shown over the most advanced part of the Centre by Miss Bochenek and Dr. Joyce Peake, and I was very impressed with the aim and the methods of achieving their target. Altogether the work, and the ideals which inspired it of these two ladies, made me resolve to help in any way I could.

I have accordingly called this meeting with the aim of seeing what can be done to help so deserving a cause. Already the Round Table, as you know, are arranging for a Wine and Cheese Evening on the 20th November.



After Miss Bochenek has finished speaking, perhaps we in this room can come to some agreement about the formation of a branch in Lewes - but we will first learn from Miss Bochenek what is entailed in this.

Harroll re Money raising projects  
answered in affirmative  
Branch would mean priority  
over non-branch patients  
£9,000 subscribed by Branches in  
3 years  
How branches work through H.O.  
who are helpers

C.S. Care of Cripples -  
Horder only does homebound  
Value of Visitors first

Brown.  
Yarrow (Coordination).

Req: Make a direct approach to all  
organisations.

Letter to Press by me



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co-operation and hard work is appreciated.

As a token of our appreciation, perhaps you would all like to join with me in giving a round of applause, after which we will proceed with the raffle.



*Lewes Bowling Club Dinner*  
*Wed. Nov 18 1964*

I am pleased to be the proposer of this toast to the Lewes Bowling Club. I have had a lot to do with the Club and its members and I find they are a very happy group. This is the sort of organisation that is an asset to any community and I have accordingly taken a glance at its history.

We are greatly indebted to those far-sighted men who, as long ago as 1922, held their first meeting at the New Station Inn and formed this Club. I am thinking of them all, but I will mention just two.

Mr. F. W. Parrish, the father of the President, and Mr. A. J. Reed, who is still playing bowls at the age of 87 and also renders service as a committee man and transport secretary.

Another well-known Lewes man, the late Alderman Rugg, worked hard to get the first full-sized green laid down and completed by 1926, and the first County Match was played there in 1930.

We are also indebted to past and present officers who have worked hard for the Club in more recent years - some of whom I see are here to-night. I am going to mention two names again,

as being representative. Mr. Hereward Parrish, President since 1956 and Mr. Mead, who at one time was Secretary for eight years.

There is an apology for absence to-night from one of the longest serving members, who is also a past Captain - Mr. Jack Jefferies. In this toast we must make particular mention of Mr. and Mrs. Jefferies because they are celebrating their golden wedding and they are in the company of four generations of their family.

Last year the Club was honoured by one of its members becoming President of the Sussex County Bowling Association and I congratulate Mr. Lane on his year of office and his energy in making so many visits to different clubs in the County. While on County level, I would like to offer my congratulations also to those members who have done so well in the County competitions.

Some reference should also be made to the help given to the Club by the former President of the Lewes & District Ladies Bowling Club - the late Mrs. Banks - to the present Chairman of the Tea Committee - Mrs. Brown - and to the many other ladies who have given so generously of their time in looking after the interests of the members and their guests.



When we drink the toast we will include those that are no longer with us and all of the present workers and members who have built up a club of which the whole community can be proud. A club which is truly representative of this historic town and an historic game.

"THE LEWES BOWLING CLUB"

+ Mr. + Mrs. Jefferies

We have attended the Annual Inspection and Display on a few previous occasions, and on each occasion we have spent a very enjoyable evening. This year is no exception. It is pleasant for the Mayoress and me to come and watch these young people carry through their programme, and we know they started this project some weeks ago and are carrying it to its conclusion tonight.

~~The~~ This programme we have witnessed this evening is an example of group discipline, as we have seen by the Squad and Company drill, and of individual and bodily discipline, as we have witnessed by the gymnastics; and these young people have shown an alertness and a poise which does them and their teachers credit. That they have a happy time while they are in the Boys Brigade I think is proved by the old boys who still take an interest in the work. The young ones should be very pleased to have the old ones helping and encouraging them.

I was looking at the Captains report and I was struck with the number of interesting subjects a boy can learn in the company. Each of the subjects to be learnt plays a part in helping a boy to develop into a responsible citizen. <sup>and there</sup> ~~There~~ is no doubt the people who manage the Boys Brigade are doing a good job in that a group is provided which gives a boy the chance to find friends who will work with him on worthwhile ~~things~~ projects, & talking of projects.

I must congratulate Peter Mann on gaining the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award during the session. I see that since the company took up this scheme, you have gained a total of 2 Gold Six Silver and two Bronze Awards.



Another thing I have noticed about the Company is the quiet unobtrusive way it sets about raising its funds and while on fundraising congratulations to David Muzzell on making a record personal total

Each time I have attended these Annual Inspections I have noticed that parents and grown ups generally, are here in quite large numbers. The Eastgate Baptist Chapel can be congratulated through its Boys Brigade it has given the grown ups an opportunity to take an interest in the work of the children. I am ~~also~~ very glad to see so many here this evening for this season. Also at this meeting the Mayress and I always find many people we know so well. Therefore, my thanks to the Boys Brigade for inviting us, and ~~and~~ we wish the Company a successful year

The Mayoress and I are very happy to be with you members of the East St Association for the disabled this afternoon, and my pleasure is ~~the~~ greater because I have the honour of proposing this vote of thanks to your President Mrs Raymond Warren, who not only has so ably presided at this meeting, but has been president of the Association since it was formed.

I wish to include in this proposition thanks to those members of the Leazes District Committee who have handled the catering arrangements (and to whose work ~~we~~ I anticipate, we are going to sample with a good cup of tea) and to all those who have contributed to making this afternoon's meeting a success. I would like to mention the organiser and core secretary, Mrs Bellamy.

Tom, One of the benefits of being a mayor, is that I get the opportunity of meeting members of this, and similar associations whose aim is to make life happier for those who are physically handicapped.

I would like then to take this opportunity to thank the Association for its work for the disabled in this area.

I am very pleased, then, to propose this vote of thanks to the President, the Leazes District Committee; and all those who have helped to make today a success.



Mr. P. Ladies and Gentlemen:

This is one of the times when I wish I had paid more attention to what was happening in other years at functions such as this. I have been asked to respond to the toast of the Vice presidents and this is the first time I have been asked to do this. If I had paid more attention in other years to how others did it I should have felt much more able today. However, I am going to do my best to show we do appreciate the good wishes contained in your toast.

Speaking for myself I am overwhelmed by the kind things you have said because, after all, what is a Vice-president?

A Bonfire Society is made up of a number of people who work hard for a successful display on Nov. 5. From the Executive committee, who shoulder the responsibility, right through to the rank and file of those who give their time, their skill and their experience in the multiplicity of jobs there are to do, everyone works hard.

By comparison, I feel quite humble as a vice president when I consider what you other members do to carry a programme through while I stand and watch you keep the Society, and Leves, on the map each year.

I have been pleased on all occasions to notice the enthusiasm of you members. I like to see people have a go. Your toast to our Vice presidents contains that same enthusiasm and sincerity and I am very happy, Mr President, to thank you on behalf of the Vice presidents and wish the commercial long life and each member the maximum of happiness he or she can obtain through being a member of the C.S.D.S.

This is a very pleasant occasion. I have known  
alf Thorpe for what seems to me to be always,  
and I know he has worked for the  
Corporation of Lewes for 46 years

He has now reached the age when he  
has earned, and well earned, an easier  
time; and the time has come when he  
may retire, satisfied that he has  
done his best to serve the community  
of Lewes in the very vital position  
that he has held.

You, who are his workmates, and  
I, who represent the people of Lewes,  
are here today to wish him a very  
pleasant, and a very long, retirement;  
and to present him with a token of  
this



our regard for him and our thanks  
for the work done in the important  
part he has held

So, Mr. Thayer, we thank you  
for your long service and the  
able way in which you  
have carried out your duties  
and we wish you the best  
of health so that you may  
enjoy your retirement for  
many years

First, I must welcome you all to this Council Chamber and I am very glad that it is on the occasion of one of our children's competitions that I welcome you. This is the seventh year during which we have held a children's competition and we are all pleased that the number of children who have entered is as many as in other years.

We are all grateful to the town's Librarian, Miss Clarke for arranging the competition. It means a great deal of hard work for her, but I am sure she feels rewarded when, each year, the results of her work is shown by the popularity of ~~this~~ the competitions among the children.

We are also grateful to Councillor Miss Temple and Mr Buckridge for giving their time to judging the competition. This is not an easy job and we are all glad that they so cheerfully agreed to do this.

There are also some kind people who have subscribed to the prizes and I am sure you all join with me in saying thankyou to them as well as to all those who have helped to make a success of the competition.

I will now distribute the prizes, and, when that is done, Mr Buckridge has kindly agreed to speak to you. So, if Miss Clark will read out the names for me I will make a start.



inspection by  
H R H

Prince Thomas Star

Mr Ashew Hallam  
County V P

Mr Hicks, Quersoneal Prop

It is with pleasure that I welcome you to Laver and the pleasure is heightened because, as you are aware, I was connected with the printing industry for the last twenty-one years of my working life and this was the happiest period of my working life. This was partly because I was employed at Baxters, and partly because I was a ruler. If you are employed by Baxters, you are employed by an enlightened management: and if ~~are~~ you are a ruler, you have a job on which you can concentrate; and these two factors made for my contentment and happiness while I was in the industry.

During my employment in the printing industry I came into contact at various times with members of the B.F.M.P. and those I met I found to be men who ran their ~~industry~~ <sup>business</sup> very ably. The proof of their ability is I think to be found in the increasing use of new methods of production and, speaking economically, in the increasing rationalization of the industry.

This is as well, It helps the country's economy by increasing the national product: and printing has a very important part to play in the spreading of knowledge and wisdom throughout the world. This is of extreme importance at the present time, when the newly emerging countries are in need of knowledge and wisdom; and printing remains the only effective way of spreading it.



*Welcome to A. E. Martin Printer Brighton Bn. Monday Jan 28 1965*

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I make you welcome to Lewes, although the pleasure is tinged with a slight anxiety because, as you are doubtless aware, I was connected with the industry for the last twenty odd years of my working life. The anxiety comes in because I was a dilutee really and, after much anguish on my part and a really big amount of patience and kindness on the part of my employer, Mr. Reynolds, I did become a machine ruler. I was also strengthened by the knowledge that William Cobbett, more than a hundred years previously, had commended Baxters' farm account books to posterity in his "Rural Rides".

I found during my time that the ruler led a rather isolated life. He was almost as isolated in the trade - being neither a printer nor a bookbinder, as a ruler in the political sense of the word.

In short, I am conscious that I don't know as much about printing as I should do after twenty-one years in the printing works. Something, however, I did learn as Father of the Chapel for many years, was that the master printers with whom I did come into contact, were very good

fellows and ran their industry very ably.

I have read the recent correspondence in "The Times" concerning the printing and publishing industry and the results of the ability of the B.F.M.P. is shown by the number of new methods of production, and the rationalisation of the industry, with the resulting increased export trade, to say nothing of the increased home trade. Indeed, the industry's export trade is a vital part of the country's economy and, at home or abroad, printing is the method of spreading technical knowledge, learning, wisdom and recreation. The printing office should be entered with awe.

So, Mr. President and members of the British Federation of Master Printers, I welcome you on behalf of the Borough of Lewes. The town is honoured by your presence here to-day.



*OX FAM Start, Weds Oct 14, 1966*  
*I welcome you to this Council Chamber*

~~I have been asked to be Chairman at this meeting,~~  
*this meeting*  
The object of ~~which~~ is to start a branch of the Oxford  
Committee for famine relief, whose popular designation  
is Oxfam.

From the people I see here to-night, it is obvious  
to me that there is no need for me to go into details  
as to what the aims and immediate programme of Oxfam is.  
You will all know the aims, and the immediate programme  
will be given to you by the speaker for the organisation.

It will be sufficient for me to remind you that  
Oxfam was formed in 1942 and it has been found necessary  
to carry on the work because the problems it sought to  
solve were found to be more permanent than was at first  
thought. How long organisations such as this will have  
to carry on - in my opinion - depends on how long it  
takes the affluent nations to realise that they must  
work as nations to end such a state of affairs. ~~One~~

*a situation where some*  
~~of the chief topics of conversation among the people in~~  
countries ~~which~~ are steadily getting richer, ~~is how to~~  
~~keep their weight down,~~ whilst millions of human  
beings in other parts of the world are steadily getting

*a similar*

poorer. When I was young ~~the same~~ problem was at home here - extreme poverty for individuals in a country where goods were plentiful. We have got rid of that state of affairs at home but we still have to deal with the larger problems of extreme poverty of nations in a world of plenty. This is a bigger problem and it will necessarily take a longer time.

In the meantime, here is the organisation Oxfam, geared to give immediate relief where possible. Until the day when the problem is really tackled, we must give this immediate relief through the organisations we have. So when, as a result of this meeting, you decide to start a branch here, <sup>well</sup> ~~and~~ you know that you are trying to do your best to give <sup>but</sup> immediate relief to suffering, <sup>^</sup> make sure your effort doesn't end there. Press through all means at your disposal, for the affluent nations to arrange for capital investment to be so directed that the under-developed countries will be able, not only to stand on their own feet, but actually help in the feeding of this world. In my opinion, only when this is achieved will mankind stand the slightest chance of surviving in a world where, as an Oxfam official warned us last week, population is rapidly outstripping food supply.

*I hope you find a committee tonight Mr Frank Cade*

as

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*a situation where*



For old Grammar School. Sept 1965

First I must thank Mr. Mead for his invitation to visit your school this afternoon. This is the first time the Mayers and I have had the opportunity of being inside the school itself although when I was a boy this school had quite a good Association Football team and they played in the Paddock immediately behind this building. It was <sup>through</sup> watching them play that I served my apprenticeship of Football Spectator and many a happy boyhood Saturday afternoon I spent there, ~~listening~~ <sup>listening to</sup> thrilled with the play and the boys with their "Play up the School" generally ~~made into~~ <sup>delivered</sup> something like a Gregorian Chant with plenty of harmony. I expect if you could look back in the ~~records~~ archives you would find there was a boy here ~~called~~ named Legg. He was the one who, I remember, played centre forward in those days, well leaving football alone for the minute, I hope you

~~Tuesday 21~~ <sup>Look</sup>

Wednesday September 22 1965

Saturday " 25 Cycling 2 15 Wallands School.

are all enjoying your school days here. This is an old school and has always been a part of the community of Levens. It is quite plain to us that, under the guidance of Mr. Mead, this school will remain a part of the community of Levens.

5<sup>th</sup> Sussex old Comrades Dinner Oct Sat 17 1964

I am glad to be the proposer of this toast. The Fifth Sussex are part of the things I remember of my boyhood and early adolescence. Before the 1914 War I used to watch them and be very impressed with their smart dress uniforms and parades. I can't recall all their names, but I knew a good many of them as they were mostly only a few years older than me. Ernie <sup>FUNNEL</sup> ~~Fuller~~ and Bill Reynolds are two of the names that immediately spring to mind.

In the early days of the war I had to attend Guys Hospital, so twice a week I used to wander round to the Tower where the Sussex were on guard. I remember those who went to the front and were caught up in those attacks in the Spring of 1915, which were the desperate attempts to loosen up the front into open warfare. I remember too, the shock as we looked into the windows of the County Herald, as it was then, and realised what all those pictures of the casualties of Aubers Ridge, etc., meant to Lewes. Presently, Bill Reynolds came home wounded through the lung and I well remember how, as we walked up the river from the Pells, he described the 9th May.

So my attention was still drawn to the Fifth Sussex and although Bill Reynolds died and I went into the Army myself,



various little things have always remained in my memory of the Fifth Sussex of the period when the members of the Old Comrades' Association were young.

I am, then, very pleased to have this honour of proposing a toast to this Old Comrades' Association, which you formed soon after the first war and, to your credit, have kept in a flourishing condition ever since.

Perhaps I should mention the work and the interest taken by the President, Colonel Fazan, and also the work of Mr. Ketchell as Secretary. They are to be congratulated on the success of their work in keeping this organisation of Old Comrades <sup>going</sup> ~~together~~ and providing this opportunity for you all to be able to talk together again.

So Mr. President and members, I propose the toast of The Old Comrades' Association of the Fifth (Cinque Ports) Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment.

5th LX OC

I am pleased that once again I have the honour of proposing the toast to the Old Comrades' Association of the Fifth Sussex. I am also very pleased to see that so many of the Old Comrades are able to be present this evening. This is the second year running that I have proposed this toast and, as I told you last year, the Fifth Sussex are quite a memorable part of the times I can remember before 1914. I had quite a feeling of nostalgia at last year's Reunion Dinner, as it was held in the old Drill Hall in Mountfield Road from where, as a boy, I used to see the Fifth Sussex march.

This year we are in this splendid new building, which is of a beautiful and modern design, and we do get a sense of change regarding the Territorial Army. It reminds us that half a century has gone by and we are still here to commemorate the old Fifth Sussex, through your Association which is made up of the comrades of those days.

We can also reflect that this building emphasises the change, not only in the techniques of T.A. training, but also in the rising standards of almost everything connected



with T.A., from comfort combined with efficiency in training, to attractive facilities for recreation. I congratulate those responsible for the way they have kept abreast of the times. Besides which, Lewes has been provided with a building which any town could be proud to have within its boundaries.

Last year I finished what I was trying to say by referring to the Aubers Ridge period. The difference between my speaking last year and this year is that then I was speaking about things I knew about at the time they happened - The further work which you had to carry out as the pioneer Battalion of the 48th Division. The splendid work of the Fifth during the third Battle of Ypres. The move to Italy and your work there - is what I have had to read about. I would like you all to understand, however, that in my wishes for the continued existence of this Old Comrades' Association, I have taken note of that work.

Oddfellows An. Dinner Oct 1965

I am honoured to be asked to respond on behalf of those of us who are visitors, to your Toast "The Guests". I am pleased to have been included among your guests because this District of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows contains many old Lewes names. Names that are familiar because for as long as I can remember they have been a part of Lewes and, indeed, *the passing of* *out* <sup>men</sup> three very well known Lewes names, Buckman, Ketchell and Grayson have made a triple loss to the Oddfellows, as they were all members.

I have traced the Oddfellows back to the middle of the eighteenth century and I find that, towards the end of that century they were sometimes in trouble and suffered State prosecutions because they "practised Secret Rites" at that dangerous time when Pitts' Government <sup>was</sup> ~~were~~ rather nervous at the French Revolution just over the water. But all that earlier period of the Oddfellows doesn't really count.

I find the "New Model" of the Manchester Unity in 1810 is when you really got going, and I need hardly remind you that this was forty years or so earlier than the time when most associations became "New Models", in accordance with the



demands of nineteenth <sup>Laissez-faire</sup> (~~Laissez-Faire~~) century.

The Oddfellows of that time, then, were men who knew they must adapt their society to changing times or perish as a society; and they realised this many years before most kindred organisations realised it. A society whose founders ~~were~~ <sup>were</sup> men of such sound common sense deserves to survive through changes. But I must be more local. /150 years

I notice your Branch has supplied three Mayors of Lewes. Messrs. Gates, Holman and Kenward. I also notice that from the time of J. H. Every, the leading local industrialist of those days who was also an Oddfellow, to the present day, this District seems to have been made up of men who lead in the town and in their callings. This, no doubt, accounts for me finding names that are familiar. There was a Barber in 1895 who was the proprietor of the town's Bookbinding Works.

Together with your other guests then, in responding to your toast, I salute your national historical traditions and your more local traditions. We thank you for giving us the honour of being your guests and for Mr. Moorey's eloquence in proposing the toast. We thank you also for your hospitality

at this splendid dinner.

I feel sure that, although this is another period of change, the men whom you choose to conduct the affairs of your District will be found as capable as their forebears of guiding the District and adapting it to that change.

*On behalf of your guests then, I wish  
the Leazes District of the Manchester  
Unity of Oddfellows continued  
success during the next 150 years*



The Mayoress and I are very pleased to be here again with all you senior citizens: and we are very glad so many of you have turned up for what is a very happy Annual Event in the town.

We wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and we hope you will accept this small present to each club as a Christmas Present and as a token of our regard for you all.

I have found this year to have been a very busy one and this has made it more difficult for us to get round to each club as yet. We will, however, have got round to visiting each

club before long. In the meantime I would like to thank all those who, by the generous giving of their time, and by their considerable organizing ability, have done so much towards making this party a success. I am sure all of us in this hall are extremely grateful to them for their efforts on behalf of the welfare of the older people of this town.

I hope, then, that you are all enjoying this party and so spending a happy time here.



## *Old Peoples Fair*

I am very glad to see so many people <sup>have</sup> ~~having~~ turned up this morning for the opening of this fair, <sup>this fair</sup> ~~which~~ has become an annual event, and it is greatly to the credit of the Committee that this is so.

Each year the fair has given a fillip to the funds of the Old People's Welfare Committee, and, in particular, to the building fund for the House of Friendship. It naturally follows then, that we are very grateful to the organisers, and the firms who present the prizes, not forgetting all the organisations who have worked and contributed to making this fair a success.

Now it is the custom for us to enlist the aid of some well-known personality to perform the opening ceremony, and these good people do a very fine job and do it generously. You people who are present are, in a way, unlucky, because you have only your local Mayor to open the fair this morning and I am not a famous person. However, you are only unlucky as regards the opening ceremony. This afternoon Mr. Hartnell will be here at three o'clock, and I hope that then, you will be here together with many more of the public who have been unable to be present this morning.

P.T.O. The chief concern/

The chief concern of all of us who are present, is to make sure we give this event a flying start, and so set the pace for the rest of the day, because it is imperative that we keep the momentum that has been built-up in previous years by the Committee, with the aid of the donors, the helpers and the public. Let us make sure it can truly be said of our community that it was determined that this House of Friendship should be built, that Lewes was determined to care for its senior citizens, and that we are determined that the organisers, the donors and the helpers should know, at the end of the day, that their work has not been in vain by giving proof, <sup>by</sup> ~~with~~ the financial results, of the success of their efforts. So, to show our determination to overcome all the obstacles in the way to achieving the House of Friendship, to show that we can help the older members of our community and to make the helpers go home happy at the end of the day, let us spend all we can and empty the stalls, and know we shall all be pleased that another local event has proved a success.

With all these incentives in mind, I declare the fair open.



The Mayor is the presiding member of the Council and he remains in that Office for one year. He is elected into this Office by the members of the Council. A Council can choose somebody who is not already on the Council, but this is very rarely done. When a Councillor is made Mayor, his place does not have to be filled by a fresh election. It remains vacant until he ceases to be Mayor.

Now the Mayor of a town, besides being Chairman of the Council has a ceremonial position. He is the town's leading citizen, and he has precedence over everyone else in the borough, and, ~~he is~~ <sup>until recently he was</sup>, during his term of office, a Justice of the Peace. As Mayor he must carry out such functions as go with the post. Preside at various town meetings, receive distinguished visitors and attend such parades and functions as are peculiar to the town of which he is Mayor. I ~~have~~ also made it a strict rule that I <sup>was</sup> ~~am~~ in the Mayor's Parlour each morning from 9.15 onwards for two hours or so. This <sup>ad</sup>allows me time to deal with office matters, but chiefly it enables anyone in the town to call on the Mayor if they wish, and many do wish. People who want advice or information about the town, secretaries of the local organisations who may have a request from their associations to the Mayor, and sometimes / people

people in trouble of various kinds. He should attend meetings of all the Committees and there are five main Committees and two lesser ones, and of course, he must take the Chair at the main meetings of the Council which are held, roughly, about once in five weeks. At these Council Meetings, the reports and the work these Committees propose to do, are presented to the full Council, discussed and finally put to the Council for approval and adoption. Frequently, of course, items in these reports are amended or sent back from the Council to the appropriate Committee to be considered afresh. It will be seen then, that this job the Mayor has of being Chairman of Council needs a good knowledge of Chairmanship, and of the items being debated, <sup>in order</sup> ~~that~~ <sup>should</sup> I shall have this knowledge of the items being discussed, ~~is the reason~~ <sup>tried</sup> I ~~try~~ never to miss any of the Committee Meetings. So that at Council Meetings I <sup>had</sup> ~~have~~ some idea of the weight given to various items on a Committee report, and this enabled me to be a more understanding Chairman. I will return to Council work later if you have any questions on it, but it would be a good idea for you to visit the Council Chamber when the full Council is holding its monthly Meeting and discussing the recommendations made by its various Committees, and you will get a picture of how democratically



a Council works. In the Council Chamber the Mayor's Chair, even when there is nobody in the Chamber, dominates the room by reason of its size, design, decoration, and, of course, its position.

I mentioned the Mayor's Parlour just now. This is a room leading off from the Council Chamber. It is cosy and well furnished, and contains the photographs of the Mayors' for a good many years back, and many pieces of plate and other gifts that have been made to the town during the years. The Mayor has charge of these on behalf of the people of Lewes. It is in this room that the Mayor deals with what might be termed the office work, part of being a Mayor, signing of documents and so on. The Mayor's Parlour is not open to the public but can be viewed by arrangement with the Mayor. In all this work, the Mayor has the advice and help of the Chief Officers, who are always glad to be of service.

Besides the work inside the Town Hall, a Mayor has a great many things to do that I consider of extreme importance. I have mentioned the welcoming of distinguished visitors, and it is necessary that a Mayor should uphold the dignity of the town while doing this: and there are a great many other outside things to attend to. The Mayoress and I attend *ed* functions

functions arranged by any of the organisations in the town. Sometimes this means we part <sup>ed</sup> company while we each attend <sup>ed</sup> events, and sometimes we do <sup>not</sup> two or three one after the other, but we always stop <sup>ped</sup> as long as we <sup>could</sup> ~~can~~ at each one, frequently to the end of the proceedings. I have heard it suggested that by attending all events, however small, the office of Mayor is cheapened. My answer to this is that a Mayor should do as comprehensive a job as possible, and he should attend all social functions or meetings to which he is invited, if he is at all able to do so, and I believe our idea of giving recognition to each organisation in the community has been successful. Earlier on I mentioned Town Meetings. The more organisations a Mayor recognizes, the better meeting he has when he calls a Town Meeting, because on such an occasion each organisation is represented by one or more delegates, <sup>and</sup> ~~so I have~~ the whole community <sup>is</sup> ~~rep-~~resented as far as that is possible, and the community gains by a greater sense of togetherness.

The Mayor represents the town in other Boroughs, and this means, during a year of office, the Mayor and Mayoress attend one or more functions at each town where there is a Mayor and, of course he and the Mayoress respond in ~~like~~ manner by ~~having~~



*entertaining*

~~entertained~~ the other Sussex Mayors' and dignitaries of the County once during the year. All these functions, whether at home or away, must be carried through with the dignity that befits the County Town.

Then there is the work of being a Justice of the Peace. The Mayor, as I said earlier, is ~~made~~ <sup>no longer automatically</sup> a magistrate during the term of office. I put this part of a Mayor's <sup>my</sup> duties very high on the list. ~~He must~~ attend the Magistrates Court each Tuesday. On more than one occasion this part of my duties has lasted all day, and, because I ~~am~~ <sup>was</sup> always about the town, and therefore easy to find, I ~~am~~ <sup>was</sup> frequently called upon to attend extra courts, when emergency cases arise. However, I very gladly carry <sup>led</sup> out this part of my duties, and ~~providing~~ a Mayor has the type of mind which takes trouble to consider things, and weigh up matters properly, he is taking part in a ~~very worthwhile job~~. There is another duty on the legal side that the Mayor carries out. At the Assizes he attends the Judges Service at St. Anne's Church. This is a function which is quite interesting and which any member of the public may attend. It is worthwhile attending, and one can hear the "Bidding Prayer" read by the High Sheriff's Chaplain, which I consider interesting in itself, and as an example of elocution.

The Judge then goes to the County Hall, and later the High Sheriff is the host at lunch at the "White Hart". In the afternoon this party attends the Court, where, if it is a suitable stage in a trial, one may hear further examples of fine elocution, and admire the quiet atmosphere and the scrupulous fairness which makes this Country's justice the admiration of the world.

I spoke earlier of the various organisations with which the Mayor should keep touch. Many of these, whether they are charitable or social organisations, like the Mayor to attend their Annual General Meeting. Those that have Annual Dinners like the Mayor to attend these, and this is very nice and hospitable. At any, or perhaps all of these occasions, members of the organisations concerned, would like the Mayor to make a little speech, so with these, and speeches for bigger occasions, a Mayor must do quite a lot of thinking about what to say. In our case, the Mayoress and I ~~have~~<sup>was a</sup> found that our study of sociology of great help in this respect.

I had always known that there were good people who work in a community, and spend a good deal of their time making life happier for those who are handicapped in various ways.



On being made Mayor, one meets these people, and ~~you~~ <sup>one</sup> realises <sup>that there</sup> ~~that~~, not only ~~are there~~ more of them than ~~you~~ thought, but they do far more work of this nature because there is far more need for it than one imagined. One thing I mark on the credit side of being Mayor is that he comes into contact with these people and realises how much voluntary work is carried out in this town by enthusiastic people: Secretaries of all the Clubs and Committee Members of all sorts of Associations, Appeals, etc.

*Mayor Speech for opening of Second year May 26 1965*

For the second year I thank you for resolving to make me Mayor of the Borough of Lewes. I promise you that the Mayoress and I will carry out the duties involved to the best of our ability. Being Mayor last year was a new experience and, like anybody venturing, for the first time, into activities of this nature, we knew we would have to proceed empirically, and profit, as far as we were able, from our experiences. From this you will gather that, although we have put every ounce into the job during the past year, we expect to be more competent during the coming year.

I don't want to dwell too long on the past year, but some things need to be said. Looking back, I am conscious of the confidence you placed in me, and the encouragement I received from you members of the Council. From the Town Clerk, the Borough Treasurer, the Borough Engineer and their staffs, I have received great help and loyalty, while from Mrs. Bourne, the Mayor's Secretary, I have received help and guidance that has saved me from committing too many solecisms as it steered me through what sometimes seemed to be a sea of etiquette.



So I do thank you all for your encouragement, your loyalty and your guidance. I would also like to acknowledge the backing I have received from my wife and to compliment her on her able interpretation of the duties of a Mayoress.

There are many salient points in the recollections of the past year. They mark things that I shall remember always, and the chief of these, Ladies and Gentlemen, is the goodwill and kindness shown to the Mayoress and me by the community you represent here to-night.

I have learned how many people work hard and give most generously of their time to organisations whose job it is to make life happier for those who are handicapped. I have learned how quickly people respond to the appeals for help which a Mayor has to send out occasionally. So I thank them for this and thank all those good people who work and keep all the organisations going, and so make Lewes the interesting community it is.

Last year I mentioned the four projects we were about to undertake and which I called "steps in a gradual approach to a better town".

Of these, the footbridge is finished, to the delight of most of the people.

The main road lighting system is nearing completion and will then equal that of any town of comparable size in the country.

The old people's dwellings are under way and will surely make for more happiness when completed, and thereby *bring* — *satisfaction to all of us.*

The Malling cross-roads have to wait for the County Council road priority works but you, as a Council, have got some things done that are extra to the ordinary work of the town, and *it naturally follows,* the town will be richer by their completion.

During the coming year new projects will, I know, be under consideration. Already, at the bottom of North Street, development is under way on the industrial site



and we hope that work will be completed, this year, which will make this land more profitable to the town than it has ever been and, at the same time, more sightly than it has looked for a long time.

I hope then, during the coming year, we shall continue to keep pace with the progress we have made this year towards our ideal town. In this connection, I know that you will agree with me that every encouragement should be given to the cultural activities that are a very large part of the life of this town. Any town would be very poor indeed without such activities.

So, if we try for the necessary material things and, at the same time, try to encourage steps taken for the cultivation of the mind, we shall be on the way to making a town of which it can be said, quite truly, "Lewes is a wonderful place".

*'Lepra' today 22 Jan<sup>1965</sup> Council Ch*

I welcome you all to this Council Chamber. I have been asked to help arrange this meeting, which is convened with the object of rendering assistance to an organisation ~~which~~ <sup>WHICH</sup> ~~that~~ helps some people who are in distress. You are all aware how, during the past, we in Lewes have given our assistance to various associations which try to help people who live under the handicap of different kinds of physical disability.

To-night we are going to hear about Leprosy, perhaps the first bad disease some of us knew about when very young because of our Scripture lessons. We have, almost all of us, read of the work done by the people who render help to those suffering from this complaint. To-night's meeting will give us an opportunity to consider what we can do, in however small a measure, to render assistance to those people who are not so fortunate as ourselves.

Accordingly we shall hear some words from the organiser about the organisation "Lepra" and see a film showing the work. Afterwards we can, perhaps, gather a number of names from the people here to-night from which a branch can be formed.



It is indeed an honour for me to be occupying the post of Mayor of the Borough of Lewes to-day. This enables me to accept this memorial on behalf of the people of Lewes.

It is also very fitting that this sculpture, which commemorates the victory of Simon de Montfort and the resultant first Parliament, should be a gift to the town of Lewes from the Member of Parliament for the Lewes constituency: and this in the twenty-first year of Sir Tufton's holding this position.

When the sculpture is unveiled it will be seen to have, worked on it by the hand of a master, a record of the events which took place seven hundred years ago, the events which left us a legacy. This legacy, wisely used by succeeding generations of thinkers and statesmen, is now paying dividends in the shape of a system of democratic government which, in my opinion, is second to none, and endeavours are made to follow it, in some form, by every country which desires the most enlightened form of government for its people.

This Battle of Lewes, to judge by all reports, was a particularly bloody affair, but it started a system of which

we can, quite justly be proud: and since then we have learned the necessities of compromise, and the art of sacrificing the non-essential to preserve the essential, so that now we can effect the greatest amount of good compatible with our opportunities, and to do this without the shedding of blood. This is an advance, even though it has taken so many years, and for giving us this monument to remind us of the importance of these things, and on behalf of the people of Lewes, I say to you Sir Tufton, thank you very much. It is an admirable gift to this town of Lewes.



*opening of Landport Ground on Aug Monday 1964*

There are two or three reasons why I would rather be here, opening this fete, than doing anything else on this Bank Holiday. One is this ground: and that gives me the opportunity to mention the efforts made by Alderman John Buckwell, some years ago, to get this land filled and turfed. I remember there was some opposition to this project, but John persuaded the committee to do it and when we see an event such as this fete taking place, we are all glad he did persuade them.

Another reason why I am glad to be here is that I find the British Railway Staffs Association helping to organise this fete. This is the second time this lively organisation has given me this pleasurable duty. The first was a very well arranged children's sports meeting in the Dripping Pan. Now we have them and the Lewes Boys' Club with their leader, Mr. Collinson, co-operating in the organising of this fete. Any community has need of such organisations as these two associations, whose members have the initiative and the ability to carry through such events as this.

So, on behalf of the town I thank the joint committee of the Railway Staffs Association and the Lewes Boys' Club.

*Landport Ground on day Monday 1964*

They have arranged this fete, help has been given by numerous workers, the ground has been reclaimed and it is now only necessary for all of us here to make <sup>sure</sup> this afternoon *is* a success.

So, with this appeal to all of you to crown their work with success by patronising the stalls and sideshows, to make this day when these two associations ran their first fete on Landport Recreation Ground a day to be remembered, I declare this Fete open.



*Bring & Buy Sale in aid of Leprosy Saturday June 12 1965*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I welcome you all to the Council Chamber and this "Bring and Buy" Sale. The Sale has been arranged by the *Lewes* Branch of the association "Leprosy", which branch was formed in Lewes after a meeting, held in this Chamber, with the object of helping people who are in distress. You all know how we, in Lewes, are often called on to give our assistance to organisations which are formed to help people who live under the handicap of various kinds of physical disability. This morning our energies are to be devoted to the organisation which helps those people who suffer from Leprosy.

Leprosy is, possibly, the first bad disease we knew of because, when very young, we heard about it in our early scripture lessons; and we have, almost all of us, heard or read of the work done by the people who render help to those unfortunates who suffer from this distressing complaint.

The meeting in this Chamber a few months back, was held to see what Lewes could do, in however small a measure, to render assistance to those who are not so fortunate as

ourselves. As a result a branch of "Lepra" was formed and this Sale to-day is its first effort to put into practice ideas of what Lewes could do to help those devoted men and women who are able to fight this disease in the front line as it were. I, therefore, ask you to support this sale. You will, by so doing, be keeping up a town tradition of helping, through the organisations, those who are handicapped.

You will be giving the new branch a good start on its venture and you will be making happy those people who have worked hard to arrange this morning's project. They will know their work has not been in vain, and good financial results at the end of these sales have a very elevating effect. So for all these reasons which are for the main cause, I ask you to patronise the stalls as much as you possibly can and I declare the "Bring and Buy" Sale open.



It was very nice of you to invite me to be present at the Bliffe British Legion Club and to distribute the awards. As I told you when I was here two or three years ago; during the last war my Home Guard platoon used this club as their headquarters so I have quite nostalgic memories of this building.

There are other reasons why I am glad to be here doing this job. I am glad to be here with you people, who, it always seems to me, besides being down to earth, are lightning calculators and <sup>so</sup> are able to play cribbage well enough to be where you are this evening. This playing of crib is something I failed to master. My father tried to teach me but eventually gave it up as a bad job. My father-in-law had a go at teaching me and came to the conclusion that he was wasting his time and he consequently gave it up also.

These two failures of mine to play enhanced my respect for those who could play, and I therefore congratulate all you who have taken part, whether you have won an award or not. The fact of your being in the competition has brought you all together and I am sure that is to your

I give you all a welcome to Lewes, which is the County Town of Sussex, and to this Council Chamber, which is the administration centre of Lewes.

I am sorry the weather has not been kind to you on this occasion, because this wet day will not be helpful to you when you look at our town.

were it not for this you would have had a better idea of the countryside which surrounds Lewes and you would then realise what makes this a compact, snug little town.

Lewes has a population of about 14,000 and in the town there are some fine examples of house building from the middle ages until the present day.

I have never been to Finland, but we in England think of your country as a friendly and Progressive



place, so my welcome to you guides  
from Finland is sincere; and, as  
Mayor of Lewes, I speak on behalf  
of the Town of Lewes when I say  
I hope you will enjoy your look  
at our town in spite of the weather  
and that you will enjoy your stay in  
England.

In this building we have some  
treasures which I hope you will  
find of interest to you.

Regarding the government of the  
town, Mr Morris, who is what we  
call the Town Clerk, is with us  
and I am going to ask him to say  
a few words to us about the  
town and its management. Then  
Mr. Crouch, our Hall keeper, will  
show you over our things, and then  
I hope you will enjoy some  
refreshment before you go.

I am pleased that once again, I have  
the pleasure of welcoming French  
Students to our town of Lewes;  
and I am glad to greet you on  
behalf of the people of Lewes  
you will find that Lewes is a  
town of some charm, besides  
it being within easy distance  
from larger centres such  
as Brighton, Eastbourne,  
Hastings and London.

It is also a town of historic  
importance, for it is known  
to be connected historically  
with France and also with  
early theories of government  
which have been of great  
importance to the world.

For many years Lewes has had



connection with the French town  
of Blois, and of recent years  
Blois and Leves have been  
twin towns. Exchange of visits  
take place between various  
organizations, and two days ago  
the children's choir the Allouettes  
went back to France after  
being a week with us and  
giving pleasure to the people  
here with Choral singing.

altogether, we are glad to have  
people of your country  
visit us and we hope you  
will all enjoy your stay here  
I consider these visits are good  
for us and good for you. So I  
extend our welcome, and our  
hope that you will spend a  
happy and fruitful time while

you are the guests of the people of  
Leves

This is a very important occasion for me. For two years I have had the honour of representing the working people of Levens as their chief citizen. This is the first time things have happened so and you will realise what an importance had to be attached to the carrying out of the job. Through the Local Labour Party, Dorothy and I were given this job of breaking down the prejudice of the group of shopkeeper Aldermen, who seemed to imagine they had the only knowledge of law to go on <sup>we say the</sup> <sup>206</sup> off showing that part of the population of the town who, for some extraordinary reason, think they are the <sup>only</sup> representatives of the cultural life of Levens, that a town's true culture is all of its inhabitants activities. From each end, or wing of the life of this town we have now received commendation. (Produce) and we have been told by the officials of one of the cultural organizations that this is the first time in the history of his association that they have felt ~~themselves~~ <sup>by duty bound</sup> it necessary to write and thank a retiring Mayor for his work for the various clubs and organizations in the town. We feel that honour has been given to us from all parts of the community: but none of it do we rate more highly than the honour you have accorded us this evening.



Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen. In rising to propose the adoption of this Report, I must point out that I must surely be the recruit with the least service in the Association; and I am also conscious of my limitations in knowledge of Housing Associations. This being so, I am aware of the honour accorded me in being invited to propose the adoption of the Annual Report.

I wish to congratulate the Assn. on the progress it has made with the development of 'Fairholme'. This development fills ~~a need~~ the kind of need that one is often inclined to overlook; and we, who composed the Borough Council at the time when the idea was brought forward, were very glad that this need was receiving the attention of the good people who conceived the idea of transforming "Fairholme" into a number of homes: this not only serving the individuals who will live there, but enriching the neighbourhood aesthetically.

My use of this word gives me the opportunity to congratulate Miss Mills on her work. Some time in the beginning of the job I went over the site with her, and she has also attended at the building committee of the Boro' Council. In these words of congratulation I wish to include the Ringmer Building Works. The quality of the R.B.W. work is <sup>always</sup> appreciated by <sup>members</sup> we of the Boro' Council.

In this Annual Report one can see the great amount of careful planning, and the application of that planning, by the members of the Executive Committee and the House Committee; and so Mr. Chairman the Gandreda Housing Assn. has reason to feel proud of its work and I am pleased to propose the adoption of this Annual Report.

I am very pleased to have the privilege of being here to-night. The Royal Sussex Regiment were made freemen of this Borough in 1953 and you, <sup>are</sup> ~~as~~ the Old Comrades of the Regiment, <sup>we of the County Town, then,</sup> ~~will~~ feel ~~equally~~ pleased that the venue for your Annual Dinner is our grand Town Hall.

My pleasure is tinged with a slight nervousness because, although I served in the Army in the first world war, the only connection I had with the county forces was with the Sussex Yeomanry and the Surrey Yeomanry, both of whom had their horses taken away, were put on bikes and were amalgamated into the 8th Yeomanry Cyclists. Hence the parody "Bring back my Gee-Gee to me".

I spent the last two years of my soldiering in the 60th Rifles. This hybrid soldiering explains my nervousness when I speak in the company of you Old Comrades who are all of one particular Regiment, and one that is famous from Quebec to the Somme and Alamein.



After the first war, I did note at the time the service of the Royal Sussex Regiment in Ireland, West Indies, Greece, Singapore and, in 1927, China. No doubt some of you Old Comrades were in the Regiment in those days. You will see, then, that I have an interest in the doings of the Royal Sussex and I have noticed that to-day, the Regiment goes wherever a "bush fire" is threatened.

I see from the news reports that the Regiment has a new Commanding Officer - Lt.-Colonel David Russell. I understand he is no stranger to this Town Hall. I congratulate him and the Regiment on his appointment and wish him and the Regiment best wishes when they take up their new duties in Aden. I have not seen Aden since 1921, but I understand the climate is still not of the best, and there is an atmosphere of a different kind now. A year ago last Christmas my son-in-law was stoned there whilst on a fact-finding mission. I hope the present terrorist activities will soon cease and the Royal Sussex Regiment will be able to return home and march through Lewes, exercising their rights as

Freemen of the Borough.

Your guests and I thank you for giving us the privilege of being with you this evening and for your generous hospitality. We are pleased you are here as Old Comrades of the County Regiment and the town is honoured by your presence.



*Friends of Hellingly Hospital Nov 28 1964*

On occasions such as this, it is generally the custom to invite some well-known personality, preferably a comedian, to open the proceedings. The idea is that the personality will draw the public's attention to the function and also draw a big crowd to the opening ceremony at least. You who have attended to-day are, in one way, unlucky, because you have only me to perform the ceremony; and, although I have somewhat of a sense of humour, I have no pretensions to being anything of a comedian and am but a local Mayor. However, you have turned up, as we wanted you to, to visit this bazaar, and I extend to you all a hearty welcome.

The bazaar has been arranged by the Friends of Hellingly Hospital to raise funds to enable them to carry on with the work of sending parcels to the patients who are listed by the Hospital Authorities as hardly ever receiving so much as a card at Christmas.

This bazaar then is to help the Friends of the Hospital to befriend those who, in this hospital, are truly needing signs of friendship. The parcels are packed immediately a patient shows a desire for something. I understand the parcels number about 400, so you will appreciate the Friends' need of your help.

Besides gifts of this nature, there is the need for other extras - Television sets, curtains round beds, etc. The gifts that any hospital needs to give it that touch of comfort.

Such an effort as this bazaar has a universal appeal because of the nature of the illness of those whom the Friends try to help. Those patients, sometimes without any outward sign of their illness, very often feel isolated from the community and this organisation is formed to help them in every way possible.

I also want to draw attention to this bazaar as a project that needed a very great deal of organising and other hard work to make it possible at all. I am sure the helpers must have been very busy and given most generously of their time. In these circumstances, I do ask you all to patronise the stalls and the sideshows. Good financial results will make the helpers glad that their work has not been in vain. But, as they would be the first to agree, that is quite a secondary aim. Good financial results will mean that more help can be given to friendless patients, more assistance to providing general comforts, the people who have worked so hard will be happy and all of us will know that by our buying the goods we



are helping in this great effort to reach out to those who are very badly in need of friendship.

So with this appeal to you all to patronise the stalls and the sideshows, and reminding you that all that is now needed to make this bazaar a success is your help - I declare this bazaar open.

*Leaves J.C. Annual Dinner Friday May 21  
1965*

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This is an occasion when any Mayor would be proud to propose the toast to his town's Football Club. Of course, one is always glad to propose the toast but this is a great occasion. This marks the end of a season where we have seen the results of good management on the part of those who run the club's affairs, and we have seen the result of careful coaching in the superb team work in all the three teams. Now these things are always worked for, but to-night we have before our eyes, the proof of the successful application of that work.

The Sussex Senior Cup. Won for the first time after being runner-up in six previous finals.

The Sussex County League Championship Trophy - Won for the first time after being runners up on three previous occasions.

The Royal Ulster Rifles Cup - Won for the fourth time.

The Second Team has won the Championship of the Brighton and District League Division I and the third team has won the championship of the Brighton and District League Division IV. The Club has also won the Jubilee Cup.



All this adds up to very creditable work on the part of the Club throughout the season.

I congratulate you on your success and, as one who has watched football in the Dripping Pan for a considerable number of years, I share in your pleasure at your achievements. You have played some good games and, at the Senior Cup Final, especially in the first half, you showed some football worth going miles to see. (The rally by Littlehampton made the second half worth going miles to see.)

So, then, we have ended what the Evening Argus has called "This incredible season which has written a new chapter into the history of Sussex football" and this calls for some special mention of certain people.

Congratulations to Ken Carter, the Coach/Manager, Charlie Lower and Albert Thome, the Team Managers. You must all feel very elated and your first team is unbeaten in Sussex.

Congratulations to Charlie Lower on 209 appearances for Lewes. Gordon Fowlie on 269 appearances for Lewes and John Lynch on 279 appearances for Lewes.

Congratulations also to John Lynch on playing for Sussex after some time as reserve. To Ken Baker on playing for Sussex and to Charlie Lower on playing for Sussex twice.

To visit the Dripping Pan on a Saturday during the season, I always find very enjoyable. Several people help to make this so. Mr. Piper keeps the pitch so that it is pleasing to look at, besides to play on. Mrs. Vise and Mrs. Beck make sure there is a good cup of tea, and I thank all the people who make the Dripping Pan, on Saturday afternoons during the season, a large part of the life of Lewes.

We must remember the organisers and collectors of the Welfare Fund and, particularly, I want us to remember the management committee of the club and the Secretary, Mr. Bull. His pleasure at remembering this season will be tinged with more unhappy memories that will remind him of this year. But let us wish him a quick recovery and many more seasons as the Secretary of a successful Club.

So Ladies and Gentlemen, I give you the toast,

"THE LEWES ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB"



*Fire Services Social Club Dinner Sat- Nov 14 1964*

I am pleased to be here to-night, although I am not sure whether it is completely in order for one who is a member of the Fire Brigade Committee, to propose a toast to the Fire Brigade. However, I have only just joined the Committee so I am going ahead with this toast.

The Fire Brigade is very different to what it used to be, and in this district we now have professional firemen as distinct from the old volunteer Fire Brigade. This new set up, of course, makes for a much greater degree of efficiency. In this connection, I see from your report that the brigade is able to render the assistance needed sometimes by other districts and that there have been less fires to be dealt with but more work has apparently been done. To me this means that more time has been put in on preventive activities such as inspections. The fact that we now have professional firemen gives a greater measure of confidence. (Besides which and by the way, it gives me the great pleasure of welcoming to the Borough Council, for the first time, a professional fireman as councillor - Bill Fuller. I congratulate him on his work for the brigade and the union.)

But I must return to the Fire Brigade. Side by side with the increased efficiency in fire-fighting, there has grown to be more work for firemen in the clearing up in road accidents and, of course, the usual things that firemen are called upon to do that are nothing to do with fires, such as rescuing people and animals when they are in difficulties. Such occasions do arise and then the fireman is always ready to come to the aid of those who are in <sup>trouble</sup> danger.

I have been enquiring about the strength of the Brigade and it occurs to me that to be a retained fireman is a very attractive part-time job for any able-bodied man who cares for a little adventure in his spare time. I understand you are rather short of retained men and I would like to add my voice to the committee's and invite recruits to this very useful service.

So Mr. Chairman and Members of the Fire Brigade, I have great pleasure in wishing you all a pleasant time this evening and proposing this toast to the East Sussex Fire Brigade.



*French children Blois Thursday  
July 9 1964*

As Mayor of this town of Lewes, I have some very pleasant duties to carry out: but among them all I cannot think of one that is more pleasant than this: when I extend a very hearty welcome to you French boys from Blois.

I am very glad so many of you have been able to come and see our town and our civic buildings, of which we are very proud. I hope you will enjoy ~~your stay in~~ ~~the tour of the~~ *Town*

and your stay here. I also hope very much that you will find acquaintances here who will become your permanent friends because, as far as I can see, one of the most important aspects of these visits is that Personal friendships, and Community friendships will develop into what is always desirable - ~~National~~ *friendships. between Nations*

I think this visit is a very important event and, for that reason I would like, in my welcome, to give thanks to those responsible for its organisation. It is work that is well done and is well worth doing and we thank them very much.

1  
Toast to Lewes F.C. Friday June 5 1964

Mr. Chairman, *President*

I am very happy to give this toast for I have watched football in the Dripping Pan for a considerable number of years, about 45 in fact. <sup>*since*</sup> ~~*in*~~ those early days <sup>*information*</sup> the nobs paid 4d. and their enclosure was on the north side, the side that is popular now with the lads. We, the "non-nobs" paid 3d. (sometimes). I say sometimes because there was considerable unemployment during those years and we had various ruses to enable us to "Creep, <sup>*and*</sup> Intrude and Climb into the fold" as it were. However, *Secretary* Freddy Cull and his committee were very tolerant and, after all, everyone had been through the first war and there was plenty of camaraderie. *besides plenty of unemployment*

During the twenties Lewes had a very weak team; and the most usual shout one heard in the Pan was "Keep it out Harold". (Harold Ford kept a good goal). You heard that shout far more often than one urging somebody to shoot. Yet through this decade one can remember some outstanding players and during the thirties the club was, generally speaking, more successful and on one occasion were beaten by Eastbourne Town in the Senior Cup final in the extra time of a replay.

I mention these little pieces of history to show my genuine interest in the Club and to show that my feelings in proposing



this toast are sincere. I will now come up-to-date.

There were some disappointments during these last two seasons. In the 1962/63 season the first team were all set to win all sorts of things but the weather intervened. We can set that down to sheer bad luck. This last season it was not so much bad luck as occasional lapses at crucial times during almost the whole season.

But although there have been disappointments over not winning trophies, I for one have not been disappointed over the standard of football and I thank the players for many a happy Saturday afternoon, and, after all, the Club has some achievements.

The first team were in the final of the Sussex Senior Cup, semi-finalists in the R.V.R. Cup and runners up in the County League. Also there was another good run in the F.A. Cup and we won the Brighton Cup. It takes good football and good clubmanship to get into these positions. I congratulate the players on their achievements. Let us look at the Reserves side. Third from top in the Brighton League and won the Vernon Wentworth Cup. I understand this is a very happy side and I, therefore, congratulate Gordon Fowlie on his captaincy. (This always has much to do with contentedness) - and perhaps the replayed games in the Royal Oak are a great help.

We must now turn to the third team. The third team generally has to work under the shadow of having their players borrowed by the other teams. I gather also that they mostly played in a downpour of rain towards the end of their fixtures. In spite of this they have had a very enjoyable season and we congratulate them.

I understand the Club has again been accepted for the F.A. Cup Competition. I am sure you will have the good wishes of all to send you on as successful a run as in the last two seasons. (But try not to come out of the hat with Gravesend - that is becoming monotonous!)

Now I am going to leave the players <sup>for a moment</sup> to mention some of ~~the~~ <sup>others</sup> ~~these~~ who help to make a visit to the Pan enjoyable. Mr. Piper, the groundsman, does a good job and, by the way, I remember him playing for Lewes in those early days I spoke of. I am not going to forget Mrs. Vise and Mrs. Beck, who brew ~~up~~ a good cup of tea. I thank all those who have made the Dripping Pan, on Saturday afternoons, part of the life of Lewes and, of course, your Secretary, Mr. Bull, and your Committees are deserving of praise for their successful guiding of the Club.

I want to turn to players again for a moment to congratulate Brian Riggs, Ray Dowse, Jeff Crowther and Don Coccozza on being



picked to represent the County during the season, and also congratulations to Goalkeeper John Lynch on being reserve for the County on more than one occasion and with him perhaps, regret that he didn't play for the County side.

And so Mr. Chairman, as one who can remember the Lewes Club from about 1912, and has been a fairly regular spectator, may I ask you all to drink this toast to the Lewes Football Club. May it be successful next season.

To the Lewes Association Football Club!

I am pleased to see so many Rotarians gathered together in the County Town of Sussex. This, in my opinion, is a very fitting place for Rotarians to meet because, as far back as the eighteenth century, Lewes had the reputation of being a town where men of inquiring minds met, discussed and endeavoured to use the conclusions they reached to help humanity. Later on there is evidence of the part played by men of the Lewes district in the struggle for Parliamentary reform, which resulted in the Reform Act of 1832.

*In the year that followed,*  
~~Ever since those days,~~ all over the country there have been bodies of men who, through their collective strength, were able to render service to their communities and, although from their station in life, I should think they would have been followers of Jeremy Bentham, rather than, say, Robert Owen or Godwin, nevertheless their work served as a buffer and sometimes as a counter to the harsh Laissez Faire Philosophy of the 19th Century.

Nowadays we have the Rotarians. Being Mayor of Lewes I try to keep in touch with the organisations which make up our pluralist community, so I know from contact with the Lewes Rotary Club, that the members not only render service when called upon, but look round for services they can render. An example is the floods of 1960, when Lewes received help from many other Rotary Clubs. I am impressed with the Lewes Rotary Club and so it naturally follows that I am pleased to meet representatives of other Rotary Clubs. *Surrey & West Sussex*

Lewes is a town with a pronounced spirit of community. Bounded on three sides by the Downs and by the marshlands to the south, its beautiful surroundings and its geographical position tends to give it a spirit of togetherness, <sup>or</sup> cohesion. Within its boundaries are many fine old houses where can be traced the development from the Tudor to the Regency periods. We have a traffic problem, what town hasn't, but we are working towards a solution and, as Lewes is scheduled by the Ministry as one of the 50 towns of great historic and aesthetic interest, I have no doubt that the feelings of Lewes will be considered during the next twelve months, when a decision will be made as to the methods of dealing with the traffic, pending the construction of a by-pass by the eighties.

If we leave out the traffic problem for the moment, Lewes is a town



steeped in history. The names of such men as de Montfort and Tom Pain  
are known throughout the world when the nature <sup>or course</sup> of government is being  
discussed, as being connected with Lewes. If any of you pay Lewes a  
visit, I am sure you will find much of interest.

On behalf of this community then, I am pleased to welcome <sup>you</sup> Rotarians  
to Lewes. The town is honoured by your meeting here.



TELEPHONE: LEWES 4085

COUNCILLOR A. C. BARBER, J.P.  
Mayor

Mayor's Parlour  
Town Hall  
Lewes  
Sussex

I am very glad to have managed, by a short head as it were, to be present at this Stone-laying ceremony as the mayor of Lewes. Four more days and it would have been too late; and there are two reasons why I am anxious the Little Theatre should have some civic recognition. Firstly because it is an enormous asset to the town and <sup>takes</sup> a very important part in ~~the~~ the cultural <sup>life</sup> of our community and I have watched its growth since the St Michael's Players times of 1932. Secondly, because of Father Rawlings and the work he has put into this project during the best part of forty years. He has waited and worked ~~and~~ waited patiently, as the circumstances required, during all that period and I am sure there can be hardly any body whose does not, by association of ideas, connect the Theatre with Father Rawlings.

This ceremony today does not mark the end of the advance you members <sup>as a corporate body</sup> are going to make but it ~~does~~ does mark <sup>such</sup> a step forward that it is worthy of recognition; and as the time goes on there is no doubt you will carry out



First~~ly~~, I must welcome you all to this Council Chamber and may I say how pleased I am to see the enthusiastic response to our letter of invitation. I think this enthusiasm shows how high is the value we place on our local hospital, and I hope that this evening's meeting will mark the start of a period during which that enthusiasm is channelled to where it can be of the greatest use to the hospital.

This meeting has been called with the object of forming a local branch of the Brighton and District League of Hospital Friends and, to this end, there are speakers who will outline the necessary steps we must take.

Then there is a definite objective - the operating theatre. We have a speaker here to-night who will tell us of the need for bringing the theatre up-to-date. This will need a fairly substantial sum of money and I am glad to report that already some donations have been received. Our local Member of Parliament, Colonel Sir Tufton Beamish, has given us his support by sending me a donation and our thanks are due to him and to the other donors, whose contributions amount to £16. 6s. 0d.

I have also received a number of apologies from people who are unable to be present to-night. These people have, however, promised us the maximum support, and we thank them for this.