After the Parish Council had called a meeting of organizations in February the will to make the Jubilee Celebrations a memorable affair grew daily. The co-coordinating committee appointed at the meeting Mr. and Mrs. John Penna, Mr. Bryan Philips, Mrs. Joan Tims, Mrs. Gwyneth Nisbet and Mr. Tim Bradshaw Jnr. set to work organising house to house collections, newspaper collections and collating the events to be offered by village organisations. The successful hard work of this committee and the generosity and goodwill of so many organisations and individuals was acknowledged in a minute of the Parish Council in June.

Each organisation was left to produce its own contribution and event and this proved to be exceedingly right for a happy atmosphere spreading over several weeks. Many householders put out flags and bunting and Mr. Roy Bakewell and U.K. Airfresh Ltd besides making a generous financial contribution provided shields and banners to decorate poles over the whole village. At a Disco at the end of April the young people chose the Jubilee Queen, Miss Janet Voodcock from fourteen entrants while a number of young ladies took part in an exhausting sponsored dance to raise money.

During the following weeks coffee mornings and evenings were held by The Darby and Joan Club, by Mrs. Crowther and by Mrs. Branwell's Nursery to produce funds. The W.E.A. held an evening talk on Birds and the Conservative Association held a walking treasure hunt round the village. The Drama Group held evenings of one act plays in the Village Hall which were happily received and the Music Society held a successful evening with supper at Crick Manor which because of bad weather had to be confined to the house.

During the days before June 6th the Jubilee Queen was trundled round the village in a farm trailer proceeded by horn blowers, but her discomfort must have been somewhat assuaged when she was presented with a silver ingot necklace as a memento of her year of office.

On the evening before Jubilee Day many residents went to Gold Ashby to see the beacon lit, it was one of the national chain of fires started when the Queen lit a beacon at Windsor. They may have expected to be alone in the night but were surprised to find themselves in a crowd of some thousands.

Jubilee Day was cold, wet and windy but everything planned was attempted and much was successful, mainly because of the native spirit determined to enjoy the celebration. The Jubilee Queen planted a tree at the Village Hall and children from the school attempted to dance in the streets but heavy rain ruined their efforts after one set of dances. Later on in the morning the weather cleared sufficiently for Crick Society's soapbox derby to be held on the Midland Meat Packers road and this was followed by a conic football match on the Playing Field organised by the Football Club. The afternoon started with a light hearted Cricket Match by the Cricket Club and this was followed by sports run by Mr. Cobley and the Staff of Crick School during which many parents were persuaded by their children to take part. These events had scarcely ended when a heavy rainstorm cleared the field and put paid to the tug of war entries. It had been intended to have a vast picnic on the field but the weather dictated that tea should be taken indoors so the younger children went to the Village Hall and the older ones to the Old School where bands of volunteer adults served sandwiches, sausage rolls, cakes, ice-cream and crisps all washed down with soft drinks. It was all a great squash, but it was an event, which will be remembered by the well over 200 youngsters who were there.
Meanwhile on the Marsh Mr. Graham Baker was supervising the roasting of a pig donated by Midland Meat Packers and during the evening this pig was completely consumed by a very large crowd who despite the cold spelt the evening listening to disco music, warming themselves at the huge bonfire and drinking at the bar provided by the 'Wheatsheaf'. It was nearly midnight when the last revelers departed, Crick has made its own enjoyment and defied the worst of English Summers.

In addition several street parties were held during the week and Mr. Penna held a very successful afternoon of comic races on the Playing Field; almost the only occasion when the sun shone brightly. The week ended in a fitting manner when the Parish Council went to St. Margaret's Church for a Civic Service on Sunday evening conducted by the Rector The Rev. John Spilman, when the preacher was The Rev. Conrad Husk of Crick United Reformed Church.

The Parish Council wishes to place on record the contributions in cash and kind of so many individuals and organisations:


Each child and young person in the village, from the new-bom this year to school leavers, is to receive a Jubilee Mug. These were expected daily at the time of going to press, but because of the unexpectedly huge orders received by the Association of Local Councils there has been considerable delay. Crick has been proud to contribute its target share to The Queens Silver Jubilee Fund, one hundred and forty pounds, which will go towards Northamptonshire target of sixty thousand pounds for youth projects.

Once these mugs have been paid for there will be a considerable sum left over with which it is hoped some permanent memento of Jubilee Year can be achieved in the village. The organising committee will be publishing a statement of account later in the year and to this end the Parish Council have appointed Mr. F Crowther, Treasurer of the Village Hall Committee to satisfy the Council that all is in order. Jubilee was originally a grand festival of the Jews of Bible times; the British people have taken it to themselves in modern times and in this Crick has played its unique part during the last eighty years.

*Copied by J Goodger in 2005 from Crick News Autumn 1977*