

2: As for the neighbourhood pub, the New Venture, this was a venture that got off to a false start; in that it was planned to be state-controlled until outraged local feelings put a stop to the idea. Its name acknowledges the challenge of metaphorically 'sailing into the unknown'; and this is reflected in the pub sign which depicts an Elizabethan ship in full sail - for the New World, leaving behind the Old World and the Past. As would seem to have been the requirement that the Saracen's Head (see 52) and the Half Way House (in Marlowes) should close to enable the New Venture to open - which it did on Christmas Eve, 1952.

3: The provision for the neighbourhood social needs was completed by the building of the adjacent Adeyfield Hall, which was officially opened (a long time after its use began) in October 1953 by Lord Reith (then no longer the Development Corporation Chairman), who castigated the government for compelling the planners to treat essentials as though they were luxuries by requiring them to build and run the Hall on commercial lines. It was leased by the District Council (as from October 1975) to Adeyfield Neighbourhood Association after the addition of an extension with bar, games room and lounge. The ANA resulted from the combining in July 1958 of Adeyfield Neighbourhood Council and Adeyfield Community Centre (see 19).

4: The Youth Club "Square One" which adjoins Adeyfield Hall developed from the modest beginning made in April 1953 in the Longlands Hut, under Fred and Grace Kennard. It grew with its move a year later to Green Hills, as an affiliated organization of Adeyfield Community Centre, and remained there after the move of the parent body into part of the Further Education Centre premises nearby in 1955, until their final move to the present premises in 1972.

5: The change of name of the Longlands Playing Fields to Reith Fields, as an acknowledgment of the role played by Lord Reith in the development of the new town, was announced by his successor as Chairman at the official opening of Adeyfield Hall, which stands at the edge of the Fields. The iron gates through which the workers had once entered Boxmoor Foundry from Marlowes had been kept when it was

demolished. These were fitted as entrance gates to the Fields at the rear of the New Venture, to symbolize the walking into the open fields of the future - leaving the closed gates of the past behind.

6: The names of most of the roads in the neighbourhood (note: there are no 'streets') are taken from field names, most from the tithe map of 1846 (which is in St. Mary's Church) but some going further back. Not all match the present location with those of the fields themselves, but Longlands - the spinal cord of the neighbourhood - was built on land which was part of the field with the appropriate name.

7: The planners were determined to preserve the routes of the existing footpaths wherever possible (frequently ignoring economic factors) and, standing at the entrance to the hedged lane which runs between Reith Fields and the grounds of Adeyfield School, the walker is on a route which - but for the last stretch on the other side of Maylands Avenue covers the same ground as the footpath which ran from Elephant Farm in St. Albans Hill to the eastern edge of the borough boundary into Buncefield Lane (see 27).

8: From their arrival until the opening of Adeyfield School (then Secondary Modern), in July 1953, pupils of secondary school age were accommodated either in the Corner Hall schools or (the younger ones) at Maylands School. Its first headmaster, Mr. A.C. Pierson, played a leading role in neighbourhood affairs. Among the staff members who were significantly involved in developments in the early days was Wyndham Thomas, who was Mayor and Bailiff of the Borough in 1958. He subsequently became Director of the Town & Country Planning Association and ultimately (his present position) General Manager of Peterborough New Town.

9: The conquest of Everest, in the Coronation year of Queen Elizabeth II, was acknowledged throughout the country in many ways; but not in many places with more feeling of personal involvement (by association) than in