

A REAL DRAIN ON COUNCIL MONEY

A COUNCIL is spending more than £3,000 a year on emergency calls after office hours.

But many of the "emergencies" turn out to be blocked drains.

Now councillors in Swale are being asked to scrap the emergency service.

drains, which the council has no statutory responsibility to deal with anyway.

Nearly all the "emergency" calls received could have waited or alternative arrangements made by telephone.

STANDBY

A report being presented to the council's Policy and Resources Committee tonight says 12 council supervisors are paid £102 a year for taking turns to deal with emergencies.

Two works operatives were also on duty in Faversham, Sheppey and Sittingbourne and were each paid £5 a week.

Now the council's management team is recommending the present system be abolished, but that three works supervisors should continue to receive standby allowances.

Councillors are also being asked to decide whether staff should continue clearing drains.

But even without payment for overtime, the system cost around £3,000 a year to operate, says the report.

The majority of the calls were to blocked

Householders were supposed to reimburse the council, but £600 was still outstanding for last year's bill for £1,570 for drain clearance.

Punk Rockers fined for theft

TWO members of the Punk Rock group The Clash were fined after spending the weekend in cells.

The group's drummer Nicholas Headon, 22, and singer John Mellor, 24, whose stage name is Joseph Strummer, were to have appeared before magistrates at Margate, Northumberland, on June 3 on theft charges, but they failed to answer bail.

They were brought to the North East at the weekend from London and spent Saturday night

and Sunday night in custody.

Mellor, of Forest Hill, London, admitted stealing pillows and towels worth £36 from a hotel.

Headon, of Finsbury Park, London, admitted stealing a door key and a keyring from the same hotel. Mellor was fined £60 and Headon £40.

Insp Dennis Harriman, prosecuting, said the group played at Newcastle University last month and, after they left their hotel at Seaton Burn, the items were missing.

Police discovered the stolen goods in the group's coach.

Manuscript nets £88,000

A THIRTEENTH century manuscript was bought for £88,000 by a New York bookseller at Sotheby's yesterday.

The manuscript, which contains 94 miniatures, was in a collection of printed books and manuscripts sent for sale by Ston College, London. The 76 lots fetched

£456,365.

The manuscript was a hitherto unrecorded item from the library of Humfrey, who was brother of Henry V and the greatest English royal book collector.

Great stuff

A NEW series of Verve albums will be instantly recognizable by the cover paintings of the featured musicians.

Diz and Getz (Verve Select 2332 084) shows Dizzy Gillespie and Stan Getz in action on this 1953 session with Oscar Peterson's trio and Max Roach.

Both principals are in excellent form and it don't mean a thing is played at a sizzling tempo with Getz showing why he is admired so much by other musicians.

Ben Webster and Friends (Verve Select 2332 086) places Ben Webster in the select company of Coleman Hawkins, Roy Eldridge and Budd Johnson.

The first side of the LP consists of just one extended performance of the tune In a mellow tone on which Webster and Hawkins take the lion's share of the honours. On the reverse side Time after time is outstanding and is a ballad version by just Webster and the rhythm section.

JAZZ by Alun Morgan

Harry Edison crops up on all kinds of record dates, sometimes playing obligatos to Frank Sinatra or Ella Fitzgerald.

But Blues for Basie (Verve Select 2332 082) sets him at the head of a sextet which contains, yet again, the late Ben Webster and a rhythm section which consists of the Oscar Peterson Trio plus drummer Alvin Stoller.

Edison was a member of the Count Basie band from 1938 to 1950 and one track here is a salute to his old employer, Blues for Bill Basie.

In many ways this is an ideal introduction to jazz for anyone who thinks our music consists either of Kenny Ball's band or loud, frenetic screeching. Edison's music falls easily on the ears while Webster was one of the greatest tenor saxists of his day.

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1 Week Commencing June 12th

Oscars 1977 Best Picture
SYLVESTER STALLONE as ROCKY

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Week 2.10.5.15.8.15

2 ROBERT DE NIRO
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Week 4.25.8.25 X

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ROCKY

If you haven't been to the pictures of late - welcome back to a real winner! ROCKY.

Winner of 3 Oscars - Best Picture, Best Direction, Best Editing. ROCKY is a knockout! The screen's new heart-throb Sylvester Stallone is ROCKY. Rocky is tough. Rocky is gentle. Rocky is a fighter's love story. Rocky is about an ordinary tough-guy whose fate gives the chance to make it big. He takes it with both fists and proves he has the will not only to win fame but also to find true love.

BE OUR GUESTS: Hidden amongst the Small Ads are four of the main ingredients of this superb film.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO is find all four ingredients and place in the boxes the item advertised immediately above each one.

TO WIN: The Editor will award a Double Guest Ticket to the senders of the first 5 correct solutions opened (and further tickets to each of the advertisers named) to see ROCKY(A) at the

Odeon Film Centre, Rochester

Tough	Gentle
Romantic	Award Winning

NOW Fill in your name
And address

Whether you send or 'hand in' your entry, address it to: 'Rocky' at Oasis, Evening Post 336 High Street, Chatham, Kent

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Mr. T. Jackson, Chatham; C. Dixon, Gravesend; Mrs. J. Stephens, Leydown; Mr. G. Dalton, Strood; Mr. G. West, Cliffe, Rochester.
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