

# LOUDWATER RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

*Chairman*  
John Jarrett  
Martha's Vineyard  
Violet Way  
R. 74225

*Vice-Chairman*  
Barnaby Osborne  
Larchmead  
Trout Rise  
R. 72766

*Treasurer*  
Cyril Brine  
Arlesey House  
Rooks Hill  
R. 72508

*Secretary*  
John Watkiss  
Jordans  
Trout Rise  
R. 73781

NEWSLETTER No. 15

APRIL 1980

**MISS OUR LAST GARDEN PARTY?  
CAN'T WAIT TILL THE NEXT ONE?  
WANT TO MEET YOUR LOUDWATER NEIGHBOURS AGAIN?**

Then come to the LRA COFFEE MORNING – 10.30 am to 12.00 noon, Saturday, May 3rd, at Loudwater Farm, Loudwater Lane.

A couple of hours no-strain, nice and easy occasion. Have a few cups, a few laughs, make a few new friends, see again the old ones you missed for a time, look round and see what the Subudh have done with this historic old farmhouse and barn.

And it's only 25p at the door.

## FURTHER NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY

1. May 22nd L.R.A. Annual General Meeting, Chorleywood House, 8.00 pm Guest Speaker: Alan Deans, Three Rivers Chief Executive.
2. June 15th L.R.A. garden party.

## LOUDWATER HOUSE

Mr Murray Charlton, the chairman of the residents at Loudwater House, writes that in the "January issue of the Residents' Association newsletter, reference was made to the possibility that Loudwater House residents might receive a grant towards the costs of the restoration work presently being undertaken. Also that the property might be listed.

Both these matters have now been resolved.

Firstly, the residents, who much appreciated the Council's offer of a grant, decided by common consent that the financial benefit to be derived from a grant of £1,600 (towards a cost, excluding painting, of some £46,000) was not compensation for the disadvantage of permitting public access to their homes, even if by appointment.

Secondly, the Council has informed us that the Department of the Environment has decided Loudwater House is no longer of special architectural or historic interest as a result of past additions and alterations."

## CIVIC AMENITY SITES

Residents are reminded that items of bulky household waste, garden rubbish, and waste oil (in sealed cans) may be taken to Riverside Drive, Batchworth Roundabout between 6.00 am to 4.00 pm in the winter and 8.00 am to 8.00 pm in the summer, or until the skips are full, for seven days a week. A revised layout is being considered there to improve the facility.

At the Hunton Bridge roundabout site, where a survey has been conducted because of its inadequacy, the opening hours are also from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm also for seven days a week at the present time.

Unfortunately, there is the possibility that this amenity will come under the axe of economy cuts after April. It is to be hoped that this will not mean that heaps of refuse will be littering the quiet country lanes of Hertfordshire. It would be too much like France!

The main reason for this amenity becoming a prime target for economy is that it has been misused by commercial people and by people from outside Three Rivers area.

## SALE OF PLASTIC REFUSE SACKS

Residents of Three Rivers can purchase additional plastic bin liner sacks at the current price of 5p each, from the council's health department at Basing Gardens at the rear of Watersmeet.

## SPECIAL FREE REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE

Three Rivers operates this service for the removal of bulky items of furniture and other household waste, on request to

the health department (phone Rickmansworth 76611) by a resident. There is considerable demand for this service and the waiting period varies between 2 and 8 weeks.

## TRAVELLING CAR-LESS?

Senior citizens please note. Your British Rail Senior Citizen Rail Card can be used from Chorleywood, Rickmansworth and Moor Park Stations on British Rail trains and there is no restriction on the hours of use.

Unfortunately, London Country Bus Services Ltd. are increasing their fares by 18% from 29th March.

## JANET MOORE WRITES SOME SPRING NOTES:-

Where only a short time ago the ground cover seemed to consist only of decaying leaf litter, there are now clumps of coltsfoot, violets, primroses, wood anemones, and the upsurging sword-shaped leaves of bluebells that will shortly make an almost continuous carpet of sapphire blue flowers in and around Beechen Grove Wood. She writes to tell us that the first songs of migrant birds can be heard, usually led by the Chiff-chaff and shortly followed by Willow Warbler, the clear penetrating song of the Blackcap, and the Lesser Whitethroat which passes through on its way farther up the valley. The first House Martins and Swallows arrive some two or three weeks in advance of the Swifts whose journey north brings them, from as far distance as the southern tip of the African continent. She reminds us that it is also the time for that phenomenon of nature – the dawn chorus – much-loved by some, though not so much favoured by others disturbed from sleep by it in the very early hours. Our resident Loudwater birds are all pretty well-established in their breeding territories by now and are strong contributors to the daylight welcome. The "yaffling" call of the Green Woodpecker endeavouring to find a suitable breeding place has been ringing out with regularity since the early mild days of February. Goldcrests, finches, titmice, thrushes, blackbirds, robins, wrens etc. to name a few, are all Loudwater-breeders, and on some fortuitous occasion, we shall perhaps hear of the successful local breeding of that most-elusive of all British birds, the Hawfinch, which is seen with a fair degree of regularity in Loudwater, yet has provided no positive evidence of breeding here. It is the largest of all the finches, larger even than the chaffinch. It is pinkish-rush overall with dramatic black and white flashes on wings, head and tail, and a massive gun-metal bill with which it can impound enormous pressure on fruit stones which are part of its diet, to extract the kernels. Apparently it produces a loud "tick-ing" sound in flight and it would be interesting to hear of any occurrences in Loudwater. Spotted Flycatchers are Loudwater-breeders. These delightful mostly silent migratory birds build neat nests in climbing plants such as Clematis and Wistaria and raise their young. When insect-hunting they perform a variety of aerial antics from selected hunting perches to capture insects before returning each time to the same perches.

By the end of March, some butterflies which have over-

wintered in some sheltered niche in perhaps the garage or loft, are on the wing. You might spot Brimstones with their acid-green coloration and simulated leaf-shaped wings which match perfectly the young vegetation amongst which they fly; or the delightful Orange-tip butterfly identified by orange tips (male) to the lightly speckled white wings, which feed on Jack-by-the-hedge, or early Peacocks and Small Tortoiseshells which may also be seen.

(The Editor would be pleased to have contributions from any other residents who would like to present their seasonal thoughts and impressions).

#### **BEECHEN GROVE WOOD, LOUDWATER**

The Herts. and Middlesex Trust has submitted a bid for the freehold of this scientifically important fifty acre wood, with the backing of a private charitable trust but the owner Mr Jeremy Clutterbuck has not accepted the offer.

The Committee is watching this and will discuss this at the next Annual General Meeting where you might care to air your views.

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Continuing the bird saga begun some two years ago, Mr John Jarrett, your chairman has received the information that Mrs Wretham (the Sheiling, Violet Way) has had a woodcock and peacocks in her garden.

Incidentally, one of the cygnets is missing! Who dun it?

#### **DUCKS CHASE FOX!**

A resident writes that queer things happen by the river if you are up and about at 5.30 am.

"It was the quacking that alerted us one spring morning. There was a fox leisurely walking along the river bank followed, at a safe distance, by several indignant ducks.

The fox took not the slightest notice of his pursuers, who, when they were satisfied that they had seen the fox off, returned whence they had come, and started to busy themselves with their normal daily affairs."

#### **LOUDWATER FINE ARTS**

From Loudwater Limners to Loudwater Musicians this month:-

In the Hertfordshire news a while back was Neil Grant Richardson, the conductor of the string section of the B.B.C. radio orchestra, composer of the music for the T.V. series "Doomwatch" and the signature tune of "Mastermind".

Neil Richardson, who lives at Woodlands, Loudwater Lane, was the conductor of the B.B.C. radio Northern Orchestra in Manchester until two years ago. He has worked with many famous singers such as Connie Francis, Dusty Springfield, Marion Montgomery and Shirley Bassey and he has directed the music for one of Jimmy Young's T.V. series. In 1979 he arranged the music for the Swingles concert tour of America and went with them to Baltimore to begin their tour. One of the things he has most enjoyed has been writing pop music for Sheba Sound, a group of four ladies who normally travel all over the world playing Baroque music.

If you want to see him in action try going to Christ Church in Chorleywood where he is the music co-ordinator and plays the organ at evensong on some Sundays.

\* \* \* \*

By the time this letter reaches you the vicar of Christ Church, the Rev. Peter Sertin will have left for a new appointment as chaplain to the English church in Paris. After a ministry of ten years in Chorleywood he will be sadly missed by many Loudwater residents who have attended the church.

\* \* \* \*

It has been pointed out to the editor that there are many more talented artists in Loudwater. If there is anyone you know who is gifted in any of the arts, please contact the editor or better still post her a written profile of the artist. Black and white sketches of Loudwater subjects, less than 8cm. sq. would also be welcome for publication in the Newsletter.

#### **CHORLEYWOOD PLAYERS**

The recent performance of "Stevie" was a tour de force. Moira Model as Stevie and Dorothy Wall (4, Ladywood Close, Loudwater) as the aunt, acted exquisitely, so their next and last production of the Players for this year is

worth marking in your diaries. This will be on April 24th, 25th and 26th.

It is a comedy, "Birds on the Wing" by Peter Yeldham, the story of two vivacious young con girls going about their business around the world, and the 'difficulties' they run up against. This is a very amusing play and will provide an excellent evening's entertainment for all. Tickets can be ordered through Sinclair Watson, Clearburn, Trout Rise, Rickmansworth 72286, or obtained from Chorleywood Travel, Lower Road. The Players look forward to your company. The first play next season will be on November 6th, 7th and 8th 1980.

#### **BRIDGE**

This is nothing to do with the river!

Do you play Bridge? If you do and would like the occasional game, Mrs Phyllis Sherrard would like to hear from you. Her address is Wychwood, Troutstream Way, telephone Rickmansworth 72885. If you would like to become part of a Bridge Group, even better!

#### **FROM THE ESTATE BOARD**

The chairman wishes all residents who live within the gated area to know that as stated at the Annual General Meeting of the Loudwater estate Company, following a request from shareholders and residents after a ballot, it is the intention of the Board to install two ramps on the estate roads. The Board wish these ramps to be installed at the time of the proposed Spring road repairs.

The cost of the ramps must be raised by the residents of the Estate, plus a contribution from the Company, and the money must be forthcoming before commencement of work. To this effect the Board will shortly write personally to each householder on the Estate inviting them to make a contribution. To raise the sum necessary to cover costs an amount of approximately £5 would need to be donated by each resident. In order to save paperwork, however, those wishing to make such a contribution are requested to forward their donations as soon as possible to the Company. Of course, there are no restrictions on amount given!

#### **ONE FOR THE BOOKS!**

Three Rivers has passed a recommendation that the A41 Kings Langley By-Pass be surfaced with a bituminous material on grounds of appearance only, because it passes through undulating countryside!

#### **LOWER PLANTATION**

The residents of the Loudwater Estate sympathise with the residents of Lower Plantation who have struggled without success to keep their road "private" after Three Rivers Council have granted access through it to six new houses that are to be built on the woodland behind them. It behoves all Loudwater residents to watch for infilling and be on their guard.

#### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The editor has been asked to remind you that if there is anything being built that worries you please write or telephone the chairman, Mr John Jarrett.

8/843/79 Three storey side extension, Troutstream Hall, Troutstream Way for the Trustees of Troutstream Hall. Permission granted. This home for retired missionaries will now be able to provide accommodation for six more people, making a total of twenty-two.

8/916/79 Part two-storey side extension and front porch, Larchleigh, Solesbridge Lane for R. Adam Esq.

8/32/80 Replacement garage, The Old Mill House, Loudwater Lane for Mr. & Mrs. J. Lipton.

8/29/80 Construction of dormers and first floor extension, Chess Falls, Loudwater Lane for J. Lipton Esq.

8/28/80 Single and two storey side extension, Stepping Stones, Trout Rise, for B.L. Williams Esq.

8/66/80 Detached house and garage, Plot 10, Lower Plantation, Sarratt Lane, for John Robert Construction.

8/95/80 Two storey front extension and erection of porch, Bower Cottage, Rooks Hill for C. Perkins Esq.

*Next issue entries by 1.6.80 to the Editor:-  
Mrs D. Francis, Dovecote, Troutstream Way, R. 70894*