

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. 16

JULY 1980

THE GARDEN PARTY

The garden party on June 15th was once more a huge success. After the storms of the previous 36 hours, it was touch and go as to whether the party would have to be postponed but as usual Anne Wolfe waved her magic wand and the sun came out in full splendour.

Many people who renewed their acquaintanceship with each other or who met new neighbours were very appreciative of the opportunity. The salted nuts and the variety of drinks were the source of much favourable comment and our thanks are due firstly to Anne Wolfe for the use of her beautiful garden, and to "Nick" Nicholls who so kindly responded to an urgent plea for his organisational ability again. We are grateful to his team of helpers and especially to young Jonathan Stone who proved to be the one person who knew where everything was to be found when asked by the 'bar-men'.

Just over 200 adults and children were present. The children behaved well and there was a pleasant sense of relaxation and ease to the whole occasion. A surplus of £51.00 was made.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Loudwater Residents Association Annual General Meeting on May 22nd was well attended.

Mr. John Jarrett was re-elected as chairman, Barnaby Osborne as Vice-Chairman, Cyril Brine as Treasurer and John Watkiss as Secretary. We were sorry no other nominations were made.

After the formal business was completed, Mr Alan Deans, Three Rivers Chief Executive, gave an informative talk on the structure of the Three Rivers area in terms of its geographical boundaries and location, types of authorities delegated to it, the level of service provision it can offer, and the council itself (comprising 47 members) which he pointed out, can only act as a team within the law conferred by government (and not as individuals) on the council's business; and lastly the Chief Executive's team which implements the Council's decisions. Our thanks are due to him for his time and effort.

The evening was concluded with wine, thoughtfully provided by the L.R.A., which gave an opportunity to chat to each other. The men were particularly interested in an Ordnance Survey map which has been bought for the Association.

The Chairman reminded us that the aims of the L.R.A. are to safe-guard the amenities of Loudwater, to preserve the ornamental verges and trees, to ensure safety on the private roads, to encourage neighbourliness and to hold a watching brief on further developments so as to assist in maintaining the value of the properties and to act in the interests of members in cases of building proposals and road developments.

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The L.R.A. is indebted to all the volunteers who pad around often in inclement weather, often in the evening after all their work of the day, delivering Newsletters and knocking for membership subscriptions. Thanks are due to Victor Hemming, Gordon Duan, Mrs. Bilton, Maurice Escow and Sylvia Alexander, besides all committee members past and present who do it.

THE COFFEE MORNING

From the Chairman:—

"When we planned our coffee morning at the Loudwater farm, it was cold and we were apprehensive. A fortnight before it was gorgeous and we worried whether we would be able to cope with everyone if you all turned up. On the day, it was dry but grey and windy but nevertheless over sixty of you came and bless you. What was so nice was that almost everyone who came was complimentary — many of you who spoke to me on the way out said: "Thank you so much for arranging it — it was a lovely idea". Thanks aren't needed (but welcome); we just want to continue finding ways of providing interesting occasions and places for more of you to meet one another, and as always there were plenty of cries of: "Fancy seeing you — I haven't seen you for so long — how nice!" etc. as old acquaintances met again.

Obviously we have no connection with the Subud movement, the group that has taken over the farm but we must express our gratitude to them for opening their home to us and also pass on the universal opinion that they are doing a beautiful job on this formerly derelict site and can be nothing but a credit to the district. Most of you who came had no idea how much handsome work had gone on in back of the farm, and found it really worthwhile to see.

The L.R.A. owes great thanks to Margaret Stratford and her crew for all the work in running the refreshments etc. Other ladies will appreciate that not knowing whether to cater for ten or a hundred and fifty presented its problems.

Suggestions are always desperately needed and it was good that several of you wanted us to use the Loudwater farm again. Favourite suggestions made by more than a few, were a barn dance (a few problems structurally there for the barn, we think) or another coffee morning in October.

Although the takings were only £16.42 and the expenses £12.23, an ex-gratia payment of £10.00 was made to the Subud organisation for the use of their premises."

J. Jarrett

THREE RIVERS DRAFT DISTRICT PLAN

Views and comments on the policies and proposals contained in the Plan are urgently needed. When finalised, the Plan will guide development and conservation in Three Rivers for the next ten years.

The Draft Plan is available for inspection in June, July and August at the Planning Department, 46 High Street, Rickmansworth and exhibitions will be held at Watersmeet from 9th June to the 26th July and at Chorleywood public library on 19th, 20th, and 21st June.

Danger on the Roads

Some residents inside the gated area have expressed anxiety not only about the speed of traffic on the private roads, but about the gates being left open at the top of Troutstream Way. They fear a fatal accident is bound to occur because cars whizz round into the estate if the gates are open. PLEASE close them even if you are away only five minutes.

From the Estate Board

Now that the Board has had a skip load of rubbish cleared from the woodland near the garage, it would be to everyone's advantage if residents would instruct their gardeners not to use it as a dumping ground.

The L.R.A. was asked to support the retention of the Riverside Drive refuse centre and did so. They are happy to report that the site will now be retained.

As residents of Three Rivers pay on average, the highest rates in the country outside the Greater London Boroughs of Islington and Westminster, here are a few words from Mr. Ronald Crockett, the Chorleywood County Councillor, who was asked: "How can a Councillor help Loudwater residents?"—

"... A Councillor is elected to serve all residents in his or her ward or division whether at Parish, District or County level. The Parish Council is responsible for Chorleywood Common, Memorial Hall, cemetery and allotments. The District Council is the local Planning Authority and is responsible for most of our highway maintenance, refuse collection, open spaces such as the Aquadrome and Chorleywood House grounds, larger halls such as Watersmeet, and housing. The County Council is responsible for education, social services and the construction and maintenance of principal roads. If you have a problem or complaint which has not been solved or dealt with properly by the officers of one of these Councils, then your Councillors may be able to help or advise you." — Mr. Crockett says that he cannot pretend that Councillors are always successful but if the normal channels fail, then a Councillor's intervention often speeds up bureaucracy, even though the answer may not be entirely to the resident's satisfaction."

NATURE NOTES

Margaret Colls, (Chalmsdale) is being wakened at 4.30 a.m. each day by the loud quacking of a duck outside her window which will not go away until she feeds bread to it with her own hand.

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The first cuckoo that the editor has heard for many years was heard shouting at 6.00 a.m. early in May.

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The peacocks from Micklefield Hall Farm are visiting Ladywood Close frequently.

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PEGGY WATSON (Wing Syde, Loudwater House) writes for the Newsletter:—

"Sad to say, there will be no cygnets for us all to enjoy this year. It would appear that our Cob has been corrupted!

Last year — on spying his reflection in the glass doors of a small hut in a resident's garden (opposite the nesting site) he immediately attacked it, and honour satisfied, returned to patrolling the nest site. This year, he fell madly in love with his own reflection, as a result of which, the Pen was left struggling to build her nest whilst at the same time the cygnets from the previous year were trampling over it, as the Cob had failed to chase them away. Eventually — rather late — he attended to this chore, and the Pen completed the nest and started sitting.

Unfortunately, from dawn to dusk the Cob was too pre-occupied with his own reflection to patrol the nest site, even when the Pen came off for short spells to feed. The owners of the hut covered the inside of the glass with cardboard, and it was thought for a short time that the problem had been solved — except that the Cob was not to be seen. Alas, it was learned that he had found his reflection again in a glass door at "Glen Chess"! He evidently preferred his reflection at "Greensleeves" because he found — despite the valiant efforts made to get him back on the "straight and narrow" that he could still see himself if he pressed close enough to the glass. We, who were fortunate enough to witness these antics, reckon his neck must be twice as long, as the ritual consisted of rubbing his beak and side of his head from the bottom to the very top of the glass doors.

One can only assume that a predator attacked the nest site, and without the Cob to assist, the Pen came off the nest, and I am informed that there are no eggs."

Tree Preservation Orders (Officers Decisions)

Rickmansworth (Loudwater No. 4) Tree Preservation Order 1971. Applicants have been advised that consent was not

required for the felling of certain diseased trees, subject to replacement. This order covers five wooded areas south of Loudwater House bounded by Loudwater House, Overstream, Chorleywood Road and Loudwater Lane.

SOCIAL CHIT CHAT

Mrs. Ruth Wander's coffee morning held at Beltwood on 24th April in aid of the Farm House Trust, which provides long-term care for the mentally handicapped, was attended by about fifty people whom Ruth wishes to thank for their generosity. Takings and donations amounted to £115.00.

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To the newcomers, welcome:—

Timothy Jarrett, born 18th April to Margaret, wife of your chairman, John Jarrett of Martha's Vineyard.

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To the newly-weds we offer our best wishes:—

Grace and Harry Nicholls' (UP-Top) daughter Wendy to Peter Bates.

Mr. & Mrs. G.R. Jarvis' (Valley House) daughter Susan to Charles Harris.

Margaret and Brian Homan's (Bench House) daughter Jane to John Marchant. It was delightful to see Jane and John transported from Christ Church by horses and carriage.

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The new vicar of Christ Church, Chorleywood, is to be the Reverend David Saville of St. James, Taunton, at present rural Dean of Taunton North.

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Congratulations to:—

Sir George Baker (Camrie, Overstream) on his appearances and participation in the I.T.V. programmes on medical ethics, May 27th and 28th in which he summarised the arguments put forward.

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Sacha Mann, eight-year-old daughter of Yvonne and Edward Mann (Omega Lodge) on presenting a bouquet to H.R.H. Princess Michael of Kent on 12th May at the Café Royal, Regent Street on the 70th Anniversary of the British Hat Guild. H.R.H. took Sacha by the hand and made a great show of letting Sacha carry the flowers afterwards.

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Some of you may have noticed that the musical credit for 'Buccaneer' on B.B.C.1 included the name of Neil Richardson, (Woodlands, Loudwater Lane), a short profile of whom was included in the April Newsletter.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

8/921/79 Replacement garage, Bois Cottage, Bridle Lane for W. Hope Esq.

8/118/80 Single-storey front extension, Taorima, Bridle Lane, for A. Deans Esq.

8/117/80 Details: Roads, footpaths, Lower Plantation for G.A. Triggs Esq.

8/200/80 Two-storey side extension "Cherry Lawn", Bridle Lane, for Sir Ivor Gordon Broom.

8/317/80 House and Garage (Outline Application). Plot 16 Lower Plantation, Sarratt Lane, for C. Clutterbuck Esq.

8/325/80 Two-storey side extension, Campions, Loudwater Lane for Mrs. B. Woodhouse.

8/279/80 Section 53 Determination, New driveway to Loudwater Lane — Penwood House off Loudwater Drive and Loudwater Lane for M.K. Kwintner Esq. A section 53 enquiry asks for it to be ruled whether planning permission is in fact necessary. The L.R.A. supported residents' contention that permission was necessary. This has been upheld.

Next issue entries by 1.9.80 to the Editor:—
Mrs D. Francis, Dovecote, Troutstream Way, R. 70894