

LOUDWATER RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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

Vice-Chairman
Don Cammell
Martins
Ladywood Close
R. 76126

Treasurer
Cyril Brine
Arlesey House
Rooks Hill
R. 72508

Secretary
John Watkiss
Jordans
Trout Rise
R. 73781

NEWSLETTER No. 20

JULY 1981

SPOT YOUR FRIENDS!

Look out for the two televised services from our local C. of E. parish church – Christ Church, Chorleywood, Chorleywood Road, on Sundays July 5th and 12th from 12.15 to 1.00 pm each time. The July 5th service will be a live transmission and the July 12th service will be a recorded one.

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Reporting on the A.G.M. of the Loudwater Residents Association of May 14th, John Jarrett said:

"We go to untold trouble to see that we don't try to hold our A.G.M. on a day that clashes with anything else – and then those 22 idiots can't settle a football match and choose to replay on *our* night. Sorry! That's undoubtedly the reason there were only 40 or so of us turned up – but what quality! (One sidelight on female liberty in Loudwater – I met five women who said they would have come but they couldn't drag their husbands away from the box! There's no rule, you know, to stop you making your contribution, ladies, without the old man being there).

"Because there are always new members and first-time attenders, it seemed appropriate", he said "to repeat what we try to do. While there are two important associations in the area – Loudwater/Troutstream Estate Company and the Bridle Lane Association – and both have some legal powers over specific areas, we in the L.R.A. feel there is a need for a group that covers the whole of what we all regard as Loudwater, because trying to protect just one bit of it leaves us all vulnerable. So we have asked for and been allowed permission to represent an area bounded by Chorleywood Road in the South, Troutstream Way out to Solesbridge Lane on the West, Sarratt Lane and Bridle Lane on the North and Loudwater Lane from halfway to Croxley Green down through the Chess Lane complex and back up to the Chorleywood Road in the East. In that area we have over 300 members which gives us not inconsiderable strength in dealing with official bodies. In the past year, as Newsletter readers will remember, we have worked to save Beecham Grove Wood from a gymkhana proposition, the valley from drives through it, footpaths from damage, and many other problems from river diversion to general woodland damage."

He repeated that the L.R.A. is a "re-active" body. "That means" he said, "that we do not and will not take on a 'Big Brother' role, deciding on our own initiative what is or is not right for Loudwater (my apologies to the two people who got cross with me on the telephone, saying: 'But you are supposed to be in charge of Loudwater!' and my thanks to those who have kindly, but unnecessarily, rung me to ask for permission to do certain things.) *If we are asked* by a group of residents to support an objection or a proposal, we will usually but not always do so with as much strength and expertise as we can (and we don't often lose). But someone has to ask us first. Secondly, although we have the best relations with both the official associations, we have no legal powers whatsoever – if we succeed, we do it because we represent so many of you and we don't make idiots of ourselves too often. But we need you and your vigilance. Without one gentleman in Glen Chess, we would have been caught napping over a disastrous drive; with the help of one lady in Troutstream Way, we hope to stop the young vandals who have been smashing the lock on the Troutstream Way gate and picking flowers from gardens. The destruction to signs, verges and to the carefully planted bushes alongside

the ramps in Troutstream Way and Troutstream Rise is contemptible and I urge everyone to grab hold of anyone caught in this vandalism and tell their parents – and us."

After John's report, the guest speaker, Dr. Geoffrey Bond, now sadly retired from the Ricky medical practice that has looked after so many of us, gave us a highly entertaining speech. Dr. Bond said that in the 32 years of his practice here, he had been in every house in Loudwater except the new ones and he named 'stress' and 'alcoholism' as the main afflictions here.

In all those years, he said, Loudwater had lost no beauty. Every season had its own glory except at 5 o'clock on a midwinter morning at the Garage, unable to get out of Loudwater because of icy roads when he drank coffee for 2 or 3 hours with Harry on his bus until the roads were gritted. After reminiscences of some of his more unorthodox experiences he concluded with a brief thought on what he had gained after those 32 years. Tolerance and kindness were the two nuggets he prized and he had learnt, he said, to be pleasant to those who were pleasant and also to those who were unpleasant.

After the re-election of the officers and the committee when Mr. Don Cammell was elected as Vice-Chairman in place of Mr. Barnaby Osborne and Mr. Lukes was reported as having been co-opted on to the committee to replace Mrs. Anne Wolff, the meeting concluded with wine and chat.

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CHIT CHAT

Pat and Sinclair Watson have announced the engagement of their daughter, Sandra to Martyn Charlton of St. Albans. He is a landscape gardener.

Lady Lewis has had some pleasing news. The President of Mauritius is issuing a stamp which will feature the head of the late Sir Thomas Lewis, the famous cardiologist. The President is a doctor who was a former student of Sir Thomas at University College Hospital. The recent symposium on the life and work of Sir Thomas at the Wellcome Foundation for History of Medicine, Euston Road, was attended by nearly 100 people from many parts of the world. The associated exhibition lasted until the end of May.

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AN INVITATION

Come to Foxhill, Loudwater Drive, on the first Saturday morning in every month, starting on August 1st. Have coffee and meet other Loudwater residents. Everyone welcome, including the under-fives when the weather is fine. Nominal charge 5p per adult.

Helen Graham

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CANCER RESEARCH

Margaret Homan wishes to thank all those who contributed so generously to her coffee morning and sponsored swim on June 17th and made it such a success. In spite of the bitterly cold weather, 22 brave swimmers took the plunge in the evening, spurred on no doubt by that redoubtable couple, Grace and 'Nick' Nicholls, who swam in solitary splendour in the morning. Margaret predicts that over £500 will have been made for Northwick Park Clinical Research Centre, Harrow.

"BLACKTOP" FOR THE A405

It was reported by Don Cammell that as those residents "who were living in Loudwater when traffic began to flow along the A405 (M25) in the Spring of 1976 will recall — after the original public inquiry promises — the noise created by the vehicles passing through the Chess Valley came as a terrible shock. A public protest was immediately mounted by all local residents associations along the line of the road and, after bringing much pressure to bear on the Department of the Environment, the Department agreed to take certain measures to confine the noise to the immediate vicinity of the road by constructing heavy concrete sound deadening walls along each side of the road where it passes between Loudwater and Chorleywood. This significantly reduced the level of traffic noise affecting residents living below the level of the walls, but did nothing for residents on the hillsides above the road.

It is a well-known and accepted fact that macadam (otherwise known as "Blacktop") road surfaces are quieter than concrete and, in view of the undertakings made at the 1969/70 Public Inquiry, the decision of the Eastern Road Construction Unit in choosing to accept a tender for the construction of the road in solid concrete is very regrettable — particularly since the majority of motorway and trunk roads in England are finished in "Blacktop" and when the first concrete section of the M1 had to be resurfaced with "Blacktop" within 10 years of being put into service and, furthermore, when it is now generally understood that the sections of the M25 extending south from Maple Cross and east from Horton Bridge, will almost certainly be surfaced with "Blacktop".

The present Public Inquiry into the M25 London North Orbital Trunk Road is now underway in Watford and on behalf of the L.R.A., the Chorleywood R.A. and the Parish Council, an expert witness on noise (Dr. Hood, who was on the 1969/70 Public Inquiry) has been retained. He will be supported by a resident of Loudwater Heights. Counsel has also been briefed to give evidence on visual and amenity aspects, supported by Paul Lowe, the representative for Three Rivers.

In view of the strictly localised concern for the A405, the Council has only a limited budget of £2,250 set aside and has asked for help. The Parish Council has offered £500, Chorleywood R.A. £100 and L.R.A. £200 so far."

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OUR GARDEN PARTY

Well, we did it again! After the continuing drizzle had given your committee sleepless nights, lo and behold Sunday, June 21st dawned fair and got fairer, and in response even more of you than before turned up — over 180 tickets sold, some 20 people paying at the gate and what looked like a whole school of children and very welcome, too. To have almost two-thirds of our entire membership coming together on a lovely day in a lovely setting really warmed the hearts of your committee and the gallant band of helpers — and remember an event like this doesn't just happen. A lot of thought goes into it first, a site has to be found, a date, a budget and then a lot of people who get little recognition have to pad round delivering notices and collecting money. Drinks and snacks are bought, tables, chairs, glasses, bowls, flags borrowed (or scrounged!) and the thing set up partly on the previous evening, partly early Sunday. On the day, your committee do their best to see people get to know one another and later Sunday afternoon comes the inevitable washing-up and clearing-up.

An especial debt is owed to Benny and Chantal King for letting us use their lovely garden and for Benny's surprise bonus of giving us a very talented trio of reed instrumentalists to play some delightful music throughout. They were the 'Trio Cannello' from 20 Drury Road, West Harrow, HA1 4BY. Tel. 01-864 3935.

All of you, come again next year, right? And tell others, too.

John Jarrett

CONGRATULATIONS

To John Jarrett our chairman on being adopted prospective Liberal candidate for neighbouring South Herts.

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WELCOME TO NEWCOMERS

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Crisp from Watford are the new residents at Burnside, Troutstream Way. Their two daughters, Molly and Sarah are aged 9 and 11 years.

Mr. & Mrs. Theo. Simmons from Northwood and their son Scott aged 10 years are at Cherry Cottage, Troutstream Way.

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Prince are now at Stamhus, Troutstream Way.

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Fitzgerald and their two young sons are the new residents at Chess Lodge, Trout Rise, (Ann Wolff's previous residence).

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TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS, etc.

Three Rivers Council has informed the L.R.A. that "the matter of stones falling onto the highway in Sarratt Lane from the adjoining development at Lower Plantation has been reported to the Director of Works and Services who will investigate the problem" and thanks the Residents Association for "the interest taken in maintaining the visual quality of Loudwater".

Concerning the replacement planting in woodland to the rear of "Great Poplars", Chorleywood Road, T.P.O. (Loudwater No. 4) 1971, the L.R.A. has been informed from discussions with the owner and Mr. Sale of the Forestry Commission that "the owner does not intend to fell any more trees and that the Forestry Commission will insist upon 58 replacement trees being planted for those that have been felled."

Residents are reminded that our trees hate having notices stuck into their trunks.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 8/169/81 Erection of detached dwelling and double garage — land — Rookery Wood House, Loudwater Lane, for R. Johnson Esq.
- 8/196/81 Single storey side/rear extension — Savannah, Lower Plantation for F. Bingham Esq.
- 8/237/81 All weather surface on existing driveway — land between Loudwater Lane and Great Poplars, Rasehill Close, Loudwater, for M. Kwintner Esq.
- 8/270/81 One detached dwelling (Scheme A) — outline application.
- 8/272/81 Two detached dwellings (Scheme B) — outline application — both on land at Great Poplars, Rasehill Close, Chorleywood Road, for M.K. Kwintner Esq. The L.R.A. has objected to these applications.
- 8/259/81 Single storey side and two storey rear and side extensions, "Cranham", Loudwater Lane, for C. Appleton Esq.
- 8/266/81 Detached house and garage (outline applications) — land adjoining Lilac Cottage, Troutstream Way for D.A. Fuller Esq.
- 8/312/81 Single storey rear extension, Cleveland, Loudwater Drive, for D. Waller Esq.
- 8/383/81 Erection of single garage, Tumbleweed, Bridle Lane, for L. Eteson Esq.
- 8/418/81 Erection of 3 detached dwellings — land between Green Nook and Bowden, for Abbiss and Hale, Mill End, Rickmansworth.

A wary eye must be kept for access roads behind Bridle Lane. An appeal against a decision by the Council to refuse planning permission for a two-storey side extension to Cherry Lawn, Bridle Lane, for Air Marshall Sir Ivor Brown has been successful.