

LOUDWATER RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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Vice-Chairman
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NEWSLETTER No 37

OCTOBER 1985

What is the L.R.A?

Some newcomers may not be aware of the fact that the LRA is comprised of residents belonging to each of five areas.

1. Loudwater Lane, Armitage Close, Timber Ridge, Chess Lane, Chess Hill and Chess Close, part of Chorleywood Road including Harewood and Rasehill Close, part of Sarratt Lane, Micklefield Hall and Cherry Tree Walk, and Ladywood Close whose roads are in general maintained by Three Rivers D.C. although a small percentage of these may have some private scheme ongoing.
2. Rooks Hill
3. Bridle Lane Company
4. Lower Plantation

5. Loudwater Drive, Loudwater House and the Loudwater Troutstream Estate Company which includes Loudwater Heights.

Each of the areas 2, 3, 5 have their own rules and regulations and pay for the upkeep of their own roads and Lower Plantation is in the last stages of formulating its own Company to protect its interests.

We are combined under the banner of the LRA to promote good neighbourliness and to maintain the amenities of this much prized area of natural beauty in which it has been our good fortune to find ourselves living.

If you have not had your copy of the amended rules of the LRA and would like to have one, please let the Chairman, Maurice Escow know, or Don Cammell our highly esteemed secretary.

Quotation from Richard Myers statement at the Planning Appeal 16.10.84 concerning land between Round House and Loudwater Lane:-----

"Loudwater is a hilly well wooded area developed by houses at a very low density generally on narrow private roads which in some cases are unmade. The River Chess runs through the area and has been dammed and diverted at certain points to create waterfalls and small lakes. To quote from the report of an Inspector on a previous appeal in the locality, 'The houses are set amongst trees and slopes so that the whole Estate forms as an attractive residential area as I have seen with a charm and character of its own'"

Everyone knows that the proportion of a house to its grounds is significant in the assessment of gracious living and that one of the main aims of the LRA is to try maintain Loudwater in the state to which we have become accustomed. This means that the Loudwater Estate residents and those in the area outside the Estate which together might be termed Greater Loudwater are bound together by ties of similar aesthetic values and judgments because they chose to live here and because they belong to the LRA. Perhaps everyone would agree that we should all be vigilant to prevent any deterioration of the amenities we enjoy and which attracted us here in the first place. The pressure to extend and to build new houses and to cut down trees to make way for this and that is eroding the little space that is left to us. One should not be surprised because this is happening all over the planet and it is in people's self interest to increase accommodation and to 'tame the wild'. It is obvious that it is in our self interest also, to consider whether or not our gardens are really in need of taming any more than they are already and whether or not one really does want that fifth bedroom or fourth garage or the view that has no trees between houses which has changed it into a facsimile of suburbia. Unfortunately however often these thoughts are expressed and no matter how often you have found yourself in agreement with them, what happens is that erosion is caused in small ways. People change the character of their environment and then move on through pressure of circumstance and little by little the original character of the area is lost and it is no longer unique.

THE PROBLEM OF IVY

Some time ago the Editor had correspondence on whether ivy is harmful to trees or not. Some sources say that ivy, contrary to popular belief, causes the tree no harm and provides an important home for insects which in turn provide food for birds; that ivy is also used by birds to nest in; its flowers are a valuable source of nectar for moths and flies and the berries provide food for small animals and birds particularly the Redwing which is a small member of the thrush family. Ivy berries are of course poisonous to humans so don't let your toddler eat them. The popular belief was put to the Editor by Mrs. Pamela Done. She wrote as follows:-

"My notes show that it is incorrect to say that ivy does not kill. It is certainly now a proven truth that ivy does not throttle trees and the days when Queen Mary carried a penknife with her to cut the strangling ivy whenever she saw it are outdated.--(some people will remember tales of old Cameron Jeffs, the originator of the Loudwater Troutstream Estate doing the same thing)--However it is the density of the growth which can damage and kill. The tree needs light and air and moisture so it is the quantity of unpruned ivy that causes both a form of suffocation and of disease, weakening the tree growth and stifling the roots. It is then the wind which damages the tree because of the weight of the ivy.

It is inadvisable to grow any climber up a young tree. An established tree can bear climbers including many ivies as long as they are not totally swamped by them. The host tree should never carry too vigorous a climber. --Roger Grounds stresses this point in his book, *Trees for Smaller Gardens* p202--He makes the point also, that climbers should be planted some distance from the tree otherwise the roots will compete for nourishment.

A good example of ivy damage can be seen in the grounds of the Masonic School. For many years the ivies were restricted but in recent years due to economy cuts they have been allowed to become rampant and are bringing down live mature trees as well as the dying ones, particularly in the Spring gales.

In case you cannot see Roger Grounds' book I'll quote his summary on the subject:-

'Climbers add such beauty to trees out of season that it is surprising that one so rarely sees them used in this way. The only objection that can be raised to the practice is that having gone to the trouble of training one's tree so that it has an open centre through which light and air can pass without impediment, thus reducing the risk of fungal and other infections which might be incurred if the centre of the tree were crowded and dark, one is going to defeat all this good work by shrouding the tree under the canopy of the climber.'--- Hoping this helps -- Sincerely, Pamela.



Principle Area Boundary Review

The Boundary Working Party met with the leaders of the LRA and the Chorleywood Residents Association on 4th Sept. to discuss the implications of boundary changes in Chorleywood West. Briefly these are as follows:-

1. The need to bring together the two parts of Chorleywood separated by the County boundary is accepted, by local residents, Parish Councils and District Councils. The 1980 Census showed 1990 people living in Bucks. and 8450 in Herts.(Chorleywood)

2. The use of the M25 as a boundary is unacceptable bearing in mind

(a) the major land transfer which would be involved

(b) the road does not form a barrier between the two existing Hertfordshire parts of Chorleywood, visually, culturally or in any community sense.

(c) Bucks. Herts. County and Three Rivers District Councils reject the use of the motorway as a boundary

(d) the disturbance and concern to the major number of residents

(e) the Secretary of State does not suggest that the M25 should be used as boundaries to land use allocations.

3. The majority of residents in Chorleywood West look to Hertfordshire for the provision of both small scale local and major shopping, employment and cultural activities.

4. The inclusion of Chorleywood West within Three Rivers will improve the effective and convenient local government of the area bearing in mind services can be extended from the adjoining urban area.

5. The proximity of District Council and Parish Council administrative offices to residents in Chorleywood improves the convenience and accessibility of local government services to the community.

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A Letter from George

Dear Mrs Francis,

This is just a short letter to say 'Hello' to you all and to give you an up to date report on my progress. Well at the present time I am making progress but unfortunately it seems to be very slow, but at least it is going in the right direction. I still have physiotherapy on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and hydro therapy on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Shrodell's Hospital and Watford swimming baths respectively. I feel the staff have done a good job in giving me the amount of mobility in my right shoulder that I have at the present time and I am sure that it wont be too long before a full recovery and I am back amongst you all once again.

I wonder if you would be so kind as to put a few words in your next Newsletter for me to send my kindest regards to everyone of my very dear friends on the milk round and wish them all well and to tell them I miss them and will be glad when I am back amongst the fold. Well, I will sign off now with very best wishes to your husband and yourself. George."

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MUSICAL EVENING

Owing to previous commitments for the different members of the Ensemble they will be unable to provide us with the musical entertainment we had hoped for this Autumn but they have promised to come in the Spring. Arrangements are proceeding forthwith to bring this about and a further notice will be printed in the next Newsletter.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

8/0336/85 Two storey side and single storey rear extension and bay window to side at Lilac Cottage Trout Rise for P. Clarke Esq.

8/0347/85 Single storey rear extension and first floor side extension to form dormer at Chess Lodge, Trout Rise for M. Fitzgerald Esq.

8/0567/85 Erection of detached double garage at Woodlands, Loudwater Lane for N. Grant Richardson Esq.

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CONGRATULATIONS

To Mr. and Mrs. L.J. Millaney, Broad Eaves, Trout Rise on the birth of their son Ross James on 22nd August. He is their first child.

Our felicitations go to Charles Green, Marana Tha, Whisperwood, who is a Director of the Loudwater Estate Company and to Pauline his wife who is Loudwater's Deaconess at our Parish Church in Chorleywood, at the priesting of their son Martin by the Bishop of Dover at Holy Trinity Church, Margate on Sunday 29th September.

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WELCOME

To Naomi and Peter Hartnell who have come to live at Cherry House, Troutstream Way.

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CONCERNING SWANS

Shortly after the last Newsletter was printed, the Editor learned that the swans that had been terrorising the au-pair, whose name I hasten to add was not Leda - and sundry other residents who were prevented from gardening at the edges of the lake - was found not to be the son but another cob who had become the mate of the widowed pen. He was very anxious about his nest and the eggs in it. .

The swan people from Windsor were called in to attend to him and as soon as the lady saw the aggressive swan cob, she went straight up to him, scooped him up under her arm and laid his neck close to her and cupped his head close to her face and spoke softly to him. He was immediately calmed. Since then, he has given no trouble and spends most of his time at Flint Cottage waiting to be fed.

Other Committee Members

Karen Read Minutes Secretary	'Nirvana' Timberidge (Rick. 774544)
Dorothy Francis Editor - Newsletter	'Dovecote' Troutstream Way (Rick. 770894)
Jack Cognet Membership Secretary	'Broad Oaks' Trout Rise (Rick. 772306)
Dick Bilton	'Brambles' Lower Plantation (Rick. 720055)
Pamela Done	'End House' Chess Lane (Rick. 773564)
Mary Filose	'Dormer Cottage' Eridle Lane (Rick. 773383)
Maureen Grundy	'Casula' Sarratt Lane (Rick. 779472)
Terry Harle	'Thatch Tower' Troutstream Way (Rick. 775597)
Leonard Wretham	'The Shieling' Violet Way (Rick. 772937)
<u>Co-opted Member</u>	
Michael Nest	'Hillthorpe' Sarratt Lane (Rick. 774569)

Next issue entries by 1st December to the Editor:-
Mrs. D. Francis, Dovecote, Troutstream Way.
Telephone: Rickmansworth 70894.