

LOUDWATER RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER No. 46

JANUARY 1988

Editor: Mrs D. Francis, Dovecote, Troutstream Way. Tel: Rickmansworth 770894

EVERY GOOD WISH TO LOUDWATER RESIDENTS IN 1988!

Mark down April 24th in your diary. It's the date of a very special LRA concert, which will, as usual, be a sell-out. The LRA now has a tradition of holding one other event each year as well as our Garden Party. We think there are several good reasons for this. First, even though the Garden Party is so successful, we feel some people prefer something different, arts and crafts show, concert, etc. Secondly, by holding the concert at the Loudwater Farm, we attract people from the other side of Loudwater. Thirdly, it's another chance for us to get together and build up the community spirit that has made the LRA so strong.

We've had some excellent young musicians playing classics in the past. This year, the mood will be lighter. We've been lucky enough to get Loudwater resident Neil Grant-Richardson to form a group to play for us. Neil was one of the BBC's most distinguished conductors and arrangers, and if you've ever watched Mastermind, it is Neil's theme music you hear. Now a freelance, Neil travels the world as a guest conductor — Canada, the USA and Hawaii are his latest — giving concerts of which the first half are classics and the second half his own compositions. For us, he'll be putting together a concert of Cole Porter, Jerome Kern, Rogers and Hammerstein etc. With him, he hopes to have some of the other professional musicians from the area and perhaps a big name from the musical world outside. We are sending round application forms for tickets with this Newsletter — get yours in as soon as possible because space is limited.

(J. Jarrett)

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(Ed. note:— John's Loudwater Personalities Quiz in the last Newsletter attracted many favourable comments. The Editor would like to thank members of the committee who responded so admirably to her letter asking for articles for the Newsletter this New Year, especially AVIS, a bird very like a black swan, very rare (ib.iii 83) except perhaps "down under")

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"200 words for the Newsletter" quoth the Editor. "Something of general interest or concern to residents. You've the whole holiday period to do it. Simple".

But leave aside money and sex and what is of general local interest. Not the perennial gripes: trees — cutting/not cutting, untidy leaves; gates — not shut/not openable; ramps — too few/too many/wrongly shaped/wrongly sited: cars, children, dogs, foxes, verges and so on.

"Something to do with nature" she suggested, throwing a lifeline.

So be it. Bird sightings around Loudwater, though not universally stimulating, might spark some readers to compare with their own experiences. Here goes:—

Blackbird, Bullfinch, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Coot, Cuckoo, Collared Dove, Domestic Dove, Dunnock, Fieldfare, Grey Goose, Greenfinch, Goldcrest, Goldfinch, Black Headed Gull, Lesser Black Backed Gull, Common Gull, Hawfinch, Grey Heron, Jay, Kestrel, Kingfisher, Lapwing, Magpie, Mallard, House Martin, Moorhen, Nuthatch, Barn Owl, Little Owl, Wood Pigeon, Pheasant, Little Ringed Plover, Redwing, Robin, Rook, Siskin, Snipe,

Sparrow, Starling, Mute Swan, Mistle Thrush, Song Thrush, Blue Tit, Coal Tit, Great Tit, Long-Tailed Tit, Marsh Tit, Tree Creeper, Grey Wagtail, Pied Wagtail, Green Woodpecker, Greater Spotted Woodpecker, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Willow Warbler, Wren, Yellowhammer.

Only 194 words. The rejection slip looms. But, even as I write, surely that is a fine specimen of the fabled Oozulum circling outside the window."

(AVIS)

Further dates for your diary:

Sunday April 24th, musical evening as above

Thursday 19th May, AGM of the LRA at Chorleywood House at 8.00 pm.

Sunday 19th June, LRA Garden Party. Venue to be arranged.

A MESSAGE FROM LOUDWATER (TROUTSTREAM) ESTATE COMPANY

As most residents will know, the bridges over the Chess in Troutstream Way have to be reconstructed, for safety reasons. After discussion of the problem at the Company's A.G.M. last November all Estate householders were advised of the position and asked to contribute £100, or £25 a year for five years, to enable the work to be done.

Various plans have now been considered and, with invaluable help from residents connected with the construction industry, a choice has been made. The Public Utility Companies see no difficulties; but the Planning Authority and Thames Conservancy want to examine the proposals in detail. This is being pursued with them.

Further information, including the timetable and arrangements agreed with the public services, will be given as it becomes available.

The Estate Board appreciates the excellent response from the vast majority of householders who have already paid or pledged their contributions. The tiny minority who have not yet contributed are being contacted individually and it is hoped that their donations will mean an early start to the work because delay will make it difficult to fit in with the contractor's other commitments.

(Bill Hanman)

Gate Closure

The closing of all gates to the Troutstream Estate will take place on Good Friday 1st April 1988 in order to meet legal requirements. The secretary (Hywel Francis tel 770894) will appreciate volunteers to man, or woman, the Kingfisher Lure gate, in twos, for periods of an hour apiece from 10.00am to 5pm on that day.

A MESSAGE FROM BRIDLE LANE ESTATES

Bridle Lane had a busy year in 1987.

Summer brought our second residents Garden Party, held at Bois Cottage, by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. W. Hope. Some 70 residents attended on a warm and pleasant day. This looks as though it will be an Annual Event.

Bridle Lane Estates had negotiated with Three Rivers DC, following the imposition of a Tree Preservation Order, to manage its own trees. Permission was given but before work could start we felt the full force of the October hurricane and whilst damage was slight, it delayed our programme of replacement. Sadly a number of elderly cherry trees had to be felled and we are now planning to replant to ensure that the Lane retains its beauty.

Bridle Lane is owned by a Private Limited Company, Bridle Lane Estates Ltd., and when it was formed each householder was allotted shares in the Company. Unfortunately, as people moved, a number failed to transfer their shares and over the years a number of householders were left without shares. Efforts were made to change the status of the Company to one "limited by guarantee" but a change in the law provided the help we needed. A proposal has been made that the present Memo and Articles be changed to permit the Committee to effect a transfer of shares when a vendor fails to do this.

This proposal will be voted upon in late January and it is hoped that the meeting will give its approval so that every householder can become shareholder.

Bridle Lane's AGM will be held on March 16th at Loudwater Farm. (Geoffrey Liley - Secretary)

A MESSAGE FROM LOWER PLANTATION

I am glad to say that, after some 10 years, ownership of Lower Plantation has finally transferred to Lower Plantation Management Company Limited under the able Chairmanship of Fred Bingham. The residents are the shareholders so we now control our own destiny!

Amazingly, little damage was suffered in the November gales and it seems that more harm will be done to the ambitious daffodils and other spring bulbs now pushing their way through because of the mild weather. The wild life is as interesting as ever with foxes becoming more frequent visitors and still the occasional badger or muntjac deer. Quite a variety of birds have been seen with woodpeckers, tree creepers and nuthatches particularly enjoying all our trees.

The best sight of 1987? The splendid and lasting views of Jupiter and its moons must be near the top. (D. Bilton)

PAUL NOON OUR MILKMAN

The LRA is pleased to report that the latest total of Christmas donations to Paul amounted to £1140. He has written a "great big thankyou" to all his friends in Loudwater whom he looks forward to seeing again. He is making a good recovery but has to be patient. It was, he says "an overwhelming surprise" to receive the gift and thanks everyone for their generosity.

TOADS OF THE ROAD

Letters to the Editor have been received voicing the same concern as the following ones.

Dear Editor,

Cars down Sarratt Lane are driven too fast. My wing mirrors have been hit on two occasions lately, once when I was stationary, waiting for the car to slow down which it never did.

Children use that road on their bicycles and it is becoming more dangerous. Newcomers to new houses bordering Sarratt Lane had better beware of these mad drivers!

(Maureen Grundy, Casula, Sarratt Lane)

Dear Editor, Who is going to pay for my wing mirror lost in Sarratt Lane?

(Sue Tippen, Dunara, Chess Lane)

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Door to Door Salesmen

Persistent and unwanted door to door salesmen have been making a nuisance of themselves in Bridle Lane and elsewhere. P.C. Hale, our Neighbourhood Bobby asks that you let him know of any trouble and advises you always to ask to see the caller's Pedlars Licence, NOT just the ID given by the firm. Don't forget, in case of emergency ring 999 and ask for Loudwater Police. You will be put through immediately to Rickmansworth Police station.

AND AN UNHAPPY NEW YEAR TO THEM

Mr. Thoughtless leaves very early for work. He revs his Volvo hard, shouts at his wife, slams the door and spurts gravel driving off, carving up his neighbour's grass verge. The bridge shakes as he roars over it. The gate has been left open so he goes straight through at 30m.p.h. No old ladies or kids about, he thought happily.

Reading his mail at the office, he tore up a reminder that he'd not paid his Road Fund dues. Bet everyone else hadn't paid, he thought. His house had cost him enough anyway and even then busybodies had stopped him putting up that aluminium shed for his caravan, just because a walnut tree had to come down.

Back home, Mrs Thoughtless finished her morning gin and valium and took the dog out. It strained on the leash so much she let it go. It dug happily in a newly-seeded lawn, bounded off to leap at an old man and used a bed of petunias for a lavatory. Meanwhile young Master Thoughtless drove off to collect his airgun. He'd get those bullfinches next time. He'd left his car on the verge by the bend. Bouncing happily over the sleeping policemen, he clipped a swan as it padded across.

Back from her walk, Mrs. Thoughtless noticed the sycamore had again snagged the telephone wire. She'd complained to the Estate Board but they'd had the nerve to say it was her tree — and they'd asked her not to sweep her leaves to the road. She took a few spadefuls of grit for her garden from the grit-box. One of these days she'd go to the LRA AGM and give them a piece of her mind but who wanted to waste an evening to hear about preserving Loudwater? That was why they'd bought here, wasn't it, because it was preserved and property values shot up? The Thoughtlesses knew that one day they'd make a killing from that half-acre of garden. It was time to light the fire the gardener had prepared. She noticed contentedly that the smoke and dust were blowing away from her house into her neighbour's.

That evening the Thoughtlesses sat back happily. Their daughter's 18th birthday party had gone well. What with the noise of the steel band and the hundred or so kids, they'd had to open every door and window. It had been 2.30 in the morning before the last of the cars that had blocked all the other drivers had driven off full of singing revellers.

(John Jarrett)

LRA SUBSCRIPTIONS

With this edition of the Newsletter you will receive the usual request for your annual subscription which remains at £2.00 per household. If for any reason you are unable to pay your local distributor, will you kindly send your cheque in the name of the Association to the Membership Secretary, Mr Jack Cagnet, in the stamped addressed enveloped provided.

(J. Cagnet)

WELCOME TO NEWCOMERS

Tasneam and Irshad Delal with their two sons, Yashid aged 13 and Zulfiquar aged 11, to Sundorne Sarratt Lane. Both boys are at Haberdashers.

Lesley and Derek Ralston with their two sons to Loudwater Lodge, Sarratt Lane. Ben, who is 14, attends Aldenham School and Thomas who is 4.

Lawrence Lindley to Owl Cottage, Bridle Lane.

M.S. Patel and family to Cressy House, Trout Rise.

Raymond Tissier and family to St. Cyrus, Trout Rise.

J.B. and A.J. Montgomery to Chauminette, Trout Rise.

Mr & Mrs Mitha to 15, Lower Plantation.

Mr & Mrs Dorling to 17, Lower Plantation.

Mr & Mrs Reglar to 18, Lower Plantation.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

8/878/87 Oak End Cottage, Wagon Way, erection of detached residential dwelling.

8/900/87 Kerving Cedar, Chess Hill, two storey side extension.

8/922/87 8 Ladywood Close, erection of detached house and garage. (Opposed)

8/1030/87 Round Coppice, Bridle Lane, single storey rear extension.

8/1036/87 Whitewoods, Troutstream Way, construction of front porch.

8/1044/87 The Spinney, Bridle/Sarratt Lane, erection of detached house and garage. (Opposed. Approved in principle on appeal)

8/1060/87 Oak End Cottage, Wagon Way, erection of detached garage.

8/1064/87 Woodlands, Sarratt Lane, erection of detached dwelling.