

**LOUDWATER RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

*Chairman*  
John Jarrett  
Martha's Vineyard  
Violet Way  
R. 774225

*Vice-Chairman*  
Maurice Escow  
Wildwood  
L. Heights  
R. 771810

*Treasurer*  
Cyril Brine  
Arlesey House  
Rooks Hill  
R. 772508

*Correspondence Secretary*  
Don Cammell  
Martins  
Ladywood Close  
R. 776126

**NEWSLETTER No. 49**

**OCTOBER 1988**

Guest Editor: John Jarrett

**HAIL AND FAREWELL**

Jack Cagnet, who was the re-formed LRA's first Chairman, and Barnaby Osborne, the most recent Chairman, have both moved out of Loudwater. Jack has gone to Stourport, Worcestershire for family reasons and Barnaby to Gt. Missenden (for some room for his daughters' horses!). The value of their work for Loudwater has been enormous and we shall miss them.

That left the Committee with a problem. Most of the senior members had been Chairmen, while the others felt either they weren't suited or hadn't quite enough experience yet. With considerable demur, two former Chairmen - Maurice Escow and John Jarrett — agreed to become Vice-Chairman and Chairman again, with the instruction to replace themselves preferably after one year and certainly after two. Wish us luck!

The two departures mean that for the first time ever we have no Executive Committee members from T.Way or T.Rise. The Committee has always kept a balance of a member from every main area of Loudwater. Any suggestions, please?

**THE MUNTJACS**

Thank you to the eight people who wrote or rang about this. We now seem to have established they follow a path with two arcs — but with gaps at each end. The most Westerly sighting appears to be at the Whisperwood/T.Rise junction, after which the muntjacs go through the back gardens in T.Rise into T.Way by the bridges, through the gardens of Overstream, then swing North into the V.Way wood and down South behind Glenn Chess. They cross L.Lane into the farm, then Chess Lane. It may be they start the return here, because they're next seen to the North of Rooks Hill, then North of Violet Way.

It seems probable that the harbouring or home site is somewhere in the West — perhaps around Beechen Wood. Any better information gratefully received. Incidentally, sightings of two seem rare, and then it is believed always a female with youngsters.

**HELICOPTERS**

We have suffered recently once again from helicopter noise. Luckily, the resident concerned is leaving. Your Committee has been briefing itself on the relevant law, which as so often does not appear to have caught up with the problem. For instance, in some circumstances a helicopter may be used but only on 28 days in the year — but on any of those days it can go up and down as many times as the owner likes! (We have also repeated our protest about the proposed Denham Airport helicopter extension.)

**IN THE NEWS**

Hardly a month goes by without some local resident featuring in the Watford Observer. There was a long article about the stamp empire of Jim Davis (Whisperwood): another about Dr. Philip Evans (Farm Lane) and his work for the mentally ill and old with a touching picture of 12-year-old Christophe Evans leading an elderly relative with Alzheimer's Disease: Lynn Philpott (L.Lane) making daring jumps from a plane for charity: and lastly all the serious papers carried long obituaries for David Bicknell (T.Way) who with Walter Legge was the skill and brains behind the beginning of HMV's classical recordings.

**LOUDWATER FARM FAIR**

On a Saturday in September, the Subud Group at Loudwater Farm held a fair. Later that day I was rung by two residents who had seen some twentyfive cars outside the farm in L.Lane, making it impassable for ordinary road-users, including a police car which was delayed. Both callers said they were annoyed but also surprised, since the Subud movement's occupation of the farm has been nothing but good-neighbourly so far. I promised to enquire but before I could do so I was rung by Mrs. Creighton, the Subud Chairman with an explanation and a generous apology. All cars should have been (and up to 1p.m. were) directed into the Subud car park but a gap in car-park manning had occurred. Mrs Creighton asked me to give her apologies. All forgiven and thank you, Subud.

**THOSE DOGS!**

Mr. & Mrs. Barnett of Tanglewood, T.Rise write this plea: "Would local residents please restrain their dogs from using our front garden as a dog-loo? We have recently gone to considerable expense on planting shrubs to the front of our property. On the day of the planting, our gardener had words with a local resident as he let his dog (on a leash) relieve itself on the shrubs as they were being planted. This shows a complete lack of consideration. On numerous occasions since, dog-owners have let their dogs use our garden as a toilet. Most of these happenings are when the dogs *are with their owners*.

"There are numerous wooded areas on the estate where owners can take their dogs — please take them there."

The Editor agrees heartily, Mr. Barnett. The Editor lives next to a wood and I am astounded when owners, despite this, stand by while their dog makes use of my property. I make no bones at speaking my mind. After all, if the owner allows the dog to dig up your plants, it comes near to trespass damage.

**A NEW SWINDLE**

A resident in Loudwater heard from a friend in Pinner of a new scam, which has also been tried in Rickmansworth and about which, she feels, we should be warned before it gets here. The Pinner lady was called to the door to sign for a registered parcel by a man who said he was a temporary Post Office worker (this presumably to cover his lack of uniform). Having had some oddly-dressed postmen deliver at various times of strike or pressure, she thought no more of it and signed, although she wasn't expecting such a parcel.

When she opened the parcel, it contained no message but merely a few tatty ribbons.

The next day, fortunately, her bank called. A cheque had been presented there and since it was large and she and her family were well known to the bank, there was some puzzlement. She at once repudiated it, but the bank was unable to detain the presenter. We can only assume that the carbon of the signed registered letter list was used to forge a signature by someone saying to the bank that he'd forgotten, or used up, his cheque book and getting a cheque from the bank. Obviously, no harm was done this time, but we thought the cautionary tale should be passed on.

## US AND THEM

The turn-over in residents in Greater Loudwater gets steadily higher and we have continual evidence that new residents don't always fully understand some of our peculiarities, e.g. the difference between the Loudwater Troutstream Estate Board and the Loudwater Residents Association. (Yes, I know we've said it before — older readers can skip this bit.)

The Estate Board controls and has legal powers over the area inside the four gates. It has these by virtue of covenants that have been agreed on houses in this area and by its ownership of the roads and verges. It has no remit for anything that happens outside the gated area.

The Residents Association has some 300 member houses in what is called Greater Loudwater. That area has been agreed as covering in the East from half way along L.Lane towards Croxley Green, in the West to the Solesbridge Lane junction, in the North from the North side of Sarratt Lane to the North side of Sarratt Lane including Bridle Lane and Lower Plantation, and in the South from T.Way along to L.Lane along the Chorleywood Road. The LRA has no legal powers whatsoever — it is a voluntary body, but the size of its membership over such an area gives it considerable influence. A fuller explanation of what both can do can be found in a leaflet published a few years ago, copies from the Estate Board Secretary, Hywel Francis, Dove Cottage, T.Way.

One reason for putting this is an answer to pleas from the wives of two Committee members who have found themselves on the end of calls from residents cross about some aspect of the roads or verges in the Estate, and having to explain they are not to blame. Although the LRA (which has an Estate Board director on its Committee) is perfectly willing to make any point to the Estate Board if thought necessary, any complaint or request about things inside the gated area should go first to Mr. Francis.

I have also been asked to make the point on behalf of both bodies — and I'm sure the other two local groups, the Bridle Lane Association and the Lower Plantation Association, will concur — that Tree Preservation Orders now cover almost the whole of Greater Loudwater. No one should fell, lop, pollard etc anything that could be called a tree without applying to Three Rivers Planning Department for permission. Since the October 1987 storm, the Council had little option but to take applications on trust that they were necessitated by the storm, but although there are still some trees requiring work because of storm damage, it should not be undertaken, nor clearly any other tree work, without permission. Remember, unpermitted tree-felling inside a T.P.O. area is a civil crime for which prosecution may follow. And if some dastardly chap tries it on a Saturday or Sunday when the Council offices are closed, it is your right to call the police who can take action.

Lastly, while we're on Estate matters, there was to be the statutory gate-closing (by which the Estate confirms its ownership of the roads) in September. Kingfisher Lure is left as the only exit or entrance and manned by day to check cars' legitimate right to use the roads. Alas, the request for a dozen people each to do one hour on the gate received only one volunteer!

## BIRDS, BEES AND OTHER ANIMALS

In January, "Avis" wrote a very pleasant article on birds she/he had seen "around Loudwater." The Editor has heard sceptical comment from a few people that "around Loudwater" must have been a big area if the sightings included the following as "Avis" listed — buzzard, lapwing, plover, siskin, marsh tit, yellowhammer — while someone said: "Cuckoo? Who ever sees a cuckoo?"

We trust "Avis" implicitly. But can any other residents say if they have seen the aforementioned birds and where?

Now, if, like the Editor, you had noticed bees' nests in the ground of your garden and wondered what to do, and then one morning had gone out and found no bees' nest but merely a big hole in the ground, the answer is almost certainly that you've had a badger. There's not much else that likes tackling bees and digs out a hole that big — you may not ever have thought you've a badger in the garden, but you have. It's nice to know, that when two of the known badger setts in

Loudwater have been destroyed by building permission being given on their sites, that Master Brock is still surviving. Lastly, a report of a heroic act by your ex-Chairman. Barnaby Osborne, hearing his daughter's rabbits protesting, went out and found them kicking at a mink which he eventually despatched, while uneasily conscious that a mink can bite right through a human finger. There was a mink farm in the 60s at Mont Au Source, L. Drive, and apprehension was constantly expressed that some of these unwelcome imports would escape and go feral. Strangely, in all those years, this has been the first report. We hope it's the last.

## NEWCOMERS

(We know there are many more of you but, sorry, the Editor hasn't had details) Welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Greg Heath and small son, Bentley, Violet Way.

## YOUR CONTACT

The Committee felt that, since we have had quite a number of changes recently, it would not be too immodest to print the names and numbers of the present Committee so you know whom you can contact of necessary.

Apart from those mentioned at the top of this newsletter, these on the Committee are, in alphabetical order:-

Geoffrey Crook, R.776567, Chess Hill.

Dorothy Francis, R.770894, T.Way.

Bill Hanman R.774088, T.Way (Estate Board observer)

Geoff Liley, R.773182, Bridle Lane.

Desmond Martin, R.775433, L.Lane

Michael Nest, R.774569, Sarratt Lane. Secretary.

Also on Ginger Group of S.W. Herts Residents' groups.

Ann Tate, R.773863, Rooks Hill.

Mabel Tindall, R.776836, Overstream.

(There are three vacancies, one of which is about to be filled, the other two we wish to appoint from T.Rise and T.Way.) It has also been brought frequently to our notice that residents with problems think only of going to the District Council about them. There is nothing wrong with this, but it should be remembered that you have elected District and Parish Councillors who *may* well have a vested interest in keeping you happy. There is also a County Councillor. He is Cty. Cllr. Frank Cogan, K.Langley 64603. The District Councillors are Cllr. Alan Littlejohn, C/w 4420, Cllr. Hazel Whiting, C/w 2375 and Cllr. Bernard Wright, C/w 4383. There are quite a number of Parish Councillors, the Chairman being Cllr. Lynn Wright, C/w 3619. We have one councillor living in Loudwater, Parish Cllr. Margaret Jarrett, R.774225

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

8/0691/88 *Imara, Bridle Lane. Change room to office. (Withdrawn)*

8/0776/88 *Polstreath, Bridle Lane. Two-storey side extension.*

8/0785/88 *15, Lower Plantation. Part single and two-storey rear extension.*

8/0797/88 *St. Cyrus, T.Rise. Two-storey side extension (Opposed)*

8/0841/88 *Two Bridges, T.Way. Single storey side extension.*

8/0889/88 *1, Ladywood Close. Two-storey side extension (Opposed)*

8/0878/88 *Oakdene, Chess Lane. Single storey side extension.*

8/0892/88 *Broad Eaves, T.Rise. Erection of car port.*

8/0918/88 *Dunara, Chess Lane. Two-Storey side extension.*

8/0923/88 *Rookery Nook/Long Ridings. Violet Way. Five new dwellings. (Opposed)*

8/0933/88 *The Coppers, Sarratt Lane. First floor rear extension.*