



The Ol' Trout



No 122

Winter 2006/7

Chairman's Words



The weather of 2006 seemed very strange. Spring was late. Summer, although late, was very hot most of the time, and Autumn went on well into December. I don't know about you, but I was much disorganised with all my Christmas arrangements as the mild weather made it seem like October rather December. Hopefully by the time you read this, I will have bought, wrapped and given to everyone I

needed to!

During the last three months in Loudwater we have been spoilt with a choice of events to attend. The LRA committee and the committees of the clubs have worked very hard in this respect. I would like to thank those members that have contributed to our social scene. But I would also like to thank those residents that attend the clubs and events. We have lots of events planned for this coming year, so please come along, particularly if you are new to Loudwater – you will be made most welcome. But over the last few months I have been asked the following question, "What about the children's events?" We have done very little for the children in recent years and I hope that 2007 will reverse this trend.

With this in mind, I plan to hold a coffee morning for those of you with children (a flyer is attached). So if you are new to Loudwater or if you have lived here many years but would like to meet other families, do please call me for details.

Finally, I wish you all a healthy and happy 2007.

Penny Wilkinson

Editorial

Elsewhere in this issue I have written about the great success we had with the Harvest Supper Quiz. With great credit to the organiser, Colin Timms, Chairman of the LRA Events Sub-Committee, we attracted 76 Loudwater residents to Loudwater Farm – a record for recent times. (And this was achieved despite ten regulars being away on holiday). The numbers going to Club events are reasonably healthy too. The first clubs were formed some ten years ago by our Chairman at the time, Godfrey Crook. Gladly, I can report that they have all been a success. The Bridge Club, the Investment Clubs, the Theatre Club, the Garden Club and the Fine Dining Club attract approximately 20

residents each time they meet. Inevitably, the Wine Club is the most successful, attracting anything between 50 and 70 members. (What great imbibers and oenologists Loudwater folk are!) All the Chairmen of the Clubs, and their committees, deserve congratulating for the hard work they put in – but this is not the prime object of this editorial. Why I think Godfrey Crook deserves the greatest of praise is because the Clubs have introduced Loudwater folk to each other. When we first moved here in 1972 we got to know our neighbours and the people with whom my wife, Davida, shared her school runs to Northwood. At the time, Loudwater houses had large gardens and it was difficult to meet one's fellow residents by going for a walk around the estates. Now all is different. Both my wife and I have had a few health problems recently. (Luckily, we are now fit, and up and about again. Fit, in my case? Well, perhaps not!) We had countless get-well cards, phone calls, emails, and for my wife, there were flowers. (Where were my bottles of alcohol, I ask?) Thanks to the Clubs, we have made many, many really good friends, and I should like to thank them all for their kindness. But do remember – without Godfrey Crook having the inspiration to introduce the Clubs to Loudwater, we would not have known these very kind and generous people.

Peter Phillips.

Forthcoming LRA Events for 2007

The LRA Committee is already planning for next year's events. In early Spring we hope to hold an operatic concert in the barn starring Emma Carrington who entertained us at "Glyndewater" in 2005. In May we are planning an escorted walking tour trip of old London, arranged by Ritva Hale. Also on the 22nd May we have the Annual LRA Golf Day at Sandy Lodge Golf Club, organised by Mike Holden. On 1st July, a Summer lunch will be held at the barn. October brings us our ever popular Harvest Supper Quiz night, with, hopefully, Gary and Buzz Coster as quizmasters again. We are looking into a possible family sports day, as suggested by 15 year old Thomas Kenison of Troutstream Way. So, if like Thomas, you have an idea for an event – especially if you know how to arrange access to an unusual destination or venue - please contact me on 776681.

It looks like being an exciting year and we hope to see you at as many of our events as possible.

Colin Timms

Welcome

Jason & Samantha Rich, Cherry Cottage, Troutstream Way
Clive & Francine Green, Riverside, Troutstream Way
Mr & Mrs Garrick, Lilac Cottage Trout Rise
John & Mary Parry, 12 Loudwater House
Terry & John Creamer, Cherry Trees, Cherry Walk, Sarratt Lane
Lloyd & Abbey Joseph and their children, 4 Ladywood Close
Phillip August, Michelle Miller and Thomas, Ladywood House, 2 Ladywood Close
Niv & Shyamala Tharmendiran, 3 Ladywood Close

Loudwater Residents' Association

Chairman

Penny Wilkinson
Treetops, Cherry Hill
896380

Vice Chairman

Tony Hale
Karelia, Overstream
774374

Treasurer

Nicholas Vaughton
Kingswood,
LoudwaterRidge
896666

Secretary

Sue Tippen
Dunara, Chess Lane
774016

Planning Secretary

Heather Kenison
Five Trees,
Troutstream Way
773683

Membership Secretary

Theresa Jubber
Hunters, Bridle Lane
772618

Members

Peter Phillips
Roy Sterry
Colin Timms

Harvest Supper Quiz



37, 47, 57, 67 - which is the odd one out? This was one of the questions that stumped us, the Armitage Shankers at the Harvest Supper Quiz, held at the Barn on 7th October. It was a super evening, arranged by Colin Timms, Chairman of the LRA Events Sub-committee, and his team. The Quiz Masters were Gary and Buzz Coster. The food this year was prepared by Roland Bake, a highly trained chef, and his culinary expertise shone through. (The special canapés, carrot and coriander soup, and boeuf bourguignon were excellent, the dessert not quite as good but, perhaps, I don't like puddings). There was waitress service. And in typical Loudwater fashion, we had the usual glass or two of sparkling wine to welcome us. All this for just £17.50! Colin and his team have to be congratulated for lots of things. First, we had 76 LRA members present, a record for recent times. Secondly, the barn was really warm, thanks to the heaters that had recently been purchased. Thirdly, the barn looked a treat due to the hard work put into its decoration, in particular by Charles and Jo Homewood, but also by Diana Vaughton who did the table flower arrangements, by Sigi Enbergs, and by Sally Levinson who brought much of the greenery. This was the first event held under the LRA chairmanship of Penny Wilkinson. Penny - you now have loads to live up to!

37, 47, 57, 67 - which is the odd one out? Well 57, of course! It's the only non-prime number, but though the Armitage Shankers did not get this one right, we nevertheless won the quiz. So, congratulations to June and Roland Baish, Janis and Clive Rees, Jack Way, Ros and Dennis Sare, our guests from Overstream, Lynda and Tony Bradford, and to my wife Davida. And, oh yes, I was part of that team too!

Peter Phillips.

Loudwater (Troutstream) Estate Limited

Congratulations to Clive Brothers and Robert Kenison on being elected Directors of LTEL and congratulations to Peter Lough on becoming Chairman. The full complement of Directors is Peter Lough, former Chairman John Parsons, John Watkiss, Maurice Escow, David Maxwell, Clive Brothers and Robert Kenison. I am told that the Estate Company's main concern at the moment is the strengthening of the bridges on the Estate.

Murder Trial

The Derek Symmons trial for murdering his wife, Christine, has been reported fully in several issues of the Watford Observer. (Mr. and Mrs. Symmons lived in Lower Plantation). Although I was a journalist long ago I wonder whether the Watford Observer needed to go into all the sordid details so fully. How distressing this must be for family and friends, and, surely, it cannot be the business of Observer readers. I believe this is gutter journalism at its worst, and certainly not worthy of a local newspaper.

New Year's Eve

A New Year's Eve Party was organised by Colin Timms and his Committee at Loudwater Farm. More details of this in our next issue.

Letters like this makes all the hard work worthwhile:

Dear Penny

I wanted to say a big "thank you" to you and your committee for such an enjoyable evening on Saturday. I know what a lot of time and effort must have been involved to "stage" it, by so many people. It is such a charming venue. The food was really excellent, as was the company. Nothing you do is taken for granted. I'm sure we are all most grateful.

Pauline Irwin,
Glen Chess

Other letters of congratulations came from Hazel Nest, and Buzz & Gary Coster.

Job Description

I see that the LRA is seeking a new "Editor" of the Ol' Trout - and no, this is not my re-application for the job!

I think it should be pointed out that "Editor" is a total misnomer in this context. What you are actually looking for is a Compiler. Everyone knows what an Editor does - and what the LRA requires is not that. In practice, it is the LRA who insists on acting as Editor of this particular journal - and is simply in search of someone to conjure up a bit of extra copy to supplement its own input.

I wish the current Editor a long and happy retirement - with people like me constantly bugging him - he's earned it!

Tony Bradford

I thank Tony for his good wishes. When he took over as Editor for two issues it seems that he did not realise that the Ol' Trout was the voice of the LRA and that the final say of what appears was with the Executive Committee - a Committee he refused to join. I have served as Editor under five Chairmen, Godfrey Crook, Denise Preedy, Roy Sterry, myself (!) and Penny Wilkinson. I have never found this a problem because I believed that their suggestions were well considered, reasonable and always a consensus of what the committee members thought. Editors do not have the final say. Does anyone think that the Editor of the Times or the Sun is not answerable to Rupert Murdoch? I feel fairly sure that Tony would be welcomed back as Editor because he did an excellent job BUT only if he agreed to be answerable to the Committee and indeed join the Committee. Ed.

Manches Moor Park Run

10km run in aid of Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre

Well done Tom Kenison, ex. pupil of York House, now at Merchant Taylors. He managed to beat his "veteran" father, Dr. Robert Kenison, in the 10km run in aid of the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre. Robert, who did excellently in the London Marathon, met his match when coming up against his son. Tom came 112th in 48.52, Robert came 160th in 50.56. Sorry, but it does seem that a good young'un does tend to beat a good old'un, certainly in the field of athletics!

I never could run. My son, Richard ran in the Great North Run, as well as the London Marathon. During my school's cross-countries, I usually managed to hitch-hike to the end-line! Enough said. Ed.

The latest news on Micklefield Hall.

The Rankins, owners of Micklefield Hall, have appealed to Secretary of State for the Environment against the refusal by Three Rivers District Council to allow them to demolish two existing redundant farm buildings and erect in their place a new oak framed Barn for commercial and social functions with associated parking and landscaping. In response, the Bridle Lane and Loudwater Action Group has asked various residents to sign a petition complaining that what the Rankins are requesting will cause increased noise and disturbance, that it is inappropriate to Green Belt, that the roads that would be used are unsuitable, that there would be a dangerous increase in traffic volumes, and that there would be inadequate car parking. Residents were asked to write in triplicate to the Planning Inspectorate in Bristol. In addition, Hazel Nest of Sarratt Lane has taken up the cudgels on behalf of Solesbridge Lane and has sent out a flyer to residents there warning them of the road problems that might ensue if the Rankins succeed in their appeal. The LRA set up a meeting between all parties at the home of LRA Executive Committee member, Theresa Jubber. The Rankins attended together with Graham Watt and Alan Schofield from the Bridle Lane and Loudwater Action Group. Theresa reported that it was an amicable meeting and hopes that "good will come of it". Having studied all the expert reports – acoustic and traffic, the LRA feels that there would be significant noise reduction from holding all events inside a sound proofed barn (outdoor events would need separate planning permission), but we are still concerned about the risk of increased traffic in Loudwater and Sarratt Lanes. For your information, therefore, the LRA view is still as stated in the letter written by Roy Sterry in 2004 and printed below.

This letter was written on 13 December 2004 by Roy Sterry, Chairman of the LRA at the time of the first application, to Miss Kimberley Stevens, the Case Office at Three Rivers District Council.

Dear Miss Stevens

Re: 04/1774/FUL Micklefield Hall, Sarratt Road, Sarratt

Having studied the Application and the supporting Acoustic and Traffic reports, we would like to register our objections to the following aspects of the Application: -

1. Access via Cherry Walk, Sarratt Lane, for all event traffic, should be rejected for on the grounds that: -
 - a. Sarratt Lane is a narrow country lane with limited places for two vehicles to pass. This has been accepted in The Planning Brief prepared for The Development Control Committee on 11th October 2001 where it was recognised (Appendix 1, 3.3) that "the site therefore has poor accessibility..." It was further stated (4.4) that "...particularly heavy goods vehicles will not be permitted having regard to the environmental impact on the locality"
 - b. Attempts to make access to and from Micklefield Hall any safer would ruin the nature of the lane, with its abundant hedgerows.
 - c. A footpath runs across the northern end of Cherry Walk and increased traffic would affect the safety of ramblers.
 - d. Suitable alternative access exists via Sarratt Road. In this respect we would suggest that permanent signage or barriers within the car park area prevent casual access via Cherry Walk.
2. The number of events should be limited to 100 per annum in order to control the effect of noise and light pollution on a rural community.
3. The permitted noise level should be restricted, allowing subsequent monitoring, taking into account the proximity

of local houses in Sarratt Lane, Ladywood Close, Lower Plantation and Bridle Lane.

4. Sound barriers should be erected to minimise disturbance from cars leaving the car park.
5. All events should cease in good time to allow all attendees to be off-site by Midnight, or by 11:30 pm during weekdays.

We would respectfully suggest that The Development Control Committee should consider this Application in view of the nature of local concern about the above matters.

Yours sincerely
Roy L Sterry - Chairman

A Letter from Ann Garner, Trout Rise:

I am writing in response to Mr Graham Watt's letter in the Autumn edition of 'The Ol' Trout' in which he invites concerned residents of Loudwater to protest to the TRDC Planning Dept regarding proposed developments at Micklefield Hall (MFH).



Mr Watt makes a basic presumption that Loudwater residents are incapable of independent judgement. His letter comprises scare mongering tactics that present as intolerant, narrow minded and quite inaccurate. He claims that MFH intend 'catering for unlimited number of people' at the functions held there: this is an absurd notion given that attendance at all events would be limited in accordance with terms of insurance conditions. He also states that music, helicopters and quad bikes would constitute a noise nuisance over a large area. To our knowledge the only topic of conversation regarding noise in Loudwater relates to the continuous, often thunderous noise emanating from the M25. Perhaps Mr Watt may be getting confused with the numerous traffic helicopters that regularly fly about the M25. It is my understanding that all noise levels at MFH are strictly monitored and are now well within permitted noise levels in a residential environment.

MFH has planning application to renovate their dilapidated Tithe Barn and provide a permanent completely soundproofed location for the type of events that they currently hold. Since the marquee they currently use would then not need to be hired-in and erected for each event it would eliminate the need for the delivery lorries coming and going which may be currently apparent. In any event, currently all traffic arriving at MFH is directed via the Croxley entrance. Much of the traffic in Solesbridge Lane is, in fact, cut through traffic to Watford and nothing at all to do with MFH.

Mr Watt's comment that the activities of MFH will devalue our homes is utter nonsense. MFH should, of course, be a working farm. Many rural farming estates are no longer self-sustaining and they need to diversify their activities. Imagine however, if it were to revert to its original working status as a pig farm. The disruption from farm traffic would then certainly be significant and complaints of noise pollution would be accompanied by those regarding smell.

I believe that the Loudwater community should adopt a tolerant attitude towards the Rankin's activities (owners of MFH) in generating a steady income in order that they can renovate and maintain this stunning piece of English heritage. MFH is the Rankin's home and as residents they have a genuine sense of community. They welcome Loudwater residents to MFH to learn of their Tithe Barn renovation project. Therefore, I urge Mr Watt and his followers to adopt a less cynical attitude towards the activities at MFH and obtain a real understanding of what their intentions are. We all want the very best for Loudwater!



The Ol' Trout

The
Loudwater
Newsletter

No. 122

Environmental Matters

Winter 2006/7

Planning Applications Decisions on previously reported applications

06/0108	April Cottage, Bridle Lane. Appeal against non-determination. Granted.
06/1120/LBC	Loudwater Farm, Loudwater Lane. Replacement of timber door and frame. Delegated. Granted
06/1203	16, Lower Plantation. Single storey rear extension. Delegated. Granted
06/1228	Tile House, Trout Rise. Single storey rear extension. Delegated. Granted
06/1286	Mulberry House, Loudwater Heights. Replacement dwelling. Delegated. Granted
06/1305	Dorney, Trout Rise. Amendment to 06/0473. 2 storey & single storey rear extension, rear conservatory, loft conversion, change of access. Delegated. Granted
06/1373	Woodcroft, Trout Rise. 2-storey rear extension. Delegated. Granted
06/1381	Beltwood, Kingfisher Lure. Demolition of garage, new 2-storey extension, basement and raised terrace. Delegated. Granted
06/1381CAC	Beltwood, Kingfisher Lure. Demolition of garage. Delegated. Granted
06/1342	Land to rear of Dorney, Trout Rise. Erection of dwelling. Delegated. Granted

Applications awaiting decisions

04/1774	Micklefield hall. Demolition of 2 farm buildings & erection of oak framed function room. LRA objected to certain aspects. Refused. Appeal to DoE
06/1162	5 Ladywood Close. Retrospective erection of 2 pairs of gates & brick piers. LRA objected. Refused. Appeal to DoE

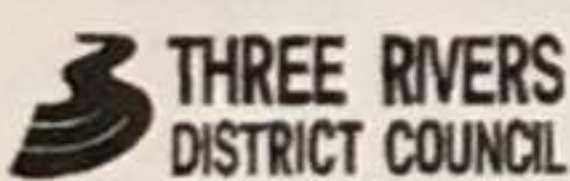
New applications until 13 December 2006

06/1610	Beltwood, Kingfisher Lure. Erection of 2.5m acoustic fence. Delegated. Withdrawn
06/1648	Plots 5&6 Lower Plantation. Erection of 2 detached houses with garages. Delegated. Granted
06/1676	16, Lower Plantation. Single storey rear extension. Delegated. Granted
06/1703	Five Trees, Troutstream Way. Rear conservatory. Delegated. Granted
06/1915	Wychwood, Troutstream way. Single & two storey rear extensions & rear conservatory. Delegated
06/2006	Pheena, Chess Lane. 2 storey & single storey side extension, single rear extension, Delegated. LRA objected
06/2053	Chenies, Bridle lane. Amendment to 06/0811. Tiled roofs over single storey extensions instead of thatch. Delegated.
06/2124CAC	Beltwood, Kingfisher Lure. Erection of 1.9m high timber acoustic fence to boundaries & new walls. Delegated.

This was the letter sent by Three Rivers District Council to LRA Planning Secretary, Heather Kenison in reply to her draft Outer Loudwater Conservation Area appraisal

Loudwater Lane Repairs Progress Report

Thanks to hard work by Derek Woolcock, wading and rodding the flooding in the part of Loudwater Lane leading up to the Chorleywood Road is not as bad as it used to be. However, the floods in the part of Loudwater Lane leading up to Croxley Green are getting worse, as are the potholes. Motorists are becoming PhD's - Pot Hole Dodgers! Roy Sterry is in constant touch with Steve Wooding of Hertfordshire Highways. Steve is promising action - the question is when! The flooding problem, it seems, might be overcome by putting an overflow pipe in an old ditch. Roy also asked why there is not sufficient drainage for the new large houses in Loudwater Drive as this is causing some of the other flooding problems. Roy correctly maintains that this was a planning problem that Hertfordshire Highways should have picked up at the time. It will be interesting to hear Steve's answer - if indeed there is one. Incidentally, when we reported that the Croxley Green end of Loudwater Lane is to be repaired soon, we now know it won't be! This is due to the cost overrun of £8,000 on the other half of Loudwater Lane repairs. However, Hertfordshire Highways tell us that if we all call their Pot Hole Hotline (01923 471320), not only will they carry out individual repairs, but also it will speed up the allocation of funds to do the whole Lane properly.



Three Rivers District Council
Three Rivers House
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Herts WD3 1RL
Tel: 01923 776611
Fax: 01923 896119

DX 38271 Rickmansworth

Mrs H Kenison
Five Trees
Troutstream Way
Loudwater
Herts

My Ref : DLE/PK/LOUDWATERRESASSN1.1
Your Ref :
Date : 28 November 2006
Contact : Peter Kerr
Tel No : 01923 727102
E-mail Add : peter.kerr@three-rivers.gov.uk
Department : Leisure and Environment

Dear Mrs Kenison

Appraisal for Loudwater Outer Conservation Area

The Council's Executive Committee considered your draft Conservation Area Appraisal together with draft Article 4 proposals at its meeting on 27 November 2006.

The Committee resolved that the Loudwater Residents' Association be thanked for their work in producing the draft Loudwater Outer Conservation Area Appraisal. I would be grateful if you will pass on the Council's appreciation to everyone involved in preparing the Appraisal document.

The Committee also resolved that the Appraisal (including the suggestion to consider an Article 4 Direction) be approved for public consultation and a further report be presented to the Housing and Environment Policy Panel and Committee on the results and on the resource implications.

We will now consult local residents and will keep you fully posted on the comments we receive.

I look forward to progressing the matter with you and would like to thank the Association again for its assistance.

Yours sincerely

Peter Kerr
Chief Development Plans and Transportation Officer

Bridge Club

Eight members met for a Duplicate evening at the end of November when we played in teams under the guidance of Liz Crook – a little different, but great fun!

Four Loudwater residents are currently having Bridge lessons and occasionally join us to play quietly in the corner and we hope that they will become members when they have more confidence and knowledge.

The last meeting of 2006 was our Christmas party when we had wine, mince pies and seasonal nibbles. We then played Bridge and had fun prizes.

We plan to begin our first meeting of January 2007 with a short talk by Liz Crook on the reasons for the etiquette of Club Bridge, which should prove interesting and instructive.

If anyone is nervous about playing at the Club, do come along to see how friendly and welcoming we are.

June Baish

Troutstream Investment Club



The Club had its AGM on 9th November. All the officers were re-elected – Godfrey Crook as Chairman, Trevor and Mary Slade as Joint Secretaries, Tony Bradford as Treasurer. Two newcomers joined the Club in the last year – Charles Homewood and Diana Vaughton. The portfolio valuation represented a gain of 35.2% on subscriptions paid by the current membership.

Peter Phillips.

Theatre Club

My apologies for there not being a proper report in the last issue of the Ol' Trout.

This autumn – in mid October – we saw "The Alchemist" at the National.

It's a very comfortable venue and we enjoyed an excellent meal before the performance, which had had rave reviews. It's an ancient play about a team of charlatans peddling money and youth. Very funny, but it was marred by dense old dialogue, sometimes difficult to catch. Early December saw us at Sadler's Wells for Mozart's opera "Cosi Fan Tutte", performed by the Glyndebourne Company on Tour. It was a fine performance with some outstanding contributions. The facilities and ambience were good but our enjoyment was lessened by very cramped seating. We are currently considering offerings for next year, looking at one quite different outing, and trying to involve members in our choices.

Peter Laule.

Garden Club

The Club meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month and will start the New Year in January with a quiz evening hosted by one of our members.

Exceptionally, our February event will be on Friday 23rd when we are arranging a visit to Kew Gardens Tropical

Extravaganza. Why a Friday? Well on Fridays throughout the festival in addition to the festival itself, we will also have a rare opportunity to explore the different glasshouse environments used to rear tropical plants in Kew's tropical nurseries, normally out of bounds to the general public, on special tours given by Kew's Volunteer Guides.

We're back to our usual fourth Wednesday evening format in March when we shall be having a return visit from one of our most entertaining speakers, Patricia Liechti who will be giving us the low down on some lesser known, but delightful, gardens to visit.

Sue Stent

Wine Club

The Committee has largely played it safe over the years, compiling a balanced programme of tastings and other events. Could they risk their reputation and gamble on a tasting of wines from a single grape - the controversial Chardonnay?

Rather than put their own necks on the block, they booked the services of Lena Inger, lit the blue touch paper and retreated. Let someone else take the flack for presenting this grape variety to the members.

It was great to have the chance to explore the variety of wines that are made from this much-maligned grape. Chardonnay is, after all, one of the noble grapes, from which some of the finest white wines are made, so it has to have something going for it.

The general consensus was that everyone found at least one wine that they really liked and, more importantly, would buy.

For those who remained unconvinced, there could be no argument that Chardonnay does still have its place in wine-making - it's one of the grapes used in Champagne! Thus we gave it a good slurping at our Christmas Dinner at Durrants at the end of November.

The Annual General Meeting of the club has to be one of the shortest on record, as everyone agreed unanimously with absolutely everything in order to get through things as quickly as possible and onto the wine.

Following a delicious lunch, Dennis and Ros Sare greatly enhanced proceedings with a music quiz, which made the Chairman feel very old. Allegedly, there will be quiz on opera next year – you have been warned!

Buzz Coster

Be warned!

I have been cajoled by our worthy Wine Club Chairman to create a music quiz next year, having, with him and our team, come third out of four in this year's quiz. With the help of my wife, Davida, I am going to make it as hard as possible for the younger lot, just as this year's was difficult for us "oldies". Opera and musicals – brush up now! And, for a start, from which musical did the words "brush up" come? A kiss from Buzz for the first correct answer! Ed.

Fine Dining – An Evening of Contemporary Japanese Cuisine

We're standing in a little semi-circle as we sip our plum wine aperitif. We're in Chef Kei Shiba's modern Japanese-style sitting room, in deepest Gerrards Cross. It's cosy and welcoming, the crushed ice from our drinks brushing against our lips as we drain the ceramic tumblers of the chilled, sweet wine.



The door opens, and Kei bids us take our seats at the table for our evening of Japanese cuisine. Since Kei can only manage small dining parties in her home, we have spread our event over three nights, this being the first. Tonight we number seven, which is perfect for introducing new club members Peter and Maggie Booth, but in all twenty-three diners enjoyed Kei's food.

The first course of steamed watercress and Enoki mushrooms in a walnut sauce, avocado and salmon Sashimi, and chicken Yakitori (skewered chicken in a Teriyaki sauce) is light and delicious. But the next course, Dohinmushi, is an even bigger delight. This is a clear soup, served in a small ceramic teapot, with a little matching cup upturned over the lid, and into which the soup is poured, cup-by-cup until the teapot is drained. At this point we are bid by our Japanese waitress to remove the teapot lid, and fish out the various bits such as tiny mushrooms, using our chopsticks. Next, it's grilled Loch Etive trout with a light citrus Ponzu sauce which is wrapped in a crisp square of translucent paper and secured with a single strand of chive. Then comes a generous helping of fillet of beef with Teriyaki sauce, and marinated chicken, and after that, "seasonal exotic fruits," which with tea and coffee, end the meal perfectly.

Part of the charm of Kei's food is its simplicity of presentation. Her table settings are contemporary and very arty, and her food precisely arranged on carefully chosen pieces from her vast collection of Japanese tableware.

Our next event will be on either Friday 16th February or Saturday 17th February, depending on what we can organise with the venue. Flyers will be sent out in early January.

Sorry- Viv!

I apologise to Viv Schrage Powell for ever doubting her spelling. On incorrect advice, I changed Taittinger to Tattinger. I should have known that spelling the name of a fine champagne would come easy to her. (Indeed, does she ever drink anything other than bubbly, I ask?) Ed.



Our newest resident, Ethan Tillott, born 11th December to Matt and Vanessa of Cramond Lodge, Timberidge. Congratulations

The Ol' Trout is the newsletter of the Loudwater Residents' Association. It is published quarterly.
Editor: Peter Phillips (778431)
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Designer: Carole Timms
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Club Scene

Chess Investment Club

Meets 5pm, 2nd Wednesday of month

Chairman

Anthony Moss (774907)

Troutstream Investment Club

Meets 8pm, 2nd Thursday of month

Chairman

Godfrey Crook (776567)

Theatre Club

Chairman

Peter Laule (778114)

Organiser

Penny Wilkinson (896380)

Wine Club

Meets 8pm, 4th Friday of month

Chairman

Tony Hale (774374)

Bridge Club

Meets 7.30pm, 1st and 3rd

Wednesday of month

Chairman

June Baish (775808)

Garden Club

Chairman

Sue Stent (712623)

Fine Dining Club

Chairman

Viv Schrage-Powell
(896198)

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