



The Ol' Trout

THE
LOUDWATER
NEWSLETTER

No. 124

July 2007

Chairman's Word

I do hope that you are reading this whilst enjoying a wonderful summer's day. When the sun shines in Loudwater it really makes me appreciate the beautiful surroundings in which we are fortunate to live. I am also hoping that we have good weather for our next event – the LRA Barbecue on Sunday 22nd July at Simon and Karen Post's home Handa, Trout Rise. This event is for the whole community, (young, old and those in the middle!) and I would like to thank Karen and Simon for allowing us to hold it at their home. It will give us all an opportunity to meet our old friends and make some new ones as well. Tickets must be purchased in advance so if you have mislaid your flyer, then please call me for another one. I look forward to seeing you there.

The family coffee mornings are still going well. I am delighted that Elaine Bailey of Beeches, Trout Rise has agreed to join the Committee to oversee these meetings and administer the family contact list. With Elaine on board the LRA can ensure that it meets the needs of all residents.

There was a good attendance at our AGM in May. During the members' open discussion it was felt that the speed of traffic in Sarratt and Loudwater Lanes has substantially increased recently. We will be lobbying the Highways Agency to see what can be done to introduce some form of traffic calming in these roads.

Finally, if you are moving and still wish to receive The Ol' Trout please let us know. You are eligible to become "country" members for the same annual subscription of £10.

Have a wonderful summer.

Penny Wilkinson

New Editor?



After nine years on the Committee, having held most of the jobs, this is one I never

really expected to hold. But I'm only doing it until someone really "new" comes along. The Committee is always looking for new blood to ensure it doesn't get too stale, and although its average age is lower now than at any time during the last decade, there is always room for fresh thinking, from anybody of any age. It is a job that is

concentrated around the four quarterly publications and there is a Communications Sub Committee to help the Editor. If you are interested give Penny a ring. So, what am I going to do whilst I am in charge? That is simple, I am going to try and keep up the quality of the publication that I have inherited from the previous Editor, Peter

Phillips, to whom I am grateful for continuing to give advice and guidance.

In terms of Editorial Policy, I believe that, space permitting, all matters affecting residents should be covered, but we need contributions from residents, either by way of articles or letters, on topics that are relevant. For example, in an area that is rich in wildlife, where are the articles on the swans, the badgers, foxes, etc that are a regular part of Loudwater life. I know of a swan nest in one resident's beautiful garden that is both a sad, but yet beautiful story that is incomplete at the moment, but I hope to feature in the next edition (are you reading this, Derek?) I also witnessed a badger scaring off a fox in Overstream last year: it was a short but fierce tussle, with the fox realising that he had urgent business elsewhere whilst the badger returned to his playful activities. So, please let me have your stories.

I will print all letters that affect Loudwater residents as long as they are not rude, inflammatory or libellous. The Ol' Trout is the place to raise general issues affecting our daily lives.

Finally I extend this offer to all other community bodies in Loudwater. Let us know what is going on in your road or estate. The Ol' Trout is a publication for all of Loudwater and news from any part is of interest to all.

Roy Sterry

Obituary John Jarrett

In the January 2003 edition of The Ol' Trout John provided us with a concise and comprehensive account of his varied and interesting life. On 11th June 2007 John died suddenly and unexpectedly. He will be sadly missed, not only by Margaret and their two sons, but also by the three children of his previous marriage which ended with the tragically early death of his American wife here in Loudwater.

John's career as a journalist, working in senior positions with national newspapers in the UK, New York and Paris was later followed by the Chairmanship of The British Epilepsy Association and as General Secretary of The Freudian Institute of Psychoanalysis. John was a man of strong principles, a pacifist who steadfastly supported the Liberal/ Liberal Democrat cause: he was President of the local branch of the party and stood as parliamentary candidate three times, in 1970, and in both the General Elections of 1974.

Here in Loudwater John was a Director of Loudwater (Troutstream) Estate Ltd from 1976 to 1984 as well as being a founder member of the Loudwater Residents' Association and its Chairman twice. John conceived and produced the Loudwater Newsletter, forerunner of this publication, in 1976 and was Editor between 1976 and 1979 and again from 1988 to 2002.

John was a man of high intellect and commitment with great personal charm and energy. He "worked his socks off" to preserve and protect the character of Loudwater and, for his more than 50 years service to our community, we owe him our gratitude. Long may he be remembered!

Nearly 100 family and friends attended a gathering at the Chorleywood Memorial Hall after the funeral on 19th June 2007 and raised a glass to him, as he had wished.

Donald Cammell: Loudwater Resident 1961 to 2004

Loudwater Residents' Association

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Penny Wilkinson
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896380

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774374

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773683

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Theresa Jubber
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772618

Members

Elaine Bailey
Roy Sterry
Colin Timms

Welcome

Jenny & Paul Turner and children Abby & Robbie, Wendover, Bridle Lane
Julia & Fernando Battaler and children Ferran, Alicia, Xavier & Oliver, Apple Tree Lodge, Bridle Lane
Debbie & David Ellis and daughters Stephanie & Alex, Farthings, Bridle Lane
Denise & Alan Kemp and children Chantelle, Charlotte & Stephen, Faraway Cottage, Bridle Lane
Gail & Peter Higgins and children Amy, Keri, Jack & Emily, Tylney, Cherry Hill
Sarah & Mark Dodds and children Harvey, Joe & Rosie, Farm Cottage, Farm Lane
Kim & Stephen Hillier and children Sarah & James; 1 Haywards Copse
Sarka & Kenneth Schiff and children Phillip & Matt; 2 Haywards Copse

Thank you Peter Phillips

The LRA Committee honoured Peter Phillips on his retirement from the Committee with a retirement dinner held at a committee member's home on 9th June. Penny Wilkinson thanked Peter for his decade of service to Loudwater, during which time he had been Chairman and Editor. Peter was a regular supporter at LRA events and Club activities, including a period on the Bridge Club Committee. Prior to joining the Committee in 1998, Peter had spent two years working on an LRA Sub-Committee researching the practicalities of road calming in Loudwater Lane. Penny thanked Davida Phillips for her support of Peter and Loudwater and presented Peter with a Travelling Wine Cooler, complete with contents chosen by the Chairman of The Wine Club.

London Spring Walk led by Ritva Hale



Saturday 19th May proved a cool blustery day but fortunately free of rain. Our rendezvous was the Masonic School, with a party of twenty-five patiently waiting for the arrival of our coach.

We were all eager to learn more about the old square mile of the city of London, 1.2 square miles to be exact, and we were not disappointed. We had uninterrupted commentary right from our approach into London on the Marylebone fly-over, with Ritva giving us a potted history lesson about the development of Londinium from the Roman invasion, Saxon occupation, on to the Viking invasion, and bringing us up to the present day, with the growth and wealth of the City which has made London the leading city in the Banking world.

Ronnie, our driver, though a Londoner, also learnt a great deal from Ritva's wealth of knowledge. Refreshed by sparkling wine and water we arrived along the Marylebone Road, past the long queues outside Madame Tussaud's, onwards to the re-development of St Pancras, into Clerkenwell Road, past Mount Pleasant Sorting Office, Europe's largest Post Office, and onto our first stop at Clerkenwell Square, made famous by Karl Marx.

Shortly afterwards we arrived at Smithfields, the largest meat market in Europe, covering 10 acres, where live cattle & sheep were once brought to market. In this square we disembarked walking towards St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and the 16C gate house, beyond

which lay the wonderful hidden Priory Church of Saint Bartholomew The Great founded in 1123. We all eagerly explored this forgotten medieval church steeped in history and silenced from the City apart from the Choral singers practicing; for me it was the highlight of the trip.

Back on our coach we proceeded down Aldersgate Street, past the Barbican, this area a total wasteland in 1940, and onto St Pauls' Cathedral via Bow Church.

We didn't have the time to enter the great Cathedral, but instead stood at the point where outside preaching had taken place, learning the history of this famous landmark of St Christopher Wren's incredible feat. Apparently the cupola is the second largest after St Peter's, Rome. It has taken many years to clean this Cathedral by hand to restore its gleaming limestone walls.

When we re-joined our coach we followed Cheapside and on towards the magnificent Guildhall. Fortunately we arrived before its closure for a wedding party so we were able to wander and admire the splendid interior with its famous statues, including Winston Churchill.

By then food was on our minds. The traffic was so light because it was Cup Final day, we were soon speeding along King William Street, past the Monument, over London Bridge to St Catherine's Dock, now a marina. We made our way across the bridge, admiring the fine yachts, to the 17th Century Dickens Inn.

Later, we again boarded our coach and proceeded along the embankment as far as Chelsea, where preparations were being made for the flower show. Ritva gave us much more information from her vast knowledge of London and our journey was made even more pleasant by Ritva's husband, Tony pouring champagne.

Pam Saunders

Loudwater Golf Society Day - 22nd May

On a gloriously sunny day providing perfect golfing conditions, 18 players teed off in the 3rd annual Loudwater Golf Society Day. The standard of the golf, as always, was very mixed but everyone enjoyed themselves at Sandy Lodge Golf Club.

The format was an individual Stableford with added competitions for the best front nine and the best back nine holes, nearest the pin and the longest drive. We were very fortunate that Robsons of Chorleywood once again donated the prizes for the latter two. Six teams of three went out and a prize was also on offer for the best team based on the 2 best Stableford scores in each team. The winner of the main event for the second year running was Robert Fulker with an amazing 5 shots under his handicap and on an unfamiliar course too! Robert also won the best back 9 prize and his team with Roger Giles and Jim Peters won the team prize. In second spot with an impressive 39 points, was Dennis Sare, again on a course he didn't know well. It was only fitting that Dennis should get a prize as he and Ros organised the previous two golf days so brilliantly. Third prize went to Roy Sterry who just pipped Sandy Parker on countback. Svend Gilling won the nearest the pin and the best front nine and Jim Peters the longest drive.

Penny and James Wilkinson joined us for a very pleasant dinner in the evening which was attended by 30 people and Penny kindly presented the prizes.

Mike Holden



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Wine Club

In the last Ol' Trout, we mentioned that we planned to celebrate England's success in the World Cup with the tasting of English wines in March. Hindsight showed that we had much greater success than our national team. The event was presented by our own Club Co-ordinator, Gary Coster, who put together an excellent selection of eight wines from some of our award-winning producers including Chapel Down, Biddendens, Bookers, Three Choirs, Denbies and Sandhurst. From sparkling and still white wines to pinot noir, culminating with a late harvest dessert wine, members' palates were suitably impressed. With the English wine sceptics having tasted and appreciated the quality, they could see why these vineyards are now beating the top French houses.

By the time you have read this we will have tasted our Canadian wines on June 22nd. A region again which may surprise people for the excellence of its mainly white wines; the best known of which is their famous Icewine, made by gently crushing frozen grapes to release the highly concentrated juice.

A note for your diary is Friday 27th July, when we will be welcoming back one of our regular wine educators, Vivienne Franks. We shall again be exploring less well known territory with the up and coming producers from Uruguay. So make sure you attend and impress your friends who have probably never tasted wines from this region or even know that it is a wine growing area.

In late April we set off for the Champagne region, retracing the steps of our first tour in 2001. As this was our seventh tour a formula has evolved which suits our needs; we travel by coach from Loudwater leaving early morning, stopping for lunch en route and arriving late afternoon. Having selected our chateau hotel, we make this the base for the whole tour and ensure that any tastings are accompanied by lunch. Of the five days, one is kept free for sight-seeing and shopping, though many members on the trip to Reims did manage to fit in another tasting. The benefits of having our own coach mean we can bring back wines for our own consumption. The cost savings we convince ourselves actually fund the whole trip!

A full account of the Champagne tour is on our website: www.loudwaterwineclub.org.uk together with photographs as well as a diary of future events and an archive of all past events and wines tasted. An excellent site by our webmaster, Buzz Coster; and essential viewing before you next venture to your friendly wine merchant!

Lastly, I would like to record on behalf of all members, a thank you to Mike Wood, our intrepid treasurer for the last seven years. Having decided to relocate to France, Mike has stepped down from his role, the

mantle having been passed to Martin Powell. Mike was someone that made things happen and on behalf of all the members, we sent the following letter expressing our gratitude for his contribution:

Dear Mike

When we started the Wine Club back in 2000, I don't think anyone thought it would be such a success and attract so many members from the Loudwater Estate residents.

Much of the success in getting the project off the ground was due to your enthusiasm, drive and impetuosity - 'let's go for it' philosophy!

Subsequently, we have held approximately 70 tasting evenings plus some short day trips to English vineyards and / or French restaurants. In addition, we've embarked on 7 wine tours, starting with the Champagne region, Burgundy, the Loire, Alsace, Rioja, Tuscany and Champagne revisited.

In all of these you've been a major part of our organising team and kept immaculate financial records of our activities. Your swan song in arranging the return trip to Champagne was a masterpiece of organisation as evidence by the total praise of our very discerning members.

We will all miss your presence though as you're moving to the Bordeaux region you might like to do a little research and if you find it's a wine area you might like to come up with some ideas of a possible future tour!

Thank you on behalf of the membership and I hope you find the book useful in your new venture.

Good fortune

Tony Hale

*On behalf of Gary Coster, Lorna Hawxwell & Martin Powell
Loudwater Wine Club Committee*

New L.R.A. Committee Member



Elaine Bailey

Welcome to the LRA Committee, Elaine. Here's a short introduction to our newest member.

Elaine is a mother of two, Cameron 11 and Ross 10, who has lived in Loudwater with her husband, Steve for 3 years. Having grown up in Eastcote, Elaine went to St. Mary's Grammar School and Lancaster University, is a Chartered Accountant and lived in Sydney, Australia for two years.

We wish Elaine well in her new role on the LRA Committee.

Planning Applications

Decisions on previously reported applications

- 07/0163RSP The Farm House, Trout Rise. Retrospective application: erection of metal front gates. Delegated. LRA objected. Refused
- 07/0245 Timberley, Troutstream Way. Single front extension under existing roof. Delegated. Granted
- 07/0282 Greenway, Loudwater Lane. Enlarge front 1st floor window & new 2nd floor window. Granted

Applications awaiting decisions

- 01/00692 Micklefield Hall, Sarratt Road. Change of use of old pavilion to offices. 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 4 June 2007

- 07/0177 Wildwood, Loudwater Heights. Renewal of 02/00161. 1st floor extension over garages. Delegated. Granted
- 07/0242 12, Harewood. Single storey extension to existing garage. Delegated. Granted
- 07/0305 Tanglewood, Sarratt Lane. Amendment to 06/0715. Single storey front, side and rear extension. Delegated. Granted
- 07/0332 12, Lower Plantation. 1st floor rear extension and new 1st floor rear windows with doors to balcony. Delegated. Granted
- 07/0347 Holly Trees, Trout Rise. Single front, 2 storey front, side & rear extensions with int. alterations. Delegated. Withdrawn.
- 07/0548 Tanglewood, Trout Rise. Single storey front porch, single storey front & rear extensions, three storey & two storey side, front and rear extensions with first floor balcony and basement garage with new vehicular access. Delegated. Refused
- 07/0576 St Cyrus, Trout Rise. Change of windows to rear doors, block pave drive and enlarge, erect shed/store. Delegated
- 07/0596 Chess Lodge, Trout Rise. Erection of summer house in rear garden. Delegated. Granted.
- 07/0705 Conifers, Chorleywood Road. New entrance gates and fencing to front boundary. Delegated. LRA objected.
- 07/0717 Chesswood, Loudwater Lane. Erection of metal entrance gates between 1.77m & 2.07m in height. Delegated. LRA objected.

Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation

As many residents of Loudwater now know, there is a proposal for the provision of a gypsy site in Loudwater Lane. In February 2006 the Government issued a planning policy on the provision of gypsy and travellers sites. According to research by the Department of Communities and Local Government there is an under provision of sites in the east of England. An additional 1200 pitches for gypsies and travellers are suggested to be needed by 2011. The East of England Regional Assembly (EERA) is responsible for determining how many pitches will be required in each local council area. The Scott Wilson report was commissioned by districts in South West Hertfordshire to identify possible local sites. There are various criteria for these sites such as proximity to transport, school, shops, doctors etc. Three Rivers District Council (TRDC) is opposed to the sites put forward by the report.

The Loudwater Residents' Association Environment Sub-Committee, having met with Councillor Leonard Spencer, is working with representatives of various

Estate Boards in Loudwater to present comments on these proposals. Our immediate attention is to respond to the EERA, by the end of July, with regard to the number and distribution of sites required across the Region. Once this phase has been completed, we will turn our attentions to TRDC to focus on the sites which have been suggested for the District, with particular attention to the site proposed in Loudwater.

It must be emphasised that because this site has been short-listed, its development is not inevitable. Other sites within TRDC's boundaries have been suggested and we plan to consider their merits alongside the site proposed nearest to us. We aim to provide the best possible case to persuade TRDC not to locate a site in this very beautiful area of the Chess Valley.

Heather Kenison, Planning Secretary

Email, snail mail or word of mouth?

Have you heard the story of the missing tortoise? Yes one went missing for longer than his allowed hibernation and was sorely missed by his owners. The word went out to the LRA - have you any way of communicating with residents quickly? Of course came the reply and, courtesy of the Email system, a reply came back immediately. Result- one tortoise found!

This may not be the most serious example of how effective communications via Email can be and, although we can't always guarantee similar success, we would like all residents to be contactable by the LRA Committee via the Email system.

If you would Email your Name & Address to roy@sterry.plus.net, I'll add you to our database. We promise not to divulge personal details on our database to third parties.

From fine dining to fine writing!

Congratulations to Viv Schragger-Powell, Chairman of our Fine Dining Club, who won 2nd prize in the Short Story competition of the Chorleywood Litfest. She saw the competition advertised one day, immediately got onto her treadmill for inspiration, wrote 800 words the same evening, and just made the deadline for entries the next day. The story is about jealousy, with an unusual twist at the end. She maintains that all the characters are fictional and have no resemblance to anyone living, dead, or otherwise! We wonder - are there any other budding writers in Loudwater?

The History of Loudwater

A number of Loudwater residents were part of a capacity audience at The Cloisters Hall, who enjoyed a fascinating lecture on the History of Loudwater delivered by Adrienne Jacques, on the Thursday of Ricky Week 2007.

This event was organised as part of the Ricky Week festivities, by the Rickmansworth Historical Society and Adrienne was introduced by Geoff Saul, the Chairman of the Society, who some years ago gave a talk at an LRA Annual General Meeting on Loudwater history.

Adrienne was the Children's Librarian at the Rickmansworth Library and since retiring has taken as a special study project a two year intensive research programme into the pre-Victorian history of Loudwater. She concentrated on three specific aspects - Loudwater Mill with Glen Chess, Loudwater House and Loudwater Farm.

Loudwater Mill, jointly with Batchworth Mill, was a principal employer in Rickmansworth making paper. One of the owners was the publisher of the London Illustrated News and the superfine paper was made at the Mill.

The lecture comprised a great deal of detailed information and Adrienne has very kindly agreed to provide us with a copy of her text, so that the many interesting features of her research can form the basis of a longer piece in a future issue of The Ol' Trout.

Godfrey Crook

Bridge Club



We usually have three or four tables playing Bridge on the first and third Wednesday of each month. We'd like more members from Loudwater- all abilities are welcome. So please, if anyone is thinking of joining us, do come along and see how friendly we are. We look forward to our summer party on the 18th July. It will be our summer social highlight, a good opportunity for new members to get to know each other.

June Baish

Garden Club

The Garden Club AGM was held in May and two new members were welcomed to the Committee. This was followed by a fascinating illustrated talk about the history and development of Kew Gardens by Jim Keesing, a retired research biologist, who had worked at Kew for over 30 years.



Even though Kew may be a familiar place for many of us, Jim helpfully explained how the gardens had been developed, - indeed why it is called Kew Gardens plural - the how and why of many of the buildings we see there, and the ongoing work of the botanists and plant biologists to this day.

Jim's talk emphasised the wealth of trees that can be seen at Kew, but as Loudwater residents we are privileged to be surrounded by a wonderful variety of trees literally on our doorsteps. If you would like to explore the depths of our special environment in the heart of Loudwater please join us on our evening Arboreal Amble on 25 July. We will be guided by a locally based arboreal expert, Paul Akers, Arboreal Manager, Westminster City Council, who will take us on a stroll providing an informative and lively commentary on the gems which we are passing. Paul is a walking encyclopaedia of information about all things horticultural and engages readily in conversation about all aspects of gardening. He also produces an excellent handout detailing the trees we will see and their origins and growing habits. We will meet at 'The Map', Troutstream Way at 7.00pm, walk round part of the estate, and conclude with well earned refreshments at the home of Chris and Jane Prickett in Trout Rise. A nominal charge of £3 (£4 non-members) will be made for the event. Whether a member or not, please join us for what will be an interesting and enjoyable evening.

For further details please contact **Sue Stent** 712623 or **Jane Prickett** 772472

The Theatre Club

The club has yet to see the ENO's production of "Kismet" at the London Coliseum on the 14th of July. We were hoping to go to The Proms but due to an error by The Royal Albert Hall, we did not get our requested tickets!

We are also visiting Stratford upon Avon to see Twelfth Night on Saturday 15th September. There are tickets left, so please call Penny Wilkinson if you wish to attend.

We try to cater for most tastes and any ideas for possible visits would be most welcome. Please get in touch with me and/or my fellow committee members if you see or hear of anything you think may be worthwhile

Peter Laule

Club Scene

Chess Investment Club

Meets 5pm, 2nd Wednesday of month

Chairman

Anthony Moss (774907)

Troutstream Investment Club

Meets 8pm, 2nd Tuesday 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

Meets 4th Wednesday of month

Chairman

Sue Stent (712623)

Fine Dining Club

Chairman

Viv Schrage-Powell (896198)

The Fine Dining Club The French Horn Revisited

Revisiting the French Horn with the Fine Dining Club – would it be as good as last time because comparisons with the 2005 event would be inevitable. But thankfully, the French Horn managed to surpass themselves, and our May outing was a resounding success - not that we had any cause to doubt that it would be.



Unable to take our aperitifs outside because the weather was particularly dire, we nevertheless enjoyed chilled glasses of Kir Royal, a tasty selection of canapés and the opportunity to mix and mingle in the cosy wood-panelled bar area before adjourning to their private dining room for dinner.

Head chef Gilles Company is French, which is no big surprise. Having cooked in a number of Michelin-starred restaurants in both France and London, he was recently honoured with a Pride of Britain award for his cooking at the French Horn in 2006. (The French Horn being part of that small chain of privately owned luxury hotels). It embodies the French passion for utilising the most excellent seasonal ingredients to produce elegant, classical dishes; club members were able to choose between starters such as Tian de Crabe or Ballotine de Caille, or for their main courses, Tournedos Poêle or Filet de Sole aux Champignons or Carre d'Agneau. With an Amuse-Bouche, Sorbet aux Champagne and dessert, five courses in all. And I must say I found the portions to be significantly more generous than they were last time. The table was elegantly laid with silver candelabras and pink lilies, and the whole effect was that of an elegant, lavish private party for a very chatty group of twenty-four friends.

Our next event is a bit of a Fine Dining Club first. It's a lunch. Continuing our summer dining by the river theme, we're off to The Leatherne Bottel in Goring-on-Thames on Saturday 11th August. New members are more than welcome to come and see what we're all about, and information flyers will be flying out at the beginning of July.

Viv Schrage-Powell

The Ol' Trout is the newsletter of the Loudwater Residents' Association.

It is published quarterly.

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