



# The Ol' Trout

THE  
LOUDWATER  
NEWSLETTER

No. 129

October 2008

## Chairman's Word.

I hope you all had an enjoyable summer despite the weather in August being particularly autumnal. For the second year running we were extremely fortunate to have a glorious warm and mostly dry day for our annual barbecue in Ulla Hauser's beautiful garden. It was a wonderful afternoon with a great mix of long established residents and new ones too. It was wonderful to see the children playing while the adults had time for lazing on the lawn. My thanks must go to Ulla again for allowing us use of her home and for all her help in setting it up together with my wonderful Committee.

By the time some of you have received this we will have organised another event for you – Race Night. I am sure it was as enjoyable as ever with many of you taking home more money than you came with!

After that our next event is the New Year's Eve Party, details of which are enclosed. It promises to be another fantastic evening. The band that entertained us last year with their 1920s music have increased in number to 11 and will be playing a tribute to Glenn Miller. Numbers are limited as usual so please apply for tickets quickly should you wish to come.

Now onto environment matters. Our attempts at getting sound barriers put on the M25 when it is widened are not going well. According to the Highways Agency

the provision of a vastly improved noise absorbing road surface will be more beneficial than sound barriers. Their "experts" believe we should actually see a reduction in the noise.

Obviously only time will tell!

Reducing speed in Loudwater Lane is still a priority and I am pleased to advise that we have now gone on the list for getting a Vehicle Activated Speed Sign. In order to get us to the top of the list we have been asked by Cllr. Leonard Spencer to compile a list of accidents/incidents that have happened. If you have had any such incident in the last 12 months then please complete and return the enclosed form. I would also like to assess this for the coming 3 months so if you have an incident then please email me on

[loudwater@penjames.waitrose.com](mailto:loudwater@penjames.waitrose.com). In the meantime please drive carefully!

Finally, an update on the gypsy sites. The East of England Regional Authority will be conducting another public examination from 20<sup>th</sup> October 2008. You may like to check for updates in the Watford Observer but hopefully we will have more news by January's Ol' Trout.

Have a Happy Christmas.

**Penny Wilkinson**

## Welcome to our new sponsors Gibbs Gillespie Estate Agents.

James Gibbs and Paul Gillespie opened the doors of their first estate agency in Ruislip in 1991 and shared a vision of becoming Middlesex and Hertfordshire's number one estate agency. Little did they expect their enthusiasm and commitment to service would create a fiercely independent company that would set the standard for the industry to follow.

In 2005 and 2007 Gibbs Gillespie was voted UK's best independent estate agent by Cartus Mobility the world's leading relocation company and also in 2007 was 'Best Estate Agent in Middlesex' in the Daily Mail UK Property Awards.

Paul has always loved the countryside and moved to Loudwater approximately 3 years ago. He enjoys local life and being part of the community. He lives with his long-term partner and their young daughter Bonnie, who will be 3 in January and 4 month old baby son, George. He enjoys playing tennis, walking and spending time with his family.

We are grateful to Paul Gillespie for agreeing to take over the printing of The Ol' Trout and we look forward to a long and happy relationship with his company as sponsors.

**Penny Wilkinson**

## Welcome

Somewhat belatedly in some cases, welcome to the following:

Celia and Robert Voss and son Ben (age 17),  
Greenway, Loudwater Drive.

Mr. Mark Fowler and Mr. Joe Vincent, Ladywood  
Cottage, Sarratt Lane.

Valerie and John Croker of Timbertop, 14 Lower  
Plantation

David and Ayesha McLeod of Dell Cottage,  
Loudwater Drive

Dr Amanda and Lt. Col. Stephen Davies of  
Overstream Cottage, Overstream

## FORTHCOMING CHARITABLE EVENTS

### The Cure Parkinson's Trust:

- Thursday 9th October Golf Tournament at Denham Golf Club  
Saturday 8th November Bonfire Party at Huntsmoor, Bovingdon

Further details can be obtained from Helen Matthews on 020 7929 7656.

### Book Review.

#### Chorleywood, Chenies, Loudwater and Heronsgate - a social history by Ian Foster

When I was asked to review Ian Foster's expertly researched 250 page book, with its 120 black and white and coloured illustrations on Chorleywood, Chenies, Loudwater and Heronsgate, I was nervous. "You are not allowed to advertise in the Ol' Trout", I remembered. "Surely a book review, if the review is favourable, is advertising", I thought. But then my worries disappeared. I was asked to review the book by the LRA Chairman, Penny Wilkinson. Her request had the blessing of the LRA Committee, including Roy Sterry, the Acting Editor of the Ol' Trout. No problems!

Inevitably I turned to Chapter 15 first, thirteen pages written about Loudwater by the late John Jarrett of Violet Way. (He was my predecessor as Editor of the Loudwater Newsletter, re-named by me "The Ol' Trout"). One of the joys of the book is that you can dip in and out of it, and John's attention to detail is to be admired in that he even mentions Armitage Close! For those of you who don't know, that's where my family have lived for the last 36 years.

But on to grander venues! Loudwater Mill existed as long ago as the middle of the 14<sup>th</sup> century. (It became a paper mill in 1747). Loudwater Farm dates back to the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. The first entity of Loudwater itself occurs in a 1777 map. It stretched from Sarratt Lane to the north, Solesbridge Lane to the west, a lane now called Chorleywood Road to the south, and Loudwater Lane to the east. The original Loudwater House was built in about 1810. The semi-Palladian Glen Chess was built in 1848, by the site of the Mill. In 1910 Glen Chess and the Mill were turned into dwellings - there was no LRA to oppose the developments! Haile Selassie lived there from time to time during the Second World War.

In 1890 Loudwater House was bought by a Scottish aristocrat, Panmure Gordon. He built the lake that now surrounds it. (An interesting footnote here is that he housed his vehicles in what later became Loudwater Garage, now flats). In John's history of Loudwater House, Troutcott, Loudwater Lodge, The Dell and Flint Cottage are mentioned - so you residents and neighbours who live there, read all about them!

After some years of drift Cameron Jeffs bought Loudwater House in 1924, and, to coincide with the development of the Metropolitan Line, he undertook a house building programme, using his favourite architect, James MacNamara. Thus came about the birth of Troutstream Way, Trout Rise and Overstream. Then in 1957 the estate was sold giving rise to two companies started by local residents, Loudwater (Troutstream) Estate Limited and Loudwater (Bridle Lane) Estate Limited. (Loudwater Heights was, oddly, included into the Troutstream Estate, though there is

no direct link). Both became gated-areas and there are now about 110 houses inside the gated-area, and some 300 outside.

Next, John relates the rise and fall of Harry's Bus. He often used to reminisce about it in the Loudwater Newsletter. It was a bus service from Loudwater to Rickmansworth station and back. How most of us wish there was one today!

John fought hard not to let the M25 ruin Loudwater. He worked on this project in conjunction with the LRA - indeed, he was a past Chairman. But I think it was, ironically, the M25, with its easy access to almost anywhere (assuming the traffic is moving!) that made Loudwater an even more desirable place to live. In a survey just a few years ago Loudwater was deemed one of the three richest areas in the land.

John concludes his piece with mentions of some of the famous people who have lived or visited here, including Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru who stayed at The Spinney in Bridle Lane, and world-famous violinist, Yehudi Menuhin, who regularly visited colleagues in Troutstream Way.

Well done John, and well done Ian Foster for choosing John to write the piece about Loudwater. Nobody could have done it better.

Oh yes, Ian Foster's book is called Chorleywood, Chenies, Loudwater and Heronsgate - a social history. I haven't mentioned Chorleywood, Chenies, nor Heronsgate. To find out about their histories, buy the book! It is available at Chorleywood Bookstore at £25. The publishers are Manticore Books Limited, Silver Birches, Heronsgate, WD3 5DN.

### Peter Phillips

*Thanks Peter, your review was so interesting, I've started to read the book already. Ed.*

### Neighbourhood Watch



This has been a very good year. Just 3 incidents have been recorded. A window was forced and car keys and subsequently the car were stolen. (Please don't leave car keys downstairs at night, it's asking for trouble) Plant machinery was stolen from Lower Plantation and finally vandals smashed windows at a house in Trout Rise. The individuals were traced and one was found to be a resident of the Estate!

I would like to make everyone aware of a message I received from the Lancashire police via one of my co-ordinators regarding mobile phones. "If you receive a phone call on your mobile from any person, saying that he or she is a company engineer, or telling you that they're checking your mobile line and you have to press hash 90 or hash 09 or any other number, end the call immediately without pressing any numbers. This is a fraudulent company using a device that once you press the number they tell you to, they can access your SIM card and make calls at your expense".

Finally, my thanks to all the co-ordinators who help to keep Neighbourhood Watch alive and well.

### June Curtis



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## Planning Applications

### Decisions on previously reported applications

08/0672	<b>Walnut Burrow, (Rear of Tall Trees)</b> Construction of dwelling underground with associated access, landscaping and parking.	<b>Delegated. LRA Objected. Refused. Appeal to DOE.</b>
08/0673CAC	<b>Walnut Burrow.</b> Dem. existing garage.	<b>Delegated. Refused.</b>
08/0669	<b>The Warren, Trout Rise.</b> Single storey rear extension & loft conversion with 2 roof lights to front & rear and one roof light to side.	<b>Delegated. Granted.</b>
08/0777	<b>16 Lower Plantation.</b> Single storey outbuilding to form changing room with shower facilities.	<b>Delegated. Granted.</b>
08/0897	<b>Potters Heron, Bridle Lane.</b> Dem. of existing house and garage and erection of 2 storey detached dwelling.	<b>Delegated. Granted.</b>
08/0901CAC	<b>Potters Heron, Bridle Lane.</b> Dem. of existing house and garage.	<b>Delegated. Granted.</b>
08/0921	<b>Loudwater Farm, Loudwater Lane.</b> Change of use of farmhouse to residential (Class C3) & change of use of outbuildings to provide car parking and guest accommodation.	<b>Delegated. LRA Commented. Withdrawn.</b>
08/0978	<b>Thatches, Loudwater Lane.</b> Erection of thatched entrance gateway with brick piers.	<b>Delegated. Granted.</b>
08/0987	<b>Faraway Cottage, Bridle Lane.</b> Single storey front porch extension & single storey rear extension.	<b>Delegated. Granted.</b>
08/1070	<b>Chess Place, Troutstream Way.</b> 2 storey rear extension with balconies, single storey front extension, rear conservatory, loft conversion with roof alterations, det. garage.	<b>Delegated. Granted.</b>
08/1072	<b>Holly Trees, Trout Rise.</b> Amend. to 07/1077. Substantial dem. of existing house & rebuild, including single storey front, 2 storey front, side & rear ext., internal alterations, det. garage, fenestration changes to north elevation, ground floor dining room with terrace over.	<b>Delegated. Granted.</b>
08/1129	<b>Chantry House, Troutstream Way.</b> Single storey det. triple garage & store, single storey side ext., first floor side ext., rear conservatory.	<b>Delegated. Granted.</b>

### New applications until 5<sup>th</sup> September 2008

8/1410	<b>Shiv Villa, Hillpoint.</b> Erection of steel gates, brick piers & close boarded fencing to boundary to max. height of 3m.	<b>Delegated. LRA Objected. Refused.</b>
08/1407	<b>Walden Lodge, Loudwater Lane.</b> Ext. to existing gravel driveway & erection of front boundary wall & piers to max. height of 1.2m.	<b>Delegated.</b>
08/1397LBC	<b>Flint Cottage, Troutstream Way.</b> Single storey rear ext.	<b>Delegated. Granted.</b>
08/1396	<b>Flint Cottage, Troutstream Way.</b> Single storey rear ext.	<b>Delegated. Granted.</b>
08/1514	<b>Contino, Whisperwood.</b> Amendment to 08/0412 & 08/0413CAC. Single storey front & side ext., 3 storey side & rear ext., new porch, ext. to loft accommodation to incorporate double garage & swimming pool enclosure.	<b>Delegated.</b>
08/1416	<b>Chenies, Bridle Lane.</b> Part retrospective. Blocking up of existing dormer.	<b>Delegated.</b>
08/1606	<b>Cherry Lawn, Bridle Lane.</b> 2 storey front & side ext., single storey front & rear ext., internal alterations.	<b>Delegated.</b>
08/1524	<b>Willows, Loudwater Drive.</b> Single storey rear infill ext. with lantern roof light.	<b>Delegated.</b>
08/1488	<b>Tanglewood, Sarratt Lane.</b> Amendment to 07/2182, single storey front & rear exts., 2 storey side ext. and side dormer ext. to garage.	<b>Delegated.</b>
08/1500	<b>The White House, Trout Rise.</b> Dormer windows & roof light to rear roof slope.	<b>Delegated.</b>

## Summer BBQ



It was 7pm on a wild and woolly evening at the beginning of what we fondly used to refer to in the old days as "summer", and three brave men stood on the banks of the River Chess. Between them lay a bag of poles and several acres of canvas. They only had sixteen hours to convert these raw materials into a fully functioning marquee for the Loudwater Summer Barbeque. But how hard could it be?

At 10pm, three rather less enthusiastic chaps stood on the banks of the Chess. Being proper blokes, they didn't need instructions.

Midnight. Three hunched figures dripped home and three anxious wives could at last call off the emergency services. Something akin to a tent was abandoned to the buffeting of gale-force gusts.

The remaining committee members arrived early the next morning with two bicycle pumps and a set of bellows to start inflating the bouncy castle. A voice from within the marquee was heard saying, "Are the poles supposed to be on the outside?" This quickly caused the BBQ tongs to be deployed in a strange and interesting new way.

Despite the weather forecast, the event itself drew a surprisingly large crowd.

We were so lucky to have the run of Ulla Hauser's garden and tennis court at Mont au Source. The clouds loomed ominously but to start with at least, the rain held off, giving the many guests a chance to admire the beautiful surroundings. When the weather finally broke, families took shelter wherever possible and due to its fantastic construction, the marquee withstood all that was thrown at it!

Many thanks must go to Ulla for the use of her delightful garden, to James Wilkinson for manning the BBQ for so long that he himself was partially cremated (and for his eleventh hour mercy dash to Tesco's when it was discovered that so many people had bought tickets at the last minute) and to the rest of the committee for all their hard work - including the marquee three.

**Elaine Bailey**

## Theatre Club

I'm very pleased to be able to tell you that Eunice Hill has joined our committee. She and her husband Mike are avid theatre-goers and regular supporters of the club and Eunice will make an invaluable contribution. In the last edition I had to report two cancellations which was a pity because both, subsequently, had excellent revues. Our next outing has been well supported and we're going to the lovely

Rose Theatre at Kingston-on-Thames to see "Born in the Gardens" which features Stephanie Cole and Simon Shepherd. It's a matinee performance followed by dinner at the nearby Frere Jacques restaurant which has a very good reputation. We have booked the best seats at the Milton Keynes Theatre for "Carmen" on the 19th of November performed by Glyndebourne on Tour. It's an evening performance and we are arranging a pre-show "dinner" at the Paris House restaurant on the Duke of Bedford's estate.

**Peter Laule**

## Bridge Club



Our Summer Party in July was held on one of the few fine evenings and was much enjoyed. We were able to sit in the garden at the Farm and tuck into a Buffet Supper. We were delighted to welcome our

first Chairman, John Parsons with Pat.

Our Christmas celebrations will be in December, when after wine and refreshments we will endeavour to play a little Bridge.

We have hopefully arranged a Duplicate evening on October 29th...though several members have declared their support, when the time comes too few sign up in order not to commit ourselves to paying rent it will be held at Loudwater House.

The regular Bridge evenings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month are great fun and we usually have three or four tables. We welcome new members...no partner is necessary, so why not come and join us?

**Sheila Fawcner-Corbett.**

## Loudwater Lane Flooding

I'm sure you know there is constant flooding in Loudwater Lane on the bend and junction of Loudwater Drive. Well last Friday was so bad cars were breaking down (steam coming out the engines) and I had to rescue Daniel with wellies. I got soaked - so did my mobile which ended up in the washing machine - as the water came up to my knees.

So I rang the council who said it wasn't their responsibility but Thames Water, who tried to say it wasn't their's (lots of detail about the kind of drain it was etc etc) but I pushed. To cut a long story and several phone calls short they sent out an engineer who has cleared the drain.

I'm not saying it will work, as we have to wait and see, but worth it. It surprised me when I spoke to other residents here who said they complained to the council who said it wasn't up to them, and just gave up! The engineer even rang me at work to check where the drain was so it is worth complaining!

I now have the engineer's mobile no. So can pounce on him if it happens again!

**Jane Harrison** Windy Ridge, Loudwater Lane.

## Fine Dining at Danesfield House on a Glorious Summers' Day



On the sun-drenched terrace at Danesfield House, Marlow, we sipped our sparkling aperitif as we mixed and mingled and admired the magnificent view over the manicured gardens which swept dramatically downwards, eventually reaching the distant banks of the Thames.

Under a Riviera-blue sky, white-bricked Danesfield House seemed transported to another country. For a few hours, thoughts of being in the midst of the most dreary and dismal of summers were banished, as twenty-one Fine Diners heartily enjoyed their lunch in an exclusive area of the Orangery, with its ceiling-to-floor windows giving an uninterrupted view of the terrace and gardens and glorious summer's day beyond.

The fare was summer-light; starters of crab tian with avocado and tomato, chilled broad bean soup, and main courses such as pan fried salmon, or poached breast of chicken were well matched to the prevailing seasonal mood. A light Australian Sauvignon Blanc, or for the red-lovers, a Beaujolais were the perfect accompaniments to our food.

Our next Fine Dining event is in November, possibly on Friday 7th but more likely on Saturday 8th, depending on what the venue can offer. At the time of writing nothing has been confirmed, but writing this has made me realise I need to extract the proverbial

digit and get on with organising the event. Promotional flyers will be sent to everyone by the end of September, but do please make a note in your diary now. As ever, new members are more than welcome.

**Viv Schrager-Powell**

### Garden Club

Over the last few months, members of the Garden Club and their guests have continued to enjoy our programme of events including a guided wildflower walk on Chorleywood Common – a sunny afternoon certainly helped – and a visit to Buscot Park in Oxfordshire to see the autumn colour. In October we return to the small barn at Loudwater Farm for an evening talk by Mick Thompson, Garden Manger of Ashridge College, Berkhamsted, who is in charge of the reclamation and restoration of the college gardens. We are planning a group visit to the college next spring to see for ourselves the fruit of the work which he has been masterminding.

By popular demand our 'year' will end with a repeat of the familiar line-up for Gardeners' Question Time. There are few other such opportunities to have all our gardening questions answered by an RHS judge and the Head Gardener of Hatfield House – to name but two of our panel. They are very approachable experts and are not daunted by the task of diagnosing the problems with wizened twigs which are produced – this year's selection coming, very probably, from the Chairman's garden. The panel will also be giving us their selections of the Top 10 plants for our gardens. This year the event is being held on 26th November at 8.00pm at Mont-au-Source, a big thank you is due to Ulla, and we will have

seasonal refreshments and mulled wine to make the evening most enjoyable. The event is open to members, non-members and guests so why not come along and join in.

## Club Scene

### Troutstream Investment Club

*Meets 8pm, 2nd Tuesday of month*

Chairman

Godfrey Crook (776567)

### Theatre Club

Chairman

Peter Laule (778114)

Organiser

Eunice Hill (776131)

### Wine Club

*Meets 8pm, 4th Friday of month*

Chairman

Tony Hale (774374)

### Bridge Club

*Meets 7.30pm, 1st and 3rd Wednesday of month*

Chairman

Sheila Fawkner-Corbett (775695)

### Garden Club

*Meets 4th Wednesday of month*

Chairman

Sue Stent (712623)

### Fine Dining Club

Chairman

Viv Schrager-Powell (896198)

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

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**Final copy date for January 2009 issue**

**-Saturday 13th December 2008**

Our January meeting will be a social evening with a fun quiz on the 28th. For all enquiries please contact Sue Stent on 01923 712623.

**Sue Stent**

### Loudwater Wine Club

In June we delved into the mysteries of Rosé Wines under the tutorage of Lena Inger, who duly unravelled the subject with a comprehensive tasting of eight varieties including some sparkling. The main lesson was that they are best drunk young and are not made for keeping, advice which seemed to find favour with the attendees.

In July, as a protest at the Sterling/Euro exchange rate, Gary Coster and Lorna Hawxwell brought France to Loudwater with an 'Evening of French Food and Wines'.

Thanks to Charles and Jo Homewood who sourced the variety of Patés and Cheeses on their recent trip across the Channel and in addition, raided various establishments acquiring flags, bunting, posters and other Gallic memorabilia the barn was suitably transformed to achieve the right ambiance in which to enjoy the food and sample the collection of complementary wines selected by Gary.

Both evenings were attended by circa 50 members and as we haven't received any complaints, I believe can be judged a success. Full details of all the wines tasted at these and all past events can be seen on our website [www.loudwaterwineclub.org.uk](http://www.loudwaterwineclub.org.uk) together with our future programme for the year.

Friday 24th October - A Joint Venture between Waitrose & LWC.

Friday 28th November - Christmas Dinner at Chenies Manor.  
Sunday December 14th - LWC AGM & Lunch.

Remember as Autumn approaches now is the best time to finish off that odd bottle of Rosé!

**Tony Hale**



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