



# The Ol' Trout

No. 131

April 2009

## Chairman's Word

They say time goes fast when you are having fun – is that why the last 3 years have raced by and I find I am writing my last Chairman's Word? Well I have to admit most of my Chairmanship has been fun. I have enjoyed working with the people on my wonderful committee and the support they have given me when there was the odd low point. I am leaving the committee to pursue different ambitions and hope to go to university in September but rest assured I will still be around to support Loudwater whenever I can. I will be formally stepping down from the committee at our AGM. This will be held on **Tuesday 5th May at 7.30pm at Rickmansworth Catholic Church Hall**. Due to the uncertainty with the Barn we had to change our venue so please come along – it will definitely be warm and will have proper functioning facilities! I am pleased to announce that Tony Hale will be taking my place as Chairman – thank you Tony!

I think I have been lucky that the LRA Constitution only allows you to be Chairman for 3 years when I think of the 9 years that John Parsons has been Chairman of the Loudwater Troutstream Estate Board. On behalf of the LRA I would like to thank him for the dedication he has shown over the years and hope he enjoys his "retirement" from that Board.

We are trying to compile a list of longest residing residents. If you have lived in Loudwater continuously for over 40 years then please call me on 01923 896 380. We plan to have a tea party for those residents so you can reflect on your life living here.

I am pleased to welcome Julia Hall to the LRA Committee. Julia lives in Bridle Lane and has a wealth of experience having served for many years on the Bridle Lane Estate Board both as Chairman and director. We know she will be an asset to our committee.

Finally, I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM and then our next event, the annual barbecue in June.

## Penny Wilkinson

### WELCOME

Patrick and Adrian Durkan and son, Sebastian,  
Troutstream Gate, Kingfisher Lure.

Jeroen and Sandra van Zauten,  
Hautbois, Loudwater Heights.

Steven and Neelam Dubb,  
Dormywood, Bridle Lane.

John and Rosemary Dewen,  
Chantry House, Troutstream Way.

## Loudwater Residents' Association

### Chairman

Penny Wilkinson  
Treetops,  
Cherry Hill  
896380

### Vice Chairman

Tony Hale  
Karelia,  
Overstream  
774374

### Treasurer

Nicholas Vaughton  
Kingswood,  
Loudwater  
Ridge  
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

Elaine Bailey  
Julia Hall  
Don Moore  
Roy Preedy  
Roy Sterry  
Colin Timms

## Red Nose Day

At 6 p.m. on the 13th March, the door bell rang and there to my surprise stood, in amazing costumes, three young children who were collecting for the Red Nose Charity. They had rehearsed well and were word perfect in the act they performed, needless to say I was mightily impressed at their confidence and initiative.



Oliver Murphy (13) & Bobbie Francis (10) together with Jaskiran Nagi (13) clearly showed that we have a great deal to be proud of in our younger generation, particularly as they live in Loudwater.

## Tony Hale

### A 'grape' start to the new year

Members of the Wine Club have spent the early part of 2009 investigating grapes with two events that focussed on specific grape varieties.

Over the years we have developed a list of our favourite tutors and were not disappointed by Sandy Leckie's guided gallop through Grenache in January.

We followed this up in February with the irrepressible Vivienne Franks showing a selection of wines from Argentina to showcase the Torrontés and Malbec grapes.

It has been fascinating to explore the diversity of wines that can be achieved from a single variety. It's certainly been useful information when looking at a restaurant wine list, trying to choose the right wine to accompany food.

Talking of food, we're returning to Waitrose for our next event where we will be exploring different wine and cheese combinations. April's event is a more home-grown affair with our resident quaffer presenting an Old World versus New World evening.

As always, full details of what's we've been up to and what's coming up are on our website:

[www.loudwaterwineclub.org.uk](http://www.loudwaterwineclub.org.uk)

If any of this sounds interesting and you'd like to explore the wonderful world of wine, come along and give it a go!

**Buzz Coster. The Quaffer's Missus**

## Cabaret Night



Preparations for this year's Cabaret Night began on the Wednesday before with the newly formed "Colin Timms Sewing Club" to make some curtains that would hopefully exclude the draughts in the barn and make it warm for once. Colin's confident words of "we just need to sew a couple of lengths of fabric together and iron on the curtain eyelets" made the task seem an easy one. Of course it was not as simple as hoped but with the use of a sewing machine, a very sharp Stanley knife and one roll of toilet paper (I decided not to ask) the curtains were up and did a fantastic job. Another day's work and the barn was once again transformed into a venue Las Vegas would have been proud of.

The evening began with a small panic as "Mr Tom Jones" was preferring the "Green, Green Grass of Home" rather than Loudwater. He had to take his wife to A&E in the Midlands (luckily she was okay) and would try to make it in time - our minds raced as we considered our options - which Loudwater resident could do a good Tom Jones impression (answers on a post card please) or would we have to revert to karaoke after all?

In the meantime, we carried on passing round the canapés and then served a delicious 3 course meal. It still amazes me how we manage to provide a meal for 53 people with pretty basic facilities. The odd mistake is made although thankfully hidden behind the new curtains! I'm not sure anyone noticed the extra coriander I put in the soup and therefore the lack of coriander that should have gone in the curry - thanks to Christine Sterry for being so understanding!

Finally it was showtime - our entertainer Ian Scott arrived! He started as Tom Jones with hip grinding, medallion and a good impression of a Welsh accent. He was fantastic as he sang some of Tom's greatest hits. It wasn't long before most of the room were up and dancing. It was obviously "Not Unusual" for him to play at different venues but the barn was probably not quite what he expected but he didn't let it show and was a true pro.



After a short break and the by now familiar trip across the car park, he returned as "Neil Diamond". It seemed he had more of an affinity with Mr Diamond giving us some background to the songs and why they were written. He wowed us with ballads and it was hard not to believe the actual Neil Diamond was in the room, such was his flawless imitation. He then gave us some faster songs which got all of us up and dancing until past midnight.

Another wonderful night in the barn - my thanks must go to Colin Timms and his team of helpers.

**Penny Wilkinson**

### PS

£200 was raised from the Cabaret Night Raffle. This has been split between Buckinghamshire Association for Mental Health and Chorleywood Cricket Club Junior Section

## Theatre Club

At the time of writing, 20 of us are looking forward to returning to the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre at Guildford to see "Lloyd George Knew my Father" to be preceded by a leisurely meal at the in-house restaurant. We've taken advantage of a special offer by the theatre and the show looks very promising - it stars Edward Fox and Claire Bloom as Lord and Lady Boothroyd in an hilarious comedy by William Douglas Home.

The committee are always looking for ways to increase our active membership - it helps to reduce the coach fare! - and we are drafting a survey to help us select our offerings. We are also considering e-mailing past and potential members with information on forthcoming events so that they may decide to come as guests and/or rejoin the club.

**Peter Laule**

## Bridge Club

The A.G.M of the Bridge Club took place on March 4th when 19 members attended. The Chairman reported that as the Subuds' lease had been renewed the Farm was available for another year but asked everyone to look out for a suitable venue if and when the Club would have to move.

As membership has declined new members would be very welcome and the emphasis is very much on the social aspect.

The Summer party will be on July 15th and the Christmas party on December 16th.

The members of the Committee remain as before, though as Ros Sare wishes to retire as Secretary Janis Rees will take over and June Baish becomes Treasurer. The Chairman thanked the Committee for their hard work and support throughout the year. She had a special word of thanks for Denis Sare who has looked after the wine so ably and for Clive Rees for his help.

**Sheila Fawkner-Corbett**

## Loudwater Troutstream Investment Club

Despite the difficulties currently besetting the stock market, the Club continues to meet on the second Tuesday of the month. The value of our portfolio has declined more or less in line with the market and our aim now is to ensure we are well placed to take advantage of the upturn when it eventually comes. If you are interested in joining us, you may like to attend one of our meetings to get a feel of how we operate. If so please contact either Diana Vaughton (tel. 01923 896666) or Trevor Slade (tel. 01442 831918).

**Trevor Slade**



# The Ol' Trout

## Planning Applications

### Decisions on previously reported applications

08/0672	<b>Walnut Burrow, Loudwater Drive.</b> Construction of dwelling underground with associated access, landscaping & parking.	Committee. LRA objected. Refused Appeal to DoE. Appeal allowed with conditions
08/0673CAC	<b>Walnut Burrow, Loudwater Drive.</b> As above .	Committee. LRA objected. Refused Appeal to DoE. Appeal allowed with conditions
08/1410	<b>Shiv Villa, Hillpoint.</b> Erection of steel gates, brick piers & close boarded fencing to boundary to max. height of 3m.	Delegated. LRA objected. Refused Appeal to DoE. Appeal dismissed
08/2064	<b>Chenies, Bridle Lane.</b> Part retrospective. 2 storey rear thatched roof extension.	Delegated. LRA objected. Withdrawn
08/2117	<b>The Water Garden, Lower Plantation.</b> Resubmission of 08/1899.	Delegated. Granted
08/2092/RSP	<b>Aisling, Troutstream Way.</b> Retrospective: Amendment to 06/0996 & 06/1165. Demolition of existing dwelling & garage & erection of det. dwelling to include 3 rooflights to front & rear.	Delegated. Granted
08/2240	<b>Micklefield Hall, Sarratt Lane.</b> Conversion of Grade 11 Listed farm building from agricultural use to a function venue with internal alterations, associated landscaping and parking.	Delegated. Refused
08/2241LBC	<b>Micklefield Hall, Sarratt Lane.</b> As above.	Approved
08/2235CLPD	<b>Greenacre, Troutstream Way.</b> Certificate of Lawful Proposed Development. Installation of solar panels.	Delegated. Granted

### New applications until 14th March 2009

08/2232	<b>Land between Larchmead &amp; The Farm House, Trout Rise.</b> Amend to 08/1746/AOD. Erection of det. 2 storey 5 bed house with det. garage to include rear solar panels & plant room & relocation of vehicular access.	Granted
09/0130	<b>The White House, Trout Rise.</b> Erection of triple garage/carport.	Delegated
09/0149	<b>Clifton, Sarratt Lane.</b> Erection of det. dwelling with basement level, accommodation in roof space, new access to highway, hardstanding, electric sliding gates to front, landscaping.	Delegated
09/0173	<b>The End House, Chess Lane.</b> 2 storey rear ext., first floor side ext., conversion of garage to habitable accommodation, single storey rear ext., new front porch, alterations to fenestration, patio to rear.	Delegated
09/0320CLPD	<b>Contino, Whisperwood.</b> Single storey det. pool building.	Delegated

LBC - Listed Building Consent  
RSP - Retrospective Application

CAC - Conservation Area Consent  
OUT - Outline planning permission

AOD - Approval of Details  
CLPD - Certificate of Lawful Potential Development

**PLEASE SEE OVERLEAF FOR L.R.A. AGM AGENDA**

## Fine Dining in Freezing February...



How lucky that we chose to dine so locally because that week in February proved to be one of the worst for snow and ice and dire wintry road conditions. Goodness only knows how a coach would have negotiated the winding lanes down which we so often travel to reach our dining venue, but happily we were dining at the Bedford Arms in Chenies, a mere five minutes away by car.

I confess to having been slightly nervous that the venue was perhaps a wee bit too familiar to club members, but the event, which featured a three-course meal, struck the right note, attracting a record number of 31 diners. Sometimes familiarity is comforting, and that's just the sort of sentiment that warms the heart on a freezing winters' night

Dining at The Bedford Arms has improved greatly of late, and they do what they do, which is traditional, hearty fare, to a high standard. Our menu choices featured chicken liver parfait, goats cheese tortellini and ham hock terrine for starters, and those regular crowd-pleasers; fillet of Scotch beef, Sea Bass and roast leg of lamb for main courses. A choice of chocolate torte, fresh berry Pavlova and lemon tart for desserts rounded off this classic winters' night menu. One Fine Diner wrote afterwards that this was the best club event we've held so far, and several members commented on the excellent atmosphere that night.

Our next event is on Saturday 9th May and will be a lunch at the fabulous Auberge du Lac. A number of members have suggested that we dine there, so guess what - we are. Chef Phil Thompson has recently been awarded his first Michelin star so the venue should pass muster for the discerning Fine Diners. Full details will be sent out during March.

**Viv Schragger-Powell**

## Loudwater Golf Society

**Last chance to add your name to the list for this year's meeting at West Herts Golf Club on 18th May 2009. Robert Fulker, 01923 778302 or [rfassoc@lineone.net](mailto:rfassoc@lineone.net) will be circulating details to members shortly.**

## Garden Club

Following our popular New Year social and quiz evening, the Garden Club will be out and about on 1st April visiting the RHS Greener Gardening Show held in the Society's Westminster Horticultural Halls. This show promises to bring wildlife and environmental issues to the fore, including a tree avenue and will include many sustainable gardening ideas. We will be booking a coach to take us door to door - if you would like to join us please contact Jane Prickett on 772472 to reserve a place.



One of the features of the Garden Club which we are piloting this year is to visit the gardens which have been the subject of talks we have had at the Club. On 27th May we are arranging a group to visit the Manor House at Stevington, the home of Kathy Brown a well known author and garden designer. She was featured in the last series of Gardeners' World with Sarah Raven. At this time of year the garden will feature the Wisteria Walk, an area planted with golden laburnum, purple, pink and white wisterias and clematis underplanted with waves of purple alliums. Dutch iris, foxgloves, poppies and peonies will add to the scene. Elsewhere ceanothus, lilacs, viburnums and other clematis join the early roses to herald the summer season. We have arranged a private guided tour of the 3.5 acre garden and after which we will be sampling Kathy's rose petal sponge cake with our tea. Our journey to Stevington will allow time to stop at a well respected garden centre for lunch and a little retail therapy.

Our June outing will be to a local gem, Hall Barn, Beaconsfield, home of the Hon Jenefer Farnscombe - a garden open under the auspices of the National Garden Scheme. This is an historical landscape garden laid out between 1680-1730 for the poet Edmund Waller.

For further information about the Club and these events do contact Sue Stent, [sue\\_stent@o2.co.uk](mailto:sue_stent@o2.co.uk)

*Ed. Sorry this edition might arrive too late for some of you to join in the April trip to the RHS but you can always overcome that sort of problem by joining the Club and having advance notice of all their events.*

*Also all best wishes to Sue for a speedy recovery following her recent operation.*

## Coffee Mornings

We have two new dates for coffee mornings:

Friday 24th April at Ann Garner's - Green Banks, Trout Rise

Wednesday 8th July at Liz Dolan's - Durley House, Troutstream Way.

Both start at 10am.

Thanks to Erica for hosting the last one - there was a great turn out!

If you need directions or know of anyone else who may be interested in coming, please let me know.

Elaine Bailey (771630)

The Ol' Trout is the newsletter of the Loudwater Residents' Association. It is published quarterly. Acting Editor: Roy Sterry (779599) Email: [roy@sterry.go-plus.net](mailto:roy@sterry.go-plus.net) Designer: Carole Timms  
**Final copy date for July 2009 issue**

- Saturday 13th June 2009

## Club Scene

### Troutstream Investment Club

*Meets 8pm, 2nd Tuesday of month*

Chairman

Trevor Slade (01442 831918)

### Theatre Club

Chairman

Peter Laule (778114)

### 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 Schragger-Powell (896198)

## Proliferating Road Signs

Has anyone noticed the latest hair-brained activities of our local bureaucrats, who just love spending our money and controlling our lives? Having presumably become bored with messing about with road surfaces, creating chicanes, colour-coding various areas, painting strange markings and cycle tracks that end abruptly and lead nowhere - they have now erected dozens of useless and distracting road signs.

They constructed a relatively sensible island and pedestrian crossing outside the Masonic school, but have gone totally mad with these signs sprouting, seemingly out of control, to the east of that crossing. If a driver attempted to read them all, instead of concentrating on the road ahead, he'd be a thorough danger to himself and those around him. Apart from being dangerous and serving no useful purpose, they are ugly - and it's outrageous that our money is being wasted in this way.

This brings me to the proposed Vehicle Activated Speed Sign for Loudwater Lane, and to wondering if it will actually produce even the slightest effective result. Competent drivers don't need a sign to tell them their speed - they will be driving according to prevailing conditions. The incompetent ones might slow down as they approach the particular spot where the sign is situated, but having past it they'll carry on regardless. If that's how they drive, why would one ugly sign cause them to change their ways? I don't think we should be especially pleased with ourselves for getting priority in obtaining another useless blot on the landscape of beautiful Loudwater.

**Tony Bradford**



LONDON BUCKS HERTS MIDDX

## An Exceptional Moving Experience

Gibbs Gillespie are proud to sponsor the printing of The Ol' Trout.

If you are considering selling or letting your property, please visit us at

3 Odeon Parade, High Street, Rickmansworth, Herts. WD3 1EE or contact us on 01923 771771.

*Ed. I think we all agree that excessive signage is ugly and can be counter productive. But if we can make people slow down at the danger spots in Loudwater, surely it will be worthwhile. I agree it may not make all the culprits change their ways completely, but if it converts a few and gets most slowing down at the danger spots it may save a life or just make walking around our lanes more enjoyable. That brings me onto the question of litter - is it possible that the people speeding round our lanes are the same people who throw cigarette packets and beer cans out of their windows? I'm not advocating a proliferation of anti-litter signs, but would it be so bad to point out to motorists that we are proud of our environment and prefer people to take their litter home rather than mess up our verges?*