



# The Ol' Trout

No. 132

July 2009

## Chairman's Word

This is my first Ol' Trout as your new Chairman and I would like to start by acknowledging the contribution of my predecessor Penny Wilkinson over the last three years as the



previous Chairman. She has carried out the duties with efficiency balanced by tact and, while leading the Committee always listened to the various points of view presented before gaining a consensus as to any action required. In gaining the respect of her committee and members she followed in the tradition of past Chairmen who each brought a unique but effective style to the position. In my time on the LRA Committee I have served under Denise Preedy, Roy Sterry, Peter Phillips and Penny so I know the high standard that is expected.

I moved into Loudwater in July 1968 with my wife Ritva and our two boys and quickly came to a conclusion that it was an ideal place to live and moving away would not be a preferred option. In our early days most of the nearby residents were of long standing residency and made us very welcome to Overstream. As time went on the original residents started to leave and it seemed more difficult to get to know the new people moving into the estate and, the social side of Loudwater seemed to take a step backwards.

This changed quite dramatically a decade ago, when through the foresight of Maurice Escow and Godfrey Crook, both former Chairmen, various social clubs were formed and this gave us all a good opportunity to meet and socialise with our fellow residents and from these gatherings many long standing friendships have developed. It has also contributed to Loudwater lowering its carbon footprint as we have travelled less far to enjoy our leisure activities, indeed on certain occasions we even walk home from our hosts!

Thus unlike many other estates ours is a real community and it will be my aim to maintain it as such as well as to ensure that the new residents are welcomed and informed of the benefits that can be gained from living in Loudwater.

In the past when being considered for certain positions you were either too young and inexperienced or too old and experienced, but in my appointment as Chairman this was not the case as no 'Age Discrimination' was shown. At last I am the right age!

I thus thank the Committee for the honour of being elected their Chairman.

Tony Hale

## AGM 2009

By now you will know that the future of the Barn is uncertain. Accordingly the LRA's Executive Committee thought that as an experiment it would try out an alternative venue to see, should the Barn not be available, how our events would fare in the future. So at 7-30pm on Tuesday 5th May, 39 people gathered in the Catholic Church hall in Park Road, Rickmansworth for the AGM. This facility had plenty of parking, space, chairs and good lighting etc., plus an ante-room for a post Meeting glass (or two) of wine. The AGM itself was lively. Penny Wilkinson retiring from both her position as Chair of LRA and the Committee, in order to undertake some studying, spoke warmly of her three years; she had enjoyed the work, had been well supported by her Committee, who she thanked, and handed over the Chair to Tony Hale. Tony presented Penny with a bouquet of flowers, and thanked her for all her hard work, and her husband, James, was presented with a bottle of champagne. Three Committee Members were re-elected, Nick Vaughton, Treasurer, reported healthy finances, Heather Kenison outlined the planning activities the LRA had undertaken and Tony Hale, on behalf of June Curtis, reported on Neighbourhood Watch. The Chairs of the six Clubs spoke warmly about their year's activities, followed by the (now regarded!) Editor of the Ol' Trout and rounded off with a short 'members open discussion'. The AGM was closed at 8-40pm (a record). In keeping with tradition, everyone hastened towards the waiting wine and obediently vacated the building, as requested, before 9-45pm.

Perhaps we have been spoilt over the years by the wonderful Barn, by its cosy, homely ambience, and its proximity to our houses. For although the AGM was lively, informative, celebratory and suitably brief, I thought it lacked atmosphere and felt unusually formal. Had it been transplanted to the Barn, I am sure it would have felt more like a familiar party. So, if the Barn becomes unavailable we will need to search for another heartland. Hopefully we will be able to continue to use the Barn but if not does anyone have any ideas?

Sue Tippen

### Loudwater Residents' Association

#### 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

## Loudwater Golf Society Meeting 2009

The fifth annual meeting of the Golf Society was held on a blustery but mostly rain free day on 18th May. 26 golfers ranging in handicap from 5 to 35 braved the wind at West Herts Golf Club and play got under way at 1:30 in teams of threes and fours. In addition to sponsoring a prize, Gibbs Gillespie, our local Estate Agent and sponsor of The Ol' Trout entered a team: it must have been a reward for selling so many Loudwater houses!

Robert Fulker, last year's cup winner (and the two previous years, come to that, but I'm not jealous) organised the event with the help of his wife Gill. Everything went like clockwork and the golfers were joined for dinner by their partners and friends, and of course our non-golfing LRA Chairman, Tony Hale and his wife Ritva. It was Tony's first official duty as Chairman and, for such an accomplished sportsman-cricket and rugby, he says he can only play games where the ball is moving.

The weather conditions affected the scores and after dinner Robert announced the prize winners and asked Tony Hale to present them. The Loudwater Cup was won by John Price with 34 points - a very good result under the circumstances. The overall mens winner was Stephen Hyams of Gibbs Gillespie with 37 points and the ladies winner was Gill Fulker with 27 points. Perhaps next year we'll see Gill's name on the cup to follow on from Robert's three wins.

Other prize winners were, Chris Trigg, men's runner up with Henry Browne in third place: Jean Woodroffe was ladies runner up. The team prize went to Pauline Harding, Roger Woodroffe, Chris Trigg and Clive Green. Longest drives were achieved by Dan Butler and Pauline Harding; nearest the pin was Robert Fulker and best first and second nine holes were won by Jim Peters and Chris Prickett respectively.

Robert thanked everyone for attending and making this such a successful event. I was distracted for part of Robert's speech, so I didn't hear whether he offered to organise next year's event. He could follow in the great tradition of Ros and Dennis Sare, organisers of the first two events in a row.

Tony Hale thanked Robert Fulker for his organisation of this, the fifth successful LRA Golf Society event and looked forward to attending next year.

Well done Robert and Gill, it was a great day out for the golfers and a great social event in the evening for their guests.

### Roy Sterry

If anybody wants to receive details of the next event, please email your details [roy@sterry.go-plus.net](mailto:roy@sterry.go-plus.net) and I will add you to the list of members.

## Red Nose Day March 2009

Congratulations to our enterprising young residents, Oliver Murphy, Bobbie Francis and Jaskiran Nagi who raised £84.45 for the charity

## Nature Watch



Seen in Troutstream Way in June. Was it lost or just having a stroll round the estate?

## WELCOME

*Derek and Linda Yates and their two children, Jason and Brook.*

*Cleveland, Loudwater Drive.*

*Nicholas and Jill Jordan and their two children, Charlie and Lewis.*

*Larchmead, Trout Rise.*

*Ismail & Helena Vali-Tepper and their daughter Christa Maria*

*Woodleigh, Overstream*

## FORTHCOMING CHARITABLE EVENTS

Manches Moor Park 10k & Junior Fun Runs  
In aid of the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre for cancer support & information at Mount Vernon Hospital.

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at Merchant Taylors' School

Further information: [www.moorpark10k.org.uk](http://www.moorpark10k.org.uk)  
or  
020 8950 6586

## Summer Barbecue

Nearly 150 adults and children gathered at Ulla Hauser's lovely garden on the 21st of June, the longest day of the year, for the LRA's Summer Barbecue where everybody thoroughly enjoyed the Gentle Jazz played by the Art Deco Band as well as each others' company. In fact some of the tunes played by the Jazz Band were very aptly named as i.e. "When you're smiling, keep on smiling and the whole world smiles with you" which duly represented the feeling amongst the guests. Some residents even started to dance to these familiar tunes.



As usual, the catering done by the ladies of the committee was excellent and there was a refreshing glass or two of Pimms served by the new Chairman Tony Hale greeting all the arrivals. Gary Coster was looking after the wine selection, which was served at a nominal cost to those who had not brought their own and, there were several helpers with the barbecue. Both Carole and Colin Timms were doing a marvellous job organising the whole affair.



The children had a good time in the tent where Mr Marvel showed his magic to the appreciative audience and, some lucky little ones were later given some of the

delicious desserts to take home with them when there were not enough sweet eaters amongst the others.



Everybody had a really enjoyable time so, thank you Ulla, once more, for lending your garden for this occasion and even promising that next year we would all be welcome there again. Cheers!!!!

**Ritva Hale**

## Loudwater Garden Club



Early summer is often the time when gardens are at their best and the Garden Club is taking the opportunity to visit two gardens of contrasting styles this year. A riot of colour and interest was certainly the case when the club visited The Manor at Stevington. The photo shows the group in the French garden, one of many 'gardens' within this 4.5 acre plot.

**Sue Stent**

# Loudwater Residents' Association

## Planning Applications

Residents are encouraged to visit the Three Rivers District Council Website  
<http://www.threerivers.gov.uk/Default.aspx/Web/HomePage>

Use the Quick Links to 'Planning Online'.

Where they can fully research the details of the applications listed in outline below.

## Residential Applications

### Decisions on previously reported applications

09/0130	<b>The White House, Trout Rise.</b> Erection of triple garage/carport.	Delegated	Granted
09/0149	<b>Clifton, Sarratt Lane.</b> Erection of detached dwelling with basement level, accommodation in roof space, new access to highway, electric sliding gates to front, landscaping.	Delegated	Granted
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 fenestrations, patio to rear.	Delegated	Granted
09/0320CLPD	<b>Contino, Whisperwood.</b> Single storey detached pool building.	Delegated	Granted

### New applications until 18<sup>th</sup> June 2009

09/0322	<b>Coachman's House, Troutstream Way.</b> Single storey rear extension with rooflights to ext & ext to existing raised terrace & wall.	Delegated	Granted
09/0366	<b>Rooks Hill Cottage, Rooks Hill.</b> Amend to 08/1283. Single storey side lean-to ext to utility room.	Delegated	Granted
09/0441	<b>Plots 5&amp; 6 Lower Plantation.</b> Erection of 2, two storey dwellings with basement level, further accommodation in roofspace, rooflights, solar panels, detached garages, parking, access, & landscaping.	Delegated	Granted
09/0492	<b>Siva, Loudwater Lane.</b> Single storey side ext. with raised rooflight.	Delegated	Granted
09/0507	<b>April Cottage, Bridle Lane.</b> Part retrospective. Two storey side & rear ext., with rooflights and dormer windows, two storey & single storey side & rear exts., with rear Juliette balcony & rooflights, single storey rear ext., and porch.	Delegated	
09/0578	<b>Round Coppice, Bridle Lane.</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> floor rear ext, rooflight to SE elevation & erection of detached garage.	Delegated	
09/0595RSP	<b>8 Glen Chess, Loudwater Lane.</b> Listed building consent. Retrospective replacement of 2 pairs casement doors & one single door.	Delegated	
09/0601	<b>Tudor Cottage, Overstream.</b> Amend to 07/1451. 2 storey side & rear ext. with side dormer to include single storey rear ext.	Delegated	
09/0610	<b>Bower Cottage, Rooks Hill.</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> floor side & rear ext., demolition of existing rear chimney stack, replacement thatched roof, replacement windows & doors to match existing (timber frame & leaded lights)	Delegated	
09/0622	<b>Homewood, Farm Lane.</b> Dem. of existing dwelling & erection of 2 storey dwelling with accommodation in roofspace, basement level, pool, terraces, parking, hard & soft landscaping	Delegated	
09/0626CAC	<b>Homewood, Farm Lane.</b> Demolition of existing dwelling & outbuildings.	Delegated	
09/0696	<b>Kingfisher Cottage, Trout Rise.</b> Single storey front/side extension with front porch.	Delegated	
09/0740RSP	<b>Rasehill, Rasehill Close.</b> Retrospective – erection of metal gates and brick piers to driveway entrance.	Delegated	

CLPD: Certificate of lawful potential development  
CAC: Conservation Area Consent.

RSP: Retrospective application  
LBC : Listed Building Consent

## Troutstream Way: two bridges over the River Chess



Just under three years ago the Loudwater (Troutstream) Estate carried out a survey of the two bridges on Troutstream Way which cross the River Chess. This revealed that there was deterioration of the main structural supports on both bridges.

A further series of structural investigations and geotechnical surveys were carried out to determine the best option for repair and to provide an estimate for the overall costs. One option also considered was complete demolition and rebuild. These investigations and discussions took many months.

The history of the two bridges is some what hazy. The most northern bridge is the original construction and is a brick arch. The southern bridge was upgraded over 20 years ago and the original construction replaced by reinforced concrete beams. The early bridges were very narrow and were later widened. My understanding was the widening was made to accommodate a bus service that ran through the Estate. Unfortunately the widening was not carried out to a very high standard.

Finally in 2008 after much deliberation it was decided to carry out the repairs. These commenced in October 2008 and were planned to be finished by Christmas. The repairs required the road over the bridges to be closed. The road closure necessitated notification of all the main emergency services, post and the Local Authority. One of the residents lives between the two bridges and special arrangements had to be made to allow constant access to the property. Final completion was achieved in March 2009.

Delays were caused by various issues, many of which were unseen prior to the commencement of the repairs. All works over the River Chess require approval from the Department of Environment. This included carrying out surveys of the bridges and river banks to ascertain whether bats lived under the bridges and water voles inhabited the banks. Fortunately we did not encounter either. To repair the north brick bridge the river had to be dammed. This required a specialist to be involved to protect any fish that may have been trapped in the dam. The trapped fish had to be stunned and caught and then released down stream. In addition planning permission for the design of the new railings was required from Three Rivers District Council. Finally the severe winter weather caused construction to be halted for several weeks.

Eventually all these issues were overcome and the works were completed some 12 weeks behind the original plan. New railings were installed which conform to current safety regulations and a pavement constructed on each bridge to allow safe viewing of Pooh sticks.

The bridge repairs have been paid for by the residents of Loudwater (Troutstream) Estate.

### Robert Kenison

*Thanks Robert, what a good job you and the other directors of the Estate Board have done here. We're all proud of the looks and the consideration that went into making it pedestrian friendly. Ed*

## Chorleywood Common

On 6th May Tony Hale attended the launch of the Chorleywood Common Grazing Trial. The benefits to the Common of grazing were explained as biodiversity, sustainability and a return to traditional management.

Increased biodiversity will improve the variety of wildflowers and insects which cannot survive if scrub and bracken smother the grass; sustainability results from the conversion of grass into meat, an effective use of a natural resource; and, of course, grazing created the present Common, which has never been ploughed or sprayed, creating the perfect environment for the wildlife we wish to protect.

The Common is not only a great natural leisure resource used by cricketers, golfers, walkers, Christchurch school children at their games, its grassland is recognised to be of immense ecological importance, both county-wide and nationally.

The response of those who came up to see the 6 cattle (7 by the end of the trial) has been generally positive but the Council will be sending out a questionnaire to all households in the Parish to gain your views on continuing grazing.



### Cllr. Margaret Jarrett

## Theatre Club

We went to the Theatre Royal Windsor on Saturday the 20th of June to see a Matinee performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's Operetta H.M.S. Pinafore performed by the Carl Rosa Opera Company and Orchestra only five days after the opening performance.

Following a survey of members it was gratifying to see twenty-five members and guests enjoying fine weather and a comfortable coach to take us to our seats in the Royal Stalls. We would have been twenty-seven in number but for a last minute and unavoidable cancellation. Not knowing what traffic on the M25/M4 would be like we allowed ample time for the trip and arrived in plenty of time to have a pre-show refreshment and/or a stroll round the town and look at the river.

"Pinafore" is a tried and true delight with lots of laughs and popular songs. The theatre is something special but not large and, with the somewhat restricted setting, the production could hardly be a "tour de force". Nevertheless it was an enthusiastic and talented performance which the audience greatly enjoyed - I thought Gareth Jones was outstanding as the First Lord of the Admiralty and the whole cast were in fine voice with "Henrietta, the Captain, Ralph and Buttercup" also excellent in the principal roles

On our return, at around 5-30 we were offered the option of a meal in a private room at Maurizio's Italian restaurant in Ricky. This seems to be an appealing and flexible arrangement and twelve of us had a really excellent early dinner, from a special menu with a surprisingly varied choice, accompanied by lots of talk and much laughter. Luckily, there were no complaints about the noise and because of our early start we were going our separate ways by 9pm. As Wallace and Grommit would have it "it was a grand day out" - Why not come and join us?

### Peter Laule

## Compare and Contrast at the Loudwater Wine Club



One of the best ways to learn about wine is by comparison and recent meetings of the Loudwater Wine Club have enabled us to do just that.

In March we were royally entertained by Waitrose in Rickmansworth once more. The theme of the evening was wine and cheese matching with a presentation of unintended humour by the store's resident cheese specialist, Adam Whitworth.

As we progressed through the different cheeses, we were able to try each with a white wine, a red wine, sweet wine and champagne. It was a fascinating opportunity to taste and discover which combinations worked best. To our surprise, the best wines to drink with cheese were the sweet wine and champagne, providing a nice challenge for future hospitality chez Coster.

Our next event was an evening of unmitigated indulgence for my dearly beloved, Gary, as he presented wines from the Old and New Worlds for us to compare side by side.

In our household, we find ourselves drinking more and more wine from the New World. There are excellent quaffing wines available in all the major supermarkets and wine retailers but Gary bypassed these, heading higher up the scale.

He pitted some of Europe's finest wines against their New World counterparts and it was a matter of taste as to which each of us preferred. On the whole, most people reckoned that the New World still has a bit of work to do to compete at this end of the market, but they're certainly providing a strong challenge.

Our livers have had a couple of months off for good behaviour and look forward to our next event at the end of July. Sadly, our planned trip to Denbies Vineyard has had to be cancelled but the Committee's hard at work organising an alternative event, details of which will be on our website ([www.loudwaterwineclub.org.uk](http://www.loudwaterwineclub.org.uk)) as soon as they are confirmed.

If you enjoy learning about wine, we hope we'll see you at one of our events.

### Buzz Coster

The Ol' Trout is the newsletter of the Loudwater Residents' Association. It is published quarterly.  
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Designer: Carole Timms  
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**- Saturday 12th September 2009**

### Dining on a Fine Day in May

The Auberge du Lac restaurant at Brocket Hall, Welwyn, is set in some very pretty grounds overlooking a small lake. Keen that that the Fine Diners should enjoy the lovely views and the spring day, despite us being seated in their private dining room, we organised that the Pimm's aperitif and nibbles be taken outside on the terrace, overlooking the lake.

The Auberge is rightly proud of the fact that they have recently been awarded a Michelin star, and with Michelin-starred establishments not exactly being in abundance around the Loudwater area, it was only a matter of time before the Fine Dining Club got around to paying a visit.

It's heartening to see that despite the depressing economic climate our events continue to attract good turnouts, with twenty-eight attending the Auberge event. Well, I suppose that even when times are tough, we've still got to eat...

## 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 Fawcner-Corbett (775695)

### Garden Club

*Meets 4th Wednesday of month*

Chairman

Sue Stent (712623)

### Fine Dining Club

Chairman

Viv Schragger-Powell (896198)

From its name, their Alcove private dining room might sound like its going to be a bit on the small side, but it's actually very airy and spacious, and with diners divided on to three round tables we were able to enjoy our three-course lunch in considerable comfort. The special menu chef Phil Thompson offered gave us a choice of either Ham Hock, Ceviche of Salmon or Spring Pea Veloute for starters, Cornfed Chicken, Sea Bream or Tagliatelle for the main course, or Strawberry Sorbet, White Chocolate Tart or cheese to finish. One table, having caught sight (and presumably a whiff) of the somewhat superior cheese trolley, ordered several more portions, and held their own impromptu cheese tasting party.

I was delighted to announce to Club members that Buzz Coster has joined our committee, and indeed her input and skills were already evident with her designing and printing of the lovely individual menu cards.

Our next event is on the 22nd of August. It may be a lunch, or it might be a dinner. It all depends on the venue and what seems most suitable. Flyers will have been sent out by the time you read this, and as ever, new members are more than welcome to join us.

**Viv Schragger-Powell**



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