



The Ol' Trout

No. 135

April 2010

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

Julia Hall

Roy Preedy

Roy Sterry

Colin Timms

Chairman's Word

With the Association's AGM due on Thursday 13th May my first year as your Chairman will have passed. The time, as ever at my stage of life, has gone quickly and the duties have been enjoyable with help and advice from fellow committee members and the various club organizers. After a harsh winter we can look forward to some better weather now that spring has arrived, the clocks have been put forward and this summer is being forecast to be one of the hottest on record.

With 420 households comprising Loudwater there are naturally some families leaving while new residents take their place. We would like to remind the former that they can remain 'Country Members' and still participate in the social life here, while we not only welcome all the new residents to Loudwater but also encourage them to participate in some of the clubs as an enjoyable way to get to know your fellow residents. Full details of the available activities are contained in the 'Welcome Pack' we endeavour to provide to all new residents, however if you have slipped through our net please email me and we will rectify the omission.

To help us ensure that all residents are informed of the events being held we would request you to forward your email address to our Database Co-ordinator Carole Timms carolecolin@yahoo.co.uk for her to check that our records are correct and to add those that are absent from our current list.

Hope to meet many of you at the AGM or the Garden Party to be held on Sunday June 20th in Ulla Hauser's lovely garden at 'Mont au Source' in Loudwater Drive.

Tony Hale

tonyv hale@lineone.net

Loudwater Coffee Mornings—Everyone Welcome

If you are new to Loudwater and would like to get out and meet your neighbours, or if you just need an excuse to abandon the ironing, there is no better way than by joining us at one of our coffee mornings.

We meet every few months for an hour or two just to catch up, get a caffeine boost and eat cake. The whole thing operates informally in a different house each time and we never seem to run out of volunteers who are happy to host.

The next coffee morning is on Thursday 29th April at Sarah Dodds' – The White House, Trout Rise at 10am.

If you would like me to add your name to my contact list please let me have your details (I prefer an e-mail address if you have one) and I will gladly let you know dates and venues as they are arranged. Hope to see you soon.

Elaine Bailey, 01923 771630 eands.bailey@btinternet.com

LRA New Year's Eve Celebration

If Colin Timms had not become a success in the Electrical Business he certainly would also have become one in Events Management. Now that he has more or less retired perhaps he will take on Events Management as a paid task, besides doing it pro bono for Loudwater. For the fourth year in succession he organised

the LRA New Year's Eve party and, obviously, practice makes perfect, and this was the best one yet. The theme was

Hollywood Nights. Held, as usual, at Loudwater

Farm Barn, you really would have thought you had entered a post Academy Awards party, what with all the film paraphernalia on the walls. Besides the famous picture we all love of Marilyn Monroe there were bits of clip-art of film reels, clapper boards, film cameras, lights, and, yes, a large ostentatious limo! There were only 44 guests – a perfect number because we could move around easily to say "Happy New Year" to all our friends. The orchestra was smaller too, which I, personally, preferred. It played at just the right level and most of us knew most of the great Hollywood tunes and songs that were played. "Music from the Movies" was advertised and it certainly was. Dancing was a joy – even for me with two re-constituted knees! Congratulations to Paul Taylor and his nine-piece Art-Deco Orchestra and to Colin for discovering them. (Remember, Colin also discovered the wonderful Frank Sinatra imitator, and the Elvis Presley one, and the one who could do both Tom Jones and Neil Diamond). Having the Barn in which to hold our events is such a boon. It is no further than one mile from any of our homes so, if we do drink just a little more than we should, we can always walk home! The catering was provided by Viv Worley, never an easy task at the Barn, but we had a 4-course meal, with a choice of five different dishes for each course. Also, the canapés were wonderful. Lastly, as requested by Colin and LRA Chairman, Tony Hale, I am going to give special thanks to the many helpers this year. Believe it or not, there were 23 of them, more than half the number of guests. (I am hurt that I was not included!) So, thank you to Colin's Sub-Committee, Lorna Hawxwell, Don Moore, Roy Preedy and Tony Hale, and thanks also to former Events Chairman, Denise Preedy, Colin's wife, Carole, the Sterrys, Tippens, Costers, Kenisons, Stella and Shannon Garner-Moore, Viv Schragger Powell, Martin Powell, Theresa Jubber and Maureen Wood. Did I write "lastly"? Well, not quite. Our Chairman, Tony Hale, bless him, decided to give a special prize to one newcomer within our midst. Her name is Christa Maria Vali-Tepner and when you see the picture accompanying this article you will know why he made his decision.

Peter Phillips.

Golf Society

Monday 17th May: put the date in your diary and ensure you fill in the application form enclosed and return it to Robert Fulker as soon as possible. If you haven't got a form enclosed, please contact Robert on 01923 778302 or email rfassoc@lineone.net



Murder Mystery close to The Ides of March



The scene was set: Lunar Court in Rome. Loudwater residents had been transformed into gods and goddesses (for the evening only!) to look down on the murderous happenings and become super-sleuths. Enter Brutus – knife in back. He had been dead for twenty years but looked remarkably well on it. He too is able to look down on life in Lunar Court and communicates with an elderly lady called Voluptua, who being an oracle can liaise between the living and the dead.

The first act of the play was performed, by which time the hungry audience, or should I say gods and goddesses, were ready to appreciate the starter of salmon mousse. We were then instructed to open the large envelope on each table, which contained four further envelopes. After each scene one small envelope was opened, containing a task or clues, although the clues did not provide much help, to our table at least. Once our starter had been consumed, the second act was delivered, followed by a delicious Boeuf Bourguignon. By now there had been more murders, but thankfully these were performed off-stage so as not to upset the digestion of the watching gods and goddesses.

Prior to our dessert of cheesecake the third act was played out. Then we were allowed to open the fourth envelope. Having anticipated that the sole task would be to identify the killer of Brutus, a surprise was in store. There were in fact several questions that had to be answered, covering the methods and reasons for all three murders. The allocated time to "sleuth" this seemed all too short and when we were asked to hand in our papers, our table had only one answer! A speedy discussion enabled us to complete the tasks, albeit by guessing and hence we were not the winners. Having said that were we not the losers either! The gods on the winning table received a bottle of wine while the goddesses were given a bouquet of flowers. To help the losing sleuths in future investigations, they were given a magnifying glass each.

The Murder Mystery was a new event in the social calendar of Loudwater and I am sure we shall be seeing the Ricky Players perform again in the Barn. Many thanks to Lorna for a delicious meal which provided much needed food for the brain as we tried to unravel the mystery before us.

Heather Kenison

Thanks Heather for not mentioning who was on the losing table: suffice it to say I read your article with a newly acquired magnifying glass. Ed.

Welcome

Ben Garston and Adam Burnley, 2A Hillpoint,
Loudwater Lane.

Mark Hebden and Anique Grimbly, Pond House,
Bridle Lane.

Andrew and Laura Niznik, 10 Harewood.

Fine Dining in February – at The Restaurant, Sopwell House

Although Sopwell House in St Albans might not exactly classify as a local venue, it's no great distance from Loudwater, which was one of the reasons why it was chosen as our February Fine Dining Club location. For that - and the food of course.

Whilst "The Restaurant" at Sopwell House might not be the most imaginatively named eatery, it is nevertheless a surprisingly good find. The cuisine is classified as "modern British with a touch of French," and has been created by executive chef James Chapman, who boasts a fine work-experience pedigree – the Hyde Park Hotel, the Hilton Park Lane, Brown's Hotel, the Westbury, and more.

Twenty seven Fine Diners enjoyed a glass or two of Bouche Pere et Fils Cuve Reserve in The Library before being seated in the elegant and spacious gallery of The Restaurant, and enjoying the delights of chef Chapman's fare. Seasonal dishes included curried parsnip soup, ham hock terrine and beetroot Carpaccio for starters, then confit of duck leg, honey glazed pork belly or seared sea bream for mains, and white chocolate and raspberry mouse, black cherry parfait or apple tarte tatin for dessert. A selection of classic British cheeses was also available.

At the time of writing the May event is still under negotiation, but it's going to be either a lunch or an evening meal on Saturday 8th May. As usual with the Club's "summer season," i.e., the May and August events, we are looking for something that will enable us to enjoy being outside for at least part of the event. Flyers for the May outing will be sent out at the end of March, so by the time you read this you've probably received yours. If not, let me know, and if you'd like to join our Club, you are most welcome.

Viv Schragger-Powell

Theatre Club

"Variety is the spice of life" it is said and variety is what we aim to provide in our wide-ranging choice of productions and venues to suit all tastes. In February we were back in the West End to see the widely acclaimed "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" with, for the first time, an all black cast - It was stupendous and hugely enjoyed by everyone. In classic Tennessee Williams style, it was steeped in simmering emotions, fractured relationships, soul-searching and frustration, yet there was plenty of comedy to lighten the underlying tension. James Earl Jones, in the role of "Big Daddy" was outstanding in the very strong cast.

Opera was our next engagement - Mozart's "Il Seraglio" with The Welsh National Opera Company at the Milton Keynes Theatre and set on the Orient Express of the 1920's en route to Istanbul. -The visit was as recent as the 1st of April and we can say more about our experience in the next issue. We go to the National Theatre in May for a sell-out production of Boucicault's hilarious classic comedy "London Assurance" starring Simon Russell Beale, Fiona Shaw and Richard Briers. Later in the year we plan to see a light comedy at the delightful little Mill Theatre at Sonning.

Where convenient, we include a meal with our theatregoing, which adds to the enjoyment. Transport is by private coach or executive mini-bus according to numbers (no problems parking!) So why not join us sometimes? For more information e-mail Viv Schragger-Powell (vivi.sp@btopenworld.com) or telephone me on 01923 774569

Hazel Nest

Loudwater Wine Club

Three events have been held this year starting in January with 'Wines from South Africa and Chile - via Marks & Spencer' under the guidance of our own Gary 'Quaffer' Coster. This was followed in February with 'Charcuterie and Wine' with Michelle Cherutti-Kowal and in March exploring 'Wines from Margaret River, Australia' with Tim Syrad as our tutor. Full details of the above mentioned events and future tastings are all on our website www.loudwaterwineclub.org.uk. Please take a look and then why not come along to a tasting yourself to see if it's an activity that you would enjoy?

Tony Hale

Planning Applications

Decisions on previously reported applications

09/1133CAC	7&8 Armitage Close. Demolition of 2 bungalows. Committee. LRA objected. Refused. Appeal to DoE. Appeal dismissed
09/1132	7&8 Armitage Close. Demolish 2 bungalows and erect 5, 2 storey dwellings. Committee. LRA objected. Refused. Appeal to DoE. Appeal dismissed
09/1799	The Coppice, Kingfisher Lure. Single storey det. garage. Delegated. Refused
09/1972	7&8 Armitage Close. Dem of 2 bungalows and erection of 4 detached dwellings with vehicular access and car parking. Delegated. LRA objected. Withdrawn
09/1973CAC	7 Armitage Close. Demolition of 2 bungalows. Delegated. LRA objected. Withdrawn
09/1967	Compton Cottage, Sarratt Lane. Dem of existing bungalow and construction of new 6 bed dwelling - 2 storey with basement. Delegated. LRA objected. Refused
09/2026CAC	Compton Cottage, Sarratt Lane. Dem. of existing bungalow. Delegated. LRA objected. Refused

New applications until 19th March 2010

09/1968	2 Ladywood Close. Construction of pool and pool house in rear garden. Delegated. Granted
09/2080	The Water Garden, Lower Plantation. Loft extension with dormers to front and rear, alterations to cladding and rendering and proposed porch. Delegated. Granted
10/0188CLPD	Contino, Whisperwood. Single storey det. pool building. Delegated
10/0264	Whisperwood Cottage, Whisperwood. Roof alterations to garage to provide accommodation above with dormers to front and side and velux window to rear. Delegated
10/0190	3 Lower Plantation. Single storey rear extension. Delegated
10/0232PDNA	Micklefield Hall, Sarratt Lane. Replacement agricultural building. Delegated. Granted
10/0345	Cleveland, Loudwater Drive. Detached summer house and decking/raised platform. Delegated

CAC - Conservation Area consent

CLPD - Certificate of lawful potential development

PDNA - Permitted development notice Agriculture

Peter Tate 1929-2009

An extract from Peter's daughter Phillipa's address at the funeral on 20th January 2010

Witty, intelligent, eccentric, fun, gregarious, charming, friendly, non-judgemental - a number of words, but all that I know to be true and that are actually taken from letters so kindly sent to Jonathan and myself over the past few weeks. I now add those that he actually asked us to include - "no regrets or sadness, after all, it is only a step on the way". I think that they sum up our father, a man who truly just wanted people to enjoy life, he did, and he had no regrets.

Dad was born into an idyllic life on a farm in Essex where he spent his formative years with animals. Life for a small child in the mid 1930's also led to the attendance at various children's parties at which, coincidentally, our mother was also present. No record remains of their first impressions!

Dad trotted through the remainder of his childhood without major mishap but he did discover his passion for birds through his love of walking through the fields around his childhood home.

By the time Dad left school in the 1940's the war was at its height and, although unable to join the RAF due to his asthma, he did become very active in the Royal Observer Corps, with which he remained involved well into the 1990's.

Alongside his Observer Corps duties, during the day he joined our grand-father in the city to work as a stock jobber with Lazarus Bros on the London Stock Exchange, until his retirement in 1977. During this time he was reunited with our mother, Anne, through mutual acquaintances and they were married in 1953.

Dad adored books and he and Mummy built up the most wonderful collection. While many were on aviation, the majority constituted ornithology and natural history. While we grew up surrounded by these wonderful books, we were moved to hear that Dad's collection was considered definitive in the ornithological world and that

his knowledge led to him to be admired in all such circles. His love of books and words continued and he undertook the role of author as well as reader with the subsequent publication of a number of self-penned books, one of which remains the definitive reference for ornithological literary history. However, his 'number one best seller' was of course his most recent book, 'Flights of Fancy', a book entirely linked to Mummy. The work was then beautifully put together and published and is both dedicated to Mummy and a fine testament to her and Dad's enduring partnership.

Following retirement he also enjoyed a foray into the travel business. With his knowledge and love of birds, he proved very useful as a tour guide on birding tours with Ibis Travel. He also had a great love of travel generally and was able to then visit many and varied parts of the world.

With our father we always knew him to be loving, kind, generous, enormous fun, intelligent, witty, charming and eccentric but to discover that this was also how his friends, colleagues and the good townfolk of the Rickmansworth shopping community saw him makes Jonathan and myself even prouder of him than we already are. We are so very pleased and honoured that so many people were also able to share in the experience of having known a man such as our father.

Phillipa Tate

Loudwater also shared in knowing Peter and the LRA will always be grateful for his support. Ed.

We are also saddened by the deaths of Stanley Dixon and Herman Matzer Van Bloois neighbours in Violet Way. Both keen sportsmen, Stanley was Captain of Sandy Lodge Golf Club and Herman played at Moor Park. Our best wishes go to Joyce Dixon and Birgitte Matzer Van Bloois and their families.



The Ol' Trout

No. 135

April 2010

Annual General Meeting of the members of Loudwater Residents' Association to be held at The Barn, Loudwater Farm on Thursday 13th May 2010 at 8-00 pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. To approve the Minutes of the last AGM held on 5th May 2009
3. To consider matters arising.
4. Chairman's remarks – Tony Hale.
5. Financial Matters
 - i. To approve the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2009
 - ii. To confirm the Annual Subscriptions for 2011 at £10 (no change)
 - iii. To appoint the Auditor
6. Election of Executive Committee:

Current Members:

Tony Hale	Chairman	Sue Tippen*	Secretary
Nick Vaughton	Treasurer	Heather Kenison	Planning Secretary
Colin Timms		Roy Sterry*	Acting Editor – Ol' Trout
Roy Preedy		Theresa Jubber*	
Julia Hall			

* Member to stand down and willing to stand for re-election.

7. Environmental Matters
 - i. Planning - Heather Kenison
 - ii. Neighbourhood Watch - June Curtis
8. Wider Community Matters
 - i. Bridge Club
 - ii. Theatre Club
 - iii. Troutstream Investment Club
 - iv. Wine Club
 - v. Garden Club
 - vi. Fine Dining Club
 - vii. Ol' Trout
9. Members' Open Discussion
10. To consider any other business

Please join us for a glass of wine after the Meeting

Derrick Speight 1926-2009

Much has been recounted in obituaries in the Daily Telegraph and Watford Observer about the achievements of Derrick Speight who died on 20th December last after a fall in Rickmansworth Town Centre. British Army cross country ski champion, ski instructor at his ski school in Austria, Head of Human Resources at Marks & Spencer, distinguished magician and long serving Chairman of the Magic Circle who was only the eighth recipient in 100 years of its coveted gold medal, he led a successful and varied life outside Loudwater.

Notwithstanding his wider activities he managed to commit much time and energy to the Loudwater Estate, within the gates of which he lived for forty-three years. He and Elizabeth moved into Upstream in Trout Rise a few months after they had married. It was there they were to put down their roots and bring up their three children, Philippa, Jonathan and Rachel, of whose achievements he was so proud, and in later years to enjoy innumerable happy visits from their grandchildren.

Forty-three years are a long time and in those earlier days the milk tanker made its way daily along Trout Rise to collect from Trout Rise Farm the milk which awaited its arrival in churns standing outside Clearburn. Some things never change and Elizabeth tells how Derrick had to help in snowy conditions to push Harry's bus up Loudwater Lane to the main road. It was a sad coincidence therefore that I skidded into the Spinney while taking Elizabeth to Derrick's funeral service at Christchurch on another white and wintry day in early January.

Derrick became a director of Loudwater (Troutstream) Estate Limited in 1977 and was its Chairman from 1988 until he stood down from the Board in 2000, whereupon he was deservedly appointed Life-President. He chaired the Company with skill and good humour and was greatly helped by Elizabeth as board minute taker. Residents past and present of the Loudwater Estate have much to thank him for.

Derrick was a warm host and a very kind friend. Wittily interesting and interested, he was always ready to hear and impart bits of news about events that had amused him. I doubt that my own family and I are by any means alone in saying that he enriched our lives and that we remember him with nothing but affection.

John Watkiss

Garden Club

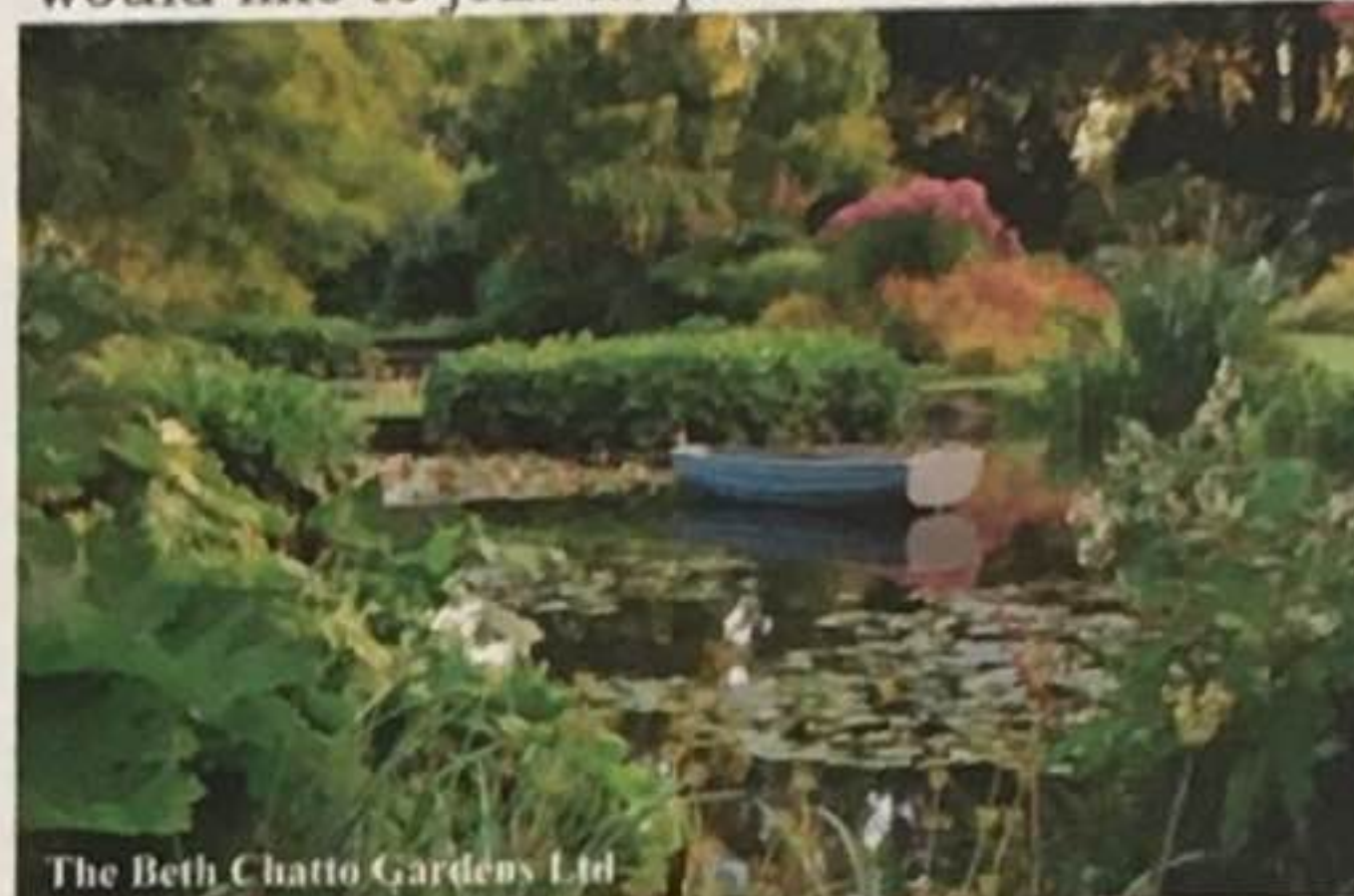
Like many other events, our New Year social and quiz fell victim to the snow which has also had major impact of some of our gardens. As spring seems to be becoming established we are more inclined to take a look at our gardens and see what has survived – or not!

In this connection our March meeting was timely since Jolyon Lea a local expert from Little Chalfont with specialist knowledge of hardy plants addressed us. He spoke on 'Plants in a Chiltern Garden', and brought some excellent hardy plants for sale. His garden will be open in April under the National Gardens Scheme so that many of us can gain more knowledge about which plants thrive in our local conditions.

As the spring progresses we are planning two visits to two very different gardens. Firstly, on 19th May we are visiting the Chelsea Physic Garden and our group will have a private guided tour.

The Chelsea Physic Garden was founded in 1673, as the Apothecaries' Garden, with the purpose of training apprentices in identifying plants. The location was chosen as the proximity to the river created a warmer microclimate allowing the survival of many non-native plants - such as the largest outdoor fruiting olive tree in Britain - and more importantly, to allow plants to survive harsh British winters. The river was also important as a transport route that linked the garden to other open spaces such as Putney Heath, facilitating easy movements of both plants and botanists. In fact the garden has always sought to achieve good communications with others working in the same field: by the 1700's it had initiated an international botanic garden seed exchange system, which continues to this day. The Chelsea Physic Garden has developed a major role in public education focusing on the renewed interest in natural medicine. **The Garden of World Medicine** which is Britain's first garden of ethnobotany (or the study of the botany of different ethnic groups and indigenous peoples) is laid out together with a new **Pharmaceutical Garden**.

We will be booking a coach to take us door to door – if you would like to join us please contact me to reserve a place.



In June our outing, on Wednesday 23rd, is planned for the famous Beth Chatto Gardens in Essex. As always, we will travel by coach for transport door to door and we have arranged a private guided

tour of the gardens. For further information about the Club and to reserve a place for these events do contact Sue Stent, sue_stent@o2.co.uk

Bridge Club

The Bridge Club's AGM was held in March and was well attended. Sheila Fawcner Corbett, the chairwoman, opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and announcing that this was the club's 13th AGM. Sheila was pleased to report that the club continues to be in a sound financial position and over the past year the club has grown. It is regularly supported by 4 to 5 tables a session. Sheila paid tribute to Liz Crook who was standing down from the Committee after serving continuously since the club's inception 13 years ago. We are a very friendly social Bridge club and meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month at the lower Loudwater barn. New players would be made welcome. So, if you are interested in playing, call the club secretary Janis Rees on 01923 710095.

Quiz Winner



The winner of the quick quiz in the LRA Harvest Supper review in the January edition was Viv Schrager-Powell who was first to identify the hidden name of the singer and song as Neil Diamond and Solitary Man. Here is our Chairman, Tony Hale presenting Viv with her prize.

70 Years on - a letter from Irene Richards



My parents & I moved to Watersmead on the Wednesday before Easter, March 20th 1940. I was 7 ½ years old then and the house was then called Whitfield, which we understood was a local name meaning White Field. We were told our plot had been a Quince orchard and there are still two Quince trees in the garden. We came to look at our house in the autumn of 1939, and it had been empty for 2 years. My father bought it from Mr Weeden of Heronsgate for £1100 and took out a mortgage on it which he paid off after several years. I remember so well the day he came home from work and announced "I've paid off the mortgage and the house is ours and no-one can take it from us". It was marvellous. The house was built in 1933 by an invalid in a wheelchair, a Mr Holmes who lived in Dovecote, with his companion, Miss Pilgrim who looked after him. They were to be married and move into the house so they built it with all the light and power switches at wheelchair height to make things easier for him. There are still bells in every room and a bell-board in the kitchen. He made the Sitting Room with French windows so that he could look up the rear garden, which had 2 sunken gardens. Sadly he died before he could move in but Miss Pilgrim lived there for a short period.

When we first moved in there was a knock on the door and my mother opened it to find a short Irishman who said "I'm Mac and if you need anything come and ask for Mac". He was the Estate builder, Sydney MacNamara and his wife was the Architect for the Estate. They lived where the Coachman's House is now and the Air Raid Siren was on top of their house. It was so loud, the first time I heard it I scrambled under the kitchen table. My father was a Civil Engineer and Surveyor at Hornsey and then at Harrow and he got Mrs MacNamara registered as a qualified Architect. There was no building during the war so the MacNamaras left to farm in Wales in 1942.

There have been a lot of changes in Loudwater in the last 70 years: houses built on fields I used to play in as a child, small houses extended into huge ones and now it's infilling- lovely houses being demolished and two being built on plots that in Mr Cameron Jeffs' time were meant for one. But that's progress, I suppose. Thanks to my Dad and Mum I had the loveliest childhood, growing up alongside the river, observing the wildlife- it was truly wonderful.

Irene Richards

Thanks Irene - we wish you many more happy days in Loudwater, at Troutstream Hall, which we feature here. Ed



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

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)

Troutstream Hall



Set on the outskirts of the Loudwater Estate lies Troutstream Hall. It stands in its own grounds and has been a Residential Care home since 1956.

At that time two ladies wanted to provide a home for retired missionaries. An extract from a letter written in July 1956 makes interesting reading now.

"I write to put before you a very urgent need for help towards establishing a first-rate Home for elderly Missionaries and other Christian workers, who have given their lives to God's service, and need either expert nursing or provision for their last month or years in this world. The need for such a haven is very great.

The Matron and Assistant Matron of St. Columba's Hospital Swiss Cottage, believe that God is calling them to establish such a Home, and a beautiful convenient modern house, called Troutstream Hall, has been secured for £7,000 by the Trustees at an auction held recently. It is situated eighteen miles from London on a bus and coach route, and within easy reach of trains. During the past three years there has been much prayer concerning this project. Over £2,000 has been given, and enough furniture and equipment to open the Home. Offers of necessary domestic help from experienced nurses and friends have encouraged us to believe that "This is the Lord's doing."

£5,000 is still needed urgently, within the next month, to complete the purchase. Failing this the house will be put up for auction again, and the money already paid may be lost. There are sixteen applications from paying guests wishing to come, and it is hoped that the Home may be opened in October."

Troutstream Hall is now a registered charity and is controlled by Trustees, who are all volunteers. The Manager, who works closely with the Trustees, runs the home. It retains strong links with the local churches who visit regularly and conduct weekly services.

Although Troutstream Hall is registered as a Residential Care Home and not a Nursing Home, every effort is made with local Doctors and District Nurses to let the residents remain there to the end of their days. The staff promote independence, by encouraging the residents to care for themselves as much as possible.

At present there are 21 rooms and each resident is able to bring in their own personal possessions, to make their room feel more homely. There are plans to provide more en-suite facilities, redecoration and other improvements.

The home provides a variety of daily activities and games which keep the residents occupied and promote healthy living. Trips away from the home are also organised.

There have been a number of Loudwater residents who have stayed at Troutstream Hall over the years and it is encouraging to know that with an ageing population there is such an excellent facility on our doorstep.

Julia Hall

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 Designer: Carole Timms
Final copy date for July 2010 issue

- Friday 11th June 2010