



The Ol' Trout

No. 136

July 2010

Chairman's Word

Loudwater is looking really beautiful now that summer has at last arrived with lots of sunshine and temperatures reaching 28 C (over 80 F in old measures.)

You will note from Roy Sterry's coverage of the AGM the concerns shown by members re road safety regarding Loudwater and Sarratt Lanes. We have consequently met last week with our County Councillor for Chorleywood Chris Hayward who has undertaken to liaise on our behalf with the various authorities to see what practical measures could be introduced to alleviate the situation. Councillor Hayward has agreed to attend a public meeting in September at The Barn, Loudwater Farm, to which representatives from the other agencies involved such as Highways, Planning & Police would also be invited. You may have ideas to improve both the traffic flow as well as the pedestrian safety so, please email me with your suggestions which may well help our case.

Unfortunately our planned Summer Barbecue in June had to be cancelled due to the relatively low number of advance bookings. This was particularly disappointing as it is the one event when children can accompany their parents and get to know other youngsters of similar ages from the Loudwater area. While some residents were taking an early holiday, others belatedly told the committee they had thought of attending and either hadn't got round to returning the 'Booking Form' or said that they had intended to pay at the gate on the day.

Obviously we need to be sure of the possible attendance numbers when hiring Bands and Entertainers and also, of course, to have booked the right amount of food which this year we were going to source from Waitrose.

Communication is the key and if you haven't received an email from us then we probably don't have your email address. Please let Carole Timms our Database Coordinator carolecolin@yahoo.co.uk have your details so that we can keep you aware of what is happening in our area.

Tony Hale

tonyvhal@lineone.net

A Date for your Diary

The next LRA event is a Harvest Supper Quiz on 16th October. Full details will be circulated in September, so keep the date free.

Forthcoming Charitable Events

Stewarts Law Moor Park 10k & Junior Fun Run in aid of the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre (support & information at the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre) Sunday 26th September 2010 at Merchant Taylors' School. A fun day out for all the family with entertainment, fun fair, bouncy castles, refreshments, games and other activities in addition to the races themselves.

Visit www.moorpark10k.org.uk or call 07779 458285 for more information.

Have a greater say in Loudwater. Become the Editor of The Ol' Trout.

Roy Sterry has been Acting Editor of The Ol' Trout for over 3 years. He originally took over from Peter Phillips on a temporary basis and insisted on being called "Acting Editor" because he thought he would only be doing the job for a short time. However, he became irreplaceable – until now! Roy, a former banker, has decided that he does not want to "act" any longer and so we are looking for someone, male or female, to whom he can hand over the reins.

You would automatically become a Committee Member of the Loudwater Residents' Association, chaired by me, Tony Hale, and, as Editor, you will have a 99% say of what appears in The Ol' Trout. Why not 100%, you may ask? Because The Ol' Trout is the official newsletter of the LRA and the committee does have, in principle, the right of veto. This is rarely used.

The skills required are that you are literate, creative, have a nose for news, and are happy to nag contributors, if necessary, should they be late with their articles. Usually there is the Chairman's Word, sometimes an Editorial, write-ups of LRA events, reports from our six associated clubs, a Planning report, local Loudwater news, and, hopefully, Letters to the Editor. Photographs are being used more and more. It will be up to you to decide who takes them and which ones will be used. Carole Timms is doing an excellent job in helping Roy with the design and carries out the technical computer presentation set up. Gibbs Gillespie, the Estate Agents, do the printing; Theresa Jubber of Bridle Lane is in charge of distribution.

The Ol' Trout is published four times a year and has over its 136 editions proved an informative link for residents on the happenings and events taking place in our neighbourhood. If you are interested in making a contribution to Loudwater as Editor please contact me, Tony Hale, on 774374. If you want to know more about the job, contact Roy Sterry on 779599 or Peter Phillips on 778431.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Tony Hale.

Loudwater Residents' Association

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Roy Preedy
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Colin Timms

Loudwater Golf Society Meeting 2010

The sixth annual meeting of the Golf Society was held on Monday 17th May. In perfect golfing weather 26 golfers (the same as last year, but with 8 newcomers as some old friends couldn't make it this year) turned up at West Herts Golf Club and play got under way in teams of threes and fours. Once again Gibbs Gillespie, our local Estate Agent and sponsor of The Ol' Trout entered a team and sponsored some prizes



Bill Hope receives his winner's prize from LRA Chairman, Tony Hale and Robert Fulker

Robert Fulker organised the event for the second time with the help of his wife Gill. 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. Tony also attended the golfers teeing off at the first and took photos of their immaculate swings. The Dining Room was set out beautifully and Gill's table planning, decorations and innovative gifts of chocolates and tee pegs were far beyond the normal Golf Club dinner. After dinner Robert announced the prize winners and asked Tony Hale to present them. The Loudwater Cup was won by Bill Hope with 37 points. Not bad for his first outing with the LRA Golf Society, but he paid for it later when he accepted Robert's offer to become next year's organiser. In doing so, Bill thanked Robert and Gill for organising such a successful event. The Ladies' winner was Helen Dean, the straightest hitter of a golf ball I have ever seen, and the most consistent!

Other prize winners were: Tony King, men's runner up with Peter Wallace in third place: Gill Fulker was ladies runner up. The team prize went to Jenny Price, Henry Browne, Peter Wallace and John Dean. Longest drives were achieved by Henry Browne and Brenda Hope; two nearest the pin prizes went to Jim Peters and John Dwen and best first and second nine holes were won by James Moss and Percy McCloskey respectively. In all 13 of the 26 golfers won prizes and not for the first time, yours truly was not amongst them.

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. Each year seems to get better and better and we welcome Bill Hope to the role of Chairman for our 7th meeting in 2011

Roy Sterry

If anybody wants to receive details of the next event, please email your details to Roy.Sterry@Talktalk.net and I will add you to the list of members.

Neighbourhood Watch

Police and trading standards are issuing warnings to residents to be on their guard if they are offered security alarms by telephone callers or door to door callers. The warning follows an incident last Wednesday when an 80-year-old man was phoned and offered a security visit later that afternoon. The male immediately became suspicious and phoned police.

Mike Sibley, Crime Prevention Officer for Watford, said: "If you have decided your property would benefit from an alarm system it is advisable to use a reputable alarm company who install European Standards and are accredited to SSAIB and NSI.

Investment Club Dinner



Our former Editor and his wife, Davida with Chairman Trevor Slade and his wife Mary

It was 7.30pm on the 25th March. We were at The Bedford Arms. The Investment Club was holding its annual dinner. There were 24 of us - there would have been 26 but former Chairman Godfrey Crook and his wife Liz were delayed on their flight back from Africa. Arranged by Roy Preedy, I deemed this Investment Club dinner one of the best we have ever had. It may have been because the Stock Market had taken an up-turn and all the members were in profit. It may have been because I was sitting next to some of the loveliest ladies of Loudwater! (Of course I am a male chauvinist - so what?) The food and drink was up to the new, usual standards of the Bedford Arms. If you haven't been there recently I urge you to go. It is the best it has been for about 30 years! We even had a cabaret! Chairman Trevor Slade and his wife Mary did a double act reminiscent for those of you, like me, old enough to remember George Burns and Gracie! Trevor thanked the officers of the Club, Tony Bradford, our Treasurer, and Diana Vaughton, our Secretary, for all the hard work they had put in over the year. Indeed, when eventually we all left just before midnight, we decided that Roy Preedy had done such a good job as Organiser, we voted him in as Organiser again for next year. Well done, Roy. Well done everybody.

Peter Phillips

Reflections in a Glass - the first 10 years.

The Loudwater Wine Club was founded in 2000 as part of an initiative by the committee of the Residents Association to increase the sense of friendship and fellowship in Loudwater.

The club quickly became a success, with meetings on the fourth Friday of most months, covering a diverse range of subjects relating to the wonderful world of wine.

If you live in Loudwater and would like to learn a little more about wine in convivial surroundings, you will be most welcome to join us. No prior knowledge is required at all!

By the time you read this we will have held our June tasting with Wine Educator Lindsay Oram on 'Chilled Reddish Wines' and will be preparing for our 10th Anniversary Celebration 'Mediterranean Banquet' in July.

We currently have a membership of circa 100 residents and during the decade have tasted over 850 wines excluding those sampled on the seven European wine tours undertaken!

The Club is now on Facebook which as a private group can only be accessed by authorised members of the LWC.

Full details of this, our history and our future programmes are on our website www.loudwaterwineclub.org.uk and you can contact us on committee@loudwaterwineclub.org.uk

Cheers!

**Gary Coster, Tony Hale, Lorna Hawxwell & Martin Powell.
LWC Committee**



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Planning Applications

Decisions on previously reported applications

10/0188CLPD 10/0264	Contino, Whisperwood. Single storey det. pool building. Whisperwood Cottage, Whisperwood. Roof alterations to garage to provide accommodation above with dormers to front and side and velux window to rear.	Delegated. Granted
10/0190 10/0345	3 Lower Plantation. Single storey rear extension. Cleveland, Loudwater Drive. Detached summer house and decking/raised platform.	Delegated. Granted Delegated. Granted Delegated. Granted

Applications Awaiting Decisions

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. Appeal to DoE
09/2026CAC	Compton Cottage, Sarratt Lane. Dem. of existing bungalow.	Delegated. LRA objected. Refused. Appeal to DoE

New applications until 5th June 2010

10/0444/RSP	The Water Garden, Lower Plantation. Retrospective: front dormer extension to en-suite bathroom on the second floor.	Delegated. Granted
10/0536	Greensleeves, Loudwater Drive. Loft conversion to provide 2 bedrooms and shower room, with dormer windows.	Delegated. Granted
10/0524	Woodside Cottage, Overstream. Dem. of existing dwelling and garage and erection of 2 storey dwelling with integral double garage, with accommodation in roof space and self contained annexe.	Delegated. Refused Delegated. Withdrawn
10/0577/CAC 10/0563/CAC	Woodside Cottage, Overstream. Dem. of existing dwelling. Compton Cottage, Sarratt Lane. Dem of existing bungalow in structural distress and construction of new 7 bedroom dwelling.	Delegated. Withdrawn Delegated. Withdrawn
10/0562 10/0599	Compton Cottage, Sarratt Lane. As above. The Coppice, Kingfisher Lure. Amend to 09/1562. 2/3 storey and single storey front and rear extensions, single storey side extension, loft conversion with rear dormer windows and increase in ridge height and conversion of garage to habitable room to include first floor rear extension, layout changes and fenestration changes and solar panels to rear.	Delegated. Withdrawn Delegated. Withdrawn
10/0600/CAC 10/0606CAC 10/0605	The Coppice, Kingfisher Lure. As above. 7-8 Armitage Close. Dem of 2 existing bungalows. 7-8 Armitage Close. Dem of 2 det. bungalows and erection of 4 dwellings served by vehicular access.	LRA objected. Committee * LRA objected. Committee *
10/0753	Dene Cottage, Overstream. Resubmission of 08/1681. Dem carport, sheds, conservatory & erect single and 2 storey side & rear extensions, single front ext, & rear dormer to include replacement conservatory & changes to approved garage and rear fenestration.	Delegated
10/0764	Newlands, Bridle Lane. Det double garage & workshop, extension to existing driveway, 2m high gates to access rear garden.	Delegated
10/0770 10/0933	12, Lower Plantation. Rear orangery. Wildwood, Loudwater Heights. Renewal of 07/0177. 1st floor extension over existing garages.	Delegated Delegated Delegated

LBC - Listed building consent
CAC - Conservation Area consent
AOD - Approval of details

RSP - Retrospective application
OUT- Outline planning permission
CLPD - Certificate of lawful potential development.

* Latest update - Refused

Theatre Club

As promised in the last edition I should tell you about our visit to The Milton Keynes Theatre to see Mozart's *Il Seraglio* - It was enjoyable but not memorable. The production was not well constructed, and not really suited to a setting of one and two halves of a carriage on a train - even one as famous as the Orient Express! Nevertheless we're having a good year and for our latest outing, I can do no better than give you Hazel Nest's opinion:-

"Once again we hit the "jackpot" with our choice of 'London Assurance' at The National Theatre with an excellent cast headed by Simon Russell Beale, Fiona Shaw, and Richard Briars.

Written in 1871 by Dion Boucicault, the play was hilariously funny with every ounce of farcical comedy extracted from the script by the posturing and antics of the cast. Simon Russell Beale excelled himself as an arrogant London fop who, distracted from the anticipation of a second marriage to a much younger woman, became obsessed by the eccentric attractions of a rumbustious horse loving, hunting and shooting older woman (excellent Fiona Shaw). Richard Briars was superb as her dodderly old husband. The play was imaginatively set making full use of the revolving stage. It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening which included a delicious meal in the theatre restaurant beforehand."

Future plans include a visit the Richmond Theatre to see Sheridan's "The Rivals" with Peter Bowles and Penelope Keith in September and hopefully one more this year.

Peter Laule

Garden Club

On a beautiful sunny day in May over 20 members and guests of the Garden Club visited the Chelsea Physic Garden. As a private group we were allowed access for an hour before the garden was open to the general public and it was a marvellous experience to have the whole place to ourselves, with plenty of time to wander round and appreciate the diversity and depth of the plants around us.

Founded in 1673 by the Society of Apothecaries, the garden meant that their apprentices could learn to grow medicinal plants and study their uses. They chose a 4 acre site beside the River Thames and behind its brick walls there sits to this day a gem of a garden with interest encompassing medicinal plants but including so much more. Dr. Hans Sloane took over ownership of the Garden in 1712 - his statue stands in a central position in the garden.



Here we are with our excellent guide Eric Taylor standing in front of Dr. Sloane

As always on our trips refreshments were available for sustenance before our private guided tour began. The food and wines were very varied and freshly prepared, although the service was fairly chaotic.

In June the Club visited the famous Beth Chatto gardens in Elmstead Essex. The garden shows just what you can do with a site where water is scarce and there's a sharp east wind to deal with. It's quite a distance but well worth the effort.



Some years ago members of the Club were able to visit Prince Charles's home at Highgrove, Gloucs. In September we will have another royal connection - a tour of Buckingham Palace followed by a guided tour of the palace gardens. It is the first year the gardens have been opened to organised groups and will include the Herbaceous Border, the summer house, and the Rose Garden, as well as views of the enormous Waterloo Vase and the Palace tennis court, where King George VI and Fred Perry played in the 1930s.

For details of all our events please contact Sue Stent at sue_stent@o2.co.uk.

Fine Dining at The French Horn, Sonning-on-Thames

Our luncheon in May was the third occasion we've boarded the coach at Rickmansworth and made the trip over to The French Horn at Sonning-on-Thames.

The restaurant is famous for its fine old-style French cuisine, and the garden, which gracefully sweeps down to the river Thames, is at its freshest and best at this time of the year, so a day time event was the perfect opportunity to combine ambience with good food and wine. Nothing changes at The French Horn, so from the Fine Dining Club's point of view, an event held there is going to run as smoothly as it should, because the staff have been doing what they've been doing so very well for so very long. Portions were as large as they ever were, and despite being so very flavoursome, I couldn't finish my Filet de Sole aux Champignons, which was efficiently whisked away before I could say "doggy bag, please."

Our next event will be held on Saturday 21st August, but as yet we have not finalised a venue, or indeed whether or not it will be a luncheon or an evening meal. I suspect the former, because lunches have proved very popular options for our summer events. But you never know. As ever, new members are most welcome.



Viv Schrage-Powell

LRA Annual General Meeting 13th May 2010

The trouble with AGM's is they're boring. You've got to be mad to enjoy attending AGM's. They are the same every year? What's the point of turning up if nothing new happens?

I guess those are some of the thoughts of many Loudwater residents, judging by the poor attendance at this year's meeting. Only 32 people attended from a neighbourhood of some 430 houses. But they would be wrong: besides hearing about all the activities of the LRA, there was time to ask the audience what they would also like to discuss. The answer was a resounding "road safety". The LRA has had a long history of chasing Hertfordshire County Council to improve road safety, with the normal response being "no fatal accidents- no budget for improvements". A letter from Bob Joliffe on the subject was read out and the AGM decided that it was time to get our local Councillor to attend a public meeting to hear our complaints about thoughtless, speeding drivers racing through Loudwater and Sarratt Lanes. The LRA committee has responded and arranged with Councillor Hayward to hold a public meeting in September and it is now up to us get as much support as possible so our views are heard. The date will be announced in the next few weeks and details will be delivered to all LRA members in plenty of time to keep the date free.

The other main activity reported on was Planning Applications and the success we have had in getting support from Three Rivers District Council in dealing with applications that threaten the ambience of Loudwater. The success of Hertfordshire Constabulary in being named as "one of the best performing forces in the country" was reported under Neighbourhood Watch and it was reassuring to note that Chorleywood East overall crime rate had decreased by 6% compared to Chorleywood West suffering an increase of 18%. Reports from the Chairmen of the 6 LRA clubs affirmed the neighbourliness of Loudwater continues to thrive.

The formal meeting took only 1 hour 15 minutes and the Chairman, Tony Hale invited all to stay and enjoy a glass of wine and continue discussing the issues affecting Loudwater. All in all a successful AGM and proof that they can be interesting and useful to the community.

Roy Sterry



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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 Fawknor-
Corbett (775695)

Garden Club

Meets 4th
Wednesday of
month

Chairman

Sue Stent (712623)

Fine Dining Club

Chairman

Viv Schragger-
Powell (896198)

A Resident Writes:

At the recent LRA AGM the biggest concern raised by residents under "Any Other Business" was the amount of traffic in Loudwater, and the lack of consideration and concern shown by drivers at the state of the roads, particularly Loudwater Lane and Sarratt Lane. Former LRA Chairman Godfrey Crook, Geoff Saunders, John Renshaw, and I formed a committee in 1995, to look at ways traffic could be calmed. Various plans were drawn up, including humps in the Lanes, narrowing of the Lanes in certain parts, making the Lanes one way, decreasing the speed limit to 15mph, rumble strips, and putting traffic lights in at certain dangerous corners. Some of these ideas were developed and presented to Hertfordshire Highways and Three Rivers District Council. They were all rejected, or, to put it more kindly, we were put at number 36 (or thereabouts) on the waiting lists for road improvements that needed to be implemented. We have stayed in the 30's ever since! The problem, it seems, is that there has not been a fatal accident in the Lanes! I know this sounds cynical and sarcastic but it seems accidents have to be very serious before the Highways Agency or TRDC will act. Most of the accidents we suffer are, thank goodness, minor ones, and are not even reported to the police. So, it seems we are lumbered. Our committee did not succeed, and nor did subsequent committees, to bring in traffic calming. I wonder whether any of your readers have ideas that we have not yet considered, and ones that our current Chairman, Tony Hale, will be able to put forward to the relevant authorities.

One further point. "Infill", as far as I am concerned, is ruining Loudwater. Besides the other adverse problems "infill" causes, which are many, it brings more cars than ever onto our roads. There are plans from Banner Homes to knock down two bungalows in Armitage Close and replace them with four houses. The consequence will be, if TRDC approve the plans, almost certainly 8 more cars on the roads. Furthermore, if these plans are approved, what is to stop other residents resorting to "infill" too, with even more cars in our area? Again, I should be interested in the views of Loudwater residents, and I hope they will also write to you on what I consider the curse of "infill".

Peter Phillips. 5 Armitage Close, Loudwater, Herts. WD3 4HL

Email: peterphillips35@tiscali.co.uk. Mobile Tel: 07831656041

Thank you Peter, I'm sure a lot of Loudwater will agree with you. You will be pleased to see the news about road safety in the Chairman's Word and also to learn about the TRDC decision to refuse the infill in Armitage Close. Ed

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

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