



The Ol' Trout

No. 144

December 2012

Editorial

Welcome to the fourth edition of the Ol' Trout in 2012. What a year Jubilee, Olympics, Paralympics. This year will go down in the annuals of history and every future pub quiz. Autumn is nearly over and Xmas just a few days away.

Robert Kenison
kenison_r@hotmail.com

Chairman's Words

As 2012 draws to a close, it is good to reflect on the last year, both nationally and locally.

For many residents, the year began in the barn with an excellent New Year's Eve celebration. As usual the company was convivial and the food excellent, the chimes of Big Ben ringing out all too soon. The Events Committee has organised three other events - a cabaret evening, jubilee party and quiz night. Despite the awful weather, well over a hundred residents attended the Jubilee event. No-one seemed to mind being inside the barn instead of wandering in the grounds of Loudwater Farm; people just enjoyed renewing old acquaintances and meeting new neighbours. There was certainly a "feel good" atmosphere that weekend, not just in Loudwater but throughout the country.

Inevitably there are changes to the committee and this year was no exception. We said "goodbye" to Theresa Jubber, Roy Sterry and Colin Timms, which necessitated a reorganisation of the roles of the remaining members. However we were very pleased to welcome John Thompson into our ranks and he will be concerned with the environment. He had made extensive contact with Herts Highways, prior to joining the committee, in an effort to resolve the problem of flooding in Loudwater Lane. He has made progress in this area and will report fully in the next Ol' Trout. Residents will have noticed that the long promised white lining in Loudwater Lane has been completed and there seems to be a feeling this has helped to control vehicular speed on this road.

At the beginning of the year, Carole Timms ceased to be editor of the Ol' Trout and has been succeeded by Robert Kenison. He is keen to include articles not just about the clubs but also from individuals who have been involved in activities which are "out of the ordinary". One such example was Liz Crook's articles on her involvement in the Jubilee River Pageant. So please do not be shy, these personal reports make interesting reading and demonstrate the varied talents of Loudwater residents.

At the end of March, Harry's bus was brought out of retirement and residents could retrace the route this vehicle took in transporting gentlemen from Loudwater to Rickmansworth station and ladies into town for their shopping. I believe this was particularly nostalgic for those residents who used the bus on a regular basis before it was withdrawn from service in 1971.

The clubs continue to thrive and promote a community spirit in Loudwater. Two additional groups have been established this year -

Loudwater Residents' Association

Chairman
Heather Kenison
Five Trees,
Troutstream Way
773683

Treasurer
Nicholas
Vaughton
Kingswood,
Loudwater Ridge
896666

Secretary
Julia Hall
Sarraat House
Bridle Lane
778515

Planning Secretary
Bob Jolliffe
Cobblers
Rooks Hill
771834

Membership Secretary
Sue Tippin
Dunara
Chess Lane
774016

Events Committee Chairman
Tony Hale
Karelia
Overstream
774374

Environment Secretary
John Thompson
St Cyrus
Trout Rise
772125

walking and craft. If you have an interest and would like to initiate a new group, we would be very happy to hear from you.

Finally, I hope all residents enjoy the seasonal festivities and will have a successful 2013.

Heather Kenison

Loudwater History from a Young Resident

My name is Ellie Joseph. I am ten years old and I go to the Royal Masonic School for Girls. Very recently I had to do a project on where I live. I did a lot of research and when I had finished I realised that it was a lot of fun. Now I am going to use some of my information to write about the history of Loudwater in this article.

Loudwater, in the county of Hertfordshire, is a village on the River Chess, which runs right through it. The name for the village was given due to the noise the River Chess would make - nicknamed Loudwater! There is also a lot of archaeological interest in Loudwater Farm. Archaeologists have found things there like tiles and coins and even pottery. We think that it was a villa and water mill and that in the fourth and fifth century Germanic settlers may have lived there. Another exciting place in Loudwater is Loudwater House. The house and grounds is quite large, it is actually 150 acres. In the middle of the twentieth century it was turned into apartments. My favourite place in Loudwater is the River Chess which is 18km long. That is very long indeed! Not only is the River Chess exciting but it is also very interesting. There are lots of good facts about it. The River Chess starts in Chesham and it is a chalk stream. This means the composition of the soil is very chalky especially around the banks. And as well as all this the River Chess also has plenty of wildlife. The fish that live there are; brown trout, grayling and bullhead. There

are also many other mammals that live near too, like the Water Vole and lots of birds like kingfishers. But even then I am only listing a few of the great things about the River Chess. It is a beautiful area and a wonderful place to visit. I hope you enjoy living in Loudwater and look after this lovely 'village' and it's inhabitants.

Ellie Joseph

Wine Club

Tasting - Hawke's Bay, New Zealand - October 2012

You can guarantee that a tutored tasting led by Tim Syrad will be an informative event with some great wines presented in his affable and accessible style. We were therefore not disappointed by his offering of wines from Hawkes Bay.

Tim seems to have sussed out your Event Co-ordinator, Gary Coster, having finally worked out that there is a pattern to the events for which he is booked. Gary spent a couple of days in the Hawke's Bay area a few years ago and has been itching to get to try some more wines from this up and coming wine area.

Hawke's Bay is the oldest wine-producing area of New Zealand and is second only to Marlborough in acreage under vine. It is one of the sunniest spots in the country and the quality of wines has come on in leaps and bounds over the last 20 years.

We started the evening with a couple of eminently quaffable white wines which impressed members with their depth of flavours and quality. Heading into red territory, we started with a soft and silky Pinot Noir. This took us a bit by surprise, thinking of the Pinot Noirs from the cooler South Island. Kim Crawford is a big name in NZ wine although the Merlot we tried was a little disappointing, high in alcohol and lacking the balance for which this winemaker is known. By way of contrast, Tim presented a wine from Brancott Estates (formerly Montana) to enable us to try a mass-produced wine to compare with some of the more boutique wines of the evening. Whilst enjoying its quaffability, we were able to discern the difference to the other wines of the evening which enabled us to appreciate their relatively higher price points. The Gimblett Gravels is well known as an area for the production of some stunning red wines and so it was with some excitement that we tried a couple of wines from this area.

After an initial foray into a magnificent blended red (voted by Gary as the best wine of the evening!), we then pitted two Syrahs against each other, one from Hawkes Bay and one from the Gimblett Gravels. The difference was clear with the Gimblett Gravels leaping ahead in flavour and quality. Throughout the evening, Tim's performance was being monitored not only by the members but by his delightful daughter, Hannah, who came along to supervise her dad. We hope she wrote him a favourable report when they got home!

Full details of this and prior events and the forthcoming programme visit:- www.loudwaterwineclub.org.uk

Buzz Coster

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Moving into Loudwater in 1968 it was confusing not knowing the difference between the Loudwater Residents Association and Loudwater (Troutstream) Estates Ltd and I'm sure many new residents are initially unsure as to the specific responsibilities of each of the organizations?

Loudwater (Troutstream) Estates Ltd was established in 1957 and covers the area within the gates located at the entrances to Kingfisher Lure: Troutstream Way; Trout Rise; Violet Way and the properties in Loudwater Heights. The purpose is to maintain and protect the rural ambiance and standards in keeping with its designation as a conservation area through the application of restrictive covenants applicable to all properties within the Estate. Property owners can apply to become shareholders of the Company which is managed by a Board of Directors who handle such matters as Property Development and Alterations, maintenance of Roads, Bridges, Verges and Woodlands together with Traffic Management to protect the narrow roads which were constructed for the lighter vehicles produced in the 1920's and 30's.

Similar arrangements cover Bridle Lane Estates and Lower Plantation while householders in Loudwater Drive, Chess Lane, Chess Hill and Chess Close, Rooks Hill, Timber Ridge, Loudwater Ridge, Lodge Drive, and Ladywood Close each have an association or committee that covers the same policy areas of maintaining the standards and uniqueness of Loudwater.

Thus you might well ask where the Loudwater Residents' Association fits in to the overall picture? The LRA's primary objective is to preserve Loudwater, an aim shared by all the bodies listed above. The aims of the LRA are:-

- To provide a focal group for the residents of Loudwater to deal collectively with matters that affect Loudwater.

- To provide a focus for community activities and other events for the residents of Loudwater, this includes all activities encouraging friendship and neighbourliness.
- Clubs such as; the Bridge Club, the Garden Club, the Investment Club, the Theatre Club and the Wine Club as well as hosted Coffee Mornings all provide an opportunity for residents to meet and socialise.
- To keep the residents of Loudwater informed of events and matters of local interest through the LRA Newsletter - The Ol' Trout.
- To provide a lobby group to encourage Three Rivers District Council and Hertfordshire County Council to maintain and improve the various publicly owned lanes and verges within Loudwater. This will include action to discourage through traffic and to ensure safety on Loudwater roads.
- To help to maintain the covenants for Loudwater (Troutstream) Estates Ltd, Bridle Lane Estates Ltd, Lower Plantation and other private estates within Loudwater, in the best interest of the residents.

Thus while each of the Official Bodies and the Loudwater Residents Association has their own specific aims and responsibilities they all share the common aim of preserving Loudwater as that special retreat in which we have all chosen to live.

Tony Hale

Email address updates

Just a reminder if you have changed your e-mail address lately can you please let me know the updated one. I have sent out reminders recently and had quite a few pop back as unsent. I noticed that a number of them are business e-mail addresses, so if you know you are working with a new company, please send an e-mail to loudwaterresidents-association@yahoo.co.uk with your new details and the LRA can keep you up to date with all the latest news, events etc in Loudwater.

Carole Timms

Loudwater Events

One of the many unique aspects of living in Loudwater has been the social scene created by the LRA and the clubs affiliated to it. While the clubs continue to prosper, support for events organised by the LRA needs to be continually refreshed. Currently there is a reduced level of support that is noticeable, not only in the declining numbers of residents attending events but also in the absence of helpers willing to set up and help with the running of these events. The small group of individuals on the Events Subcommittee work hard to make events and their workload would be much reduced if more residents were willing to be involved.

Sadly, for these reasons the LRA is not able to organise a New Year's Eve function this year.

Have we got the events wrong? Are residents not wanting to be involved with the social life of Loudwater? Are residents happy attending the various clubs but do not wish to attend events which have traditionally been organised by the LRA on a quarterly basis? Would you like to attend events but do not find them to your taste? The committee has debated how we should proceed in this matter. Would events not centred on the barn appeal? For instance day trips, visits to places of interest. If so, please give us some suggestions of what you would like to see organised in the future.

We would like to hear your comments. Please contact me by e-mail (fivetrees@hotmail.co.uk) with your views. This is the only way that events can be organised which will be supported by more residents.

Heather Kenison

Planning Applications

Decisions on previously reported applications

12/1002/CAC | Part demolition of existing dwelling to facilitate extensions and alterations | Stamhus Troutstream Way. Delegated. Granted.

12/1001/FUL | Extensions and alterations including first floor side extension, two storey and single storey front extensions, single storey rear extension and loft conversion with dormer windows and rooflights | Stamhus Troutstream Way. Delegated. Granted.

12/1107/FUL | Single storey side and rear extension (lapsed approval 04/1125/FUL granted on appeal) | Willow Wisp Chess Hill. Delegated. Granted.

12/1047/FUL | Proposed demolition of existing care home and construction of residential care home with 34 bed spaces with additional new access and associated parking and landscaping | Troutstream Hall. Delegated. LRA objected. Application withdrawn.

12/1048/CAC | Demolition of existing carehome | Troutstream Hall. Application withdrawn.

12/1163/RSP Part retrospective: Wren Top, Bridle Lane. Amendment to 01/00678/FUL: Two storey side extension and alterations to roof, to include; pitched roof on dormer windows, garage door to rear of garage, rear facing window in loft, infill extension to rear of garage, alterations to fenestration and internal alterations. Delegated. Granted.

12/1276/DIS | Discharge of Conditions 8 (Levels) and 9 (External Lighting) pursuant to planning application 09/1388/FUL | Tall Trees (Walnut Burrow) Loudwater Drive. Application Withdrawn.

12/1283/RSP | Erection of gates, change to ground levels and retaining wall | Cranham Loudwater Lane. Delegated. Granted.

12/1298/FUL | Alterations to fenestration including changes to windows, and insertion of door on the south west (front) elevation | Oak End Wagon Way. Delegated. Granted.

12/1339/FUL | Two storey side and rear extensions, first floor side extension, single storey side extension, single storey rear infill extension, single storey front extension and rooflight and front driveway/access amendments including creation of second vehicular access | Killowen Bridle Lane. Delegated. LRA objected. Refused.

12/1386/FUL | Two storey rear extension, garage extension including provision of loft space, porch extension, replacement windows, external rendering and alterations to driveway | Cobb Cottage Trout Rise Loudwater. Delegated. Refused.

New Applications until 16 November 2012

12/1620/FUL | Renewal of 09/1151/FUL: Erection of two-storey front and side extensions | The Spinney Kingfisher Lure. Delegated. Granted.

12/1643/FUL | Demolition of existing garage and provision of replacement underground garage including widening of driveway and vehicular access, alterations to land levels | Lower House Troutstream Way. Delegated.

12/1701/FUL | Two storey and single storey front, side and rear extensions, internal alterations and loft conversion with rear dormers | 6 Ladywood Close. Granted.

12/1702/CAC | Partial demolition of existing dwelling | 6 Ladywood Close. Granted.

12/1350/FUL | Rendering to part of front and side elevations of house | Leavesdale Lodge Drive Loudwater. Delegated. Granted.

12/1873/NMA | Non Material Amendments to 11/2127/FUL including changes to rear fenestration, replacement of glass balustrading with walls and openings and increase in width of first floor balcony. | 3 Loudwater Ridge Loudwater. Granted.

Theatre Group

The Club had a full house when thirty two members and friends went to see "Top House" at the Aldwych. The coach left from the Bedford Arms Hotel and brought the twenty- nine who were dining back to the hotel for Dinner. Sylvia Newman, who's recently joined us, compiled an excellent review which, I think, speaks for us all.

"TOP HAT" at the Aldwych Theatre, London, Tuesday September 18th, followed by dinner at Bedford Arms, Chenies.

We set off to see this show full of excitement and expectation and we were certainly not disappointed after this excellent performance of the stage adaptation of the 1935 film.

"TOP HAT" has all the ingredients of a great Musical with fantastic dance routines - memorable music and lyrics, enviable gorgeous clothes, witty dialogue with many comical moments and, of course, the usual predictable storyline. We saw a superb production, beautifully staged in an Art Deco setting.

All the cast were good, energetically led by Summer Strallen as Dale (please do not try to copy those amazing high kicks) and Tom Chambers as Jerry (accomplished tap dancer) in the Ginger Rogers/Fred Astaire roles from the original film. However, this show's main strength is the musical score and lyrics by Irving Berlin, which is amazing as it is said he could not read or write music, using a specially designed piano that transposed keys automatically, and had assistants to make up the piano parts for subsequent orchestration. Nevertheless he had immense talent and was an astute businessman receiving in excess of \$1,250,000 for this show as he retained ten per-cent of the profits.

We all left the theatre smiling, energised, with tapping feet and full of the "feel good factor".

Our minibus driver, Adam, coped admirably and patiently, skilfully avoiding traffic delays. On returning to Chenies we received a warm welcome at the Bedford Arms where we enjoyed our Bucks Fizz and a delicious dinner.

A happy day!

Sylvia Newman

On Saturday the 24th of November we had a Matinee at Sadlers Wells for Paco Pena's Flamenco and Dance production of Quineras followed by a Spanish flavoured Dinner at La Giralda Restaurant in Inner Hill. Our coach took us back to the La Giralda and picked us up later to take us back to our cars at the Masonic School For Girls. On the 2nd of February it was proposed to attend Matthew Bourne's production of "Sleeping Beauty" by The English National Ballet Company. It has proved to be too difficult to arrange due to several factors - mainly the closeness to Quineras, the approach of Xmas and the requirement to buy our tickets before we could establish the number of members who wanted to go. We want to arrange something enlivening for the early spring.

Peter Laule

Harvest Supper & Quiz Night

Thanks to the very extensive research that Mike and Margaret Thorpe had done in preparing the traditional quiz evening, we had a most entertaining as well as taxing time trying to find answers to a lot of puzzles including a picture collection from pop stars to politicians as well as general knowledge, literature and other questions.

Don Moore with his wide technological knowledge had brought a large canvas to make it easier for us to see the list of questions and answers, and Lorna had organized a tasty fish and chips supper with ice cream as a dessert, which brought the memories of being a lot younger to a lot of us. The lottery was in aid of the Mencap society.



Mick & Margaret

The number of participants was not very high so, let's hope that the attendance numbers are bigger at the next event.

Ritva Hale

Craft Club

The Loudwater Craft Club has kicked off to a great start and we have had two successful meetings. The first was attended by three residents, but a rapid increase in numbers saw seven attend our second meeting. People have brought their own crafts to work on and our evenings have been filled with a mix of embroidery, knitting and two people have learnt to crochet.

We meet on the first Monday of each month. If you are interested in joining us, please contact me on: nicki@nickitrench.com for further details.

Nicki Trench

Loudwater Lane and Sarratt Lane

After much cajoling, at last Herts Highways have finally patched the very nasty potholes and repaired the edges which had crumbled away in Loudwater Lane. Unfortunately the repairs were not completed in the way requested; by digging right down and relaying the ballast, so it is debatable how long the repairs will last. Also some of the vegetation on each side of the road was not cut back as requested. In addition, the road markings have been repainted with new white sidelining and the road signage upgraded, in an effort to reduce the speed of vehicles. This together with the MAX 20MPH speed warning signs by the Farm and in front of the bridges, coming down Loudwater Lane from the A404, do appear to have had a positive effect in slowing down traffic and making drivers take more care. However, there are still some vehicles travelling too fast along the Lane, the drivers of which seem totally oblivious of the warning signs. There are, of course, no Residents amongst them!? Let us hope this work will improve the safety for both vehicles and pedestrians.

Thanks are due to our County Councillor, Chris Hayward for applying additional pressure to get this work completed. Under a restructuring of Herts Highways he has been given a budget for 2013/2014 of £90,000 to spend on any preferred priority projects. There was a consultation meeting held on 13th November at which the LRA presented a list of preferred priority items. The meeting was attended by myself, John Thompson and Sue Tippen, the results of which will be published in the next edition of the 'Ol Trout.

The next matter requiring urgent attention is the continuous serious flooding in Loudwater Lane at the bridges over the River Chess. There has been considerable effort expended in trying to resolve this

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