



The Ol' Trout

No. 142

June 2012

Editorial

Welcome to the second edition of the Ol' Trout in 2012. I hope you found the first edition interesting. I am looking for more contributions from residents covering any issues concerning environment, planning, community or residential issues.

With good wishes to everybody for your Jubilee and Olympic Celebrations. For those participating I look forward to receiving articles and pictures from you, for inclusion in our next edition.

This edition to all households in Loudwater as contains an invitation to our Jubilee celebration event, all residents and friends are welcome. kenison_r@hotmail.com

Chairman's Words

For those residents who were not at the recent AGM, I would like to introduce myself as the new Chairman of the LRA. I joined the committee over six years ago, as the Planning Secretary. This role will be taken on by Bob Jolliffe, who will continue to monitor planning applications and liaise with Herts Highways about road conditions and other environmental issues.

I am looking forward to working with the many residents who are already involved with Loudwater and appreciate their commitment to delivering the Ol' Trout, running the clubs, helping with events and a host of other "behind the scenes" activities. New committee members are currently needed. No special skills are required- just time to attend about ten meetings a year, enthusiasm to promote the social activities which have developed so strongly in Loudwater and a desire to preserve the environment in which we enjoy living. If you think you may be interested, please contact me to discuss in more detail.

It was good to see a number of residents at the recent AGM, including many new faces. Our treasurer, Nick Vaughton, reported a healthy bank balance and it was agreed to maintain the annual subscription to the LRA, for 2013, at £10 per household. The chairs of the various clubs gave their reports, describing an active membership and a variety of meetings. However the Theatre Club is struggling to find new committee members in order to continue to be viable, so in the words of Peter Laule, if you "have basic computer skills, are flexible, numerate and good natured" and think you might be able to help, please let me know. In the open discussion time, there were suggestions about setting up of a Loudwater web page and a list of recommended trades people, which would be particularly useful for new residents. I know one of the Estates in Loudwater does have such a list, but one which could be accessed by all residents would be useful. The committee will be reviewing these suggestions at their next meeting.

At present the Entertainments Committee is busy planning an event, on the 3rd June, to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. This will be held at Loudwater Farm and aims to be in the style of a "street party". It should be a great opportunity to catch up with friends and to meet new neighbours. All we hope is that the sun shines!

Heather Kenison

Loudwater Residents' Association

Chairman

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Chairman
Tony Hale
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774374

Gardening in the Global Greenhouse

"Global weirding" - a great phrase invented by meteorologists which sums up these crazy times. How often have I heard someone describe this as "the wettest drought on record"? (No longer funny by the way - I'm bored of the joke, the rain and the hosepipe ban).

Whatever your view on the cause, the world is getting hotter and we are experiencing freaky weather conditions. The predicted effect on the South East is that summers will be longer, hotter and drier and winters will be milder with fewer frosts but with more rain in heavier downpours. The temperature rise is the equivalent of us all moving south towards the equator at a rate of three miles per year.

So what are we gardeners meant to do with all this meteorological mayhem? As a Garden Designer, it is one of the hottest topics in the industry at the moment. Without planning permission, new paving in front gardens must now be permeable - to ensure water soaks down and doesn't flood drains. So called "rain gardens" are trendy at Chelsea - designed so that as much rain as possible is retained within the garden. We know we should install water butts on every available down pipe and recycle our bath water - although I've yet to work out a practical way of doing this. Stumbling about in a towel with bowls of water slopping everywhere is not working for me.

In the UK, we grow a far wider range of plant material than anywhere else on earth because of our (up until now) wonderful benign climate - devoid of extremes and basking in the warmth of the Gulf Stream. A lot of what we grow can happily cope with far more than

we throw at it climatically.

There will be casualties however. With the hosepipe ban in place even before the frosts are over, why would anyone now be contemplating constantly thirsty bedding plants? And lawns - the most labour intensive part of most gardens. Lawns are destined to go brown every summer in the future. So I say, dig them up! Well - at least chunks of them. Plant something more interesting that takes less effort to look after. If possible, plant trees for shade - we're going to need it.

The key to garden survival is rooted in the soil. Preparation is everything. Good drainage is essential to get rid of water excesses. But soil must also hang on to moisture in dry summers. That means cultivating to a good depth, digging in lots of organic matter and possibly grit. A good mulch will help retain water - best of all is grit. Water retaining gel and some nutrients (eg blood fish and bone) should be dug in with every new plant. If plants have enough food they can survive the ravages of drought more readily.

In summary, dig up your lawns, ditch the busy lizzies and get the barbeque going!

Elaine Bailey

Walking Group

For the inaugural meeting of the group, six residents met on a sunny March morning for a brisk walk along the River Chess to Sarratt and back. Having initially thought that we would walk once a month, it was decided to increase the frequency so that we meet on the first Thursday and third Tuesday of the month. There is no need to commit in advance – just be at the barrier in Kingfisher Lure at 9.30am on the appropriate day. We will not be walking in rain! Our walks are approximately 4-5 miles and although we have so far ventured out from Loudwater, we will in the near future probably need to drive a short distance in order to bring variety to our routes. If you would like to be included in the circulation list which gives details of the walk, including distance, please e-mail me at: fivetrees@hotmail.co.uk. Hopefully the sun will again shine on us as we explore the countryside around Loudwater.

Heather Kenison

Harry's Bus

Forty years later, and almost on the exact anniversary of that very last journey, the "Harry Bus" - or 336A to give it its proper title - was once again back on the lanes of Loudwater for a special commemoration outing.



In fact there were two green single-decker buses trundling through Loudwater and the surrounding area on the 25th March; GS 64 which belongs to the London Transport Museum who organised the outing, and GS 13 which is privately owned.

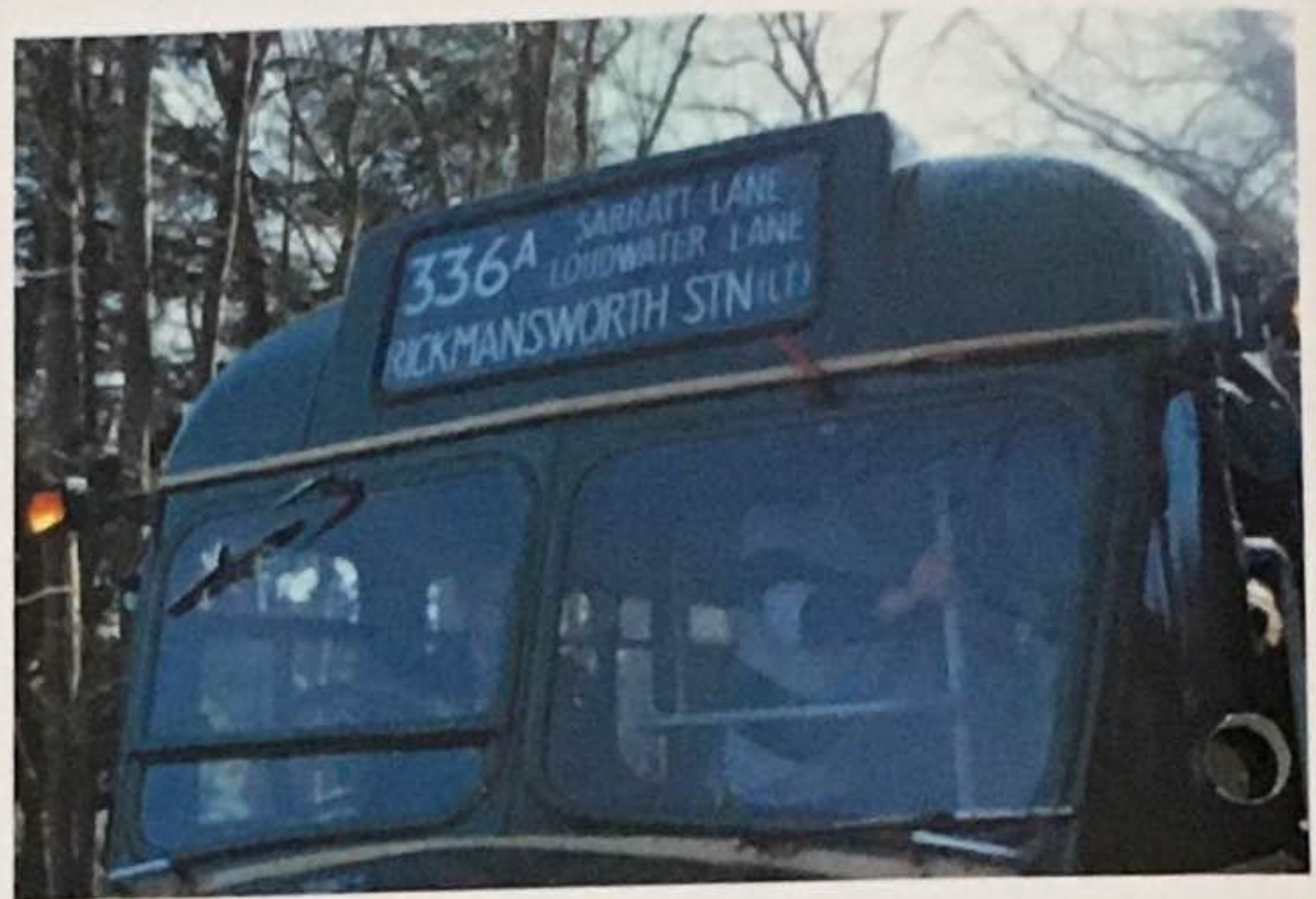
June Curtis representing the Loudwater Estate Company, liaised with Guy Marriott of the Museum, since permission to travel through the Estate had to be sought, and the sensible precaution of a trial run in January highlighted an access problem with the bell-bollards at one of the gates, which were moved temporarily to allow the buses to pass. Thanks to June, the times of the buses appearances in Loudwater were published in the Ol' Trout, so residents were able to select a ride according to the strict time table.

Late March is not known for glorious weather, but the sun certainly shone on Loudwater that day as we boarded one of the buses at the Kingfisher Lure barrier. When it was originally in service, the bus would have entered the Estate from the now defunct Troutstream Way entrance on the A404, which was closed to vehicles when the M25 was opened. Guy Marriott pointed this out to us as we passed by later that day. He'd done his homework.

On board were several bus enthusiasts who were not from these parts, but were eager to experience the ride. Up front, nearest to the driver, was Guy, wearing a uniform similar to that originally worn by our own bus driver, and handing out an excellent free commemorative brochure, a lively history with many photographs, which Guy had written himself. The enthusiasts proved to be very friendly and highly knowledgeable about the machinations of the GS's vehicles, which to Loudwater folk are known as "Harry's Bus," or "The Harry Bus," or simply "Our Bus."

In fact there were two driver/conductor "Harrys" - the first being Harry Simmonds, who as well as driving one of the buses, also ran Loudwater Garage who many residents will remember remained in operation until its closure in the mid 1990's. The other was Harry Cross, who operated the bus for 17 years until his retirement in 1971. The following year the bus went out of service.

In between them was Owen Palmer, who, in an interview published in the London Transport Magazine in November 1952, was quoted as saying, "It's a friendly bus. I know all the passengers by name, and when a stranger comes to live here - well, he knows everyone and we all know him by the end of the week! Many of my early morning passengers even have a regular seat on the bus, and they let me know if they will not be travelling on a particular journey."



Viv Schragger-Powell

Stewarts Law Moor Park 10k & Junior Fun Runs

In aid of the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre – support & information at the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre
Sunday 30th September 2012 Merchant Taylors' School

A fun, family day with events for all ages and speeds. Many Loudwater residents have taken part in this popular annual road race over the last ten years – and survived! Every penny that is raised will go directly towards supporting people affected by cancer.

Buzz Coster

Editor's comment

I have run this race on many occasions over the last 10 years. It is always been a great day. It is an amazing charity. No matter how fast you run or walk the benefit is to the charity. Plus also the benefits to your own personal health in preparing for a 10km walk or run. Start training now.

Theatre Group

The Taming of the Shrew at the Milton Keynes Theatre – Saturday 10th March.

Poor Peter Laule – Chairman of the Theatre Club – was so stressed throughout the afternoon and evening – unnecessarily. He had some cancellations just a few days before, and so had to change the size of coach, inform the restaurant, etc. We left the Royal Masonic School, the pick-up point for the coach, promptly at 3pm and were in our chosen restaurant, The Roade House in Northamptonshire, drinking our first Gin and Tonic, one hour later. Peter had gone to lots of trouble discovering this restaurant. The food and wine were excellent, the service friendly and efficient, and it was good value too. 6.30pm we were off to Milton Keynes, brilliantly in time for the 7.30pm performance. Now the mood of the members changed. The Taming of the Shrew is not one of my favourite Shakespeare plays. Indeed, I don't like it at all, and only went along because my wife persuaded me. This RSC production was bizarre, to say the least. All the action takes place on a double-bed, set in 1940 Italy, with

Planning Applications

Decisions on previously reported applications

- 11/2587 Cobb Cottage, Trout Rise. Two storey rear extension, front, side and rear garage extension with first floor accommodation above and undercroft, front porch extension, replacement windows, external rendering and alterations to driveway. Delegated. LRA objected. Withdrawn
- 11/2588CAC Cobb Cottage, Trout Rise, part demolition of existing dwelling including garage and conservatory. Delegated. LRA objected. Withdrawn
- 12/0104 The Dormer Cottage, Bridle Lane. Loft conversion including insertion of new gable window to front elevation and new dormer to rooflights to rear elevations. Delegated. Granted
- 12/0021 Woodlands, Whisperwood. Single storey side and rear poolroom extension, 2 storey front, side and rear extension, loft conversion with front and rear dormers, front extension to garages. Delegated. LRA objected. Granted
- 12/0153 Far End, Wagon Way. Demolition of existing conservatory roof and wall; erection of new roof and wall with rooflights and insertion of new rooflights to adjacent existing roofs. Delegated. Granted

New Applications until 14th May 2012

- 12/0154 Silverdene, Sarratt Lane. Demolition of existing chalet bungalow and erection of detached two storey dwelling with roof space accommodation and integral double garage, alterations to access and driveway including new entrance gates. Delegated. LRA objected. Granted
- 12/0124CAC Silverdene, Sarratt Lane. Demolition of existing chalet bungalow. Delegated. LRA objected. Granted
- 12/0168 Grasmere, Bridle Lane. Single storey side and rear extensions. Delegated. Granted
- 12/0256 RSP Faraway Cottage, Bridle Lane, part retrospective: Amendment to 08/0987: Increase in depth of approved single storey rear extension and installation of bi-folding door in lieu of window and door. Delegated
- 12/0285 Appleton, Troutstream Way. Front porch, first floor side extension and two storey and single storey rear extensions. Delegated. Granted
- 12/0383 3 Ladywood Close. Demolition of existing house and garage and erection of two storey dwelling with basement level, further accommodation in roofspace and integral garage together with associated external works. Delegated. Granted
- 12/0422 Contino, Whisperwood Proposed carport. Delegated. Granted
- 12/0450 CAC 3 Ladywood Close. Demolition of existing house and garage. Delegated. Granted
- 12/0467 Mickelfield Hall, Sarratt Road. Variation of condition 8 of planning permission 08/2240: to allow 20 events (of the approved 57 events) to be held each year from the marquee rather than the refurbished Tithe Barn for a temporary period of 2 years. Delegated. LRA objected
- 12/0523CAC 6 Ladywood Close. Proposed front, side and rear extension and internal alterations. Delegated
- 12/0531 DIS Mulberry House, Loudwater Heights. Discharge of condition 8 pursuant to planning application 11/2220. Delegated
- 12/0536 NMA Mulberry House, Loudwater Heights. Non-material alterations to planning permission 11/2220: Addition of feature stone surrounds to north (front) elevation windows and introduction of feature dado to east elevations. Delegated
- 12/0530 Mulberry House, Loudwater Heights. Proposed two storey front and side extension including installation of a basement with stairs and glass balustrade, two storey rear extension, single storey front extension, new roof and alterations to fenestration. Delegated
- 12/0618DIS Woodside Cottage, Overstream. Discharge of conditions 4.6. & 7 pursuant to planning application 11/0771. Delegated
- 12/0635/CLPD Hillside, Chess Way. Formation of gable ends to existing hipped end bungalow. Delegated
- 12/0553 Little Thatch, Trout Rise. Two storey side extensions and two storey front extension with integral double garage, relocation of chimneys and re-landscaping including additional hard standing. Delegated. LRA objected
- 12/0586 7 Harewood. Renewal of 09/0663. 2 storey and single side extension. Delegated
- 12/0681DIS Mulberry House, Loudwater Heights. Discharge of Condition 4 pursuant to planning application 11/2220/
- 12/0684DIS Mulberry House, Loudwater Heights. Discharge of Condition 9 pursuant to planning permission 11/2220.
- 12/0685CLPD 1 Roundspring, Bridle Lane Conversion of existing det. garage block to habitable accommodation, ancillary to the use of the main house. Insertion of new windows into rear elevation. Delegated
- 12/0694 Whisperwood House, Whisperwood Conversion of garage to utility and study, changes to house entrance door and adjacent road alteration and other internal alterations. Delegated
- 12/0756 Hillside, Chess Way. Formation of gable ends to existing hip end bungalow. Delegated
- 12/0845 3 Ladywood Close. Single storey rear extension. Delegated. Granted
- 12/0822NMA Woodside Cottage, Overstream Non material amendment to planning permission 11/0771 : to have the bifold doors to the living room widened as indicated on the plans. Use of Em-tube to allow additional light on the landing, the tube to be positioned out of sight of the roof. Delegated
- 12/0702 Compton Cottage, Sarratt Lane. Construction of a 6 bedroom dwelling. Delegated
- 12/0703 CAC Compton Cottage, Sarratt Lane. Demolition of existing bungalow. Delegated

12/0716 RSP April Cottage, Bridle Lane. Part Retrospective: Part single, part two storey side and rear extensions (amendments to development of previously approved application 09/0507). Delegated
12/0524 6 Ladywood Close. Single and two storey front, side and rear extension and internal alterations. Delegated
12/0845 3 Lower Plantation Single storey rear extension. Delegated

CAC Conservation Area Consent
RSP Retrospective planning Application
CLPD Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development
CLED Certificate of lawfulness Existing Development
DIS Discharge of Conditions
NMA Non material Alterations

more than just a touch of La Dolce Vita about it. Undoubtedly, it was crude and rude but I enjoyed it! Not liking the conventional version of the play, I thought this made a refreshing change. I don't think many of the Theatre Club members agreed with me (my wife did!) but the audience loved it, giving the actors loud applause. One criticism. A lot of Shakespeare's words were inaudible because of the bewildering number of accents used by the actors. I was amused, though, to be completely honest, I prefer Kiss Me Kate, the musical based on The Shrew, with lovely music and superb lyrics by Cole Porter. When the curtain came down you would have hoped that Peter's stress would be alleviated. Sadly not! We lost Mabel Tindall and he had to go looking for her. She wasn't worried in the slightest. If she hadn't have found us, she said, she would simply have ordered a taxi. Good for Mabel. We were back just after 11.30pm, with thanks to Peter for organising a memorable afternoon and evening, memorable, perhaps, not always for the right reasons!

Peter Phillips

On Saturday the 16th of June the Club is off to a matinee performance of "Noises Off", a comedy by Michael Frayn. After a sell-out run at The Old Vic it transferred to the Novello Theatre at The Aldwych. We booked early and got 32 tickets in the Dress Circle which were taken very quickly. We offered the opportunity of a meal at a restaurant Rickmansworth after the show and around 24 of us hope to enjoy a pleasant occasion in a private room and at reasonable price.

Peter Laule

Thames Pageant

A contingent of the Diamond Jubilee Thames Pageant on Sunday June 3rd is the historic ships. Leading these are 40 of the Association of Dunkirk Little Ships led by MTB 102, the remainder four abreast.



The Association was formed after the 25th Anniversary of the evacuation of Dunkirk with the object of keeping alive the Spirit of Dunkirk for posterity and the identity of those original Little Ships that went to the aid of the British Expeditionary Force during Operation Dynamo in 1940.

The present day owners fund their ships and meet three times a year - afloat and ashore - returning to Dunkirk every fifth year.

Some four years ago I was introduced by Peter Lough to Norman Cannell, owner and skipper of *Janthea*, built in 1938 as a gentleman's cruiser and I am now part of the crew of four. Peter is No 1 and Patrick Prince is the navigator. Raymond Baxter and Norman's father were founder members of the Association and Patrick was Raymond's crew.

My role is very much that of galley slave and I am absolutely devoted to *Janthea*.

Our orders are to join the ship a week before the pageant, as the security is very intense. If you watch on TV the serene progress of

all of the ships; hopefully it will be swanlike, but remember the furious paddling that has already occurred and will continue.

I was privileged in 2010 to be on board *Janthea* for the Dunkirk return, which for me was very emotional, as I have, as a four year old, very vivid memories of newspaper pictures from 1940.

It is intended that the ITN film crew will be on board *Janthea* for the TV coverage, filming from the fore deck.

I will write again after the pageant to share my experiences of the day.



Liz Crook

Ladies and Gentlemen – Live From Loudwater – for One Night Only The Rat Pack

Even if they were still with us, I somehow doubt that £32.00 per head as charged by the Residents' Association would have covered the appearance fees of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr - leaving enough in the kitty for a glass or two of sparkling wine and a superb three course supper - not forgetting prizes for the evening's raffle. So it's just as well that on an evening in late March a tribute Rat Pack trio were available to swing into town and entertain us with a galaxy of much-loved songs, interspersed with some light-hearted banter.

With tables cleared from supper and the lights dimmed, The Barn took on a cabaret atmosphere as the look and sound-alike Vegas entertainers emerged from behind a shimmering curtain to kick off the evening's entertainment with the upbeat *That's Why The Lady is a Tramp*. Golden oldies came thick and fast; *Me and My Shadow*, *Old Black Magic*, *Got the World on String*, *Gentle on My Mind*....you name it, they probably sang it, and it wasn't long before tapping toes could resist the urge no longer and became dancing feet, and the floor quickly filled.

"Deano" took a shine to Marion Browne, as he glided her slowly around the dance floor, and not surprisingly, his rendition of *Little Old Wine Drinker Me* hit the spot with the Loudwater crowd. "Frank Sinatra" sounded almost like the real thing when he sang *That's Life*, complete with sound-system backing singers.

The evening's entertainment ended just before the witching hour, with everyone swaying and singling along to *New York, New York*, which led seamlessly into a very spirited version of the Okie-Kokie, complete with obligatory in-out (shake it all about) impromptu circle. Did Sinatra and Co ever actually perform this number? I'm guessing not - but no one minded.

And we must not forget the Loudwater raffle, in which I am delighted to say I won a Kindle - and amongst other lucky ticket holders Stella Garner managed to win back the chocolates she'd generously donated. Over £220.00 was raised for charity with all proceeds going to a very worthwhile cause.

Folks - these events don't put themselves together. A whole team of people not only come up with the idea in the first place, but make it happen, both before and on the night - not forgetting the clearing up afterwards. Particular mention goes to Loudwater's leading impresario Colin Timms, whose idea this was, and who worked so hard to make it happen. Taking the same billing is Lorna Hawxwell, who does so much cuisine creation for our events that I don't think I've ever seen her in an evening dress without it being accessorised with a piny. The rest of the Residents' Association Committee also played important roles; Chairman Tony Hale, Don Moore, Sue Tippen, and of course Christine Sterry who was such a trooper as always.

Viv Schragger-Powell

LRA Diary of Events

June	Sunday 3rd	LRA Diamond Jubilee Celebration
	Wednesday 6th	Bridge Club
	Tuesday 12th	Investment Club
	Wednesday 20th	Bridge Club
	Thursday 21st	LRA Committee
	Friday 22nd	Wine Club provisional
	Wednesday 27th	Garden Club visit to Coton Manor Garden, Northants



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