



The Ol' Trout

No. 145

March 2013

Editorial

Welcome to the first edition of the Ol' Trout in 2013. I think the worst of the winter snow has passed and Spring is about to commence. The winter snows and the heavy rain have caused damage to our roads, which is compounded by reduced maintenance expenditure. In these difficult financial times some of the reduced expenditure is surely justified. Safety of the roads should not and cannot be put at risk. There have been several articles about the roads in Loudwater in the past, and I know many of you are concerned. I would encourage those that are unhappy to contact the local council and the Herts County Council. The more people that complain the more effective we will be. The Residents Association do lobby on your behalf but if this is backed up by more individual approaches it just strengthens our position with the local and county council. If you need help with lobbying then please contact members of the committee, details are shown adjacent to this article,

Robert Kenison

Chairman's Words

I am pleased to report that we have a new member of the LRA Committee. David Pione joined us in January and will take over updating the "Diary of Events". This is an important role as it publicises the events which are happening in Loudwater and ensures that LRA and club events do not overlap.

Thank you to those residents who responded to my request for comments on LRA events. Some of your views have been heeded and we hope to provide a programme featuring a different variety of events. Don Moore has agreed to take over as Coordinator of the Events Subcommittee and will begin with a garden party to be held at the Barn on Sunday 30th June. (Always hoping for better weather than for our event in June last year!) We have taken note of your comments and in future plan not to hold all events at Loudwater Farm. We will, during the year, arrange a day out, travelling no more than about an hour to our destination. I am sure you will support Don and his team as we attempt to offer some different events. As always, additional help is appreciated in the set up and running of events- please do not leave it to the same group of people.

As spring approaches, the bulbs begin to show and Loudwater begins to look at its best, please do not let litter mar our environment. Obviously our roads are used not just by residents but also by through traffic. However I think the maxim displayed on motorway gantries at present is very apt - "Bin your litter. Someone else does."

Heather Kenison

Drains

It's one thing driving through flood waters on four wheels, but on two wheels (powered or un-powered) it gets a whole lot more interesting, or terrifying! Having lived in Loudwater for almost eight years there are many times I have been faced with this situation on Loudwater Lane. In the winter months of 2011 I was caught out a couple of

Loudwater Residents' Association

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Diary of Events

David Pione
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Timberidge
772606

times just before Christmas. Since then (prior to me joining the LRA) I have been in discussion with Herts County Council (HCC) and the contractors responsible for the maintenance of our roads, who are currently the Ringway Company.

Loudwater Lane has been a problem for many years and because it is uncurbed, a significant amount of sediment, leaves and gravel is swept into the drainage system causing blockages leading to the flooding problems that we are all familiar with. The drains on the corner of Loudwater Lane where the flooding occurs, believe it or not, collect water not only from the roads at the intersection on that corner, but also from the top of Sarratt Lane where it meets Loudwater Heights, evidenced by the stream that runs down the roads when it rains. In the event they become blocked the road floods very quickly. There is a drain opposite Chess Lane that has been blocked for many years, but apart from that there are no other drains to deal with this flow of water.

Ringway took over responsibility for the roadway maintenance contract with HCC at the end of 2012. In December 2012 I managed to have them partially unblock the drains on the corner of Loudwater Lane using a medium sized drain clearing machine. They have also agreed to come back soon to completely clear the corner drains using a much larger machine, check for root ingress and blockage along the pipes that run to the River Chess and attempt to clear the drain opposite Chess Lane. Utilising the larger machine will require a road closure and Ringway have advised me that they are trying to arrange this for some time before 31st March. As you can imagine there is significant demand for this machine in Hertfordshire as flooding and drain blockage is a problem throughout the county. Ringway have agreed to formulate a maintenance programme and investigate possible design improvements that may lead to improved drainage in the future. This will be communicated at a later date.

& Litter

There appears to be a little more litter on the private estate roads and verges these days. Whilst much of this is probably not deliberate a little effort to pick up anything in front of your property would go a long way to improving the appearance of the private estates. Along Sarratt Lane and Loudwater Lane there is a similar problem and the council have agreed to undertake a "street pick" in the next few days and if any residents notice that the situation is deteriorating, then a quick call to the council should help prompt them into making another visit. Beechengrove Woods are also somewhat spoiled by minor fly tipping and rubbish. Whilst the council have taken away anything that is on the verges, because the land is privately owned, and the owners are not contactable, there is little else they can do about the rubbish on the other side of the fence. This is work in progress!

John Thompson

Theatre Club

Our last visit was in November to see Paco Pena's Flamenco Dance Company's production "Quimeras" - the story of a group of migrants who came to Spain from Africa in search of work. In it he draws on his own background, living in Andalusia which was a gateway to Europe for many North African immigrants. The result was a marriage of both traditional and flamenco dance. I am an unashamed lover of both the guitar and Flamenco and the combination of the two, though at first slightly discomfiting, quickly became both moving and exhilarating. It fully justified The Daily Telegraph revue calling it "breathtaking beautiful".

After the show our coach took us to La Giralda Restaurant in Pinner Green for a meal with a Spanish flavour and also took those who weren't eating back to their cars before picking us up again. Although our separate dining room was less than memorable, excellent service and good food made the occasion most enjoyable. It was also great value! Sadly I've since learned that, after more than 40 years, La Giralda has closed its doors for the last time.

On the 11th of April we're off to the Theatre Royal Windsor to see a matinee performance of "Maurice's Jubilee" described as; "A Triumph" (The Scotsman); (Daily Telegraph); (The Independent). With seats in the Royal Stalls, to be followed by the promise of a fine dinner at the Rose & Crown in Chorleywood, we're off with high hopes of a great start.

Although our plans got off to a lousy beginning, we still aim to have four events this year. In June we have reserved seats for "Singing in the Rain" at the Palace Theatre in London's West End. Then it's "West Side Story" at Sadler's Wells in September, and we also have plans for something entirely different in early/mid December.

I'd like to welcome Trevor Slade and Peter Phillips to the Theatre Club committee. Trevor becomes our new Treasurer. Peter will assist in choosing which theatres to visit.

Peter Laule

Loudwater Life

Stella and I moved into our Loudwater home in autumn 1998 with our 4-year old daughter. We were attracted to the house and its immediate surroundings on our first viewing and knew this was to be our home.

On one of our frantic school run mornings, a gentleman, who I now know was Godfrey Crook, came and introduced himself to us and mentioned in passing about the Garden Party and some of the Clubs in Loudwater. At the time most of this passed us by as we had a child to get to school and appointments to be met!

The following summer, we went as a family to the Summer Garden Party. We knew no one but this was soon to be changed! We started talking to people, some of whom only lived 150 yards from us, and as part of this communication learnt about the newly formed Loudwater Wine Club, of which we have been members ever since.

Very soon after that we were on first name terms with many people, and we continued to go to events. One of the early ones was to the London Eye, coupled with a boat trip to the Millennium Dome. This was one of the very enjoyable occasions I can recall, together with many other organised and ad hoc occasions where people come together and enjoy each other's company.

Amongst the many events organized in Loudwater, Colin Timms, Charles Homewood and I faced the challenge of running a Barbeque last summer for the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations. Despite the downpour that day, large numbers of residents attended and enjoyed a memorable gathering to mark this special occasion.

Whilst I possess very little in DIY skills, I have found helping and becoming part of these events a source of joy and fulfilment, and

really feel a sense of belonging in Loudwater now that we have become friends with so many people.

I, like many of my peers nowadays am what is defined as "a time poor person". The small amount of time I do spend being involved in Loudwater happenings is part of keeping me sane as a balance to my working life.

This year is a major point for me as I have gone from an enthusiastic helper to the Events Co-ordinator. My predecessor, Colin Timms, is a very hard act to follow as he has really been a wizard bringing us Abba, Elvis, and Neil Diamond to name but a few, events which reminded us of younger days as we gave the dance floor of the barn a run for its money.

We are very privileged to live in one of the most beautiful parts of the UK, and part of that beauty is the community that thrives in its grounds.

The community needs these events and the community needs you!

I look forward to receiving any input from you all in how Loudwater Events may continue to thrive. Please contact me via don.moore@mac.com.

Don Moore

Golf

LRA golf day at Sandy Lodge Golf Club will be held on Monday 13th May. The day will commence with Coffee from 12.30pm with Golf from 1.00 pm. In the evening there will be a dinner and prizes to which wives, partners and non golfers are very welcome. Please book the date and there will be more details to follow. If you wish to make a reservation or need more details please contact me via percy@jamesestateagents.com or on 01923710692 or Mob/ text 07702603703.

Percy McCloskey

High Speed Broadband

A resident recently contacted the Committee about the failure of high-speed broadband to be introduced to Loudwater. He was told TRDC had twice refused planning permission for a cabinet to be installed in the vicinity of Loudwater Lane and Loudwater Drive which would enable the connection to be made. We pursued this with TRDC and were informed that permission had been granted in November 2011. The resident has reported this to BT, but over a month later he received a reply to say that BT are discussing locating the cabinet on private land. They cannot give a date, at the moment, when the cabinet will be installed and high speed broadband service provided to Loudwater.

One of the committee began his own investigations with BT Openreach. The Rickmansworth exchange covers Loudwater and is apparently taking orders according to the map shown on the following link: www.superfast-openreach.co.uk/where-and-when/ As this does not in reality appear to be happening, he made contact with BT and was advised to register interest in receiving high-speed broadband. The link for doing this is: www.superfast-openreach.co.uk/expression-gen.aspx

There appears to be a correlation between numbers of households who have registered an interest and the provision to that area. Therefore if you would like to receive high-speed broadband sooner rather than later, please register and hopefully Loudwater will be viewed as a priority area.

Heather Kenison

Planning Applications

Decisions on Previously Reported Applications

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. Granted

12/1789/CLPD | Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Creating a new area of paved terrace on a levelled section of sloping lawn in the rear garden | Kingfishers Overstream. Delegated. Granted

12/1996/CLPD | Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Single storey rear extension, a loft conversion and covered bike store | Polstreath Bridle Lane Loudwater. Delegated. Refused

12/1952/FUL | Erection of detached single garage | Bantry Cottage Sarratt Lane Loudwater. Delegated. Granted

12/1950/FUL | Two storey rear extension with rear dormer window and rear balcony, internal alterations and alterations to raised rear terrace | Bantry Cottage Sarratt Lane Loudwater. Delegated. Granted

12/2074/FUL | Erection of wrought iron entrance gates with brick pillars | Broadlands Sarratt Lane Loudwater. Delegated. Withdrawn

12/2111/RSP | Refurbishment and extension to existing Gardener's Cottage (amendments to previous approval

03/0076/FUL including additional log store, internal alterations and changes to fenestration) | The Walled Garden Troutstream Way Loudwater. - Delegated. Granted

New Applications Until 25th February 2013

12/2119/FUL | Two storey and single storey rear extension, single storey garage extension to front, reconstructing part of ground and first floor to front and side elevations, including increase in ridge height, internal alterations, increase of width of existing entrances to site and extension to raised terrace | Old Meadow Wagon Way Loudwater. Delegated. Granted

12/2240/FUL | Two storey rear extension, garage extension with undercroft, front porch extension, internal alterations, replacement windows and doors, external rendering and widening of driveway | Cobb Cottage Trout Rise Loudwater. Delegated. Granted

2/2026/FUL | Replacement of existing crittal single glazed windows with diamond leaded lights with new aluminium replacement windows and double glazed units to match existing with diamond leaded light design | Old Tiles Troutstream Way Loudwater. Delegated. Granted

12/2254/FUL | Single storey side extension to form car port and single storey side and rear Orangery | Woodlands Whisper Wood Loudwater. Delegated. Application Withdrawn.

12/2228/FUL | Erection of a single garage attached to an existing garage | Coachmans House Troutstream Way Loudwater. Delegated. Granted

12/2180/FUL | Re-design of frontage including driveway and landscaping | Glen House Overstream. Delegated. Granted

12/2413/CLPD Single storey rear extension and loft conversion | Polstreath Bridle Lane Loudwater. Delegated.

13/0004/FUL | Erection of timber entrance gates with pillars | Broadlands Sarratt Lane Loudwater. Delegated.

12/2376/RSP | Part retrospective: Conversion of existing Grade II Listed Barn from agricultural use to use as an events and function venue including internal and external alterations and associated landscaping and parking area whilst retaining the Permitted Development rights for temporary uses for 28 days per year across the Estate Micklefield Hall Sarratt Road

12/2414/FUL | Single storey bike store cover structure to side of existing residential house | Polstreath Bridle Lane Loudwater. Delegated.

13/0137/NMA | Non Material Amendments to planning permission 12/0154/FUL - Omission of balcony, reduction in height of ridge of side element, change of rear tiled roof to a glazed roof, one additional roof light to the flank and reduction in rear ground level associated with alteration of internal layout to swimming pool area at ground level with living accommodation at upper floor levels. | Silverdene Sarratt Lane Loudwater. Delegated.

13/0006/FUL Renewal of planning permission 10/0753/FUL: Demolition of existing carport, sheds and conservatory and erection of single storey and two storey side and rear extension, single storey front extension and rear dormer to include replacement conservatory and changes to approved garage and rear fenestration . Dene Cottage Overstream . Loudwater . Delegated

13/0217/FUL Erection of porches to the front and side of the property. Broadlands, Sarratt Lane. Delegated

13/0208/FUL Remove all existing PVC and wooden windows and replace with new PVC "A" rated energy windows. Broadlands, Sarratt Lane. Delegated

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

LRA Diary of Events

Month	Day & Date	Event
March	Wednesday 6 th	Bridge Club
	Tuesday 12 th	Troutstream Investment Club Meeting
	Wednesday 20 th	Bridge Club
	Friday 22 nd	Wine Club Tasting – Northern Italy with Michelle Cerrutti Kowell
April	Wednesday 3 rd	Bridge Club
	Tuesday 9 th	Troutstream Investment Club Meeting
	Wednesday 10 th	Garden Club - Visit to Ascott House and Gardens
	Thursday 11 th	Theatre Club – Event to be advised
	Thursday 11 th	LRA Committee Meeting at Cobblers
	Wednesday 17 th	Bridge Club
	Tuesday 30 th	Wine Club departure Rhine River Cruise
May	Wednesday 1 st	Bridge Club
	Friday 3 rd (P)	LWC - For Wine Club Members not travelling an alternative event – provisionally a meal at a local restaurant. ~
	Friday 4 th	Wine Club return from Rhine River Cruise
	Thursday 9 th	LRA AGM – Loudwater Barn
	Monday 13 th	LRA Golf Day at Sandy Lodge Golf Club
	Tuesday 14 th	Troutstream Investment Club Meeting
	Wednesday 15 th	Bridge Club
	Sunday 19 th	LRA Chairman's Party
June	Wednesday 5 th	Theatre Club – Event to be advised
	Tuesday 11 th	Troutstream Investment Club Meeting
	Wednesday 26 th	Garden Club -Visit to RHS Gardens at Hyde Hall
	Thursday 27 th	LRA Committee Meeting at Kingswood
	Friday 28 th	Wine Club Tasting – Waitrose (awaiting confirmation)
	Sunday 30 th	LRA Garden Party
July	Wednesday 3 rd	Bridge Club
	Wednesday 17 th	Bridge Club
	Sunday 28 th	Wine Club Summer Lunch - Heriots Buffet with Champagne & Sparkling Wine
August	Wednesday 7 th	Bridge Club
	Tuesday 9 th	Troutstream Investment Club Meeting
	Wednesday 21 st	Bridge Club
	Wednesday 21 st	Garden Club -Visit to Wrest Park
September	Wednesday 4 th	Bridge Club
	Tuesday 10 th	Troutstream Investment Club Meeting
	Wednesday 18 th	Bridge Club
	Saturday 21 st (tbc)	LRA Autumn Event 'Curry & Karaoke Night' at The Junction Chorleywood (Provisional)

	Wednesday 25 th	Garden Club -Visit to Myddleton House Gardens
	Thursday 26 th	LRA Committee Meeting at Dunara
	Friday 27 th	Wine Club Tasting with a new tutor
October	Wednesday 2 nd	Bridge Club
	Tuesday 8 th	Troutstream Investment Club Meeting
	Wednesday 14 th	Bridge Club
	Thursday 17 th	LRA Committee Meeting at St Cyrus
	Friday 25 th	Wine Club – Vertical Tasting with Gary Coster
November	Wednesday 6 th	Bridge Club
	Tuesday 12 th	Troutstream Investment Club Meeting
	Wednesday 20 th	Bridge Club
	Thursday 21 st	LRA Committee Meeting at Five Trees
	Wednesday 27 th	Garden Club – Gardeners Question Time
	Saturday 30 th	Wine Club Christmas Dinner at Moor Park
December	Wednesday 4 th	Bridge Club
	Tuesday 10 th	Troutstream Investment Club Meeting
	Wednesday 18 th	Bridge Club



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Loudwater House

I am sure everybody on the Loudwater Estate would like to thank Mark Dodds for volunteering his services and for his timely salt gritting of the Loudwater Estate roads, which was invaluable, during the recent heavy snow and freezing conditions.

It has been a tradition for Loudwater House to open the gate at the far end of the drive so that neighbours can exit via Loudwater Lane when Kingfisher Lure is too hazardous. Loudwater House residents are happy to do this.

The Loudwater House residents would like to take this opportunity to remind all residents, that the drive in front of Loudwater House is not part of the Loudwater Estate. It is the front garden and it is private and not a public footpath or right of way. For reasons of security the gate at the far end is normally locked and only opened, as described above, in the wintry conditions. Please respect the privacy of the Loudwater House residents when it is closed.

Michael Scorer of behalf of Loudwater House Limited

Empop Loves Loudwater

"Somewhere down a hidden track, guarded by a black and white cat. Behind a big white gate, down the hill on a private estate." (Verse 1, The Garden, by Empop from 'My Imaginary World')

Who knew in 1993 when we moved back from Paris into our beautiful house in Troutstream Way, that Loudwater would be the inspiration for the first track of my first album!

When I used to walk home from school or drive home from work, stepping onto the estate or turning down Kingfisher Lure from the busy Chorleywood Road felt like I had been transported into a different world.

Growing up I was extremely lucky to be brought up by parents with excellent taste in music! (Well I think so anyway!) With the sounds of The Beatles, Joni Mitchell, James Taylor, Pink Floyd, Fleetwood Mac, Mama's and Papa's etc. I was highly influenced by some of the greatest singer/songwriters and bands of the 60's. As soon as I was given my first keyboard when I was 10 years old I started making up melodies and pop songs galore!

At school I played piano and saxophone and studied GCSE Music and A-Level Music. I discovered a love of Music Technology which enabled me the freedom to compose songs on the computer and layer up different sounds and instruments.

When I was in the sixth form my friends labelled me and my music 'Empop'. Empop represented happy, catchy pop songs and also represented my image - flower power hippy chick! I became best friends with Geri Halliwell's niece at school before anyone knew who the Spice Girls were. Geri used to live with my friend and I would regularly be at their house hearing about this new band called 'Spice' Geri was in and how she was going to be famous..... Then they made No. 1 with Wannabe!! It was a very exciting time. Geri inspired me so much to keep writing my music and to follow my dreams! I miss the Spice Girls!

I studied Music Technology at The Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama and then worked in a few studios in London before starting up my own studio in Watford High Street - The Sound Cube.

In 2009 I started writing 'Empop' again after hearing Lily Allen 'Smile' on the radio and thinking 'Hang on a minute! That sounds like Empop! I can do that!'

I describe Empop as Kate Bush meets Lily Allen! Quirky pop! I want to bring back the fun, energy and colour of the Spice Girls mixed in with the retro sixties feel of Lana Del Rey + Petula Clark/Tony Hatch.

I have so many demos and knew I needed to find a professional producer who could give them a more professional, commercial sound but keeping 'Empop' authentic as well. I found Brit Award winner Simon Ellis. He was the Tour Musical Director for The Spice Girls and Britney Spears and many others. He wrote the S Club 7 hit 'Don't Stop Moving'. I had already recorded all the music and vocals at home. He kept most of the instrumentation and just enhanced it. I re-recorded all the vocals with him and added more harmonies. Because I'm a brand new artist I knew I needed to try and draw some attention to my name and internet sites/pages to get people to listen to my new album 'My Imaginary World'. In December 2012 I came up with an idea and recorded a cover of 'Santa Baby' by Eartha Kitt for Xmas and made a funny music video for it. I taught myself how to edit it on Final Cut and loaded it up on Youtube. Within 2 days I had The Watford Observer on the phone! Within 1 week I'd had a 1000 views and made it onto the front page of The Watford Free! (Search Empop - Santa baby on Youtube to view!) In January Empop was also featured in 'My News' magazines for Chorleywood, Rickmansworth, Croxley and Watford.

Empop has had a lot of support from the BBC including a live interview at BBC Three Counties Radio and plays on BBC Radio 6 by music mogul Tom Robinson.

My parent's garden is always my favourite place to sit in the spring/summertime. After a stressful week at work the only place that can relax me and transport my mind away from my worries is The Garden at 'Highfields'. I knew I had to write a song about it. There are so many beautiful parts of the garden that make it so interesting and magical, it was easy to be inspired for lyrics. When Simon finished the track and I heard it for the first time I couldn't sleep properly for a week because I was so excited about it. You can hear 'The Garden' on my website: www.empop.co.uk or on my Youtube channel: empop89. Let me know what you think?



This year I will be concentrating on getting more national radio airplay, keep an ear out for 'The Garden' on BBC Radio 2 from April! and gain as much exposure for my album as possible. I will also be making a music video for 'The Garden' this Spring - come on flowers wakey wakey! I have just made another funny video for Valentine's Day - A cover of Girls Aloud, Love Machine. I self-released 'My Imaginary World' and it is available now on iTunes to download and many other internet stores. Keep up-to-date with Empop news by clicking 'LIKE' on the Empop facebook page: www.facebook.com/empopmusic. I'd love to hear from you.

Lastly I would like to thank Henry and Marion Browne from Troutstream Way, for all their Empop support and of course, mummy and daddy pop, Celia and Clive Brothers!

Emily Brothers

Charity Event

Thanks to Liz Crook's generosity (and the fact that she has moved and needs to dispose of some of her clothes and wants to assist her pet charity) I am organising a stall at a local Vintage Fair at the Royal Masonic School on 24th March to sell some of Liz's fabulous vintage clothing with all proceeds going to Michael Sobell Centre.

I am in need of more good quality vintage women's (and men's) clothing to make lots of money for this charity. Vintage is 80s and before. Ball gowns, mini dresses, coats - even fur coats will sell - suits, shoes, scarves, hats, handbags, costume jewellery (I'm sure all you men can help with some of these!) Seriously, though men's suits, dinner jackets, shirts, shoes, hats will all be very welcome. So please all check in your wardrobes, lofts, attics and donate your unwanted goods. You would be amazed at what people will buy - even crimplene dresses, I remember my teachers wearing and thinking at the time that they were so unfashionable, are offered for sale, and are purchased, at these events. So please empty your wardrobes etc and help the charity.

Thank you to those of you who have made donations already. Please drop things off at Chess Rise, Chess Hill by 22nd March. If you want to discuss then call 07973482604 or email:chess.rise@me.com.

If you don't have anything to donate (and even if you do) please come along on the day and buy something from us.

Stella Garner

Loudwater Garden Club

The Garden Club has had a very good year. We defied the wettest summer on record and managed to pick the few hot and sunny days for our garden visits.

Following a talk on winter colour in September, we finished the year in November with the return of RHS Judge Jim Buttress and his team for our very popular Gardeners' Question Time. Ulla Hauser generously opens her house for this event and a large gathering of members and their guests were able to put their gardening questions to the experts and receive robust advice on how to solve their problems.

After which we all gathered in the kitchen for an excellent buffet and, of course, a warming glass (or two) of gluhwein.

The Club has a great programme of garden visits planned for 2013, following our AGM at the end of February, when we have been fortunate enough to book an excellent speaker in the person of Kathy Brown, whose gorgeous garden the Club has visited in the past.

Our next garden visit will be a trip to Ascott House and Gardens in Buckinghamshire on April 10th.

New members are always welcome. Do join us and get the opportunity to see some really beautiful gardens in friendly company. Contact me on 01923774225 for details of this year's programme.

Margaret Jarrett

Obituary to Roy L Sterry

7th November 1945 to 8th January 2013

Re-phrasing Schonberg's and Boubil's song from *Les Miserables*:

*"There's a grief that can't be spoken
And the pain goes on and on.
An empty chair stands by the table,
Now our friend is dead and gone"*

Roy was "Mr. Loudwater". I shall miss him greatly, and I am very flattered that Roy's wife, Christine, has chosen me to write his obituary.

Roy was one of my dearest friends. He was loyal, trustworthy, and intelligent. His and Christine's hospitality was legendary. He was fun and, above all, as written in the many letters that Christine received after his sad death, he was "a good, honest and decent man".

We joined the LRA committee at about the same time. It was in 1997 (I think) when Godfrey Crook was Chairman. They were exciting times. We decided to make Loudwater a more social place. Instead of having just one annual social event (the Garden Party), Roy and others urged us on to having four events, one in each season. Maurice Escow had the idea of forming LRA clubs. Brilliant! Roy joined every one of them - Bridge, Theatre, Investment, Wine (naturally!), Fine Dining and, eventually, the Garden Club. Sadly, he was too old to join the Children's Club, which we had then!

In 2002 Roy became Chairman of the LRA, having been Vice Chairman to Denise Preedy the previous year. He was a brilliant Chairman, keeping together a very disparate group of people with charm and tact. (I took over from Roy. I singularly failed to do this!) After stepping down as Chairman he stayed on the committee doing jobs as diverse as Planning Officer and Editor of the 'Ol Trout.

At the same time, Roy also had a most fulfilling personal life. He had a lovely and supportive wife, Christine, whom he married in 1976. He and Christine have a son, Jamie, who, after gaining his degree at Edinburgh, joined Sir Martin Sorrell's, Ogilvy's. Roy himself was in banking - Director of Field Operations at UDT, a subsidiary of Lloyds TSB. He retired at the young age of 50, having become fed up with power politics, and decided to work for himself in a job as different from banking as there can be - stumpbusting! His hobbies were golf, cricket, Arsenal, playing Bridge, gardening, visiting art galleries, travel and helping others. There were countless times he came to our rescue on practical problems, like unblocking drains in his best clothes, taking unwanted items to the dump in his Estate car, and, even, picking up wine from France for our Golden Wedding Anniversary. Davida and I shall never forget Roy. We feel privileged to have had him as our friend.

Roy could be stubborn. His favourite singer was Frank Sinatra. Frank's lyrics in *My Way* are very apt in describing Roy's philosophy of life.

*"My friend I'll say it clear,
I'll state my case, of which I'm certain,
I lived a life that's full,
I travelled each and every highway.
And more, much more than this,
I did it my way."*

Peter Phillips

Welcome to new residents

Mr and Mrs Siani: Two Bridges, Troutstream Way
Richard and Lisa Marheineke: Muirside, Overstream
Douglas and Nina Harrison: Woodlands, Whisperwood

