



The Ol' Trout

Loudwater Residents'
Association newsletter



WORDS FROM THE EDITOR AND CHAIRMAN

SEPTEMBER 2017

Welcome to the autumn issue in which there's exciting news from local resident Robert Voss; we meet the man who oversees day to day security on the Loudwater Estate; a past resident shares his memories of growing up in this neighbourhood during the war years and our Planning and Environment secretaries provide some guidance on how to help maintain the beautiful environment in which we all live. Plus there's a report from the Wine Club on one of their recent excursions, as well as the latest dates for your diary for the coming months, providing plenty of opportunities to catch up with fellow Loudwater folk. Happy reading!

Chairman's words

As always, a lot has happened in the last few months, so let's just jump into the highlights!

We had a very successful "Pirates & Pizzas Summer Party" at the Barn. This is the LRA's event of the year and many thanks to **June Gili-Ross** for

organising it and to all those who helped to make it a reality.

Fibre Broadband

I am delighted to announce that half of Loudwater now has super-fast fibre broadband, meaning that speeds are about eight times faster than before. I would like to thank **Heather Kenison** for her years of tireless campaigning to get us this successful result. Thanks also to **Andy Coteman** who continually pushed to make sure we didn't drop off the BT/Openreach radar. Cabinet 10 has been upgraded and you can check which Cabinet you are on by putting your postcode or phone number into this link: <http://www.homeandwork.openreach.co.uk/when-can-i-get-fibre.aspx>. If you are connected to Cabinet 10 and haven't taken advantage of the new speeds, you can contact your internet provider who will let you know your options.

If you are on Cabinet 9, the Estate Board has entered into a community-

funded agreement with BT to provide a new Cabinet on Kingfisher Lure. This is currently underway and will serve to improve the broadband speeds for all those on this Cabinet.

Ambledown

The LRA has joined the campaign, led by **John Cowie**, to object to the proposed development at Ambledown on Chorleywood Road. The proposed development is to demolish the existing house and build five flats in its place. The LRA objected on Conservation Area grounds as we endeavour to maintain the beautiful character of this area. We will find out later this month if our objections have been successful.

I look forward to seeing you at an event soon and as always, if you have any thoughts, comments or suggestions about Loudwater, please do not hesitate to contact me on chairman@lraonline.org.uk.

Alex Buxton

'Pirates and Pizzas 'Summer Party

On a very toasty Sunday afternoon, on 2nd of July, over 80 Loudwater residents got together for the annual Residents' Association summer party at Loudwater Farm. This year the theme was 'Pirates and Pizzas'. Some committee members and guests dressed the part to add to the atmosphere and an enormous bouncy castle pirate ship provided a fitting centre-piece for our junior ship-mates to explore and jump about on. Having been greeted on arrival with a cup of pirate punch (with a shot of rum in for the grown-ups!) guests caught up with neighbours and friends. They also enjoyed delicious hand-made to order



pizza's, followed by a fabulous selection of treats from the '[Chilly White](#)' ice cream tricycle.

In keeping with the pirate vibe, a treasure hunt was laid on for the children, who, with much excitement, followed the clues and having tracked down the treasure, were rewarded with telescopes, jewels (AKA boiled sweets), gold coins (chocolate filled) and their very own pirate certificate! A coconut-shy also provided further fun, alongside garden games, such as giant Jenga and Connect 4.

The spectacular weather lent a distinctly tropical flavour to the occasion and everyone seemed to have a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon. Huge thanks go to June Gili-Ross, our Events Secretary, for all her hard work in making the party happen - and to the team that helped set up and tidy away - namely her other half, Les, Dave and Sue Tippen, Mike Sindic, our Chairman Alex and Kerry Rock.

We hope to see everyone again at our next event, the 'Musical Kwiz and Kebab' night on Saturday 22nd September. Do put the date in your diary!



LRA EVENTS CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2017

Wed 6th & 20th Bridge Club

Fri 22nd MUSICAL KWIZ-AND-KEBAB NIGHT

OCTOBER 2017

Wed 4th & 18th Bridge Club

Wed 18th Garden Club visit to Sheffield Park

Thurs 12th NEW RESIDENTS EVENING

Fri 27th Wine Club AGM and supper

NOVEMBER 2017

Wed 1st & 15th Bridge Club

Weds 29th Gardeners Question Time

Thurs 30th Wine Club Black Tie Christmas Dinner

DECEMBER 2018

Wed 6th & 20th Bridge Club

2018 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri 23rd March 60's THEMED PARTY NIGHT

SUN 22ND APRIL THE CHAIRMAN'S LUNCH

THURS 17TH MAY LRA AGM

SUN 1ST JULY SUMMER PARTY: THEME - MAD HATTERS TEA PARTY

FRI 21ST SEPT QUIZ NIGHT

WEBSITE
www.lraonline.org.uk/calendar

The Queen appoints Robert Voss CBE as her Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire

On 4th August the Queen appointed Loudwater resident Robert Voss, on the advice of the Prime Minister, as 'Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Hertfordshire', succeeding the Countess of Verulam who stepped down on 31 July 2017. Robert is due to hold the title for the next 10 years.

The role of Lord-Lieutenant is to be the British monarch's personal representative in each county of the UK. Historically, the Lord-Lieutenant was responsible for organising the county's militia but it is today a largely ceremonial position, usually awarded to a retired notable person in the county.

Robert has recently retired after a long and distinguished career in the metal industry, having also chaired the European Metal Federation in Brussels.

for 16 years. He has a special interest in young entrepreneurs, through his involvement with Hertfordshire Young Enterprise, as a venture partner investing in a number of young companies and as a trustee of the Young Person of the Year charity.

He also established a Young Entrepreneurs Challenge. He is a governor of The University of Hertfordshire and a member of the of the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation survivors testimony committee. He was awarded the CBE in 2014 for "services to British Industry and voluntary work in the UK."

Robert shared "I will be the first Lord Lieutenant of the county not to be born into the aristocracy (including the Queen's first cousin and her uncle).

There was little time to celebrate before carrying out his first duty, which involved presenting 20 British Citizenship certificates on 7th August. Meetings and duties look to be plentiful thereafter, including welcoming The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge to Hertfordshire.



He did however assure us that a bottle or two of champagne was opened that weekend. At last the good and mighty of Hertfordshire will know where Loudwater is when they get entertained over the next decade!

Congratulations Robert on this impressive achievement!

Meet Khurram (AKA Sunny!)

Most Loudwater residents who live within the gated estate will recognise the friendly yet professional face of Sunny, the first face you see when you cross the barrier. But who is he and what is his remit? **Lisa Marheineke**, Overstream resident interviewed him to find out.



I went to meet Sunny on a rainy afternoon in July armed with my notebook and three small children. He welcomed us warmly and sheltered us from the rain in his hut as I asked him to tell me a little bit about himself and his background.

His full name is the grand sounding Khurram Bin Mubarak and although he was born in Pakistan he was brought up in Kuwait from a toddler and moved over to the UK as an adult. Believe it or not, he is (a youthful) 40 years old.

Khurram is married and expecting a little girl in September. He beams with excitement when he tells me but then looks at my three small boys who are all trying to spin themselves off his chair and I see a slight panic in his eyes!

Hidden Eye Security is the security firm appointed by the Loudwater Board and Khurram is director and owner of it. He has worked at Loudwater for seven years and says the best part about working here is "The lovely people and the joy of working in such a beautiful environment. I feel very lucky." When I ask him what the worst part is he replies "Absolutely nothing at all, I love working here, it's a dream job".

His role involves - in his words - "Looking after the estate, keeping an overview to make sure all is well." What if he finds anything suspicious? "If it's a person, I approach them and ask them their business. I will always handle a situation calmly and take appropriate steps to resolve the situation." He tells me he knows all the car registration plates of

'Meet Khurram' continued...

residents and knows most of the relatives and staff too. As we were chatting he knew every single car that passed and which house they belonged to and most folk waved or stopped to mention something to him.

Khurram seems like such a safe pair of hands. I ask him how he has been improving neighbourhood watch on the estate, to which he replied he has been focusing on building relations with local community police officers; has regular liaison with the Loudwater board and he recently created a Loudwater WhatsApp group for estate residents.

In his spare time Khurram likes to go to the gym regularly with Woodside Cottage owner George, he is partial to a bit of Bollywood music and watching Egyptian movies to relax.

When I ask if there is anything he'd like to convey to the readers of the Ol' Trout he says, "I want to thank them all for their respect and kindness over the years. I feel very blessed to work here."

I came away thinking how lucky we are as residents to have such a positive, professional and friendly person looking after us all and what an asset he is to Loudwater.

Lisa Marheineke (and sons!)

Wine Club – Serendipity

How often are you astounded by the outcome of something you haven't sought?

Well, on Saturday 5th August eleven members of Loudwater Wine Club were transported, by a very cheerful driver from Hamiltons, to the Wine Society in Stevenage to take part in an event advertised as an informal tasting hosted by the Wine Society. Their text read: "An informal tasting showcasing 15 of the Wine Society's top picks for summer" plus the opportunity to pour "a glass and sit down to an indoor picnic with a delicious selection of breads and cheese"; nothing could have been more understated!

We were led into a spacious dining room where there were a broad selection of 15 bottles of wine (briefly but ably summarised by a member of staff), and two tables laid with the most delicious, wide ranging selection of foods, including vegetarian and gluten free, plus a third table with a selection of deserts; both the wine bottles and food were replenished constantly throughout the three hour 'picnic'. After the initial glass of champagne the time raced by with eating, drinking which involved repeat visits to the wine and food tables, and rich humour. The one overriding agreement was what a fabulous occasion it was and how undersold the event had been; it far exceeded all expectation. And so, replete, 11 members slept soundly during the return journey and later marveled at the wonderful time that had been had by all.



Special thanks go to Carole Timms for sourcing this visit and her efficient organisation; Colin Timms is also to be thanked for his quiet but considerable help and to Loudwater Wine Club committee all of whom should be truly proud for producing such an extraordinary day.

Sue Tippen

THEATRE CLUB

Shehnaaz Kassamali restarted the Theatre Club at the end of 2015. Since then she has worked very hard and arranged a number of theatre trips. Despite Shehnaaz trying different styles of production and timings, as recommended by Theatre Club members, there was limited uptake for the trips. Due to this lack of interest, Shehnaaz has unfortunately decided to close the Theatre Club.

If anyone would like to restart the Theatre Club with a different format, please get in touch with Alex Buxton on chairman@lraonline.org.uk.

The LRA Committee will be pleased to provide you with full assistance.



Boyhood memories

Former Loudwater resident Tony contacted us recently. Now living in Canada he returned for a visit in May and was keen to share his memories of growing up in our neighbourhood...

I moved to Loudwater in May 1940 at the age of four with my parents and finally left in 1957 to emigrate to Canada. My father died in 1961 so my mother sold the house and also emigrated. I wonder if there are many others from that era who still live in Loudwater?

We lived in Cherry Tree Cottage on Chess Hill until 1944, moved temporarily to Rookery Wood House on Loudwater Lane, then into a house in Rickmansworth before moving finally into Endways on Chess Close in 1946 which my parents later bought. Chess Hill and Chess Close were not paved in those days. I recall Endways had been built in the 1930s for just £1200!

Every November 5th we set up a huge pile of wood to burn in the centre of the turn at the end of Chess Close and my mother offered baked stuffed potatoes to everyone present. Local neighbours and their children attended to enjoy these and the many fireworks we set off.

Farmer Irons of Loudwater Farm delivered milk to the community with his horse and cart. On one occasion his horse bolted and he lost his load of milk on Chess Hill. Endways was on the edge of his fields and with another friend we used to roam all over the farm enjoying boyhood pleasures, sometimes to the chagrin of Farmer Irons. Once a year a threshing machine would come by to thresh his wheat, and in the earlier days it would be driven by a big pulley from a steam engine tractor which also hauled the thresher between farms. I used to help kill the mice who tumbled out of the stack as the wheat was threshed.

I have memories of some elements of World War II which impacted the area, such as the searchlight operation at the

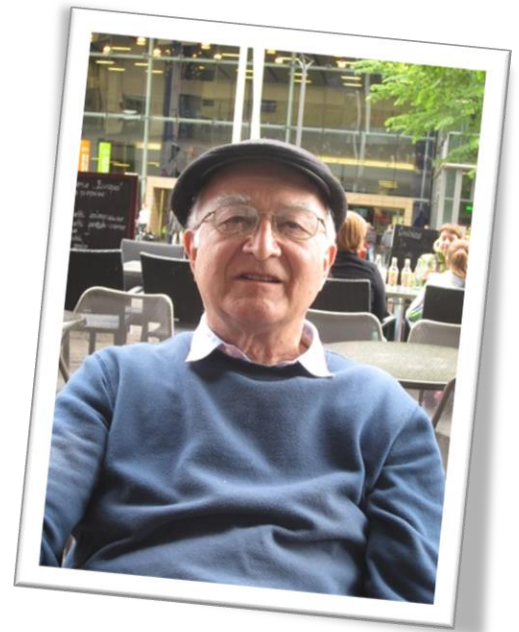
end of Chess Lane which sought out aircraft during the Battle of Britain. Then experiencing the frequent air raid warnings which meant many a night spent under the dining room table before we had an Anderson shelter built in the back garden. As a boy I found it a thrill to be sleeping in a bunk with the smell of hemp from the crude mattresses. I remember attending a fire drill where we were told how to put out a fire using a pump attached to a bucket full of water. Unfortunately the instructor was unable to set fire to a piece of damp newspaper with his match to demonstrate the success of the pump.

Later in the war we often stayed out in the evening listening to the V1 missiles, or Doodle-Bugs as we called them, and hoping the sound of their engine did not stop until they were well past us. As far as I recall no Doodle-bugs fell on the community, but a later V2 missile I think did hit one house in the Loudwater Estate.

My parents never learned to drive, so my father who worked in London, daily hired a taxi from Jones who used to operate out of the building now labelled Mini-Cabs next to Ricky station. The rest of the family used to avail themselves of the local small bus service which ran down Loudwater Lane to finish at the station in Rickmansworth.

The alternative was to walk to the top of Loudwater Lane and catch the double-decker bus on Chorleywood Road. I remember lugging a violin-cello up there to catch the bus to Watford Grammar School more than once. Needless to say I stopped learning how to play the instrument before very long.

Routinely I would make this walk and then one day a chauffeur driven Rolls-Royce stopped to offer me a ride. The owner, who lived in Glen Chess, had recognised the school uniform I was wearing. I accepted and this became the frequent practice sometimes twice a week. I felt very important arriving on



the front drive of the school in a chauffeur driven Rolls-Royce.

Before then I used to attend a preparatory school in Northwood. It meant I caught a train from Rickmansworth station. In those days the line was only electrified from Rickmansworth into Baker Street, so trains originating further out were hauled by steam engine which was then unhitched and a diesel-electric one substituted. I used to watch this change operation with great interest every time. One day the steam engine driver invited me into the cab and took the engine to the other side of the tracks ready to haul the next train from London. To add to my excitement the fireman wiped his shovel, cracked an egg into it and cooked it in the firebox before eating it. I was most impressed.

I look back on my time in Loudwater with much fondness and over the last 15 years have gone down memory lane more than once by walking from Ricky station up Chorleywood Road, down Loudwater Lane, along Chess Lane and the public footpaths back into Rickmansworth.

Philip 'Tony' Oldfield

Tree management

At the recent LRA AGM there was considerable discussion about the regulations relating to works on trees in Loudwater. It appears this is an area of some confusion, so LRA committee Planning Secretary Mike Sindic has kindly offered to provide clarification in a series of articles over coming editions of the Ol' Trout.

In this first, he explains the difference in procedures between works to trees in Conservation Areas such as Loudwater as opposed to trees which are the subject of Preservation Orders. Rules relating to the latter are more stringent and therefore penalties for breaching them are greater.

A **Tree Preservation Order** is an order made by a local planning authority to protect specific trees, groups of trees or woodlands in the interests of amenity. An Order prohibits the cutting down, topping, lopping, uprooting, willful damage or destruction of trees without the local planning authority's consent. If consent is given, it can be subject to conditions which have to be followed. Cutting roots is also a prohibited activity and equally requires permission.

Owners of protected trees must not carry out any of the prohibited

activities without local authority permission. Owners of unprotected trees are also responsible for maintaining their trees, but there are no statutory rules setting out how often or to what standard. The local planning authority cannot require maintenance work to be done to a tree just because it is protected. However, they can encourage good tree management, particularly when considering applications for consent to do work under a Tree Preservation Order.

Arboricultural advice from competent contractors and consultants, or the authority, will help to inform tree owners of their responsibilities and options. It is important that trees are inspected regularly and necessary maintenance carried out to make sure they remain safe and healthy.

Anyone wanting to cut down, top, lop or uproot trees subject to an Order must first apply to the local planning authority for consent by submitting a standard application form, unless the proposed work is exempt through an exception. Where an exception applies the authority's permission to carry out works is not needed, but notice of those works may still need to be given to the authority. It is important that the completed form makes clear what the proposed work is and provides adequate information to support the case.

Tree owners should take care not to exceed the terms of an exception. Before carrying out work they believe is exempt, they should seek advice from a qualified arboriculturalist and/or confirmation from the authority of what is required.



In some circumstances it may not be necessary to seek the usual permission for work on a tree that is subject to an order – these include where:

- the tree (or branches) is dead or dangerous
- it is to comply with an Act of Parliament
- it is to prevent a nuisance
- it is necessary to implement planning permission
- it is on fruit trees
- it is for highway operations or by the Environmental Agency.

Consent is also needed for carrying out work on diseased and/or dying trees unless some other exemption applies, for example where work is urgently necessary to remove an immediate risk of serious harm such as government authorities requiring the destruction of particular trees to tackle a serious plant disease.

Any work carried out to a tree, must also take care not to break laws protecting wildlife. Guidance can be sought from Three Rivers District Council on how best to proceed.

Mike Sindic (David Maycox & Co)
Planning Secretary



Foul play

Loudwater is characterised by many things, but the ample verges and the many footpaths that run through it are two. Most residents take pride in the appearance of the verges outside their properties and maintain them, relieving the estate company of that burden. However, in recent months there has been a significant increase in dog fouling on verges and on the public footpaths.

There is a legal obligation on dog owners to pick up anything their dog 'produces' and failure to do so is categorised as an ASBO (Antisocial Behaviour Order) offence and can result in fixed penalty notices, large fines, court appearances and the poor dog being taken away from its owners and possibly destroyed. This all seems rather extreme, but those residents who maintain their verges should not have to deal with dog faeces on them and lawn mowers only make matters worse! Nor should anyone have to worry about children playing on the verges coming into contact with faeces and the disease risks associated with that. The footpaths are also used by many and are a similar picture.

The reason why there are laws about dog fouling and not other animals is due to Toxocarasis which can cause serious illness and even cause

blindness. Whilst contact with dog faeces can cause many other illnesses, the Toxocara Canis parasite specifically lives in dogs' digestive tracts and lays its eggs there and is therefore present in the dogs' faeces. These eggs can remain active in the soil many years after the faeces has been washed away and if ingested by a child they may hatch into larvae and cause toxocarosis. So a child doesn't necessarily need to touch the faeces to become seriously ill.

Whilst this all sounds rather gross, probably because it is, Three Rivers District Council will act on fouling related matters. Photographic or video evidence of the offending owner/dog in action and a statement is generally enough for them to issue warning notices or go straight to prosecution if the situation warrants it.

No one wants to think of the poor animal suffering as a result of its owners actions and likewise a very sick child is equally upsetting so I'd urge all to be aware of the issues related to dog fouling, report offenders, and for dog owners please do the right thing.

John Thompson
Environment Secretary

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Planning update

From w/c 15 May to w/c 7 August 2017

APPLICATIONS

Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Detached outbuilding

Little Thatch, Trout Rise, Loudwater, WD3 4JS

Ref. No: 17/0851/CLPD | Received: Mon 24 Apr 2017 | Validated: Tue 16 May 2017 | Status: Decided

Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement two storey dwelling with basement and construction of new vehicular access

April Cottage, Bridle Lane, Loudwater, WD3 4JG

Ref. No: 17/1035/FUL | Received: Wed 17 May 2017 | Validated: Thu 25 May 2017 | Status: Pending Consideration

Single storey side and rear extensions

Chess Bank House, Trout Rise, Loudwater, WD3 4JZ

Ref. No: 17/1026/FUL | Received: Tue 16 May 2017 | Validated: Thu 25 May 2017 | Status: Decided

Discharge of condition 4 (Landscaping) pursuant to planning permission 16/0246/FUL

Hazel Cottage, Troutstream Way, Loudwater, WD3 4JN

Ref. No: 17/1158/DIS | Received: Thu 01 Jun 2017 | Validated: Fri 02 Jun 2017 | Status: Unknown

Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of five dwellings with associated alterations to access, parking and landscaping

Ambledown, Chorleywood Road, Rickmansworth, WD3 4ES

Ref. No: 17/1277/FUL | Received: Fri 16 Jun 2017 | Validated: Mon 10 Jul 2017 | Status: Pending Consideration

Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Replacement UPVc windows, installation of soil and vent pipes and internal alterations

6 Loudwater House, Loudwater Drive, Loudwater, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, WD3 4HN

Ref. No: 17/1566/CLPD | Received: Mon 24 Jul 2017 | Validated: Mon 24 Jul 2017 | Status: Pending Consideration

DECISIONS

Construction of outbuilding to side of dwelling

The White House, Trout Rise, Loudwater, WD3 4JR

Ref. No: 17/0682/FUL | Received: Mon 03 Apr 2017 | Validated: Wed 12 Apr 2017 | Status: Approved

Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Construction of an outbuilding

Stamhus, Troutstream Way, Loudwater, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, WD3 4LB

Ref. No: 17/0640/CLPD | Received: Tue 28 Mar 2017 | Validated: Thu 27 Apr 2017 | Status: Refused

Replacement windows and addition of rooflight

Dovecote, Troutstream Way, Loudwater, WD3 4LB

Ref. No: 17/0874/FUL | Received: Thu 27 Apr 2017 | Validated: Fri 05 May 2017 | Status: Approved

Single storey side and rear extension

Stamhus, Troutstream Way, Loudwater, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, WD3 4LB

Ref. No: 17/0639/FUL | Received: Tue 28 Mar 2017 | Validated: Thu 27 Apr 2017 | Status: Approved

Discharge of condition 4 (Landscaping) pursuant to planning permission 16/0246/FUL

Hazel Cottage, Troutstream Way, Loudwater, WD3 4JN

Ref. No: 17/1158/DIS | Received: Thu 01 Jun 2017 | Validated: Fri 02 Jun 2017 | Status: Discharged

Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Detached outbuilding

Little Thatch, Trout Rise, Loudwater, WD3 4JS

Ref. No: 17/0851/CLPD | Received: Mon 24 Apr 2017 | Validated: Tue 16 May 2017 | Status: Approved

Single storey side and rear extensions

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Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement two storey dwelling with basement and construction of new vehicular access

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