



The Ol' Trout

Loudwater Residents' Association newsletter



WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

SEPTEMBER 2022

Welcome to the autumn 2022 issue

I hope you've had a wonderful summer and the opportunity to make the most of the sunny weather. It's been super to properly enjoy the great outdoors with friends once again.

On Sunday 17 July, which was a real scorcher, the LRA committee hosted a thank you lunch for those who contribute to community life in our neighbourhood, at The Artichoke pub, in their beautiful garden room. It was a really lovely gathering – you can read more about the event on page 2. The photo above provides a little snapshot. Anni Sweet (LRA Committee Secretary), Zoe Wright-Browne (formerly our Events Secretary), Carole and Simon Freethy, graciously let me interrupt their chat to grab a photo of their smiley faces!

Our clubs have been making the most of the heatwave too: the garden club had a day out at Kew Gardens recently and the wine club have held a couple of tasting get togethers in members gardens. Both clubs share reports on their activities.

And Percy McCloskey takes us back to the golf day in May, to tell us how it went

and who excelled on the green!

I've also had a chat with Erica Bendall of Mission EmployAble, to find out how the new cricket pavilion build, and related plans, are going. It's a really exciting time for them – find out more on page 5.

In the spirit of appreciating the local area, Tim Hill tells us about the Wilder Chess project which was launched last year to help those who own a section of the River Chess understand how they can contribute towards conserving this special chalk river.

Fabian Hiscock, Chairman of Three Rivers Museum Trust, also shares with us what's new there. Following the pandemic, the museum has had a significant refurbishment and refresh, and now boasts an interactive digital display which currently scrolls through a selection of photographs of the local area that go back 150 years. He's keen to encourage us all to visit and get involved.

The **LRA Annual General Meeting** is scheduled to take place later this month on Tuesday 20th, this time at The Junction, at Christchurch. It's a time of considerable change for the committee, with a number of longstanding members

stepping down at the end of the year, myself included. I'm pleased to say that a couple of lovely individuals have offered their services to fill the Committee Secretary and Planning Secretary roles, and we look forward to officially appointing them. We are however looking for volunteers to take on the Environment Secretary, Events Secretary and Ol' Trout Editor positions – and the LRA is still without a Chairman. So, the future of the LRA will be a key topic of discussion at the meeting.

The full AGM agenda and details are on page 2, and if you might be interested in one of the available roles, we'd love to have a chat – just give any of the Committee a call or drop us an email before the meeting. As ever, the AGM will include the opportunity for a drink and catch up after the formal proceedings. We'd love you to join us!

In the meantime, I hope you enjoy this latest edition of the Ol' Trout.

Best wishes,

Andrea Marheineke, Editor
editor@lraonline.org.uk



LRA thank you lunch

On a very toasty Sunday afternoon in July the LRA committee was joined by club leaders, our wonderful team of Ol' Trout distributors, and their guests for a special thank you lunch. Having been unable to hold this annual event over the last two years, it was really fun to be able to show our appreciation in person again, rather than via a gift.

The garden room at The Artichoke was the perfect venue for our summer lunch party, and the food and hospitality was first rate. Everyone commented on what a lovely time they had and how nice it was catch up.

Although she had officially already stepped down from her role as Events Secretary, Zoe Wright-Browne kindly organised the festivities, ably assisted by Anni Sweet. It was also the perfect opportunity to recognise and thank Zoe for all her hard work coordinating events for members over the last few years. She has introduced a number of annual events that have become firm favourite dates in the neighbourhood calendar – especially for children and cake lovers! From easter egg hunts, to halloween walks, and raising a lot of money for MacMillan Cancer Research by participating in their 'World's biggest coffee mornings', she's been a superstar. We've been enormously grateful for her enthusiasm and good ideas! However, as her business goes from strength to strength it's time to hand over the event reins.

So after an excellent meal, and a little thank you Zoe speech and gift, the wine flowed and the chat continued until we all reluctantly headed for a cool spot closer to home (although I understand there was a bit of an after party in Trout Rise!).

All in all, a sunny, fun afternoon.

LRA Annual General Meeting

On **Tuesday 20 September** the LRA AGM will take place at The Junction, Christchurch (on the common) – starting at **7.45pm** and finishing at 9.30pm. We'll be serving drinks and nibbles afterwards for anyone who'd like to stay and catch up with neighbours. Do come along!

AGM agenda

1. Apologies.
2. Approval of minutes of the last AGM held on 30th September 2021.
3. Matters arising.
4. Financial matters – Rohit Desai
 - i. Approval of the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2021
 - ii. Confirmation of annual subscriptions for 2023 (if relevant)
 - iii. Appointment of the Auditor for 2023 (if relevant)
5. Events report
6. Membership report – Roger Trigg
7. Environmental matters
 - i. Planning update – Roger Trigg
 - ii. Environment – John Thompson
8. The Ol' Trout - Andrea Marheineke
9. Community matters
 - i. Bridge Club, John Toy
 - ii. Wine Club, Tony Hale
 - iii. Garden Club, Margaret Jarrett
 - iv. Golf Day, Percy McCloskey
10. Future of LRA
11. Election of committee members
12. Members open discussion.
13. AOB

Loudwater wine club

The Club has benefitted very much from the nice weather recently by holding tastings in the gardens of members houses.

We also held a garden party to thank Tony Hale for his long service as Chairman (22 years). Members showed their appreciation and contributed towards a bistro table and chairs to present to him. He is still a member and is enjoying our meetings.

The wine tasting of French wines in July was presented by Wink Lorch, this was held in Christine Sterry's lovely garden.

Our next wine tasting is going to be held on 26 August in Don and Stella's garden with presenter Guisy Andreacchio who will be taking us to Italy with North versus Southern Italian wines.

New members will always be made welcome to our sociable club, so give me a call on 07957 132005 or e-mail carolecolin@yahoo.co.uk for details.

Carole Timms



Garden club does Kew

On a fine summer's day, July 6th, the club set out for a visit to Kew Gardens in our customary minibus. We'd been a few years before as a group, at the time they were developing a new pair of grand herbaceous borders either side of the Broad Walk. We were keen to see how they had evolved.

An assault on Kew needs a master plan, and a map. There's so much to see and not enough time to see it all in one day. The group fortified itself for the task ahead with coffee at the Orangery from where it's a short step to the Broad Walk along which a series of semi-circular beds

had been planted. Each bed had been carefully colour-coordinated and provided with an identification plaque, not 100% accurate, I happened to note. Then it's easier to modify the planting than to re-do the plaque!

While the beds were undoubtedly spectacular, the critics among us couldn't help but notice a few things wrong. The beds were very deep at their midpoint making access for maintenance difficult, so a few vigorous weeds had taken advantage of the neglect. It appeared that irrigation was not intended so that moisture-loving plants such as phlox were suffering in the full-sun aspect.

At the end of the Broad Walk the Palm House beckons but before that another attraction demanded attention. A day or two before, the news media had given the impression that a new species of giant Amazonian waterlily was to be seen in the waterlily house, confirmed by a TV programme on Kew Gardens just recently. They had named it *Victoria boliviana*, differing from *Victoria amazonica*, which Kew has annually grown from seed for many years, by the nature of the spines around the rim. Both forms looked magnificent.

The impressive Palm House cannot be missed, even on a hot day. It's very much a tropical foliage display with side attraction on things edible, bananas, guavas, coffee and the like. A gentle stroll leads on to the Temperate House where more familiar plants can be found alongside a display of Australasian flora.

Only the sturdy of foot would venture further south, so most of us turned around at this point with an eye on the Victoria Gate Café for essential sustenance. At any time of year, the nearby Princess of Wales Conservatory is also a must-see. Its displays cover the entire waterfront of the plant world, from arid desert plantings to steamy rain-forest orchids, with tropical flowers everywhere and with carefully controlled climatic environments to suit everything that grows. All that's required is an arrowed route path so that you don't miss anything. A lovely end to a great day!

Roger Trigg



LRA Golf society 2022



This year, rather than a sit-down dinner, we had drinks and a selection of lovely sandwiches and snacks after the golf. Although this proved very acceptable, I hope we can return to our normal format.

This year's golf society meeting took place on Monday 30 May at West Herts Golf Club and twelve players took part in the main event. Although we struggled with numbers this year, we still had a very enjoyable time. Our usual format where players are joined by wives and partners for the evening had to be changed as we felt that the numbers weren't good enough to make this a meaningful gathering.

We all know that events like this which have not been happening over the Covid period have struggled to recruit the numbers enjoyed in past years, but this didn't dampen the fun.

Paul Kanner returned to successfully defend his prestigious LRA title with 36 points and Pauline Harding won the ladies title with 25 points. Peter Rice won 'Nearest the pin' and the team event was won by Peter Rice, Pauline Harding, Brian Harding and Andrew Gorrie.

The aim of the society is to provide Loudwater residents and their guests, with an opportunity to get together and enjoy some time on the golf course and to socialise afterwards. We encourage golfers of all abilities to join in and although this can make for slower rounds, all players who take part are very understanding.

There was an excellent atmosphere throughout the day and all those who attended pledged their support for the event to be staged in the spring of 2023. I hope to return to West Herts and will be looking at dates in early June. More information will follow soon.

Percy McCloskey

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Sources: 1 Savills Research, defined as the top 5-10% by value; 2 Savills data, 12 months to end March 2022.

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Mission EmployAble

You may well have noticed that the new cricket pavilion build on the Common is steaming ahead – Erica Bendall says that the builders, Boom Construction, are due to hand over the Pavilion to the Chorleywood Cricket Club and Mission EmployAble team by mid-September.

At that point the new General Manager - Tom Neath, Training Manager - Cass Langham, and 12 new Mission EmployAble young adults will start their supported internship programme with this fabulous local charity. Recruitment is also underway for a part time trainer (15 hours a week) to join the training team, and both a full time and part time chef for the café. They are also looking for more volunteers who want to work in the cafe alongside the interns and training team. Do check out their [website](#) if this might be of interest to you or anyone you know. In the meantime, the new name and logo for the café have recently been revealed and we're pleased to share it with you here, I'm sure you'll agree it looks great!



Café

ON
THE COMMON

They have had several fun filled months fundraising, with one or two

more to go. But the best part has been that the community has consistently supported all of their events and the donation site. Once the Pavilion is completed and the café open, they can't wait to welcome everyone through the doors to say a big thank you.

A really special fundraising campaign called The Willow Tree has recently been launched. It centres around a fabulous art installation which will go on the wall of the new pavilion as you walk in the main doors.



You can buy a leaf on the tree, there are several different colours ranging from £200 – £500 which will include your inscription. The artist impression above also shows that there are dogs, puppies, balls and cricket equipment too. Again, full details are on the website so do take a look.

On the sporting front, Loudwater resident Pete Higgins, who recently started working for Mission EmployAble as a trainer has secured a place in the London Marathon and will be running to raise money and awareness for Mission EmployAble. You may well see him pounding the roads around Loudwater as he trains, so please give him a wave! Both father and daughter have previously run the London Marathon together, so it's great to see them both in training again. Emily is running on behalf of Cure Parkinson's Trust.

Helene Buijs (aged 57) who works as an oncology nurse at Northwick Park

hospital, and her daughter Naomi (23) – who also worked there as a physiotherapist until recently, are cycling from London to Paris on the 7-11 September to raise money for the project.



And as we head towards Christmas, there'll be another Santa Dash on the Common on 10 December. Half of the money raised will go to Christ Church Primary School and half to Mission EmployAble.

So exciting times ahead and it's wonderful to think it won't be long before we can enjoy the café, get to know the interns and support this wonderful local charity.

Do check out the website to find out more and get involved missionemployable.co.uk.

Andrea Marheineke

Towards a wilder Chess



The **River Chess** which runs through Loudwater is a 'chalk river', one of only 180 in the whole world. The river's ecosystem is unique, supporting a diverse range of wildlife including iconic species such as kingfishers, water voles and brown trout. As a Loudwater resident, if you are lucky enough to own part of the river, you are the steward of a globally rare home for nature, rarer than tropical rain forest! Sadly, in spite of this rarity our chalk rivers and wetlands are not in great shape. **In the last 50 years 12 species have become extinct and 76 species have declined noticeably** – we are in the midst of nature crisis. If you would like to help to turn the crisis around, Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust is offering you help to find out more about your part of the river and how to care for it in the best way to conserve it for the future.

The **Wilder Chess** project was launched in 2021 with the aim of helping river owners find out more about their river through ecological surveys carried out by expert botanists. Based on the findings of these surveys, we will provide a report which includes advice and recommendations on how to best to care for the river. To date, work has focused in the middle Chess but has

already resulted in positive action for the river. **River conservation can be seen as a linear jigsaw puzzle**, with the pieces being land parcels owned by various people, including in the Chess, those of you living in Loudwater. We need to connect the pieces together to complete the jigsaw which will enable us to work together to restore and conserve the Chess for the future.

By working together to conserve the River Chess we can make a positive contribution to turning around the nature crisis in Hertfordshire and Britain.

If you would like to find out more about your part of the Chess Valley and how to care for it to benefit nature, please contact Tim Hill, Conservation Manager at Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust by email – tim.hill@hmwt.org or 07917 202729.

A request from our Membership Secretary...

Do you have new neighbours? If so, please let us know as we'd love to invite them to join the residents' association. Unfortunately, there's no easy way for us to keep tabs on all the comings and goings in Loudwater but it is easy to arrange for new residents to join, should they wish to, once we know about them.

By the same token, if your neighbours have left the district or someone has sadly passed away, we'd be very grateful if you would kindly advise us so that we can update our records.

Thank you for your help.
Roger Trigg

Three Rivers Museum – new and improved!



Three Rivers Museum will be known to some, but I suspect not all, Loudwater residents. It was set up in late 1987 in Basing House, in what was then still Three Rivers District Council offices. It has remained there ever since, although the Council has now moved out and the rest of the building is operated by the business premises provider Rivertech.

So, we occupy four rooms – the main museum space and the smaller Basing Room as our public area, an office at the back, and a storeroom. We could use a lot more, but it's not available, so we make the best use of what we have. We are, quite clearly, a 'Museum of local history' – we aim to tell the story of 'what it was like to live and work round here', where 'here' is the whole of Three Rivers. Therefore, if you live in Three Rivers, this is indeed your museum.

The pandemic has, of course, had a significant effect on us. Like all others, we had to close for much of 2020, and were very constrained in 2021, but we've been able to plan and make a series of developments in what we do. It had been some years since we last made any significant changes to our décor or layout, but we closed before

Christmas for extensive refurbishment and refreshment and re-opened quietly in mid-March – followed by a more public formal opening on 14 May.

Consequently, when you visit you'll find a new and fresh appearance. New flooring throughout means, of course, that everything has had to move – and it hasn't gone back in the same places. We have new displays as well as a new layout – and an activity area will allow us to host schools' visits and other children's groups, as well as allowing visitors who want to refer to our extensive library to do so in greater comfort.

The biggest development, though, is the arrival of our interactive digital display. This uses a 32" screen to display – well, whatever we've loaded onto it. At the moment that's mainly photographs, a selection of those taken across the whole district over the last 150 years or so (if you have any you'd like offer us, we'd be happy to hear from you). But it will also allow us to present audio and video files – so, for example, our growing oral history collection and some home movies from the 1930s will have a place there in

due course. Come and see what we have!

And there's more for you. It's an exciting time for our museum, with a great deal of development going on. There are all sorts of roles, including oral history interviewing and editing, researching and writing, auditing our collections, and much more. If you'd like to be part of it, e-mail me at chairman@trmt.org.uk.

But in any case, come and visit your museum.

Fabian Hiscock

Chairman, Three Rivers Museum Trust

Visit www.trmt.org.uk for more details



Planning update

August 2022

Cool Bananas, Bridle Lane, Loudwater WD3 4JH [Single storey rear and side extension including alterations to fenestration, front and side dormers, roof lights, alterations to external materials, replacement of roof tiles; construction of outbuilding and new patio and steps.](#)

Ref. No: 22/1320/FUL | Received: Mon 11 Jul 2022 | Validated: Mon 11 Jul 2022 | Status: Pending Consideration

Dalilea, Sarratt Lane, Loudwater WD3 4AS [Demolition of existing side carport and storage building, construction of single storey side/rear extension and two storey side extension incorporating a garage](#)

Ref. No: 22/1321/FUL | Received: Mon 11 Jul 2022 | Validated: Fri 29 Jul 2022 | Status: Pending Consideration

Little Thatch, Trout Rise, Loudwater WD3 4JS [External works to level the existing driveway including excavation and erection of new retaining walls with associated landscaping.](#)

Ref. No: 22/0984/FUL | Received: Mon 23 May 2022 | Validated: Mon 23 May 2022 | Status: Decided

Lightwoods, Troutstream Way, Loudwater WD3 4LQ [Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Construction of detached outbuilding](#)

Ref. No: 22/0864/CLPD | Received: Fri 06 May 2022 | Validated: Fri 13 May 2022 | Status: Decided

Lightwoods, Troutstream Way, Loudwater WD3 4LQ [Part retrospective: Part single, part two storey side and rear extensions and loft conversion including increase in ridge height, rear dormers and alterations to fenestration](#)

Ref. No: 22/0122/RSP | Received: Mon 24 Jan 2022 | Validated: Tue 15 Feb 2022 | Status: Decided

Loudwater House, Little Wing, Loudwater Drive, Loudwater WD3 4HN [Installation of rear dormer](#)

Ref. No: 22/1023/FUL | Received: Fri 27 May 2022 | Validated: Tue 21 Jun 2022 | Status: Decided

Loudwater House, Loudwater Drive, Loudwater [Replacement of existing gate with a new gate.](#)

Ref. No: 22/1230/FUL | Received: Mon 27 Jun 2022 | Validated: Fri 15 Jul 2022 | Status: Pending Consideration

Owl Cottage, Bridle Lane, Loudwater WD3 4JQ [Part single, part two storey rear extensions; garage conversion into a habitable room; alterations to fenestration; construction of new balcony and two juliet balconies to the rear.](#)

Ref. No: 22/0867/FUL | Received: Tue 10 May 2022 | Validated: Mon 23 May 2022 | Status: Decided

Tall Timbers, Rooks Hill, Loudwater WD3 4HZ [Part-retrospective: Part conversion of existing garage, demolition of single storey front projection, insertion of side dormer, front and rear rooflights, single storey rear extension including lower ground floor level, alterations to land levels and alterations to fenestration and external materials](#)

Ref. No: 22/0620/RSP | Received: Fri 01 Apr 2022 | Validated: Thu 07 Apr 2022 | Status: Decided

Tanglewood, Trout Rise, Loudwater WD3 4JY [Two storey front extension and enlargement of basement level](#)

Ref. No: 22/0408/FUL | Received: Mon 07 Mar 2022 | Validated: Wed 20 Apr 2022 | Status: Decided

Thatches, Loudwater Lane, Loudwater WD3 4HY [Two storey front and side extension incorporating a basement, two storey rear extension and roof extension to form habitable accommodation including increase in ridge height and provision of dormers](#)

Ref. No: 22/0595/FUL | Received: Wed 30 Mar 2022 | Validated: Mon 11 Apr 2022 | Status: Decided

The Warren, Trout Rise, Loudwater WD3 4JY [Construction of an outbuilding](#)

Ref. No: 22/0857/FUL | Received: Mon 09 May 2022 | Validated: Wed 25 May 2022 | Status: Decided

<https://www3.threerivers.gov.uk/online-applications/>