

BLUSTERETTE

The Watermead Village Newsletter

Summer 1994

The Chairman's Brief

Hello again! Life for the new committee has been fairly hectic and there is much to report.

Development I have had discussions with the planning officer for Watermead, with the new owner of 'Slopes and Sails' and with the Watermead Companies. As many of you will know there is a large 102 home development going ahead on the south side of the estate, so far as I know unopposed. Planning application has also been put in for a garden centre near the A4 13 roundabout, opposite the hotel. These developments, coupled with further building at the north end, behind the new lakeside homes, must in my view stretch to the limit the road access into the estate. The problem as I see it is density - the original concept has long been departed from in terms of the number of homes. Whether planning applications can continue to be nodded through remains to be seen. Concern has been passed on to the committee re safety of the main estate road and representations have been made to the planning authority. We are keeping a close eye on proposals for Slopes and Sails and I am pleased to say that our early discussions with the new owner have been encouraging.

Crime This quite simply got out of hand, with cars being broken into, particularly in the pub car park, on a job lot basis. Arrests were made and the level of car-crime and vandalism seems to have steadied. Just as well. I cannot say that the level of policing on Watermead is adequate, although that is no reflection on our popular beat officer, PC Isaacs, who cannot be everywhere at once. I would encourage everybody in the village to support Neighbourhood Watch.

Common Areas As many of you will know the main Royco company has gone into administrative receivership, threatening future maintenance provision for the ornamental lake and common areas. Royco in fact deserve credit for keeping the maintenance up in difficult trading conditions but the fact remains that planning for the long term needs to be done. There have been proposals we take over responsibility ourselves but we could not possibly find the resources for this - it is a thousand pities that a modest annual service charge was not levied on each household from the beginning. Aside from considerations of community and the environment if the upkeep of the village is not maintained there will be a knock-on effect on house values.

Village Hall This is a priority. The source of the damp problem has been identified and will require expensive rectification. The work will be done but realistically the hall will not be refurbished before the autumn. Once the damp has been cured we aim to install central heating and redecorate. We hope to put the management of the hall on a proper footing - the present arrangement is somewhat *ad hoc*.

Community Concerns Two areas of concern, judging by the number of complaints, are

- (1) control of animals, especially dogs and
- (2) insensitive siting of satellite dishes.

Unrestrained dogs can be a nuisance and have even attacked the wildlife. Satellite dishes are best sited discreetly! I am told that the village is scheduled for cabling in two years in any event.

Michael Shrimpton

Here is a Summer FUN QUIZ with a £5 prize for the first set of correct answers delivered to 8, Waterlily.

1. Who is the present Governor of the Bank of England?
2. In what year was the current Pope elected to office?
3. In what year did Compact Discs first come on to the market?
4. Where is the village of Passchendaele?
5. What is the main island of Japan called?
6. Who invented the fountain pen?
7. Who invented Nylon?
8. How many players are there on each side in Australian Rules Football?
9. How many men have walked on the Moon?
10. What disrupted traffic on the M40 in Buckinghamshire on 21st May 1983?
11. Which company invented the silicon chip in 1961?
12. In 1988, which country claimed to have the most TV sets in use?
13. Which Chancellor of the Exchequer introduced Premium Bonds?
14. In which decade was the metric system devised?
15. What is 20° Centigrade (Celsius) in Fahrenheit?
16. In which city were traffic lights first introduced?
17. What was the first production car to be fitted with a synchromesh gearbox?
18. Who wrote the theme music for TV's *Neighbours*?
19. Who wrote the theme music for *Coronation Street*?
20. Who is Edison Arantos do Nascimento better known as?

Good luck!

BACCHANALIA is BACK!

**Saturday 6th August
SUMMER DISCO
in the Village Hall**

**Don't forget to come
and have some fun!
Admission £2 per person**

AMITY

Unattached gents - where are you?

**We have a bevy of
beauties waiting to share
our social calendar!**

If you're 40+ and wish to join us,
please phone 397530 or 88495.

Ring now!

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

CRIME UPDATE

As you will see from the reported crime figures below, crime, after peaking in March, has now fallen considerably. The main crime is again Theft from motor vehicles and most crimes happen over the early hours of Saturday/Sunday morning.

Be warned and be sure to remove any valuables from your cars. Make sure that doors are locked or that the car is put in the garage if possible.

COORDINATORS

By now all your coordinators will have made themselves known to you. If you missed them and would like details of your local coordinator, ring me on 20956 and I will supply the information.

NEEDED URGENTLY

We urgently need coordinators for **DOVE HOUSE** and **MOORHENS**. Any volunteers out there, please contact me on the above number.

STREET SIGNS

Approval has now been received for us to erect 16 signs. These will hopefully be put *in situ* by the middle of July. Please let your coordinator know if any area has been missed for any reason. We envisage that more signs will be purchased in the future.

BIG **THANK YOU**

To all coordinators for calling on residents and thank you all for the money which has been received.

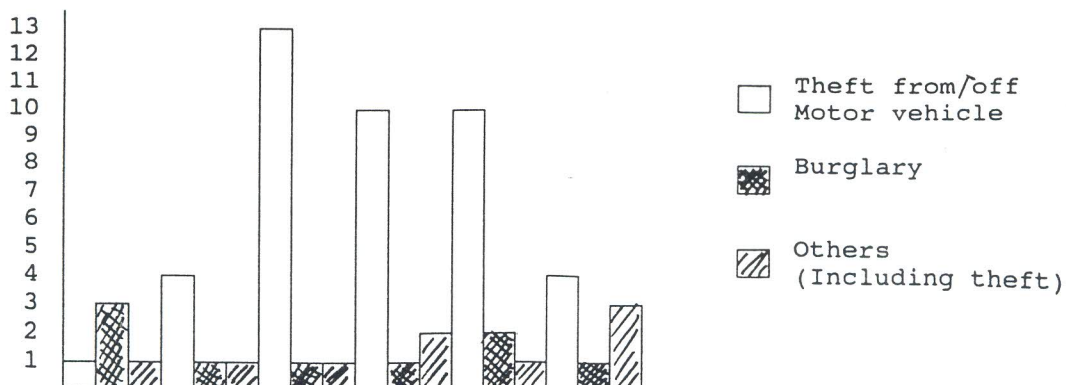
PERSONAL INFORMATION FORMS

Please return your personal information forms to your coordinators as soon as possible, as this form was produced for your benefit. We have already had two occasions when the information on the sheets was invaluable and saved a great deal of time for the coordinators and the local police.

IMPORTANT

Keep your eyes peeled and remember, when in doubt, dial "999"!

Sandra Gowling



THE WATERMEAD INN

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- * A friendly welcome always awaits you

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ST. JAMES THE GREAT, BIERTON

In late July, this lovely old church will be celebrating the 700th Anniversary of the appointment of its first Vicar. There will be a four-day Flower Festival, two concerts, an Exhibition of old pictures illustrating the life of the village, a number of private gardens will be opened to the public, and naturally there will be special celebration Services.

A book, "The Story of Bierton" has been published; it is in hardback, contains about 125 pages filled with interesting anecdotes and memories from older residents, as well as a historical perspective of the Village and a number of photographs and specially commissioned line drawings. It costs £7.50 and all profits are for the Church Restoration Fund. A celebration Mug has also been produced, costing £3.

For full details of the celebrations or a look at a copy of the book or the mug, please ring Anne King on 26743 or call at 6, Fieldfare, (please ring first).

BABY SITTING

I am an experienced babysitter available most nights. I live on Watermead and already have several clients in the Village.

Please call Charlotte on 26743.

DID YOU HEAR....

about the shrimp that went into the
Watermead Inn?

Pulled a mussel!

Figure Shapers

An invitation to the residents of Watermead

* Two people can tone on our six tables at the special rate of £60 each for twenty 1-hour sessions.

* Beauty Therapy and Vibrosaun 15% discount on treatments taken during July 1994.

Please present this advertisement when accepting our invitation.

CALL THE PROFESSIONALS ON

0296 397826

Do not despair!

No more rips and tears.

Come and see me and I

will alter and repair!

**Phone Carmina on
330158**

To a budding Blusterette Editor

*This is NOT a lonely hearts ad!
Would the gentleman who phoned Carol
about Blusterette please phone again,
'cos she has misplaced (that is, lost)
your number!*



We have been attending to gardens on Watermead since 1988 - take advantage of our local knowledge. References available.

From grass cutting to full landscape design and work.

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Watermead Village Piazza, Aylesbury, Bucks

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Here is a second, welcome article by Linda Jones about the wildlife on and around the lake.

NEW ARRIVALS

Spring certainly sprung on the lake, an absolute hive of activity, but to date has not produced as many ducklings as expected; we are in desperate need of females as the drake population has increased whilst the poor old ducks have declined in numbers. I have left word at St. Tiggywinkles that should they require homes for females they would be more than welcome here at Watermead. They have come to our aid on many occasions helping injured or deserted young birds and as ever we are grateful to them for their help.

The coots have certainly held their end up, one family producing five little redheaded balls of fluff and the other four. The ringed teal is still here, a charming little chap who has endeared himself to everyone. His mate has not been seen for a while, hopefully she is sitting on a nest. I'm sure everyone would be delighted if they bred here.

A pair of Canada geese have also appeared with a family of goslings, I'm not sure if they nested here or up river. Now onto the swans - we have two nesting pairs, one pair nested on one of the islands in a beautifully constructed nest and hatched out mid May [obviously old hands at the job]. The other pair [obviously not as experienced], decided to build their 'nest' in a very vulnerable position and after consulting with the R.S.P.C.A., and thanks to Rob Clarke and Alan the gardener, provided her with her own little compound. Her mate, who is supposed to bring the nesting material for her to arrange to her satisfaction, was not as helpful. He brought the odd twig and blade of grass but, as many of you will have seen, the nest consists of plastic bags, a mess of twigs, bits of old post supports!

In his favour though, he has guarded her well giving the poor old goose a bad time. I felt so sorry for him as he has been like a ping pong ball between the two male swans guarding their territory. So, we have waited and waited whilst she has sat and sat on her nine eggs. Normal incubation is 35 days so it does not look good - what can I say? - nothing would please me and all you other watchers and waiters more than to see her and her mate parading up and down with their own family of cygnets. I have been in contact with Swanline regarding her welfare, and so we wait, she may surprise us yet. We can but hope!

PS. If you are feeding, give only wet bread.

Cricket, lovely cricket!

Watermead has an active cricket club and plays both at representative and 'friendly' levels. Indeed this season has been our most successful to date in the Midweek League, with five wins out of six matches. We hope soon to have use for weekend fixtures of the beautiful Pavilion (used as a nursery during the week). This will cure the parking problem. We welcome new players and social members. Ability is not as important as a love of the game of cricket, indeed we have more need of 2nd XI than 1st XI players at the moment - our 1st XI attack is one of the strongest in Aylesbury and bowled out one team for 25 in June. We also have a vacancy for a scorer.

The kit bag has been replenished for this season, so just bring your whites. Please speak to our Captain Mark Tailford on 437392, Sunday Captain Bob Coleman on 25950 or Vice-Captain Phil Doyle (393338). Our next home league fixture is against Linslade, on 11th July, starting at 1830 hrs. The next Sunday fixture is against Wingrave CC, (away), on 17th July, starting at 1430 hrs. There are no home Sunday fixtures in August, but there will be a home match against Unisys on Sunday 18th September at 1400 hrs. Come and cheer us on!

THE PET NANNY



When you go away, it's sensible to leave your home as normal as possible, keeping your animals re-assured in their usual surroundings and avoiding kennel fees.

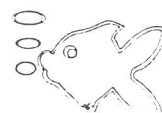
Sometimes friends or relatives are not always available at short notice. The best alternative - if you have to leave your pets for holidays, hospital or just a weekend away - is for them to be cared for by "THE PET NANNY".

I can attend your pets regularly at your home throughout your break so that you and your pets can be free from worry. I can also attend to your indoor & outdoor plants too.

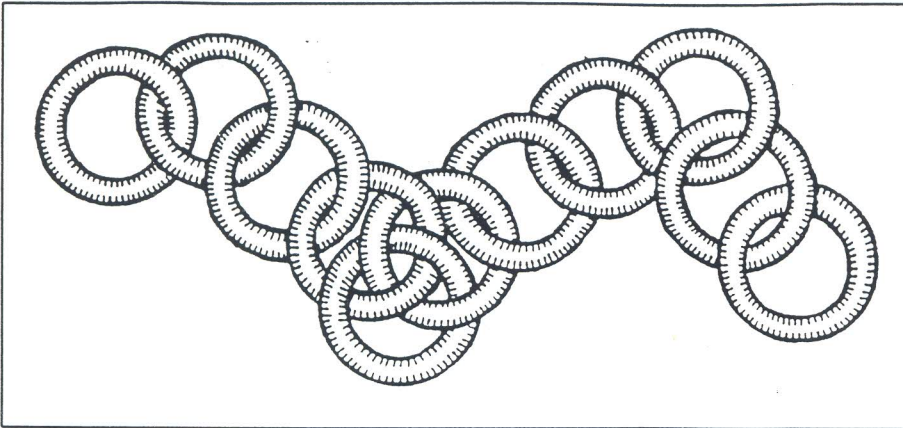
If you would like more details please call:

(0296) 28043

References available.



For anyone who prefers puzzles to quizzes, here are a few to while away a summer evening! Some may be familiar, they have been collected over a number of years. No prizes, just for fun.



1. A rich woman who was staying at a hotel found herself without funds and was unable to obtain any money for a few days. She arranged with the hotel manager to use her 18 carat gold belt to settle her account at the rate of one link of the chain per day and to redeem the belt when her

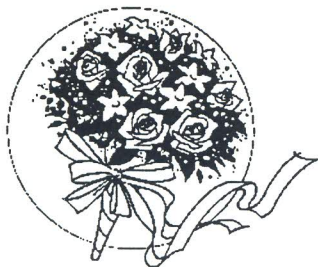
money came through. As she wished to damage the belt as little as possible, what is the least number of links that had to be cut to allow her to make the agreed payment of one link per day? The belt is shown above.

2. Here is an oldie. Three friends take a meal at a restaurant, paying £10 each. The manager, conscious that the lamb was a little tough, sent the men a discount of £5 to be split between them. The waiter decided that as this was not easy to do, so he gave each man £1 back and pocketed the remaining £2. The men thus paid £27 and the waiter had £2, but where is the missing £1?

3. Finally, another oldie, but with a sting in the tail. If you stand at the North Pole, you can walk one mile South, one mile East and then one mile North and land up where you started from. Now where else can you do this? (It cannot be the South Pole because you cannot start by walking one mile South from there!)

4. And a quickie, if you cut a long, level, dead straight tunnel through a mountain, why does rain water accumulate in the middle?

Congratulations



to Lucienne Snell and
Christian Mosquera of 5
Lark Vale on their recent
wedding!