

VILLAGE

THE WATERMEAD VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

View

VE DAY CELEBRATIONS COME ON DOWN!!!

Yes, come on down to the village Piazza, Watermead on VE Day Bank Holiday Monday and join in the FUN and celebrations.

The Watermead Village Residents Association have pulled out all the stops in organising a feast of fun for all the family on Monday 8th May which will include your very own Street Party which we've organised for you in the Piazza with lots of bunting - so get your picnic sorted out now! There will be music throughout the afternoon from the Wolverton Silver Band, a spectacular fly past over the lakes from the RAF Memorial Flight which will include Lancaster Bomber, Spitfires and Hurricanes (see article inside for details). There will also be a Bouncy Castle and Pony Rides for the children, Prize Draws and Raffles with Balloon Trips, Candlelit Meals and lots of other goodies to be won. And there will be ice-cream and hot-dog stalls available throughout the day.

The celebrations climax with a spectacular VE Day Disco in the evening which, weather permitting, will take place under the stars in the Piazza. If the weather does prove for the worse then the disco will transfer to the village Hall - so let's keep our fingers crossed!

The WVRA hope to mark this historic occasion - the 50th anniversary of this momentous day - with a gathering of Watermead residents previously unprecedented, so let's get together and make this a day to remember for a long, long time!

VE DAY TIMETABLE

The VE Day celebrations will kick off with your very own Street Party in the Piazza - from 1.00pm with music throughout the afternoon - plus a concert from the Wolverton Silver Band from 2.00 till 6.00pm. The spectacular VE Day Memorial Fly-past will be at 3.15pm (please note that the Watermead access road will be closed during the fly-past from 3.05 to 3.20pm) with Bouncy Castle and Pony Rides available throughout the afternoon. The FREE Celebration Disco will commence at 7.00pm in the Watermead Piazza with prize draws and a grand Raffle.

So don't forget, come on down to the Watermead Piazza on VE Day!

STREET PARTIES IN THE PIAZZA!

The WVRA have organised the Piazza for you to hold your very own street party and make it a day to remember. There will be tables with seating available (you can call and reserve the tables, after that it's first come, first served!) for families, individuals or groups to bring your own picnics and enjoy this special day with the whole of the Watermead community!

Instead of celebrating VE Day in your own back garden, come to the Piazza and join in the fun. We'll supply the tables and seating, music and entertainment, bunting and balloons and, of course, your favourite pub - The Watermead Inn - will be open all day! Further details can be obtained by phoning Ron Cunnington on 393521 or Jill Broome on 393544.

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YOUR COMMITTEE

Michael Shrimpton, Chairman
Tel: 397963 (Mobile: 0370 341555)
Jill Broome, Secretary. Tel: 393544
Carol Moore. Treasurer. Tel: 28043
Rosine Halstead-Finch. Tel: 392963
Simon Bennett. Tel: 433123
Marian Noades. Tel: 393832
Sue Snell. Tel: 398887
Ron Cunnington, Village View Editor
Telephone / Fax: 393521

COMING EVENTS

Watermead Village Residents Association AGM

Thursday 27th April, 8.00pm. Watermead Village Hall.

VE Day Celebrations

Bank Holiday Monday, 8th May 1995. Celebrations and entertainment all day long. RAF Memorial Fly-past. Wolverton Silver Band Concert. Street Parties. Evening Disco Watermead Village Piazza from 1.00pm til late.

Sponsored Dog Walk

In aid of the RSPCA Blackberry Farm Animal Centre. Sunday 21st May 1995. Starts from the Ski Lodge late morning. Phone Nina Maynard 81852 for more details.

Cricket Club

Summer is on the way. The first match of the season is only weeks away and winter nets have already started - contact Bob Coleman on 25950. First match is away to Walton on Sunday 30th April. The first few matches will all be away to allow further time for ground development - a great deal of effort has been put in to getting the square into proper shape. Please respect the ground when walking across it - dogs should kept on a lead and should not foul the playing areas. Trespass on to the square is not permitted.

New members are welcome, whether playing or non-playing. In the 2nd XI at least enthusiasm and commitment counts for more than skill. The 2nd XI matches are non-competition and very enjoyable. The Club Captains will try to ensure as far as possible that our teams are evenly matched to the opposition. Subscription is only £25 per year, or £30 in three instalments of £10. Match fees are low and away matches are played in some very attractive village locations.

If you love the game of cricket, come along. Watermead Village Cricket Club is affiliated to the Club Cricket Conference.

VE DAY BATTLE OF BRITAIN MEMORIAL FLIGHT FLY-PAST

The Residents Association has obtained confirmed approval from the Royal Air Force for a fly-past over the lakes at Watermead by the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight on VE-Day. The May Bank Holiday has been moved to Monday 8th May by the Government.

Kev's Car Cleaning Services

Finally a friendly, professional mobile car cleaning service in Aylesbury and the surrounding areas.

CAR WASH, HIGH QUALITY WAX & DRY	£3.00
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The programme, subject to contingencies on the day, provides for a low altitude flypast at 3.15pm by the Lancaster bomber, a Spitfire fighter and a Hurricane. These same aircraft will earlier in the day have participated in the fly-past over HM The Queen at Buckingham Palace. This is a tremendous honour for Watermead. The aircraft will of course be flying low over Aylesbury on the approach and this is an honour which we should be very happy to share with Aylesbury and surrounding villages, many of which will have a good view of the aircraft as they fly over.

The RAF obviously cannot guarantee any flypast by the BBMF. In particular good met. conditions on the day will be vital. These aircraft are a priceless and unique national asset, maintained with great dedication at RAF Coningsby. Obviously one cannot just ring up British Aerospace and ask for spares for a 50 year old Lancaster! The Merlin engine is no longer in the Rolls-Royce catalogue, either.

Detailed planning work is now going ahead in consultation with the RAF, who have supplied a detailed briefing - even a short flypast involves a great deal of preparatory work including negotiation with Air Traffic Control. Safety is of paramount importance and strict crowd control will need to be enforced.

Residents planning a quiet nap on VE Day afternoon will be well advised to wait until after 3 o'clock! The aircraft may be between 50 and 55 years old and the technology outdated, but these are aeroplanes with serious horsepower. A Lancaster is not a Tiger Moth (we occasionally see Tigers over Watermead) - the BBMF's Lanc, PA474, is a late mark and her awesome 108,000 cc of internal combustion engine pack a combined horsepower of around 7,000. They should make a lovely noise.

In tribute to the young men who flew the Lancaster into action and who made such a major contribution to the great victory there will be a collection on the day for the Bomber Command Association.



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A Fun Day at the Dentists

Congratulations to Marierose and Lythan of the Watermead Dental Centre, who recently had an open day at their Piazza clinic. Visitors had a chance to meet the team and found out that a visit to the dentist CAN be fun!

There was a free Champagne prize draw, tips on dental hygiene, a chance to see how crowns and dentures are made, lots of free advice on dental plans, guided tours of the clinic and a glass of wine to calm the nerves of those of us who are STILL scared of those visits to the dentist!

The Watermead Dental Centre's team soon allayed all those fears and did, indeed, provide a fun-filled open day! Well done Marierose and Lythan.

Baby Boomer?

Our congratulations to Maria and Ian Knowles - Maria is the secretary of our Women's Institute - on the birth of a son, Harry James. Our further congratulations go out to Carolyn Barr, assistant secretary of the WI, and to Sue Snell of the WVRA committee who are both expecting a new arrival. Those who are intending to stand for the committee at the AGM had better be careful, it might be catching!

EDITOR WANTED!!!

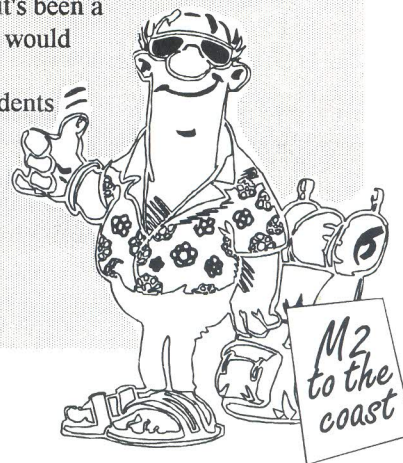
Yes I'm afraid that after only one too-short year living in Watermead my family and I are on the move!

It was only in January 1994 that we moved from Whitstable, in Kent, to Buckinghamshire due to job re-location. Whilst our new home in Peregrine was being completed we lived in a beautiful 16th century cottage on the edge of Birtton, which gave us an unforgettable start to the area. After moving to Watermead we fell in love with it's character and wanted to help in it's development in any small way we could. A new editor for the village newsletter - The Blusterette - was required and, being a magazine designer by profession, I jumped at the chance.

Now, only a year later, we are moving back to Kent - once again due to job re-location. The firm, Pearce Forecourt Signs, have been a victim of their own success and are moving into their headquarters at Broadstairs. So I'm afraid it's goodbye Watermead, goodbye Village View and goodbye to all the friends we've made in the last 12 months.

In the relatively few issues I have edited, I have tried to provide a village magazine that mirrors Watermead's ideals, supplying it's wants and highlights important issues - like the proposed nightclub!. Whether it's been a successful exercise to date only you can judge, but I would like to think that myself, Michael Shripton - who bravely supplies a great deal of copy - and your residents committee have published a village 'rag' we can be proud of and I hope the new editor, whoever it may be, can make even more improvements. Good luck to all you 'lakesiders' we'll miss you!

Ron Cunnington - 'ex-editor' Village View



Parish News

It has been all anniversaries recently. After the church's 700th last July, the Mother's Union celebrated its 60th recently and Bierton & Hulcott WI celebrated their 70th last month!

Now for some bad news...

At the end of April this year, the Rev. Michael Whalley is retiring. We are all very sorry to see him go, but we have to wish him good luck in a well-earned retirement. It is the intention of the District Church Council to mark his retirement in appropriate fashion and a collection has already started in Bierton village for a gift for Michael and his wife, Lorna.

Many residents of Watermead will have met Michael, either at Sunday services, Weddings or Christenings. He has also been busy in the community, as an Assistant Prison Governor and an Industrial Chaplain - including being Chaplain to Aylesbury United Football Club. We were also pleased to welcome him at our Carol concert in the Piazza last Christmas.

If you would like to contribute to a farewell gift for Mr and Mrs Whalley, or would like details of his final service of Evensong on 30th April (or any other services) please contact me, Anne King on 26743, or pick up an information letter from 6 Fieldfare.

Gifts of money can be posted directly to the Church Treasurer, Mr L Lemon, 9 Great Lane, Bierton, Aylesbury HP22 5DE, or left at 6 Fieldfare (opposite the Piazza). Cheques should be made out to St James the Great, Bierton, and NOT to me or Mr Lemon. Gifts will be presented in the school near the church after Evensong.

Those who attend the Family Service had a presentation of their own to the Vicar and Mrs Whalley on Easter Day afternoon.

We do not expect to have a new Vicar before the Autumn, but all our services and other activities will continue as usual, and you will be welcome at any of them.

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Entries must be submitted by the end of April 1995
and games are played in the homes of entrants by
mutual agreement.

The entrance fee is **£10 per partnership**



ON THE BEAT

We would like to take this opportunity to wish a speedy recovery to our
local bobby, and Community Liaison Officer, PC Ian Richards. Thanks also
Ian, for all the work you have done on our behalf, get well soon.

COMPLETION!

Lakeside Land Limited have completed on the purchase of the nightclub
land, the lower lake and the amenity land on Watermead. Completion was
on 15th March, just inside the deadline imposed by the receivers, made
possible at the end of the day by directors loans to the company.

The total price including a contribution to the receivers' legal costs was
£26,250, to which must be added Lakeside's own costs of setting up, ad-
ministration, surveyors and legal fees. A higher bid was put in before ex-
change of contracts, but Lakeside's offer price was protected by the bind-
ing option agreed by the receivers. A major role in securing the deal was
played by Lloyd's Bank, who showed enlightened commercial self-inter-
est in agreeing the deal. Lakeside had appealed to the bank at Board level.
No fresh planning application has been put in by the developer, but Resi-
dents Association chairman Michael Shrimpton has not ruled one out. A
major problem for the developer is lack of space for adequate car-parking.
The future will depend on the support the company receives from the com-
munity - unfortunately the company has been hit by resignations from the
Board at a crucial time. Fresh blood is urgently needed. The Board is to
consider calling an extraordinary general meeting of the company at its
next meeting and the Board may need to be restructured. Volunteers with
appropriate experience should speak to Michael Shrimpton or one of the
other directors.

The Board has received a number of representations from residents living
on the lower lake re the behaviour of those fishing, particularly the younger
element. Restriction of fishing is a major issue for a number of sharehold-
ers and major changes are in prospect.

The deal includes the balance of the 125 year lease on the village hall, on
generous terms as regards repairs. The Residents Association committee
and Lakeside Land will probably meet to discuss the management of the
hall after the new committee is elected at the WVRA AGM on April 27th.
The future is potentially very exciting, but everything depends on the con-
tinued support of the community.

New Bus Service

**Pressure from your long-suffering committee, has per-
suaded the powers that be to lay on an extra morning bus
to the town centre. The service runs daily at 9.24am from
Watermead to Aylesbury.**

Obviously completion on the sale of the nightclub land has come as a great relief. We are now finally in a position to close down the Fighting Fund, which has been in abeyance since the Lakeside Land deal was struck. Watermead is now more of a community than it has ever been, with its future looking more secure than for some time.

We need however to build on what has been done and to do that we need to see fresh faces both on the Residents Committee and on the Board of Lakeside Land Limited.

Hard Work!

The past year has been hard work and not surprisingly many of the present Committee will be standing down at the AGM on April 27th. Please do come and put your name forward for election.

This AGM will be an important

meeting. If it is poorly attended I think residents should expect a low level of committee activity over the forthcoming months.

All-in-all it has been an eventful and exciting year for the committee and the residents of Watermead and, with your help, it will prove to be just as exciting in years to come. So let's see you all at the AGM and the VE Day celebrations.

Fly-past

The RAF have really come up trumps with the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight booked to fly low over Watermead. Please give generously on the day to the collection for the Bomber Command Association. One of the frustrations of the nightclub battle has been the priority it has had to take for time and resources. This has seriously hampered VE Day planning, I'm afraid. Volunteers to assist will not be turned away!



CHAIRMAN'S BRIEF

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