

VILLAGE

THE WATERMEAD VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

View

Watermead Remembers...

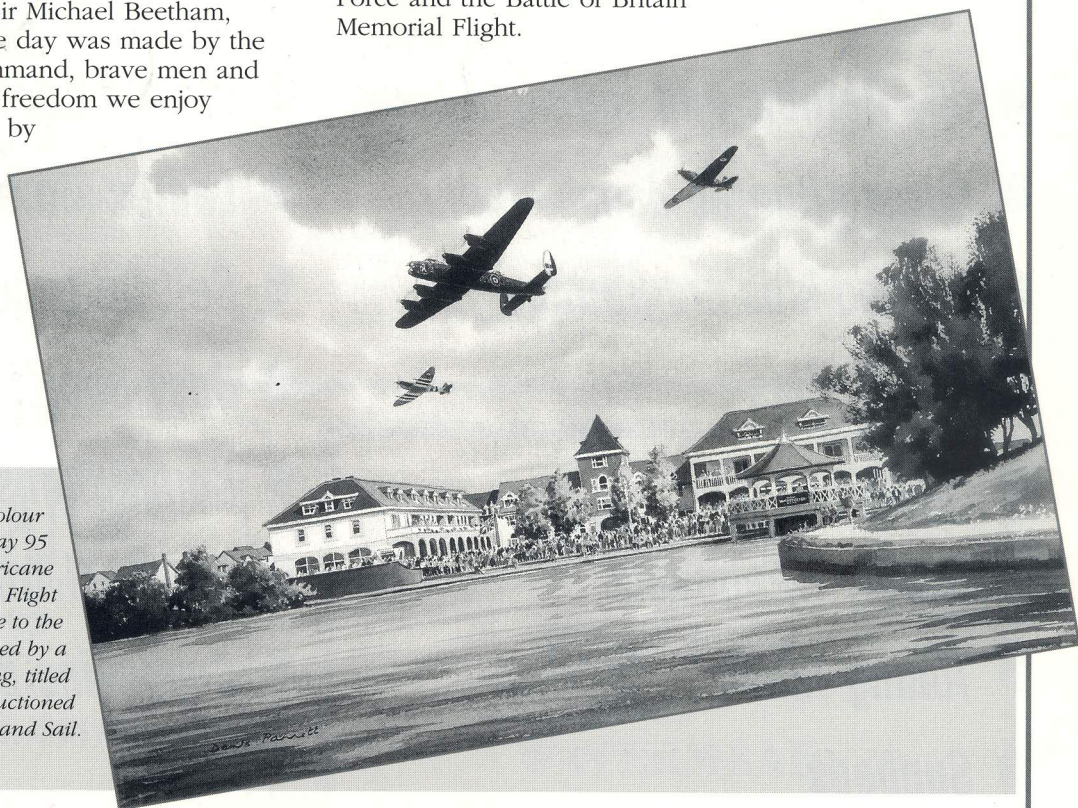
As the nights draw in what better day to recall for this Autumn issue than the VE Day commemoration on Monday 8th May 1995?

Some on the estate said it couldn't be done, that VE Day held no claim on the hearts of the younger generation who make up most of the village's population. Well the Watermead Village Residents Association went ahead. The community responded in a way it has never done before and people came from miles around to join us. Estimates of the crowd varied from 2,000 to 3,000.

Over £600 was raised for the Bomber Command Association, leading to a warm letter of thanks from Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Michael Beetham, President of the Association. The day was made by the presence of veterans of the Command, brave men and women who had fought for the freedom we enjoy today. They were greatly moved by the unforgettable sight and sound of the Lancaster and by the response of the crowd. Michael Shrimpton, Chairman of Residents, was subsequently honoured with Honorary Membership of Thames Valley Bomber Command Association. The day was rounded off with a short but moving sunset

ceremony, the detail of which had been worked out in consultation with the Royal British Legion and retired members of the armed forces living on the estate.

The event of course did not go without a hitch and many useful lessons were learnt for large-scale event (and raffle!) planning. Thanks must go to the Watermead Inn, who royally entertained our honoured guests, to Radio Mix 96, who broadcast the flypast live, to the Wolverton Town Band and Thames Valley Police, the Fire Brigade and St John's Ambulance, also to Ski and Sail, who co-operated on the day in a responsible way. Above all of course thanks must go to the Royal Air Force and the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight.



Denis Pannett's beautiful watercolour painting captures the spirit of VE Day 95 as the Lancaster, Spitfire and Hurricane of the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight roar low over Watermead Lake to the sound of the RAF March Past, watched by a huge crowd. The original painting, titled Watermead Remembers, will be auctioned on 12th December at the Ski and Sail.

Watermead Remembers will be auctioned in the presence of the artist by Graham Severn (who has waived his fee) at his December auction at Ski and Sail, starting at 7 pm, with a reserve of £500.

Lakeside Land have ordered 500 signed prints, priced at just £29.50, which will be available for sale on the night. Prints can be reserved in advance.

A full framing service at a reduced price will be available.

Denis Pannett G.Av.A is a renowned aviation artist, chosen for the vibrancy and colour of his painting and his knowledge of the subject. He has exhibited widely.

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Chairman's Brief

Hello again everybody. Welcome back to the View and many thanks to the new editor, Stuart Mackay and those nice people at Aitch Em who have worked so hard to get this issue out. We badly need

volunteers for the next, Christmas issue, especially those with graphics/computing skills. Please don't feel shy about coming forward - it would be a shame to see publication suspended again.

As you may know the last issue of the View was held up and the AGM notices with it. The AGM was a non-event and we have had to rebuild since then, with an enthusiastic new committee.

Grateful thanks to the many residents who came up to thank the committee on and after VE Day. Denis Pannett's wonderful painting has now been completed and Graham Severn will be auctioning it on 12th December at Ski and Sail - even if you don't intend to bid it promises to be an exciting event and signed prints will be on sale, at £29.50. It was always intended that Lakeside Land would trade to raise the funds for maintenance and the company has made a big commitment with the prints, its first trading venture. It deserves your support. The money raised will go equally to maintain the land and to Bomber Command Association. Each of the 500 numbered prints, on fine quality art paper, will be signed by the artist and the plates will then be destroyed.

Lakeside's first AGM will be on the 13th December, the day after the auction. It would be nice to see all the shareholders there - the Board have worked extremely hard over the past year, putting in hundreds of hours on your behalf without thought of reward. (Board meetings have sometimes not broken up until early in the morning). The failure of the final share issue was of course a blow but Lakeside has pulled through. The company's achievement in taking on an opponent with fifty times its resources has been immense.

The grass maintenance contract has now been awarded (thanks to Watermead Companies, who have been generous in the handover period) and a £3,000+ investment programme for the village hall approved.

Thanks to Sue Snell for her excellent management of the hall for both WVRA and Lakeside and all the best with the new baby! Dorothy Toler (432405) has ably taken over the reigns.

Some of you may have seen the story in the Bucks Herald concerning the cricket pavilion. WVRA have now taken up this issue with the Chief Executive of AVDC. Personally I think the way the cricket club have been kept out of a cricket pavilion which was originally intended to be a community asset is scandalous. The battle with the commercial operator of the pavilion (who took it over subject to an express planning condition permitting use by cricketers at weekends) will continue.

One downside to suspending publication until a new editor came forward was that we could not keep you up to date with significant planning developments. The Planning Group, of planning professionals living on the estate, has started to swing into action and they have provided a valuable input. We are supporting the garden centre (opposite the Holiday Inn) and the ground floor restaurant at Ski and Sail, in each case subject to suitable safeguards against misuse as a nightclub and provision for the extra traffic. We have repeated our long-held concern about the capacity and safety of the spine road and made it clear that we would strongly oppose any second entrance onto the estate. My own view is that the spine road needs parking restrictions between both roundabouts and highly visible 30 mph speed signs. Traffic calming measures are another option but have met with the opposition of county highway engineers.

All these issues have of course been discussed in committee and the minutes are posted each month in the notice board (in the wind tunnel leading to the piazza), so that you can know what's going on. See you on Bonfire Night, at the auction, the AGM and the carol concert!

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T H E V I L L A G E H A L L

Do you know whats happening at the Village Hall at Watermead?

Well at present there are the following activities taking place and they are all open to people living both on and off the village.

M O T H E R S A N D T O D D L E R S

The Mothers and Toddlers meet every Wednesday between 2.00pm and 4.00pm and again on Fridays between 10.00am and 12.00pm. The person to contact is Sue Jauncey either at the Hall or why not give her a call on 435282.

L I T T L E P E R I S H E R S P L A Y G R O U P

The Little Perishers Playgroup meet three times a week at the Hall on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between the hours of 9.30am and 11.45am. If you want to know more either pop down or call Tracey Strong on 437283 or Linda on 25003.

URGENT. Little Perishers are looking for an assistant to help with above sessions from 9.15am to Noon. For full details and rates of pay contact Tracey.

S T I L L W A T E R S C H R I S T I A N C H U R C H

Stillwaters Christian Church have two meetings at the Hall each week, one on Sunday between 9.30am and 11.30am and again on Tuesday between 7.30pm and 9.30pm. The person to contact is Ian Walker who is on 661401.

W O M E N ' S I N S T I T U T E

The Watermead Women's Institute meet once a month at the Hall on the first Thursday of each month. Suzanne Staines will be more than happy to hear from any new members. Please give her a call on 87954 and also read her review of goings on at the W.I. in this newsletter.

F U T U R E A T T R A C T I O N S . .

Well this is up to YOU. The Hall is available to everyone at Watermead and a **discount of 25%** is on offer to all residents. What's more if you hold regular meetings of 12 or more advance bookings, this will increase to 30% from January 1st 1996.

So come and support your village Hall. It can be used for all types of events so if you have a Wedding, Birthday, or Christening why not get in touch. The Watermead Inn can also provide catering if you want, just speak to the new Landlord, David Cunningham, who will be happy to put together a menu for you.

How about arranging a Concert or Craft Show? What about setting up a Bridge Club or a Keep Fit Class?

Is anyone interested in starting a Beavers or Cubs group or how about setting up Watermeads very own Brownies group?

Dorothy Toler is dying to hear from you so why not give her a call on 432405. She will give you all the help she can, to make the Village Hall what it should be, a community centre for all the Village.

C O M I N G S O O N

Improvements are being made to the Hall to make it even smarter and soon to be installed will be Central Heating plus a fridge, payphone, vending machine, more storage facilities, tables and chairs plus a new lick of paint. Needless to say if anyone has a few hours to spare to help improve the Hall, you will be welcomed with open arms.

Due to the installation of the Central Heating please note that the Hall will be closed between November 13th - 17th.

So phone Dorothy on 432405 with all your ideas, she is sitting by the phone waiting to hear from you !!

V I L L A G E H A L L R A T E S

TIME PERIOD	WEEKDAY
Hourly £7.00	Monday to Friday
Hourly £11.50	Saturday to Sunday
Evenings 18.00 - 24.00 £35.00	Sunday to Thursday
Evenings 18.00 - 24.00 £52.50	Friday to Saturday

F O R T H C O M I N G E V E N T S

November 5th

Watermead's very own Fireworks Night.

A one hour display will be provided thanks to the Watermead Inn.

View from the Piazza.
Starts at 7.30 pm.

December 12th

The **auction** of the original painting of VE Day Flypast will take place at the Ski Lodge at 7.00pm, with our own Graham Severn conducting the event.

December 13th

All shareholders in **Lakeside Land** are invited to the inaugural **AGM** at the Village Hall. Light refreshments will be served. Starts at 8.00pm.

December 16th

The Watermead Carol Concert

will take place in the Piazza. The Chinnor Silver Band will provide the music, you to provide the sound. Minced pies and mulled wine will be provided to keep out the cold and we are told that Santa Claus will also try and make it.

The fun starts at 6.30 pm and will go on for about an hour, or until everyone loses their voice!!

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LADIES !

The Watermead & Weedon Women's Institute

meets on the first Thursday of each month
at 7.30 in the Village Hall (Watermead Piazza).

We have an interesting and varied programme
of guest speakers and social events, and this year
the topics have included tap dancing,
patchwork and quilting, and graphology.

We have also held a quiz night, a wine
and cheese evening, and in July we had
our traditional garden party and barbecue.
In March we organised a most successful day trip
to France, to which guests (including men!)
were invited, and in December we will be
holding our annual Christmas dinner.

Our membership covers a wide age range,
and new members are always welcome.
For further details please contact Suzanne Staines
on 87954, or just come along to our next meeting
on 2 November, when we will be holding
our Annual General Meeting.

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PAVILION CRISIS !

B Y M I C H A E L S H R I M P T O N

The pavilion issue continues to dominate cricket life on Watermead. AVDC planning committee rubber-stamped an officers report advising against enforcement procedures against Nurserytyme, who bought the pavilion (we believe at a discount) subject to a planning condition permitting use by cricketers at weekends. WVCC have never obtained access to the pavilion, whether at the weekend or any other time. An undertaking by the chief planning officer to disclose the report in advance to WVRA Chairman and WVCC trustee Michael Shrimpton was not honoured. Michael Shrimpton has advised the Club Chairman of his view that the planning committee's decision was illegal, null and void and that the

officer's report contained legal flaws. A meeting between Michael Shrimpton, the Club Chairman Jean-Paul Arama, the chief planning officer and an AVDC solicitor failed to produce a solution to the crisis.

Not only has the pavilion operator denied access to the Watermead's own cricket club, he has objected to the use of the pavilion water supply to water the pitch, with the result that the pitch development has been held back. For a second season in a row the First XI has had to play its matches away from Watermead (at Whitchurch) - a great shame since the First XI was promoted to the First Division of the Midweek League for the 95 season.

The Cricket Club Committee continues to investigate the possibility of a second pavilion. The land is available and AVDC could hardly refuse planning permission given its mishandling of the issue to date. Even a single story pavilion however will cost around £75,000 and the money isn't there.

There will be a full cricket report in the next issue of Village View. I am sure the club would welcome new blood for '96. I expect winter nets will start in Jan/Feb. I wouldn't worry about your playing skills, as the 2nd XI plays at a friendly level and you can develop your skills at the nets. No doubt there is room in the 1st XI for good players.

RIVER AUCTIONS

Monthly Sales of Antique and General Goods

at the Ski Lodge, Watermead

and at Hughenden Valley Village Hall, nr. High Wycombe

Next Sale Dates:

Tuesday 7th November, 12th December at Watermead

Viewing from 2pm – Sale starts 7pm

Sunday 19th November at Hughenden Valley

Viewing from 11am – Sale starts 2pm

Entries Invited

Please call 01296 437262 for further information

The Church of St. James the Great, Bierton

On Monday, 2nd October,
the new Vicar of Bierton was licensed
and installed by the Bishop of Buckingham.
We welcomed the Reverend Peter Faulkner
and his wife Anne with a typical parish
bun fight after the service.

The weekly pattern of Services has
not changed. There are celebrations
of the Holy Communion (said) on the
1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 8 am,
Sung Eucharists every Sunday at 9 am,
Evensong every Sunday at 6 pm
(unless there are five Sundays in the month).

On a fifth Sunday (like 29th October)
Evensong is held at All Saints Church,
Hulcott, and there is no service
at St. James the Great.

There is a Family Service at 11am
every 3rd Sunday of the month.

Please telephone the Vicar on 23920
for information about Baptisms, Weddings,
Sunday School or if you know someone
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