

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

Date - Saturday 21st December 1996 Time 6pm Start Prompt Venue - Watermead Village Piazza

Come and join the festivities at Watermead
Live Band
And a special visit by Father Christmas, Making time in his
busy schedule to join us.
Please contact Suzanne for any further
information (01296) 87954

All Welcome

Watermead Firework Spectacular Has Rave Review In Local Paper

Watermead's Charity Fireworks Night got off to a splendid start, with the arrival of the Vice-Lieutenant John Paterson OBE KSt.J JP in Michael Underwood's magnificent 1939 Rolls-Royce Wraith, preceded by a police motorcycle outrider.

VILLAGE VIEW ON THE INTERNET



Web Address to be Advised

Editorial Mailbox jbray@mscompctr.europe.dg.com The fireworks were the best ever on Watermead, with a spectacular second display that beat everybody else's onto the *Herald's* colour page.

The Band of the Royal Air Force Regiment added a dash of colour and turned in a highly professional and musical performance, putting Watermead's Bandstand to the purpose it was designed for. Around £500 was raised for Service Charities who were there in force, including our friends from Bomber Command Association.

WINTER

Problems Encountered See Chairman's Brief

> Volume 3 Issue 4



CHAIRMAN'S BRIEF

Photograph by kind permission of the BBC

First and foremost a thank you to those few who helped out on Fireworks Night. I would particularly like to mention James Campion who is no longer even a resident of Watermead yet made his van available for two out- of-town journeys to collect and return the vital traffic cones. We will now set up a stewards register, so that we will know in advance if we need more paid security officers.

The event was soured however by several controversial decisions by Aylesbury Police and atrocious weather - the promised clearing did not take place until the start of the second display, by which time many of the estimated 3-4,000 crowd had left. A desperate shortage of volunteers for stewarding and programme selling also caused huge problems for the organising company Lakeside Land and contributed to heavy financial losses. The car parks were late in opening and over 2,000 programmes

went unsold. Some people actually appear to have left thinking the small first display was all there was to see, although had they bought a programme they would have seen that the first display was just to provide an interval for the Band (a continuous performance outdoors isn't sensible in November weather).

Aylesbury Police interfered with an agreement with Aylesbury Football Club whereby they would charge for the use of their car park by those coming to the fireworks. They were late in attending, charged Lakeside Land for the use of our community constable and failed to do enough to direct traffic into the car-parks. The officers who did attend made little effort to co-ordinate with Lakeside Land and walked off without telling the co-ordinator Michael Shrimpton. There was then an affray in the Piazza involving as many as 20 drunken male youths, following a 'glassing' incident. Chief Steward Gary Poole was assaulted and criminal charges are pending against his assailant - but for Gary's efforts and the efforts of the small team of stewards and professional security officers the incident might have been much worse. The public

(Continued on page 4)

WM NEWSAGENTS



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CHRISTMASTIDE AT ST. JAMES THE GREAT, BIERTON

Anne King - 26743

The final verse of the carol "It came upon the midnight clear" starts "For lo, the days are hastening on.." and as I get older, they seem to hasten even more each year. So here is Christmas again, with all the familiar activities. Carol Services and Concerts everywhere, (including our own on the 21st), the town centre dressed overall, cold but very pretty in the late afternoon as the Christmas lights take over from the weak winter sunlight, the Cloisters warm and welcoming, with live music as well as the 'canned' variety. Only the very Scroogelike would fail to find something beyond the rush for presents in the friendly atmosphere of the town, just a little Christmas magic, perhaps?

As you would expect, many of the Christmas services at St James the Great will follow the traditional pattern. However, for the

first time we are having a Christingle Service this year, and I hope that you are reading this in time to decide to come to this very special children's service, that adults always enjoy so much.

However you spend this Christmas, I pray that you will find peace and happiness amongst those you love; if you decide to venture to our church (your church, too!) you will find a warm welcome. Whether we see you or not, we shall pray for all residents of Watermead, those of any faith or none. That is because we believe that the love of Jesus extends to all who will accept it, and the whole Christmas story is about that love coming to earth to us and for us. We also send greetings in the Lord to all members of the Still Waters Church at Lakeside.

If you are of a faith that does not know or recognise the name Jesus, we extend seasonal greetings to you in the name of Almighty God, or in whatever name you recognise the all-powerful Being who guides your life.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 2)

disorder had largely been brought under control by the time the police (not those who had policed the event earlier) arrived.

Concerns by the Lakeside Board over discipline and efficiency n Aylesbury Police are to be drawn to the attention of Superintendent Friday, senior officer at Aylesbury. The event has soured police/community relations yet again, which had barely recovered from the events of April.

The unhelpful attitude of Aylesbury Police was in stark contrast to the high degree of professionalism and willingness to work with the community shown by Thames Valley Protection Officers based at the Force HQ in Kidlington (who arranged for police divers to search the lake near the Bandstand), Thames Valley Traffic Officers (who arranged the police escort) and the Royal Air Force Police, who outnumbered Aylesbury Police. Magnificent co-operation was again extended by the St.John

Ambulance, who unlike the police stayed on the scene and so were able to attend to those injured in the affray.

The heavy financial loss has caused the Lakeside Board to abandon large events until further notice. A possible summer charity event to raise money for animal charities will not now go ahead and the Board has imposed strict sponsorship conditions for the 1997 Fireworks Night, which if it goes ahead will be on Saturday 1st November 1997.

Please support the Carol Concert on Saturday 21st at 6 pm and be there in good time - it's too cold to delay the start as last year while people arrive, particularly for families. Support for events has always been a problem and a poor turnout is immensely discouraging. If you have an idea for an event please put it to me or the Watermead Community Forum but for large events you will need to suggest ways of raising £2,000 +

(Continued on page 5)

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for policing (which we pay for - it isn't cheap) and security. Aylesbury Police also make life difficult for event organisers (I don't think Lakeside Land is unique in that). Voluntary stewarding has now failed three times in succession (VE Day, Fireworks 95 & 96). This means having to budget for professional security, which in reality means large events will now be few and far between. I regret this, particularly as small events (aimed at Watermead only) usually fail for lack of support - I am only too well aware of the vicious cycle which sees people get interested in running events, only to see them fail, following which they understandably give up.

I am pleased at the two new Board appointments - Michael Long and Richard Crake, both experienced businessmen. There seem to be very few experienced business or professional women willing to get involved and with Annabel Edward's resignation due to changed business commitments following the Forte take-over we now have no women

on the Board. One area where we are week is public relations - publicity for the

Fireworks was almost non-existent and we found both Mix 96 and the *Herald* titles giving priority to their own sponsored events, hardly the way to attract advertising revenue from Watermead's businesses. The problem, aggravated by the failure of the posters (which Scottish and Newcastle had agreed to organise) was identified weeks in advance but we had no spare Board

manpower to correct it - we were fully stretched just organising the event. No-one has yet come forward to act as database manager - we desperately need someone with Mac skills (your Chairman is a PC type, as are all the Board but our fairly.

as are all the Board but our fairly sophisticated database is Mac - we're relying

on printouts and we can't update it, which is hopeless). LCAM also needs a Minute Secretary - LCAM has had a troubled

beginning and without a Minute Secretary its Board can't function as it should. I shall be devoting more time to LCAM over the

(Continued on page 6)

next year, assuming we don't have more crises.

We have had virtually no response to the planning application on the 8 acres - no shareholder has put in on the agenda for the Lakeside AGM for example. I assume therefore that we are on the right lines and I am continuing to negotiate the best possible deal for Watermead. One comment made was that a children's playground should be given priority over sporting facilities but the two can be planned together and the Board has now set up a Playground Working Group to identify sites, consult with residents and planners and produce workable solutions. The problem with a playground has always been running costs (principally liability insurance) rather than capital but we may be able to get around that in partnership with the local authority. I should stress that the new pavilion is seen as an all year round sporting facility - I would like to see youth football in the winter and the proposed top

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balcony, will provide much needed meeting

storey, aside from providing a viewing

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rooms, freeing the Village Hall for bookings which need the space.

Mention of youth brings me to the vandalism problem we have on Watermead. I am sorry to say that I have received reliable reports that a number of Watermead youths were involved in an arson attack on one of our neighbouring farms. If you see people where they shouldn't be, or causing criminal damage, please let the police and the Board know. The Board have a duty to protect Lakeside Land's assets and we will act firmly where necessary, as we did over the unlawful use of a jet-ski on the Lower Lake earlier this year (I am sorry to report that the Crown Prosecution Service have dropped affray charges, in an incident where a weapon was used, for reasons which they have not had the courtesy to explain to me). I am grateful to the resident who reported an attempted break-in to the Village Hall and stopped it.

Lakeside Land maintains good relations with most landlords on Watermead and will report tenants who have broken the law. In cases such as assault and bullying of younger children by youths, theft of bicycles and motor vehicle interference, all of which have been reported to me, there may well be a breach of the tenancy agreement or of the estate covenants which bind every on Watermead. I will not condone such unlawful behaviour and will support any landlord who acts responsibly and within the law to put out tenants who make life miserable for their neighbours and have only a casual regard for their legal obligations.

I am please to report progress in getting our legal agreements with Captain's Cabin in place. This opens the way to much fuller co-operation between them and the community. Chris Floyd has done a good job over there and I urge you all to support him. You will certainly see me hiring his rowing boats come the summer! I recommend the annual hire of £50, which I consider to be good value for money. We have given firm support to WM Newsagents in their application for a sub Post Office, which we badly need. Please

(Continued on page 7)



Publication Dates 1996

Easter

End March 1997

Advertisement Rates

Residents

1/4 Page £15

1/2 Page £30

Full Page £60

Non Residents/ Commercial 1/4 Page £30

1/2 Page £60

Full Page £120

If you have any ideas concerning articles, please contact the editorial board as we have a sever shortage of authors!!

Please arrange advertisement at least 3 weeks prior to publication date.

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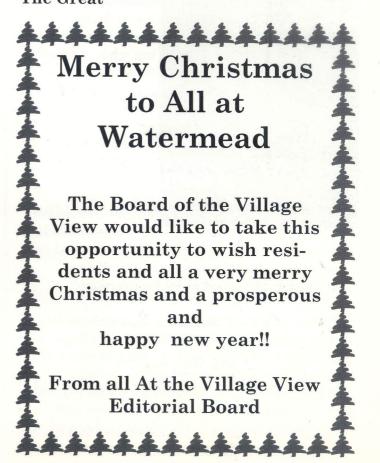
in return.

remember your local shop if you need to do a bit of shopping - Tesco's is only cheaper for the big weekly or fortnightly shop. Quite apart from the cost of petrol at £3 a gallon (and cars drink petrol on short runs, particularly if the engines are cold) there is the damage to the environment, particularly from modern cars with catalytic converters, which are all but inoperative on short journeys. I don't have enough hair to provide Avanti with lots of business but I am sure there are lots of you who o - why go elsewhere? If you need some fencing or contracting work done why not give James Campion a call on 614785? I have sought since becoming Chairman to improve the relations between businesses on Watermead and the community. Where business ventures threatened the community, such as the night-club, we have opposed them, but on the other side of the coin businesses which support the community deserve our support

Christmas dates (special services only) For details of regular services ring 23920 or 26743

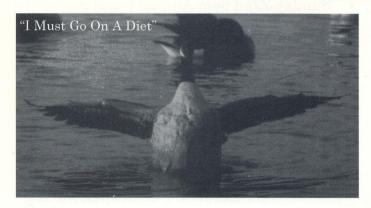
- Sunday 15th 11am Family Service Nativity Play and Christingle.
- Sunday 22nd 6pm Annual Carol Service
- Tuesday 24th 11.30pm Midnight Service of Holy Communion
- Wednesday 25th CHRISTMAS DAY 8am Holy Communion - Book of Common Prayer
- 9am Sung CHRIST-MASS Holy Communion
- 12 noon on Christmas Day Carols round the Crib. This is a short service, specially for younger children. Surprisingly, it is a very popular event, despite the time! Children are invited to bring ONE of their presents to show to us! - Holy Communion (said)
- Sunday 29th December 11am At All Saints Church Hulcott - Sung Matins
- Thursday 26th 9:30am St. Stephens Day
- Sunday 29th December 11am at All Saints Church Hulcott - Sung Matins 6pm Carols & readings at All Saints Church Hulcott.

NOTE No 6pm Service at St. James The Great





Wildlife Watch



ello again Folks, Christmas fast approaching and the end of another year, we have already been in the grip of harsh weather, the lake freezing over, causing hardship to the wildlife, have a few casualties -'lame ducks' and Monty, the poor old Moorhen who has only one leg, in all fairness it doesn't appear to hinder him too much, he hops about quite well, but ob-



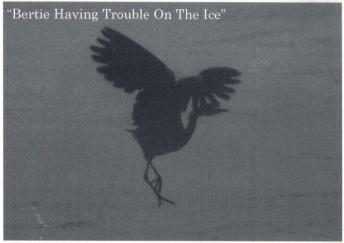
viously in the water its heavy going, we have a coot who lost his foot over a year ago and he is a real little trouper, its amazing what strength these birds have. and as long as they get a bit of TLC it seems to help - It's amazing how things have changed, people are becoming much more aware of the needs and

habits of the resident birds, and Watermead residents are fiercely protective of 'Our Swans', 'Our Ducks', etc., good news for everyone!

Surprise, Surprise, just as I completed the last article, commenting on the lack of ducklings, a duck went swimming past me with twelve tiny little bundles of brown and yellow down, I couldn't believe it, unfortunately it was too cold for them and with predators to contend with they didn't stand much of a chance, I hope at

least some of them made it.

The Bewick's Swans have been arriving at Slimbridge for the Winter, to think they fly all the way from Russia, apparently they navigate by the Moon and stars, I can't find my way around Watermead with a map, so find it quite amazing. We have had our fair share of migrating Canada Geese, also a Bar Headed Goose and a



Snow Goose.

I don't suppose I can write without mentioning him -Henry that is -yes, he is still seeing everything off, but at the moment, there are about 30 swans and many more geese, so he has his work cut out!

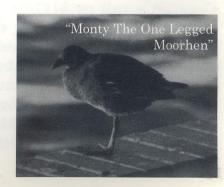
Well before I go, just a quick reminder, please do not feed the birds dry bread, which leads me into thanking St. Tiggywinkles and the R.S.P.C.A., for all their help.

My Calendar -Watermead Lakes -is on sale, price 3.99, and I thank you for your interest and encouragement.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas, and a very

happy, peaceful New Year, and that includes our Feathered Friends.

Linda Jones. Tel: [01296 433760]



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6th December 1996 to 18th December 1996 **Under New Management**

Opening Hours

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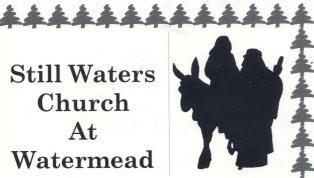
12 Noon - 10pm

12 noon - 10:30pm

10am - 10:30pm

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Still Waters Church At Watermead



Invites you to join the congregation at

The Watermead Village Hall for a Carol Service

Sunday 22nd, December at 10am

Service followed by refreshments including mince pies



Editorial Board Volunteers Required

Could you help with the production of the Village View, The only publication specifically for Watermead Residents

We require assistance in all areas of production and distribution

Please contact

Jason Bray, Editor -01296 25094

0802 241247

01296 397963 **Michael Shrimpton -**

Still Waters Church at Watermead

(The Church On The Lake)

Every Sunday at 10am

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For further information contact: Ian & Christine Walker 01296 661401









Watermead Neighbourhood Watch

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UPDATE

The following crimes were reported to the police during the last 3 months August to October 1996

Burglary 5
Theft 6
Criminal damage 4
Theft from motor vehicle 5
Theft of motor vehicle 1
Theft of pedal cycle 1
Assault 1
Total crimes 28

There has been great concern expressed by the police regarding the theft and burglary offences. People are not safeguarding their property by closing either the car or house doors and <u>ensuring that they have been securely locked</u>.

Remember as the Christmas season is now upon us give a thought to the thief and do not let him do his Christmas shopping in your home.

Extremely important now is the time to be aware of bogus callers. There have already been several incidents of bogus Waterboard and Council officials in the Aylesbury area and this is the time of the year when they are at their busiest.

Do not let anyone into your home without production of a valid identity card carrying the officials photograph. If in doubt ring~ the appropriate authority to confirm the validity.

One last point give a little thought to your elderly neighbours over the winter months and ensure that everything is OK.

Have a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

- 1. When leaving your home lock all external doors and windows.
- 2. When retiring at night secure all external doors and windows, making sure there is a quick and easy route out of the building in case of emergency.
- 3. Where possible fit and use a door chain and viewer to check and verify the identification of all callers at the door.
- **4.** Dark unlit houses are an invitation to burglars, illuminate them, by using timer switches inside and security lighting outside.
- **5.** Don't help the burglar----Tools, Ladders, and Garden furniture should be locked away or secured in such a manner so they cannot be used by the thief to gain entry to your home.
- **6.** Deter the burglar by marking your property with your postcode and house number. The best method is by engraving or etching, if this is not possible use an ultra violet (invisible) marking pen.
- **7.** A picture is worth a thousand words, photograph items that may be devalued or are impossible to mark i.e. jewellery. Include items that have a sentimental or high value. Police can now transfer pictures into a computer system which covers the whole of London . Officers can check property they recover, against the pictures held in the computer
- 8. As the festive season is upon us there is often more cash kept in the house to meet those additional bills. Don't keep more cash in the house than is really needed, use cheques, cheque cards or credit type cards whenever possible to make those purchases.
- **9.** Don't let burglars do their Christmas shopping from your house or vehicle, keep presents hidden away from view.
- **10.** If you have an alarm fitted to your property, remember hanging decorations can be the cause of false alarms. Always check where decorations are placed.
- 11. If you are going away for Christmas ask a friend or neighbour to check your property regularly. Ask them to clear the mail, check doors, windows timers, and open and close the curtains. If you are a member of a Neighbourhood Watch always inform your neighbour, co-ordinator and advise the local police station of who will be calling at the house when you are away.
- 12. Always report any incident or suspicion to the Police. If it is an emergency use '999'



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Christmas



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Proposed Readers Letter Page

A proposal from the editorial board for the next issue of the *Village*View is the inclusion of a

READERS PAGE.

It will be an opportunity for YOU! the residents to air your opinion any any subject regarding Watermead and it's community.

It is also an opportunity for you to present question to the different boards of the Lakeside companies in a open manner, which will be answered by the appropriate representative.

This is your opportunity to voice your opinions and raise any issues regarding Watermead as a whole.

Forthcoming Events At Watermead

- ♦ Little Perishers Playgroup Mon,Tues,Weds,Thurs 9.30am-11.45am Contact - Daphne (10296) 393131
 - ♦ Mothers & Toddlers

 Weds
 2.00pm 4.00pm

 Fri
 10.00am 12.pm

 Contact Sue (01296) 435282
- ♦ Stillwaters Christian Church Sunday 10.00am - 12.00pm Contact - Ian (01296) 661401
 - ♦ Aylesbury Town Band Weds 7.30pm - 9.30pm Contact - Paul (01296) 81909
 - ♦ Women's Institute
 1st Thurs of the month
 700.pm 9.00pm
 Contact Suzanne (01296) 87954

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It's To New Members and
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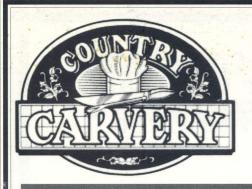


Lakeside Central Area Management

Can you **Help**. LCAM urgently require a database manager (MAC Experience if possible) to maintain and run the shareholders database.

Also Required - Minute secretary for LCAM. To produce and maintain board meeting minutes and other documentation

Please contact Michael Shrimpton on (01296) 397963



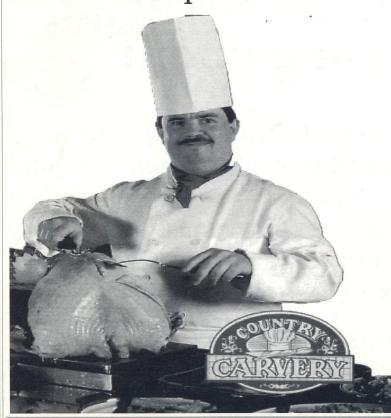
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