



The Spring Work In

We had another great day at the 'Work In'. We had little or no rain and lots of wonderful enthusiasm. About 30 helpers turned out ready and willing to work and by heavens they did work, really hard. We had all ages ranging from 7 to over 70 amongst the party. Once again we tried to get all the names of the helpers and I would like you to know who they were:

Shirley and Keith Johnson, Glyn and Sioban Raven, Brian Floodgate, Jenny and Ian Thompson with Ben, Sophie and Natalie, Mary Singleton, Matyn and Gwyneira Waters, Phil and Dot Toler, Silvia Ambrose, Jeff and Jean Scarf, Greg O'Callaghan plus his Chipper, Jason Bray, Sue and Kim Muir, Susanne and Len

Staines, Leo Markham, Sally Mattys and Roy and Sally Hutchings.

I know I have missed out a number of friends who came and worked but, I have to confess, I forgot to bring the clip-board for people to sign in. A very small pad of paper was used and so some of the signatures aren't very legible and others didn't get to see the pad at all. However, to all who helped and on your behalf, may I say a very sincere **thank you**.

We had a litter team who really made such a difference. They discovered a pile of about 200 old Bucks Advertisers of June 1998 that had been dumped in the undergrowth all that long ago. We are able to discover who was paid to deliver

them; so beware your sins may find you out in the end. There was also a broken up piece of flat-pack furniture. That too was dumped in the undergrowth. The large chunk of car chassis that has been thrown over the bridge into the little lake presents us with a more serious problem as to how to clear it, but clear it we will.

The working group was split up into three, one doing the east side of the spine road, one doing the path area between the Pub and the ski-slope and another doing the back of the big lake. Everywhere the results of their efforts are quite dramatic. As you will have noticed the paths are much closer to their original design size.

(...continued page 6)

It is with deep regret that the Board of Lakeside Land Ltd announces the death of a Company Director - Michael Long on Sunday 9th July 2000.

OBITUARY PAGE 2

In this issue:

Vandalism on Watermead

The story of Avanti

St Mary the Virgin Church

Spine Road Survey Results

PLUS OUR REGULAR FEATURES:

Chairman's View

Wildlife Watch

Community Forum

If you have any interesting stories /articles for inclusion in the next edition please contact a member of the editorial board.

Details inside.

Obituary for Mike Long

17.5.38 - 9.7.00

When I was asked to write an obituary for my own husband I was daunted but flattered at the same time. How could I possibly put into words what he meant to so many people, both here on Watermead, throughout the country and most of all his family. I hope I do him justice.

I first met Mike at his office in Chorleywood way back in 1968 when I was on my way home from Geneva where I had been working. I knew of 'Mr Long' through my parents who used his garage, so I thought he would probably be OK to use to service my Mini. I drove the extra few miles to the garage to get my car booked in. Little did I know it would lead to - marriage, two loyal and wonderful children and a vast bill for servicing the car! Mr Long changed swiftly to Mike and so began a true and happy friendship which lasted 29 years.

Mike was a very special person, though I am sure those of you who knew him well do not need to be told that. There was hardly anything he would not do for anybody who asked (or get me to do for him such as tuning in televisions or videos!). This he maintained throughout his life. He was born into the motor

trade, his family owning the Aylesbury Motor Company with sites throughout the town, one where the 'Blue Leany' is, one opposite the Royal Bucks Hospital and one in Kingsbury Square. The family are well known throughout Bucks and dealt with Dukes to Refuse Disposal Officers with the same courtesy. His father must have been a Saint as one Christmas his son had unbeknown to him, used his entire stock of recovery vehicles, including a tractor to extricate his car from a field.

We moved to Watermead in 1996, firstly to Whinchat then to Guillemot. It soon became apparent to Mike when he was offered a position as Director on the Board of Lakeside Land, that there was so much he would like to do for the Watermead Community. His dry sense of humour was legendary and he was never worried about speaking his mind at Board Meetings, certainly giving them food-for-thought on more than one occasion. Sadly one of his ambitions was never realised. After having been active in the acquisition of the mower, he didn't actually do any of the mowing. However he used to keep a watchful eye from our

balcony and knew who was duty mower by their style and speed.

His unfailing request at the Board Meetings was that the bridge to the bandstand on the small fishing lake which we overlook, would be removed. He had worked hard and long to have the bandstand refurbished with new balustrades, spot lighting, etc, only to see it vandalised before his eyes. Even the week before he died he had been disturbed by three 'little treasures' kicking the woodwork to pieces. It would be a fitting tribute to him if this one last request could be granted.

Mike was a wonderful father to our children, William and Lucy. He would think nothing of getting up at the crack of dawn to trail boats or horses from one end of England to the other, not often chiding them, more often saying 'Wait 'til your mother gets home!' He had a natural empathy with our friends' children, who loved him dearly. He could get them to do things where their parents had failed miserably. He was very strict on etiquette and manners, and from an early age instilled these qualities into our children, even to the degree of our son (aged 3) offering our vicar a gin and tonic when he came to

arrange Lucy's christening - like father like son.

His last memories of Watermead would have been of us both sitting just inside the French windows of our flat, with the sun streaming in, peacefully enjoying the beauty of the lake, with the wildlife busy beneath us. What better place could have been chosen.

He was a natural friend to one and all, and from the many letters and cards of condolence we have received since his death, we are overwhelmed by the feelings people from all fields of his life have had for him. This has helped us enormously - thank you.

When a partner dies, one is not always able to say goodbye or put right the wrongs. Mike and I were allowed this privilege, and our last two months together were so happy, within the limits of his illness. We were able to talk freely and openly with each other and grow very close again. There will be a huge gap in our lives, but we will live on knowing we had the honour to love and be loved by one of the world's true gentlemen.

Sally Long

Chairman's View

by Michael Shrimpton - Chairman of Lakeside Land Ltd

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL LONG

I was deeply saddened to hear of Michael Long's death on Sunday 9th July. He fought courageously against cancer over a long time and I think the community should be aware that even during his illness he continued to serve as a Director. His dedication to the local community was an inspiration to us all and I shall miss him greatly. He was a courageous man and I will always remember the way in which he battled a debilitating illness. I particularly recall the way he made light of it telling me that he had come down with a 'touch

of cancer'. The Board has unanimously invited his wife, Sally, to serve as a director in Michael's place. May he rest in peace.

GORDON BONNICK RETIRES

It was a pleasure to be able to honour another great servant of our Watermead community, Gordon Bonnick, who at the age of 73 has elected to take 'late' retirement as a Director. The Board gave Gordon a dinner on Friday, 30th June. It was a great occasion and I hope a fitting tribute for five years of dedicated service.

ACTION DAY

I am sorry that I could not be with those who pitched in for the re-arranged action day, on 24th June. The first chosen date was rained off and I was already committed to a function on the 24th at the RAF Museum with our good friends from Bomber Command Association, many of whom of course joined us for the VE Day celebrations in 1995. I am sure the sight of the Lancaster roaring in low over the lake that afternoon stirred many



Michael Shrimpton appearing on BBC Newsnight
(By kind permission of the BBC)

memories. The current Association chairman, Squadron Leader Tony Iveson DFC AE, who bombed the battleship Tirpitz in 1944, served with 617 'Dambusters' Squadron, the Lancaster's most famous raid (not Wellingtons, as recently asserted in the Daily Telegraph!).

(...continued page 5)



QUALITY PINE FURNITURE

- *New Pine
- * Old Pine
- * Giftware
- * Picture Framing
- * Bargain Priced Pictures

Quality - Our new and reclaimed handwaxed ranges are solid pine throughout...beautiful furniture that's made to last.

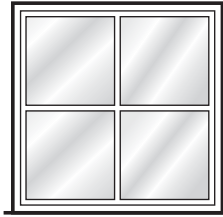
Service - *Free Delivery* to Watermead.
"Made to measure" option.

183 Cambridge Street, Aylesbury (Near Weavers Pub)
Open 7 Days - Including Bank Holidays

Tel: 01296 399183



SAMSON WINDOWS



Style, Quality & Value



As a local company with over 20 years experience, we pride ourselves on supplying products with genuine and honest service - our outstanding local reputation speaks for itself.

Throughout the region we are supplying a range of products and services to the highest quality - with satisfaction always guaranteed: windows, doors, & conservatories - PVC-U, aluminium or timber.

We specialise in 'traditional style sliding sash windows' and 'neo-Georgian' types, including 'arched head frames' and 'horned sashes', as found in the Watermead houses. We can refer you to residents who are more than pleased!

With no pressure and no gimmicks - we promise you a 'first class' service that will satisfy your needs entirely.



FREEPHONE 0800 146 165

www.samsonwindows.co.uk

Aylesbury High Wycombe Watford Slough Maidenhead Windsor Woking Reading

WM NEWSAGENTS



Opening Hours:
6.30 am - 8.30 pm
Weekends open till 9.00 pm

Instant's

MOBILE PHONE VOUCHERS NOW AVAILABLE

EARLY MORNING PAPER DELIVERIES / GREETING CARDS

VIDEO LIBRARY

Top 50 titles including:
American Beauty, Sleepy Hollow, Stigmata,
End of Days, Deep Blue Sea,
The Sixth Sense, Fight Club
... and many more!

Watermead Village Piazza Tel: 338435

*Ice Cream and
ice-cold Drinks
Confectionery,
soft drinks, groceries, dairy
products and frozen food*

✂
**RENT ONE VIDEO &
GET SECOND
1/2 PRICE**
WITH THIS VOUCHER
Monday-Thursday
only

(...continued from page 3)

NORTHERN LINK ROAD

I represented the community before the Planning Inspector on Thursday 29th June. AVDC admitted under cross-examination that even reserving the alignment of the Northern Link Road (which would form part of a by-pass, linking the A413 and the A418) was a "borderline" proposition, for which no funding was likely. It has taken some time, but both AVDC and Bucks County Council now accept Lakeside Land Ltd's long-held position that it would be unlawful to require developers to fund the Northern Link Road, the proposed alignment of which runs to within 200 yards north of Watermead.

The County Council and the Highways Agency continue to pretend that this road would not form part of a by-pass, although they admitted on 29th June that it would allow traffic to by-pass the town centre on the A41, that it would be engineered for 44-tonne juggernauts and could be trunked and signed as the A41 over the objections of AVDC. It is both ludicrous and dishonest to pretend that the Northern Link Road is anything other than the 'missing link' in a by-pass. I am sorry to see that our Liberal Democrat councillors have not taken up my challenge to campaign against both the by-pass and the Weedon Hill MDA (Major Development Area). Of course I may be doing them an injustice (perish the very thought), but I have not heard loud Liberal voices in protest. A number of Conservative district and county councillors, including Councillor Rowland, have now come out strongly

against Weedon Hill and the By-pass, which is good to see.

Councillors for wards north of Watermead are starting to realise that Weedon Hill would create intolerable congestion on the A413 corridor, degrading public transport at the same time. The Highways Agency and Bucks County Council have behaved quite disgracefully, Bucks CC as the Highway Authority undermining an agreed position with AVDC on reserving (as opposed to building) the Northern Link Road and the Highways Agency merrily trying to undermine the government's transport policy, in so far as the government has got a policy. There is now a strong presumption against new roads and rightly so (planning guidance PPG12), but the message hasn't yet got through to the Highways Agency. I presume this is what they mean by joined-up government.

The answer of course, as we submitted way back at the start of the new district local plan process, is a rail-based strategy, re-opening the lines north of Aylesbury to Milton Keynes and Rugby/Leicester. The line to Bletchley/Milton Keynes served Winslow, which would benefit significantly from re-connection to the national rail network, with the added benefit of relieving the A413 corridor.

The next relevant date in the Public Inquiry for Watermead is August 22nd, when the Inspector will be visiting the Weedon Hill site. Colonel Michael Roberts, myself and our planning expert, Malcolm Nickolls, will be attending on your behalf. Michael, who lives on Watermead (and is an expert

on the Battle of Aylesbury) and Malcolm (who used to live on Redwing) have been a tremendous asset in our battle against the madness of the Weedon Hill MDA.

TURFGREET TO SELL THEIR ASSETS

Without being too personal, David Skinner and Turfgreet Ltd (the nightclub developers) will not be missed. The Lakeside Board welcomes the entirely proper decision by Turfgreet to sell their assets on Watermead, including the main lake and clubhouse, subject of course to the existing lease in favour of Captain's Cabin Ltd. We look forward to working constructively with the new owner, indeed we should have had our first meeting by the time you read this.

VANDALISM

Vandalism continues to be a problem, although there was a breakthrough when four juvenile vandals (sadly from Watermead) were caught red-handed trying to damage the nursery. Obviously their names are now known. It is reasonable to suppose that this criminal enterprise was not their first and they may have been involved in other acts of vandalism. If you have names of those involved in vandalism or witness acts of vandalism, please contact either the Police or a member of the Board. I am grateful to the resident who gave me the name of a youth identified "egging" the Watermead Inn and houses on Curlew, which has been passed to the Police and, pursuant to our policy of sharing criminal intelligence in a responsible way, the legal department of Scottish & Newcastle Breweries. Where vandals live in Housing

Association properties, of which there are a number on Watermead, it may be possible to have the families rehoused. I would expect any responsible Housing Association to take action against tenants breaking the law (and the condition in their tenancy agreements not to create a nuisance). Only a zero tolerance policy on vandalism will work - as a community we have had enough of it. We will encourage the police to prosecute and property owners, where names are known, to sue. It is a matter for regret that the juveniles who were caught at the nursery were let off with a caution, in circumstances where criminal prosecution and a stiff custodial sentence would have been more appropriate. The Administrative Director of NurseryTime has been invited to meet with the Board, and I have no doubt will be encouraged to take up the failure to prosecute at a senior level. For those of school age the Headmasters of their schools should also be spoken to. Incidents of the sort which occurred at NurseryTime are not only a reflection on the young people concerned but also on their parents, schools and the criminal justice system, which on this occasion has let our community down badly.

A SERVICE FOR THE COMMUNITY

The Board will be well represented at this afternoon's (ie 23rd July) service, at 3 o'clock, for the community at St James the Great, Bierton, where the celebrant will be the Rt Rev the Bishop of Buckingham.

Have a good summer! ■

(...continued from front cover)

We haven't been able to clear all the weeds and things from the gravel on the paths, but that project is in hand. We did have a couple of mechanical problems but muscle power overcame them. Now, one can see the paths and without banging one's head on the overgrowing trees. Greg O'Callaghan and his chipper were a real boon to us as we have very much less rubbish to burn after the day. Thanks Greg, we hope that your blades were not too blunt after all that work. The grass had already been cut so the effect of clearing the undergrowth was even more apparent

We broke for lunch in the Village Hall soon after midday, and tucked into a great meal provided by Mr and Mrs Alan Perkins, as their contribution to the 'Work In Day'. They did the same last year if you remember. Thank you both very much, it was delicious. After lunch most of the teams carried on until about 4:30pm. Those that I spoke to said that they were looking forward to a hot shower.

I would like to report a very successful 'Work In' and to thank everyone concerned and hope that they and lots more will join us for the Autumn Offensive planned for late September.

A few 'housekeeping announcements'. Sally, Tony Steadman and I with the occasional help from others, are finding that the grass cutting is almost taking over our lives. *Please* could we have a few volunteers to give couple of hours a week to help us. When I started this project I really did expect a few more volunteers who were proud of our village. Don't let me down, call on 397675 and I shall be glad to hear from you. Which takes me back to a thought I shared with you last year some time. If every household were to pay 40p a week towards the upkeep of the Village then we wouldn't need volunteers at all. There are approximately 1200 households in the village and that would provide just under £25,000 a year. What are your thoughts about this idea? Please pick up a pen or phone me or any member of the board or email us on the Watermead address: watermeadview@hotmail.com

Now, may I be permitted to break the habit of a lifetime and have a moan or two. The playschool people have been asked to stop throwing their grass cuttings onto the cricket pitch. I do hope they will oblige, as I don't intend to take their grass to the tip any longer.

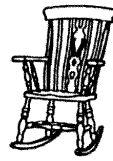


We spent several thousand pounds on renovating the little bandstand last year. I was quite sickened last week when I went by it. It has almost been wrecked by vandals. The graffiti is disgusting and they aren't even literary vandals 'cos they can't spell even the most common of swearwords. I intend to try and get some photographs of them at their handiwork that costs so much money. Vandalism is a real problem in the village. Have you seen the one-time security gate and the electricity box opposite to it. If anyone sees them at their 'art or craft', please call the police or call one of the Board members. The names and phone numbers are on the back of this Village View.

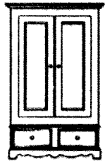
Will the gentleman who lives in Kestrel Way take his unwanted soil to the Aylesbury dump rather than tipping it on the side of the footpath - they want it and we don't. There is a special topsoil bin in the Rabans Lane Dump and they always have plenty of space.

Finally, please keep a lookout for the announcement of the Autumn Offensive. It may be in the Village View but the weather may make it necessary to send out a leaflet as we did this time. I hope to see you then. ■

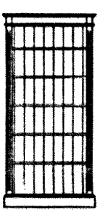
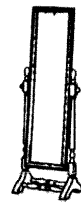
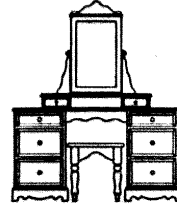
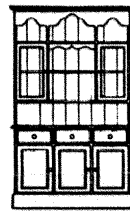
Stewkley Pine



We can promise you the best quality pine furniture at the best prices you will find!



Come and have a browse through our large selection. With something for every room in your house. We can offer 'Specials' - items made to fit your requirements.



*Deliveries of large pieces can be arranged

Stewkley Pine, Unit 9, Acorn Farm,
Cublington Road, Wing, Beds LU7 0LB

Tel: 01296 681853

Sorry we don't offer discounts or free delivery*

Waterlilies

NEEDLECRAFT & GIFTS

Open:
Tues to Sat 9.30am-5pm
Sun 10am-3.30pm
Closed Mondays

Imaginative gifts for all occasions and a growing range of locally crafted items which we will be happy to gift wrap with our compliments!

Needlecraft to suit beginners and experienced stitchers of all ages.

Tel: 331313

1 The Piazza, Watermead, Aylesbury
(opposite The Watermead Inn)



10% DISCOUNT
off all full-priced items
with this voucher
until the end
of August

A letter to the editor: Petty Vandalism on Watermead

Eileen Setchell -Administrative Director and Jonathan Franklin - Director



Not long ago it was reported that the plaza area of Watermead was being vandalised, and hopefully with the cameras in place it would put a stop to it.

It may have stopped in that area, but we find it reaches out into other areas of the estate. Not so many weeks ago, the glass panels in the bus shelter were smashed and glass left for old and young folk to try and negotiate whilst waiting for their bus to arrive.

The bandstand and the estate entrance buildings are areas that continue to be damaged in the way of broken glass, structural damage and the pathetic attempt at graffiti. Is it likely to end?

No, it will not end and in fact these people look for other areas to attempt to vandalise or destruct.

My business partner and I have recently spent a large amount of money on the security of our business, this being 'NurseryTime' which is located third building on the right of the spine road as you enter Watermead.

The expense of security was forced upon us because of the continued mindless vandalism of the children's play area within the grounds of the nursery.

The children raised money for the millennium playhouse which has been erected in the garden and so to protect this we had yet more cameras and floodlights put in, in the hope that it would deter these people.

It has not done so, and on the night of the 20th June I was fortunately driving into Watermead, when I saw the lights on and figures in the gardens. I stopped and challenged these youths, three of which were brave enough to RUN away, the others stayed primarily because the only girl in the group could not jump the fence!

I called the police who responded very quickly and were very outstanding. Only minor damage had been done, God only knows what would have happened if I had not stopped them. The youths were cautioned and warned about their future conduct, and should they be found on the premises again then further proceedings would take place.

NurseryTime, WILL prosecute every time offenses are carried out, as offenders will be identified from the CCTV cameras. The offenders and their parents will be sued for damages.

What really hurts, apart from the fact they would potentially deprive young children at the nursery of their play equipment, is the fact that these youths ARE children of residents on Watermead, so please bear this in mind and do not always blame the surrounding estates. The problem is right on your doorstep.

Parents find out where your children are, what they are doing, where they have been and what they have done, as the estate and businesses do not need this continued VANDALISM.

**THE
WHITE HORSE
INN**

WHITCHURCH

*For excellent meals from bar Snacks
to a la Carte.*

*Using local suppliers for vegetables
and meat.*

*Our Aberdeen Angus Best Scotch Beef
Steaks are the best in the area.*

We have a changing selection of real ales.

Patio Garden and large car park at rear.

*David, Sally and staff
look forward to meeting you.*

Tel: 641377 Fax: 640454

Booking is advisable.

MANY PRODUCTS CHEAPER THAN SUPERSTORES

CANS - 500ml

Heineken	8 for £6	Tennents Super	4 for £4.36
Hofmeister	8 for £5	Carling Black Label	6 for £5
Stella	6 for £5	Skol	8 for £5
Fosters	6 for £5	Grolsch	6 for £5.30

BOTTLES - 330ml

Big Budweiser	4 for £5.00	Becks	6 for £5
Fosters Ice	6 for £5	Barcardi Breezer	4 for £5
Stella	6 for £5	Rolling Rock	6 for £5
Bud Ice	6 for £5	Vodka Source	4 for £4.50
Heineken Export	6 for £5	Smirnoff Ice	4 for £5
San Miguel	6 for £5		

WINES

1 red & 1 white (special offer)	£5.99
Jacobs Creek Semillon Chardonnay	£4.89
French Merlot	£3.79
French Cabernet Sauvignon	£3.79
Liebfraumilch	£2.49
California Red/White	£3.49

All mini wines less than £3.79

Open: Mon-Thurs 3pm - 10:15pm
Fri-Sat 12noon - 10:30pm, Sun 12noon - 10pm

MAK WINES

158 Buckingham Road (Opposite Dutton Forshaw) Tel: 436705



Geese, Mallards, Coots, Grebes, Moorhen not to mention the variety of gulls - all 'rubbing feathers' hoping to catch lunch. Never-the-less, it's sad not to have the two Swan families on the lakes.

Bertie, the Heron, appears to have company. Whether he and his partner have been busy in the treetops producing little Berties, or we have some visitors, the

Hi Folks!

Well, as I sit here in blazing sunshine, (I think not!), what has happened to Summer? The seasons all seem to be rolling into one. Still, life goes on in birdland...



Muscovy Duck - 'Stepping out'

George and Lady are successfully rearing their five cygnets, sadly for the first time Henry and Duchess failed to produce this year as their nest was flooded and although they re-sited to a drier location it was not to be. I have no idea what happened. This has made life

a little easier for

George and

family, as they

are allowed

to come

through the stepping

stones and onto the

large lake where

they spend much of

their time with the

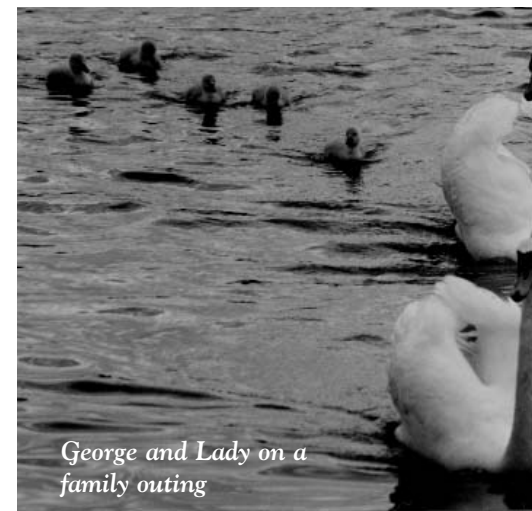
rest of the feathered

residents 'down the pub'.

What a mixture of birds you see

at the Watermead Inn

these days - Swans,

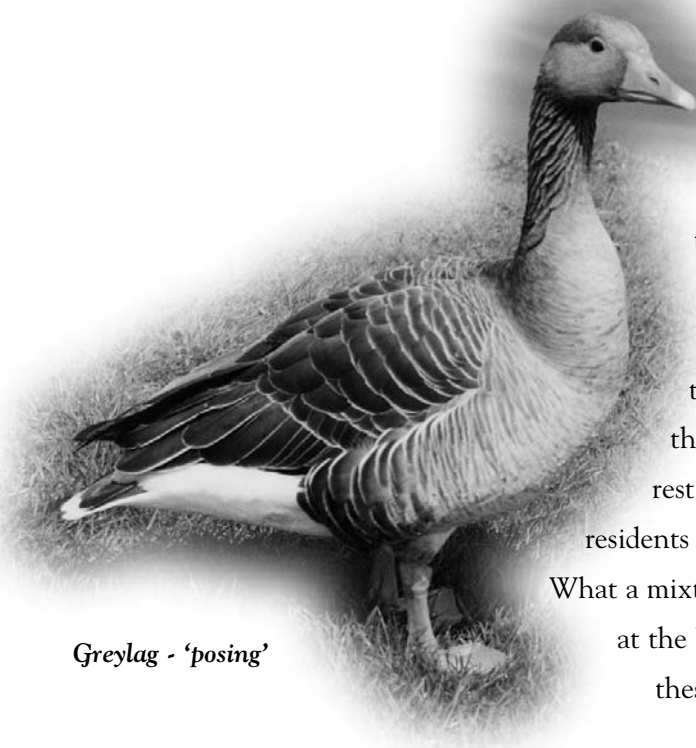


George and Lady on a family outing

numbers have increased to five. They give great flight displays, swooping for fish, or just sitting in the willows.

The Greylag Goose seems to pop in and out. I think he resides quite close-by. We also had a Muscovy Duck pay us a short visit, the first one I've ever seen here. Cormorants, numbered ten at one point, still hang out on the moored boats.

The ducklings seem to come in fits and starts and have just seen a new batch of five little fluffy bundles. Having said that, I know of one



Greylag - 'posing'

duck that seems to escape motherhood each year - Vera - she has a mate - Jack (of course). She is a very noisy duck and spends most of her time flitting from garden to garden in Osprey Walk. My three call ducks (all drakes) appeared bemused and ignored her at first, then Orville must have had a hormone surge because he began chasing her around the garden until she'd fly onto the fence or conservatory roof (sounds



like a brick) fly off and come back, bringing Jack with her, who would herd my ducks into a corner whilst Vera dined on their food and have a wash and brush-up in their pool - sometimes joined by Jack. At times I could see that the three Musketeers did have chest to chest

confrontations with Jack, but as he's almost twice their size, they just tolerate it with gritted beaks! This is now occurring a 'few times a day', in between, she's off to pinch bird food from other gardens...and who calls them bird brained?

I still have Wilfred, the hedgehog and his family in the garden. He snuffles and grunts like an old man at times (no ageism intended!) they all go walkabout at night...speaking of which around midnight in early June, I happened to look out of the window and there on the grass

having a nose around was a fox. At first I thought it was a dog so I opened the window and he looked straight at me and just carried on about his business. I've seen them before but in the winter. It's amazing to think of the animal activity which goes on whilst we slumber away. Spooky!!



'Eyes left' - first ducklings

I have been asked by several people what to do if they see injured birds. St Tiggywinkles are always helpful and will give you advice and so will the RSPCA Blackberry Farm, as long as you inform someone. Hopefully it won't be necessary.



'All alone' - baby Coot

Hope you enjoy the rest of the summer and we get some sunshine!!!

Bye for now, Linda Jones



Jack and Vera

W

atermead dental centre

dental excellence in the centre of your village

- NHS exempt groups between 10am - 4pm
- 7 day emergency cover
- very competitive rates

*New residents to Watermead are warmly welcome
Visit us for your next check-up
We're right on your doorstep*

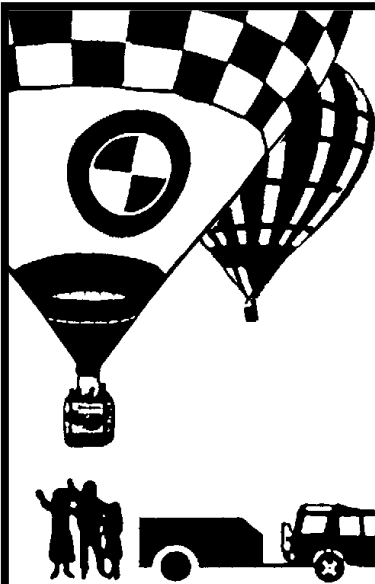
The Village Square Watermead Aylesbury HP19 3FX

Telephone: 01296 330700

Lythan Davies BDS and Associates

OPENING TIMES:

Tues, Wed, Thurs	9am - 8pm
Mon, Fri	9am - 5pm
Sat	10am - 1pm



BUCKS
BEDS
HERTS
OXON



Lakeside take off
Single or group bookings
We only fly small balloons
Maximum 5 persons each balloon
For the ultimate adventure
Ask for our brochure

Champagne Flights

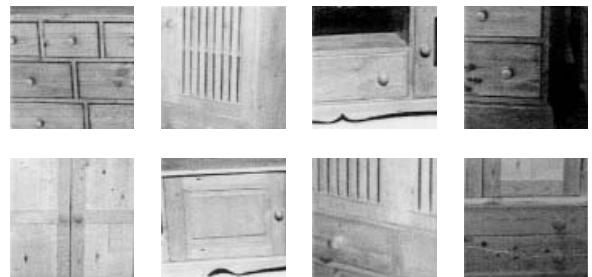


01296 641153



Handmade Furniture and Kitchens

Crafted from antique pine to your
own design and finish



For free consultation and advice with no obligation call:

Francis Walsh

07713 469338 or 01296 658139

Unit 2, Hill Cottage Farm, Hogshaw (Nr Quainton) Buckinghamshire

AVANTI

- hairdressers going ahead

Watermead is perhaps not the place you would expect to find a top quality hairdresser, who has been the winner of the 'Aylesbury Small Business Excellence Award' for the last three years and, in 1999, second in both the 'Innovation Award' and 'Retailer of the Year.' But our excellent parking and pleasant environment makes it a favourite spot over the town centre alternatives. Its customers come from many of the villages around and even as far afield as London. The original partners are Mick and Anna Lewis who did well to spot the potential of Watermead when it was just the large holes for the lakes and a lot of waterlogged fields. Mick had been a printer, living at Bierton, for 18 years before taking on the management of Avanti and it is his wife, Anna, who is the hairdressing expert.

In fact, Avanti was the very first shop to open on Watermead, signing the contract in December 1988 and opening its doors in May 1989. All that had been built at that time were 100 houses around the lake and the Piazza. Initially Avanti was just one shop unit with four staff, but when Royco (the original developers of Watermead) went bankrupt they purchased the unit next door and doubled their capacity.

As well as the three partners, Avanti employs nine full-time and five part-time staff - the large number of people being needed to cover the long opening hours, from 9.30am until 6.00pm and until 9.00 at night on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. They even open on Sundays in December. With so many of their customers working away from Watermead, the demand for service out of normal hours is growing steadily.

The staff has a range of skills, thus allowing the provision of a comprehensive range of hair care and beauty treatments - just as one would expect from a

high-class salon. Since the beginning, Avanti's aim has been to provide a professional service with top quality work. The staff all know that their job is to put the client first, whatever treatment they may require.

A third partner has now joined the organisation, Anna's sister Antonietta Blahyj who lives on Watermead. She is still hard at work, despite having produced a baby boy in the middle of June. Perhaps this new addition will be the one to carry on the business; Mick and Anna have no children - just three cats. Anna and Antonietta come from Italy, hence the name Avanti - 'Let us advance', something they have all done to very good effect.

North Marston Church of England School

We are a combined village school boasting an excellent OFSTED in November 1998, a very good teacher : pupil ratio, and the 'Investor in People' award. North Marston was recently named as one of the top 100 primary schools in the country and has a caring family atmosphere.

Situated just six miles from the Watermead/Buckingham Road roundabout, as a result of recently becoming combined, we are able to offer places to children in years 3,4,5 and 6 from September 2000.

For further information or an appointment to view, please telephone 01296 670286

St Mary the Virgin, Aylesbury

Following the retirement of Anne King to the Isle of Wight, we do not have a regular correspondent from St James the Great at Bierton. For a change we will feature some of the other Aylesbury churches and would be pleased to hear from people prepared to write regular articles about their own particular church.

It seems only right to start with Aylesbury's oldest church, St Mary's, so skillfully hidden right in the old part of the town centre. Anybody who has not explored the lovely old part of town, should make time to do so, the church being open from 9.00am - 3.00pm each week day, entry being by the small refreshment area on the left hand side.

The oldest part of the church is the Norman font, dating from about 1180; a wide fluted bowl bordered with foliage which was found buried in debris beneath the church. You can see similar fonts at Weston Turville, Monks Risborough and Great Kimble. The church itself was built in the Early English period. The large porch remains from the 13th Century and so do some carvings and the Chancel crossing and arcades.



Above the font is the colourful West Window which is Perpendicular 15th Century and depicts Old Testament scenes from the creation to the prophets. In 1863 it was awarded a prize at an international exhibition. Though much changed from its medieval beginnings, the nave has been widened to give a spacious area, suited to modern uses. It contains many items of interest. St Mary's has eight bells, the earliest dated

1612, you can hear them rung to call the faithful to worship.

But St Mary's is not just a splendid old church building, it is part of today's living church. It is part of the Town Centre Churches in Partnership with Aylesbury Methodist Church, Greenhill United Reformed and St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church. The Aylesbury ministry team includes All Saints Hulcott, St James Bierton and St Peter's Quarrendon as well as St Mary's, under the Team Rector the Rev Timothy Higgins (Phone 424276 or email higgins@aylesbury-rectory.freeserve.co.uk). The Parish Office, for arranging weddings, funerals, community work etc is open Monday to Friday 9.00am-2.30pm or phone 437641

Sunday Services

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Sung Eucharist – a communion celebration for all, including children

6.00pm Choral Evensong (1st Sunday) or Evening Prayer

Midweek Eucharist

12.30pm Tuesday and 12.00pm Thursday

The 10.00am service is well attended, particularly when one of the civic services is taking place for a newly elected Mayor or Council or the Royal British Legion.

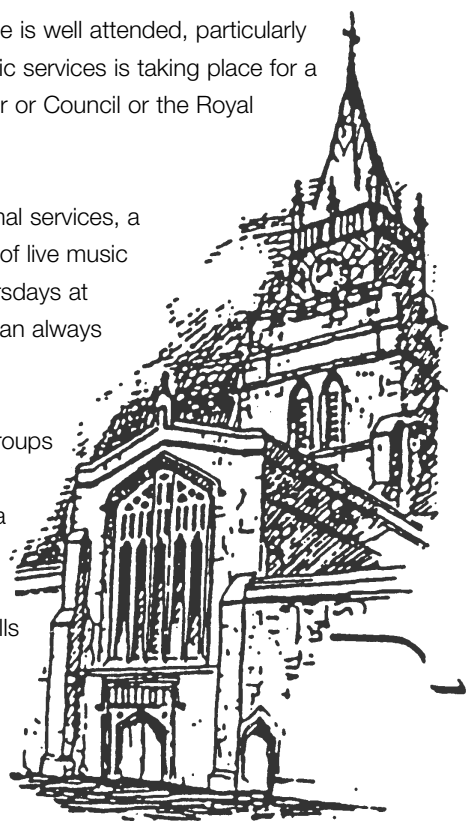
Apart from the normal services, a regular programme of live music takes place on Thursdays at 12.45pm and you can always have lunch in St Mary's Refectory.

There are Pilgrim Groups where six to eight

people meet twice a month to explore their faith more deeply, and Windmills

is a drop in club for supporting those with mental health problems. With all its work for church

and community, you may find it helpful to learn more about St Mary's.



HELP WANTED!

Could you spare a few hours to write/gather articles for the 'Village View'?

Or help with distribution?

Or contribute in any other way?

If so please contact:

Jason Bray - 425094

or Sandra Landy - 337330

watermeadview@hotmail.com



OPENING HOURS & LATE NIGHTS

Monday 9.15am - 6.15pm

Tuesday - Thursday 9.30am - 9pm

Friday 9am - 7pm

Saturday 8.30am - 4pm

AVANTI

HAIRDRESSING
AND THE
BEAUTY COMPANY

Telephone 01296 488138

Watermead Village Piazza

Winner of the "Small Business Excellence" award 1997 & 1999
and "Retailer of the Year" award 1998

watermead & weedon women's institute

(Ladies who are doing a calendar, but not that sort of calendar!!!)

At our WI we continue to have a good time and our meeting in April found us learning all about the new theatre at Milton Keynes, and we hope to have a trip there to see a show later this year. As the meeting was near Easter all members received a chocolate egg that were mostly devoured within minutes!

In May we had our resolutions meeting - to discuss the items on the agenda at the meeting Tony Blair addressed. We had a lively time discussing the proposals and the evening was rounded off with a cream tea (yet more food) and a, sometimes noisy, auction of our plant and food bring and buy.

For our June meeting we held a treasure hunt, on foot, around Aylesbury. It started at the Manor House and ended in the town. Everyone agreed that they learned a lot about the town and the buildings in it and it was a great success.

We are holding our annual BBQ in a members garden on 6th July and the 3rd August meeting will be held in the Village Hall, where we are having a quiz and a fish and chip supper.

We are fund-raising for the patients in a ward at Manor House, to enable them to have a better standard of living, and would be grateful for any items you might have such as toiletries, writing paper, playing cards, socks and books that we could give them.

Our meeting on 7th September is a talk by Mary Singleton, on her life as an Air Stewardess. The meeting on 5th October at 7.30pm is a talk by Mr Woolley, a retired policeman, who is going to tell us all about the Great Train Robbery. It will be "Bring a Friend Evening", so please come and join us. Both meetings start at 7.30pm and are in the Village Hall

ANNUAL WI TRIP TO FRANCE SATURDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2000

Coach leaves Watermead piazza 5.30am to go to France via shuttle, then shop till you drop at Hypermarket, and finally on to St Omer for a leisurely lunch/sightseeing etc. Cost £23.50
(THIS OFFER IS OPEN TO EVERYONE)

If you would like to come along and see what we are all about, or you want to reserve a place on the French trip, please contact either:

Bridget - ☎ 420938 or Carol - ☎ 425896

We look forward to meeting you.

Spine Road Survey Results

HIGHLIGHTS

- 40 people responded - 24 by hardcopy and 16 by email
- 32 said 'ban parking on the Spine road'
- 34 said put a speed limit on the spine road
- 29 said install a pedestrian crossing
- 35 of the 40 provided a diverse range of extra comments
- Several people said 'no speed bumps - please!'

YOUR COMMENTS

The figures above send a clear message but the additional comments that people made paint a richer picture. Here are some of the things they said (everything that follows comes from the responses to the survey).

People walking their dogs, fishermen, residents too lazy to use their allocated parking spaces, pub-goers and football fans are the people who park on the spine road. One cynical person thought that these numbers would be swelled by garden centre customers served by an inadequate garden centre car park.

There is a particular parking problem on the spine road near the pub, but people are also concerned about parking on pavements, parking on Watermeadow, and parking outside people's houses around the village. One person pointed out that it's illegal to park within 15 yards of a junction.

Solutions to the parking problem include encouraging pub customers to use the car park (though ideas for specific types of encouragement were thin on the ground); and to restrict parking to one side of the spine road with suitably marked parking areas and an offset centre line down the middle of the road. One enterprising resident suggested issuing residents with car stickers and charging everyone else for parking. Another pointed out that before doing any banning, we ought to check that the existing car parks can cope with increased demand.

Two people said NO to double yellow lines - a sentiment reflecting people's general appreciation of the beauty of

Watermead. One person even said he likes seeing visitor's cars parked around the lake on a sunny Saturday afternoon because it reminds him of what a wonderful village he lives in!

Parking and speeding on the spine road are both dangerous to drivers and pedestrians. We need to keep this uppermost in our minds. As one person put it - if something isn't done there may well be a tragic accident. None of us would want that.

Several people said a 30 mph limit already exists in Watermead - and one suggested putting a sign up to that effect at the entrance to the estate (signs elsewhere would detract from Watermead's scenic views). Other views included having 40mph up to the pub and then 30mph; and imposing a 20mph or even 15ph limit particularly near the Nursery. 3 people suggested installing those dreaded speed cameras....

A number of people suggested traffic calming as a way to reduce speed (and subdue the 'boy racers' - is that you?!) on the spine road - and even throughout the village. Traffic calming measures include narrowing the road, making traffic give way to oncoming vehicles on an alternate basis, and installing pedestrian refuges/islands in the middle of the road. However, perhaps one of the strongest views expressed in the survey were the 9 people who said that speed bumps are not appropriate - and about half of these said no to speed bumps in no uncertain terms!

Which brings us to Pedestrian Crossings. One person explained the need for a pedestrian crossing by saying that the bend near the bus stop prevents you seeing what's coming and sometimes you only get halfway across the road before the traffic is upon you. In contrast, someone else hadn't experienced any problems crossing the road, but was prepared to concede that those with pushchairs might need one. One Mum said she hasn't had any problems crossing at the mini roundabout near the pub and finds that cars actually stop and wave her across!!

If a crossing is to be installed, then suggestions for its location included near the bus stop and on the mini roundabout. One person insists that a Zebra Crossing would be sufficient rather

than a full-blown Pelican Crossing. Whether a Zebra Crossing would also service the Watermead ducks is another matter: three people suggested putting up a "ducks crossing" sign (we do like our ducks!).

That's what people said about parking, speeding and crossings. But there's more!.....

- Three people have noticed an increase in the use of Watermead as a practice circuit by Driving Schools. They think this is dangerous to children and wonder if their presence can be limited in some way or other.
- Two people suggested that the peak period congestion getting out of Watermead is partially caused by parents taking their children to school, and that this could be alleviated by car sharing or the provision of school buses. Has anybody got any statistics of how many school run journeys are made each morning from Watermead?
- A Watermead Street map at the entrance to the village would help fast food /taxi drivers find their way around.
- Fishermen should be prohibited from taking cars onto grassed areas.
- Four people made it clear that they disapprove of the

practice of queue jumping to go all round the roundabout to turn left. As one person put it, "Please campaign to make this right hand turn manoeuvre illegal".

- One person suggested that the peak period jam problem would be best dealt with by part-time traffic lights.
- A mechanism to make it easier to turn right (back into the village) from Nurserytime would be appreciated.
- A run-in on the curb opposite Nurserytime would make it easier to get prams crossing the road onto the pavement.

Well, that's what you said. If you want to express your views further or to put words into action, you should contact Mary Singleton, Director of the Watermead Community Forum. Mary is working with Councillor Kendrick (whose constituency is Elmhurst and Watermead), to identify what traffic calming measures are needed in Watermead. Call Mary on: 428569.

Well done and many thanks everyone who responded!! You identified a whole host of important issues in the comments you provided. Don't forget to reply to this issue's Survey.

Paul Wilson



PUBLICATION DATES

Autumn - 1st October 2000
Christmas - 10th December 2000

ADVERTISEMENT RATES

(as of next publication)

Residents

1/4 page - £20
1/2 page - £35
full page - £70

Non residents

1/4 page - £35
1/2 page - £70
full page - £140

DISTRIBUTED TO AROUND 1200 HOMES

Please arrange advertisements at least 3 weeks prior to publication date

If you have any suggestions for content/articles please contact any member of the editorial board

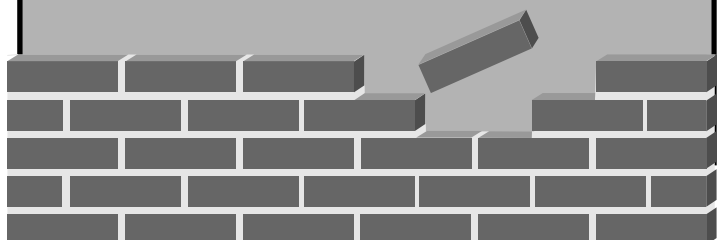
For bulk adverts or long term contracts, prices are open to negotiation

R.S. BATES

BUILDING & LANDSCAPING

extensions
conservatories
patios
driveways...

16 Howard Avenue Aylesbury
Tel: 424751 Mobile: 0468 353645



Watermead Community Forum

by Mary Singleton - Watermead Community Forum Director

I keep being asked about how the Parish Review is coming along. In April I responded to a letter from AVDC requesting information about the Community Forum. The formation of a parish for Watermead is only part of the changes being made to parishes in Aylesbury Vale, so it is likely to take a little longer. I will post any news on our notice board in the 'tunnel' of the Piazza.

Thank you to everyone who responded to the survey on the spine road/traffic problems and to Paul Wilson for collating the results and writing the article in this Village View. As you may remember, Michael Long was working on this project with me.

However, his wife Sally is going to continue with his good work and hopefully we will start to make some progress on this issue very soon.

I am pleased to report that the Watermead and Weedon Women's Institute are presenting Watermead with a park bench to mark the millennium. It is planned to place it on the lower lake by 7th September and hope it will be well used. Photos in the next issue!

Whilst hacking down bushes and brambles on the 'Action Day' last month I met some new volunteers who had only recently moved to Watermead. They were very interested

to hear about life in Watermead. It occurred to me that there are many people new to Watermead who would like to know some of the history. Look forward to the next issue when I will endeavour to bring some to you!

Mary

PS It is worth picking up litter around Watermead. I have often found the odd penny or pound coin but the other day I picked up a £5 note. My mother found a £10 note a little while ago! Also I found a pair of earrings outside Moorhen Court in Whinchat. If you think they may be yours please give me a call.

FROM TIME TO TIME WE WILL BE ASSESSING THE OPINION OF WATERMEAD RESIDENTS ABOUT A RANGE OF SUBJECTS AND REPORTING THE RESULTS IN SUBSEQUENT NEWSLETTERS

IN THIS ISSUE:

THE VILLAGE GATEHOUSE (THE SMALL BUILDING NEAR THE TURNING INTO THE SKI SLOPE)

Please answer the following questions and send your answers to the address below (tick where appropriate):

1. Should the Gatehouse be left empty? YES NO
2. Should the gatehouse be pulled down? YES NO
3. Would you be prepared to contribute towards the up keep of the Gatehouse? YES NO

If you would like to make any further comments about the Gatehouse please write here: _____

Please send or deliver this slip to:
Paul Wilson, 8 Mallard Close (off Kestrel Way), Watermead or alternatively send your answers by email to: watermeadview@hotmail.com

HARDWICK PRE-SCHOOL

We have vacancies from September 2001!

We are a small, friendly Pre-School for under 5's
based at St John Bridles Hall in Hardwick

Our 2 1/2 to 5 year old sessions run on Mondays,
Wednesdays and Fridays from 9.30 am to 12 noon. We also
offer more advanced 'Budgie Club' sessions tailored
specially to 4 to 5 year olds on Tuesdays and Thursdays
which cover the pre-school curriculum in preparation for
school entry.

If you are interested please contact either:
Tracey Creed 01296 714889 or
Jackie Coss 01296 640211

OFSTED INSPECTED



J-plan
OFFICE
SOLUTIONS

**LIMITED
OFFER!**

Get a WEBSITE for only £129 + VAT

Superb value for money!

Domain registration (www.you.ukbritain.com)

2 year Domain fees paid

Single page website with:

- up to 2 graphics
- the text you want
- contact link

Call Andy today: 01296 748099 / 07747 016470

Why not email us at: info@jplanofficesolutions.com

What's on at the Watermead Village Hall

JUDY WALSH SCHOOL OF DANCING

Adult Dance

Mondays: 7.30 ~ 8.30pm

Rock 'n' Roll

Mondays: 8.30 ~ 9.30pm

Childrens Dance

Wednesdays: 3-6 years 4.30 ~ 5pm

Beginners 5 ~ 5.45pm

Advanced 5.45pm ~ 6.30pm

Contact: Judy 482818

Irish Dancing

Every Wednesday except second Wednesday
of each month: 7.00 ~ 8.00pm

Contact: Edwina McGill 01908 374273

Aylesbury & District Philatelic

Second Wednesday of the month

7.30 ~ 10pm

Contact: Keith Johnson 435571

Watermead & Weedon Women's Institute

First Thursday of the month

7.30 ~ 9.30pm

Contact: Bridget Gibbard 420938

Watermead Cygnets Playgroup

Monday ~ Thursday

9.15 ~ 11.45am

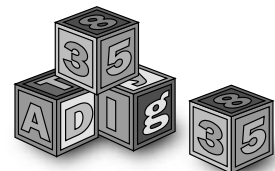
Contact: Dot Toler 432405

Mother & Toddlers

Wednesday 2 ~ 4pm

Friday 10am ~ 12noon

Contact: Vicki Tagg 339262





VILLAGE VIEW MEMBERS

Jason Bray - Editor
 Tel: 425094
 email: jasonbray@hotmail.com

Sandra Landy - Assistant Editor
 Tel: 337330
 email: s.landy@ebu.co.uk

Rachel Baker - Graphic Designer
 Tel: 641046
 email: rachel@baker52.freeserve.co.uk

Paul Wilson - Advertising Manager
 Tel: 488066

Solo Awadzi - Distribution Manager
 Tel: 489384

or email to: watermeadview@hotmail.com

*Why not hire
 the Village
 Hall*

Suitable for:
**CHILDRENS PARTIES, DISCOS,
 WEDDING RECEPTIONS, FAMILY OCCASIONS,
 GROUP MEETINGS**

We will be happy to discuss
 any requirements you may have

For hall bookings at excellent rates,
 call:

Dot Toler 432405

**Discounts for Watermead residents*

LAKESIDE LAND BOARD MEMBERS

Chairman of the Board	Michael Shrimpton	7 Willow Herb	Tel: Fax:	01296 397963 01296 393151
Company Secretary	Len Staines	21 Waxwing Close	Tel:	01296 487954
Finance Director	Philip Toler	3 Chaffinch	Tel: Work Fax:	01296 432405 01582 681217
Commercial Director	Gary Poole	22 Ayleswater	Tel:	01296 432052
Director	Gordon Bonnick	30 Brambling	Tel:	01296 434062
Director	Sally Long		Tel:	01296 336577
Minutes Secretary	Pat Bevan		Tel:	01296 338826
Maintenance Director	Roy Hutchings	2 Sandpiper	Tel:	01296 397675
Watermead Community Forum Director	Mary Singleton		Tel:	01296 428569

Lakeside Land Ltd is the Watermead community company representing the interests and views of the Watermead community as a whole.
 To this end we have included the published mission statement below to underline that commitment.

LAKESIDE LAND LTD MISSION STATEMENT

- It is the mission of Lakeside Land Ltd to:
- Represent the interests of the whole village as Watermead's Community Company
 - Encourage positive development in keeping with the unique character of Watermead
 - Provide a forum for community involvement and feedback
 - Support and encourage local enterprise
 - Protect and enhance Watermead's natural environment
 - Manage the company's assets efficiently and maximise revenue for the benefit of the community

*NB: Nothing in the above shall conflict or take precedence over the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the company