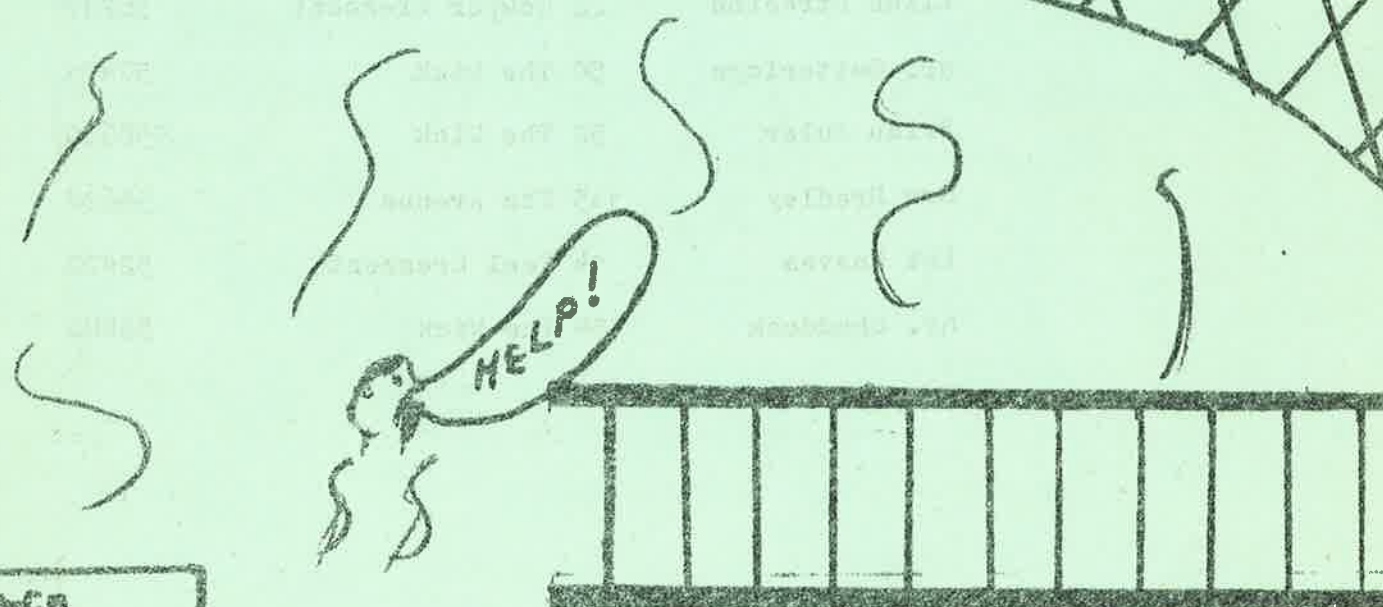
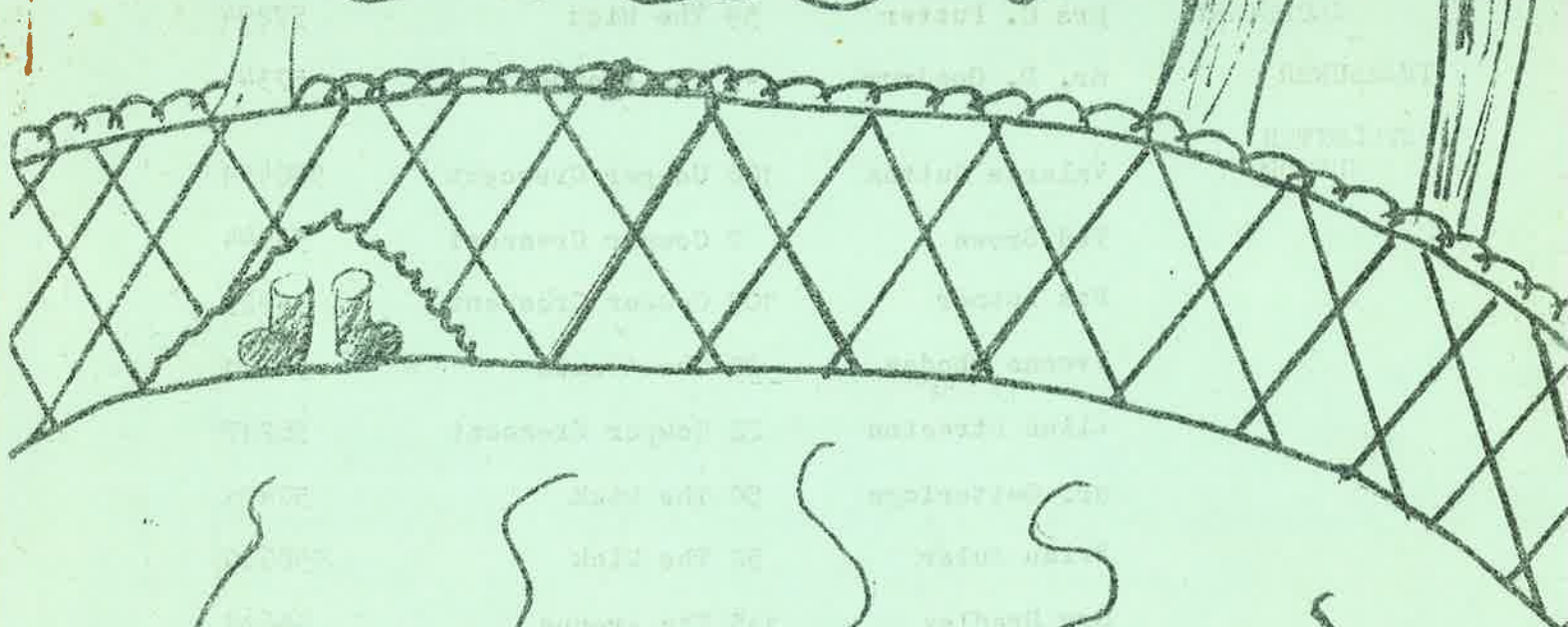


Summer 1985

# MOLE WOOD OUTLOOK



DANGER  
SINKING  
SAND

by  
~~Steve~~ Parker.

COMMITTEE 1985 - 6

CHAIRMAN	Trevor Cobb	75 The Avenue	51435
MINUTES SECRETARY	Betty Hall	132 Cowper Crescent	56752
CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY	Mrs C. Futter	59 The Wick	57294
TREASURER	Mr. D. Goodrum	43 The Avenue	57341
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Valerie Sutton	106 Cowper Crescent	550459
	Ted Brown	2 Cowper Crescent	54544
	Pam Lutner	107 Cowper Crescent	51329
	Yvonne Rhodes	20 The Avenue	51371
	Allan Streeton	22 Cowper Crescent	56217
	Mr. Gutteridge	50 The Wick	57471
	Brian Euler	52 The Wick	558619
	Mrs Bradley	115 The Avenue	54608
	Pat Knaves	14 Peel Crescent	52422
	Mr. Shaddock	54 The Wick	56808

PAID  
SIMS  
CAMER

The Front Cover

The picture we are using on this edition is by Sherryl Parker of Cowper Crescent. Sherryl is ten years old. She has chosen to illustrate a very different part of Bengeo from any we have seen so far. It is the area of quick sand that lies between The Orchard and the footpath just further on, leading off Sacombe Road.

Sherryl has walked along there with her family, and has become aware herself of the danger.

Sherryl is an avid reader, particularly of Enid Blyton whose characters are always doing exciting things. She herself also enjoys excitement in the family's mirror dinghy. She hasn't yet sailed alone but can take the tiller and steer the rest of the family with confidence!

Thankyou Sherryl.

Footnote

I have written of the dangers of the quicksands before and Sherryl's picture is a timely reminder that with Summer approaching and children roaming free (and possibly visiting children also exploring on their own) this particular area is VERY DANGEROUS.

A.G.M.

The AGM was held in the Junior School this year (the chairs being higher are more comfortable), and a record number of people attended. This was most heartening. Those who didn't come missed a very good evening. The official business was soon over. Mrs Nancy Scott retired from the Chair due to increased pressure of other commitments, and the Treasurer David Black also retired, as did Committee Members Bob Grimmett, Don Grimmett and Margaret Read.

Our thanks are due to all of them for all the work - largely unseen - they have put in on our behalf.

The remaining Committee Members were willing to continue to serve. The following new nominations were approved:- Mrs Futter - Correspondence Secretary, Mr. Goodrum - Treasurer, Mr. Euler, Mrs Bradley, Pat Knaves, Mr. Gutteridge and Mr. Shaddock. The complete list is on the inside front cover of this Newsletter.

It was agreed that it should be left to the next Committee Meeting to elect a new Chairman. This has now been done and Mr. Trevor Cobb of The Avenue Stores is the new Chairman. There is an address by him farther on.

After the official business was completed we had wine and cheese.

Following this we were given a fascinating glimpse of Hertford as it was not all that long ago - seen through the camera lens of Mr. Peter Ruffles. He had an infectious enthusiasm for his subject which made the evening pass all too quickly. Indeed we only agreed to stop when we had to vacate

the hall.

We hope to invite him back some time and when this is arranged, DON'T MISS IT!

### Spring Garden Competition

Again this Spring, Pam Lutner - our gardening expert - walked round the Estate looking at all our gardens and eventually, with great difficulty, chose the garden of Mrs Howard of Peel Crescent as the winner.

Mrs Howard was presented with the Silver rosebowl and a garden token at the A.G.M.

Garden tokens were also awarded to Mrs Skinner of Peel Crescent and Mrs Digweed of Lodge Close.

Congratulations!

### Jogging On

Following on my item in the last Newsletter about joggers (keep on the right and be visible), I have had a response from Mr. Crees of Lodge Close. He asks me to point out that while it is important for runners to be seen, this also applies to cars and cyclists. Unlit cyclists have, I am told, been responsible for three near collisions this past winter. If a runner, going at some speed, meets a head down unlit cyclist, the result could be nasty for both.

Mr. Crees also asks motorists to indicate clearly when intending to turn left or right into side roads, and give due consideration to runners already on those roads. He also refers to parking on the pavement, - something that has cropped up again and again in this Newsletter, and causes annoyance to runners, pram pushers, the elderly and partially sighted alike.

We are all pedestrians, some of us are cyclists, and most of us are also motorists, so it shouldn't be too difficult for us to see each other's point of view and cooperate in our use of the roads.

### Congratulations Corner

In the last Newsletter I wrote that it would be nice to have a regular 'Congratulations Corner' as a balance to the oft repeated 'Causes for Concern'.

I am particularly glad therefore to say that this has brought an encouraging response.

First then we have -

#### 'Fame'

Ruth Allen of The Wick has been taking ballet lessons since she was three, and singing lessons since she was eleven. She not only enjoyed these but kept them up and has worked increasingly hard and with great dedication.

Now she has got her reward with the offer of a place at the Italia Conti Academy for Performing Arts at the Barbican! She will be leaving Simon Balle School and going there in September.

Naturally she has made those around her very proud, and we are all happy to congratulate her!

#### More Congratulations!

Two young people from one family this time! They are Tony and Susan Payne from Cowper Crescent.

Tony has just completed an Honours Degree in Environmental Science at Stirling University and he has now been offered a place, against stiff opposition, at the University of Aberdeen to take a Ph D.

Susan, Tony's younger sister, has just completed a Foundation Course at Stevenage Art College and has now been offered a place at Bath College to take a course in Art and Design, again, against severe competition.

Both Tony and Susan attended Bengeo School and then Simon Balle. They have obviously worked very hard and we wish them all possible success in their new Colleges in the Autumn!

#### Footnote

Please do not ask me who told me, - who the 'Moles' were, - I have to protect my sources and all evidence (if indeed there was any) has been destroyed!

#### Wedding Bells

Two young people from the same family who surely must be known to everyone are getting married soon. They are the daughter and son of our new Chairman and his wife - Tracey and Stephen Cobb.

Tracey is getting married first, to Ian Brinicombe at Holy Trinity Church at 3.00 p.m. on the 6th July.

They might like to know that:-

"They who in July do wed, Must labour always for their bread"!

Tracey and Ian will be exceedingly well placed to do this since Ian is a Department Manager in Waitrose, and Tracey has her own, well known grocery connections, (apart from being a qualified word processor operator in her own right)!

Stephen is marrying Wendy Lutner the daughter of Pam, - another Committee Member - and her husband.

They will be wed in Holy Trinity Church also at 1.30 p.m. on the 14th September.

They must have known what they were doing choosing September because -

"Marry in September's shine, Your living will be rich and fine."

Wendy, who works in the Surveyor's office, and Stephen, who is in Telephone Sales, will be living in Welwyn Garden City only about five minutes away from Tracey and Ian.

Our very best wishes for all happiness in the future go to both young couples.

Have you any weddings, births, anniversaries, success stories you would like to have mentioned? If so just drop me a note - 106, Cowper Crescent.

### St. Leonard's Church

The results of the St. Leonard's Children's Painting Competition are as follows:-

Prizewinners 5 - 7 years - 1st - Sam Heeling  
2nd - Geoffrey Hopkin  
3rd - (joint) Christopher Collinson  
and Kate Williams

all of Bengoe Infants School.

8 - 12 years - 1st - Paul Dellow of Lodge Close  
2nd - Lucy Budd of Duncombe School  
3rd - Claire Gordon

Judges Special Prize to Kenny Milton of Glebe Road.

over 12 - no entries.

The standard was very high, as everyone who visited the exhibition of the children's work will know.

Very well done, everyone!

### Down on your knees!

On Monday 10th June an appeal was launched at St. Leonard's for the provision of one hundred new kneelers for the Church. Cash is of course needed, - that almost goes without saying, - but there is another way that you could help if you would like to, and that is in making a kneeler. It is not difficult, the canvas and wool will be provided and also the design. There are seven designs to choose from, and you would have the satisfaction of knowing that something you have made is adorning one of the oldest Churches in the country.

If you are interested, and would like to know more, then Betty Hall, 132 Cowper Crescent, tel. 56752 would be delighted to hear from you and show you just what is needed.

### Cat Flaps

With the Summer coming on (I hope) let me issue a reminder about cat flaps. About a year ago there was trouble with a cat who entered other people's houses and fought their own cats. This made me consider the harm that

could be done to someone's house if a stray cat got in while the owners were on holiday.

Also a few years ago there were several burglaries on the Estate by someone who reached in through the cat flaps and managed to open the kitchen doors that way.

So when going away and thinking about closing the windows, locking the doors, turning off the electricity (and remembering to leave on the freezer), give a thought to the cat flap too!

#### Appearing Soon

To coincide with this Newsletter a Suggestion Box will make its appearance in 'The Avenue Stores'.

This will be for members of the Molewood Residents Association only.

If you have a story of someone's success, but you as informant - wish to remain anonymous, then please continue to put your letters through my door - 106 Cowper Crescent. Please include your name and I will respect your confidentiality. I am sorry but nothing that is offered anonymously will be used. If, also, there is anything directly arising from the Newsletter then the same applies.

But for all other matters such as suggestions for outings, comments on the state of the roads, the new roundabout, or if you are simply not sure who to tell, then you should find the Box very handy.

To repeat - this is for members only.

#### Autumn

The next Newsletter will be the Big One in the Autumn in which all the local group societies etc that I know of are listed with names, addresses and telephone numbers of people to contact.

It would help me greatly if between now and then any alterations to the details as published last year could be sent to me.

Also a reminder that the yellow pages are at your service (free) all year round.

This is your Newsletter, please use it.

#### Bengeo Past and Present

I have had a letter from a member of MRA who for some years has had a keen interest in local history. He is Mr. Malcolm Moulding who lives in Lys Hill Gardens. He wondered if I would be interested in publishing some of the fascinating details he has collected over the years. After reading what he had written about that most dominant of our land marks, the water tower, I was happy to say that I would. There will be further articles in subsequent issues, so here for a starter is:-

## The Water Tower

The Water Tower was built in 1929 to replace the old wooden tower in Tower Street - that's how Tower Street got its name. Before the Molewood Estate was built, it stood alone in a little wood which has always been called The Spinney.

The old wooden tower stood next to Duncombe Hall and George Roberts who was manager of the water works had a smithy next door. He had to constantly repair its leaks and gradually it became too small for the growing demand.

The present tower is made of concrete and holds 200,000 gallons in six tanks at the top and the head of water is 318' from the ground being raised by powerful electric pumps.

There are three artesian wells which supply the tower, one is 52' deep, the other two are nearly double that depth. They were bored through strata described by the Water Board as 31' glacial drift, 138' of upper chalk, 281' of middle and lower chalk to the water table 403' deep.

The water is then pumped up Port Hill to Port Hill reservoir and from there to our tower. It is linked with Hertford Heath in a gravity balance with 1' in height between them so that they go up and down equally as people use the water.

One final thing about the Tower is that the BBC has a store downstairs for its relay station and a dish aerial on top which receives signals from the Post Office Tower in London. They even say that on a clear day you can see the Post Office Tower from the top.

Malcolm Moulding

And now here is another article by our Bengeo Bobby P.C. Pryce-Jones, who has a timely warning about 'lost' property.

## Property Marking - a way to limit the proceeds of crime?

In the Bengeo area as a whole, we seem to be experiencing a small but significant crime wave!

Since my last article in the 'Molewood Outlook' there has been an increase in the number of offences reported to the police. These vary from the perennial problem of vandalism (especially at weekends), to an alarming increase in burglary and thefts of, and from, motor vehicles.

In earlier articles I dealt with certain things that house holders can do to minimise the risk of theft or burglary. But what steps can be taken if your personal property is stolen or your house is burgled?

Circularisation of descriptions including identification marks of all items of identifiable property stolen, forms part of the routine procedures in the investigation of any theft related offence in the United Kingdom. By identification I mean model number, serial number or any other unique marking found on many items in our homes today. They range from the obvious registration number, engine/chassis number on our motor vehicles to the serial numbers etc of all electrical appliances and similar objects.



Lists of all identifiable property stolen is sent by teleprinter to New Scotland Yard and stored on a computer. This information is then automatically checked against lists of property that is subsequently recovered by police anywhere in the United Kingdom, and if identified, the property is then returned to its owner.

The key to this system is of course the identification marks themselves. Before the thief strikes make a list of all such numbers, so that these details may be readily to hand if required. Quite apart from this being of assistance to the police, any insurance claim must surely be made easier on production of such information.

What can be done to property that has no such serial numbers etc.? This is when property marking comes into its own. Everything can be marked using the method most suited to it. The marks are based on your house number and post code, and the methods range from stamping to engraving to using special ultra violet pens.

Advice and further information can be obtained from your local officer, or the Crime Prevention Department, Hertford Police Station.

This is a free service, make use of it!

A word of caution however. Property marking does not in itself prevent items being stolen, it only assists in the possible return to its rightful owners, such items as have been recovered by the police.

CRIME PREVENTION - IT'S MUCH MORE ACCEPTABLE!!

P.C. Pryce-Jones  
Bengeo Local Officer.

As stated earlier in this Newsletter, Trevor Cobb of 'The Avenue Stores' was elected Chairman of the Holeywood Residents Association at the last Committee Meeting.

He is ideally placed to hear the prevailing thoughts and feelings on our Estate, and now we have:-

#### A Word from our Chairman

Your Association Committee would like to send greetings to all members. The number of new faces on the Committee reflects a renewed interest in the Association and should make for some absorbing meetings and lively discussion.

As a comparatively new resident, perhaps I may be allowed some observations on our way of life.

When I first started work at County Hall 'X' years ago, the town used to fill up during the day and empty just as dramatically later. Hertford was the town that closed at 5 o' clock and was shut at weekends. While this was perhaps undesirable it is a moot point just how much development can be allowed before the heart of a place is destroyed. There has of course been considerable building, including our own Estate but even now the town could not be described as 'bustling' with activity.

At present, Hertford, including Bengeo, retains much of its country town

atmosphere reflecting some of the quiet pleasant life style fast disappearing. We need to hold on to this as long as possible and our Association is in the forefront of the battle.

Virtually full membership gives us a very well respected voice in the 'corridors of power' and this can be particularly useful whenever we feel ourselves threatened by 'big brother' development plans, misuse of planning permissions and provision of facilities. We also believe we can influence matters affecting the wider area by going to local bodies as a united force.

If we are to continue as a strong unit, we need to look after the future, not only fighting local issues, but also ensuring that the social and helping side is encouraged.

This year it is hoped that more people from all over the Estate will become involved in our activities, particularly young people, mums and children. We also need closer liaison with other group in the Estate, possibly holding joint activities. We hope to widen the scope of theatre visits to include ballet, music and pantomime to encourage younger people to participate.

Recently a feeling has been growing in the committee that the same people were called upon to do everything and more support was needed. Now however, we have a full committee committed to growth and new interest.

I feel confident that your support will be forthcoming, and I look forward keenly to my term of office.

Trevor Cobb  
Chairman

Finally, all that remains, is for me to wish all members a very happy and sunny Summer.

Valerie Sutton  
Editor

Yellow Pages

Equipment for Hire

Extension ladder	£1.00 per week	)	
Aluminium with easy reach		)	
Car ramps	10p "	day )	Hertford 57285
Jump leads	"	)	
Battery charger	"	)	
Preserving pan	"	)	Hertford 51329
Tree pruner	"	)	
(6' lightweight)	"	)	
Bulb planter	"	)	Hertford 56479
Lawn spreader	"	)	
Lawn roller	"	)	

Duplicating Service

Lynne Coleman                      15 Cumberland Close                      Hertford 57813

Charges:-                      Setting up                      50p  
100 sheets (printed 1 side)                      £1.50  
100 sheets (printed 2 sides)                      £2.00  
(minimum charge £2.00)

Charges include white or coloured paper.

Typing

Mavis Bishop                      24 Cowper Crescent                      Hertford 56292

Typing for the duplicating service or otherwise.

Bengeo Parish Hall, Duncombe Road

Bookings and enquiries

Mrs C. Ruoss                      1, Lodge Close                      Hertford 53284

Charge £2.85 per hour.

Home Selection Pottery Parties

Eileen Rosier                      89 Cowper Crescent                      Hertford 58530

