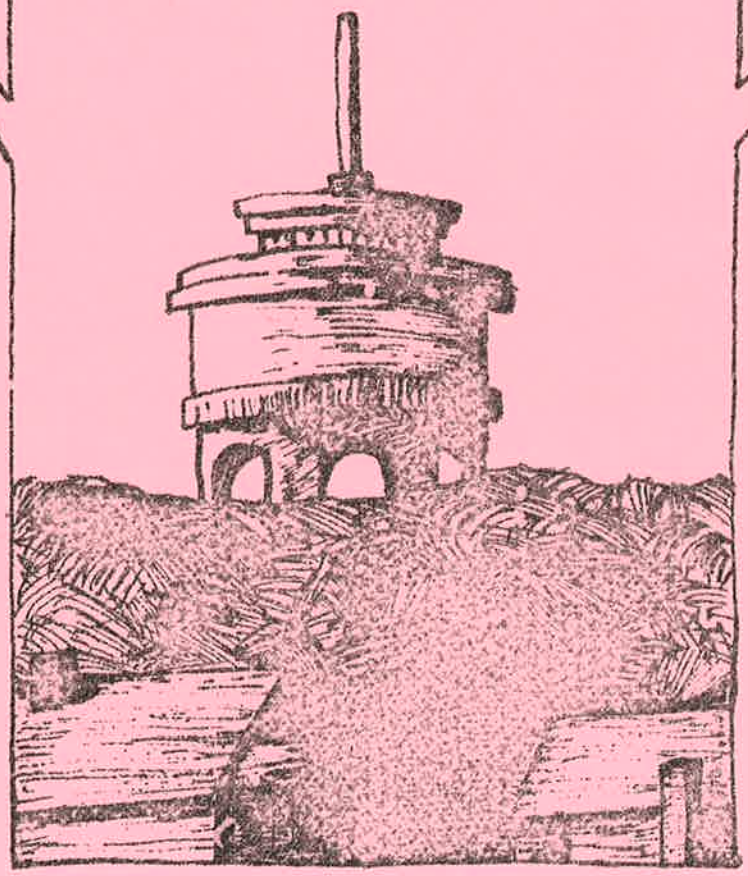
Autumn 1983

MOLEWOOD OUTLOOK



Autumn '83

The Front Cover

First of all our thanks are sent to Susan Payne of 116 Cowper Crescent, for the lovely design we are using for this issue's front cover. Susan is 17 years old and is at present in the Upper Sixth Form at Simon Balle School.

Congratulations Susan!

Many thanks also to all the other young people who sent in their drawings. We shall be issuing another invitation when we have exhausted our present supply.

Ideas

On our rounds collecting subscriptions this year we have also collected some ideas that might benefit the community.

1. One suggestion was that it might be possible to organise lifts in cars for elderly people who wished to attend evening performances in the town - in Castle Hall for instance. As the last bus leaves the town at 6.10 p.m. and as many people do not like to be out after dark alone anyway, it seems like a very good idea. The snag is that whereas everyone might agree that it would be very worthy, how many would actually be willing to take part? Obviously this is not going to work if only two or three people find themselves regularly called on.

We would like all of you who would be willing to be in a pool of drivers to contact one of the Committee Members (Chairman Deryck Rhodes 20, The Avenue 51371). You would only be called upon now and then and of course the more in the pool the fewer the calls on each individual.

Also if you are elderly, car-less or otherwise incapacited and you think you would benefit from this service we would also like to hear from you, so that we can assess the demand.

Please think about it and get in touch with us.

2. Another idea was about the Play Space. It was suggested that some swings and possibly a round-a-bout, seesaw, etc., could be provided for the children of the area. We have looked at this and the cost would be considerable, also there is the fact that where there is moving apparatus there is always the increased risk of accidents. On the other hand children certainly like swings and other playground equipment, so what do you think?

Mr. and Mrs Joiner of 16, Desborough Close (tel. no. 50226) whose suggestion it was in the first place, have agreed to have their name, address and telephone number published in this Newsletter. Anyone who is interested in helping to get this scheme going should get in touch with them. They can then assess the degree of commitment and enthusiasm.

They are very keen and would love to hear from you.

Adventure Playground

Still on the subject of children's play we have expressed our concern to the Council about the state of the existing equipment, and have received a promise of some action soon. They will, we hope, bring everything up to standard and ensure that it is all safe.

Alas it has been reported that there has been some dumping of garden rubbish and broken glass in the spinney! This of course is dangerous for children and animals, and it may be a good time to mention the official 'Dump' as it

is possible some people may not know about it. Well, it is situated on the left hand side of the B1001 Watton Road between the Wadesmill roundabout and Ware. It is open at these times throughout the year:-

	April to September	October to March
Mon - Wed	8.00 a.m. - 7.00 p.m.	8.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.
Thurs	closed	closed
Fri - Sat	8.00 a.m. - 7.00 p.m.	8.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.
Sun	9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.	9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

The amount of litter near the shops and on the greens round the Estate is also distressing. The whole area could be greatly improved with just a little more care.

Still on the subject of throwing things away, have you tried the joys of the Bottle Bank? There is deep satisfaction to be had in hearing the glass smash and knowing that you are doing something worthwhile at the same time. The Bottle Bank is to be found just behind the Post Office outside the Multistorey Car Park. Needless to say there is no litter bin to put the caps and corks in, so you have to take them back with you, but then all pleasures have to be paid for.

Children

We have heard that some children have been seen playing risky games on the roads of the Estate and may have been responsible for damage to road names.

If you think your child might be doing this ... well ... a word to the wise.?

Straw Burning

We have all been irritated this Summer by the infuriating habit of straw burning. And this annoyance has not been placated by an article in the Mercury in which we were told there was 'no alternative'. It seems though that the Countryside Commission has lost patience with the farmer's voluntary code of practice and has come down on our side. Perhaps in the next two or three years an alternative will have to be found.

Woodhall Close

In the last Newsletter mention was made of the possibility of providing a lay-by in Woodhall Close. Unfortunately we have been told there is no money available for it and when we hear of the appalling cut backs we can understand it, regretfully.

Overhanging branches

The days of wild wet weather are fast approaching and branches/hang heavy in the rain. Please look and see if any of your plants, bushes or trees are hanging over the pavement, cutting down its width, or just making things difficult for pedestrians. Thankyou.

The Bengeo Pit

You didn't think you were going to get away without 'The Pit' did you? Throughout the Summer the regulations were flouted as usual. There have been high noise levels, working on Sundays, and yet more rubbish has been dumped.

We have now written to Bowen Wells our MP about this, since all our other appeals have come to naught. We have also asked for help from the Hertfordshire Federation of Amenity Societies. They have also written

independantly to Bowen Wells. We are happy to tell you that we have heard from him expressing his sympathy and willingness to help. He may soon come here to see the situation for himself.

Could it be that something is going to happen?

For the benefit of new readers the story so far ...

Until 1976 the land behind Cowper Crescent - which is now the Pit - was owned by Mr. Benson (Senior). It consisted of a large field with horses and sheep. When Mr. Benson died his son Mr. Clive Benson discovered that his right to excavate gravel had almost expired. He started excavating just within the time limit, and from then on our area has been subject to noise, fumes, foul smelling smoke, litter and general deterioration. It was agreed at the beginning that the land would be restored to its former state when the gravel had been extracted, but that promise does not look like being kept - not willingly at least - unless we keep up our efforts to see that it is.

Thankyou

We have received a letter from Mrs Liffens who would like to thank publicly all those friends who gave her help when she badly needed it.

We quote this letter in full ...

Mrs Toni Liffens and Anthony would like to express a heartfelt "thank you" to our neighbours for all their help so warmheartly and spontaneously given to us during Paul's recent so unexpected illness.

In particular we would like to thank: Tony and Ann Campbell, Fred and Olive Church, Joan and John Roberts, Alan and Sheila Ledger, Mr. and Mrs Purkiss and Ron and June Dyer.

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Toni Liffens

Forthcoming events

Now, imagine it is February, Christmas is long over, Summer will never come, the days are cold, grey and damp. What can you do?

Come to the Scottish Dance we are holding at Richard Hale School! Fun, warmth, gaiety and colour are all guaranteed!

This is an early warning! Book the date, 18th February '84, now! Tickets will be available later.

That is all for now, please think over the points raised in this newsletter and if you think you can help either with the children's play equipment or the car pool, please let us know.