M O L E W O O D O U T L O O K

S P R I N G 1 9 8 9

CHAIRMAN/EDITOR'S REPORT

Once again the spring has 'sprung' and, like the flowers blooming in abundance all over the estate, the Molewood Outlook has blossomed once again with its spring edition. The Outlook is good for all on Molewood, for not only are we promised a 'summer of '75', but the Gravel problem has been shelved. No time for complacency however, as it will raise its gritty and choking problems in the future and we must be forever vigilant. Whilst George Sandell and his excellent C.A.G.E. team are spearheading the Campaign, there is no doubt that all our interests will be protected. But he needs our continued support - constantly!

A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting took place at Duncombe Hall on Wednesday 3rd May with a good turn out of residents who abandoned their gardens on a balmy warm spring evening. So, a big THANK YOU for your support! After the main business had been dispensed with (and some lively discussions on a wide range of topics), we were given an interesting talk by our new neighbourhood Bobby - John Baldwin. Thank you John and for your article which appears later. This was followed by our 'traditional' cheese and wine with the evening being rounded off by multi-talented JOHN BARNES who gave an entertaining chat on footpaths, gravel, and finishing off with audience-participating songs accompanied by John on guitar, ukulele and piano - although not all at once! Thank you John Barnes. Sadly, Betty Hall has decided that she can no longer spare the time to serve as Secretary - or indeed on the M.R.A. Committee, and has resigned. I know every member of the Association will wish to join myself and the committee in expressing a hearty thanks to Betty for her many years serving on the M.R.A. committee and for all her hard work.
WE ALL WISH YOU MANY HAPPY YEARS OF 'RETIREMENT', BETTY!
WELCOME to the new member and secretary appointed at the A.G.M. - RUTH HARRISON. Just one more vote of thanks - to all members of the Association for your continued support.

Allan Streeton

COVER PICTURE

The imaginative cover picture on this issue was provided by ANTHONY McCARTHY of 31, Cowper Crescent.

Anthony, age six, was featured in 'THIS WEEK' in March after winning a European camping holiday for his family. Artist Anthony designed a poster showing the beauty of a holiday under canvas which won a competition set up by the paper and Canvas holidays.

Like the three moles, we think Anthony will go a long way!

We are now looking for more young artists to adorn future front covers of the "Molewood Outlook". So ..... please send 'em in ..... on A4, including the words "Molewood Outlook" and with the srtist's Name, Address and Date of Birth. (Much better than the Royal Academy!)

Now something with a surprise twist - From Audrey Bower.

But we've always had Gravel pits

C.A.G.E.? Gravel Pits - we've always had gravel pits - I grew up in St. Albans - we had gravel pits there - good fun they were. We used a rusty, damaged piece of corrugated iron to use as a toboggan to slide down the side slope of one bit. Then there were tiny blue butterflies - Chalk Hill Blues I wonder - stink weed by the carpet full. Smashing hot sunny days, all this seems idyllic - and was to a group of us growing up in war time and not much to do - no seaside hols for us in the '40's. School holidays were just as much a headache then as now to Mum's which makes me remember ..... I was a young Mum with Andrew 9 months old sitting in his pram - lovely sunny day, washing drying, baby happy throwing his toys out of the pram AGAIN - Out I go to pick them up and check the washing. He is covered, the bedding is covered, in fact it looks a light sandy brown - yes - all is covered in a pale golden sand.

We live at Slip End, 10 minutes walk from Pepperstock, the South Luton junction of the M1. It is 1957 and we, poor innocent villagers, knew nothing when it was planned as to what we were going to live through for the next two years.

At first top soil was no problem - it was when they got down to the gravel, and dug out up to 30 metres down (which is taller than a house) and about the depth of the pits proposed along the B158 - and the same distance away).

If the wind was in our direction and doesn't it always seem to be, you could hear the continuous drone of the excavator engines, the stronger the wind the more dust was carried, not only on to your sleeping, playing children, washing or car. Windows outside and paintwork could be cleaned daily - and they still had sandy dust there at the end of the day.

Indoors - oh yes - you had to dust every day, and within an hour it was back - and you saw it grow in colour as the day wore on. If it was on the mantlepiece and book case it was on the carpet and if there, on every worktop in the kitchen - you had to continually wash down every surface before you started preparing a meal, even the draining board was continually gritty.

The roads which the lorries fouled taking away the "spoil" was swept by the familiar road sweeping lorries - all only displaced the dust when dry and the slurry when wet - you've guessed it - on to the pathways!

I could go on - but I think you must have got the picture - think - how will these proposed pits affect you personally - your child - will they recognise the danger - I didn't. I was lucky, in two years tarmac was laid and cars were racing up and down - we will have to live with it for 30 years - can you bear it - all that everlasting clearing up and washing down? Why not write NOW to your councillor and County Councillor while you think of it - don't wait until you are cursing the day "THEY" CAME.

Audrey Bower

Thank you for a different viewpoint, Audrey. (Were you trying to pull the wool over our eyes? !!!!)

A welcome contribution from our former editor .....

A Molewood Spring

What a pleasure it is to be in Molewood in the Spring!

I'm sure there are other places where flowers grow as well and trees are as beautiful but I happen to live here and very glad I am to do so.

I think that what makes our Estate particularly pleasing is that the flowers, shrubs and trees are not confined to one or two outstanding gardens, although we have some of those, but just about every garden makes its own contribution. It is a real pleasure to walk around, delivering Residents' Asscciation leaflets maybe and cast an eye over other people's plants; here is a superb heather garden, there a glorious magnolia and somewhere else an extra array of tulips.

I often wonder when walking up a front garden path what glories are hidden in the back garden but it is right that these should remain private. I remain however very grateful for the time and trouble most people spend in making the 'public' part of their gardens so attractive to everyone.

Particularly noticeable in the Spring are the trees resplendent in pink or white blossom, especially if you can view them against a pure blue sky. As you drive into the Estate from Bengeo Street they welcome you and they really are glorious at this time of year. Some areas have more than others, I don't think we can have too many, so if you haven't already got a flowering tree, how about it?

The work of the Residents' Association in the past few years installing tubs outside the shops and planting bulbs has enhanced the already high standard of our Estate achieved individually.

I think we should all feel justly proud of our own efforts and appreciative of everyone else's.

Valerie Sutton

"They" had arrived .....

'Twas on a Tuesday morning in April that something happened, which means that this estate will NEVER be the same again.

(Only read on if you're not of a nervous disposition)

THEY appeared as if from nowhere, and now took up their new positions. Standing sentinel outside what they considered to be THEIR new homes. Large, completely black, expressionless, - they stood tall, motionless but challenging all-comers. Surely they could never be tamed! By comparison, Arthur C. Clarke's MONOLITHS were friendly little creatures. It was uncanny, the view down the Crescent on that morning. They stood outside EVERY gate, disappearing into the distance like polka-dots. We never thought the day would come here in our parish but, there was no turning back now ..... Yes .....
The "WHEELEYS" HAD ARRIVED!

Well, what do YOU think of the new wheeley bins?
(Tell us and may be your views will be published in the next issue of Molewood Outlook).

MOLEWOOD HATCH (POLITE REQUEST!)

It has been observed that there are still one or two residents who use Molewood estate roads like Brands Hatch or Silverstone!

The dangers are made worse by street parking where there is more than enough room in driveways (its' so much bother driving into it, isn't it?)

Remember the vulnerable on the estate - children and the elderly - whose reactions are slower.

Don't lets' wait until the first serious incident occurs before we drive carefully around Molewood ..... PLEASE! (It could be on, YOUR child or elderly parent).

C.O.P.S.

This is not another plea for Neighbourhood Watch, but if you go to Balfour Street, Hertford, by the railway bridge over the disused Hertford to Welwyn line there is a small hall, vaguely ecclesiastical in looks, which is the Company of Players Club Theatre. It seats about 70 people and a visit to a production there is very much a "night out". Programmes are on each seat, sherry served before the play and coffee in the interval, all for the princely sum of £3. Their latest production of "The Aspern Papers" was extraordinarily rivetting, all the actors giving of their best. This is the production that the Company are presenting during Hertford Theatre Week and I hope they get an award, they thoroughly deserve it.

Bengeo Youth Club

In the late 70's (when I first came to Bengeo) there was a flourishing Youth Club under the leadership of Judy Stewart. She retired as Youth Leader a few years ago and her place was taken by Vicky Wales. Last JulyVicky resigned as Youth Leader as she was about to have a baby. Since then, sadly, there is no Youth Club. Would anyone care to start it up again? If so contact Bob Newton, County Youth Officer, Ware College.

Betty Hall

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

St. Leonard's Festival 9th - 14th June, 1989
Organ Recital 9th at 8 pm.
Historical Talk by Allan Greening 12th at 8 pm.
Choral Concert by the Seranata Choir 14th June at 8 pm.

Programmes available at door, prices for all events £2.50 each.
An Exhibition of Paintings and Embroideries will be in the church for all five days.

Holy Trinity Garden Fete - 15th July, 1989 - in the grounds of Bengeo Hall.

Spring Garden Competition

Beautiful!

To describe the Molewood Estate this Spring. I think this year has been one of the most colourful we have had, due in one way to the exceptional early warm weather bringing everything into bloom early, the other main factor is you! .. without your splendid efforts there would be no beautiful gardens to judge.

What a difficult task you set me this time, but here it goes, generally Spring gardens are judged for their overall colour and variety and length of flowering, i.e. a balanced spring garden should ideally have a succession of bulbs, plants/trees in flower for approx 2/3 months.

The winners are:-

1st Mrs Digweed 31 Lodge Close
2nd Miss Ison & Miss Jolly 128 The Avenue
3rd Mrs Singers 136 Cowper Crescent
4th Mr & Mrs Payne 116 Cowper Crescent
5th Mr & Mrs Draper 22 Peel Crescent
6th Mr & Mrs McGuire 79 Cowper Crescent

The following all commended:-

Peel Cres.	Wick	Desborough	Avenue	Cowper
3	38	1	44	48
10	40		34	46
14			134	30
26				4
				10
				134
				76

I would like to bring to your notice at this point that Hertford (which includes us) is entering again the Britain in Bloom Competition, see next item featured. I and the Hertford in Bloom Committee ask everyone in Molewood to continue the splendid planting schemes from the Spring into Summer Displays so that we can be truly proud of representing the Area for Britain in Bloom. Gardens will be judged again on these displays for a Summer/Autumn Residents Association competition. So happy planting!

To continue on the same theme; Hertford is having its own"Hertford in Bloom Day" on Saturday 1st July 1989. It will be held in the Castle grounds, with marquees and displays featuring the theme based on flowers - Craft Workers - Flower Club Displays - Garden Centres - dancing groups - Florists - Hitchin Band Concert playing music with floral themes - Hertford Art Society will be exhibiting in the Seed Warehouse - The Castle itself will be open and decorated with flowers - some local churches are hoping to participate with flower festivals. A possible competition for children will hopefully come to fruition with entry on the day and based round the castle area. There will also be a general raffle as well for everyone. Strawberry Cream teas is hopefully another possibility that is being pursued. Rialto are again sponsoring a Photographic Competition in conjunction with Hertford in Bloom Day. Please see further item for details. There are more participants also not mentioned as yet, to add to what should

be a very enjoyable day out so please note the date in your diary. We have been extremely lucky in obtaining the "InterfloraBus" to attend our show, a lovely attraction on its own, visiting to name just a few venues, the Easter Parade in London - Harrogate flower show - Royal Windsor Horse Show - and many County and Lord Mayors Parades.

A more detailed programme will be available nearer the date - entry to everything is free! so please support this event and make Hertford Bloom!

Could we ask if anyone is willing to help, even in only a small way on the day? Please phone Pam Lutner - Hertford 581329 if you can. Thank you.

Pam Lutner

The following accounts have been prepared and were approved at the AGM. Thank you Dennis for keeping us solvent - almost!

MOLEWOOD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - YEAR 1988-89

1988			1989	
316		Membership subscriptions	451	
18		Interest received - Bradford & Bingley	13	
304		Income from Social Functions	-	
39		Neighbourhood Watch - contributions	-	
	677			464
49		A.G.M.	57	
299		Cost of Social Functions	-	
176		Newsletter, Notices etc	379	
57		Competition Prizes	59	
12		Presentations and Subscriptions	20	
71		Britain in Bloom	-	
7		Neighbourhood Watch	62	
34		Postage and Telephone	5	
30		Depreciation on Duplicator	30	
	735			612
	(58)	Deficit for Year		(148)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 1989

ACCUMULATED FUND

	540	Balance at 1 April 1988	482
	(58)	Deficit for the Year	(148)
	482		334
	120	Equipment less Depreciation	90
	331	Bradford and Bingley B.S. Account	170
		National Westminister Bank	
9		Current Account	51
22	31	Deposit Account	23 74
	482		334

Subject to Audit

Dennis Goodrum - Treasurer

Hertford in Bloom 1989

Photographic Competition

In 1988 Rialto Group plc, in conjunction with Hertford Town Council and the Hertford Britain in Bloom Committee, sponsored trophies for a photographic competition with the theme of Hertford in Bloom. In 1989 it is hoped that the competition will attract even more entries and, as in 1988, the competition will be judged by a team from the Hertford and District Camera Club.

There are three classes for the competition, which is intended to encourage amateur photographers and will take place annually.

The classes are:-

A. Over 60 years old

B. Up to 18 years old

C. Open class

The presentation of trophies will take place in the Castle Grounds, Hertford, on Saturday 1st July as part of the Hertford Britain in Bloom event when the winning entries will be on display.

Rules

1. The competition is open to residents of the town of Hertford and to pupils attending schools in the town.

2. The subject of the competition is "Hertford in Bloom" and entries must be photographs of scenes within the town boundaries.

3. The entries must be colour prints of not less than enprint size (5" x 3½") and not more than 10" x 8" and may be titled.

4. The entries must state on the back which class they are entered for (Class A, Class B or Class C) and the name and address of the entrant. For class B, the age and school attended should be stated. It is recommended that light pressure should be used in writing in order not to damage the photograph.

5. Trophies will be held for one year and competed for annually.

6. The closing date for entries is 12 noon on Monday 12th June 1989 and entries should be delivered to the Town Clerk's office at Hertford Castle by that date.

7. Hertford Town Council and the Britain in Bloom Committee reserve the right to use the entries in any appropriate way.

8. The judges' decision is final.

Molewood Neighbourhood Watch Scheme - Pam Lutner

The above scheme has been running now for over three years. You had delivered a leaflet in February time explaining what Neighbourhood Watch was about and how it works. I hope this proved useful. There is a separate committee of people representing various areas of the estate and High Molewood who meet on a monthly basis to discuss any issues or crimes etc relevant to us at the time. Luckily, these are few and far between compared to most areas. I would like to say welcome to our new Neighbourhood Policeman, John Baldwin, who some people have already seen and met. John's letter follows on from this so I won't duplicate words and would just like to reiterate what he says about reporting anything suspicious - however slight you may think it to be, it could be important to someone else or the police.

To refresh your memories, your deputy co-ordinators awaiting calls besides myself are:-

Pat Brooks	87 Cowper Crescent	587809
David Hall	132 Cowper Crescent	586752
Cherry & Ray Garner	73 Cowper Crescent	589741
Paul Liffers	118 The Avenue	587974
Brian Bower	28 The Avenue	586321
Edith Ruggles	17 Lys Hill Gardens	558549
John Franks	11 Peel Crescent	582028
Brian Euler	52 The Wick	558619
Heidi Scott	6 Woodhall Close	
Margaret Read	"Wroxham" High Molewood	586820

Overall Co-ordinator

Pam Lutner	107 Cowper Crescent	581329

At various times you will receive leaflets etc. put through your letterboxes to help you combat crime and give information on various matters, these are issued by the Home Office, via the Police and Neighbourhood Watch Committee for your perusal and to keep you informed on latest security equipment - safety etc. With your newsletter you will find enclosed a new window sticker to show that you are in a Neighbourhood Watch area, and to make the scheme work it is essential for the sticker to be placed in everyones door or window where it can be clearly seen by callers or passers by.

At various points round the estate you will see notice boards in gardens - when information is received from the Police relevant to our area this is posted on the boards for everyone to read, so that people can be warned quickly. Please tell neighbours also.

I know I have made this plea before, but won't apologise for it again as it is extremely important for everyone living in Molewood - Please could I have a few more people come forward to represent the following areas on the committee, it is in your own interest as well as others - Please call from anywhere on the Estate but particularly from

Desborough Close	No representative
Cumberland Close	No representative
The Avenue	Two or three more needed
Peel Crescent	Two more needed
The Wick	Two more needed

Please call me on Hertford 581329 and remember in the words of Shaw Taylor, "Keep the eyes peeled".

Pam Lutner - Chief Co-ordinator
107 Cowper Crescent - 581329

Hi!

My name is John Baldwin and I am your new resident neighbourhood police officer. I am 37 years old (38 in May) and will have been in the police service for 19 years in June of this year. I am married with two children (14 and 7). My career has been very varied, working at Hoddesdon, Hertford, Hatfield and Stevenage and have specialised on Traffic Department and Scenes of Crime (fingerprints photography and scientific) which I completed at the end of February of this year to join you. I have been attached to this department for what would have been 12 years in May of this year. From this it can be seen I have a varied practical knowledge of investigation of both Traffic and Crime and am determined to put such knowledge to effect. I am approachable, honest and direct and if I offend I apologise in advance but you can't change a persons personality.

I have found Bengeo since the beginning of March when I took the job over, a fairly sleepy community, much of which disappears during working hours. During the evening and early night however it turns into a general thoroughfare for a few individuals that both you and I can well do without. Bengeo mainly suffers from a few unthoughtful individuals who seem to enjoy causing a nuisance in relation to petty damage and theft of other persons property. I and/or the sectional police officer cannot stop this on our own. Your help is needed, not only for the matter previously described but in all matters. The police cannot work efficiently without your help and it is a pointless exercise when a policeman calls, saying - 'Oh a day or so ago I saw someone who I thought was a bit odd or suspicious'. We need to know immediately or if it is general information about person or persons then I will speak to you confidentially. Don't keep information to yourselves, let me know about it. After all that's one of the reasons I am here, to help you.

Generally Bengeo suffers from as already stated, minor damage and theft. However, theft from motor cars is also fairly common in certain areas. Entry is normally gained by smashing a door window and stealing visible property or cassette radios. Keep your eyes open and if you know anything speak to me. I believe some of the perpetrators live in other areas and those of you who live around footpaths leading to Great Molewood or Sacombe Road should especially be aware of strange people walking to and from, particularly around the hours of 8 pm., and if you are a night owl about 2 am., when a great deal of the offences occur. Burglary offences do occur not on a vast scale, but do happen. Gone are the days when a scruffy individual is the sole offender. Suited persons, those that would not appear to be out of place in your community are the ones to look out for. Also beware of the door to door salesman. Those generally selling double glazing or window cleaning services and household wares. Ask to see identities. If in doubt call Hertford Police Station (587711) IMMEDIATELY not in ½ hours time IMMEDIATELY, if you don't and something happens who I wonder will have the conscience. It certainly won't be me as I haven't seen them.

There you go then, we all live in the community and rely on each other's good will and friendship. No one is an island, it's surprising how one day you will need assistance for one reason or another from your neighbour. Whether this may be information re a crime that has happened to you or for many other purposes. Let me have the information that you have, it may be nothing to you but to me it may be all important. I have had some decent results since I've been here but I can still do a lot more if you help me and I hope our time together will be useful. From 1st of May this year the system of policing is

changing yet again and you will not see me very often riding a cycle, as I am sure a lot of you have already. I still will have responsibility for you, however, three of us will be working Bengeo along with other areas, but that should not stop a working relationship with me as your local bobby.

Many thanks,

John Baldwin

Thank you John.
We are also informed that ..... Stock is being stolen from Bengeo Garden Centre. Police have been notified and enquiries are in hand. Street signs on the estate have been damaged. Police have their suspicions.

OLD HERTFORD

Following on from Malcolm Mouldings interesting episodes in past issues of 'outlook', we have persuaded Malcolm to give us further insights into our town's fascinating history:-

HENRY VIII's SURVEY AND THE CHARTER OF MARY TUDOR

Continuing with our history of Hertford, a survey was made of the town when Henry VIII succeeded to the throne. An account was given to him of the castle as follows:

"It adjoyneth to the King's Town of Hertford, was parcel of his Duchy (of Lancaster), hath competent lodgings for His Grace, if it shall be his pleasure to lye there for a season: There is a faire river that runneth along by the North side thereof, the water serveth all the offices; there is very little Garden ground, but a large Courtyard, almost built round with faire lodgings; a small park, little more in compass than a mile distant from the Castle not a quarter, having a convenient lodge built with timber; 'tis well stored with timber-trees, fuel, wood and coal in these parts; six or seven pounds, or a less sum, would yearly keep the Castle and houses about it, staunch and dry, when the King shall please to lodge there, £40 or £50 must be bestowed upon the Houses, Hostelry, Pantry and such other ruined Houses or offices to make it convenient for His Grace; because they are now so ruinous and decayed; whereof the last year anno 150 Henry VIII, William Byrd, the King's Receiver by his warrant, allowed £71 17s 5d towards the repair thereof; which certificate is filed among the papers in the Receipt of the Exchequer.

The extent of the Castle and town, made for Henry VIII, was the second one, the first being made for Edward III, founder of the Hertford Estates. Queen Mary I, daughter of Henry VIII, by her Charter dated the 17th February, 1554, incorporated this Borough, by the naming of Bailiff and Burgesses, granted to the perpetual succession, that the Bailiff shall be yearly chosen out of the Burgesses on the Thursday after the Feast of St. Michael, and if the Bailiff shall die within the year, then another Burgess shall be chosen within six days. He shall be sworn before the Steward, and all Constables shall be chosen at the same time.

The Bailiff and Burgesses shall choose whatsoever Tenants or ...

inhabitants are resident within the Borough whom they shall think fit to be Burgess.

In 1554 Queen Mary constituted Christopher Marston the first Bailiff, and also sixteen Burgesses: Christopher Marston, William Smith, Edmond Wilson, Thomas Bircherly, Nicholas Bole, Thomas Bole, Nicholas Shelley, John Farrar, Henry Petchey, John Willoshed, Henry Hopkins, Thomas Archer, Thomas Lawrence, John Cooper, John Cranwell and Henry Roberts to continue so long as they behaved themselves well.

The Bailiff and Burgesses shall yearly hold three fairs in Hertford, one in the Parish of St. Andrews, on the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist, and the Even and the Morrow of the same Feast, another on the Feast of St. Simon and Jude for the like time, and another Fair on the Passion Sunday in Lent, for the same time, with Pipowder Courts, Stallage Piccage, and all other profits, Amerciaments, Actions, Commodities, and Emoluments whatsoever, with all Liberties and free Customs, to such Fairs appertaining, paying 13s 4d to the Queen for the three Fairs at Michaelmas every year.

CAUSES FOR CONCERN

YAPPING DOGS! We all know how worrying and nerve racking, hour upon hour of dogs barking can be. So dog owners become dog lovers and don't lock them out and leave them barking until they're horse(!).

BONFIRES. The faint whisp of wood burning on the summer air can be pleasant but WATCH that wind please. If its' carrying a black pall onto next doors' freshly laundered smalls or through open windows of an asthma sufferer, let the new 'wheeleys' devour it! No we're NOT moaning, just appealing to your better sense of neighbourliness - i.e. consider others.

AUDIENCE ON READER PARTICIPATION is what we would like for future issues.

So how about an article on your favourite subject, adventure or something appropriate for the scheduled Autumn issue, your Special Holiday. So far, contributions have been from your committee, but THEY would also like to hear your views.

If a fully fledged article is too much, write as a letter for publication. So, a new heading in the next issue ... "READERS LETTERS" starting with ..... YOURS!

POLL TAX

This "dreaded" tax will soon be upon us and, yet do we all understand this COMMUNITY CHARGE AND NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATE to give it its correct title.

Some of the questions and answers printed in the East Herts District Council Finance departments leaflet are printed below.

The Comm[illegible]

What is [illegible]ty charge?

From 1st [illegible] 1990 the way in which your Council raises money to pay for local [illegible]es is going to change.
The rates [illegible] you now pay are based on the rateable value of your dwelling.
This system [illegible] be abolished and be replaced by a personal community charge payab[illegible] individuals.
Other communit[illegible]harges will affect those with more than one home and also landlords of multiple occupied dwellings.

Who will pay?

Almost everyone aged 18 or over.

Who will not pay?

- Those under 19 and still at school
- Those serving prison sentences
- Severely mentally handicapped people
- Resident hospital patients
- Diplomats
- Some monks and nuns

What about students?

Those who are undertaking an approved full time course of education will be required to pay 20% of the personal community charge to the Council where the student resides during term time.

The Register

How will the Council know who to charge?

By canvassing every household and by comparing existing records. Someone will have to complete a registration form on behalf of their household. There will be a period of 21 days to complete and return the form.

Where will this information be kept?

The Council will set up a community charges register of everyone who will be liable to pay a charge.
You will be given a copy of your entry on the register and will be entitled to inspect the public version of the register.

Do I have to register?

YES, failure to do so could result in a fine of £50, rising to £200 per offence if you continue not to register.

What happens if I move?

You will have to inform the community charges registration officer of the Council whenever your circumstances change. It may be that they will affect your entry on the register.
Here are some examples of a change in circumstances:-

* you move house
* a young person in your household reaches the age of 18
* an adult comes to live with you
* an adult leaves your household
* a person becomes/ceases to be exempt

By law everyone will have to inform the Council of any change which they think the community charges registration officer may need to know.

Payment

How will I know what to pay and when?

Bills will be sent to everyone individually in March 1990. The amount payable will be set by the Council around February 1990.

Will I have to pay it all at once?

NO, you will normally pay over 10 monthly instalments unless you wish to pay half yearly or yearly in advance.

Can I pay on behalf of someone else?

YES, by arrangement with the Council.

What if I can't afford to pay?

People on low incomes may be entitled to community charge benefit. The maximum rebate will be 80% of the community charge.
Students who are paying the reduced bill will not be entitled to receive community charge benefit.
Further information about this will be available around January 1990.

What if I am in well paid employment but my wife/husband/partner has no income - can he/she receive community charge benefit?

NO, the income of both partners is taken into account when assessing benefit.

What if my husband/wife/partner fail to pay?

You will both be jointly responsible for payment.

What happens if I do not pay?

The Council can summons you and take possession of your goods. The Council will also be able to instruct your employer to deduct amounts from you by means of an Attachment of Earnings order.

What about other members of my household?

You will not be held responsible for paying a community charge on behalf of other members of your household who may fail to pay. For example, sons, daughters or parents.

The Timetable

What can I expect to happen over the next few months?

May - June 1989	community charge registration forms will be sent to every household in the District.
December 1989	the community charges register will be in force. Everyone will receive a copy of their entry.
January - February 1990	the Council will set the community charge and the Government will set the national non-domestic rate.
March 1990	community charge and national non-domestic rate bills will be issued.
1st April 1990	payment of community charge begins.

The leaflet also contains information on Businesses.

BLOOMIN' BRITAIN

With such "flower power" on this estate, we thought the following question and answer extracts from 'BRITAIN IN BLOOM' would be of interest to most householders.

WHAT IS BRITAIN IN BLOOM?

The Britain in Bloom competition is a nationwide campaign to make our cities, towns and villages even more beautiful by using plants, trees, shrubs and flowers and imaginative landscaping - not forgetting it can be so easily spoilt by unsightly litter!

WHAT DOES BRITAIN IN BLOOM ACHIEVE?

It brightens up town and country not only for residents but also for many millions of tourists from home and abroad. The competition encourages the conservation of pleasant natural features, the embellishment of man-made areas and the screening or removal of eyesores in industrial quarters. It makes a floral welcome for visitors and in a number of cases it has resulted in a healthy tourist industry where none existed before.

WHO CAN TAKE PART?

Everybody. The campaign depends on the backing of the community as a whole. The local authority, chambers of trade and commerce, Rotary, Inner Wheel, Lions, W.I's, Townswomen's Guilds, horticultural societies, civic groups, schools, colleges, shops, offices, garages, hotels,

hospitals and so on. All have a part to play. Not forgetting the individual whose front garden can make or mar a campaign.

HOW TO ORGANISE SUPPORT

Many successful cities, towns and villages have formed local "Britain in Bloom" action committees which enlist the support of private and public organisations, business, societies and private citizens in the area. Community pride has achieved some remarkable results.
You do not have to be beautiful to start with. Some very unprepossessing places have transformed themselves and judges allow for varying environments.
In 1988 a new record number of cities, towns and villages (1000) entered Britain in Bloom in its 25th year.
It is confidently hoped that more than 1000 places will compete in 1989.

CHILDREN CAN TAKE PART, TOO

The highly successful competition in which children are invited to paint their interpretation of Britain in Bloom for each month of the year to form the basis of a calendar is being repeated for the fifth year running.
It is hoped that the standard of painting will enable a Britain in Bloom calendar for 1991 to be produced and offered for sale. Details of the competition are already with the local organisers (see "How to enter" telephone numbers).

HOW BRITAIN IN BLOOM WORKS

There are six categories of entry for cities, towns and villages based on population figures (see winning category trophies listed under "What Can You Win?").
Entries are submitted by the relevant district or borough council, town or other local council, or by the approved local organising committee to the appropriate national or regional organisation responsible for running the first stage of the competition. The entries must be submitted on the official application forms provided by the appropriate national or regional body (see back panel of leaflet for contact details under "How to Enter").

ENGLAND

The competition has a second stage in England where the English Tourist Board organises England in Bloom. In most areas the England in Bloom competition is organised in conjunction with the Regional Tourist Board or Regional committee, (e.g. Southern Tourist Board and Northumbria in Bloom) who submit the winning entries from their areas following judging which they organise themselves at the first stage of the competition. The England in Bloom judges select two winners from each of the six city, town and village categories (i.e. total of 12). These are entered into the "Britain in Bloom" competition organised by The Tidy Britain Group.

NATIONAL JUDGING

The panel of national judges will be looking for:

* The overall effort in support of the Britain in Bloom campaign. The floral impact should be visibly evident on entry to a city, town or village and should extend through all areas. The central areas where

many people congregate are specially important but improvements should not be limited to the centre.

* Actual achievements taking into consideration the circumstances of the area.

* Enthusiasm and commitment from everyone.

* The public sector which includes maintenance of road verges, roundabouts, parks, car parks, schools, cemetries and sports facilities, police and fire stations, railway and bus stations and hospitals.

* Individual and corporate efforts by hotels, banks, shops, offices, garages, inns, chambers of trade, universities, etc.

* Participation by residents and the public. Private and council housing estates, special efforts by young people, OAP flats or houses, voluntary or local organisations, churches and hospital gardens.

* Judges look for efforts and improvements made since the last national judging where this applies.

* Absence of litter and contribution towards the aims of The Tidy Britain Group.

* Photographic evidence of Spring planting.

* BRITAIN IN BLOOM WINNERS WILL BE THOSE WHO ARE SUPPORTED BY ALL SECTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY.

BRITAIN IN BLOOM AWARDS

Apart from the many regional and local prizes the following are the National trophies to be won.:

LARGE CITY TROPHY - Presented by Barratt Developments PLC.(over 120,000 population)

CITY TROPHY - (70,000-120,000 population) - Presented by the British Tourist Authority.

LARGE TOWN TROPHY - (20,000-70,000 population) - Presented by the Worshipful Company of Gardeners.

TOWN TROPHY - (2,000-20,000 population) - Presented by the British Tourist Authority.

NATIONAL FINALISTS ALSO STAND TO WIN:

ASMER TROPHY - Presented by Asmer Seeds Ltd for best display of bedding plants raised from seed by a Parks Department.

BARRATT INNER CITY TROPHY - Presented by Barratt Developments. The precise criteria for the award in 1989 is under review.

"BEAUTIFUL BRITAIN" AWARD - Presented by the British Tourist Authority for new and extensive landscaping.

BOB HARE AWARD - Discretionary award by National Judges.

GORDON FORD TROPHY - Presented by Gordon Ford for the best commercial effort.

KEEP BRITAIN TIDY AWARD - Presented by Fulvia Lewis - to the finalist best achieving the aims of The Tidy Britain Group.

MORAN MEMORIAL TROPHY - Discretionary award by National Judges.

THE ROSE GROWERS ASSOCIATION - Presented to the two village category winners with a selection of rose bushes.

ENTENTE FLORALE

Each year two eligible winning national finalists in the Britain in Bloom competition are put forward by the British Tourist Authority to compete with their continental European counterparts and stand a chance of international honours.

HOW TO ENTER

Contact:

ENGLAND
East Midlands)
East Anglia) (0242) 842720
S.E. England)

STOP PRESS - More dates for your diary.

World Wide Fund for Nature will be having stalls on the following dates:-

6th May Barkway Market (all day)
1st July Ware Carnival (all day)
2nd Sept. Hertford Carnival (afternoon)
29th May County Day (all day)
22nd July Bengeo Cottage Gardeners Society (afternoon)

FINALLY, THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR SUPPORT .....

.....SUBSCRIPTIONS .....AND NOW ...

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!