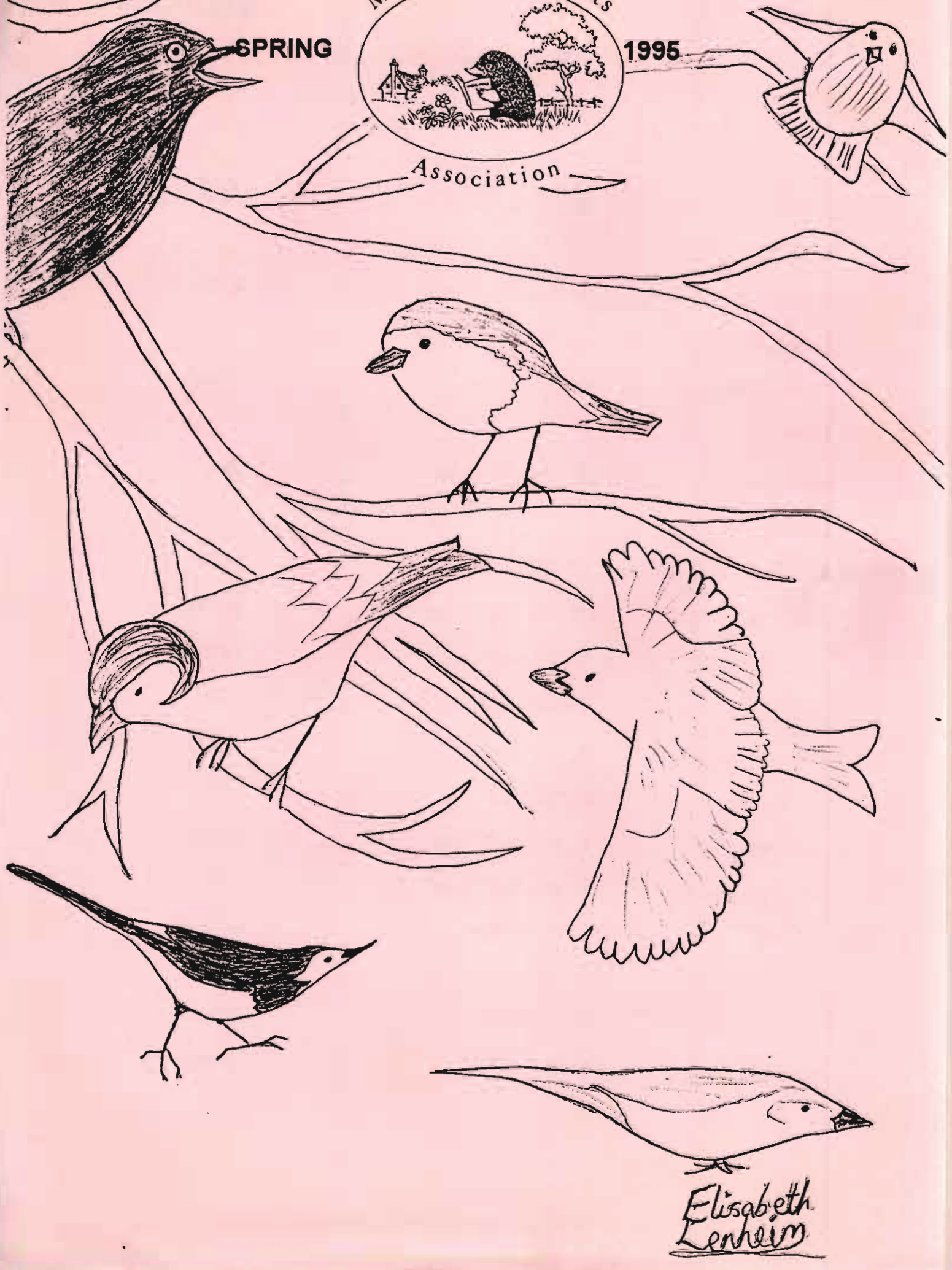
MOLEWOOD OUTLOOK

Molewood Residents Association

SPRING 1995



Elisabeth Lenheim

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Molewood Residents Association



NAME	ADDRESS	TEL NO
Chairperson		
Pam Lutner	107, Cowper Crescent	581329
Treasurer		
Dennis Goodrum	43, The Avenue	587341
Editor		
Allan Streeton	22, Cowper Crescent.	586217
Secretary		
Margaret Greenfield	111, The Avenue	581924
Olive Church	122, Cowper Crescent	583412
Joan Murrell	38, Cowper Crescent	587595
Heidi Scott	6, Woodhall Close	558208
Gilbert Smith	15, The Drive	583168
Pat.Thomas	64, The Wick.	587901
Joan Walkom	12, Woodhall Close	587297
Harry Walkom	12. Woodhall Close	587297
Pat Betts	42, The Wick.	504057
Ken Lupton	23, Desborough Close	586037
Marie Archer	56, The Wick	581965
Ronnie Cuneen	34, The Drive	581698

MOLEWOOD OUTLOOK

SPRING '95



Spring is at last in the Molewood air and, once again, a young (and not so young!) resident's fancy turns to thoughts of.....gardens, holidays, sports, decorating (sorry !) and walks in the delightful local countryside.

One young lady who has turned *her* thoughts to Spring is:

Elisabeth Lenheim

age 11 of 5, The Orchard.

Elisabeth is a student of Bengeo County Primary school and her excellent drawing adorns the cover of this M.O. Amongst her interests are art and crafts (she made a bust of the Head Teacher), is keen on badminton, netball and gymnastics. At school she enjoys technology, history and science. She was one of a class who won a national competition with an appearance on T.V. and radio.

She now has *two* permanent reminders of her talents !

PAWS FOR THOUGHT

Dogs, of corse,love the Spring and it's great to see them bounding across the meads.



They seem to be training their owners in the poop-a-scoop art, although there are *still* some recalcitrant two-legged friends who seem to be 'untrainable', in spite of the *hefty* fines that could be imposed on them.

Keep on to them..... 'Fido'!

FUN NIGHT OUT ! come on down to..... SELE SCHOOL ON 22nd. April for a nostalgic *'Sounds of the 60's/70's Night.*



Tickets ONLY £5. each INCLUDING supper ! Dancing to the fabulous CHEETAH band live ,with raffles and all the fun of dancing away through the Spring evening !



Tickets for this much-advertised event, a Molewood *special* evening ,may have all been sold before you get this, but enquire from one of the committee members anyway !

A CHILDREN'S PARTY DISCO

was organised by the Committee in December when some of the funds were well spent in a real 'fun' afternoon specially for the children and grandchildren of Association members. Committee member *Joan Walkom* reports that over 60 children, who were very well behaved, attended (Well done, mums !) Joan thanks everyone involved for all their help and for the donations of cakes,sandwiches, etc. from the Committee members. Also,to McDonalds of Hertford for their ' Orange Ball ' for drinks and paper cups and balloons. Woolworths of Hertford gave £6 to spend on sweets and chocolate.

Thank you very much !

This must have been a success as Joan was asked when another similar party would be held.

TO WHAT BETTER USE could a small proportion of the Association's subscriptions be put ?

xxxxxxxxxx

PRIZE-PLEA.....
If anvone can donate raffle prizes for the '60's NIGHT OUT it would be WARMLY appreciated ! Many thanks.

NOTICE OF A.G.M.

Another date for your diary.....

Tuesday 16th. MAY 1995 when, at 7.30 p.m., the Annual General Meeting of the Molewood Residents' Association will take place at BENGEO COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL. As always a good evening is anticipated with food and something with which to wash it down PLUS some entertainment and you do not have to worry about driving !.

We look forward to your company.



OiI ON TROUBLED WATERS ?

The Exon Caldiz may seem a long way from Molewood...BUT...people who service their cars at home and pour the drained oil into the surface drains can be harming our wildlife!
This water seeps through to the rivers in which lives our natural wildlife, the swans and ducks who frequently have to be captured and cleansed free of the killer oil with detergents.

So, please take the used oil down to the Council dump and deposit it in the drums provided.





GARDENS

are just beginning to blossom out and the Greens are looking greener.

You may have wondered why groups of people start digging up the Greens from time to time. No, they are not vandals but members of your committee planting Spring bulbs which, we hope, will now be evident!

The 'vandals' will be at it again this Autumn with, we hope, YOUR help, if you can spare a Sunday morning.

xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Firstly, apologies to *David Kenney* of 34, The Avenue for omitting to mention that he won FIRST prize in the Summer 1994 'Small Garden Competition ', Hertford Britain in Bloom.
Well done to all our winners last year ! It is lovely to see the efforts put in to the majority of gardens in Molewood.Why not come and join in ? YOU too could grow a winner!

The Spring garden competition speaks for itself, a display of bulbs, flowers and trees that are truly spring- like are what is looked for here, along with planted pots/tubs, window boxes etc: so, if this is YOUR time of year, judging will be SOON.

The summer/autumn competition is judged later in the year, usually in September, so as not to clash with ' Hertford in Bloom ' in July.
More details are looked for here, not necessarily just the summer display. The length of the display which lasts until the first frosts is looked for, as is the use of flowering shrubs, window box displays, hanging baskets, pots, variety of plants and use of

The more varied the better, so come on you keen gardeners, now is the time to start planning and sowing !

KIDS' SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

Something also for the *junior* gardeners out there!!
Grow-a-giant-sunflower competition. There will be 3 prizes, for the three tallest by the end of the summer, so — get your seeds now !
Just collect a form from any committee member, fill it in to register, and off you go!
Judging will be late summer. GOOD LUCK

TAKE A SEAT whilst enjoying it all when you stroll round the estate.
Your committee are looking into the possibility of providing two more seats on the estate, sites yet to be determined.
We are also trying to get the old derelict wooden seat near the shops removed.

We hope you have noticed the new planting of the empty flower beds in The Wick, and corner of Cowper Crescent/The Avenue. Hopefully, in years to come, the plants will continue to expand and flourish.
We hope to add more shrubs and bulbs to the estate in the autumn for everyone's enjoyment.
ONE plea...please !Would mums and dads explain to their children that they have been planted there for ALL to look at and enjoy watching them flower, and NOT to pick them and throw them away ?
PLEA no. 2.....When visiting the shops by car, please do *not* park or drive on to the grass verges, it is spoiling the look of them and churning up the grass - apart from the fact that it is ILLEGAL!
Many thanks.

FATAL ATTRACTIONS !

Not ALL is sunshine and roses in our delectable flower beds or 'Gardens of Death'? For example, American poison ivy can give you an extremely nasty rash.
Of about 1500 native plants in the U.K. some 150 are *poisonous!*
These fall into three main catagories: the potentially lethal ; the phototoxics (from these you can get some very nasty blisters); and the allergy inducing plants or irritants.

Normally, death only occurs where actual *consumption* of the plants take place. Animals can be particularly vulnerable to plants, although most have a natural instinct which guides them in their choice of a *natural* meal.
Botonists believe that toxins are part of the plant's survival tactics against certain animals and insect *preditors.*
Safer indoors ? Not quite !
The little *primula* , to name but one, has hairs which are tipped with a chemical that causes inflammation of the skin.
About 6000 plant related calls are received at the National Poisons Unit of Guy's Hospital every year, many about toddlers who have eaten tasty-looking berries, although most survive after treatment.
There is, of course, plenty of information available in various book shops and libraries on the various species to avoid.



cars

Yes, some residents still use the estate roads like Silverstone!!
Maybe they are just trying to make time for that lost whilst trying to get through the town centre, now that the marvelous system of lights and crossings have been installed at Old Cross !
Still, take comfort in the thought that a car journey *from* the town to, say Ware or Hoddesdon need take only as long as driving *through* the town centre !
The other almost insoluble problem it seems is *PARKING.*
Many residents would rather park on the roadside, even though their drive might be completely empty. They are, of course, perfectly within their legal right to do so, provided they are not actually causing an *obstruction.* However, in many cases other drivers and pedestrians would be less at risk if the roads were a little clearer. Also, in narrow roads it can sometimes be difficult to negotiate access and egress where there are a line of cars opposite your own driveway.
Some mums are also requested to consider *other* mums, especially when dropping their kiddies off in the Sacombe road area.....please !
Once again, it all comes down to *consideraton for others !*

THE BOYS FROM BENGEO

TWO Cowper Crescent boys who are helping to keep Molewood firmly on the world map are.....



Kevin Bishop of no. 24, the ' Wodson Park Wonder'!
Hardly a week passes when Kevin is not featured in Mercury Sports page.

We reported on his trip to the U.S. last year and Kevin, although being wooed by the *Ivy League* universities over there, now hopes to stay in the good ol' U.K. and try for Loughborough university.
Wherever he goes, good luck Kevin !



From Bengeo to BORNEO is but one small step for Chris Sutton of no. 106.
The first part of his report on the RALEIGH INTERNATIONAL EXPEDITION starts right here :-

'Last October, just over one hundred Venturers left Heathrow for Malaysia on a Raleigh International Expedition. I was among them. From then on we would be spread across *Sabah* on the island of Borneo, to carry out physically and mentally demanding community, environmental and adventure projects, one of each.

After landing in the heat of *Kota Kinabalu* we embarked on a two day intensive jungle training programme. We learned how to set up a 'basha', a hammock slung between two trees, with a poncho as a roof and a mosquito net in between, cooking over a fire; basic first aid; river crossing; radio communication and navigation.

During our second day we experienced our first tropical storm, the sky grew dark and we could hear the thunder bouncing off the mountains. A cold furious wind sprung up, and within two minutes the rain was deafening.
It lasted the best part of an hour but we had had enough after five minutes !

Sleeping in that rainforest was an experience I cannot easily put into words. At about six o'clock it started getting dark and it was pitch black by five minutes past ! The insects started up at around five o'clock when the birds and animals faded out. We would sit around the camp first talking, then we would lie, precariously swinging in our hammocks, listening to the deafening insects and the rain.
Boots had to be put upside down on stilts in case spiders or scorpions climbed in

My first task was the community project called SEE (Surgical Eye Expedition). We had to screen villagers in remote Kampongs for cataracts and pterygium. Surgery would follow later. We were based on the side of a long deep valley, but we often travelled to remote Kampongs and slept on the floors of the village huts we were later to use for screening.

First we gave the eye chart test then checked for cataracts if a certain score was not reached. Pterygium was clearly visible in that examination. We screened well over a thousand people and referred about forty for surgery.

This was mentally exhausting but not too bad physically, although disease-ridden dogs were everywhere and cockroaches were a real problem, especially in the kitchen.

We had an amazing reception, everybody was pleased to see us, not having seen many white people before. They would wait as we drove along or mob us when we arrived, and they frequently invited us into their homes and cooked for us. The children were fantastic.

It was a shame to see the first phase come to an end. We all had a really good time and left with an enormous sense of achievement and satisfaction, knowing that the people referred for surgery would regain their sight thanks to us.

But all over Sabah the Venturers were making their way back to field base in Kita Kinabalu for a quick clean up and change over party, before setting off on the second project.

THANK YOU Chris.

We look forward to reading the second instalment of your Far East adventure in a later edition of Outlook.

IMPROVEMENTS - ON THE HOLE !

Your committee are continually badgering the Council trying to get the dangerous holes and fractures in our roads made good.

We like to think that due to our persistance The Wick and Desborough Close have been repaired and the District Council will hopefully respond to our appeal to repairs to Cowper Crescent and The Avenue.

Also, we are promised that repairs to the fence at Sacombe Road playing field will be carried out during the current month.

School matters again.....

Acting Head Teacher: *Sara Rider* writes:

'This year has seen a number of changes so far because, as you know, Shirley Patey left Bengeo at the end of the Autumn term for a new life in Norfolk. We were pleased that she was able to return to school to see the excellent Upper School production of ' Yanomamo- The Ecological Musical ' which I know many of your members will also have seen and enjoyed, as parents and friends of the school.

'Mrs. Sandra Ford, currently Headteacher of a school in Hemel Hempstead, has been appointed Headteacher of Bengeo School from September and the staff look forward to welcoming her to her new post.

'As you are no doubt aware, the Governors, after much deliberation, decided to close the Avenue car park to parents in January. This was agreed following a County inspection of the school which highlighted the 'congestion which mixes moving cars with children on foot on their way to or from a car, and contains elements of serious risk'. I hope that this decision does not cause too many problems near the school, but I am sure that everyone appreciates that the safety of children is of prime importance.

'There is always plenty going on here at school, in addition to many events organised by our thriving Parents' Association, so do watch out for the posters and come along and join in, especially on Bengeo Day which is planned for Saturday 17th. June.

'As the Spring weather approaches, we really appreciate the pleasant appearance of Molewood Estate's gardens and the displays of bulbs on the grass areas. We encourage the children to be aware of how fortunate they are to attend a school in such attractive surroundings, and hope that they will respect their environment.'

HERTFORD & WARE

CRIME

PREVENTION

PANEL



Our current crime prevention project is to make people aware of the *bogus* caller, which is a rising crime throughout our area.

Recently, you'll have received a booklet and door stickers which are self-explanatory. They were delivered to every house in the area for you to display on your front door for your protection against bogus callers.

They are for ALL AGES of people to use and have been produced at great expense for the benefit of *everyone,* from young people to senior citizens. They do NOT emphasise the age of the occupants and are a positive way of stopping *unwanted* callers.

PLEASE affix them to your door and help rid the area of these unwanted *nuisances.*

If you have mislaid your sticker or want further information please contact David or Pat Brookes at 87, Cowper Crescent or Pam Lutner at no. 107.

POLICE CALLS

A NEW £1 million telephone system for Herts Constabulary will allow callers to ring their local police direct.

The number to put by your phones is:

01992 533000

This new system has been designed to improve the service.
We HOPE you will not need it !

xxxxxxxx

INTRODUCING...

P.C. David GROVES

Plodding firmly in the steps of John Baldwin is David Groves whom we warmly welcome as the new N.H. BOBBY!

Forty one years old David is a family man with two daughters, Louise and Laura, and has been in the force since 1990, having previosly been a supervisor in the Post Offce. Having enjoyed a community role in Watford he did not hesitate to volunteer when the vacancy occurred here in Bengeo.

He also is responsible for the Hornsmill estate, and we all look forward to meeting him on his tours of duty here in Molewood.

David reports that there have been sixteen reported crimes so far this year in the WHOLE of Bengeo. Seven of these are vehicle related, two are criminal damages, three burglaries and four thefts.

Most of the car related ones were in January, and an offender has been apprehended for some of these.

The burglaries and thefts have not been on private property, being mostly on the new Bengeo Pit building site.

The obvious message is.....please protect your vehicles and property to the best of your ability and *keep your eyes peeled* as we appear to be keeping the burglars at bay.

Thank you David and - once again- WELCOME to Molewood !

THORNEY PROBLEMS

Quite often we may not have noticed that our shrubs, bushes or trees are overhanging the public pavement causing a hazard for pedestrians. The elderly, blind and children in pushchairs may be particularly vulnerable.

If *yours* are in this category could you please trim them back to your wall boundary ?

Quite apart from the inconvenience aspect you may be contravening local By-laws and the local council could implement action and *charge* you for any work they decide is necessary.
This would indeed be money ill spent !

If you are not able to carry out the work yourself have a word with a friendly neighbour and, if this fails, speak to one of the committee members who will try and help you.

BADGERS, as well as being lovable creatures in our countryside, are a *protected species*. .Badger sets seem to have been undisturbed in the Molewood vicinity and local 'badger watchers' are monitoring the position.

However, should you notice any unfamiliar vans parked or suspiscious characters in local wooded areas, please inform the police who will be pleased to investigate.
Protect your local wildlife!

- wet, wet, wet.....

THAT was the winter over Bengeo, with relentless South-westerly winds sweeping in from the Atlantic.(the wettest February since 1923 in our region !)

Now the bluer skies are heralding those hazy, lazy days of summer. not so much with pretzels and beer, more with..... paella and sangria!



Whether you are looking forward to Basking in Bognor....., Frying in Formentor....., Sizzling in Sorrento .....or just meandering through the lovely woods of.....Molewood - have a wonderful summer!

Stop Press.....Rats !

There have been reports of these most unwelcome vermin on the estate, particularly in the houses backing on to the Pit site.
It is thought that the large RATS may have been disturbed by the building works and any sightings should be reported IMMEDIATELY to the Environmental Health Department of E.H.D.C. on **0279 655261 ex. 537 - Mr. W. Presland.**

No charge is made for their services. RATS are attracted to food left out for birds, dog faeces and especially water. They will drink from stagnant pond water and even your pets drinking bowl. They BREED RAPIDLY ! They will urinate in any water they can find which can then transmit the deadly *Weils desease* to humans and pets.
PLEASE BE VIGILANT !

BACK in the summer.....

YELLOW PAGES



PAYING TOO MUCH FOR YOUR MORTGAGE ?

HAVING DIFFICULTY WITH OBTAINING A NEW MORTGAGE OR FURTHER ADANCE?

ARE THE RATES ON YOUR LOANS HIGHER THAN THEY SHOULD BE ?
Have you DEBTS WHICH COULD BE EASILY AND MORE CHEAPLY SETTLED BY A RE-MORTGAGE ?

I *MAY BE ABLE TO HELP (NO PROMISES !)*
Try by enquiring, WITH* NO *OBLIGATION—586217
(CONFIDENTIALITY ASSURED)

????????? QUIZZ NIGHT ??????????



Pit your GENERAL KNOWLEDGE against other quiz buffs at a QUIZ NIGHT organised by Friends of the Earth/ Phoenix Conservation on SATURDAY 13th. MAY at Vaughan HALL, St. Johns Street, Hertford.

Tickets £4 in advance, £4.50 on the door, which includes a Ploughman's supper. There will also be licensed bar. Teams of 4 to 6.

Tel. (01763) 271470 - Brian Streeton

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