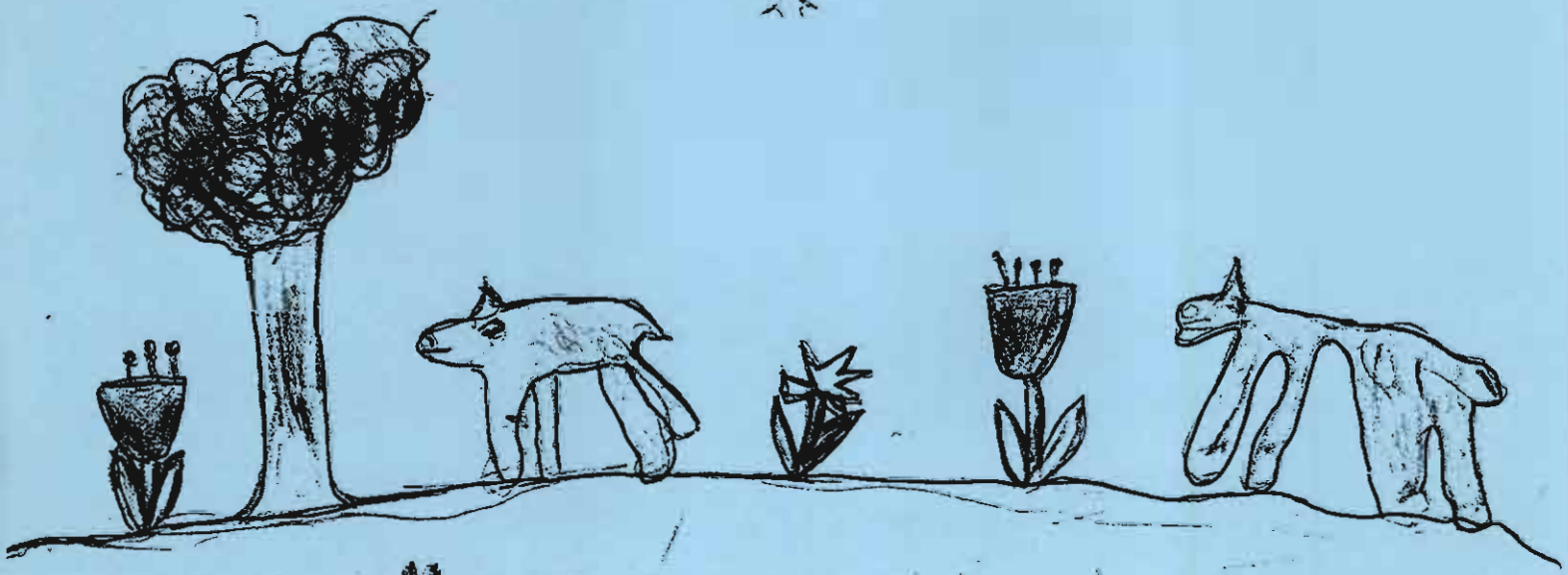
MOLEWOOD OUTLOOK

SPRING **1998**



Max Harrison age 6

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

NAME	ADDRESS	TEL. (All -01992)
Chairperson		
Pam Lutner	107, Cowper Crescent	581329
Treasurer		
Dennis Goodrum	48, The Avenue	422492
Editor		
Allan Streeton	22, Cowper Crescent	423682
Secretary		
Joan Walkom	12, Woodhall Close	302350
Minutes Secretary		
Joan Murrell	38, Cowper Crescent	578595
Olive Church	122, Cowper Crescent	583412
Heidi Scott	6, Woodhall Close	558208
Harry Walkom	12, Woodhall Close	302350
Pat. Betts	42, The Wick	504057
Ken. Lupton	28, Desborough Close	586037
Marie Archer	55, The Wick	581965
Malcolm Scott	53, Lodge Close	587939
Kate Harrison	105, Cowper Crescent	558959
Rhoda Strachan	102, Cowper Crescent	302507
David Bain	39, Lodge Close	302707

MOLEWOOD OUTLOOK

In this OUTLOOK:-
AGM..... Buses.....
CAGE..... ....Parking.... Gardens -
....Waterford Heath ..... ' Rat Run'
..... plus all the issues which concern us ALL !

Spring has arrived following an unremarkable winter when, in spite of El Nino bringing chaos to other parts of the world, an earthquake in Scotland and a tornado in Selsea, we had the usual mixture of winds and rain.
With temperatures nudging 70°F. in February ,although *didn't* we suffer when April heralded in a very *Cool Brittania ?* In fact, not a bad winter, as winters go which, thankfully, that one has !
We wonder what has happened to *real* winters, and those halcyon days a decade or so ago when the sound of children's laughter filled the winter air over Bengeo as they tobogganed down through the crisp white snow ?

Our young artist responsible for the excellent front cover picture is **Max Harrison;**, age 6 of 105, Cowper Crescent and the contribution to the poetic picture on the rear cover is by **Amy O'Gorman**, age 8 , demonstrating that she is very aware of WATERFORD HEATH and other of our picturesque local natural surroundings . She lives at ' Woodlands' in High Molewood and , like her fellow artist, is a pupil at Bengeo School.
Thank you both for your splendid efforts !

A.G.M.

A SPECIAL TREAT lies in store for those attending the **A.G.M.** which takes place at our usual venue-

BENGEO COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

on..... MONDAY 11th. MAY (Sacombe Road entrance).
Apart from victuals and, of course,a selection of the most exquisite wine that our funds will allow .....(plonk. !),we have an entertainer —a **Queen !**
Those amongst you who attend the monthly meetings of U3A will recall being enthralled by a talk and songs of the Pearly Kings and Queens of London by **Peggy Oliver** , whom we have managed to persuade to come to our humble meeting place.
The meetings starts at **7.30 pm** and, bearing in mind that last year swiftly became 'standing room only', we suggest making sure of your seat early.
We will also have an update from CAGE-man **George Sandell.**..... on the very latest on the GRAVEL front.
With arguments on such matters as the controversial 'rat run' still raging , this could be another lively meeting !
Mark Fishpool of Ground Work Hertfordshire will attend with an update on **Waterford Heath** and events taking place on 8/9th. May

We are pleased to report an injection of more young blood to our committee and warmly welcome *David Bain*, another from the outermost regions of our empire - Lodge Close !

I.T.(' The Year of Living Digitally')

Technology and science is moving ahead so fast that we find it bemusing and many of us cannot keep pace with the daily changes around us.
In the new millenium, now only a year and a half away, we read of ' holidays' to the moon and later the planets with 4-hour trips to New Zealand,and video 'phones in every home('' Oh dear''!) . Even tiny computers which can be worn like a wrist-watch, and travel at the speed of light is nearer—whilst getting into Hertford in the rush hour is still ' one big step' for mankind !

New **Digital TV** is now a reality and soon' every home should have one'.

The new technology should give us enhanced picture quality plus a huge choice of channels. The new technology will transmit TV signals in the form of a computer code rather than an analogue wave.. In time we should all have large detached screens which can be placed or hung anywhere to give a cinematic effect.

Having recently recovered from having our estate uprooted for **Cable TV** will we now be excavated for even more equipment to be sunk beneath our roads ?
Hardly !

Do not worry about your existing systems going down the tubes as the new systems will not start before October and will be phased in over 2 years or more.

As far as we are aware *no* new equipment will be required by **CableTel** subscribers who will not have to cough up any more money for D.TV, but more detailed information can be obtained by free-'phoning 0800 602603 or 151.

Most people are more concerned with the *quality* of the programme contents rather than the *quality and quantity* of the images ! .

RED CROSS

This provides elderly and disabled people in our area with a vital transport service given by volunteers in their *own* cars and has been in operation for some years now..

Daniel Sartin, who until recently has co-ordinated the whole operation says: " The service we provide is a really valuable one for the elderly, frail and disabled who are able to get out and about more and make hospital appointments when the NHS doesn't provide transport.

The drivers form an essential part of the community as well as enjoying the chance to get out amongst the people and make new friends. This is important as it fosters solidarity in the community and makes people more aware of the problems that elderly and disabled people face every day, but which we might not realise are problems in the course of our able-bodied daily routines "

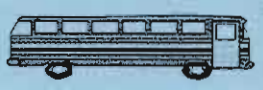
If you have a car and some spare time and feel able to help or if you would like to *use* this door-to-door service then why not give the Red Cross a call on H. 509323. ?

EXPENSIVE TEARAWAYS !

Parents of young tearaways could be fined up to a £1,000 if they don't keep their children in check ! Apparantly, few Police Forces use the powers of a 1991 Act , although one Force is warning parents that they will do so if the mums and dads do not control their children.
The parents of under 16-year olds could also have to appear in Court and face any compensation orders and costs incurred by their children

OK, we know -it is hardly likely to apply to anyone in *our* well behaved community!

ON THE BUSES



We hope you weren't caught out by the alteration in the new time-tables, although many were !
Why not get one now ?The service is run as a commercial business by *County Bus* and they have

complete freedom to use whatever type of vehicle they wish, including the cumbersome double-deckers. They have, however, ordered a new batch of 'minibuses' for local use.
Although no longer on a 'hail and-ride' basis the considerate drivers still try and put passengers down as near to their homes as possible.
We believe that one householder was rather annoyed by the sight of a double-decker parked outside their house. Quill sharpened, they wrote and complained to the bus company.
Perhaps the driver *should* be reported for this gross infringement of the rules ?
Although, the complainant, whoever they might be, may one day be struggling with heavy shopping bags when a kindly driver putting them down just a little nearer their home than the *authorised stop* would be warmly appreciated!

HOUSE & GARDEN



The unseasonable winter warmth sent the daffodils shooting up all over the estate. We hope you appreciated the ones we planted around the trees in the Avenue during March
We were helped by kind residents who provided sustenance in the form of cuppa's Many thanks ! AND to Darren Skidmore in replacing a tree tie and getting rid of stones which had been dug up during the planting of the daffodil bulbs..
Sadly, vandals have uprooted many of these decorative flowers and someone has been seen walking off to a waiting car with *arm- loads* of them, presumably a flower seller.

- *Sometimes, you just cannot win !* -

Two stalwarts of your committee branched out and went back to their roots in the playing fields where they planted 3 Silver Birch and 5 Rowan trees alongside the footpath at the Sacombe road end.
Let us hope the trees survive the next football season !-
Sadly part of Easter was a washout but.....
we hope it didn't rain on *your* parade!.

BOLLARDS !

Standing sentinel in The Avenue with their red 'eyes' glowing are the new anti-parking BOLLARDS .
Like 'em or hate 'em (as some *do!*) they are strictly of regulation height and are considered necessary if we are to protect the grass verges, trees and plants from cars - AND children !
Could we have done with far fewer ? Maybe.
Even *more* important on the corner of Cowper & The Avenue is the safety aspect as lorries have frequently mounted greens when turning.
Fortunately, so far , we know of no bad accidents.
We are hoping that, in time,the posts will mature,darken and we can create some floral cover so they will not appear so *intrusive.*

GARDEN COMPETITION

Making us green with envy are this year's.....

.....GARDEN WINNERS

1st.	Mr. B. Procter	40, The Wick
2nd.	Mrs. J. Digweed	31, Lodge Close
3rd.	Mr. & Mrs. J.Debnamm	35. The Avenue
4th.	Mr. & Mrs. Karim	127,The Avenue
5th.	Mr. & Mrs. J. Eves	134, Cowper Cresc
6th.	Mrs. E. Singers	136, Cowper Cresc
7th.	Mr. & Mrs. Karn	16, The Wick
8th.	Mr. & Mrs. Scott	53, Lodge Close

Congratulations !

Gardens in Spring are judged on their varieties, time and length of flowers on display, not necessarily on design.

Some excellent displays again ! We look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Also **Highly recommended** were:-

no's 34, 57 and 134	The Avenue
" 4, 51, and 138,	Cowper Crescent
4a, Lodge Close.	
30, The Wick	

LEYLANDII.....



The Triffids are harmless compared with the dreaded Leylandii tree !
So, if you are thinking of planting one, *think* again !

These benign little conifers can grow up to 100 feet high , in many cases blocking out the light to neighbours.
In fact, so serious is the problem of the ' marching Leylandiis' that *offenders* who allow these trees to cut out others' 'views and light' could be prosecuted under the new " Criminal Disorder Bill" for ' being a nuisance'.Anti-social neighbours could be forced to lop towering Leylandiis. and.if you feel prickly about your neighbour's bushes, try and refrain from swearing at him, you could end up doing five years 'porridge'.

Plans are being drawn up by the home office for 'anti-social behaviour orders' to combat .....- anti-social behaviour...!
If you have problems call *Hedgeline* on 0121-472 4540..

CUT DOWN ON EXPENSES.....

On the question of LOPPING - please watch for branches which may be overhanging public rights of way as these can be extremely dangerous, especially at night.
Remember, the Council could send in workmen to carry out the necessary pruning leaving you feeling sore at having to pay for the work done !
So, please keep an eye out for these situations - if you will forgive the expression !

GREENS

These are looking at their best at this time of year and,. with the various measures taken will look even better as time goes by.
One or two people are still using the greens as play areas, churning up the grass and annoying neighbours in the process.
We have a play and games area on this estate and have worked hard to get these facilities.
The nearby playing field is there for your use so.....please use it !

-THAT SINKING FEELING

Where'moving house' takes on a new meaning !

We live in an area where, due to the mainly clay sub soil together with close proximity to **trees** the nightmare scenario most homeowners dread - *subsidence* is not that uncommon !
Generally, subsidence insurance claims are - going through the roof !
The recent long dry summers followed by mild 'dry winters ' have contributed to the rise.
Where the reason for the settlement is traced to a tree, lopping by professionals followed by repairs to the property usually eliminates the problem.
At one time homes which had suffered from subsidence and subsequently been fully repaired were 'blighted' as prospective lenders would run a mile when approached by a new buyer.Also, where an owner had switched insurers there were difficulties in establishing *which* insurer should meet any claim if the settlement had started some time ago.
These days, however, it seems that insurers have hammered out who should pay.
When buying or if you suspect tell-tale signs of possible subsidence to your existing home, call in a professional for a *full* structural survey.
Whilst not *foolproof* any big problems should be discovered.

WATER TORTURE ?

It is promising to read that our local Water Co. *Three Valleys Water,* apparently flush with funds, have splashed out £4 million in a new pipeline making water shortages a thing of the past—well, almost !
But we, the public. have contributed to this in no small measure by *massive* increases in water bills.
Generally, Water bills are a massive 577 per cent higher than 20 years ago and they have **doubled** since privatisation in 1990 !
Running from Barley to a Saffron Walden pumping station the pipeline will take water from reservoirs to boost local supplies.
In spite of the rainy days, the ongoing drought is still " very severe" says the Water Co.
Apparantly we have been getting "the wrong sort of rain" Deluges, like the recent "worst floods in living memory" are all very well, but what we need is lots and lots of lovely *drizzle* to boost the levels of underground boreholes.

Watch out for the hose bans!

GAS-ELECTRICITY

BIG changes are again taking place in these service industries most of it bound to spark heated debate..

Any cuts in gas and electricity charges could be wiped out by a levy of up to 3 %extra to finance home insulation schemes for the poor and elderly

Explosive Issue .....

Something which can *destroy* your home - and possibly even *you* -is a GAS EXPLOSION!
If you have a gas boiler and you can smell gas call TRANSCO (0800-111999) *immediately.*
Also, get your central heating system serviced regularly and check that there is sufficient ventilation in the room where the gas boiler is.
Gas cookers should also be well ventilated.

BENGEO COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Teacher **Sandie Ford** makes her usual welcome contribution to your newsletter:-

This term we have been involved in several neighbourhood events. Our Year 6 pupils took part in the Junior Citizenship project held at **Morgans School.** The project showed children in a practical way how to deal with everyday situations they might meet and how to become good citizens. It generated a lot of interest and we are indebted to our Community Officer, P.C. Clare for involving us in the project.

Earlier in the term you may also have seen our trainee cyclists learning to be safe on the roads. We are fortunate in having several parents who give up their time to run the cycling proficiency week for us. Our thanks to Mr. Scott, Mr. Packham and Mrs. Tarsey.

On a musical note our Year 5 pupils took part in the local Hertford, Ware and District Music Festival. This year's production was a very topical musical about football called ''Giant Killers ''. It was written by Paul Burrell, Director of Music at Presdales School and performed for the Mayor of Hertford and a packed hall.

Our After School Club is now well established and the school regularly provides a venue for various local groups to meet..

We have recently had a fund raising campaign for the N.S.P.C.C. and raised a staggering figure of £2,200 for children in Hertfordshire. Our thanks to all who took part.
We were very pleased to receive a good OFSTED report following our inspection last term and delighted with their comment that Bengeo School is ''active in the community and serves it well''.

Here! Here !

DOGS

Back to our pet subject again, but this time in *canine defense* mode.



Be vigilant and keep an eye on your loving pooch as there have been some phoney 'dog wardens' in the area whisking dogs away - sometimes even on the owners' land.!
Genuine wardens will wear uniforms and have proper ID.

C.A.G.E.

-PROPOSED NEW CONDITIONS FOR RICKNEYS QUARRY

You will have all received the 'Special Edition' of the Newsletter earlier this year, following which we hope you have written
voicing your objections.
Restoration of the almost worked out site should be much earlier than Pioneer are suggesting
We hope that **George Sandell** will give us an update on the situation at the **A.G.M.**

FOCUS once again falls on one of your committee members.

This time it is **RHODA STRACHAN** of Cowper Crescent who gives us a glimpse into her adventure-filled background:-

'' I was born in a little cottage with no electricity or water laid on, in a small village just outside Ludlow in Shropshire. Our water was drawn from a well in the garden and oil lamps and candles were our only form of lighting !
My Father, after inheriting the family Blacksmiths and Foundry business, moved us to a nice house with electicity and the *luxury* of a bathroom ,when I was 9 years of age.
I had to cycle to the school 4 1/2 miles away.
Leaving school I became an Insurance clerk and my career was cut short when I was called up into the ATS. I was trained as a driver at Camberley and after a short spell of driving ambulances was posted overseas and assigned to General Montgomery's RASC Company in Herford, Germany to drive jeeps, staff cars and sometimes troop carriers.
After Hitler had been defeated we were encouraged to play sport and I played netball and hockey for the BAOR team, visiting venues in Germany and Belguim.
Later, having been back to England on training courses I became a Sergeant Physical Training Instructor and was posted to Iserlohn (Germany) where I spent the rest of my Army career, and also met my husband. He was with the RAF War Graves Commission who followed up reports from the Germans of airmen who had been buried by them and his job was to exhume and indentify the bodies.
We married in March 1947 at the local Forces church in Iserlohn and were granted 14 days leave, spending 2 days at the MOHNE ZEE DAM bombed by the British and about which a famous film '' The Dam Busters'' was made. ~Then on to the army ski resort in Ehrwald, Austria visiting Innsbruck, the Brenner Pass (Italy) and Hamlin (Pied Piper of Hamlyn), to name only a few.
I thoroughly enjoyed my 4 years in the army but there were bad times too ! Ambulance and Convoy driving on bitterly cold nights, with very little light allowed on vehicles and no sign posts meant one had to be a *very* good map reader.
Also the horrific memory of seeing some of the Internees of Belsen camp after rescue by the British is a sight I shall never forget !
My husband and I were demobbed in July 1947 where we faced civvy street in Muswell Hill our home for 29 years.
We then moved to Southgate and, following the death of my husband, I became a local Government Officer in Harringey.
retired to Bengeo 10 years ago to be near my two daughters and their families.
I have joined some local organisations where I have made many friends and, God willing, hope to stay several more years here in Bengeo ! ''

LOCAL POSTAL ;COLLECTIONS

We have been campaigning to have a *Sunday* collection from Molewood boxes.
We are delighted to say that the Collections Manager has promised that one will be provided for us and is only awaiting the change being made to the front of the pillar boxes.

SILENCE IS GOLDEN.....

.....but *hard* to find, in this day and age!

Constantly yapping dogs can send you barking mad, as can wailing cats, electric drills, car and house sirens, aircraft, loud hi-fi's, motorcycle engines, children yelling and *even* the dawn chorus at five in the morning !
Certain noises aggravate some people whilst others find the same noise acceptable - even soothing.
We cannot expect to live in a permanent deafening silence wherever the location .

If, however, you feel that the level of noise you are subjected to is beyond any reasonable level then you may be able to have something done to stop it and/or have a heafty fine imposed on the purpetrator.
But, *before* taking any action make sure you are on solid ground and that the noise in question is both excessive and persistant.- perhaps by 'sounding out' your neighbours .

COUNCIL TAX!

The latest big hike, which is 8.6% on average,really hits most where it hurts !
With Value Added or Purchase tax there is an element of *choice* in cutting out or down on wine, cigarettes, petrol, etc. etc.
Even with Income Tax one can plan in order to minimise the final bill.
With this iniquitous tax there is NO choice and often NO way of generating additional income to cover what, in many cases on this estate, is an additional £10-£15 per month. The average national increase is more than three times the rate of inflation !
This particularly hurts those on fixed incomes like the retired .
Lone householders do, however, qualify for a 25% discount, and there are a few exemptions which are listed in the form accompanying the *dreaded* notice (check it carefully).
We in the Shires are suffering a much bigger increase than the London and urban householders, owing to the new way the Government is calculating the Council Taxes. In fact some city dwellers will pay *less* Council Tax.
So, we can just sit back and *enjoy* the additional services the Council's extra income will provide .....?
Don't hold your breath !

SHRUBS & TREES

We are planning to plant some shrubs in two new sites opposite the shops on Lys Hill green. The latest delay has been due to some 'red tape'. The local authority have had to await permission from the Council Highways Department as, in case a road should ever be required joining Lys Hill with The Avenue,.the Highways department have to approve any alterations, which includes new plants and trees(But NOT the green CableTel boxes ?).
Somehow we can't quite see a new dual carriage way or underpass being required on this tiny strip !
We also had to wait until April for the root killing solution applied to the Willows which were removed six months previously to fully take effect. Had the digging in preparation for planting of the new shrubs severed existing tree roots this would have interrupted the killing off process.

THE RAT RUN

GUARANTEED to stir the emotions with any locals is this controversial issue !

Whilst only partially in our 'back yard' we sympathise with the residents living in the narrow Victorian roads in Nelson, Wellington and Byde Streets who have limited parking facilities..
These have been used to bypass Old Cross and St. Andrews street for many years, even more tempting since the installation of the traffic lights at Old Cross which results in yet more jams and congestion - and frustration !

Ideally, from a motorists point of view,a Port Hill - Beane road relief road would be the answer. This, for a variety of reasons, is not practicable.
Closing the Rat Run roads would also pose many problems.

East Herts D.C. have invited everyone to express their views , which has now been done.
This, of course, will not please *all* of the people, particularly those residents in Bengeo street who have unsucessfully petitioned from a ''cash-strapped'' Council for traffic safety and calming facilities.

Nor those queing up in the rush hour down by Old Cross remembering how the same journey before the traffic light 'improvement' used to take a mere fraction of the time !

EHDC have confirmed that the order is now *permanent* and it is already beginning to deter outisde commuters. They intend to improve the visibility of the signs, with lighting, and cutting away vegetation.

We understand that residents within 'the island', which includes us, have *no* restrictions in the defined area - unless, of course, you should enter the area via an 'Access Only' road from outside and then drive straight through *without stopping*, using it purely.to by-pass Bengeo Street.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Operation of the 'Voice Mail' system whereby the local police have been able to pass messages to the Neighbourhood Watch has been limited to Co-ordinators and their deputies. Owing to the fact that the system covered the whole of the county the computer was not able to cope because of an overload situation. Now the East Herts Division of the police force has its own computer system and as a consequence the police want to broaden the coverage of people receiving information. They are therefore asking all members of the Neighbourhood Watch to participate. Membership of the Watch became automatically with membership of the Molewood Residents Association. To make the system function efficiently it does mean that the police require names, addresses and telephone numbers of members wishing to play their part so that should the need arise they can call members via the 'Voicemail' (i.e. by telephone) giving specific information on situations arising for which members help is needed. A form has been produced by the police which members are invited to complete. These forms will be available at the AGM on the 11th May 1998. For those not attending the AGM forms can be obtained from any of the co-ordinators whose names are listed in this issue of the Newsletter. It is hoped that all members will support this scheme thus contributing to maintaining an efficient Neighbourhood Watch.

We feel duty bound to report that one of our committee members was recently detained by the police, an area response car having taken him from Hertford to.....

.but let **Ken Lupton** make his report:

" A NIGHT OUT WITH THE POLICE"

No this was not a night out on the town at some party. Having a son in the police force I think he became fed up with my constant moans about the lack of police presence in the local area, a point that I continually make at our Neighbourhood Watch Meetings at which we have police representation. As a consequence he arranged for me to spend a night out on patrol at station at Rickmansworth. I know this was not the local area but the hope must be that each Division operates in much the same way.

We duly arrived at Rickmansworth shortly before 10pm and whilst the shift was arriving I was given a brief on how calls from the public including of course Neighbourhood Watches were logged and actioned. It was interesting to note that an incident that I had reported several years ago was still in the computer.

The night started with a briefing of the Shift and I was allocated to the Area Response Car which also had the driver and the area supervisor. No sooner had we started when we had a call about bricks being strewn across the road probably by youths. The road was cleared and the patrol continued. Next came a problem with temporary light cables which were being blown across the road in what was a very strong wind. The problem was resolved and we continued on our way. Soon we got an emergency call from a lady who had operated her emergency call out system. This was the first time that I was to experience driving at high speed through traffic with blue lights flashing and sirens operating. It was most exhilarating and had to be experienced to understand the skills of the driver and how we the general public, as drivers, do not necessarily help to make the road clear. After the dash across the area we found that it was a false alarm as the elderly lady had inadvertently pulled the cord in the hallway on her return from the 'local'.!!! Immediately after this incident we were on our way to a complainant who was being disturbed by someone's car alarm. This was dealt with and before long we were on another high speed run to an incident involving a man holding his girl friend at gun point. As we arrived at the scene a number of other police units were already present including a dog handler and dog. Within a few minutes the police firearms unit arrived. What followed was what one sees on the television but I was experiencing it for real Whilst this episode was continuing we were despatched to another incident where a houseboat was on fire. The occupant was taken to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation. This incident again was a result of an accident caused whilst under the influence.

By this time mid shift break was due and we returned to the Station for refreshments.

The second half of the night was less exciti
This included checks with security guards at industrial sites, patrolling housing areas and general routine work like checking out cars that might be suspect. Nearing the end of our duty we came across a man bending down in a telephone box and appearing to be breaking into the cash box. It was most unexpected to find that he was a genuine telephone engineer repairing the phone at 5am in the morning.
At 6am the shift was complete and as we drove back to Hertford I was able to reflect on the happenings of the night and how we and the other crews had responded to the arisings during that time. We had been able to monitor on our radio all the calls that the other crews on duty had received and the results obtained.
This night experience gave me a better understanding of the problems that the police have especially in light of the resources available and perhaps explains in some measure why we do not see active policing in our area when we have so little crime. However should the need arise I am sure the police will do everything in their power to respond within the constraints of limited resources. This does not mean that we will not continue to press for a local police presence in the area if not full time then at times which will give us the confidence that our interests are being looked after."

For your information the **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Co-ordinators** are:-

		TEL.
Ken. Lupton,	**23, Desborough Cl. -**	**586037**
Pat. Betts	**42, The Wick**	**504057**
Pat. Brooks	**87, Cowper Cresc.**	**587809**
Ron Cain	**73, Cowper Cresc.**	**589741**
Rod. Day	**13, Cumberland Cl.**	**586906**
Pam Lutner	**107, Cowper Cresc.**	**581329**
Pat. Saunders	**133, The Avenue**	**581361**
Gilbert Smith	**15, The Drive**	**583168**
Edith Ruggles	**17, Lys Hill Gds.**	**503527**
David Bain	**39, Lodge Close**	**302707**

DEPUTIES

Jack Hand	**1a, Lodge Close**	**501145**
P. Hart	**24, The Drive**	**583140**

YOUR SHOUT !

(CORRESPONDENCE)

Morfydd Lee of 24, The Avenue writes:-

"Thank you once again for an informative and interesting magazine.
I note in the 'House and Garden' section that Herts Groundwork Trust are offering free shrubs and trees for the estate, and wonder if a few could be planted in the large barren triangle on the corner of The Avenue/Lys Hill Gardens?
There are at present three small trees, one of which is far from robust and produced only a dozen leaves last summer!
I would be quite willing to share in the care and maintenance of the shrubs."
Thank you for your offer of help. We will be in touch. :-

From **Sylvia Norman** of 150, The Avenue wrote on the 23rd. March:-

What a pleasure it is to walk up The Avenue for a paper each morning - the daffs are a real joy and they transform the whole road.
So I say " Thank You" Residents Association for the lovely thought and for the hard work in *executing* the lovely thought !
.A very satisfied residant.

And from Bengeo's own Pam Ayres, **Joan Cook** on March 22nd.:-

Today I think is simply known
As the first day of Spring.
And just how beautiful it's shown,
with all the joys it brings.
From daffodils you planted,
on a cold Autumn day.
Wilth expectations months ahead,
which now has come our way.

The Avenue enhancement,
Is loved by one and all.
Our thanks to you are truly sent,
For task so big and tall
Mother's Day - First day of Spring
What a weekends combination
From Residents in The Avenue
We say Congratulations!

"READ THE INSTRUCTIONS"!

Manufacturers, ever mindful of being sued by consumers, are going 'over the top' with their instructions accompanying retail goods for sale;, especially in the U.S.

One wing mirror has a leaflet explaining:"Remember, objects seen in the mirror are behind you"
A chainsaw manufacturer advises users not to stop the chainsaw with their hands!
A US Airline has instructions with their packets of peanuts:-"Open packet, eat contents"
One English bread and butter pudding packet warns:"Take care, product will be hot after heating"
An iron sold gives the dire warning:"Do not iron clothes on body"
A herbal sleeping pill states:"Warning;, may cause drowsiness"
A cough linctus for one and two-year olds advises them *not to drive or drink alcohol !*

*(*Recommended: To understand the contents of this 'Outlook',please read it first !)

BOGUS CALLERS

A warning to all householders, particularly the elderly and those living on their own:-
Be wary of any unidentified callers !
This timely warning comes from the police at a time when there has been a spate of bogus callers.
A possible increase in this type of crime may be brought about by new competition between gas and electricity suppliers who are sending out officials to attract new business. This opens up the field for con-men posing as officials.
Police advise people to check callers have proper ID. For further advice, call
PC Barney Starr on H.533020

HOLIDAYS....



It's' *Wish You Were Here'* time again!
Time to leave all our troubles behind. BUT, before you go off into the wild blue yonder of the Balearics, Benidorm, Bhali or Bognor,or go surfing in Devon(or just surfing the Net in Bengeo !) go with the peace of mind knowing that you have taken all precautions with your most important asset.

Suggested precautions:-

Lock your jewellery away in a small safe, at home or in the bank: postcode any valuable items - or take photos of them: cancel the papers, milk, etc.: set any burglar alarm.: make the house *look* occupied and don't leave curtains drawn: have lights which switch on and off automatically: fully secure the garage, shed etc. with *security* locks(there have been a spate of garden implement thefts lately)::turn of gas and water supplies: cut the lawn.

Liase with neighbours to go in and clear any build up of mail - junk or otherwise- and ask them to keep a general eye on your house.
In return they may be pleased to leave one of their cars in your driveway, leaving the impression of occupancy.

Now——off you go and *enjoy* yourselves —and don't forget to check your Insurance policy, especially the CONTENTS one !

WATERFORD HEATH



Spring is one of the most exciting time on **Waterford Heath** -with migrant birds such as Blackcap and Garden Warbler returning, the first flowers blooming and, of course, the scarce Grizzled Skipper butterfly in flight. This year Spring will also be heralded by a twenty four hour schools and community event on the 8th and 9th. May. On the Friday local schools and youth groups will participate in a variety of activities on the Heath including treasure trails, nature walks and art collage.

Community events will begin in the evening with a night-time wildlife vigil and will continue early on Saturday morning with the '' Up before The Lark'' dawn chorus walk

A full 24-hour programme is included with this newsletter.

The three year Millennium project by your community is converting the heath into a *nature park.* t
Later events are :-

Tuesday 9th. June 7.30 - 9.30pm
-''Wildflower Wander''

Tuesday 21st. July 6 - 8.30pm
-''Lazy Evening Stroll''

Please would residents like to volunteer to be stewards on either days of the events ? Anyone wishing to help please contact **Pam Lutner** on 581329 a.s.a p !

May we also appeal to dog walkers using the Heath and remind them that dogs should be kept under control i.e. *on leads* There are many ground nesting birds now breeding on the site and we hope to attract more as the Heath develop and obviously we do not want them disturbed.

The Heath is now used by lots of schools doing environmental projects and exams. *Please do not let your dogs foul anywhere on the Heath*, particularly on the paths. Young children do not think about where they are walking all the time and it can be extremely upsetting for them to encounter dog excrement on their shoes and clothing.

It is an offence *not* to clean up after your dog.
The Heath is being monitored on the above situation and hopefully the culprits will act more responsibly or it may come to a situation where dogs will have to be banned , which we would very much regret !

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

With residents , in fact people generally, living longer the question of AIDS becomes a problem.

———hearing aids, mobility aids,visual aids...etc....etc...!

A GREAT MAN

The man who does his work, any work, conscientiously, must always be in one sense a GREAT man!

Munlock

Have a wonderful summer....

see you in the Autumn

The noises of Highmeadwood.

Woodpeckers.

Woodpeckers hammer the trees and look like beautful leaves.



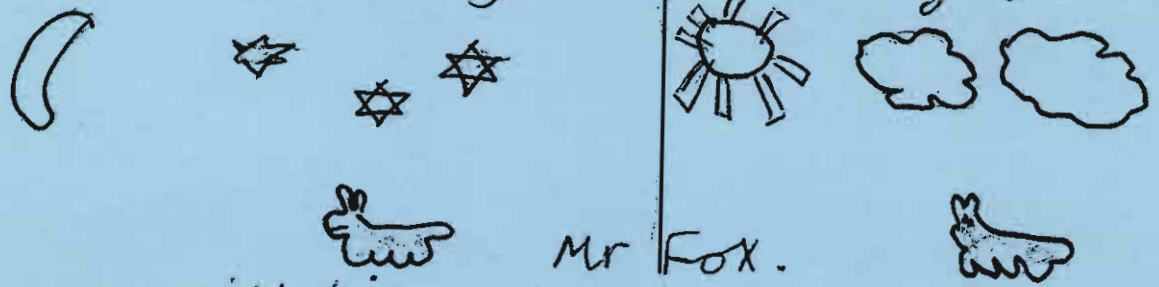
Owls.

owls hoot on the roof. but they are very allpof.



Mount Jack Deers.

Mount Jack Deers. we see them in the night & sometimes in the day as long as we don't give them a fright.



Mr Fox.

Mr Fox with his Silver tair allways leaves a trail.



Badgers Badgers.

Badgers Badgers all around, But we never hear a sound.

