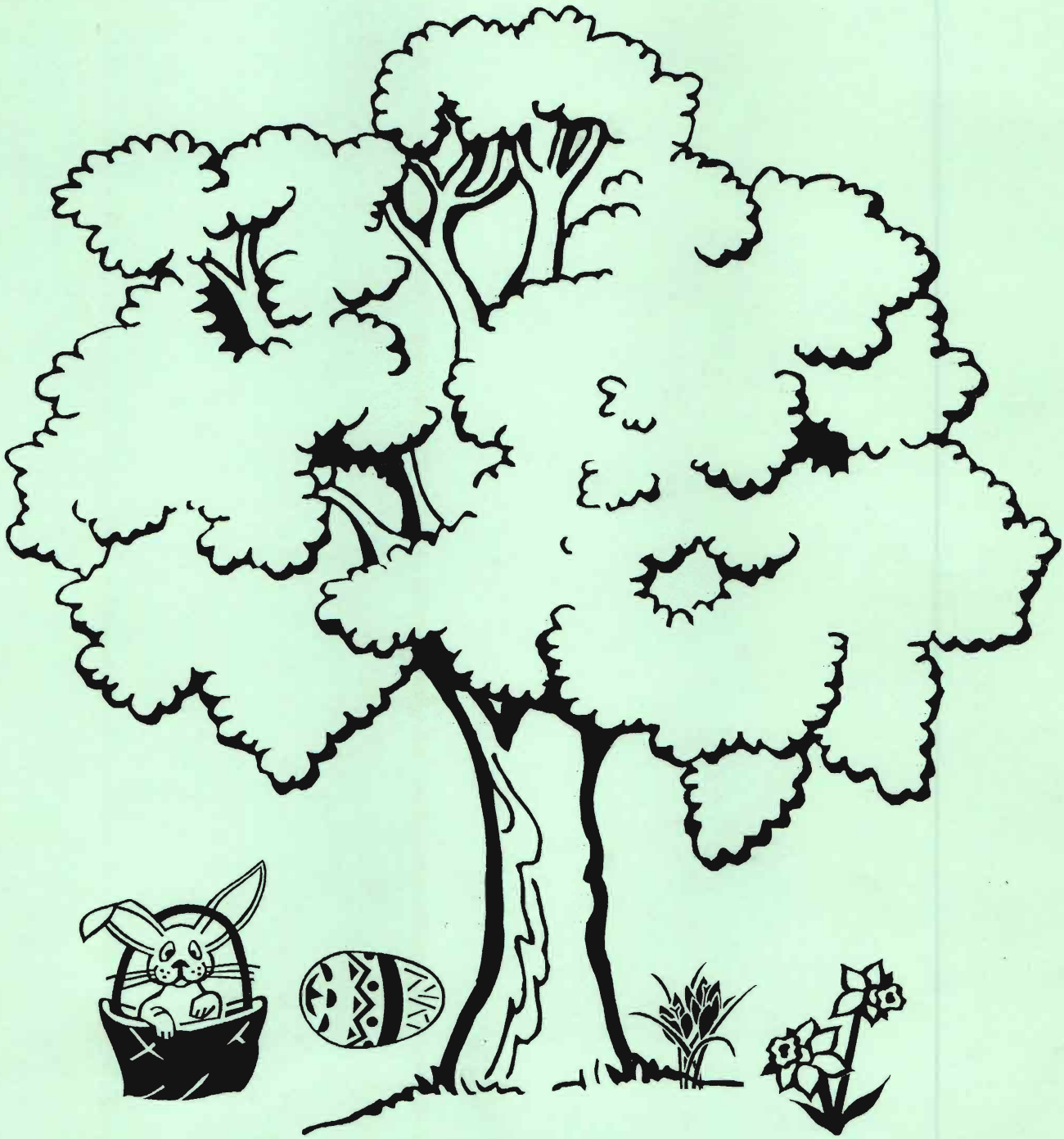
MOLEWOOD OUTLOOK

SPRING 2002



MOLEWOOD OUTLOOK - SPRING 2002

(Newsletter)

You may have seen on our garden notice boards that the time is getting near for yet another A.G.M.

As usual this will be held at

BENGEO COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

at 7.45pm for 8pm start.

on WEDNESDAY 1st. MAY 2002.

After the business matters are dealt with we hope to have another talk and slide show, this time on:

HAMPTON COURT and GARDENS.

We also hope to keep you all well fed and your thirsts quenched during the proceedings !

We may also have some updated information on the on-going sagas of GRAVEL and SACOMBE ROAD.

Everyone is welcome.....so.....do come along !

This abridged Spring edition is to keep you updated on local developments, particularly Sacombe Road and C.A.G.E. and we hope to produce our normal fuller publication later in the summer.

Many thanks to Committee member Kevin Beadle's son Ian for the computer aided Spring front cover picture.

By now most members will have dusted off the mowers in the shed and enjoyed the first fragrances of new mown grass on their treasured lawns - *and* the greens !
The birds have been exercising their refreshed vocal cords and the winter blues of the dreaded S.A.D.should have been carried away by the strong winds which battered us on a daily basis earlier on. Not to mention the quagmires everywhere caused by excessive rainfalls!
Now, with the clocks giving us an extra hour in which to smarten up our little Molewood patches in the evenings we can enjoy the BEST time of the year—Spring ! By the way.....what happened to *winter* ?
Nature has certainly been in *overdrive* this winter, with birds opting not to migrate, lawns having continued to grow and frogs waking up weeks early.
Temperatures over the 'mid-winter' period ranged from 8-10C. against the normal 4-6C., once again breaking all records.
According to the 'experts' soaking wet British winters are likely to increase over the next 100 years. We will check that out !
Who said Global Warming was a myth ?

It is with seasonal thoughts we turn to

NOTICE BOARDS

Talented resident Syd. Rowley of Cowper Crescent has very kindly responded to our appeal to repair and renovate some of our dilapidated notice boards.
So if you notice a strange person uprooting one in your garden, fear not, it will only be one of your committee, rescuing your notice board for renovation !
You may remember that Syd. and Maureen have opened their magnificent GARDEN locally in the past asking visitors only for a small donation to their favourite charity.
They are planning to open this again this summer, so keep your eyes and ears to the ground !

On the question of OPEN GARDENS.....
The Red Cross have produced ' Open Gardens, Hertfordshire 2002' which is available at the Red Cross in Baker Street and other public places like The Library.
Entrance fees are usually only a nominal £1 -£3 and the season is from March extending through to September.
Most of them are well worth a visit !

We have commented in the past on the legality of overgrown LEYLANDII.

In a bizarre twist to the usual Leylandi row one owner who planned to fell the trees had his neighbours campaign *against* having them cut down on the grounds that they provided a haven for birds and they also gave *their* properties privacy !
The council then slapped a tree preservation order on the Leylandii because they had an *amenity value.*
Sometimes you just can't win !

Mrs Moles's Ramblings

Isn't it great that spring has arrived at last, the daffodils are so pretty and they have to stand up to some terrible weather, gales and heavy rain and of course the usual vandalism, but I am sure everyone thinks they are worth it.
One of the advantages before the leaves appear on the trees is that you can spot the birds more easily. There are two thrushes visiting my garden collecting nesting bits from last year's dead plants and one of them was getting really annoyed tugging away at a piece of string still tied to a stick so I went out and cut it free for him. I know he was grateful because that evening he was singing away until it got quite dark, even the blackbird had given up.
Did anyone else have a visit from that male pheasant, he used to come into the garden during December and January, he seemed to like sunflower seeds, but I haven't seen him recently, perhaps he's gone to look for a ladyfriend ?
If you take a walk along the footpath just past the allotments on the Wadesmill Road, you will see this year that the farmer has sown the fields with wheat and it is amazing to hear the skylarks singing, flying really high in the sky and then suddenly dropping down like a falling stone and completely disappearing into the wheat. It is so beautiful and I shudder to think of all the devastation if the gravel company get their O.K. to ruin another lovely piece of countryside.
Did anyone happen to tune in to Hertford TV and see the photograph taken of a sky-line view of Bengeo ?. They said the photograph was taken by Fred and Olive Church and I'd be intrigued to know whereabouts they had to stand to get such a high up view. Perhaps they will let us know – it's a great photograph.
E-Mail Address:
jem@molewood.fsworld.co.uk.

SACOMBE ROAD

Any time now the Council will be in a position to assess the response to the 14,500 (approx.) objections to all the sites under review and ascertain the number which were in respect of our own Sacombe Road site.
We may have some further news on this for the AGM.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The attached NHW newsletter was sent to co-ordinators for information and is reproduced for residents to be aware of the new organisation. Chairman Ken Lupton hopes to make further comments on NHW at the AGM.





NHW

Ward Constables News Letter

Thank you for your work and help to date within your area. As you can see from the title we are now known as Ward Constables rather than Community Officers (the same job as before but with the new name).

As of the 1st October 2001 the Community Team was formed consisting of 5 Ward Constables covering Buntingford, Bishops Stortford, Sawbridgeworth and Rural, supervised by Sergeant Tim Kelly and Inspector Bob Radwell. The North side of the town is covered by Chris Hunt and the South by Dave Brown. As a Team we have been dealing with long term problems i.e. nuisance youths, crime hot spots and vehicle speeding offences. Currently you may have seen in the local press a leaflet produced by the Team highlighting the new legislation making it an offence for adults purchasing alcohol and supplying it to juveniles. The issues relating to juveniles and alcohol is a current initiative as a team we are addressing by targeting areas affected by the problem.

We hope you are receiving your Ringmaster messages and the Newsletter from the Crime Prevention Panel. If this is not the case please contact your Ward Constable or Jill Dockley, who looks after the Neighbourhood Watch schemes for this side of the county. Also if you feel your NHW could do with a re launch, again if you contact Jill we will arrange a time and place convenient with yourselves and we will both attend and offer support and advice.

We will issue a Newsletter quarterly or, as required, if we feel there are issues you may need to know within our area. Below are some current problems occurring locally for your information. We will also be organising a meeting for all the Co-ordinators in our Wards. Watch out for details coming soon!!

BURGLARY: - Albeit burglary has declined recently a few victims have left rear doors and or windows unlocked or open. Please be more aware of security and don't give these people an easy option.

POST BAGS: - Recently the postmen and women in the area are being targeted for the mail. Please could members look out for cars and people hanging around the area at the relevant times.

VEHICLE CRIME: - Still occurring but not at the rate as other areas, with simple precautions re putting valuables out of sight the temptation to opportunists is taken away. I still see bags and other high value goods clearly on display in cars parked in the town car parks!!

Dave Brown/Chris Hunt 01992 533165
Jill Dockley 01992 533043

Once again thank you for your continued help.

Chris Hunt
PC Chris Hunt 1274

Dave Brown
PC Dave Brown 1248

February 2002

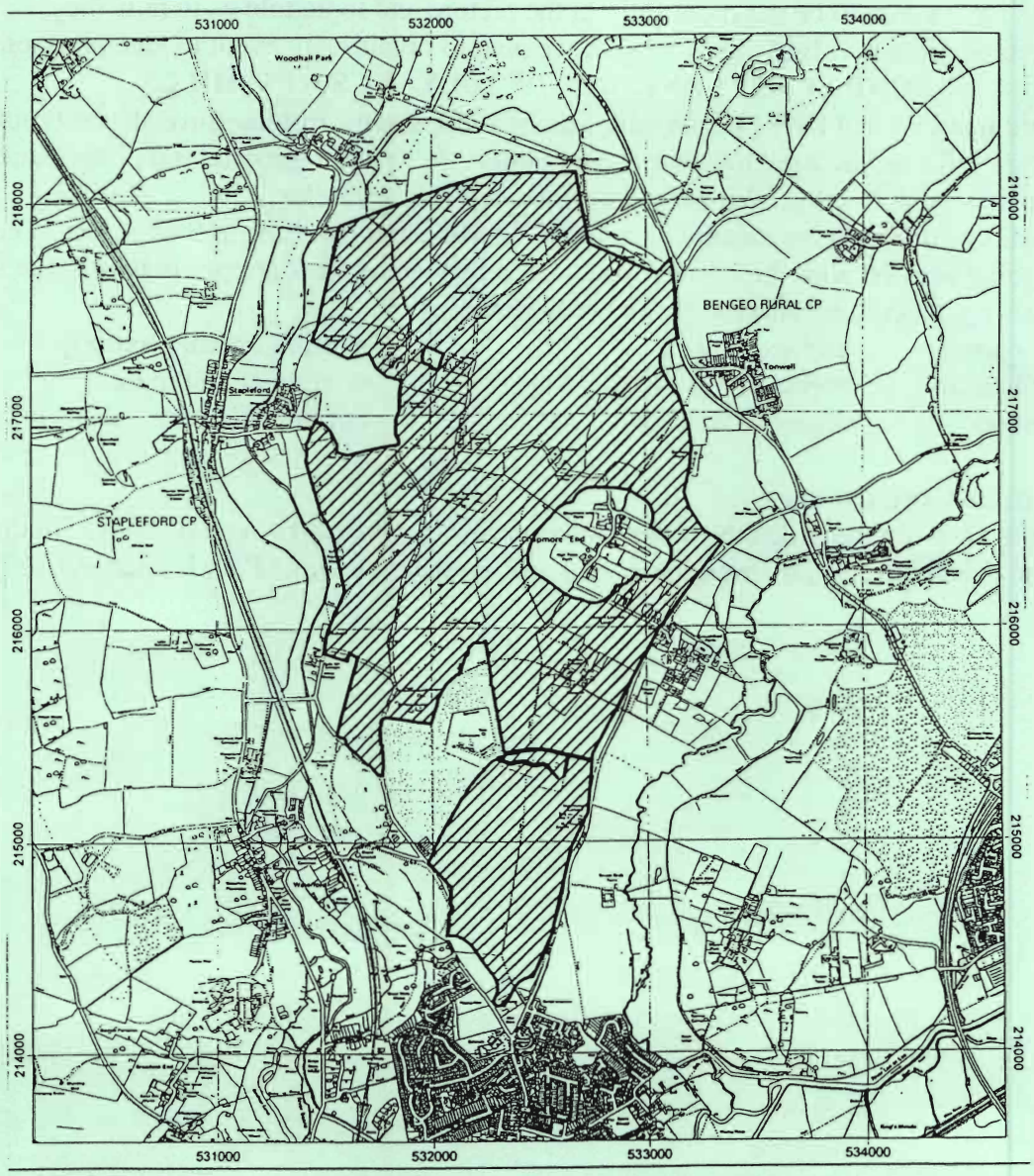
NORTH OF HERTFORD - SUMMER STROLL

Hertford County Council, Minerals Local Plan Review

As you know, for many years there has been the possibility of further gravel extraction from this area. The application by Redlands and Pioneer Aggregates in 1988 was decisively rejected by the Herts County, East Herts District and Parish Councils and residents. The plant at Rickneys has been 'mothballed`. Over the last years the Hertfordshire County Council have been working on their Minerals Local Plan Review, setting out where the sand and gravel is located and the method of selecting locations for extraction. The Key Issues Summary Document was issued for consultation in October 2001 and sent to Councils for response by 4th January 2002. The 'Deposit Version` for public comment, is expected to be available later in the year.

The following map is taken from this Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan Review - Key Issues Summary Document. The hatched area, which stretches from the A602 to Bengeo, Tonwell to Stapleford, is considered as a potential Location for future Sand and Gravel Extraction.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MINERALS LOCAL PLAN REVIEW
KEY ISSUES



Map 7 Potential Locations for Future Sand and Gravel Extraction
AFS 11 North of Hertford

North of Hertford - brief history

In 1988, Redlands and Pioneer Aggregates made a joint application to extract sand and gravel from an enormous area stretching from Tonwell in the North to Bengeo in the South and from Tonwell across to Stapleford i.e., only marginally smaller than area shown on the previous page. It was called the 'North of Hertford Application'. At a public inquiry in 1992, there was unanimous opposition from the Councils and residents and it was rejected by the Inspector.

1n 1995, Pioneer Aggregates put forward another application which was about half the size of the original taking in most of the southern end of the area. There was unanimous opposition to it by the Councils and residents. In 1997, Pioneer Aggregates appealed against the stringent working and restoration 'conditions` set to meet the local operating and environmental needs if the application were to be acceptable. At the Public Inquiry, Pioneer withdrew their application.

There is an increasing recognition of the importance of environmental issues and of the need for substitute materials to be used instead of newly excavated sand and gravel. The land North of Hertford allows Hertford and Ware to 'breathe`.

North of Hertford - Summer Stroll

Residents have asked to be put more fully in the picture and to be told as to how they could become more involved. To this end, we plan to organise an event to take place on

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, 7TH JULY AT STONYHILLS

It is hoped that you will have an enjoyable summer afternoon, strolling through our beautiful countryside followed by a get together at Stonyhills. We plan to provide light refreshments but some may wish to bring their own, stay, have a picnic and relax.

Three walks of different lengths are planned, all starting and finishing at Stonyhills. The longest going off first with the shortest last so that they come back approximately at the same time. It is not a demonstration so no placards please.

Longest	approx 3 miles	starting 3 p.m. promptly
Medium	approx 1 ½ miles	starting at 3.30 p.m.
Short	approx 3/4 miles	starting at 4 p.m

The invitation and details

We plan to send out more details of the 'Summer Stroll` towards the end of May. In the meantime if you have any queries about the situation please contact Pam Lutner on 01992 581329.

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SADLY we have to report the recent deaths of two long standing residents of this estate:-

JACK HAND of Lodge Close.

Jack was well known in the local community for his work with the Hertford branch of the University of the Third Age (U3A) and his contribution to the Neighbourhood Watch.

DENNIS CHEESEMAN of Cumberland Close.

Dennis was also a very active member of U3A and was a keen grower of produce with his own allotment.
Dennis and his wife have lived in their house since the estate was built.

Our thoughts and sympathies go out to both their families.

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

There are a number of events being planned for the Queen's Golden Jubilee and we thought it only right that we ask you whether something should be organised by the committee on behalf of the M.R.A.
This could be an opportunity to enhance the community spirit among Molewood residents, which I am told was more enthusiastic at the time of the Silver Jubilee, twenty five years ago !
So we are seeking your views.....

A number of roads and closes are organising their own parties and there will be a Golden Garden Competition organised by your committee later in the year.
However, in addition there have been some suggestions like:-

*** A giant picnic in The Wick Communal field (whilst we have it !) with a Punch and Judy show and Magician for the kids.**

*** A Barn Dance or perhaps.....**

*** A 1952 (Queen's Coronation) theme event.**

Let us know your views by contacting one of the committee, or come along and let us know at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on MAY 1st.
Thank you.

Guy Thomas.
Chairman

With us becoming more and more integrated with our Euro-cousins it is becoming more of an advantage to have some knowledge of their languages.
Although more Europeans are becoming proficient at *our* language, must not some have problems with the *logic of* some of our plurals, as demonstrated in the following poem submitted by a reader of a national newspaper ?

We'll begin with box - the plural is boxes
But the plural of ox is oxen, not oxes.
One is a goose but two are called geese
yet the plural of mouse can never be meese.
You could find one mouse in a whole nest of mice
but the plural of house is houses not hice.
And if the plural of man is men why souldn't the plural of pan be pen ?
If I speak of a foot and you show me two feet
if I give you a boot would the pair be called beet ?
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth
why can't the plural of booth be called beeth ?
If the singular is this and the plural is these
should the plural of kiss ever be keese ?
We speak of a brother and also of brethren
but though we say mother we never say methren.
Then the masculin pronouns are he, his and him
but imagine the feminine she, shis or shim ?

In an interview, General Norman Schwartzkopf was asked if he didn't think there was room for forgiveness toward the people who have harboured and abetted the terrorists who perpetrated the September attacks on America.
His answer was classic Schwartzkopf. He said " I believe that forgiving them is God's function.
Our job is simply to arrange the meeting.

Remember -If at first you don't succeed, destroy all the evidence that you tried.

Whether you're meandering in Majorca, sizzling in Spain, cavorting in Corfu or enjoying whatever the weather throws at us in Waterford Heath, have a wonderful summer, although we hope to see you at the AGM - ON MAY 1st.

Be back later in the season.