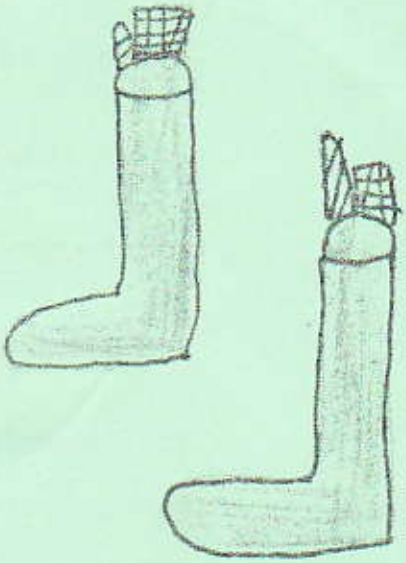
MOLEWOOD OUTLOOK









K-Perry

CHRISTMAS '92

COMMITTEE 1992/1993

	NAME	ADDRESS	ROUND
	Brian Bower	39 Peel Crescent (586321)	Peel Crescent
Correspondence Secretary	Dorothy Bradley	115 The Avenue (584608)	36-156 The Avenue
	Olive Church	122 Cowper Crescent (583412)	1-75 Cowper Cres.
Minutes Secretary	Francis Cotterill	31 Woodhall Close (589585)	----------
	Brian Euler	52 The Wick (558619)	2-66 The Wick & The Orchard
Treasurer	Dennis Goodrum	43 The Avenue (587341)	Lodge Close
	Ruth Harrison	14 Desborough Close (587457)	Desborough Close
	Jan Leggetter	14 Woodhall Close	1-57 The Drive
Chairman	Pam Lutner	107 Cowper Crescent (581329)	77-109 Cowper Cres. 98-142 Cowper Cres.
	Joan Murrel	38 Cowper Crescent (587595)	Woodhall Close & Cumberland Close
	Heidi Scott	6 Woodhall Close (558208)	2-96 Cowper Cres.
	Gilbert Smith	15 The Drive (583168)	2-58 The Drive
Editor	Allan Streeton	22 Cowper Crescent (586217)	Molewood
	Valerie Sutton	106 Cowper Crescent (550459)	9-59 The Avenue 10-34 The Avenue
	Pat Thomas	64 The Wick (587901)	1-73 The Wick
	Val Underwood	33 The Avenue (552007)	Lyshill Gardens
	Joan Walkom	12 Woodhall Close (587297)	61-133 The Avenue
	Harry Walkom	12 Woodhall Close (587297)	----------
	P.C. John Baldwin	Neighbourhood Watch Bobbie	

MOLEWOOD OUTLOOK - YULETIDE EDITION 1992

FOREWARD

We are a bit late with this issue, but we hope that it may bring some holiday reading for you - between the turkey, Christmas pud. and surfeit of telly (or maybe all three!). A time perhaps to pontificate on the events of '92: locally, we mean - the national events are best left 'unpondered', although we hope that these will vastly improve for all in 1993.

After the dry summer and a long hosepipe ban we can now water our cherished gardens to our hearts' content, now that they are water-logged!

A warm welcome to all new residents, and 'bon voyage' to those seeking pastures green. If anyone knows of new arrivals, please advise your 'roundsperson' (see committee list) who will make sure a copy of the latest 'Outlook' is delivered. We have the technology .....

You may have already noticed, but we are moving upmarket with our notice boards. We may even be 'dragged screaming' into the twentieth century next year by using a word processor for this publication, funds allowing of course. No, we haven't forgotten the large 'village board' for the shops area, this is still being costed.

Our special thanks to our Bengeo Bobby John Baldwin, for all his help and co-operation in the Neighbourhood Watch area. More from him later.

COVER PICTURE

The delightful Christmas card picture on the cover was provided by Kirstie Perry aged 10 years - grand-daughter of Committee members Joan and Harry Walkom of 12, Woodhall Close. Thank you Kirstie - you have put us all in the Christmas spirit!

JOHN BARNES is frequently in the local spotlight, either in his capacity as Chairman of the Herts Rights of Way Association or wearing his 'other hat' as a talented entertainer. He produces newsletters giving comprehensive information on campaigns to keep our footpaths open, with very satisfactory results. To try to print a fraction of the information in his newsletters, including maps, would take up too much space, but should you have a special interest in footpaths please 'phone John on Hertford 589143.

An extract of a letter received from John in August is re-produced below:-

Your next edition may well carry the result of the gravel pit nquiry. It must be more than twenty years ago that I took on the chairmanship of the Molewood Residents' Association at the time when it was at its lowest ebb. (No-one else would do the job). Over here at Mandeville Road we do not even have an association at all, not even at its lowest ebb. We need one because there is a proposal to construct a southern relief road. With regard to such a road we can assume:-

1. It will require a lot of gravel.

2. It will entail a lot of lorry movements, noise and dust

3. It will further erode the green belt barrier between Hertford and North London.

4. The M25 and various link roads have already been constructed and reduced the value of the green belt, and a further link road is to be built for Cheshunt.

5. I know from my cross examination of the road experts on the Wadesmill By-pass Inquiry, (it went on for weeks), that the road is most likely to increase the number of accidents. (The A10 Wadesmill by-pass will not even reduce accidents in Wadesmill).

I know there are people in Bengeo who wish to preserve the best of Hertford and the surrounding countryside. I am therefore appealing to you to help in opposing the so-called southern relief road.

Yours sincerely

John Barnes

My current Ombudsman case involves a Bengeo path!

C.A.G.E.

The DUST is yet to settle on this, probably the most important issue affecting the whole of the area, although it is hoped that the result of the public inquiry which dragged on interminably last year will be known shortly.

You may have received a leaflet through your door from Herts C.C. - 'Hertfordshire Charter', inviting you to phone Gravel Line - 0992 588088 if you think your quality of life is affected by the activities of sand and gravel extraction, waste disposal or by the traffic involved. Apart from the general nuisance and disruption envisaged in the event of the results of the public inquiry going against us (heaven forbid!), please use the above number if any of these activities are affecting the quality of YOUR life - NOW!

Campaigner MICHAEL McMULLEN maintains that the Inspector at the public inquiry (Mrs Jean Brushfield) has sent in her report and it should be "on the Minister's desk" just about now. The public inquiry currently taking place at County Hall is NOT the continuation of the CAGE v. Mineral Extractors which finished about eleven months ago, but is the COUNTY'S MINERALS plan local inquiry. This was available for public scrutiny in autumn of last year. If it is still in operation when you read this and you would like more details please ring:-

Mrs F.C. Read - 0992 555516

It was recently reported in the Mercury that PIONEER AGGREGATES want to hear of any lorry spillages and any 'unsheeted loads' on their vehicles leaving RICKETTS. This emerged from the 36th meeting of the Ricketts liason committee meeting (established in 1988) and attended by Co. managers, Herts C.C., Bengeo Rural Parish Council and Chapmore End and Sacombe Residents' Associations.

So - all eyes open and any offenders spotted - telephone the 'Gravel Line' and/or Pioneer on Hertford 500642.

'TRIP'

We hope that Molewood Estate is not an area greatly affected by 'Speed' or 'Rave' parties or drug addicts, but police information indicates that the rapid increase in crime locally often violent crime is driven by the need to finance drugs. If you are in any way concerned for members of your own family or friends whom you suspect may be caught up in this terrifying problem, or would like to help with a small donation, please get in touch with the above organisation at: The Longmore Centre, Churchfields, HERTFORD SG13 8AE.

SATURDAY, FUNDAY!

MOLEWOOD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
CHILDREN'S FUN AFTERNOON
22 AUGUST 1992

Although the weather was rather cold and wet, over forty children assembled in the field off Sacombe Road, Bengeo, to take part in the fun afternoon.

The theme for the afternoon was "Pirates" with prizes for the best costumes. The children made a wonderful effort and the three winners were:-

1st Alastair Cooper

2nd Mark Bryant

3rd Kirstie Perry (cover picture artist!)

There was a Treasure Hunt for 6 - 11 year olds which took them out and around the Molewood Estate in teams of three with an adult leader in charge. There were six teams entered and the winning team was:-

Katherine Russell

Sarah Cotterill

Katherine Day

Well done all who took part!!!

There were lots of races for the younger children and they eagerly took part in the sack race, running race and egg and spoon races etc. Later the older children also took part and a lot of fun was had by all.

The afternoon finished with the children enthusiastically cheering on the adults as mums, dads, grannies and grandads all took part in an obstacle race that the children had completed earlier.

All agreed that the afternoon had been a great success and maybe something else will be tried next year.

The Association would like to thank everyone who donated prizes to the afternoon especially:

The Toyshop, Woolworths and McDonalds

Thank you for your help.

MALCOLM MOULDING has delighted Molewood Outlook readers for some time with his glimpses into the past of our historic town. Owing to pressure of other activities, this will be the last glimpse for a while. We say thank you Malcolm for your fascinating contributions and we hope that, one day, you may put quill to parchment for us again!

A SURVEY OF THE TOWN OF HERTFORD MADE BY SIR RICHARD SMITH, SURVEYOR-GENERAL TO KING JAMES I, IN 1621 FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE BOROUGH OF HERTFORD.

'The town beginning at the west end of the said town and borough in the highway leading from thence towards Hertingfordbury, at a post standing at the south side of the said highway, and at the end of a mead there, called Castle mead, so crossing the said highway and including that, returneth back to a corner of a field there, called Seale field, and leaving the same field, and includeth a cross there called Gilden cross, and so meeteth with another highway leading from the said town of Hertford towards Watton, and crosseth that highway over unto a post set into the ground near unto a gate there, called paper mill gate, on the north side of the said way, and so crosseth to the north side of the river there, called Benwich, alias Bengarade, at the east end of the Paper mill mead, where the common water belonging to the said borough doth begin, and from thence down including the said water, to a bridge called Cave bridge, and from thence along the north side of the said river, including the same, until it meeteth with the river of Lee, at the pool called Goodes pool, being at the east end of Hartham, from a mead belonging to the late dissolved Priory of Hertford, called the Hoppits or Holmes, the priory mill mead or orchard, and the mead called Oldhall mead, including the said river and Little Hartham, and so excluding the said Hoppitts or Holmes, the priory mill mead or orchard, and Oldhall mead, meeteth with the water called Licker (Dicker) mill stream, and so along by the said stream includeth, unto the east corner of Butchery (Bircherley) green, and so along the back side of the house, and back side of Ann Bygrave, including it, and along the back side of the house of John Stone's tenement, and the orchard and the tenement of John Jurden, including them, and so meeteth with a street called the Back street, and so taking in the said street cometh to a great pible stone, of half a cart load, lying at the north end of that street, and near unto the stile and gate of St. John's church yard, and so crossing the said Back street there, straight over the stile unto and including the parlour of the house of the late Thomas Smith, now of Richard Mills, esq. to a mortice hold in a post of the said parlour, and from thence goeth along including the back side and houses of William Corinth and John Shirley, and there meeteth with the highway, leading from the said town towards Ware and London and from thence along the north side of the said highway, including the same, crosseth the way over to the next corner of the east end of a close there, now called Stone hall close, and so including the said close, being at the east end of the said town, turneth back along the ditch there, called Wall ditch, alias Ashbourn ditch, unto the east stile of All Saints' parish church yard, and so excluding the said church yard of All Saints, includeth all the tenements abutting and bounding thereupon, then crosseth over a lane, called Church lane, and includeth the Vicarage house, garden, and orchard, and includeth the inn, called the Bell, and there crosseth over a certain private lane, and includeth the inn and tenementcalled the King's head, and the back side thereof, and the back side and tenements of Wiliam Leonard, called the Pie, and of Anthony Bigg there, which tenement boundeth upon the tenements of the manor of Baylie hall, then meeteth with the highway called Castle street, and there goeth to a post standing in the street, which is thought to have been set there to show the said bounds of the said borough; so from thence it crosseth the said

way, and includeth the uttermost ditch of the now decayed castle of Hertford, and so along the outside of the said ditch, unto the river that runneth down to the mills of Hertford, and so goeth up the said river westwards, including the same, as far as the furthest end of the Castle mead there, and then turneth up by the ditch of the said Castle mead, and cometh again to the first boundary post where we first began..'

Malcolm Moulding

For a very modest subscription you can read more about Hertford's past by joining the Hertford Civic Society. They produce very interesting newsletters as well as organising visits and meetings covering a wide variety of topics. They have arranged study groups for 'Golden Oldies' (the over 50s) and on 3rd December held an 'Autumn Party' in the Vestibule at Balls Park with entertainment and wine and buffet refreshments. To find out more contact:- Mary Sangster, Mole End, High Molewood.

MATTERS OF CONCERN

FOOTBALL POST - PLAY AREA

Concern has been expressed over the goal posts erected by the Council on the Wick playing fields in CLOSE proximity to the children's play area. The Committee share this concern and the matter is being looked into.

Watch this space in the Spring Issue!

L.V.S.A. - 'Skeet Shooting':

Progress is being made in this area, but it is still up to each individual to complain, if they feel their peace is being shattered. Money has been requested to put to a 'fighting fund' of up to £3,000 in legal fees. Although the committee are not too sure at this stage as to what effect this will have, it has made a 'token' donation of £50.

ROAD SIGNS

Although the 'Woodhall Close' sign has been requested, it seems that such signs have to be ordered from the manufacturer in batches for the sake of economy. Further representations are being made by the residents for a layby.

DOG FOULING

The Council has no money to supply bins to go with "dog fouling" signs, so, for now, carry your poop-a-scoops - and train 'Fido' to read!

'GREEN' PIECES!

1. A reply is still being awaited in respect of the unsafe trees behind homes in Cowper Crescent.

2. Some replacement of trees in The Avenue should take place before Christmas.

3. No funds available (surprise!) for maintenance of trees around the Estate - unless the trees are unsafe or dangerous (no - put those saws away!)

4. It is intended to refurbish flower beds with new shrubs and the Council are happy to liase with the committee in this respect.

5. Pam Lutner is looking into the question of residents removing dead leaves from shrubs, if the council cannot manage it - owing to lack of .....!

6. Footpath - Cowper Crescent to Great Molewood. A letter has been sent to the contractors engaged in the laying of gas pipes, which caused some subsidence.

OUR COLOURFUL CHAIRPERSON!

The only colour page in a July edition of the 'Mercury' featured Pam Lutner as a RECIPIENT of an award (rather than in her usual role of presenter). Under the 'Hertford in Bloom' title Pam was snapped amongst a dazzling array of colourful flora in her Cowper Crescent corner plot.

Didn't she do - blooming - well?

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR .....

So says the Environmental Health Unit of East Herts District Council. With the Christmas break looming and D.I.Y.ers champing at the bit, it may be a good time to reflect on some suggestions which might make your neighbour's life more bearable - or less unbearable'. - as power tools, saws, chainsaws and concrete mixers get dusted down for the hols.

Conflict can usually be avoided by just taking a little time to THINK before plugging in the appliance. Ask yourself ..... do your neighbours have very young children or elderly relatives? ..... are they shift workers? ..... how long will your job take? ..... is the time of day - or night - reasonable?

Let your neighbours know if you're having a party. Remind your guests to leave quietly and not to bang car doors or rev engines, or hold loud conversations in the street in the wee small hours.

Keep the volume from T.V.s, radios, sterios and CD players as low as possible, and try not to share your musical talents with the rest of the estate!

Car and home burglar alarms are a menace if they go off by mistake. Please check systems regularly.

Make it a CONSIDERATE Christmas!

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Our own BENGEO BOBBY John Baldwin produces a monthly newsletter which is both informative and very helpful. He also attends most of our Committee meetings to report on current events and endeavours to help with any problems which involve the police - which includes most matters! Here are some of his comments:-

Spare a little time for the elderly living alone. Give them a thought, especially around this festive season. With this in mind please be extra vigilant for those scum who reap benefits from the elderly, purporting to be offering genuine services in order to steal - or even worse!

Bengeo, as with all areas, is suffering from auto theft and theft from vehicles. Bike thefts are also on the increase generally. Also, take a careful look if you are buying a cycle second hand for your offspring. If you see an area under the crank case which appears to have been obliterated, don't buy it and - LET ME KNOW, so it can be checked out in confidence, of course.

Beware of door to door PEDDLARS. They are obliged BY LAW to show you their certificates, when asked. If you are not entirely happy with them, once again - let me know, please! Often, burglary offences are carried out within a short time of these groups entering an area. Watch out - although there are of course GENUINE people.

Back to the auto thefts: Owners of SPORTY cars are particularly vulnerable, so garage or immobolise - if you want to keep it!

A 'splinter' Neighbourhood Watch group has set itself up in Lodge Close. We wish Jack Hand and his new team every success and will give him our wholehearted support!

A document produced by Which? magazine lists the insurance companies which give discounts on premiums for various safety devices installed in homes. Get hold of one and ..... make YOUR home secure at the same time saving money.

MUMS AND DADS, when your children go cycling, please get them to wear reflective clothing at night and fluorescent clothing during the day. This is especially important during the murky days of winter. Please also check up on ALL working parts of the bikes, including lamps, WITHOUT waiting for your children to tell you of something going wrong. Check brakes, and cables, tyres, reflectors and chains (properly oiled and adjusted).

Don't forget to come along to our 'Surgeries' (Watch the - new - notice boards).

Just such an event took place on 6th December at Bengeo School - 'Christmas Crime Prevention Event'. This covered protection of houses, cars, caravans and boats. There was free windscreen marking and all forms of general crime prevention advice. Displays were given by the Special Constabulary and also displays on road safety.
All this - and refreshments too!

Thank you John. To list all our B.B.'s points from his newsletters would only be re-iterating what has been oft repeated in the past, and it all amounts to COMMON SENSE with courtesy and consideration for our fellow beings!

This is a letter received from Mrs Shirley Patey who as parents of young students there will know, is now the Headteacher of the BENGEO COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL:-

Dear Residents

I am delighted to have this opportunity of addressing you through Molewood Outlook, firstly to apologise for the oversight in your booking for the A.G.M. and secondly to keep you informed about school matters.

I am sure that you are all aware that on September 1st Bengeo Infants' and Bengeo Juniors' amalgamated to become Bengeo County Primary School.

The amalgamation produced a temporary increase in budget which enabled us to upgrade the decoration and resources in school. Thanks also to the help of parents we now have a new central library and a beautiful garden in memory of Don Harris. Classrooms have been re-decorated and carpeted and the rooms in the Sacombe building (Junior School) have new furniture. The office and reception area is situated in The Avenue Building (Infants' School) and I am sure that you will be impressed by the refurbishment.

We are hoping to enhance the resources offered by the school grounds by providing a bog garden and a sensory garden. This will obviously mean a great deal of work by staff and children, and a great deal of care in order to maintain them. We have, in common with yourselves, a problem of dog fouling and general lack of respect for the property (despite notices). May I please ask that if you see or hear of any invasion of the schoolgrounds you contact Hertford Police Station. Similarly if you have any complaints about the behaviour of any of our pupils on their way to and from school, then please let us know.

I should like to renew my invitation to residents to participate in the life of the school, by loaning articles of historic interest helping out in school or grounds, story telling or sharing childhood memories with groups of children.

I should like finally, to share with you the thoughts of our pupils Gillian Bergson Ruth Lewis, Laura Campbell, Rebecca Garton, Elizabeth Geeves, Joanne Wright and Kathryn Russell who wrotetheir own words to the tune 'The World in Union'.

SCHOOLS IN UNION

There's a dream I feel, so rare, all the school in union, so real,
The school as one.
Gathering together . . . one mind one heart,
Every child every teacher, once joined never apart.
Searching for the best in me, I will find what I can be.

If we win, lose or draw, it's a winner for us all.

All the school in union, the school as one.
As we climb to reach our destiny, A new year has begun.

We must face hard maths tests, or else we will fail,
we must try to be brave, like Jonah in the whale.

*All the school in union, this school as one,
as we climb to reach our destiny, A NEW SCHOOL HAS BEGUN!!!

Repeat from*

Finally, we wish all readers a safe, happy, joyful Christmas and prosperous New Year! See you next Spring.