

BYEWATERS RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2011



Please send articles, advertising, photographs etc. for the December 2011 Newsletter to Fran, 78 Byewaters or email fran.koster1@gmail.com



Hi,

What can I say about our Summer!! What a washout July was, except for the Byewaters Picnic when the Sun shone all day, couldn't believe it. Hopefully we are all refreshed after our Summer holidays and ready for the Autumn which is fast approaching. We have had no reports of 'hacking' on the Byewaters Newsletter. All our reporters/journalists have been double checked and I can safely say they are all squeaky clean. We would love to have more articles of interest from residents and children living on Byewaters maybe about an interesting day out, holiday or a poem. James Estate Agents are sponsoring us again and we are very

grateful for their ongoing support.

Please send your Christmas articles for our next newsletter which will be in December.

I am sure the next few months will fly by – have a good Autumn.

Fran - Editor

Extra page on www.byewatersnews.co.uk (and in full colour) or (air your views) on www.byewaters.blogspot.com or Byewaters original website on www.byewaters.co.uk or if you need to contact the directors email directors@byewaters.co.uk

Thanks go to:- Mike Weintraub (Page layout), Les Koster, (Cover photos), Byewaters Residents for their contributions, David Whittaker (web version) Imagehaus Ltd (Printing), Newsletter delivery helpers Beth & Mary and James Estate Agents (Sponsorship).

BYEWATERS ANNUAL PICNIC



As the day drew nearer and the rain kept falling, I wasn't even sure if the gardeners were going to be able to mow the grass! Sunday, 24th July came and the sun came out! The gardeners had managed to mow and the whole area looked very smart with very straight mown lines. Quite a few people commented on how pristine the Children's play area looked. A lovely afternoon was had by all who attended, some brought picnics but others just sat with us for awhile. The children rode their bikes and did cartwheels and

neighbours got to know each other. We sat listening to the boats chugging by and looked across at the moor. The cows that were grazing decided to make their way across the river and stood by the gate. It was just like being in the heart of the countryside and yet here we were on Byewaters, just five minutes away from Watford Town Centre. Please join us next year it really is a lovely way to spend an afternoon. It was suggested that maybe for the Golden Jubilee in June 2012 that we have a picnic/street party please let me know if you would be interested.

Fran

P.S.

It is a long way off but don't forget CAROL SINGING FOR THE PEACE HOSPICE to be announced in the December newsletter but a tentative date is 6th December.

A Note from the Directors BEMC (Byewaters Estate Management Company)



As you may have seen, our new gardening contractors are working hard to keep the shrubs and lawns on the estate tidy. They have also trimmed back bushes which have encroached

onto parts of the pathways. We can all do our part to keep the estate looking good by picking up litter and keeping our individual gardens in good order too. Some of the trees on and around the estate have needed attention. A rotten tree near the Blackmoor Lane entrance to the estate has been removed and our neighbours Croxley Business Park (Greenhills) have lopped and removed other trees adjacent to the estate - for which we thank them.

A report on progress towards Road Adoption was presented to TRDC and HCC councillors in July. Adoption will proceed once the council receive appropriate paperwork relating to the work on estate sewers and street lighting undertaken by Barratts. Council officers will meet with Barratts to ensure this happens.

Please remember that if you have comments or questions you can email us at directors@byewaters.co.uk. Other information is available on the www.byewaters.co.uk website.

David Whittaker

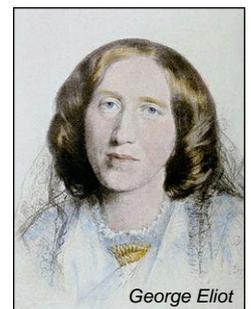


The Elms

Did you know Mary Anne Evans (22 Nov 1819 - 22 Dec 1880) lived in Rickmansworth for a short time.

Her nom-de-plume was George Eliot and she

wrote Daniel Deronda her last novel while living at The Elms. She lived there for three months June to September 1875, with her husband George Henry Lewes, they wanted a peaceful summer. The red brick Georgian building was built in 1720/22. They seemed concerned about the river near the house and wrote "The deluge has passed; our river running quickly at the end of the garden has not overflowed its banks and floated us into Space". In August George Eliot commented "The air has been continually muggy, and has lain on one's head like a thick turban". In a letter she also complained to a friend about the area "One public house to every six dwellings". The novel was completed and it seems they had enough of Rickmansworth and moved to the Heights in Surrey. Maybe Rickmansworth helped her write her last novel even though the river was running too fast, the air was muggy and we had too many pubs!!



George Eliot

Byewater Birds Part 6

Living next to a Site of Special Scientific Interest and sandwiched between the River Gade and the Grand Union Canal provides local residents of Byewaters with some of the best bird watching opportunities in the area. Four common birds that can be seen around Byewaters most of the year.

Feral pigeons (*Columba livia*)



The feral or street pigeon is the wild version of escaped domesticated pigeons, which in turn come from the Rock Dove (now only found in the wild on the Northern coasts of Scotland). A common sight all around the UK but particularly so in city centres (where control measures are carried out).



Common Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumbus*)

The woodpigeon or Culver is another common member of the dove family that is a common sight around Byewaters. Larger than the feral pigeon and with a familiar cooing call, the woodpigeon is one of the first birds to feed from bird tables.

Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)



Slightly smaller than the two other doves, the collared dove has a distinctive pinkish hue and black neck collar. The unmistakable song of coo-COO-coo is a familiar sound along the canal in the early mornings.



Black headed gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*)

Another common bird that can be seen bobbing about on the canal or competing for bread thrown to the ducks! Easily confused with the Common gull and Herring gull -both of which are slightly larger. Black headed gulls only have a black head for part of the summer when the colouration used for mating displays.

For more information about any of these birds visit the RSPB site (www.rspb.org.uk) If you would like to help maintain our local Nature Reserve then you can volunteer at <http://www.croxleycommonmoor.org.uk>

John Mynett – Byewaters

GRAND JUNCTION CANAL

In October 1792 a large meeting took place in Watford in support of the Grand Junction Canal being built. The idea was to cut out the non-tidal River Thames altogether for goods coming to London from the Midlands, and the Grand Junction Canal was proposed as an alternative to the Oxford. The meeting was organised by the Earls of Clarendon and Essex. A route through Harrow that had been first proposed was dropped in favour of the better but longer route through Rickmansworth to Denham, Uxbridge, Harlington and to then rejoin the original plan at Southall. The Grand Junction Bill completed its passage through the House of Commons, rapidly passed through the Lords and received the Royal Assent on 30th April 1793. The Act incorporated the Shareholders - 417 were named including a Duke, a Marquis and 5 Earls as Proprietors of the Grand Junction Canal with powers to raise £500,000 with a further £100,000 if necessary. They were empowered to charge tolls ranging from 1/4d. to 1p. per ton per mile, depending on the goods. From its junction with the Oxford Canal at Braunston the line dropped 305 feet through Hertfordshire to Uxbridge, where there was a 7½ mile level stretch to Norwood (Southall). The final 13 locks dropped the Canal 90 feet down to the Thames. Construction got underway quickly in the May, and hundreds of men were soon at work. By December 1793 3,000 men were on the payroll. On 3rd November 1794 the Canal was formally declared open from the Thames to Uxbridge. In Hertfordshire a major change was made from the original plans. Originally the Canal was to pass further west with 16 locks in 3 miles taking it up through Langleybury. There was to be a 900 yd. tunnel and then a level stretch of 4½ miles including an



embankment and aqueduct at Kings Langley. This was changed to follow the River Gade instead as it was decided this would be a cheaper route. This change involved agreement from landowners, mainly the Earl of Essex who owned Cassiobury Park and the Earl of Clarendon who owned Grove Park. Agreement was reached in November 1794. The Earls were paid compensation, the Earl of Essex

£15,000 and the Earl of Clarendon £5,000. On 5th March 1795 this revised plan received the Royal Assent. Construction work on the new route commenced early in 1796. The Canal was now open from Thames to Rickmansworth. The Earls insisted on a decorative bridge at Grove Park and a wide stretch of water through Cassiobury Park. By the middle of September 1797 the Canal was open through the two parks to Kings Langley. Despite many building problems etc. by November 1797 only one bridge and one lock remained to be completed. There were several short branches in Rickmansworth. The canalisation of the River Chess rose through one lock to a new wharf in the town. Opened by 1805, it served Salter's brewery and was known as Salters Cut. It was just over 500 yds. long. In August 1818 another was opened to Batchworth Mill. In 1845 the Bury Grounds branch to the North West of St. Mary's Church was used by John Taylor to bring flour to his bake house. 4 other arms in Hertfordshire were never built. You can still see boats in the colours of Fellows Morton & Clayton, one of the leading carriers, passing through lock 79. No longer carrying finished paper from Croxley Mill to London, as they used to do at one stage. The Canal is alive and well today for pleasure boats, anglers, walkers and those who are lucky enough to live along side it.

NEW MUSIC EVENT FOR CROXLEY GREEN – CROXFEST

The Croxley Green Society is delighted to announce the arrival of a new event on The Green at Croxley on Saturday 3rd September 2011. Croxfest Croxley will be a free to attend, 1 day music festival, where it is hoped local bands, groups and semi-professional acts will showcase themselves on a specially erected stage to thousands of adoring fans! As well as the music, it is hoped there will be a variety of food outlets catering for everyone's tastes. Everyone is welcome to attend this new event in 2011 and we look forward to seeing you there.

CANADA GEESE – LE CORDON BLEU

It was interesting to see on the news and read in the nationals (Mail 6th August) that there is a useful way to solve our growing Canada Geese problem all over the country. They are hated in Canada and have the title of vermin. We now have the problem here after Charles II kindly introduced them to us in 1665 as a rarity. Certainly on Byewaters during the summer their fouling is for all to see and take care not to slip on their toxic green excrement. Although there are now calls for culling. Did you know they consume their own bodyweight in food (up to 18lbs) every four days. They produce so much waste that 18th century artists even called the colour dark green 'Goose Turd!' Top chefs including Prue Leith are suggesting putting them on the menu, maybe grilled with teriyaki sauce, Canada geese sausages or perhaps geese liver fricassee etc. It is seemingly legal to shoot Canada Geese between September and February however they can be shot out of season if they are causing serious damage to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops or vegetables, etc. There is one problem for the restaurateur wishing to put Canada Geese on the menu. You cannot sell the birds or any product from them, there is a hefty fine of £5,000 or six months in jail. So back to the drawing board and thanks Charles II for introducing Canada Geese to us, you should have stuck to encouraging science and the arts and of course Nell Gwyn.

An Autumn Morning



My dressing room is on the direct bird flight path between the river and the canal. Most mornings around 7.30 am, the duck family fly over; it's a bit disarming to see five quite large ducks flying in formation directly at you! But this morning as always they tipped up at the last minute and flew as always straight over the house. A heron has been resident on the canal for most of the summer. When I see him land, I often walk up to look at him, he usually sits on the left bank, quite still and stately, I stare at him and he stares back at me. However, this morning was different. There I was getting ready for work (you know the sort of thing - putting on my face and drying my hair) when I noticed the heron flying up river, as it were, he didn't settle as he usually does but seemed disturbed. He flew up and down, and round and round the trees for a good five minutes, then took off in what appeared to be a stop! A few minutes went by and then his shadow caught my eye as he flew over the house, but this time he had a friend with him, they flew together down to his usual spot and both settled down. I do hope she is his partner and wouldn't it be wonderful if next year we saw some baby herons, I'll let you know if I spot them.

Val - Gill Close



WATFORD FC

Saturday, 6th August - Sean Dyche, Watford's new boss, watched as his team drew away 2 - 2 to Burnley. With this young group playing a more experienced team, they started well and now have something good to build on.

Saturday, 13th August Watford were at Vicarage Road it was their first home game for 2011/12. During the first half the Golden Boys were unable to convert any of their chances. The second half saw the Hornets surging forward from the off. Derby managed to turn the match their way with a neatly turned goal by Steven Davies. Watford kept on plugging away. The effort from the Hornets was never in question but the match ended with Watford 0 and Derby County 1.

Tuesday, 16th August at home to West Ham United and this experienced team left the Golden Boys tarnished with a 0 - 4 defeat. So come on you 'horns show us your metal! The season has got off to an interesting start, watch this space!
(Our usual Watford Reporter is on holiday)

Watersmeet Rocks

23 September - Open auditions

28 October - Grand final
Rickmansworth

Watersmeet is holding 'Watersmeet Rocks' and the search is on for a sensational new band. Is that you?

This battle of the bands will be a great experience, great fun with studio recording time for the winning group.

The competition is free to enter and a great opportunity with no strings attached, except on the guitars! You must go on to the Watersmeet Website where there are forms to download also terms and conditions. The closing date for applications is Friday, 2nd September 2011. You can also find further information on Watersmeet Rocks Facebook page.
Good luck and let us know how you get on.



(Herts. Police on 0845 3300222) If anyone would like to receive 'OWL' updates, please contact me on nhw.byewaters@talktalk.net or our local PCSO on Gareth.Williams@Herts.pnn.police.uk and we can register you. It is kind of interesting and you won't get bombarded with updates. 'OWL' updates are e-mailed updates and alerts of any crimes/warnings relevant to us. Or if you don't have access to the Internet and would like to be kept up to date with messages and alerts through traditional means let me know and the kids can earn their pocket money pushing notes through your door.

Daniel Haynes - 62 Byewaters nhw.byewaters@talktalk.net

FEATURED LOCAL ART GALLERY

The Linda Blackstone Gallery

After over 22 years in the Old Slaughterhouse in Pinner, we relocated in January 2008 to our new studio just outside Rickmansworth in Hertfordshire - PO Box 671, Rickmansworth WD3 0EU. On 11th September 2010 the Gallery celebrated its 25th Anniversary.

From this purpose built venue we welcome all those wishing to use our specialist framing and restoration service.

Here you can view, BY APPOINTMENT, all our regular artists' work currently in the studio ready for the many Art Fairs we



Artist – Sebastien Levigne



Artist – Davey Brown

attend during the year. To purchase art work from our website or for more information please ring

07860 543535 or email us on blackstoneart@talk21.com. www.lindablackstone.com.



The Peace Hospice now has a revamped Hospice Lottery. You can download a form online or telephone Terence Smith on 01923 330341 or email tsmith@peacehospice.org.uk This way you are donating money to a good cause, for maybe as little as a £1 a week but with the chance to win £10,000!



Watford Surestart Children's Centres

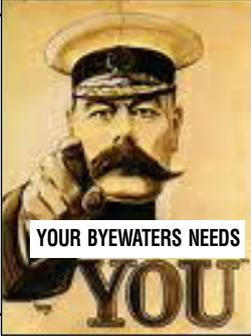
A help for stressed Mums and great for children. More information from www.hertschildrenscentres.org.uk/ also you can contact Delia at Morris Minor pre-school tel: 07770 397456

POETS CORNER

A River's Journey

by Angela Yardy

The river makes his way along the mountain path he chooses
 Shamelessly eroding rocks, as on his way he cruises.
 Starting at a steady pace, he's happy to go slow
 And meanwhile smaller tributaries come to join the flow.
 Then he descends the mountain as excitedly he speeds
 Splishing, splashing, tumbling, while onwards he proceeds.
 Then all at once the heady heights encourage him to dive...
 Enthusiasm leads the way, the waterfall arrives!
 Acrobatic, somersaulting, diving from the top
 The river reaches base with one almighty belly flop!
 His bubbling intensity soon begins to show.....
 as tributaries contribute, so he begins to grow
 Swiftly riding on the rocks, he weaves his way along.
 Passing through the estuary but keen to carry on
 Then finally, his destination comes within his view;
 The sea is beckoning from waters deep and oh so blue...
 So finally, what started as a river's gentle motion
 Is all encapsulated in the wide and mighty ocean.



Still collecting email addresses, which are always very helpful when information needs to be sent out quickly to Byewaters residents.

If there is anything that you wish to raise, please contact me at fran.koster1@gmail.com

REMEMBER –
Dijon vu – the same mustard as before!
 and
A bicycle can't stand on its own because it's two tired
ALSO – A Great New Idea!!

EVENING CLASSES FOR MEN
The Remote Control Class
Losing the remote control - help line & support groups

Our Excellent Printer is:- The Imagehaus Ltd.,
 4 Waterside Business Park, Chesham, Bucks HP5 1PE
 Tel: 01494 784132 - Alan www.imagehaus.co.uk

The Radlett Centre Tel: 01923 859291

for more information & more shows www.radlettcentre.co.uk



Whole Lotta Led

A tribute to Led Zeppelin. Keeping the spirit and songs of the legendary Led Zep alive with their unique energy and stage presence, Whole Lotta Led are the leading tribute to Zeppelin in the UK.

This show kicks off with a mixture of Zep classics followed by the whole of the Led Zeppelin IV album played in the same order as the original record.

The show ends with a mighty encore of more of Zep classics. Given the thumbs-up by no less a guitar god than Jimmy Page himself, Whole Lotta Led are THE Led Zeppelin tribute band.

Friday 16th September 8pm Tickets £17, £16 (conc.)



Don't have time to keep your garden tidy OR need a cleaner OR a dog walker - give me a call. I live on Byewaters and charge very competitive rates for local residents.

Tracey - 07507 059065

JADE – hairdressing in your home for your convenience

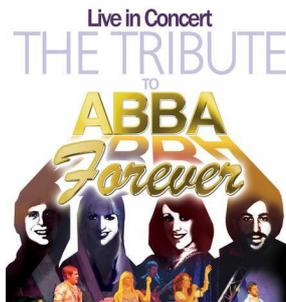


To book an appointment Telephone (mobile): **07826 855053** or (home) **0208 428 7404** Blow-dry £14.00 Cut and blow-dry £25.00 - for a full price list please telephone Jade.

Steve's Window Cleaners



Small family run company based in Croxley Green
Regular and reliable service - £1m public liability insurance
Conservatory roof cleaning service available -
Free no obligation quotations.
Please call **Steve - 07538 400 788**



ABBA Forever

ABBA Forever is one of the UK's leading International tribute shows and theatre audiences from across Great Britain and Sweden have long enjoyed this superb recreation of possibly the world's greatest pop band.

The unique Abba sound is replicated with an incredible attention to detail, using a six-piece band featuring electric and acoustic guitars, keyboards and piano, drums and bass guitar. Two outstanding Abba girls complete the lineup, adding the essential glitz and glamour to a well-polished and gently humorous show. The wonderful lyrics penned by Benny and Bjorn are sung in perfect harmony by all six performers on stage. Dynamic non-stop choreography, stunning visuals, top class musicianship and an ALL LIVE performance ensures that the ABBA Forever Show captivates audiences from the opening refrain to the final sing-along chorus of this twohour spectacular.

Friday 23rd September 8pm Tickets £17.50, £16.50 (conc.)



Paul Zerdin

Arguably Britain's most talented and leading ventriloquist and comedian, Paul Zerdin was by far the stand out performer of last years Royal Variety Show. After a complete sell-out Edinburgh Fringe Festival, he is taking his show on a UK tour. Come and see Paul and friends, the cheeky and lovable Sam, Albert, Baby and a few new tricks up his sleeves...

"The best ventriloquist Britain has discovered for many years, who has mastered the knack of being acceptable to both comedy club and family audiences" – The Stage.
"Technically immaculate, it's what he does with his slick talent that really sets him apart. His relationship with his characters has all the dramatic tensions of a real life double act" – The Guardian.
"It is Zerdin's sharp script that is the heartbeat of the show" – The Times.

Saturday 24th September 7.30pm Tickets: £15, £14 (conc.)

DTAS Services

Digital TV &
Satellite Services

Kaz.O'Donnell
City & Guilds, RDI,
DTT Level 2



Call:

07769 226615

or **01452 530384**

or email digitalkaz@hotmail.co.uk

Property decisions are up there with the most significant commitments you make in life.

At James we offer honest advice supported by detailed knowledge of the local market given by experienced property professionals.

To view our properties, book a valuation or get free advice on all aspects of property...

... talk to James



Sales & Lettings

Land & New homes

talk to james...

