



2010 WURA WINTER NEWSLETTER

WWW.WURA.ORG.UK

CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW NOVEMBER 2010

The new entrance to Welcomes Road



and how it was



A new grit bin purchased by WURA for use on Welcomes and Uplands Roads



Where do the months go as yet another year draws to a close? Hopefully the oncoming winter will not be as severe snow-wise as the last and we are better prepared although it will involve a little effort from some residents (see later article).

Welcomes has been substantially repaired in preparation for a future 'spray and chip' covering that will seal the surface for years to come - when we cannot say at present until quotes have been obtained. When this happens the junction of Uplands with Welcomes will also be covered. We thank all residents for their patience and understanding during the many weeks of necessary disruption and hope you feel the inconvenience was worthwhile. The lower part of Welcomes will be blighted for some time whilst GML Homes construct two houses on the site of No.8 although all their vehicles should be entering/exiting via Valley Road thus causing minimum disruption to the majority of residents.

It only remains for me to thank my fellow committee members for their support and efforts during the year and to appeal to those few residents who, for some unknown reason, continue to withhold their road levies thus making our Treasurer's job a touch more laborious.

We wish you a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2011.

From the Treasurer's desk

My thanks to the vast majority of residents who pay their annual levy on time without us having to send out a reminder. We recently delivered reminder letters to the late payers and, at the time of writing, 19 residents have not yet paid. Of these, three are three years' in arrears and, as agreed at the 2009 AGM, they will soon receive one final reminder before we issue a summons through the small claims court.

On a lighter note, I thought I'd write few words on "things I never expected to do when I became WURA's treasurer". The chairman announced at a recent committee meeting that a resident had told him that the Greenwich Meridian passed through Welcomes Road and asked if we could we erect a plaque to tell the world of this curiosity. Being one of the more computer-literate committee members I agreed to investigate. Thanks to Google Maps, I'm sorry to report that the meridian does *not* go through our roads. The nearest we get is a shade under 0.1 degrees west.

Going east from Welcomes Road, the meridian lies in a field midway between Warlingham and Biggin Hill. Another local meridian point is in Gresham Road, about 300 yards (300 metres for younger readers) from Oxted Station. Curiously, a website devoted to the meridian claims that Chaldon lies on it then waxes lyrical about the famous mural in the church. Strange, as Chaldon is even further west than we are although I must admit that the mural is more interesting than Oxted railway station!



Desperately needed supplies Uplands/Abbotts winter 2010

Snow clearance measures for winter months

In anticipation of another severe winter (which as you may have noticed has already arrived!) we purchased a further 4 large grit bins-3 sited in Welcomes outside numbers 92, 70 & 38 plus 1 outside No. 9 Uplands and we thank the residents for allowing them on their verges. Also a number of brooms and snow shovels have been distributed to Nos 2,3,6,8 and 9 Uplands after a sterling effort by Michael Lott of 5a and other residents last winter to keep that end of Uplands passable into Abbots Lane. They have continued clearing the road this year and their efforts are much appreciated.

There are a further 3 sets of clearing equipment stored at No.31 Uplands with Brian Clinton and 1 set at No 31 Welcomes Road. If you need to borrow these tools to help clear our roads and apply salt do contact Brian. If grit/salt is scattered on the road a little goes a long way when car tyres carry it along and thus lengthen the melt area.

We were assured by the relative department of the Council that there will not be a repeat of last winter's grit shortage. However since the snowfall that began in late November 'our' salt has been largely used on private drives (some not even WURA members) and by early December most of the grit bins were empty or nearly so. A call to the Council revealed that refilling bins has low priority though we are assured we are top of the list for refills!

Please do not use the grit for your personal use as a) it is to ensure the safety of all and b) it costs us £40 to refill each of the 5 bins (including yellow bin in Uplands) owned by WURA.

A suitable notice will be placed on the WURA owned bins.

From the Secretary's desk

It has been a busy few months with major repairs to Welcomes Road and some controversy over planning applications for the sites at the bottom of Welcomes Road.

I hope residents are looking at www.wura.org.uk from time to time particularly the newsflashes to keep up to date on what is happening on the road. If you let me have your email address you will be alerted to events earlier and when changes to the web site occur.

The circular sent out to all residents in September regarding the road and purchasing extra salt bins and the question of WURA's involvement or otherwise in objecting to planning applications led to 2 written responses questioning our position. I am not drawing any conclusions from this though!

In the New Year I intend to go through the web site page by page and bring it up to date where necessary. If you have something you want to add to it please let me know.

HOW IT WAS THEN

**From the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at 12.30 pm on Sunday 6th May 1956 at Feering Croft
(Clearly not much interest in the Sunday roast with the family!)**

Mr C. Neville in the Chair

From item b on the Agenda- it was agreed that Welcomes Road should be closed for 24 hours from Saturday, May 26th to Sunday, May 27th. Mr Croxson would write to frontagers asking for volunteers to man the barriers.

Other business—Mr Wenban reported that he anticipated no difficulty in obtaining competitive quotes for the repairs to WR and was asked to proceed with this matter and also with arrangements for the hire of tripods, lamps and poles.

Mr Prior presented a statement of accounts and notified the Committee of an unexpected balance of £50. This represented the amount of agreed damages paid in directly into the account by the contractors on Kearton Close. It was agreed that Mr Prior should let Mr Croxson have a full list of frontagers (I presume of Kearton) for passing on to Mr Elgood with the letter announcing a general levy.

Mr Prior asked that a check be made on the frontagers at The New House (Mr Noyse) and Woodhurst (Mr Gavel).

Mr Croxson requested clarification of his position as Honorary Local Secretary vis-a-vis Mr Elgood as Secretary, and it was agreed that he should discuss the matter with Mr Elgood to apportion duties.

It was agreed that a meeting of the full Committee should take place on Wednesday 23rd May at 8.30pm at 'Wood End' Welcomes Road. This was subsequently amended after consultation with Messrs Orr, Bowyer and Neville to Wednesday 16th May at the same address.



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Your committee

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|---------------------------------|---------------|--|
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Other useful contacts:

Councillor Steve O'Connell Mobile 07760 310686.

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VISIT OUR WEB SITE: www.wura.org.uk:

REGULAR NEWS FLASHES appear on the web site so please visit it from time to time.

WURA RESIDENTS DATA BASE: Please email your phone number and email address if you have not given it to us to weluplandsroads@aol.com. This helps us to keep you informed of developments and road works via group emails.

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS: If you cannot access these on the web site please leave your name and address with the Secretary at 12 Zig Zag Road Kenley CR8 5EL and he will make sure you get hard copies delivered to your house.

NEW RESIDENTS: A welcome pack will be supplied. Ask the Secretary for one if you have not got one.

CHANGES OF HOUSE OWNERSHIP AND ROAD LEVY:

If you are selling or have just moved in please remember to advise the Secretary at

weluplandsroads@aol.com or phone 020 8668 7293