



2011 WURA SUMMER NEWSLETTER

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Committee 2011 AGM



and residents 2011 AGM



GML completed houses on No 8 Welcomes Road



CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW JUNE 2011

As I write the summer appears to have come and gone. Hopefully July will bring out the sun again- 'the doomsters' predict a drought with the associated hose pipe bans and so it is bound to rain!!

We suffered a harsh winter with the associated problems in negotiating our roads but also disruption from developments at the bottom of Welcomes Road. The houses on No 8 are now completed although they have plans to build next door and the Committee, having responded to complaints from residents, will try to ensure that the developers' vehicles are kept off the road and disruption kept to a minimum.

We rely on the Council to refill grit bins when required but last winter they were caught with their trousers down and were forced to prioritise the main arterial roads. As for the coming winter we are assured that supplies will be plentiful although with over 500 bins to keep filled we would not be surprised if there are problems in keeping us supplied.

The extensive repairs to the road carried out in 2010 appear to have stood up well to the winter and we are looking into resurfacing most of Welcomes Road, Pine Close and part of Uplands Road probably in the spring of 2012. It has been difficult to get sensible advice on exactly how to go about this task and to obtain estimates from contractors.

I must record my thanks to outgoing Committee members, Dave Barrell and Brian Clinton, who have retired after many years of service. With Brian's retirement we need someone from Uplands Road to replace him on the Committee. Please contact a member of the Committee if you feel you could spare a little of your time each month.

Finally thanks to the few residents who attended the AGM on 7th June and for their contribution to the discussions.

From the Treasurer's desk

Whilst most residents pay their annual levy on time without us having to send out reminders there remains a hardcore of non payers. If there is any reason why you cannot or should not be paying the levy it would be helpful if you could let me know before we have the unpleasant task of going to the small claims court to get judgement with all that that implies.

As reported to the AGM interest income continues to fall and we are investigating ways to put our reserves to work more effectively. With the ever rising cost of oil possibly the best approach is to invest the money in our roads as soon as we can reasonably do so.

Any major expenditure on the road surfacing is being postponed until 2012. However a sum of £60,000 has been budgeted in this years projected expenditure to cover these costs and this was approved at the last AGM held on 7th June 2011.

The same AGM agreed to leave the road levy unchanged.



May 2011 No 8 Welcomes. GML promised not to park on our road during construction!!

From the Secretary's desk

WURA kept me busy with a steady rotation of properties along our roads and dealing with the solicitors doing the conveyancing who want what they call a 'solicitors pack' showing that levy payments are up to date and clarifying the rights of way along our roads. I am now charging a modest administration fee of £20 for this work.

On top of this there is the ordinary administration involved with Committee Meetings, AGMs, letters to the Council and TFL on a variety of matters, keeping the web site up to date (well nearly), letters re trimming trees and verges, writing this Newsletter, dealing with developers and delivery lorries spoiling verges, welcome letters to new residents, chasing people behind with their levies and circulars when needed. Not to mention delivering stuff to your doors. The Chairman is quite often on the phone too! His contribution to the running of WURA's affairs is considerable. All this leaves very little time for golf.

Snow clearance measures for winter months

In anticipation of last years severe weather we purchased a further 4 large grit bins-3 sited in Welcomes outside numbers 92, 70 & 38 plus 1 outside No. 9 Uplands Also a number of brooms and snow shovels have been distributed to Nos 2,3,6,8 and 9 Uplands plus some at No 72 Welcomes Road courtesy of Peter Dixon.

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 to them contact the householders concerned. If grit/salt is scattered on the road a little goes a long way when car tyres carry it along and lengthen the melt area. Experience last year showed that shovelling off the snow promptly and salting the road was quite effective though often negated by a further heavy snowfall shortly after doing the work!

If you can get out and help clear and salt our roads please do so concentrating on the steeper inclines where most of the accidents occurred last winter. Uplands residents set an excellent example last year showing good BIG SOCIETY spirit. Fewer seemed to get out onto Welcomes but many thanks to those who did- notably the team of ladies near 154.

The Council are running their own stocks of salt this year having taken over from TFL and we are assured that all bins will be filled in September this year and will be topped up as and when required. Hmmm.

Please remember the grit is not for use on your own drives 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.

Chairman

When Kenley had the Wimbledon Gentlemen's Singles Champion

Herbert Fortescue Lawford (1851-1925) took up lawn tennis in 1877 - the year the All England Club produced the rules of the modern game. He competed at Wimbledon from its second year in 1878 until 1890. Herbert was runner up at Wimbledon 5 times and Champion once (the same record as Goran Ivanisevic) when he beat Ernest Renshaw in 5 sets. Herbert played a significant part in the administration of the All England Club and he served as a member of the Management Committee for 18 years bringing to bear a benign and humorous influence from 1882 to 1900. Was also voted on to the Provisional Committee of the Lawn Tennis Association when it was formed in 1888.

Herbert lived with his father Thomas Acland Lawford in 'Elmwood' Kenley from 1874 to 1884. His father Thomas lived with his wife Janet and numerous children in Tunbridge Wells, curiously in a house called 'Kenley', until the move to Elmwood in 1874. Until it was demolished in the 1980s, Elmwood was surrounded by 10 acres of gardens but over the preceding years the land was sold for development and houses were built in Abbotts Lane, Hayes Lane and Cedar Walk. Buxton Homes developed a small close appropriately named Lawford Gardens where the old house once stood. Now about 50 homes cover the original site.

Herbert's grandfather Samuel was a partner in the City bank ,Curries and Co, and Master Drapers at the time of Herbert's birth and had been in the wine trade before that.

Herbert was educated at Repton School and Edinburgh University (1868-70) afterwards joining his father Thomas's firm as a broker's clerk. In 1874, the year the family moved to Elmwood, Herbert joined the ranks of the Drapers' Company and was accepted as a member of the London Stock Exchange.

The 1881 census shows only Herbert as head of the family supported by butler, cook, footman, housemaid, kitchen maid and gardener in the cottage. His father, Thomas, is reported as living in Folkestone with his three daughters and died in 1884. Herbert moved to a country house on Wimbledon Common, married in 1886 and remained at his Wimbledon House until 1910.

History extracted from Bourne Society Journal No 63 May 2010 courtesy John Carr and Nigel Lawford.



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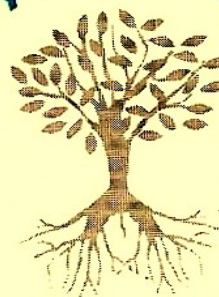
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Uplands Road Representative Needed!!!

Other useful contacts:

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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. In spite of all our efforts some residents were unaware of the date of the last AGM. Please check the web site in April/May next year to see the date of the 2012 AGM.

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**