



2012 WURA SUMMER NEWSLETTER

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Re Article on George Maws in the Winter 2011 Newsletter

The editor received the following from Dr White in Kearton Close who has a friend in the clay tile industry. The friend corrected us on one or two errors perpetrated by the editor.

Maw's factory was originally just south of the Ironbridge from 1852 - 1881/2 when they built a new factory about 1/2 mile down river of the Craven Dunnill factory which was built in 1870/71. The two companies were not connected but rivals in business. Maws no longer exist of course, but Craven Dunnill most certainly do.

I'm afraid there are also two rather large gaffs in the article. The pattern in an encaustic tile does not go all the way through, only 1mm or so into the surface. This is enough for about 100 years' wear. To make the pattern go all the way through would be technically almost impossible, and totally unnecessary.

The photo of encaustic tiles used in the article shows reproduction encaustic tiles made by the (now defunct) Maw & Co which had no connection at all with the original Maw & Co, they just bought and traded under the name. The tiles depicted were originally made by Minton & Co. of Stoke on Trent for the Capitol Building in Washington USA. Probably not the best choice of pic to show original Maw & Co tiles!

Encaustic tiles are still produced in Brosley.

Editor's note:- Thanks to Dr White and his friend for straightening us out on encaustic tiles. All Wiki's fault of course!

Message from the Chairman

With summer on the horizon the weather is typically English with continuous rain ever since the water companies announced a drought- bless'em! The resurfacing of Welcomes Road has occupied a lot of Committee time and I would urge those residents who are unable to attend the AGM on June 7th to make their views known. We will be spending 75% of our reserves but consider this a wise investment to ensure many maintenance free years with reduced running costs bringing the opportunity to rebuild reserves. Full details of the proposal will be delivered to you before the AGM when it will be formally tabled.

The possibility of further developments at the lower end of Welcomes Road may result in us postponing work on that section and securing formal agreements with developers to contribute to the cost of resurfacing, after completion of construction, will be a priority.

The projected year long work on the Morven House extensions may affect residents in Uplands and Kearton Close, though we have been assured by the contractors, Farnrise Construction, that disruption will be kept to a minimum. Any concerns by residents should be brought to the attention of a Committee member. Copies of the formal Agreement with Morven Healthcare have already been circulated to residents.

It only remains for me to thank my fellow Committee members for their valued efforts and wish you a happy and sunny summer.

Remember AGM 7th June @ 8pm Kenley Memorial Hall

From the Treasurer's desk

There are only 6 people who have not paid the annual levy for 2011-12 and none of these is more than one year in arrears. Thank you those who did pay on time!

The budget for 2012-13, if it is approved at the AGM, will show reserves of only about £30,000 which is the lowest it has been for many years. However we spent heavily on road maintenance in 2010-11 and plan to spend more soon on dressing the surface. It should be many years before we have such high expenditure again so we do not intend to increase the levy, especially as reserves earn virtually no interest, so there is no point in hoarding money unnecessarily. However the Committee would like to hear residents' views on this at the AGM.

From the Secretary's desk

The effort to collect more email addresses has reached the following situation up to 18th April 2012

Uplands Road 31 (31) of 44 houses 70%

Welcomes Road 78 (72) of 122 houses 64%

Cumnor/Maryhill/Pine 7 (7) of 12 houses 58%

Benthall Gardens 7 (5) of 14 houses 50%

Kearton Close 4 of 22 houses 18%

There has been a small increase in email addresses supplied to me since the last Newsletter. If you are not yet on the Group email system and want to be included send an email to weluplandsroads@aol.com with your house number. Some 90 households need hard copy for the 2012 AGM consuming about 500 sheets of paper and a lot of ink. Good reason to get on line if you can!

In the last quarter, on top of the usual Secretarial duties, there have been negotiations with Farnrise Construction on the Morven House extensions- delayed a second time due to asbestos issues- dealing with the paperwork for major resurfacing work on Welcomes Road and giving written responses to potential developers. There may be a recession on but building activity along our roads seems as great as ever. Every time a house is sold in the WURA area this generates correspondence with solicitors.

POLICY GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA

A document is to be tabled at the coming AGM setting out some guidelines for developers, current residents and for people who want to buy property in the area.

The intention of the document is to make sure that the quality of living in the area is maintained, property values maintained and that the wooded look of the area retained whilst supporting appropriately designed and sized new housing.

Shaping the final document, which can be found on the web site or delivered to your house, would benefit from your input either by email, letter or best at the AGM.

LITTER ON OUR ROADS AND GRIT BINS

Drinks cans, food wrappings and cigarette packets etc are still tossed on to the verges of our roads from time to time. In the circumstances the Committee feel that the quality of our environment would benefit enormously if residents could clear up the litter left near their frontages themselves. It is quite depressing to walk home from the station after a hard day's work to be confronted by rubbish lying about on the verges and in the hedges.

It is planned to try to locate a further grit bin between 40 and 70 Welcomes Road if we can find a site.

Obituary

David John Barrell

17th January 1931 – 18th March 2012



Many of you may already know that Dave Barrell died on March 18th after a long battle with ill health. He served as Secretary for the Road Committee at least twice to my knowledge where his opinion and attention to detail were invaluable. He also painstakingly created a filing system which is still in place although may not be maintained to his own high standards!

I fondly remember his distrust of solicitors- it was like a red rag to a bull and inspired many a heated, but good humoured, discussion at Committee meetings.

He will be greatly missed by his family and many friends. I personally thank him for the sound advice and diligence he rendered to the WURA community over many years.



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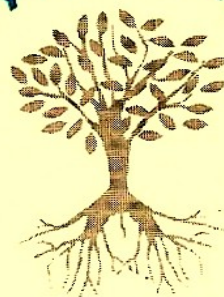
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VISIT OUR WEB SITE: www.wura.org.uk:

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**

Don't forget the Queens Diamond Jubilee Party at Kenley Memorial Hall on Sunday June 3rd from 1pm to 6pm
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