



WELCOMES & UPLANDS ROAD ASSOCIATION SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2005

Dear Residents,

As pen is put to paper it looks like the Summer has been put on hold and the much-needed rain has arrived with vengeance. Hopefully you and yours have or will be enjoying a break from life's treadmill and return fully refreshed. There follows a resume of the last few months' topics that have engaged the Road Committee - some mundane but, hopefully, others of interest.

WANTED: Our Secretary, Irene Prosser, resigned leaving a vacancy yet to be filled and so we ask that if you or anyone willing to take on the task do please contact one of the Committee. The task can be interesting and not overly time consuming plus one can gain local knowledge with the added bonus of a modest honorarium.

TREES: Ours is a well-timbered rural area and it falls to all of us whose properties are bordered by trees to maintain them, not just for their well-being, but to ensure that branches overhanging the roads are trimmed to a reasonable height to allow for high sided vehicles and that the street lights are kept clear of surrounding leaves - especially at this time of year. Remember, it is your responsibility not the Committee's. If you wish for these minor tasks to be carried out we do have a resident who is willing to oblige for a reasonable sum. Talking of trees, there are several in the vicinity of Maryhill on the opposite bank that need pruning - this will be or will have been carried out on August 4th by a local firm, I.P.S. without too much disruption to the traffic flow. (Our thanks to the householders who have trimmed their hedges back thus making pedestrians' and drivers' lives a little easier.)

KENLEY AERODROME: It was reported in the press in late June that a number of buildings and structures on the site are to be "listed" by English Heritage thus hopefully securing their future. Those of you who subscribe to KENDRA and have the current magazine will be aware of the situation as far as the land surrounding the sites are concerned - briefly the Corporation of London needs help to raise money to purchase the land and, with the aid of various interested parties, has launched an appeal to secure for future generations this historic and much-used local open space. If you would like information contact either Chris Baguley (Chairman of KENDRA) on 8660 8271 or send cheques to:-

Corporation of London (Kenley Appeal) via Friends of Kenley Airfield,
c/o Mike Simpson, 38a, Searchwood Road, Warlingham, Surrey. CR6 9BA

N.B. It has been suggested that we, the Association, on behalf of the residents subscribe to this appeal for it is in the interests of all of us to ensure that the area is saved. Please let us know your views sometime before our next meeting in September.

ROAD REPAIRS: It was brought to our attention at the AGM that Welcomes Road has a couple of areas where the surface has lost its "roughness" which means that in the winter there is no grip for tyres and, in the summer, the tarmac readily melts creating obvious problems. (The areas are in the vicinity of Simone Drive and near nos. 6 to 12). We have asked Marshalls, the contractors, to quote for the resurfacing together with the costing of repainting all road markings. We are aware of several "near misses" on the last corner before Hayes Lane and have therefore requested a white line in the centre of the road plus, possibly, SLOW prior to the corner that, hopefully, will be appreciated by all motorists.

UPLANDS STREET LIGHTING: It was suggested at the last meeting that an extra lamp-post situated near Morven House would be advantageous to one and all in what is at the moment a pretty dark area. Obviously we will liaise with adjacent residents before proceeding.

RAINWATER: We are ever mindful of the fact that, during heavy downfalls of rain, water flows back and forth from the vicinity of 46 Welcomes onwards to eventually flow mid-road for some distance thus making walking up from Valley Road rather unpleasant - OK if you are a duck or have web feet. Several members of the committee have spent time and effort evaluating the situation with advice from two

contractors and yet, after hours of debate, have to conclude that any obvious solutions will only cause new problems. One suggestion was that the camber be altered to encourage water to flow evenly down one side or the other but success could not be guaranteed - even the extending of the gully that ends near no. 12 would not produce an expected improvement. If any resident has expertise knowledge or knows of someone who could advise please do contact a member of the committee as previous attempts have proven fruitless. (Perhaps the answer is a shed at the bottom of the road and one on the bend containing wellies - green, of course - for pedestrian usage!)

RIGHTS OF WAY: Just a reminder that any vendor whose solicitor queries your right of way over Welcomes Road should contact the chairman as he will be able to provide a sworn statement from a long-term resident that adheres to the provisions of the Prescription Act of 1832 and appears to satisfy the legal requirements. Also a new query surfaced recently when a solicitor approached the committee for a Certificate that would allow the resident to transfer the property because there is a restriction lodged against the title stating no transference could take place until such a Certificate was produced. Fear not - a simple letter drawn up by the solicitor sufficed. Apparently the restriction was "to ensure that the property was only used as a private dwelling and that the occupants contributed to the upkeep of the roads" via the levy.

LEVIES: Our Treasurer, Bill Tolman, thanks 99.9% of residents for paying before the end of the financial year in March - unfortunately he cannot report 100% as there is one household that, for reasons best known to themselves, habitually refuse to pay until long after the due date made even more extraordinary by the fact that one has served on the road committee! The response to the setting up of standing orders continues apace but if more could oblige it would make his job a lot easier and save you the bother of writing a cheque every year. If you need a form do contact Bill. Thanks.

WEB-SITE: (www.wurc.info) We would like to use the site as a more comprehensive means of communication with residents and therefore need to develop the site further and ensure that it is regularly updated. This has become a problem as the student who first developed it has moved on and is no longer able to assist us. Bill Tolman has managed some minor updates recently but is in need of assistance/tuition to improve his minimal skills and, to this end, if anyone is able to assist please contact Bill. (tel below or email wura@grado.demon.co.uk)

SWEEPING: We are currently using Kent Sweepers to sweep our roads and clear the soakaways although, because of the amount of debris that continuously litters Welcomes, these tend to re-clog in no time. After all the recent rain the roads do need to be swept and this will be arranged as soon as possible. It never ceases to frustrate us that Council sweepers drive on Welcomes with their brushes up to sweep the few council-maintained roads in the area and similarly leave when they could do the job for us at the same time but won't - just another of life's mysteries!

Hopefully having ploughed through this missive you have found some item of interest to you. Do not hesitate to contact any Committee member - numbers below - on any subject for if we do not know your concerns or complaints we cannot act or discuss. It only remains for us to wish you a happy and contented Summer and Autumn (where has 2005 gone?!)

Kind regards

Welcomes and Uplands Road Association Committee

Committee members' telephone numbers:

Colin Brown (chairman)	8668 2101.	Dave Barrell	8668 9555.
Bill Tolman (treasurer)	8660 1130.	Brian Clinton	8668 4700.
Doug Haigh	8668 1741	Liz Copeland	8763 8947.
Robin McCallum	8763 2738.	Peter Runacres	8660 4542.